

**CITY OF MERRILL  
FAIRGROUNDS COMMITTEE  
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2024 MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING-REVISED CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS 6:00 PM**

- I. **Call to Order** Mayor Hass called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm  
Present: Mayor Hass, Alderperson A. Caylor, Alderperson M. Caylor, Alderperson Lass, Brad Becker  
Present Not Voting: Festival Grounds Manager Rick Bjorklund, City Attorney Thomas Hayden, City Administrator/Public Works Director/City Engineer Rod Akey, City Clerk Anderson-Malm, Merrill Community Media  
Excused: George Henrichs, Becky Meyer
- II. **Consider approving minutes from the previous meeting**
  1. **Minutes from the September 5th meeting.** - Alderperson A. Caylor motioned to place the minutes on file. Alderperson M. Caylor seconded and the motion passed.
- III. **General Agenda Items for Consideration**
  1. **Fair Update** - Brad Becker updated the committee.
  2. **Rodeo Update** - There was no update.
  3. **Permanent Vendor Update** - There was no update.
  4. **Calendar of Events** - This was included in the packet. Some of the events were highlighted.
  5. **Review and discuss fees for fairground rentals** - The committee discussed the fees for fairground rentals. Following the discussion, Alderperson M. Caylor motioned to accept the rates for 2025. Alderperson A. Caylor seconded and the motion passed.
  6. **Discuss and consider the trees on Memorial Drive and the fence installation.** - City Administrator Akey provided information to the committee regarding the trees on Memorial Drive and the possible removal of them before the fence installation. The committee discussed options for clearing out some of the trees without removing all the trees. Following the discussion, Alderperson Lass motioned to remove the red pine trees on Memorial Drive before the fence installation. Brad Becker seconded and the motion passed on a 3/2 roll call vote. Alderperson M. Caylor and Mayor Hass voted no. It was requested this item be forwarded to the October 12th Common Council agenda.
  7. **Campgrounds - update and discussion** - Mayor Hass and City Administrator Akey provided an update regarding the campground area.
- IV. **Monthly Reports**

1. **Monthly Report - Fairgrounds Manager Bjorklund** - The report was included in the packet. Fairgrounds Manager Bjorklund stated the snowmobile event is a rubber tire event.
2. **Consider placing monthly reports on file** - Alderperson M. Caylor motioned to place the report on file. Alderperson Lass seconded and the motion passed.

**V. Public Comment** There was no public comment.

**VI. Date and Time of Next Meeting - Thursday, November 7th at 6:00 pm** The November meeting was changed to Call of the Chair.

**VII. Closed Session**

1. **The Committee may convene in closed session pursuant to Wisconsin State Statutes Section 19.85 (1) (c) to consider employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility; discuss the Fairgrounds Manager position, contract terms, and related matters.** - Mayor Hass read the closed-session language. Alderperson M. Caylor motioned to enter into a closed session. Alderperson A. Caylor seconded and the motion passed on a 5/0 roll call vote. The closed session included: Mayor Hass, Alderperson Lass, Brad Becker, Alderperson M. Caylor, Alderperson A. Caylor, City Attorney Hayden, City Administrator Akey, Fairgrounds Manager Bjorklund, Alderperson Meyer and City Clerk Anderson-Malm.

City Clerk Anderson-Malm recorded minutes without objection. The committee discussed the Fairgrounds Manager position and contract terms.

**VIII. Reconvene in Open Session**

1. **The Committee may reconvene in open session for possible action related to the closed session item.** - The committee did not reconvene in open session.

**IX. Adjournment** The committee adjourned from the closed session. Alderperson M. Caylor motioned to adjourn. Alderperson A. Caylor seconded and the motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 pm.

Minutes submitted by City Clerk Anderson-Malm  
*Minutes are in draft form until approved at the next scheduled meeting.*