

**CITY OF MERRILL
FESTIVAL GROUNDS COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2024 MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS 6:00 PM**

I. Call to Order

Chair Hass called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. The following were in attendance: Mayor Hass, Alderpersons Sabatke and Rick, George Henrich - Rodeo Rep, Brad Becker - Fair Rep, City Clerk Anderson-Malm, City Attorney Hayden, Festival Grounds Manager Bjorklund, City Administrator Akey, Social Media Specialist Savall, David Buck and Merrill Community Media.

II. Consider approving minutes from the previous meeting:

1. Minutes from the November 2nd meeting

Aldersperson Rick made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 2nd meeting. Aldersperson Sabatke seconded and the motion carried.

III. General Agenda Items for Consideration:

1. Fair Update

Brad Becker gave an update stating everything is in order.

2. Rodeo Update

George Henrichs gave an update stating everything is in order

3. Permanent Vendor Update

no update was given

4. Calender of Events

The calendar was included in the packet.

5. Discussion on promoting the Festival Grounds:

a. Update and discussion on Food-Truck-a-Palooza on May 18, 2024

SMS Savall gave the committee an update. She stated all is going well. She would like 15 food trucks. Five trucks have been confirmed and paid.

b. Update and continued discussion on camping

Mayor Hass provided an update and sent an email to County Administrator Krueger with a few questions. He will provide further an update at the March meeting.

6. Discussion on offering discounts to organizations to use the Festival Grounds

Mayor Hass addressed the committee regarding this request and concerns about setting a precedent. City Attorney Hayden advised the committee to be cautious in

setting a precedent. Following discussion, this will be evaluated and brought back to the March meeting for further discussion.

IV. Monthly Reports

1. Monthly Report - Festival Grounds Manager Bjorklund

There was no formal report included in the packet. FGM Bjorklund discussed several rentals for the Expo Building

2. Consider placing monthly reports on file

Aldersperson Rick made a motion to place his report on file. Aldersperson Sabatke seconded and the motion carried.

V. Public Comment

There was no public comment

VI. Date and Time of Next Meeting: Thursday, March 7 at 6:00 PM

VII. Adjournment

Aldersperson Rick made a motion to adjourn. Aldersperson Sabatke seconded and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:17 PM.

Minutes prepared by: Lori Anderson-Malm City Clerk