

**CITY OF MERRILL
COMMON COUNCIL**

TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 2022 MINUTES

Regular Meeting City Hall Council Chambers 6:00 p.m.

1. Mayor Woellner called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the following members:

Paul Russell – First District	Present
Steve Hass – Second District	Present
Rick Blake – Third District	Present
Steve Osness – Fourth District	Present
John M. VanLieshout – Fifth District	Present
Mike Rick - Sixth District	Present
Mark Weix – Seventh District	Present – Arrived at 6:05 p.m.
Steve Sabatke – Eighth District	Present
Derek Woellner – Mayor	Present

2. Invocation through Silent Prayer

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Public Comment Period:-

Staff member from U.S. Representative Tom Tiffany read letter offering to assist veterans while waiting for the Lincoln County Veterans Services Officer position is filled.

Heather O'Neil commented on motivations for elected officials and expressed support for City of Merrill revitalization efforts during the past ten years.

5. Minutes of previous Common Council meetings – February 8 and March 1 - Motion (Osness/Rick) to approve. Carried.

6. Revenue & Expense Reports for period ending February 28 - Motion (Hass/Blake) to approve. Carried.

7. Placing Committee Reports on File:

Consider placing the following committee reports on file: Airport Commission, Board of Public Works, Personnel & Finance Committee, Festival Grounds Committee, T.B. Scott Free Library Board, Historical Preservation Committee, Enrichment Center Committee, Transit Commission, Health & Safety Committee, City Plan Commission, Redevelopment Authority, Parks & Recreation Commission, and Merrill Area Housing Authority Board

Motion (Russell/Osness) to place committee reports on file. Carried.

8. Ordinances:

1. An Ordinance amending Chapter 30, Article I, Section 30-1 through 30-30 and Article II, Section 30-31 through 30-35 Solid Waste and Recycling (No. 2022-03)

City Attorney Hayden gave the ordinance a first reading by title only, followed by a synopsis.

Motion (VanLieshout/Hass) to suspend the rules and give the ordinance a second reading and a third reading by title only. Carried.

City Attorney Hayden gave the ordinance a second reading and third reading by title only.

Motion (Rick/VanLieshout) to adopt the ordinance. Carried on 8-0 roll call vote.

2. An Ordinance amending Chapter 16, Section 16-1, 30-31 through 30-32, Solid Waste and Recycling (No. 2022-04)

City Attorney Hayden gave the ordinance a first reading by title only, followed by a synopsis.

Motion (VanLieshout/Blake) to suspend the rules and give the ordinance a second reading and a third reading by title only. Carried.

City Attorney Hayden gave the ordinance a second reading and third reading by title only.

Motion (Hass/VanLieshout) to adopt the ordinance. Carried on 8-0 roll call vote.

9. Resolutions:

1. Final Resolution of intent to exercise Special Assessment Powers by Police Power under Section 66.0703 of the Wisconsin Statutes (No. 2719)

WHEREAS, the Board of Public Works of the City of Merrill, Wisconsin held a Public Hearing in the City Hall, Merrill, Wisconsin, for the purpose of hearing all persons interested in the matters contained in the preliminary resolution of the City of Merrill, of its intent to exercise special assessment powers pursuant to Police Power under Sec. 66.07 Wis. Stats., all as set forth below, and the reports of the City Public Works Director/City Engineer and City Building Inspector mentioned therein on the following proposed projects and other matters, to-wit:

Preliminary Resolution of February 8, 2022, a copy of which is attached hereto, on which a hearing was held on the 23rd day of February, 2022;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN this 8th day of March, 2022, to complete the following public works projects in the City of Merrill:

1. Sidewalk inspection pursuant to sidewalk inspection program. Sidewalk maintenance area is generally city wide as needed:
 - a) Isolated sidewalk repairs requested or needed.
 - b) Driveway approaches requested or needed.
 - c) Curb and gutter requested or needed.
 - d) New sidewalk extensions as requested and/or approved by Board of Public Works.
2. Reconstruction of Michler Crest involving:
 - a) Replacement and upgrade of existing sanitary sewer and water main.
 - b) Curb and gutter and pavement replacement.
3. Paving of Alley, the 200 block between N Center Ave, and Park St. (between E. 2nd St. and E. 3rd St.) involving:
 - a) Grading existing alley.
 - b) Asphalt paving.

Said public improvements shall include, where appropriate:

1. The grading of said street.
2. The surfacing of said street with asphalt.
3. The installation of curb and gutter on said street.
4. The installation, removal or replacement of sidewalk, driveway and curb and gutter on said street.
5. The installation of water main and water laterals on said street.
6. The installation of sanitary sewer and sewer laterals on said street.
7. The installation of storm sewer on said street.
8. The necessary landscaping on said street.
9. All improvements shall be completed to plans and specifications prepared or approved by the Public Works Director and recorded in the office of the Public Works Director/City Engineer.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Common Council of the City of Merrill, Wisconsin,

1. That the reports of the City Public Works Director/City Engineer or City Building Inspector pertaining to construction of said improvements, including the plans and specifications are hereby adopted and approved.
2. That the Board of Public Works shall cause the improvements to be made by City employees or it may advertise and let any part or all of the same out on bids.
3. That payment for said improvements be made by assessing the costs to the property benefited as indicated in said report, as an exercise of the Police Power.

4. Those benefits shown on the reports are true and correct, having been determined on a reasonable basis and are hereby confirmed.
5. That the assessments for all projects included in said reports are hereby combined as a single assessment but any interested property owner shall be entitled to object to each assessment separately or any assessment jointly for any purpose or purposes.
6. The assessment against any parcel may be paid in cash not later than November 1 of the year such improvements are made, or in installments as provided by City Ordinance, and if not so paid, shall be extended upon the tax roll as a delinquent tax against said parcel and all proceedings in relation to the collection, return and sale of property for the delinquent real estate taxes shall apply to such assessment except otherwise provided by Statute.
7. The City Clerk is directed to publish this resolution as a Class 1 notice in the official newspaper.
8. The Clerk is further directed to mail a copy of this resolution and a statement of the final assessment against the property to every property owner whose name appears on the assessment roll whose post office address is known or who can with reasonable diligence be ascertained.

Motion (VanLieshout/Weix) to approve. Carried.

2. A Resolution approving a Planned Unit Development and Construction of Duplexes on Webster Street Between Eugene & Alexander Streets (No. 2720)

WHEREAS, S.C. Swiderski, LLC has requested a Planned Unit Development pursuant to the Merrill Zoning Code Chapter 113, Article III, Section 113 for the purpose of constructing duplexes on the following described property:

A parcel of land on Webster Street, between Eugene and Alexander Streets, comprising approximately 4.3 acres on the East ½ of Lot #3 of Certified Survey Map #2855, City of Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin,

Commonly known as Webster Street herein referred to as the “Premises”; and,

WHEREAS, the City Plan Commission scheduled a hearing on the application on March 1, 2022, due public notice having been given and opportunity given to those interested to speak on the application; and,

WHEREAS, the City Plan Commission has reviewed the application, found that it does meet the requirements of Merrill Zoning Code, Chapter 113, Article III, Section 113 and has recommended approval of said application;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN this 8th day of March, 2022, that a Planned Unit Development consisting of duplexes on the above described premises is approved.

Motion (Hass/Blake) to approve. Carried.

9. Mayor's Communications – None.

10. Motion (Rick/Osness) to adjourn at 6:28 p.m. Carried.

Minutes prepared by Finance Director/Deputy City Clerk Kathy Unertl