

**CITY OF MERRILL  
COMMON COUNCIL  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2026 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 Alderperson M. Caylor, D3 Alderperson Meyer, D4 Alderperson Fermanich, D5 Alderperson Holdorf, D6 Alderperson Rick, D7 Alderperson Weix Jr., D8 Alderperson Rutkowski (remote)  
Present Not Voting: Mayor Hass, City Administrator Akey, Finance Director Ley, City Clerk Anderson-Malm, Fire Chief Klug, Library Director Ollhoff, Police Chief Bennett, Transit Director Brummond (remote), Mike Krueger, Pastor William Hohman, Sarah Guild, William Whitehead  
Excused: Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator Pagel, Park & Recreation Director Wendorf, Street Superintendent Bonack
- II. **Invocation - Pastor William Hohman - New Testament Church**
- III. **Pledge of Allegiance** The pledge was recited.
- IV. **Roll Call** Roll Call was taken with all 8 Alderpersons in attendance or remote.
- V. **Common Council Meeting Expectations** The expectations were read.
- VI. **Public Comment** William Whitehead - Terminal Manager at Kobussen Bus - stated he moved to Merrill 4 years ago and wanted to introduce himself to the council and city officials.
- VII. **Minutes from Previous Meeting**
  1. **Consider placing the minutes from the December 9th meeting on file** - (D6 Alderperson Rick/D3 Alderperson Meyer) motion/second to place minutes on file. The motion passed.
- VIII. **Revenue and Expense Reports**
  1. **The reports for the period ending December 31, 2025, will be provided at the February Common Council meeting.** -
- IX. **General Agenda Items for Consideration**
  1. **Consider the 2026-2028 Police Union Contract. This is being brought directly to the Council by Mayor Hass.** - The contract was included in the packet. City Administrator Akey gave an overview of the proposed contract. Police union members accepted the contract as presented. (D5 Alderperson Holdorf/D1 Alderperson A. Caylor) motion/second to accept the contract as presented. The motion passed.
  2. **Lincoln County Economic Development Corporation 2025 Year-End Summary** - Sarah Guild - Lincoln County Economic Development Corporation gave an overview of the 2025 summary, which was included in the packet. She highlighted some items. She also stated one-on-one assistance is a key

role of the Economic Development Corporation for businesses and entrepreneurs. The economic summit will be in Merrill for 2026 and they are looking for sponsors and speakers.

#### **X. Acknowledge Committee Reports**

- 1. Acknowledge the following monthly reports: Library Board, Housing Authority, Marketing & Communications, Park & Recreation Commission, Transit Commission, Airport Commission and Merrill Enrichment Center.** - The reports were acknowledged.

#### **XI. Ordinances**

- 1. A Charter Ordinance eliminating the Street Commissioner as an elected officer - second reading.** - City Clerk Anderson-Malm gave the ordinance a second reading. No further action was taken.

#### **XII. Resolutions**

- 1. A Resolution authorizing the vacation of an alley located in block nine of Wolf River Lumber Company's addition (S. Foster St.)** - A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VACATION OF AN ALLEY LOCATED IN BLOCK NINE OF WOLF RIVER LUMBER COMPANY'S ADDITION  
WHEREAS, Mike Krueger has requested the vacation of a portion of an alley; and,  
WHEREAS, the alley to be vacated is described as: In the City of Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin:

The portion south of Lot Three (3), Block Nine (9) of the first alley south of Jackson Street, east of South Foster Street in the City of Merrill, Wisconsin, more particularly described as follows, to-wit: The portion of that certain east-west alley south of Lot Three (3) of Block Nine (9) of Wolf River Lumber Company's Addition and north of AP 609, City of Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin.

WHEREAS, the Board of Public Works on October 29, 2025 and the City Plan Commission on November 4, 2025 have recommended such vacation;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERRILL, WISCONSIN this 13<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2026, that the following described alley be vacated:

The portion south of Lot Three (3), Block Nine (9) of the first alley south of Jackson Street, east of South Foster Street in the City of Merrill, Wisconsin, more particularly described as follows, to-wit: The portion of that certain east-west alley south of Lot Three (3) of Block Nine (9) of Wolf River Lumber Company's Addition and north of AP 609, City of Merrill, Lincoln County, Wisconsin.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City hereby declares that the alley being vacated is not needed for public purposes and hereby declares that the portion vacated shall revert, to the extent permitted by law, to the adjoining property owners.

(D6 Alderperson Rick/D2 Alderperson M. Caylor) motion/second to accept the resolution. The motion passed.

**XIII. Mayor's Communications** Mayor Hass read the following communications:

The T.B. Scott Library wants to remind everyone that they offer a Community Food Pantry.

Winter Bingo is at the Library on Wednesday, January 14th, from 11am - noon. Please check out the Facebook page for the Library for other programs being offered.

The Merrill Enrichment Center also has great opportunities for the community. Please stop by and see what is offered.

Winter Craft Sales will be held on February from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm at Les and Jims and the Merrill Eagles Club.

The Veterans Coffee Group meets on Thursday's at the Eagles Club in Merrill. It has also started an account with the Merrill Go Round to pick people up and take them back after the coffee group.

I want to remind everyone to please clean up the snow around the fire hydrants and clean up the snow and ice in the crosswalks and ramps. I have received calls from elderly and handicapped citizens. Let's please try to help them out.

**XIV. Adjournment** (D3 Alderperson Meyer/D7 Alderperson Weix Jr.) motion/second to adjourn. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 6:57 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>*