



CITY OF MERRILL
PERSONNEL AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES • TUESDAY OCTOBER 20, 2020

Regular Meeting

City Hall Council Chambers

5:15 PM

I. Call to Order

Alderman Hass called the meeting to order at 5:15 P.M.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Rick Blake	Aldersperson - Third District	Present	
Steve Osness	Aldersperson - Fourth District	Present	
Steve Hass	Aldersperson - Second District	Present	

Also in attendance: City Administrator Dave Johnson, Finance Director Kathy Unertl, City Attorney Tom Hayden, Alderman John Van Lieshout, Alderman Mike Rick, Alderman Mark Weix, Alderman Steve Sabatke, Al Wix and City Clerk Bill Heideman. A representative from Merrill Productions was present to videotape the meeting.

II. Vouchers:

1. Vouchers

Motion (Osness/Blake) to approve.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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III. Agenda items for consideration:

1. Review and discuss potential revenue options for 2021 budget and future years

Finance Director Unertl estimates savings of \$100,000 in the Parks and Recreation Department.

Revenue options were discussed.

Alderman Hass stated his opinion that the most acceptable budget adjustment for taxpayers is the shifting of the Fire Hydrant Rental from tax bills to water bills. Alderman Blake agreed with Alderman Hass.

Alderman Russell reported that he has a list of budget-related suggestions. He will submit his list to City Administrator Johnson and/or City Attorney Hayden, who will in turn distribute the list to Common Council members.

2. Consider referral of 2021 budgets to the October 23rd Committee of the Whole meeting

It was announced that the “all-day” Committee of the Whole 2021 budget meeting on Friday October 23rd has been cancelled. Instead, two Committee of the Whole budget meetings have been scheduled. One meeting will be on Tuesday, October 27th at 5:30 P.M. and the other will be on Thursday, October 29th at 5:15 P.M. Both meetings will be held in the City Hall Common Council Chambers.

Motion (Osness/Blake) to refer the proposed 2021 budget to the October 27th Committee of the Whole meeting.

RESULT:	CARRIED
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IV. Monthly Reports:

1. Municipal Court

The report was in the meeting packet.

2. Finance Director Unertl

The report was in the meeting packet, as were several related fiscal reports.

3. City Attorney Hayden

The report was in the meeting packet.

4. City Clerk Heideman

The report was in the meeting packet.

City Clerk Heideman reported that early voting at City Hall is underway. He reminded early voters to bring proof of ID with them when they come to vote.

5. City Administrator Johnson

The report was in the meeting packet.

Alderman Osness commented on the improvements being made to the cattle barn at the Festival Grounds.

The Steckling Building at the Festival Grounds will be used as a COVID-19 testing site.

6. Consider placing monthly reports on file

Motion (Blake/Osness) to place on file.

RESULT:	PLACED ON FILE
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V. Establish date, time and location of next regular meeting

Tuesday, November 24th, 2020 at 5:15 P.M. in the City Hall Common Council Chambers.

VI. Public Comment Period

Alderman Russell commented on a press release from Lincoln County Health Director Shelley Hersil. The press release is on the Lincoln County Health Department web page.

COVID-19 testing was discussed. It was mentioned that there has been a surge in COVID-19 cases recently in Lincoln County.

VII. Adjournment

Motion (Weix/Osness) to adjourn. Carried. Adjourned at 5:46 P.M.