

**CITY OF MERRILL
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 2026 MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING CITY HALL LOWER LEVEL CONFERENCE ROOM 4:15
PM**

I. Call to Order Roll Call:

Present: Krueger, Malm, Hahn, Henkelman

Present Not Voting: Parks Director Dan Wendorf

Excused: Steve Osness, D8 Alderperson Rebecca Rutkowski, Trisha Kubichek

Absent:

Chairperson Krueger called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m. Krueger welcomed Alli Henkelman to the Commission and thanked Kyle Gulke for his many years of service on the Commission.

II. Consider approving minutes from the previous meeting

1. **April 2026 Minutes** - (Henkelman/ Hahn) motion/second to place minutes on file. The motion Passed.

III. Approval of Claims

1. **April 2026 Claims** - Malm asked Wendorf about the Athletic Park scoreboard funding source. Wendorf stated it was funded by 100% community donations. Those donations were put in a City non-lapsing account until enough funding was gathered to order the board. There were no City funds utilized on the project. Malm also asked about the sprinkler charges and Wendorf stated it was inside the Smith Center. One of the overhead fire suppression sprinkler pipes in the arena failed due to old age and needed to be replaced.

(Malm/ Henkelman) motion/second to approve. The motion Passed.

IV. General Agenda Items for Consideration

1. **Election of Chairperson** - Krueger introduced the agenda item and Wendorf explained the rules for nominations for each of the following positions. Malm nominated Krueger to Chairperson, seconded by Hahn - Krueger accepted his nomination. There were no other nominations.

(Malm/ Hahn) motion/second to approve. The motion Passed.

2. **Election of Vice-Chairperson** - Krueger nominated Malm to Vice-Chairperson, Henkelman seconded and Malm accepted his nomination. There were no other nominations.

(Krueger/ Henkelman) motion/second to approve. The motion Passed.

3. **Election of City Plan Commission Representative** - Krueger mentioned that there are already three Parks & Recreation Commissioners on the City Plan Commission. Malm made a motion to nominate Henkelman to the City Plan

Commission, seconded by Hahn. Henkelman accepted the nomination as she is already a citizen appointee to City Plan.

(Malm/ Hahn) motion/second to approve. The motion Passed.

4. **Consider bids for MARC/River Bend Trail Paving Project** - Wendorf informed the Commission of the process and thanked City Engineering staff Novitch and Akey for all of their help in the process. Wendorf stated it was nice to see three competitive bidders. Wendorf discussed the bid summary that was in the packets and said he discussed recommendations with Engineering staff. Wendorf explained the bid form and showed what the base bid was, along with the alternative 1 and 2. Wendorf said the prices were very favorable and all three of the bidders came in under the available funding, including alt 1 and 2. This is great news because it will allow for the entirety of the project to be paved. Malm asked what would become of any remaining River Bend funding. Wendorf stated that he will discuss with River Bend people to see if they have any plans for it, or if they are friendly to possibly spending some on the sidewalk connections from the MARC parking lot to the soccer field areas. They were comfortable recommending the low bid of \$54,153.36 from RC Pavers out of the Wausau area. Malm suggested making sure to budget enough funding for any signage that may be required not only on the new portion through the MARC but other areas around the trail.

(Malm/ Henkelman) motion/second to approve. The motion Passed.

V. Monthly Reports

1. **May 2026 Director's Report** - Wendorf summarized his report and informed the Commission about happenings this spring and preparations for

VI. Date and Time of Next Meeting

1. **The next regularly scheduled meeting is Wednesday, June 3rd, 2026 at 4:15 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Merrill City Hall.** - Krueger mentioned to everyone that our next meeting will be back up in the Council Chambers - our regular meeting spot.

VII. Public Comment There was no public comment.

VIII. Adjournment (Hahn/ Henkelman) motion/second to adjourn. The motion Passed. Meeting adjourned at 4:47 p.m.