

**CITY OF MERRILL  
COMMON COUNCIL  
TUESDAY, JUNE 11, 2024 MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING    CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS    6:30 PM**

- I. Call to Order** Mayor Hass called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.  
In attendance: Mayor Hass, City Attorney Hayden, City Administrator Akey, City Clerk Anderson-Malm, Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator Pagel, Finance Director Ley, Fire Chief Klug (remote), Library Director Ollhoff, Police Chief Bennett, Street Superintendent Bonack, Utility Operations Manager Steinagel, Sue Kunkel, Brian Riley from Ehlers, Pastor Johanna Doyle.  
Parks and Recreation Director Wendorf was excused.
- II. Invocation - Pastor Johanna Doyle - The Gathering Table**
- III. Pledge of Allegiance**
- IV. Roll Call**  
Present: Alderperson Caylor, Alderperson Caylor, Alderperson Meyer, Alderperson Lass, Alderperson Rick, Alderperson Weix Jr., Alderperson Rutkowski  
Excused: Alderperson LaDonna Fermanich
- 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 May 14th meeting on file**  
- Alderperson Meyer motioned to place minutes on file. Alderperson Rick seconded and the motion passed.
- VIII. Revenue and Expense Reports**
  - 1. May Revenues and Expense Summary Report** - Alderperson Caylor motioned to approve. Alderperson Weix Jr. seconded and the motion passed.
- IX. General Agenda Items for Consideration**
  - 1. Employee Recognition -**
    - a. Elizabeth Thiel - 10 years - Parks & Recreation** - Mayor Hass thanked Elizabeth for her service to the City.
  - 2. Consider a temporary Class "B" license to sell fermented malt beverages for Merrill Rangers for June 16th and June 19th at Athletic Park, 500 S. Logan St in conjunction with baseball games. This is being brought directly to the Common Council for the dates mentioned. Police Chief Bennett approved the May 29th and June 6th dates due to the date the license was received. The remainder of the**

**dates will be sent to the June Health & Safety Committee meeting to follow the appropriate committee channels for approval and recommendation.** - Alderperson Rick motioned to approve. Alderperson Weix Jr. seconded. Alderperson Meyer questioned why some temporary licenses are received late, alleviating the usual committee approval and recommendations. Following discussion, the motion passed.

3. **Consider a temporary Class "B" license to sell fermented malt beverages for Merrill Baseball Legion/Jr Legion for June 13, 17, 18, 28, 29, 30, and July 1 and 2 at Athletic Park, 500 S. Logan St in conjunction with Legion Baseball Games. This is being brought directly to the Common Council on the dates mentioned due to the date the license was received. The remainder of the dates will be sent to the June Health & Safety Committee meeting to follow the appropriate committee channels for approval and recommendation.** - Alderperson Caylor motioned to approve. Alderperson Meyer seconded. Alderperson Lass questioned the age of participants in the Jr Legion. Following discussion, the motion passed on a 6/1 voice vote. Alderperson Lass voted no.

#### **X. Health & Safety**

1. **Consider approving the 2024/2025 liquor license applications (per list). 21 out of 24 Class B Combination licenses were returned. The Health & Safety Committee recommends approval.** - Alderperson Rick motioned to approve. Alderperson Meyer seconded and the motion passed.
2. **Consider a temporary Class "B" license to sell fermented malt beverages, for Merrill Youth Softball Association (aka Merrill Fastpitch) for July 5th at the MARC in conjunction with the July 5th Fireworks. The Health & Safety Committee recommends approval.** - Alderperson Meyer motioned to approve. Alderperson Rutkowski seconded and the motion passed.

#### **XI. Place Committee Reports on File**

1. **Consider placing the following reports on file: Personnel & Finance, Marketing & Communications, Airport Commission, Library Board, Transit Commission, Health & Safety, Committee of the Whole, Zoning Board of Appeals, Redevelopment Authority, and Parks & Recreation.** - Alderperson Meyer motioned to place monthly reports on file. Alderperson A. Caylor seconded and the motion passed.

#### **XII. Ordinances**

1. **An Ordinance amending Chapter 26, Article II, Section 26-21 Regulation of firearms, crossbows, bows, and explosives; hunting. The Health & Safety Committee recommends adoption.** - City Attorney Hayden read the Ordinance. Alderperson M. Caylor motioned to suspend the rules and give the ordinance its second and third readings by title only. Alderperson Rick seconded and the motion carried. City Attorney Hayden gave the Ordinance

the second and third readings by title only.

Alderpersion Rick motioned to adopt the Ordinance. Alderpersion Meyer seconded and the motion carried on a 7/0 roll call vote.

### **XIII. Resolutions**

1. **A Resolution approving the 2023 Compliance Maintenance Annual Report for the City of Merrill Wastewater Treatment Plant. This is being brought directly to the Council due to the fact of no Board of Public Works meeting at the end of May.** - City Attorney Hayden read the following Resolution:

#### **A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2023 COMPLIANCE MAINTENANCE ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE CITY OF MERRILL WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT**

WHEREAS, the City of Merrill is required by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) to complete a Compliance Maintenance Annual Report on its Wastewater Treatment Plant; and

WHEREAS, the City of Merrill, has reviewed the Compliance Maintenance Report for the year 2023, and has determined that it reflects the performance of the Wastewater Treatment Plant during 2023; and

WHEREAS, the report indicates a need for continued improvements at the Wastewater Treatment Plant and its operations to meet the requirements set forth by the WDNR;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN, this 11<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2024, that:

1. The Compliance Maintenance Annual Report for 2023 is hereby approved and authorized to be filed with the WDNR.

1. That the Compliance Maintenance Annual Report for 2023 is an accurate indication of the performance of the City of Merrill Wastewater Treatment Plant for the year 2023.

Alderpersion Meyer motioned to approve the resolution. Alderpersion A. Caylor seconded and the motion carried.

2. **A Resolution Providing for the Sale of Approximately \$3,190,000 General Obligation Promissory Notes** - City Attorney Hayden read the following Resolution:

#### **RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE SALE OF APPROXIMATELY \$3,190,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION PROMISSORY NOTES**

WHEREAS the City of Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin (the "City") is presently in need of approximately \$3,190,000 for public purposes, including street improvements, park improvements, IT equipment, library and City Hall building improvements, fairground improvements and Tax Incremental District No. 11 ("TID No. 11") projects, such as utilities and street reconstruction and refunding the portion of the City's Note Anticipation Note, Series 2022A, dated November 30, 2022 that financed project costs of TID No. 11 and general fund projects; and

WHEREAS it is desirable to borrow said funds through the issuance of general obligation promissory notes pursuant to Chapter 67, Wisconsin Statutes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City that:

Section 1. Issuance of the Notes. The City shall issue its General Obligation Promissory Notes in the approximate amount of \$3,190,000 (the "Notes") for the purposes above specified.

Section 2. Solicitation for Sale of Notes. The Common Council hereby authorizes and directs the officers of the City and Ehlers & Associates, Inc. ("Ehlers") to take all actions necessary to solicit proposals from potential purchasers of the Notes. At a subsequent meeting, the Common Council shall take further action to approve the details of the Notes and authorize the sale of the Notes.

Section 3. Note Sale Notice. The City Clerk shall cause notice of the sale of the Notes or other offering materials to be prepared by Ehlers and distribute such materials to potential purchasers of the Notes.

Aldersperson M. Caylor motioned to approve the resolution. Aldersperson Meyer seconded and the motion carried.

3. **A Resolution Providing for the Sale of Approximately \$1,453,000 Tax Increment Revenue Bond (TID No. 7)** - City Attorney Hayden read the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE SALE OF  
APPROXIMATELY \$1,453,000 TAX INCREMENT REVENUE BOND (TID  
NO. 7)

WHEREAS the City of Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin (the "City") is presently in need of approximately \$1,453,000 for the public purpose of paying project costs in the project plan for Tax Incremental District No. 7 ("TID No. 7"), including utility and street improvements for Spruce Street and

refunding the portion of the City's Note Anticipation Note, Series 2022A, dated November 30, 2022 that financed project costs of TID No. 7; and

WHEREAS it is desirable to borrow said funds through the issuance of revenue bonds pursuant to Chapter 66, Wisconsin Statutes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City that:

Section 1. Issuance of the Bonds. The City shall issue its Tax Increment Revenue Bond (TID No. 7) in the approximate amount of \$1,453,000 (the "Bonds") for the purposes above specified.

Section 2. Solicitation for Sale of Bonds. The Common Council hereby authorizes and directs the officers of the City and Ehlers & Associates, Inc. ("Ehlers") to take all actions necessary to solicit proposals from potential purchasers of the Bonds. At a subsequent meeting, the Common Council shall take further action to approve the details of the Bonds and authorize the sale of the Bonds.

Section 3. Bond Sale Notice. The City Clerk shall cause notice of the sale of the Bonds or other offering materials to be prepared by Ehlers and distribute such materials to potential purchasers of the Bonds.

Aldersperson Rick motioned to approve the resolution. Aldersperson Rutkowski seconded and the motion carried.

4. **A Resolution Providing for the Sale of Approximately \$1,329,000 Tax Increment Revenue Bond (TID No. 8)** - City Attorney Hayden read the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE SALE OF APPROXIMATELY \$1,329,000 TAX INCREMENT REVENUE BOND (TID NO. 8)

WHEREAS the City of Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin (the "City") is presently in need of approximately \$1,329,000 for the public purpose of paying project costs in the project plan for Tax Incremental District No. 8 ("TID No. 8"), including utility and street improvements and refunding the portion of the City's Note Anticipation Note, Series 2022A, dated November 30, 2022 that financed project costs of TID No. 8; and

WHEREAS it is desirable to borrow said funds through the issuance of revenue bonds pursuant to Chapter 66, Wisconsin Statutes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City that:

Section 1. Issuance of the Bonds. The City shall issue its Tax Increment Revenue Bond (TID No. 8) in the approximate amount of \$1,329,000 (the "Bonds") for the purposes above specified.

Section 2. Solicitation for Sale of Bonds. The Common Council hereby authorizes and directs the officers of the City and Ehlers & Associates, Inc. ("Ehlers") to take all actions necessary to solicit proposals from potential purchasers of the Bonds. At a subsequent meeting, the Common Council shall take further action to approve the details of the Bonds and authorize the sale of the Bonds.

Section 3. Bond Sale Notice. The City Clerk shall cause notice of the sale of the Bonds or other offering materials to be prepared by Ehlers and distribute such materials to potential purchasers of the Bonds.

Aldersperson Meyer motioned to approve the resolution. Aldersperson A. Caylor seconded and the motion carried.

**5. A Resolution Providing for the Sale of Approximately \$1,185,000 Note Anticipation Notes** - City Attorney Hayden read the following Resolution:

**RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE SALE OF  
APPROXIMATELY \$1,185,000 NOTE ANTICIPATION NOTES**

WHEREAS the City of Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin (the "City") is presently in need of approximately \$1,185,000 for public purposes, including paying project costs in the project plan for Tax Incremental District No. 9, such as utilities and street improvements; and

WHEREAS it is desirable to borrow said funds through the issuance of note anticipation notes pursuant to Chapter 67, Wisconsin Statutes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City that:

Section 1. Issuance of the Note. The City shall issue its Note Anticipation Notes in the approximate amount of \$1,185,000 (the "Notes") for the purposes above specified.

Section 2. Solicitation for Sale of Notes. The Common Council hereby authorizes and directs the officers of the City and Ehlers & Associates, Inc. ("Ehlers") to take all actions necessary to solicit proposals from potential purchasers of the Notes. At a subsequent meeting, the Common Council shall take further action to approve the details of the Note and authorize the sale of the Notes.

Section 3. Note Sale Notice. The City Clerk shall cause notice of the sale of the Notes or other offering materials to be prepared by Ehlers and distribute such materials to potential purchasers of the Notes.

Aldersperson A. Caylor motioned to approve the resolution. Aldersperson M. Caylor seconded and the motion carried.

**6. A Resolution Providing for the Sale of Approximately \$780,000 Tax Increment Revenue Bond (TID No. 10)** - City Attorney Hayden read the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE SALE OF  
APPROXIMATELY \$780,000 TAX INCREMENT REVENUE BOND (TID NO. 10)

WHEREAS the City of Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin (the "City") is presently in need of approximately \$780,000 for the public purpose of paying project costs in the project plan for Tax Incremental District No. 10, including utility and street reconstruction projects; and

WHEREAS it is desirable to borrow said funds through the issuance of revenue bonds pursuant to Chapter 66, Wisconsin Statutes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City that:

Section 1. Issuance of the Bonds. The City shall issue its Tax Increment Revenue Bond (TID No. 10) in the approximate amount of \$780,000 (the "Bonds") for the purposes above specified.

Section 2. Solicitation for Sale of Bonds. The Common Council hereby authorizes and directs the officers of the City and Ehlers & Associates, Inc. ("Ehlers") to take all actions necessary to solicit proposals from potential purchasers of the Bonds. At a subsequent meeting, the Common Council shall take further action to approve the details of the Bonds and authorize the sale of the Bonds.

Section 3. Bond Sale Notice. The City Clerk shall cause notice of the sale of the Bonds or other offering materials to be prepared by Ehlers and distribute such materials to potential purchasers of the Bonds.

Aldersperson Weix motioned to approve the resolution. Aldersperson Meyer seconded and the motion carried.

**XIV. Mayor's Communications** Mayor Hass read the following communications:  
July 5th is the Fireworks at the MARC

June 10th was Read to a Dog at the Library - more of these types of events are planned

June 14th is Flag Day

June 16th is Father's Day

June 26th is Ice Cream and Dairy Tales at the TB Scott Library at 10:30. Please register there.

June 29th is Armed Forces Day

August 2nd and 3rd the Merrill Festival of Quilts will be at the Expo Center.

He thanked all the sponsors and volunteers who made the first Food Truck-a-palooza a success.

**XV. Adjournment** Alderperson Meyer motioned to adjourn. Alderperson Lass seconded and the motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 6:53 pm.

The complete Ordinance is available on the City of Merrill website:

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

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