

**CITY OF MERRILL  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2025 MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING    CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS    6:30 PM**

- I. **Call to Order** Mayor Hass called the meeting to order at 6:36 pm.  
Present: Alderperson A. Caylor, Alderperson M. Caylor, Alderperson Meyer, Alderperson Fermanich, Alderperson Weix, Alderperson Rutkowski, Mayor Hass, City Attorney Hayden, City Clerk Anderson-Malm, City Attorney Akey, Finance Director Ley, Police Chief Bennett, Fire Chief Klug, Library Director Ollhoff  
Excused: Alderperson Rick
- II. **Roll Call** Roll call was taken with 7 out of 9 present.
- III. **Public Comment** Library Director Ollhoff provided public comment. She advised the committee to use caution when filling the City Attorney position. Cheapest is not always the best route, she stated. The new City Attorney should be in it for the City and the employees.
- IV. **General Agenda Items for Consideration**
  1. **Consider approving the minutes from the December 3, 2024 meeting.**  
- Alderperson A. Caylor motioned to place the minutes on file. Alderperson Weix seconded and the motion passed.
- V. **Closed Session** City Attorney Hayden read the three closed-session topics. He reminded the committee, that they can motion to go into closed session for any or all of the items. Alderperson M. Caylor motioned to go into a closed session. Alderperson Weix seconded and the motion passed on a 7/0 roll call vote. The committee entered into a closed session at 6:43 pm with the following in attendance: Mayor Hass, City Attorney Hayden, City Clerk Anderson-Malm, City Administrator Akey, Finance Director Ley, Police Chief Bennett, and Fire Chief Klug. City Clerk Anderson-Malm recorded minutes without objection.
  1. **The Committee may convene in closed session pursuant to Wisconsin State Statutes Section 19.85(1)(e) for deliberating or negotiating on the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session; to discuss potential acquisition of real estate.** - The committee discussed the potential acquisition of real estate.
  2. **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; to discuss the City Attorney office positions.** - The committee discussed the City Attorney's office positions.

3. **The Committee may convene in closed session pursuant to Wisconsin State Statutes Section 19.85(1)(f) considering financial, medical, social, or personal histories or disciplinary data of a specific person, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons except where paragraph (b) applies, which if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations; to consider employment and medical history of a City employee regarding a potential unpaid leave of absence.** - The committee discussed the employment and medical history of a City employee regarding a potential unpaid leave of absence.

#### **VI. Reconvene in Open Session**

1. **The Committee may reconvene in an open session for potential action on the closed session items.** - The committee did not reconvene in open session. Alderperson M. Caylor motioned to adjourn. Alderperson Meyer seconded and the motion passed.

#### **VII. Adjournment** The meeting was adjourned from closed-session at 7:14 pm.

Minutes submitted by City Clerk Anderson-Malm

*Minutes are in draft form until approved at the next scheduled meeting*