

**CITY OF MERRILL
COMMON COUNCIL
TUESDAY, MAY 14, 2024 MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS 6:30 PM**

I. Call to Order Mayor Hass called the meeting to order at 6:37 pm due to the prior Committee of the Whole.

II. Invocation - Pastor Mike Southcomb - St Stephens UCC

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Roll Call

Present: Alderperson A. Caylor, Alderperson M. Caylor, Alderperson Meyer, Alderperson Fermanich, Alderperson Lass, Alderperson Rick, Alderperson Weix Jr., Alderperson Rutkowski

Others present: City Attorney Hayden, City Clerk Anderson-Malm, City Administrator Akey, Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator Pagel, Finance Director Ley, Fire Department Rep Skoug, Library Director Ollhoff, Police Chief Bennett, Street Superintendent Bonack, Utility Operations Manager Steinagel, Pastor Michael Southcomb, Kathleen Woodward, Mark Woodward, Jeff Klapperich, TJ Burnett, Golden Harvest Representative.

V. Common Council Meeting Expectations City Clerk Anderson-Malm read the meeting expectations.

VI. Public Comment There was no public comment.

VII. Minutes from Previous Meeting

1. **Consider placing the minutes from the following meetings on file: April 9th, April 16th and May 3rd.** - Alderperson Meyer motioned to place the minutes on file. Alderperson Fermanich seconded and the motion passed.

VIII. Revenue and Expense Reports

1. **April Revenue and Expense Reports** - Alderperson M. Caylor motioned to approve. Alderperson Weix Jr. seconded and the motion passed.

IX. General Agenda Items for Consideration

1. **Employee Recognition:** - Ms. Akey and Mr. Teetzen were recognized and Mayor Hass thanked them for their long-time service to the City of Merrill.
 - a. **Terri Akey - 35 years - T. B. Scott Library -**
 - b. **Thomas Teetzen - 20 years - Fire Department -**
2. **Discuss and consider hiring a Facilities Maintenance Manager. This is being brought directly to the Common Council.** - City Administrator/Public Works Director/City Engineer Akey explained why this was brought to the

Council. The applicant who accepted the position, Taylor "TJ" Burnett, was introduced to the Council.

Aldersperson Meyer motioned to approve hiring Taylor "TJ" Burnett as Facilities Maintenance Manager. Aldersperson M. Caylor seconded and the motion passed.

3. **Consider a street use permit for Golden Harvest Market, to close Pearl Street from Main Street to Thielman Street, for a customer appreciation event on June 1, 2024, from 7:00 am until 8:00 pm. This is being brought directly to the Common Council.** - Aldersperson Meyer motioned to approve. Aldersperson Rutkowski seconded and the motion passed. Following approval of the motion, Aldersperson Meyer asked Golden Harvest to go through the appropriate committees for future requests.

X. Health & Safety

1. **Consider the change of agent application for Walgreens Store #10574, 101 N Center Avenue to Jeffery C. Klapperich. The Health & Safety Committee recommends approval.** - Aldersperson Weix Jr. motioned to approve. Aldersperson Meyer seconded and the motion passed.
2. **Consider a Class B liquor license for The Creative Spirit LLC, 129 N Prospect Street. The Health & Safety Committee recommends approval.** - Aldersperson Rick motioned to approve. Aldersperson M. Caylor seconded and the motion passed.
3. **Consider a street use permit for Gesundheit Saloon, 1300 E Main Street for May 18, 2024, from 5:00 pm until 11:00 pm. The Health & Safety Committee recommends approval.** - Aldersperson Meyer motioned to approve. Aldersperson A. Caylor seconded and the motion passed.
4. **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. The Health & Safety Committee recommends approval.** - Aldersperson A. Caylor motioned to approve. Aldersperson Rutkowski seconded and the motion passed.

XI. Place Committee Reports on File

1. **Consider placing the following Committee/Commission reports on file: Committee of the Whole, Board of Review, Historic Preservation, Marketing & Communications, Airport Commission, Health & Safety, Personnel & Finance, Board of Public Works, Enrichment Center, Library Board, Parks & Recreation Commission, Festival Grounds and City Plan.** - Aldersperson Meyer motioned to place reports on file. Aldersperson Weix Jr. seconded and the motion passed.

XII. Ordinances

1. **An Ordinance Amending Chapter 2, Article III, Section 2-59, Polling Places. This is being brought directly to the Common Council.** - City Attorney Hayden read the Ordinance. Alderperson Fermanich motioned to suspend the rules and give the second and third readings by title only. Alderperson Meyer seconded and the motion carried. City Attorney Hayden gave the Ordinance the second and third readings by title only. City Clerk Anderson-Malm answered questions from the Council regarding the amendment. Alderperson A. Caylor motioned to adopt the Ordinance. Alderperson Meyer seconded, and the motion carried on a 6/2 roll call vote. Alderperson M. Caylor and Alderperson Rick voted no.
2. **An Ordinance Amending Chapter 14, Article II, Section 14-36, Regulation on length of lawn and grasses. The Board of Public Works recommends approval.** - City Attorney Hayden read the Ordinance. Alderperson Meyer motioned to suspend the rules and give the second and third readings by title only. Alderperson A. Caylor seconded, and the motion carried on a 6/2 voice vote. City Attorney Hayden gave the Ordinance the second and third readings by title only. Alderperson Meyer motioned to adopt the Ordinance. Alderperson M. Caylor seconded, and the motion carried on a 7/1 roll call vote. Alderperson Lass voted no.
3. **An Ordinance Amending Chapter 30, Article II, Section 30-37 Unauthorized disposal of garbage, refuse or solid waste. The Board of Public Works recommends approval.** - City Attorney Hayden read the Ordinance. Alderperson M. Caylor motioned to suspend the rules and give the second and third readings by title only. Alderperson Meyer seconded and the motion carried. City Attorney Hayden gave the Ordinance the second and third readings by title only. Alderperson M. Caylor motioned to adopt the Ordinance. Alderperson Meyer seconded and the motion carried on an 8/0 roll call vote.
4. **An Ordinance Amending Chapter 32, Article IV, Section 32-91 Snow and ice removal from sidewalks. The Board of Public Works recommends approval.** - City Attorney Hayden read the Ordinance. Alderperson A. Caylor motioned to suspend the rules and give the second and third readings by title only. Alderperson Meyer seconded and the motion carried. City Attorney Hayden gave the Ordinance the second and third readings by title only. Alderperson Meyer motioned to adopt the Ordinance. Alderperson Rutkowski seconded and the motion carried on an 8/0 roll call vote.

XIII. Resolutions

1. **A Resolution Approving the Adjusted Merrill Urban Area Boundary.** - City Attorney Hayden read the following Resolution:
A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE ADJUSTED MERRILL URBAN AREA BOUNDARY

WHEREAS every ten years, the US Census Bureau defines the

boundaries for geographic areas meeting the urban area criteria as published in the Federal Register; and,

WHEREAS the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) allows states to adjust the Census-defined urban area boundaries for planning and funding purposes; and,

WHEREAS the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT), following the release of decennial census data, leads a process to adjust Census-defined urban area boundaries within the state, in conjunction with the FHWA Wisconsin Division; and,

WHEREAS WisDOT works with local officials within the urban areas to develop and propose new adjusted boundaries for these areas; and,

WHEREAS WisDOT developed a proposed new adjusted boundary for the Merrill Urban Area; and,

WHEREAS officials from the City of Merrill and Lincoln County reviewed WisDOT's proposed new adjusted boundary for the Merrill Urban Area and provided feedback on this boundary; and,

WHEREAS WisDOT made changes to the proposed new adjusted urban area boundary to reflect feedback received from the City and County officials; and,

WHEREAS WisDOT is requesting approval of the proposed new adjusted urban area boundary by the City of Merrill; and,

WHEREAS, after approval by the City, the new adjusted urban area boundary will be submitted to WisDOT and the FHWA Wisconsin Division for final approval;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN this 14th day of May, 2024, that the City of Merrill informs WisDOT that the new adjusted boundary for the Merrill Urban Area as reflected in the attached map is hereby approved and adopted.

Aldersperson Meyer motioned to approve the Resolution. Aldersperson Rutkowski seconded and the motion carried.

XIV. Mayor's Appointments

- 1. Pete Lokemoen to the City Plan Commission, replacing Robert Reimann. Term to expire 05/01/2027.** - Aldersperson Caylor motioned to approve. Aldersperson Meyer seconded and the motion passed.

XV. Mayor's Communications Mayor Hass had the following communications:

May 18th is the City Wide Garage Sale

May 18th is the Lincoln County Sports Club open house

May 18th is the Food Truck-a-Palooza with 73 craft vendors, 17 food trucks, 2 bounce houses, Brad Emanuel, live radio remotes, and a cornhole tournament at the Festival Grounds from 11:00 am until 7:00 pm.

The Library has State Park day passes and other events throughout the summer.

Merrill Enrichment Center; May 15th Sassy spoons and plant sticks, May 16th sewing class from 12:30 - 4:00, May 22nd and 29th a Mosaic art class (2-part class). Please call the Enrichment Center for more details about these events.

Graduation is May 24th. Mayor Hass congratulated all the Merrill High School graduates.

Merrill Baseball Association Tournament is May 31st - June 2nd at the MARC, Lions Park and Athletic Park.

The Rodeo is June 7, 8, and 9th at the Festival Grounds.

June 9th is the June Dairy Breakfast at the MARC.

Fireworks are Friday, July 5th at the MARC instead of Thursday, July 4th.

Memorial Day ceremony will be at the St. Francis Veterans Cemetery on May 27th.

XVI. Adjournment Alderperson Lass motioned to Adjourn. Alderperson Meyer seconded and the motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:07 pm.

The complete Ordinances are available on the City of Merrill website:

<https://www.ci.merrill.wi.us/>

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lori L Anderson-Malm - City Clerk