

**CITY OF MERRILL
COMMON COUNCIL
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2025 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
Present: D1 Alderperson A. Caylor, D2 M. Alderperson Caylor, D3 Alderperson Meyer, D4 Alderperson Fermanich, D5 Alderperson Holdorf, D6 Alderperson Rick, D7 Alderperson Weix Jr., D8 Alderperson Rutkowski
Present Not Voting: City Administrator Akey, City Attorney Hayden, City Clerk Anderson-Malm, Finance Director Ley, Fire Chief Klug, Park & Recreation Director Wendorf, Street Superintendent Bonack, Transit Director Brummond (remote), Captain Seubert, Kyle Gulke, Al Wix, Pastor Paul Hohman, Merrill Community Media
Excused: Building Inspector Pagel, Police Chief Bennett, Utility Operations Manager Steinagel
- II. **Invocation - Pastor Paul Hohman - New Testament Church**
- III. **Pledge of Allegiance**
- IV. **Roll Call** Roll call was taken with 7 out of 8 present before swearing in of appointed D5 Alderperson.
- V. **Common Council Meeting Expectations** The expectations were read by City Clerk Anderson-Malm.
- VI. **Public Comment** Kyle Gulke - 1504 Jackson St - Addressed the Council regarding marketing. He feels the city needs to do a better job supporting our parks. Basic maintenance is required. He stated the River Bend Trail and other road sections need to be finished and marketing Merrill should be done the right way.
- VII. **Vacant District 5 Aldermanic position**
 1. **Consider the recommendation from February 11, 2025, Committee of the Whole relating to the candidate and duration of term to fill the vacant Aldermanic District #5 seat.** - Alderperson A. Caylor motioned to appoint Landis Holdorf as District 5 Alderperson. Alderperson Rick seconded and the motion passed.
 2. **Oath of Office for the appointed District 5 Alderperson.** - City Clerk Anderson-Malm swore in Landis Holdorf as District 5 Alderperson and he took his seat.
- VIII. **Minutes from Previous Meeting**
 1. **Consider placing the minutes from the January 14th meeting on file** - Alderperson M. Caylor motioned to place the minutes on file. Alderperson Rutkowski seconded and the motion passed.

IX. Revenue and Expense Reports

- 1. Discuss and consider the December Revenue and Expense reports.**
- Alderperson Meyer motioned to approve. Alderperson Rick seconded and the motion passed.

X. General Agenda Items for Consideration

- 1. Employee Recognition**
Richard Sparks - Fire Department - 30 years
Christopher Graap - Street Department - 25 years - Mayor Hass recognized both employees and thanked them for their long-time service to the City of Merrill.

XI. Committee of the Whole

- 1. Consider the recommendation from the February 11, 2025, Committee of the Whole regarding real estate acquisition.** - City Clerk Anderson-Malm read the recommendation from the Committee of the Whole.
Recommendation to forward to the Council the purchase of the Armory for \$400,000 using a Bierman Foundation donation. Alderperson M. Caylor motioned to approve the recommendation. Alderperson Meyer seconded and the motion passed.

XII. City Plan

- 1. Discuss and consider the Tall Pines Final Plat. The City Plan Commission recommends approval.** - Alderperson Meyer motioned to approve. Alderperson Rutkowski seconded and the motion passed.

XIII. Board of Public Works

- 1. Discuss and consider the Ordinance revision regarding the Public Works Improvement Policy changing the date from August 1st to June 1st. The Board of Public Works recommends approval.** - Alderperson A. Caylor motioned to approve. Alderperson Weix seconded and the motion passed.

XIV. Health & Safety

- 1. Discuss and consider an alcohol beverage license application for Salvo's Pizzeria & Pub LLC. The Health & Safety Committee recommends approval.** - Alderperson Rick motioned to approve. Alderperson Rutkowski seconded and the motion passed.
- 2. Discuss and consider a temporary Class "B" beer beverage license for St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church on February 28, March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4, and April 11, 2025, in conjunction with the St. Francis Xavier Fish Fries. The Health & Safety Committee recommends approval.**
- Alderperson M. Caylor motioned to approve. Alderperson Meyer seconded and the motion passed.

XV. Place Committee Reports on File

- 1. Consider placing the following reports on file: Board of Public Works, Committee of the Whole, Endowment Fund Committee of TB Scott Library, Enrichment Center, Health & Safety, Library Board, Housing Authority, Marketing & Communications, Personnel & Finance, Police & Fire Commission, Transit Commission, Redevelopment Authority, City Plan Commission.** - Alderperson Rick motioned to approve. Alderperson Meyer seconded. Alderperson Weix had a few corrections to the Transit Commission report. Transit Director Brummond was remote and will correct the errors. Following discussion, the motion passed.

XVI. Mayor's Appointments

- 1. Newly appointed 5th District Alderperson to Fairgrounds and Marketing & Communications Committees.** - Alderperson A. Caylor motioned to approve the Mayor's Appointments. Alderperson Meyer seconded and the motion passed.

XVII. Mayor's Communications Mayor Hass read the following communications:

The Ice Drags are every Saturday in February in the Council Grounds Bay
February 18th - Spring Primary
February 21st - Merrill High School has their dinner and a show
February 22nd - Snowbound in the Under Down fat tire bike and snowshoe races
February 22nd - Ice racing at the Fairgrounds with the first-ever State Championship event
March 7th and 8th - Gun show at the Expo Center
March 8th - Spring Craft show at Les and Jim's and the Eagles
Events at the Library:
February 18th from 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm - Dementia Care Basics
February 25th from 5:30 pm - 6:45 pm - Monarchs, Milkweed and other Endangered Friends with Donald Evans
February 25th from 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm - Brain Health Basics
Events at the Merrill Enrichment Center:
February 26th at 1:00 pm - Parkinson's Support Group
February 27th at 5:00 pm - Painting with Amy
Please stop by, call, or check their website for all other programs and activities.

XVIII. Adjournment Alderperson Meyer motioned to adjourn. Alderperson Rick seconded and the motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 6:46 pm.

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

The minutes are in draft form until approved at the next scheduled meeting. Meeting minutes are available 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>