



CITY OF MERRILL
COMMON COUNCIL
MINUTES • TUESDAY MARCH 19, 2019

Regular Meeting

City Hall Council Chambers

7:00 PM

1. Call to Order

Mayor Woellner called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Paul Russell	Aldersperson - First District	Present	
Steve Hass	Aldersperson - Second District	Present	
Rick Blake	Aldersperson - Third District	Excused	
Steve Osness	Aldersperson - Fourth District	Present	
John M. Van Lieshout	Aldersperson - Fifth District	Present	
Dave Sukow	Aldersperson - Sixth District	Present	
Rob Norton	Aldersperson - Seventh District	Present	
Tim Meehean	Aldersperson - Eighth District	Present	
Derek Woellner	Mayor	Present	

2. Silent Prayer

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Citizen service recognition for Matthew Kloth

Fire Chief Klug presented Matthew Kloth with several tokens of appreciation to recognize Mr. Kloth's work in removing snow and ice to allow access to several fire hydrants in the City.

5. Roll Call

6. Public Comment Period

Steve Sabatke, a member of the Merrill Recall group, explained that the group's efforts are nothing personal against anyone. Rather, the groups efforts are a result of what they see as a failure to lead Merrill in the right direction. The group has concerns with excessive taxation and spending.

7. Minutes of previous Common Council meeting(s):

1. Minutes of February 18, 2019 Common Council meeting

Motion (Norton/Sukow) to approve.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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8. Revenue & Expense Reports(s):

1. Revenue & Expense Reports for periods ending December 31, 2018, January 31, 2019 and February 28, 2019.

Motion (Norton/Hass) to approve.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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9. General agenda items:

1. Employee Years of Service Recognition:

Matthew P. Waid, 10 years (Police Department)

City Clerk Heideman read a certificate of recognition for Matthew Waid, Police Chief Bennett then presented the certificate to Officer Waid.

10. Strategic Planning:

1. Discuss type and extent of citizen involvement in strategic planning process

Alderman Norton suggested that any discussion of the strategic plan update be delayed until a future meeting. Without objection, it was so ordered.

2. Discuss and determine dates, times and locations for future strategic planning meetings

This discussion was delayed (see previous agenda item).

11. Change order of agenda items:

Motion (Meehean/Norton) to change the order of agenda items in order to consider the Resolution on the Development Agreement next. Carried.

12. Resolutions:

1. A Resolution authorizing a Development Agreement by and between the City of Merrill, Wisconsin and FreMarq Innovations, Inc. (Resolution #2593). The Redevelopment Authority recommends approval.

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Merrill created Tax Increment District (TID) No. 7 (North Center Ave. Area) on August 11, 2009; and,

WHEREAS, FreMarq Innovations, Inc. has proposed relocation and expansion of jobs from Wausau to the vacant former mill property at 1101 North Mill Street (within TID No. 7) for curtain wall manufacturing business, and,

WHEREAS, there will be at least fifty full-time jobs retained or newly created through this redevelopment project; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Merrill finds that the proposed development and the fulfillment of the items and conditions of the attached agreement are in the vital and best interest of the City of Merrill, Redevelopment Authority and City residents and serve a public purpose in accordance with State law; and,

WHEREAS, the City and FreMarq Innovations, Inc. have negotiated the development agreement to provide an incentive/forgivable loan payment to facilitate the manufacturing relocation; and

WHEREAS, the loan of up to \$100,000 would become a TID development grant (i.e. no repayment) if fifty full-time jobs are maintained in Merrill for two years after the manufacturing relocation;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN this 19th day of March, 2019, that the Mayor and City Clerk are authorized to sign the development agreement by and between the City of Merrill and FreMarq Innovations, Inc. and to facilitate the implementation thereof.

Motion (Meehean/Van Lieshout) to approve.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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13. Community Development Committee:

1. Consider \$100,000 Economic Development Loan to City of Merrill at 3% annual interest rate, not to exceed a three year-term. The Community Development Committee recommends approval.

Motion (Meehean/Norton) to approve.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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14. Health and Safety Committee:

1. Applications from the Merrill Firefighters Charities for three temporary Class "B" (picnic) licenses to sell fermented malt beverages at Ott's Park in conjunction with the Merrill Firefighters Charities Softball Tournament, August 2 - August 4, 2019. The Health and Safety Committee recommends approval.

Motion (Sukow/Hass) to approve.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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15. Placing Committee Reports on File:

1. Consider placing the following committee reports on file: Airport Commission, Board of Public Works, Community Development Committee, Health & Safety Committee, Library Board, Parks & Recreation Commission, Transit Commission and Water & Sewage Disposal Committee.

Motion (Meehean/Van Lieshout) to place on file.

RESULT:	PLACED ON FILE
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16. Ordinances:

1. None.

17. Resolutions (continued):

1. A Resolution on governmental responsibility for Runoff Management Grants (Resolution #2594).

WHEREAS, the City of Merrill is interested in acquiring a Grant from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for the purpose of implementing measures to control agricultural or urban storm water runoff pollution sources (as described in the application and pursuant to §281.65 or 281.66, Wis. Stats., and chs. NR 151, 153, and 155); and,

WHEREAS, a cost-sharing grant is required to carry out the project; and,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN this 19th day of March, 2019, that the Common Council, hereby approves and authorizes Rod Akey, Public Works Director/City Engineer, who oversees and manages the City of Merrill Public Works Department to act on behalf of the City of Merrill to:

Sign and submit an application to the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for any financial aid that may be available.

Sign a grant agreement between the local government (applicant) and the Department of Natural Resources;

Sign and submit reimbursement claims along with necessary supporting documentation;

Sign and submit interim and final reports and other documentation as required by the grant agreement;

Sign and submit an Environmental Hazards Assessment Form, if required; and

Take necessary action to undertake, direct and complete the approved project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Merrill shall comply with all state and federal laws, regulations and permit requirements pertaining to implementation of this project and to fulfillment of the grant document provisions.

Motion (Norton/Meehan) to approve.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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18. Mayor's Communications

Mayor Woellner reminded everyone that, for the April 2nd election, voters who normally vote at the T.B. Scott Library (Aldermanic District #3 and Aldermanic District #6) will instead vote in the City Hall Common Council Chambers. The Common Council approved this change due to water damage at the library.

19. Adjournment

Motion (Norton/Russell) to adjourn. Carried. Adjourned at 7:26 P.M.