



CITY OF MERRILL
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

MINUTES • WEDNESDAY JANUARY 23, 2019

Regular Meeting

City Hall Council Chambers

5:30 PM

1. Call to Order

Mayor Woellner called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Rob Norton	Aldersperson - Seventh District	Present	
John M. Van Lieshout	Aldersperson - Fifth District	Present	
Derek Woellner	Mayor	Present	
Steve Hass	Aldersperson - Second District	Present	

Also in attendance: City Administrator Dave Johnson, Public Works Director/City Engineer Rod Akey, Street Superintendent Dustin Bonack, Street and Weed Commissioner Ron Liberty, Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator Darin Pagel, City Attorney Tom Hayden, Alderman Steve Osness and City Clerk Bill Heideman. A representative from Merrill Productions was in attendance to videotape the meeting.

Attendees at the public hearing portion of the meeting included: Dave Nelson, Lori Anderson Malm, Ronald Ludwig, Bonnie Ludwig, Vicki Lindstrom, Delana Salisbury, Ron Burrow, Jim Korducki, Mikalea Schneider and Andrew Schneider.

2. Preliminary items:

1. Vouchers

The vouchers were in the meeting packet.

Motion (Hass/Norton) to approve.

RESULT: APPROVED

3. Other agenda items for consideration:

1. Request for dead end sign on Adams Street.

Public Works Director/City Engineer reported that the intersection should have a sign, and that one will be placed there.

No formal action was necessary, requested or taken.

2. Intersections:

Student pedestrian crossings on West Main Street.

The Police Department has done a traffic study of the area under consideration, and a sidewalk map will be prepared to help make better decisions on pedestrian crossings/signage.

Discussion was held on various pedestrian crossing options. It was mentioned that visibility is an issue at some intersections.

Discussion on this will continue at future meeting(s). At this time, no action was necessary, requested or taken.

Review Stop Sign recommendations for the area near E. Eighth Street and N. Kyes Street.

In response to the request, Public Works Director/City Engineer Akey prepared a proposal which includes five stop signs in the area being discussed. Included in the five is signage at East Eighth Street/Kyes Street. A map of the proposal was in the meeting packet.

Motion (Norton/Hass) to approve the proposal as presented.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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4. Monthly Reports:

1. Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator Pagel

The report was in the meeting packet.

Garbage cleanup issues are being addressed as necessary.

Final preparations are being made to seek bids on the 2019 Sidewalk Maintenance Project.

2. Public Works Director/City Engineer Akey

The report was in the meeting packet.

Planning for summer projects is ongoing. Work also being done on Special Assessment documents.

Future development projects are being planned.

3. Street Superintendent Bonack

The report was in the meeting packet.

The winter weather has been "strange" so far this year. There has been an increase in volume of recycling.

Stoplights at the corner of Highway "G" and Center Avenue are being replaced.

4. Street & Weed Commissioner Liberty

The report was in the meeting packet.

86 parcels checked to date. Two citizen inquiries. Both have been contacted and their issues have now been resolved.

5. Consider placing monthly reports on file

Motion (Hass/Norton) to place on file.

RESULT:	PLACED ON FILE
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5. Public Hearings on the following projects (6:00 P.M.):

At 5:43 P.M., Mayor Woellner declared a recess until 6:00 P.M., the scheduled time for the public hearings. At 6:00 P.M., Mayor Woellner called the meeting back to order.

City Attorney Hayden read the public hearing notice.

1. Sidewalk maintenance (South half of District 5, from West Fourth Street south)

Motion (Van Lieshout/Hass) to open the public hearing. Carried.

No one spoke for or against the project.

Motion (Hass/Van Lieshout) to close the public hearing. Carried.

Motion (Hass/Norton) to approve the project.

RESULT:	APPROVED & SENT TO COUNCIL	Next: 2/12/2019 7:00 PM
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2. North Poplar Street (from East Second Street north to East Fourth Street)

Motion (Hass/Norton) to open the public hearing. Carried.

Mikalea Schneider stated that her and her husband are against the project, particularly in light of the recent property tax increase.

Motion (Norton/Woellner) to close the public hearing. Carried.

Motion (Norton/Van Lieshout) to approve the project.

RESULT:	APPROVED & SENT TO COUNCIL	Next: 2/12/2019 7:00 PM
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3. North Court Street (from East Second Street north to East Fourth Street)

Motion (Hass/Norton) to open the public hearing. Carried.

No one spoke for against the project.

Motion (Norton/Hass) to close the public hearing. Carried.

Motion (Hass/Van Lieshout) to approve the project.

RESULT: APPROVED & SENT TO COUNCIL**Next: 2/12/2019 7:00 PM****4. North Cleveland Street (East Fourth Street north to East Sixth Street)**

Motion (Hass/Norton) to open the public hearing. Carried.

No one spoke for against the project.

Motion (Norton/Hass) to close the public hearing. Carried.

Motion (Hass/Van Lieshout) to approve the project.

RESULT: APPROVED & SENT TO COUNCIL**Next: 2/12/2019 7:00 PM****5. Paving of alley (200 & 300 blocks between North Center Avenue and North Park Street)**

Motion (Hass/Norton) to open the public hearing. Carried.

Lori Anderson Malm reported that, prior to the meeting, she submitted a petition to Alderman Hass. The petition contained several signatures of property owners in the affected area. The petition signees oppose the project. Lori Anderson Malm then explained her reasons for opposing the project.

Ron Burrow stated that he was not entirely for or against the project. He would like to see vehicular speeding curtailed in that area. He also suggested that the blacktopping of streets should take precedence over paving of alleys.

Bonnie Ludwig spoke against the project.

Motion (Norton/Van Lieshout) to close the public hearing. Carried.

Motion (Hass/Van Lieshout) to remove the paving of the 300 block from the 2019 Capital Projects list and retain the paving of the 200 block on the 2019 Capital Projects list.

After discussion, Alderman Hass requested that his motion be withdrawn. Without objection, it was so ordered.

Motion (Hass/Van Lieshout) to remove the entire project from the 2019 Capital Projects list.

Public Works Director/City Engineer Akey understands the concerns related to the 300 block portion of the project. He did suggest that retaining the 200 block portion of the project might be beneficial.

Motion to remove the entire project failed.

Motion (Hass/Van Lieshout) to remove the paving of the 300 block from the 2019 Capital Projects list and retain the paving of the 200 block on the 2019 Capital Projects list. Carried.

6. Paving of alley (1100 block between North Center Avenue and North Park Street)

Motion (Hass/Van Lieshout) to open the public hearing. Carried.

Delana Salisbury noted that her residence at 1108 East Second Street does not have driveway access to the alley.

Public Works Director/City Engineer Akey reported that he had been contacted by one resident who is against the paving unless the City pays for it.

Motion (Hass/Norton) to close the public hearing. Carried.

Motion (Hass/Norton) to remove the project from the 2019 Capital Projects list.

RESULT:	PROJECT REMOVED
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6. Establish date, time and location of next regular meeting

Wednesday, February 27th, 2019 at 5:30 P.M. in the City Hall Common Council Chambers.

7. Public Comment Period

None.

8. Adjournment

Motion (Norton/Van Lieshout) to adjourn. Carried. Adjourned at 6:27 P.M.