

**CITY OF MERRILL
COMMON COUNCIL
TUESDAY, JULY 8, 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 A. Alderperson Caylor, D3 Alderperson Meyer, D4 Alderperson Fermanich, D5 Alderperson Holdorf, D7 Alderperson Weix Jr., D8 Alderperson Rutkowski
Present Not Voting: BIZA Pagel, CAPWDCE Akey, Finance Director Ley, Fire Chief Klug, Library Director Ollhoff, Police Chief Bennett, Street Superintendent Bonack, Transit Director Brummond (remote), City Clerk Anderson-Malm, Al Wix, Clyde Nelson, Sara Brooks, Tina and Mark Scott
Excused: D2 Alderperson Michael Caylor, D6 Alderperson Mike Rick, Park & Recreation Director Wendorf
- II. **Invocation - Pastor Mike Zahn - Christ United Methodist Church** A silent prayer was observed.
- III. **Pledge of Allegiance**
- IV. **Roll Call** Roll call was taken with 6 out of 8 in attendance.
- V. **Common Council Meeting Expectations**
- VI. **Public Comment** Clyde Nelson - 709 Cottage St - representing the Merrill Chamber of Commerce. He brought additional tourism information to the Council. Tourism dollars in Lincoln County resulted in \$74 million in direct spending and \$6.1 million in state and local taxes were collected in Lincoln County due to tourism.
- VII. **Minutes from Previous Meeting**
 1. **Consider placing the minutes from the June 10th meeting on file.** - (D3 Alderperson Meyer/D7 Alderperson Weix Jr.) motion/second place minutes on file. The motion passed.
- VIII. **Revenue and Expense Reports**
 1. **Consider the June Revenue and Expense Report** - (D4 Alderperson Fermanich/D8 Alderperson Rutkowski) motion/second approve. The motion passed.
- IX. **General Agenda Items for Consideration**
 1. **Employee Recommendation:**
Don P. Seubert II - 30 years - Police Department -
- X. **Health & Safety**
 1. **Consider a temporary Class "B" Beer license for the Merrill Youth Softball Association aka Merrill Fastpitch at the MARC fields on July 25, 26, 27, August 1, 2, 3 from 8:00 am - 10:00 pm in conjunction with the**

Merrill Fastpitch Tournament and American Legion State Tournament. The Health & Safety Committee recommends approval.
- (D7 Alderperson Weix Jr./D5 Alderperson Holdorf) motion/second approve.
The motion passed.

2. **Consider a temporary Class "B" Beer license for the Merrill Baseball Association for July 15, 17, and 21 at Merrill Athletic Park in conjunction with the Babe Ruth event. The Health & Safety Committee recommends approval.** - (D3 Alderperson Meyer/D7 Alderperson Weix Jr.) motion/second approve. The motion passed.
3. **Consider a street use permit for Gesundheit Saloon, 1300 E Main St, for August 8th from 3:00 pm - 2:00 am, in conjunction with a class reunion. The Health & Safety Committee recommends approval.** - (D1 Alderperson A. Caylor/D7 Alderperson Weix Jr.) motion/second approve. The motion passed.

XI. City Plan

1. **Consider the Conditional Use Permit for Mark and Tina Scott, 607 N Cleveland Street, requesting a Conditional Use Home Occupation under M.M.C. Sec 113-110 for a small engine repair business in a Residential District. Legally described in PIN #251-3106-122-0034. The City Plan Commission recommends approval with the provision of a sign no larger than 8 sq. ft. being attached to a garage or freestanding.** - (D1 Alderperson A. Caylor/D3 Alderperson Meyer) motion/second approve. The motion passed.

XII. Acknowledge Committee Reports

1. **Police & Fire Commission, Park & Recreation Commission, Airport, Historic Preservation, Marketing & Communications, Health & Safety, Transit, Personnel & Finance and City Plan.** -

XIII. Resolutions

1. **Consider a Resolution to petition for the establishment of a new at-grade crossing, City of Merrill, Wisconsin.** - CA Akey answered questions from the Council regarding the Resolution.
**RESOLUTION TO PETITION FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW AT-
GRADE CROSSING CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN**

WHEREAS, the City of Merrill (the "City") proposes to cross the tracks of the RAILROAD at-grade with public access at an existing private crossing at the entrance to our sewage treatment plant.

WHEREAS, the crossing is necessary to promote public safety and convenience for the extension of our Riverbend Pedestrian Trail and

WHEREAS, the establishment of the crossing is advisable under all the

circumstances, and

WHEREAS, Section 195.29 Wisconsin Statutes authorizes the Office of the Commissioner of Railroads to determine whether the establishment of the crossing is necessary to promote public safety and convenience and is advisable, to determine the necessary warning devices for the new crossing, and to apportion all costs for the new crossing, including the costs of any automatic warning devices, and

WHEREAS, the City proposes to pay all costs necessary to safely establish the crossing,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the GOVERNING BODY hereby directs the City staff to take all necessary steps to petition the Office of the Commissioner of Railroads for an investigation and in order to approve the establishment of the new crossing, to determine the necessary warning devices, and to apportion the costs for the crossing of access with the tracks of the RAILROAD in the City of Merrill, Lincoln County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City staff shall comply with Chapter 195, Wisconsin Statutes and RR 1.025, Wisconsin Administrative Code in the filing of the petition.
(D3 Alderperson Meyer/D8 Alderperson Rutkowski) motion/second to approve the Resolution. The motion passed.

XIV. Mayor's Appointments

- 1. Kyle Hahn to the Parks & Recreation Commission replacing Joan Tabor - term to expire May 1, 2027** - (D1 Alderperson A. Caylor/D5 Alderperson Holdorf) motion/second approve. The motion passed. D7 Alderperson Weix thanked Joan for her service on the Park & Recreation Commission.

XV. Mayor's Communications

Mayor Hass read the following communications:
City Band concerts are Wednesday nights at the Gazebo at Normal Park.
Gazebo nights are Thursdays at the Gazebo at Normal Park.
July 26th is the Black Squirrel Scurry
August 6th - 10th is the Fair at the Fairgrounds
As always, the Enrichment Center and Library have activities too numerous to mention. Please check out their Facebook pages and websites.

XVI. Adjournment

(D3 Alderperson Meyer/D8 Alderperson Rutkowski) motion/second adjourn. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 6:41 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>