



CITY OF MERRILL
HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE
MINUTES • MONDAY MAY 18, 2020

Regular Meeting

City Hall Council Chambers

5:15 PM

I. Call to Order

Alderman Russell called the meeting to order at 5:16 P.M.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Rick Blake	Aldersperson - Third District	Remote	
Paul Russell	Aldersperson - First District	Present	
Mark Weix	Aldersperson - Seventh District	Present	

Others in attendance: City Administrator Dave Johnson, Fire Chief Josh Klug, Police Chief Corey Bennett, Deputy Health Officer Norbert Ashbeck (Remote), City Attorney Tom Hayden, Lincoln County Health Department Director Shelley Hersil (Remote), Lincoln County Emergency Management Director September Murphy (Remote), Alderman Mike Rick Jr. and City Clerk Bill Heideman.

II. COVID-19 Updates:

1. Lincoln County Health Director Shelley Hersil

Lincoln County Health Department Director Hersil noted that the “Safer at Home” order has now been rolled back and is no longer in effect. At this time, most counties are not issuing county orders, and for now Lincoln County is not planning to issue any order.

The Lincoln County Health Department is still encouraging best practices, in order to minimize the possibility of an outbreak.

The number of tests is increasing, but the Lincoln County Health Department is hoping for even more testing.

Lincoln County Health Department Director Hersil then answered questions related to COVID-19.

2. Lincoln County Emergency Planning Manager September Murphy

Lincoln County Emergency Planning Manager Murphy reported that work continues on ensuring an adequate supply of Personal Property Equipment.

Meetings with various entities continue as necessary.

Lincoln County Emergency Planning Manager Murphy then answered questions related to COVID-19.

III. Nuisance Complaints and Vouchers:

1. Nuisance Complaints

The nuisance complaint summary report was in the meeting packet.

Deputy Health Officer Ashbeck stated that he has nothing new to report at this time.

2. Vouchers

The vouchers were in the meeting packet.

Police Chief Bennett answered a question on a voucher.

Motion (Blake/Weix) to approve.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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IV. Picnic and/or Liquor License Applications:

1. 2020-2021 Liquor License Applications (per list)

The list of license applications and related information was in the meeting packet. The packet information states that Jimbo's has not yet submitted a renewal application. City Clerk Heideman reported that Jimbo's has now submitted an application.

Although the packet information indicated that fire inspections have been suspended, licensees with current violations will need to achieve compliance to receive their license.

The question arose as to the length of time a licensee can retain a license without doing business. It was noted that El Mariachi has not yet opened, although they have held a license since December 18th, 2018. It was suggested that letter(s) be sent and call(s) made to determine the status and possible opening date for El Mariachi.

Motion (Weix/Blake) to approve all the license renewal applications, with the exception of El Mariachi, and to refer the applications to the June 9th, 2020 Common Council meeting.

RESULT:	APPROVED & SENT TO COUNCIL
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Next: 6/9/2020 6:00 PM

V. Other agenda items to consider:

1. Update and discussion on ATV/UTV Ordinance

Police Chief Bennett had requested that this item be placed on the agenda. He said that, at this time, he requested it only to exchange information. He suggested that is probably time to revisit the ordinance and evaluate it.

Police Chief Bennett stated that, since the ordinance was first adopted, the use of ATV/UTV vehicles for transportation has increased dramatically.

City Administrator Johnson suggested that, at some point, a public meeting be held to provide information as well as obtain input from the public on this subject.

It was suggested that the City website could be used to provide/obtain information.

This item will be on the June agenda. No action was necessary, requested or taken at this time.

VI. Minutes, Annual Reports & Monthly Reports:

1. Minutes of April 27, 2020 meeting

Before the minutes were considered, discussion was held on the opening of City Hall and various City departments.

City Administrator Johnson reported that City Hall will be reopening on May 26th. Municipal Court sessions are scheduled to resume June 8th.

The Aquatic Center will only open if Phase 3 of the Badger Bounce Back Plan is reached, or if mass gathering are again allowed.

Alderman Blake, a member of the Transit Commission, provided an update on the Transit Department. That department will be reopening and services resumed on May 26th.

The Enrichment Center will be reopening soon, probably on a limited basis to start.

Discussion was then held on the status of upcoming events. Alderman Russell reported that a decision on whether to have the 2020 Lincoln County Fair will need to be made by July 1st. The annual rodeo and the Relay for Life have already been cancelled for 2020. A decision on the fireworks will need to be made soon.

The minutes were in the meeting packet.

Motion (Blake/Weix) to approve the minutes.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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2. 2019 Annual Report - Fire Department

Fire Chief Klug reviewed the annual report.

3. Monthly Report - Fire Chief Klug

The monthly report was in the meeting packet. Fire Chief Klug reviewed the report. Webinars related to COVID-19 are being watched regularly to receive timely information.

Fire Chief Klug then answered questions related to the report.

4. Monthly Report - Police Chief Bennett

The monthly report was in the meeting packet.

Police Chief Bennett reviewed the report. He noted that the Police Department is currently working on an annual report. April was a "slow" month in the department.

Police Chief Bennett then answered questions related to the report.

It was noted that, at this time, both the Police Department and the Fire Department have adequate supplies of Personal Protective Equipment.

5. Monthly Report - Lincoln County Humane Society (Not submitted yet this month)

City Clerk Heideman reported that the Humane Society monthly report has now been received, but it was not received in time to be included in the meeting packet. He reminded everyone that, due to Memorial Day, this Health and Safety Committee meeting is a week earlier than normal. The June meeting packet should contain two Humane Society reports.

City Administrator Johnson reported that the shelter is currently not open for “foot “ traffic or walk-in adoptions.

6. Consider placing monthly reports on file

Motion (Blake/Weix) to place on file.

RESULT:	PLACED ON FILE
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VII. Establish date, time and location of next regular meeting

Monday, June 22nd, 2020 at 5:15 P.M. in the City Hall Common Council Chambers.

VIII. Public Comment Period

None.

IX. Adjournment

Motion (Blake/Weix) to adjourn. Adjourned (without vote) at 6:24 P.M.