

**CITY OF MERRILL
COMMON COUNCIL
TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2026 MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS 6:30 PM**

- I. **Call to Order** Roll Call: 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, D7 Alderperson Weix Jr., D8 Alderperson Rutkowski
Present Not Voting: City Administrator Akey, Finance Director Ley, Fire Chief Klug (remote), Police Chief Bennett, Street Superintendent Bonack, Utility Operations Manager Steinagel, City Clerk Anderson-Malm, Derrick Sukow, Dave Sukow, Deacon Jim Arndt, Brian Ehlers (remote), Transit Director Brummond (remote)
Excused: D6 Alderperson Mike Rick, Library Director Ollhoff, Park & Recreation Director Wendorf
- II. **Invocation - Deacon Jim Arndt - St. Francis Xavier**
- III. **Pledge of Allegiance** the Pledge of Allegiance was recited
- IV. **Roll Call** Roll call was taken. 7 out of 8 Alderpeople were present or remote.
- V. **Common Council Meeting Expectations**
- VI. **Public Comment** There was no public comment.
- VII. **Proclamation**
 1. **2026 Child Abuse Prevention Proclamation** - City Clerk Anderson-Malm read the proclamation.
- VIII. **Minutes from Previous Meeting**
 1. **Consider placing the minutes from the March 10th meeting on file.** - (D3 Alderperson Meyer/D7 Alderperson Weix Jr.) motion/second to place minutes on file. The motion passed.
- IX. **Revenue and Expense Reports**
 1. **Discuss and consider the revenue and expense reports.** - (D1 Alderperson A. Caylor/D2 Alderperson M. Caylor) motion/second to approve. The motion passed.
- X. **General Agenda Items for Consideration**
 1. **Employee Recognition:**
Corey Bennett - 20 years - Police Department - Police Chief Bennett was recognized and presented with a certificate.
 2. **Consider selling 10,000 cubic yards of recycled material (uncrushed). If approved, this would be bid through our normal process. This is being brought directly to the Common Council.** - City Administrator Akey explained the request and why it was brought directly to the Common Council.

(D3 Alderperson Meyer/D1 Alderperson A. Caylor) motion/second to approve. The motion passed.

3. **Discuss and consider closing TID 5.** - Finance Director Ley explained the reasoning behind closing TID 5. (D2 Alderperson M. Caylor/D4 Alderperson Fermanich) motion/second to close TID 5. The motion passed.
4. **Consider the claim filed by Deliah McDaniel for vehicle damage sustained as a result of a manhole cover on Taylor Street on March 31, 2026. The City's insurance carrier is recommending that this claim be disallowed. This recommendation is based on the fact that an investigation revealed no liability on behalf of the City and found no hazardous conditions.** - (D2 Alderperson M. Caylor/D8 Alderperson Rutkowski) motion/second to deny the claim per our insurance carrier's recommendation. The motion passed.
5. **Review 2025 Room Tax Report.** - Finance Director Ley explained the presentation will be at the May Council meeting. Chamber of Commerce Director Sarah Brooks will be at the meeting for the presentation. No action was required.

XI. Board of Public Works

1. **Consider bid for the 2026 Kyes Street Reconstruction Project from Jake's Excavating & Landscaping LLC for \$633,073.00. The Board of Public Works recommends approval.** - City Administrator Akey explained to the Council the reason for the increased bid amount. Following a brief discussion, (D1 Alderperson A. Caylor/D3 Alderperson Meyer) motion/second to approve. The motion passed.

XII. Health and Safety

1. **Discuss and consider a change of agent for WI Cstore, 702 N Center Ave., to Heather Hungerford. This is recommended by the Health & Safety Committee.** - (D2 Alderperson M. Caylor/D7 Alderperson Weix Jr.) motion/second to approve. The motion passed.
2. **Discuss and consider an alcohol beverage license for Route 64 LLC, 608 E 2nd St, Suite B, Merrill. This is recommended by the Health & Safety Committee.** - (D8 Alderperson Rutkowski/D3 Alderperson Meyer) motion/second to approve. The motion passed.

XIII. Committee Monthly Reports

1. **Acknowledge and discuss the following Committee Monthly Reports: Airport Commission, Marketing & Communications, Health & Safety, Merrill Housing Authority, Personnel & Finance, Board of Public Works, Enrichment Center, Library Board, Transit Commission, Parks & Rec Commission.** - The reports were acknowledged. No action was needed.

XIV. Resolutions

1. **Resolution Providing for the Sale of Approximately \$5,610,000 General Obligation Promissory Notes, Series 2026A** - Finance Director Ley explained this is for capital projects for 2025 and 2026 and the increase in the Kyes Street reconstruction project. (D3 Alderperson Meyer/D8 Alderperson Rutkowski) motion/second to approve. The motion passed on a 7/0 voice vote.
2. **Resolution of intention to join the statewide public safety interoperable communications system and commit to a local match for the FY2026 Interoperable Radio Grant Program.** - (D3 Alderperson Meyer/D8 Alderperson Rutkowski) motion/second to approve. The motion passed.
3. **Resolution Terminating Tax Increment District No. 5 of the City of Merrill** - (D2 Alderperson M. Caylor/D3 Alderperson Meyer) motion/second to approve. The motion passed on a 7/0 roll call vote.

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

He congratulated everyone that won their elections.

He thanked Mike Rick and Landis Holdorf for their service on the City of Merrill Common Council and welcomed Jewell Holdorf as the 5th District Alderperson and Derrick Sukow as the 6th District Alderperson.

The Council Reorganizational meeting will be on April 21st starting at 6:30 pm.

The Enrichment Center Spring shop and support is May 1, 2026.

The Food Truck-a-palooza is May 16th.

The City-wide garage sale is May 15th through May 17th.

XVI. Adjournment (D3 Alderperson Meyer/D1 Alderperson A. Caylor) motion/second to adjourn. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 6:53 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>