

CITY OF MERRILL
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
Wednesday, October 13, 2021 at 6:00 P.M.
City Hall Council Chambers
1004 E. First Street

AGENDA

Voting members of Committee: Alderperson Paul Russell, Chairman, Bea Lebal, Elizabeth McCrank, Michael Caylor, Jr. and Alderman Steve Sabatke.

To attend remotely, call 304-935-5339 and meeting PIN 644 620 812#

1. Call to order
2. Approval of September 8, 2021 minutes
3. Discuss strategy on communicating to public and registry property owners changes to Ordinance.
4. Discuss on admirable street names
5. Discuss on developing a historical resource list for property owners
6. Public comment
7. Set date, time of next meeting.
8. Adjourn

Agenda prepared by Shari P. Wicke
Agenda reviewed by Chairman Paul Russell

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**City of Merrill
Historic Preservation Committee
Wednesday, September 8th, 2021 at 6:00 P.M.
City Hall Common Council Chambers, 1004 East First Street**

Voting Members Present (5 of 5): Alderman Paul Russell (Chairperson), Alderman Steve Sabatke, Michael Caylor, Elizabeth McCrank (arr. 6:10) and Bea Lebal.

Others meeting attendees (either in-person or remotely) included: Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator Darin Pagel, City Attorney Tom Hayden, Alderman Steve Hass, Alderman Rick Blake and City Clerk Bill Heideman. Merrill Productions was present to videotape the meeting.

Call to order

Alderman Russell called the meeting to order at 6:02 P.M.

Minutes of previous meeting(s)

The minutes were in the meeting packet.

Motion (Sabatke/Lebal) to approve the August 4th, 2021 minutes. Carried.

Changes to Historic Preservation Ordinance made by City Plan (9/7/21)

Mike Caylor and Alderman Sabatke provided verbal information on the discussion held at the September 7th City Plan Commission meeting. At that meeting, Alderman Hass suggested that waiving the fee when Common Council members submit nominations would lead to alderpersons being "swamped" with requests from property owners to submit nominations on behalf of the property owner.

Alderman Russell stated that he sees no value in having a fee. Bea Lebal suggested that a \$150 fee could be considered excessive.

Motion (Sabatke/Lebal) to recommend the "original" ordinance, which specified that nominations would not require a fee, but would require the express written consent of the property owner.

Elizabeth McCrank spoke on Eminent Domain.

Mike Caylor suggested a \$75 fee, with the possibility of the fee being waived by the Historic Preservation Committee.

After discussion, Alderman Sabatke requested that he be allowed to withdraw his motion. Without objection, it was so ordered.

Motion (Caylor/McCrank) to change the nomination fee to \$75. Property owners nominating their own property, Common Council members and the Mayor would be exempt from the nomination fee upon approval of the Historic Preservation Committee.

Alderman Hass stated that he does not think the City Plan Commission would object to sending the ordinance, with the proposed amendment, to the Common Council.

After discussion, the motion made by Caylor was carried.

The ordinance, as amended, will be on the September 14th Common Council meeting agenda.

Consider changes to the Historic Preservation Repair Guidelines

Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator Pagel had been directed to change the word "shall" to "may" in appropriate sections of the guidelines. He has now done so, and the revised guidelines were in the meeting packet. This changes the guidelines from a "regulatory" document to an "advisory" document.

After discussion, one sentence under the "Roof Materials" section was deleted.

Motion (McCrank/Sabatke) to approve the "Advisory Historic Building Guidelines for Designated Historic Properties within the City of Merrill" document, included the deletion of one sentence in the "Roof Materials" section. Carried.

No Common Council action on the motion is necessary.

Admirable street names

Mike Caylor has proposed that certain City blocks be designated as memorials to distinguished residents of Merrill's past. He distributed information related to his proposal, along with suggestions for four "memorial blocks". **He emphasized that blocks designated as memorials would not change the actual street name. Residents would continue to use the exact same address they have always used for their homes and businesses, and the memorial street will not be recognized by the United States Post Office.**

Alderman Sabatke offered two additional suggestions for potential memorial blocks.

There seemed to be agreement to publicize and proceed with the proposal.

Alderman Sabatke suggested that this be placed on the next meeting agenda. He also suggested that, at some point, this should be referred to the Board of Public Works, since they have jurisdiction over City streets and associated signage.

No formal action was taken at this time.

Update on former American Legion building (Livingston Center)

The Merrill Historical Society has submitted a request that the City relinquish all claims to ownership of the building in exchange for the City receiving a \$10,000 payment from the Merrill Historical Society when the Merrill Historical Society sells the building. At a meeting on September 1st, the Board of Public Works recommended approving that request. This recommendation will be considered by the Common Council at their September 14th meeting.

It is possible that discussion on the proposal and the future of the building may also be on the September 13th Committee of the Whole meeting agenda.

Alderman Sabatke mentioned that, if the proposal from the Merrill Historical Society is approved by the Common Council, he would consider requesting an amendment that would specify that the \$10,000 be given to the Historic Preservation Committee.

Public Comment Period

None.

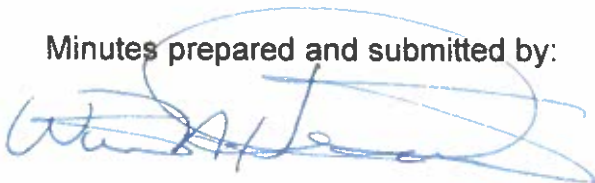
Establish date, time and location of next meeting

Wednesday, October 13th, 2021 at 6:00 P.M. in the City Hall Common Council Chambers.

Adjournment

Motion (Caylor/McCrank) to adjourn. Carried. Adjourned at 7:02 P.M.

Minutes prepared and submitted by:



William N. Heideman CMC, WCMC
City Clerk