

CITY OF MERRILL
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS
WEDNESDAY, September 28, 2022 - MINUTES
Regular Meeting City Hall Council Chambers 5:15 p.m.

Members Present: Mayor Steve Hass, Alderpersons Steve Sabatke, Dick Lupton and Mike Rick

Others Present: Alderpersons Rick Blake, City Attorney Tom Hayden, Public Works Director/City Engineer Rod Akey, Street Superintendent Dustin Bonack, Utility Superintendent Gabe Steinagel, Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator Darin Pagel, City Clerk Lori Anderson-Malm, Finance Director Unertl (remote), Parks and Recreation Director Dan Wendorf (left at 5:22 pm), Mark and Lisa Gebert and Merrill Productions video operator

Street & Weed Commissioner Ron Liberty was excused

I. Call to Order - Mayor Hass called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

II. Consider approval of meeting minutes from August 24, 2022

A motion to approve the August 24th minutes was made by Alderperson Rick. The motion was seconded by Alderperson Sabatke and was carried.

III. Water & Sewer Agenda Items:

1. Water and Sewer Vouchers

Alderperson Rick made a motion to accept the vouchers. Alderperson Lupton seconded and the motion carried.

2. Water and Sewer Operations Report

Utility Superintendent Steinagel provided his report in the packet and was available to answer any questions.

3. Consider adjustment of the Aquatic Center sanitary sewer charge

Utility Superintendent Steinagle provided an additional handout at the meeting. He explained the options and already discussed with Park and Recreation Director Wendorf.

Following discussion, Alderperson Sabatke made a motion to approve the adjustment total to \$16,705.55 based on policy. Alderperson Lupton seconded and the motion carried.

IV. Board of Public Works Agenda Items:

1. Board of Public Works Vouchers

Aldersperson Rick made a motion to approve the Board of Public Works vouchers. Aldersperson Lupton seconded and the motion passed.

2. Consider extension deadline for paving at 1601 S Hwy K

Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator Pagel explained the reasoning for the extension regarding paving by the storage units until October 2023.

Mayor Hass made a motion to approve the extension for paving 1601 S Hwy K until October 1, 2023. Aldersperson Sabatke seconded and the motion carried.

3. Discuss northern truck route

Public Works Director/City Engineer Akey discussed the northern truck route referring to the minutes provided in the agenda packet from the Lincoln County Highway Committee. The issues include Taylor Street; City of Merrill owns part and the Town of Merrill owns part, both would need to agree. Suggestions included the need to put in a sidewalk on the south side of Taylor to accommodate pedestrian traffic and would be something to look into for the future. Possible grants might be available for that project.

It was decided to keep the truck route as currently posted and encourage truck traffic on Highway 64 and Grand Avenue to the Industrial Park.

There was discussion regarding trucks on Mill Street. Mark and Lisa Gebert were invited to participate in the conversation since they have concerns regarding truck traffic on Mill Street. Lisa Gebert stated her concern regarding trucks weaving on Mill Street to avoid parked vehicles and does not want Mill Street to become a truck route.

After further discussion, Mayor Hass made a motion to refer this to the Health & Safety Committee to designate a truck route. The motion was seconded by Aldersperson Sabatke and the motion carried. This will be sent to the Health & Safety Committee with the following recommendation: local deliveries only and closed to truck traffic South on Mill Street from 1st Street to 9th Street and West on 9th Street from Mill Street to Pier Street.

V. Monthly Report:

Monthly Report – Building Inspector Pagel – the report was included in the agenda packet.

Monthly Report – Public Works Director/City Engineer Akey – the report was included in the agenda packet.

Monthly Report - Street Superintendent Bonack – the report was included in the agenda packet.

Monthly Report - Street & Weed Commissioner Liberty – the report was included in the agenda packet.

Aldersperson Sabatke requested an update regarding the Virginia creeper vine issue on 9th Street be included on the October agenda for discussion.

A motion to put the reports on file was made by Aldersperson Rick. Aldersperson Sabatke seconded and the motion carried.

VI. Next Meeting – Wednesday, October 26th at 5:15 p.m.

VII. Public Comment Period

There was no public comment.

VIII. Adjournment

A motion was made by Aldersperson Rick to adjourn. Aldersperson Lupton seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 5:53 P.M.

Prepared by: Lori L Anderson-Malm - City Clerk