

**CITY OF MERRILL
COMMON COUNCIL
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 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 p.m. The following in attendance:

Aldersperson A. Caylor, Aldersperson M. Caylor, Aldersperson Meyer, Aldersperson Fermanich, Aldersperson Lass, Aldersperson Rick, Aldersperson Weix Jr., Aldersperson Rutkowski
City Administrator Akey, Enrichment Center Director Mrachek, Finance Director Ley, Fire Chief Klug, Library Director Ollhoff, Parks & Recreation Director Wendorf, Police Chief Bennett, Street Superintendent Bonack, Utility Operations Manager Steinagel, City Attorney Hayden, City Clerk Anderson-Malm, Brian Riley from Ehlers, Gary Hartwig, Clyde Nelson, Sarah Sturm, Cheryl Skoug, Renea Frederick, Sarah Guild and Merrill Community Media.

- II. Invocation - Silent prayer**

- III. Pledge of Allegiance**

- IV. Roll Call** Present: Aldersperson Caylor, Aldersperson Caylor, Aldersperson Meyer, Aldersperson Fermanich, Aldersperson Lass, Aldersperson Rick, Aldersperson Weix Jr., Aldersperson Rutkowski

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

- VI. Proclamation**

- 1. Chamber of Commerce Month** - City Attorney Hayden read the Proclamation. A photo was taken with Mayor Hass, Clyde Nelson, Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce, Sarah Sturm, and Cheryl Skoug.

- VII. Public Comment** Clyde Nelson, Executive Director of the Merrill Chamber of Commerce spoke to the Council about the Loyal to Local campaign. Citizens are encouraged to take a picture holding a Loyal to Local sign and send it to the Chamber of Commerce to publish.

- VIII. Minutes from Previous Meeting**

- 1. Consider placing the minutes from the August 14th meeting on file** - No action was taken. The August minutes were not included in the agenda packet.

- IX. Revenue and Expense Reports**

- 1. Discuss and consider the August Revenue and Expense Report**
- Aldersperson Meyer motioned to approve. Aldersperson Weix Jr. seconded and the motion passed.

X. General Agenda Items

1. Employee Recognition

- **Paul Peterson - Fire Department - 10 years**
- **Tammie Mrachek - Enrichment Center Director - 10 years**
- **Jason Hendricks - Fire Department - 15 years**

- Certificates were presented to the employees for their years of service. Alderperson M. Caylor motioned to approve. Alderperson A. Caylor seconded and the motion passed.

- 2. Discuss revisions to the 2024 financing plan related to TIDs 7, 8, 9, and 10 - authorization to proceed - Finance Director Ley and Brian Riley from Ehlers** - Brian Riley from Ehlers updated the Council and provided information regarding the revised 2024 financing plan. Alderperson M. Caylor motioned to authorize Finance Director Ley and Ehlers to proceed with the financing plan. Alderperson Rick seconded and the motion passed.

XI. Board of Public Works

- 1. Discuss and consider a land parcel exchange with Fremarq to facilitate the trail connection and stormwater discharge. The Board of Public Works and the Parks & Recreation Commission recommend approval.** - Alderperson Meyer motioned to approve. Alderperson Rutkowski seconded and the motion passed.
- 2. Discuss and consider selling City-owned properties. The Board of Public Works recommends approval.** - Alderperson A. Caylor motioned to approve. Alderperson Meyer seconded and the motion passed.

XII. City Plan

- 1. Discuss and consider Wendorf Construction Inc., requesting approval of a Preliminary Plat of Tall Pines Subdivision per M.M.C. Sec 111-114, located in the City of Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin. Legally described in PIN # 251-3106-122-0147. The City Plan Commission recommends approval.** - Alderperson Rick motioned to approve. Alderperson Weix Jr. seconded and the motion passed.
- 2. Discuss and consider Wendorf Construction Inc., requesting the rezoning of Tall Pines Subdivision, located in the City of Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin, from Industrial to R-1 Residential for the construction of single-family homes per M.M.C. Sec 113-38, with the exception of lots 29 and 30 being rezoned to Thoroughfare Commercial per M.M.C. Sec. 113-40. Legally described in PIN # 251-3106-122-0147. The City Plan Commission recommends approval.** - Alderperson Meyer motioned to approve. Alderperson Rutkowski seconded and the motion passed.

XIII. Personnel & Finance

- 1. Discuss and consider adding a second, full-time School Resource Officer (SRO) - 100% MAPS funded. The Personnel and Finance Committee recommends approval.**
 - Alderperson Meyer motioned to approve the 2nd full-time SRO only if it is 100% funded by MAPS. Alderperson Fermanich seconded and the motion passed.

XIV. Place Committee Reports on File

- 1. Consider placing the following committee reports on file: Airport Commission, Library Board, Enrichment Center, Redevelopment Authority, Parks and Recreation, Transit Commission, Committee of the Whole, Marketing & Communications, Historic Preservation, Personnel & Finance, Board of Public Works and City Plan Commission.**
 - Alderperson Meyer motioned to approve. Alderperson Fermanich seconded and the motion passed.

XV. Resolutions

- 1. A Resolution honoring Kathy Unertl for her long-time service to the City of Merrill. - City Attorney Hayden read the following Resolution:**
A RESOLUTION HONORING KATHY UNERTL FOR HER LONG-TIME SERVICE TO THE CITY OF MERRILL

WHEREAS, Kathy Unertl has served the City of Merrill for over 21 years, from March 31, 2003, to July 31, 2024; and,

WHEREAS, these years of service have been marked by dedication to the best interests of our community and the safety and well-being of our employees and citizens, implemented many efficiencies for our governmental operations, including the successful Tax Incremental Financing processes; and,

WHEREAS, Kathy Unertl has earned the admiration and respect of her fellow employees by the way in which she has carried out her duties; and

WHEREAS, Kathy Unertl's experience will be missed at the City of Merrill;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN this 10th day of September 2024, that the Common Council, and the people of Merrill officially acknowledge with deep appreciation the dedicated and faithful service Kathy Unertl has given the City of Merrill and commends her for those 21 years of service; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we hereby commend the meritorious and dedicated service of Kathy Unertl, congratulate her upon the occasion of her retirement from the City of Merrill, and extend our warmest wishes for her enjoyment of continued prosperity in the years that lie ahead.

Aldersonperson Rutkowski motioned to approve the Resolution. Aldersonperson Weix seconded and the motion passed.

2. **A Resolution honoring Terri R. Akey, for her long-time service to the City of Merrill.** - City Attorney Hayden read the following Resolution:
A RESOLUTION HONORING TERRI R. AKEY, FOR HER LONG-TIME SERVICE TO THE CITY OF MERRILL

WHEREAS, Terri Akey, has served the City of Merrill, at the T.B. Scott Library, for over 35 years, most recently as the Library Assistant II – Youth Services, from April 6, 1989, to August 30, 2024; and,
WHEREAS, these years of service have been marked by dedication to the best interests of our community and citizens; and
WHEREAS, Terri has earned the admiration and respect of her fellow employees by the way in which she has carried out her duties; and
WHEREAS, Terri's skills and experience will be missed at the City of Merrill T.B. Scott Library;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN this 10th day of September 2024, that the Common Council, and the people of Merrill officially acknowledge with deep appreciation the dedicated and faithful service Terri has given the City of Merrill T.B. Scott Library and commends her for those 35 years of service; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we hereby commend the meritorious and dedicated service of Terri, congratulate her upon the occasion of her retirement from the City of Merrill T.B. Scott Library, and extend our warmest wishes for her enjoyment of continued prosperity in the years that lie ahead.

Aldersonperson Meyer motioned to approve the Resolution. Aldersonperson Fermanich seconded and the motion passed.

XVI. Mayor's Appointments Aldersonperson M. Caylor motioned to approve both appointments. Aldersonperson Rick seconded and the motion passed.

1. **Reappoint Clyde Nelson to the Redevelopment Authority - term to expire September 1, 2029**
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2. **Appoint Jim Finucan to the City Plan Commission - term to expire May 1, 2027 -**

XVII. Mayor's Communications Mayor Hass read the following communications:
Fall Ride is September 12–15. He reminded everyone to look out for extra traffic in the area.
September 16th at 1:00 pm is the honorary street sign dedication for Chuck Sommers.

September 13-14 a Gun Show will be at the Bierman Building/Expo Hall
September 21st is the Colorama Bike Tour
September 21st Merrill Fastpitch is holding a kickball tournament at the MARC. The tournament starts at 9:00 am and is to Support Josie Geiss.
September 28th is the Fall Craft and Market at the Enrichment Center and Expo Hall.

XVIII. Adjournment Alderperson Lass motioned to adjourn. Alderperson Meyer seconded and the motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:13 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lori L Anderson-Malm - City Clerk
The minutes are in draft form until approved at the next scheduled meeting. The minutes are available for viewing in the City Clerk's office and on the City of Merrill website. Complete Ordinances are available on the City of Merrill website:
<https://www.ci.merrill.wi.us/>