

**CITY OF MERRILL
HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE
MONDAY, APRIL 29, 2024 MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS 5:15 PM**

- I. **Call to Order** Chair Rick called the meeting to order at 5:15 pm.
Present: Alderperson Weix Jr., Alderperson Caylor, Alderperson Rick
Present Not Voting: Police Chief Bennett, Norb "Nubs" Ashbeck, Fire Chief Klug
Others: Mayor Hass, City Clerk Anderson-Malm, Alderperson Lass, Alderperson Fermanich (remote), Kathleen Woodward, Mark Woodward, Jeff Klapperich, Merrill Community Media
- II. **Public Comment** Alderperson Fermanich (remote) spoke about the deer population problem in the City.
- III. **Minutes from Previous Meeting**
 1. **Consider placing the minutes from the March 25 meeting on file.**
- Alderperson Caylor motioned to place minutes from March 25 on file.
Alderperson Weix seconded and the motion passed.
- IV. **Nuisance Complaints and Vouchers**
 1. **Nuisance Complaints** - DHO Ashbeck updated the committee with a complaint filed after publishing the agenda.
 2. **Discuss and consider approving the vouchers** - Alderperson Weix Jr. motioned to Approve. Alderperson Caylor seconded and the motion Passed.
- V. **General Agenda Items for Consideration**
 1. **Discussion and consideration regarding the deer population in the City of Merrill limits, including enforcement, higher fines for feeding deer, and other ideas for controlling the deer population in the city.** - Police Chief Bennett updated the committee with information. He said there were 2 complaints in 2023 and going back 8 years, there were 8 complaints regarding feeding deer. Items that could be explored are increasing/promoting areas open to hunting, opening areas for hunting, or offering kill tags issued by the DNR. However, no hunting can be done until that autumn. The areas for hunting would be private property only and would be for bow hunting only. There could be open public areas and open nuisance areas could be determined. However, these would require re-wording of the ordinance and there would need to be ground rules in place. The committee discussed the issues involved with bow hunting in the City. Following further discussion, it was decided this would be brought back to the committee after the City Attorney is consulted as to how the ordinance could be modified. No further action was taken.

2. **Consider the change of agent application for Walgreens #10574, 101 N Center Avenue to Jeffry C. Klapperich.** - Alderperson Caylor motioned to Approve. Alderperson Weix Jr. seconded and the motion Passed.
3. **Consider a Class B liquor license for The Creative Spirit LLC, 129 N Prospect Street.** - Kathleen Woodward and Mark Woodward were given floor privileges to explain The Creative Spirit LLC. They stated this would be an arts & crafts center workshop where artists could offer classes. People participating in the class could purchase beer or wine while crafting. Following a brief discussion, Alderperson Caylor motioned to Approve. Alderperson Weix Jr. seconded and the motion Passed.
4. **Consider a street use permit for Gesundheit Saloon, 1300 E Main St for May 18, 2024, from 5:00 pm until 11:00 pm.** - Alderperson Caylor motioned to Approve. Alderperson Weix Jr. seconded and the motion Passed.
5. **Consider a street use permit for Gesundheit Saloon, 1300 E Main Street, for August 17, 2024, from 11:00 am until 11:00 pm, in conjunction with the 150th Anniversary of the bar celebration.** - Alderperson Caylor motioned to Approve. Alderperson Weix Jr. seconded and the motion Passed.

VI. Monthly Reports

1. **Monthly Report - Fire Chief Klug** - The report was in the packet. Fire Chief Klug highlighted a few items.
2. **Monthly Report - Police Chief Bennett** - The report was in the packet. Police Chief Bennett highlighted some items.
3. **Monthly Report - Lincoln County Humane Society** - The report was in the packet.
4. **Consider placing monthly reports on file** - Alderperson Weix motioned to place the monthly reports on file. Alderperson Caylor seconded and the motion passed.

VII. Date and Time of Next Meeting - Monday, May 20th at 5:15

VIII. Adjournment Alderperson Caylor motioned to Adjourn. Alderperson Weix Jr. seconded and the motion Passed. The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by City Clerk Anderson-Malm