

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Regular Meeting
Friday, January 12, 2021

I. Call to order at 5:02 pm by Mayor Woellner with the following attending:

Paul Russell – District 1, Rick Blake – District 3, Steve Osness – District 4, John Van Lieshout – District 5, Mike Rick – District 6, Mark Weix – District 7, Steve Sabatke – District 8. Absent – Steve Hass – District 2

Other's present: Mayor Derek Woellner, City Clerk Bill Heideman, City Administrator Dave Johnson, Finance Director Kathy Unertl, City Attorney Tom Hayden, Public Works Director/City Engineer Rod Akey, Police Chief Corey Bennett, Street Superintendent Dustin Bonack, Transit Director Brad Brummond, Fire Chief Josh Klug, Enrichment Center Director Tammie Mrachek, Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator Darin Pagel, Utility Operations Manager Gabe Steinagle, Library Director Stacy Stevens, Park & Recreation Director Dan Wendorf, Facilities Maintenance Manager Nick Wszalek, IT Manager Dustin Brown and Merrill Productions Personnel.

Community members present: Mike Ravn, Nathan Meyer

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Agenda Items:

1. Review and discuss Strategic Plan Issue #1 – How can Merrill increase the tax base?

Council Chair Russell had opening comments on the aspects of core values and strengths and opportunities in Merrill. 2021 events at Festival Grounds were discussed.

Mike Ravn – suggested contacting Aspirus soon to discuss the T.B. Scott Mansion. Agreed that the future of the T.B. Scott mansion is a “hot” topic in the community.

Task/Action Steps #1 City Administrator Johnson gave a status report on various projects. Some topics were annexation and business expansions.

Financial Director Unertl talked about the positive news on building permits which were included in the meeting packet.

Strategic Issue #2 – there was no comment

Strategic Issue #3 – Videos on the website have been updated to show progress.
Mayor Woellner stated marketing is critical.

IV. Public Comment:

1. Public Comment Period – there was no public comment

V. Adjournment

A motion was made (Osness/Russell) to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 5:56 PM.

Minutes prepared by: Lori Anderson-Malm City Clerk from the agenda and meeting notes from former City Clerk Bill Heideman.