

**CITY OF MERRILL
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2025 MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS 5:30 PM**

- I. **Call to Order** Mayor Hass called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm
Present: Mayor Hass, D1 Alderperson A. Caylor, D2 Alderperson M. Caylor, D3 Alderperson Meyer, D4 Alderperson Fermanich, D5 Alderperson Holdorf, D6 Alderperson Rick (remote), D7 Alderperson Weix Jr., D8 Alderperson Rutkowski
Present Not Voting: City Administrator Akey, City Clerk Anderson-Malm, Finance Director Ley, Enrichment Center Director Mrachek, Facilities Maintenance Manager Brunett, Fire Chief Klug, Information Technology Manager Brown, Library Director Ollhoff, Park & Recreation Director Wendorf, Police Chief Bennett, Street Superintendent Bonack, Transit Director Brummond, Utility Operations Manager Steinagel, Al Wix, other citizens.
Excused: Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator Pagel
- II. **Roll Call** Roll call was taken. 8 in person and 1 remote.
- III. **Public Comment** There was no public comment.
- IV. **General Agenda Items for Consideration**
1. **Consider approving the minutes from the previous meeting.** - (D1 Alderperson A. Caylor/D3 Alderperson Meyer) motion/second to place minutes on file. The motion passed.
 2. **Review & Discuss 2026 Budget Requests:**
 - a. **General Fund Operating Budget**
 - b. **Community Development Fund** - Finance Director Ley gave an update regarding the Capital Projects. Library Director Ollhoff updated the committee with the quotes for the library carpet project. Following discussion, Mayor Hass/D1 Alderperson A. Caylor motion/second to remove the library carpet from the capital projects budget. The motion passed on a 9/0 roll call vote.

Finance Director Ley updated the committee with a General Fund review. The discussion moved to the Community Development Fund. Following discussion, D3 Alderperson Meyer/D4 Alderperson Fermanich motion/second to reduce the Historic Society request from \$8,000 to \$5,000. The motion passed on a 9/0 roll call vote.

D3 Alderperson Meyer started a discussion regarding pay for Alderpeople. A suggestion of an additional \$30 increase in base pay was brought up. D2 Alderperson M. Caylor mentioned it is not a good time to increase Alderperson pay but would like to see an increase in the Mayor's pay. D8 Alderperson Rutkowski seconded those thoughts. It was decided the Mayor's salary would be included in the October 28th Committee of the Whole Budget meeting.

Due to the lack of time remaining, the new requests will be addressed at the Committee of the Whole Budget meeting on October 28th at 6:30 pm.

- V. Adjournment** (D2 Alderperson M. Caylor/D3 Alderperson Meyer) motion/second to adjourn. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 6:32 pm.

Minutes submitted by City Clerk Anderson-Malm

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