



CITY OF MERRILL

Parks & Recreation Dept. - Smith Center

1100 Marc Drive - Merrill, WI 54452

Rec. Dept. Telephone (715)536-7313 * Smith Center (715)536-6187

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SEPTEMBER MEETING NOTICE

The Merrill Parks and Recreation Commission will have a meeting on **Wednesday, September 1, 2021 at 4:15 p.m. at the Merrill City Hall**. Phone info: Phone: 413-591-4025

PIN: 228 804 215 #

Voting members of Commission: Jean Ravn, Brian Artac, Kyle Gulke, Joan Tabor, John Vanlieshout, Amanda Groth and Dan Novitch

The following items will be included on the agenda:

1. Approve minutes from previous meeting.
2. Approve claims.
3. Public Comment
4. Review & approve 2022 Operational Budget.
5. Continued discussion on 2022 Capital Projects & Equipment.
6. Continued discussion on park along West Highway 64.
7. Continued discussion on Forestry Ordinances.
8. Begin discussion on potentially becoming an Ice Age Community.
9. Monthly reports.
10. Set date for next meeting.
11. Public comment
12. Adjournment

Submitted by


Dan Novitch, Chairperson
Parks and Recreation Commission

The Merrill City Hall is accessible to the physical disadvantaged. If special accommodations are required, please contact City Hall at 536-5594.

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

August 4th, 2021

The Merrill Parks & Recreation Commission met on Wednesday, August 4th, 2021 at 4:15 p.m. in the Council Chambers of Merrill City Hall.

Commission members present: Dan Novitch, Kyle Gulke, Brian Artac, Jean Ravn, John Van Lieshout

Commission members absent: Joan Tabor, Amanda Groth

Department staff present: Dan Wendorf

Others in attendance: Alderman Mark Weix, John Malm, MP3, Dave Johnson

***Motion by Artac, seconded by Ravn to approve the minutes from the July meeting.

***Carried unanimously.

***Motion Van Lieshout, seconded by Artac to approve the claims

Novitch asked Wendorf what the expense was for signs at the Smith Center. Wendorf stated that was for the naming of the arena in memory of Charlie Phelps, and that non-lapsing funds were used for that expense.

***Carried unanimously.

Public Comment: None

The next item on the agenda was to continue discussion on the Sumnicht property adjacent to the City Forest. Wendorf informed the Commission that he was able to have a few discussions with a representative of the family regarding the property. He said discussions went very well and the family has been very nice to work with. Wendorf stated that they were hoping to get fair market value for their property and on 70 acres that would be approximately \$140,000. Wendorf said that is a fair price considering today's market and he would like to add this item into the 2022 Capital Requests. City Administrator Johnson stated that he thinks the priority on the Capital list should be upgraded to a number one as it is a unique opportunity that doesn't come along very often if at all. Wendorf and the Commission agreed and the change will be made to the priority. Alderman Weix asked if there are trails on the property or recreational value. Wendorf stated that the property has tremendous potential to incorporate our trails into. Novitch asked if the family was aware of our timeline and if they were willing to be patient. Wendorf stated that he did discuss that with the family and they are willing to be patient to a certain degree. Wendorf described the budgetary process to them and he believes they will be willing to wait for a bit but it is something that if funding is not appropriated during this cycle, they will most likely put it on the open market.

The next item on the agenda was to begin discussions on the 2022 Capital Projects and Equipment list. Wendorf introduced the list of items that he has compiled after discussing it with his buildings and

grounds staff to ensure that those who work most intimately in the parks and on the amenities and equipment have input. Wendorf reviewed the list item by item for the Commission. Gulke asked if pit toilets for Prairie Trails could be added to the list. Wendorf stated it can certainly be added and the Commission agreed to add it to the list. Gulke also asked why the large field mower was moved to a future year. Wendorf stated that the Jacobsen has been running well over the past year and a half and the crew wanted to keep using it for as long as possible, as they really like it. Wendorf stated that this item will be on next month's agenda so he asked the Commission to review it and contact him if they have any revisions or additions to the list.

The next item on the agenda was to continue discussion on the newly adopted park along West Highway 64. Novitch asked the Commission if anyone had any names they would like to suggest as this is basically all that remains to be accomplished for this park. Wendorf stated that previously a few suggestions came up (Council View Park, River View Park, River Parkway, etc.). Gulke had a few ideas, including Five Islands Park due to the view of the 5 islands in the river adjacent to the park. Wendorf stated there was no hurry in naming the park and Novitch suggested leaving this on future agendas to continue the discussion and creative thinking.

The next item on the agenda was the Malm Pergola to potentially be built on the east end of the River Bend Trail near Cooper St. Wendorf stated that the Malm Family was looking to leave a lasting memorial and amenity to the River Bend Trail in honor of their parents. Wendorf included plans for the pergola, along with a location map. Wendorf stated that he has been involved with the planning of the structure and sees it as a very nice addition to the trail.

***Motion Ravn, seconded by Van Lieshout to approve the plans and location for the Malm Pergola.

***Carried unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was the Director's Monthly Report. Novitch began by thanking Wendorf for his thorough report and commenting on how busy the summer looks for the department. Novitch wanted to thank Wendorf and the entire staff at Parks & Recreation for a job well done. Wendorf thanked Novitch for the kind words and said it has been rejuvenating to have a more normal summer season with people, parks, and programs and Wendorf mentioned that it is the staff that makes things run and we have an amazing group of people working for us this year. Wendorf said it is nice to see heavy traffic in the parks, the aquatic center, athletic fields/leagues, programs and events returning, and lots of visitors returning to our community because of our parks and programs.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Wednesday, September 1st, 2021 at 4:15 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Merrill City Hall.

Public Comment: None

***Motion Ravn, seconded by Van Lieshout to adjourn at 4:55 p.m.

***Carried unanimously.

Dan Wendorf
Recording Secretary

AUGUST					
107 BAIT SHACK, LLC	18 HOLES AND ICE CREAM	8/11/2021	79	\$174.00	55300-03-41500
AMANDA TESKE	SECURITY DEPOSIT	8/2/2021	VOUCHER	\$50.00	10-21-7200
AMANDA TESKE	PARK OF RENTAL FEE RETURNED	8/9/2021	VOUCHER	\$27.50	45200-46722
AMERICAN WELDING	CHEMICALS IN POOL	7/27/2021	53403	\$428.04	55420-03-50000
AMERICAN WELDING	CHEMICALS FOR POOL	7/31/2021		\$40.95	55300-03-41500
AMERICAN WELDING	CHEMICALS FOR POOL	7/31/2021	7843169	\$163.47	55200-02-15000
AMERICAN WELDING	CHEMICALS POOL	8/13/2021	7984741	\$335.60	55420-03-50000
ANDY DUERKOP	SECURITY DEPOSIT	8/24/2021	VOUCHER	\$50.00	10-21-7200
BAUMGART WASTE	WASTE HAULING	8/1/2021		\$546.00	55400-02-23600
BOBBY BUSTERUD	SECURITY DEPOSIT	8/3/2021	VOUCHER	\$50.00	10-21-7200
CARLY IMHOFF	SECURITY DEPOSIT	8/24/2021	VOUCHER	\$50.00	10-21-7200
CHERYL RADLOFF	SECURITY DEPOSIT	8/24/2021	VOUCHER	\$100.00	10-21-7200
CHRISTINE ZUELSDORF	SECURITY DEPOSIT	8/24/2021	VOUCHER	\$100.00	10-21-7200
CINTAS	UNIFORMS JIM/JOE/Ryan	7/22/2021	4090725593	\$135.45	55200-03-46000
CINTAS	UNIFORMS JIM/JOE/Ryan	7/29/2021	4091379127	\$91.21	55200-03-46000
CINTAS	MATS/MOPS	7/29/2021	4091329036	\$189.90	55400-02-23250
CINTAS	UNIFORMS JIM/JOE/Ryan	8/5/2021	4092032864	\$135.45	55200-03-46000
CINTAS	UNIFORMS JIM/JOE/Ryan	8/17/2021	40926786989	\$93.21	55200-03-46000
CINTAS	UNIFORMS JIM/JOE/Ryan	8/19/2021	4093378861	\$135.45	55200-03-46000
DAVE'S COUNTY MARKET	SUPPLIES FOR AQUATIC CENTER	8/2/2021		\$4.50	55420-03-40100
DAVE'S COUNTY MARKET	CLEAR PLASTIC CUPS	8/2/2021		\$9.92	55300-03-41500
DAVE'S COUNTY MARKET	CRISCO OIL FOR PROGRAMS	8/2/2021		\$3.49	55420-03-40100
DAVE'S COUNTY MARKET	DISTILLED WATER	8/10/2021		\$3.96	55420-03-50000
DAVE'S COUNTY MARKET	AQUATIC BIRTHDAY SUPPLIES	8/13/2021		\$38.74	55420-03-40100
DAVE'S COUNTY MARKET	DISTILLED WATER	8/17/2021		\$5.94	55420-03-40100
DON GENNRICH	SECURITY DEPOSIT	8/10/2021	VOUCHER	\$50.00	10-21-7200
DOUG WENDLANDT	SECURITY DEPOSIT	8/10/2021	VOUCHER	\$50.00	10-21-7200
DOWNTOWN MISSION CHURCH	SECURITY DEPOSIT	8/24/2021	VOUCHER	\$50.00	10-21-7200
FASTENAL	PARTS FOR SHOP	7/30/2021	207629	\$27.99	55200-08-91000
FERGUSON	PARTS FOR SHOP	8/21/2021	6225*947	\$35.78	55200-08-91000
FOTO NEWS	ADVERTISING	8/1/2021		\$198.00	LABOR DAY ACCT.
FOTO NEWS	ADVERTISING	8/1/2021		\$278.00	BARLEYFEST
FOTO NEWS	ADVERTISING	8/1/2021		\$275.00	55400-03-41000

GREG EICKELKRAUT	REIMBURSEMENT FOR BLACK SQUIRRELL	8/3/2021	VOUCHER	\$176.25	26-31-5357
HAWKINS	CHEMICALS	8/4/2021	5001871	\$1,015.53	55420-03-50000
HOLIDAY WHOLESALE	AQUATIC SUPPLIES	7/28/2021	9824486	\$629.05	55420-03-40100
HORST DISTRIBUTING	PARTS FOR SHOP	7/27/2021	91315	\$936.47	55200-03-50000
HORST DISTRIBUTING	THERMOSTAT	7/27/2021	92087	\$51.52	55200-03-50000
JACKIE ARSENEAU	SECURITY DEPOSIT	8/24/2021	VOUCHER	\$50.00	10-21-7200
JANE ROWE	SECURITY DEPOSIT	8/24/2021	VOUCHER	\$50.00	10-21-7200
JANET GRUNEWALD	SECURITY DEPOSIT	8/10/2021	VOUCHER	\$50.00	10-21-7200
JENNY BENZINGER	SECURITY DEPOSIT	8/4/2021	VOUCHER	\$100.00	10-21-7200
JESI SCHULTZ	SECURITY DEPOSIT	8/2/2021	VOUCHER	\$50.00	10-21-7200
JIM MOSER	SECURITY DEPOSIT	8/24/2021	VOUCHER	\$50.00	10-21-7200
JOANNE WALLACE	SECURITY DEPOSIT	8/24/2021	VOUCHER	\$50.00	10-21-7200
JOSHUA KRAMER	SECURITY DEPOSIT	8/10/2021	VOUCHER	\$50.00	10-21-7200
JULLIE COOPER	SECURITY DEPOSIT	8/24/2021	VOUCHER	\$50.00	10-21-7200
KAREN METZ	SECURITY DEPOSIT	8/10/2021	VOUCHER	\$100.00	10-21-7200
KAY YOHN	SECURITY DEPOSIT	8/10/2021	VOUCHER	\$50.00	10-21-7200
KELLY DEERING	SECURITY DEPOSIT	8/24/2021	VOUCHER	\$50.00	10-21-7200
KIM WALKER	REFUND SECURITY DEPOSIT MPR	8/2/2021	VOUCHER	\$50.00	10-21-71000
KRISTIN RAMPART	SECURITY DEPOSIT	8/10/2021	VOUCHER	\$50.00	10-21-7200
LORNA KUFAHL	SECURITY DEPOSIT	8/24/2021	VOUCHER	\$50.00	10-21-7200
MARIAH KLADE	SECURITY DEPOSIT	8/24/2021	VOUCHER	\$50.00	10-21-7200
MARK MARSCEAU	SECURITY DEPOSIT	8/24/2021	VOUCHER	\$50.00	10-21-7200
MELVIN DOERING	SECURITY DEPOSIT	8/2/2021	VOUCHER	\$50.00	10-21-7200
MERRILL ACE HARDWARE	WIRES	6/8/2021	22393	\$47.70	55400-08-82000
MERRILL ACE HARDWARE	TRASH BAGS	7/29/2021	19274228124	\$7.98	55420-03-50000
MERRILL ACE HARDWARE	PAINT BRUSH	7/24/2021	19274128124	\$12.96	55200-03-40000
MERRILL ACE HARDWARE	BROOMS	8/1/2021	19274228124	\$13.99	55200-03-40000
MERRILL ACE HARDWARE	200 AMP PANEL	8/2/2021	19274428124	\$43.79	55400-08-82000
MERRILL ACE HARDWARE	FASTENERS	8/3/2021		\$2.80	55200-03-40000
MERRILL ACE HARDWARE	BUNGEE CORD	8/5/2021	208309	\$56.24	55300-03-41500
MERRILL ACE HARDWARE	DOOR LATCH	8/4/2021	206257	\$25.99	55200-03-40000
MERRILL ACE HARDWARE	KEYS	8/4/2021	208267	\$63.31	55200-03-40000
MERRILL ACE HARDWARE	LYSOL	8/4/2021	208247	\$11.98	55200-03-40000
MERRILL ACE HARDWARE	LADDER	8/24/2021	1927428124	\$89.99	55400-08-82000

MERRILL DISTRIBUTING	AQUATIC SUPPLIES	7/29/2021	1577370	\$153.30	55420-03-40100
MERRILL DISTRIBUTING	AQUATIC SUPPLIES	7/29/2021	1577371	\$82.05	55200-03-40000
MERRILL DISTRIBUTING	AQUATIC SUPPLIES	8/3/2021	1577971	\$52.20	55420-03-40100
MERRILL DISTRIBUTING	AQUATIC SUPPLIES	8/10/2021	1578604	\$602.82	55420-03-40100
MERRILL DISTRIBUTING	AQUATIC SUPPLIES	8/17/2021	1579541	\$291.20	55420-03-40100
MERRILL DISTRIBUTING	URINAL BLOCKS/GLOVES	8/9/2021	1578510	\$260.91	55200-03-40000
MERRILL DISTRIBUTING	TISSUE PAPER	7/27/2021	157117	\$63.70	55200-03-40000
MERRILL STREET DEPARTMENT	P-6	7/29/2021	18000	\$134.35	55200-03-50000
MIDWISCONSIN BEVERAGE	SUPPLIES FOR AQUATIC CENTER	8/2/2021	2781422	\$165.00	55420-03-40100
MIDWISCONSIN BEVERAGE	SODA FOR AQUATIC CENTER	8/9/2021	27834018	\$135.00	55420-03-40100
MIDWISCONSIN BEVERAGE	SLUSHY MIX	9/15/2021	2784958	\$200.00	55420-03-40100
MIKE PAGEL	SECURITY DEPOSIT	8/24/2021	VOUCHER	\$50.00	10-21-7200
NAPA AUTO PARTS	BRAKE FLUID	7/1/2021	908911	\$17.98	55200-03-5000
NAPA AUTO PARTS	CAP SCREW	8/4/2021	915076	\$5.78	55200-03-40000
NASSCO	TOWELS FOR BATHROOMS	8/17/2021	6033044	\$400.47	55200-03-40000
PETER SCHWARTZ	SECURITY DEPOSIT	8/2/2021	VOUCHER	\$50.00	10-21-7200
PREMIER	PLAQUES	7/22/2021	1460BA	\$340.00	26-31-5357
PREMIER	VEHICLE DECALS	8/5/2021	14657A	\$56.60	55200-03-40000
PREMIER	VEHICLE DECALS	8/2/2021	80221	\$56.60	55200-03-50000
RAYMOND CHARBEANAU	SECURITY DEPOSIT	8/24/2021	VOUCHER	\$50.00	10-21-7200
REBECCA KARLEN	SECURITY DEPOSIT	8/24/2021	VOUCHER	\$100.00	10-21-7200
RIESTERER & SCHNELL	PARTS FOR SHOP	8/4/2021	2044541	\$227.14	55200-03-50000
RIGOBERTO PINTOR	REFUND SECURITY DEPOSIT ARENA	8/2/2021	VOUCHER	\$100.00	10-21-71000
SAM'S CLUB WAUSAU	AQUATIC SUPPLIES	8/1/2021		\$144.82	55420-03-40100
SAM'S CLUB WAUSAU	AQUATIC SUPPLIES	8/11/2021		\$136.04	55420-03-40100
SANDY MATTON	SECURITY DEPOSIT	8/24/2021	VOUCHER	\$50.00	10-21-7200
SARAH HOLZINGER	SECURITY DEPOSIT	8/3/2021	VOUCHER	\$50.00	10-21-7200
SAVANNAH GRAAP	SECURITY DEPOSIT	8/24/2021	VOUCHER	\$50.00	10-21-7200
SHELLY HOFFMAN	SECURITY DEPOSIT	8/24/2021	VOUCHER	\$50.00	10-21-7200
SHERRI OPPER	SECURITY DEPOSIT	8/2/2021	VOUCHER	\$50.00	10-21-7200
SILVER CREEK SERVICES LLC	PORTABLE TOILET	8/3/2021	168103	\$125.00	55200-02-15000
STAINLESS SPECIALISTS	INDUCER MOTOR ASSEMBLY	8/18/2021	38747	\$1,268.82	35400-08-82000
STRYKER	AED PADS	7/30/2021	3472926	\$98.40	55300-03-41500
SUNRISE BROADCASTING	ADVERTISING	8/2/2021		\$249.00	55400-03-41000

[illegible]

City of Merrill Parks & Recreation Department										
Net Cost (Expenses - Revenues) - 2022 Budget Requests										
Department		2017 Actual	2018 Actual	2019 Actual	2020 Actual	2021 Budget	Preliminary Through 08/20/21	2021 Projected	2022 Request	Budget Change
5200	Parks	\$296,800	\$284,064	\$326,602	\$297,225	\$354,395	\$202,448	\$357,150	\$388,500	\$34,105
5201	Athletic Park Lights	\$1,938	\$1,499	\$1,720	\$1,300	\$1,750	\$1,157	\$1,157	\$1,750	\$0
5202	Ott's - Field Lights	\$1,276	\$1,959	\$1,571	\$1,045	\$1,500	\$287	\$1,250	\$1,350	(\$150)
5300	Recreation	\$176,019	\$193,118	\$189,941	\$154,200	\$204,500	\$133,245	\$186,775	\$209,410	\$4,910
5400	MARC - Smith Center	\$42,195	\$47,464	\$42,859	\$54,709	\$39,075	\$34,919	\$46,650	\$43,500	\$4,425
Additional PR-Marketing expended from Fund 24 - Room Tax										
5420	Pool - Aquatic Center	\$45,462	\$45,000	\$80,000	\$12,046	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$0
						Plus Non-Lapsing account		Plus Non-Lapsing account		
Total Summary		\$563,690	\$573,104	\$622,893	\$520,525	\$661,220	\$432,066	\$562,982	\$704,510	\$43,290
						From Non-Lapsing				
*Difference - Savings								\$8,238		

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**CITY OF MERRILL
PROPOSED BUDGET WORKSHEET
AS OF: AUGUST 31ST, 2021**

**10 -General Fund
Parks**

	2019 ACTUAL	2020 ACTUAL	(----- 2021 -----) CURRENT BUDGET	(----- 2021 -----) Y-T-D ACTUAL	(----- 2021 -----) PROJECTED YEAR END	(----- 2022 -----) REQUESTED BUDGET	(----- 2022 -----) BUDGET CHANGE	(----- 2022 -----) PROPOSED BUDGET
REVENUES								
Intergovernmental								
45200-43510 CARES - COVID-19 Reimb	0	5,676	0	0	2,000	2,000	2,000	
TOTAL Intergovernmental	0	5,676	0	0	2,000	2,000	2,000	
Public Charges-Services								
45200-46720 Park Revenue	12,651	0	9,500	3,198	10,000	10,000	500	
45200-46722 Park Shelter Reservation Rev	10,953	4,113	10,000	11,927	15,000	15,500	5,500	
TOTAL Public Charges-Services	23,604	4,113	19,500	15,125	25,000	25,500	6,000	
Miscellaneous Revenues								
45200-48500 Park Donations-No Carryover	0	250	0	2,150	2,150	0	0	
45200-48550 Tree Planting Donations	240	0	0	0	0	0	0	
TOTAL Miscellaneous Revenues	240	250	0	2,150	2,150	0	0	
TOTAL REVENUES	23,844	10,039	19,500	17,275	29,150	27,500	8,000	

EXPENDITURES

Personnel Services								
55200-01-11000 Salaries - Regular	41,834	43,167	42,305	28,047	42,305	44,262	1,957	
55200-01-21000 Wages - Perm - Regular	105,917	102,670	134,231	77,608	132,500	147,465	13,234	
55200-01-21220 COVID-19 Leave	0	3,484	0	0	0	0	0	
55200-01-22000 Overtime	1,249	0	1,500	0	0	0	1,500	
55200-01-23000 Longevity	315	315	315	0	315	315	0	
55200-01-25000 Wages - Temp - Regular	42,924	21,225	37,500	21,708	35,000	37,500	0	
55200-01-51000 Social Security	14,599	13,042	16,895	9,668	15,850	17,560	665	
55200-01-52000 Retirement (WRS)	9,807	10,063	10,002	7,357	13,975	10,390	388	
55200-01-54000 Health Insurance	33,449	34,654	31,300	26,998	46,500	60,384	29,084	
55200-01-55000 Life Insurance	294	305	397	228	405	424	27	
TOTAL Personnel Services	250,387	228,924	274,445	171,614	286,850	318,300	43,855	

55200-01-11008 Salaries - Regular

PERMANENT NOTES:

Includes 50% of Parks & Recreation Director position.

55200-01-2100 Wages - Perm - Regular

PERMANENT NOTES:

Includes third Parks Laborer effective May 1st, 2020.

55200-01-2500 Wages - Temp - Regular

PERMANENT NOTES:

Includes Flower Watering and River Bend Trail.

DRAFT

**CITY OF MERRILL
PROPOSED BUDGET WORKSHEET
AS OF: AUGUST 31ST, 2021**

**10 -General Fund
Parks**

	2019 ACTUAL	2020 ACTUAL	(----- 2021 -----) CURRENT BUDGET	(----- 2021 -----) Y-T-D ACTUAL	(----- 2021 -----) PROJECTED YEAR END	(----- 2022 -----) REQUESTED BUDGET	(----- 2022 -----) BUDGET CHANGE	(----- 2022 -----) PROPOSED BUDGET
Contractual Services								
55200-02-15000 Contract Services	14,070	6,421	10,500	1,875	10,500	10,500	0	
55200-02-21000 Water and Sewer	8,267	9,270	9,500	3,523	9,250	10,000	500	
55200-02-22000 Electric and Natural Gas	9,817	8,556	12,000	7,150	11,500	11,500	500	
55200-02-25000 Telephone	2,123	1,920	2,250	1,174	2,250	2,250	0	
TOTAL Contractual Services	34,277	26,167	34,250	13,722	33,500	34,250	0	
55200-02-22000 Electric and Natural Gas	PERMANENT NOTES: Three new facilities included in 2019 - including Normal Park restrooms/concession, Stange Park shelter/restrooms, and Agra Pavilion.							
Supplies & Expenses								
55200-03-10000 Office Supplies	139	0	100	95	100	100	0	
55200-03-32000 Education & Conference	212	0	250	55	250	250	0	
55200-03-40000 Operating Supplies	10,095	6,742	10,000	5,501	10,000	10,000	0	
55200-03-43000 Vandalism Repair/Maintena	1,004	302	1,000	200	1,000	1,000	0	
55200-03-46000 Uniform Services	3,880	3,706	4,250	2,830	4,250	5,500	1,250	
55200-03-46500 Safety Toe Boots	150	185	600	275	600	600	0	
55200-03-50000 Repair/Maint. Supplies	7,064	8,971	9,500	3,416	9,500	9,500	0	
55200-03-51000 Equip/Vehicle Repairs	10,699	4,252	3,500	5,143	7,250	3,500	0	
55200-03-53000 Gas & Oil-Vehicles/Equip.	9,553	6,169	9,500	6,033	9,500	9,500	0	
55200-03-77000 Stump Removal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
TOTAL Supplies & Expenses	42,795	30,326	38,700	23,546	42,450	39,950	1,250	
Fixed Charges								
55200-05-50220 COVID19 - Supplies	0	6,371	2,500	677	2,000	2,000	500	
TOTAL Fixed Charges	0	6,371	2,500	677	2,000	2,000	500	
Capital Outlay								
55200-08-90500 Park Equipment Outlay	252	829	1,000	303	1,000	1,000	0	
55200-08-91000 Park Improvements	16,236	10,425	13,000	6,947	13,000	13,000	0	
55200-08-91225 Weed Control	0	0	2,500	0	0	0	2,500	
55200-08-91500 Picnic Tables	0	534	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	0	
55200-08-92000 Trees & Beautification	6,500	3,688	6,500	1,915	6,500	6,500	0	
TOTAL Capital Outlay	22,988	15,476	24,000	10,165	21,500	21,500	2,500	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	350,446	307,264	373,895	219,723	386,300	416,000	42,105	
REVENUE OVER/ (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	(326,602)	(297,225)	(354,395)	(202,448)	(357,150)	(388,500)	34,105	

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CITY OF MERRILL
PROPOSED BUDGET WORKSHEET
AS OF: AUGUST 31ST, 2021

10 -General Fund
Athletic Park Lights

	2019 ACTUAL	2020 ACTUAL	(----- 2021 -----)	(----- 2022 -----)				
			CURRENT BUDGET	Y-T-D ACTUAL	PROJECTED YEAR END	REQUESTED BUDGET	BUDGET CHANGE	PROPOSED BUDGET
EXPENDITURES								
Contractual Services								
55201-02-22000 Electric - Field Lights	1,720	1,300	1,750	1,157	1,500	1,750	0	
TOTAL Contractual Services	1,720	1,300	1,750	1,157	1,500	1,750	0	
Supplies & Expenses								
55201-03-50500 Field Light Replacement	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
TOTAL Supplies & Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	1,720	1,300	1,750	1,157	1,500	1,750	0	

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CITY OF MERRILL
PROPOSED BUDGET WORKSHEET
AS OF: AUGUST 31ST, 2021

10 -General Fund
Ott's Park Lights

	2019 ACTUAL	2020 ACTUAL	(----- 2021 -----)	(----- 2022 -----)				
			CURRENT BUDGET	Y-T-D ACTUAL	PROJECTED YEAR END	REQUESTED BUDGET	BUDGET CHANGE	PROPOSED BUDGET
EXPENDITURES								
Contractual Services								
55202-02-22000 Electric - Field Lights	1,195	1,045	1,400	287	1,150	1,250	150	
TOTAL Contractual Services	1,195	1,045	1,400	287	1,150	1,250	150	
Supplies & Expenses								
55202-03-50500 Field Light Replacement	376	0	100	0	100	100	0	
TOTAL Supplies & Expenses	376	0	100	0	100	100	0	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	1,571	1,045	1,500	287	1,250	1,350	150	

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CITY OF MERRILL
PROPOSED BUDGET WORKSHEET
AS OF: AUGUST 31ST, 2021

10 -General Fund
Recreation Programs

	2019 ACTUAL	2020 ACTUAL	(----- 2021 -----) CURRENT BUDGET	(----- 2021 -----) Y-T-D ACTUAL	(----- 2021 -----) PROJECTED YEAR END	(----- 2022 -----) REQUESTED BUDGET	(----- 2022 -----) BUDGET CHANGE	PROPOSED BUDGET
REVENUES								
Public Charges-Services								
45300-46745 WPRA Ticket Sales	715	412	1,000	128	1,000	1,000	0	
45300-46750 Recreation Revenue	49,274	3,018	50,000	20,491	32,500	40,000	10,000	
TOTAL Public Charges-Services	49,989	3,430	51,000	20,619	33,500	41,000	10,000	
45300-46750 Recreation Revenue								
PERMANENT NOTES: Maximum number for Summer Playground implemented in 2019.								
TOTAL REVENUES	49,989	3,430	51,000	20,619	33,500	41,000	10,000	
EXPENDITURES								
Personnel Services								
55300-01-11000 Salaries - Regular	37,463	39,136	42,305	28,048	42,305	44,262	1,957	
55300-01-21000 Wages - Para - Regular	49,752	49,328	51,875	34,162	51,875	52,888	1,013	
55300-01-22000 Overtime	14	0	500	197	500	500	0	
55300-01-25000 Wages - Temp - Regular	67,669	11,232	70,000	48,624	57,500	65,000	5,000	
55300-01-51000 Social Security	11,486	7,124	12,448	7,997	8,052	12,050	398	
55300-01-52000 Retirement (WRS)	6,196	6,420	7,032	4,412	6,938	6,965	67	
55300-01-54000 Health Insurance	29,950	28,665	31,300	20,063	31,300	34,430	3,130	
55300-01-55000 Life Insurance	433	480	530	351	530	540	10	
TOTAL Personnel Services	202,964	142,384	215,990	143,844	199,000	216,635	645	
55300-01-11000 Salaries - Regular								
PERMANENT NOTES: Includes 50% of Parks & Recreation Director position.								
Contractual Services								
55300-02-22000 Electric and Natural Gas	4,667	4,483	4,985	2,915	4,750	4,750	235	
55300-02-25000 Telephone	700	709	675	489	700	700	25	
TOTAL Contractual Services	5,367	5,192	5,660	3,404	5,450	5,450	210	
Supplies & Expenses								
55300-03-10000 Office Supplies	245	44	250	12	250	250	0	
55300-03-11000 Postage	428	319	450	107	425	425	25	
55300-03-13000 Copier	282	279	250	35	250	250	0	
55300-03-19000 Credit Card Fees	566	468	400	89	400	400	0	
55300-03-40000 Operating Supplies	5	0	500	0	500	500	0	
55300-03-40200 WPRA Discount Tickets	0	0	1,000	0	1,000	1,000	0	
55300-03-41000 Self & Non-Support-Wages	405	300	1,000	0	500	500	500	
55300-03-41500 Self & Non-Support-Expens	29,668	8,643	30,000	6,373	12,500	25,000	5,000	
TOTAL Supplies & Expenses	31,599	10,054	33,850	6,617	15,825	28,325	5,525	

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CITY OF MERRILL
PROPOSED BUDGET WORKSHEET
AS OF: AUGUST 31ST, 2021

10 -General Fund
Recreation Programs

	2019	2020	(----- 2021 -----)				(----- 2022 -----)	
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	CURRENT BUDGET	Y-T-D ACTUAL	PROJECTED YEAR END	REQUESTED BUDGET	BUDGET CHANGE	PROPOSED BUDGET
55300-03-4020WPRA Discount Tickets	PERMANENT NOTES: There is an offsetting Revenue account.							
55300-03-4100Self & Non-Support-Wages	PERMANENT NOTES: Wages paid to Per-Game Limited Term Employees (such as referees/scorekeepers) or sports camp instructors.							
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	239,930	157,630	255,500	153,865	220,275	250,410	5,090	
REVENUE OVER/(UNDER) EXPENDITURES	(189,941)	(154,200)	(204,500)	(133,245)	(186,775)	(209,410)	4,910	

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CITY OF MERRILL
PROPOSED BUDGET WORKSHEET
AS OF: AUGUST 31ST, 2021

10 -General Fund
MARC - Smith Center

	2019 ACTUAL	2020 ACTUAL	(----- 2021 -----) CURRENT BUDGET	(----- 2021 -----) Y-T-D ACTUAL	(----- 2021 -----) PROJECTED YEAR END	(----- 2022 -----) REQUESTED BUDGET	(----- 2022 -----) BUDGET CHANGE	PROPOSED BUDGET
REVENUES								
Public Charges-Services								
45400-46735 Multi-Purpose (Smith Ctr.)	60,690	42,280	67,500	21,995	53,500	62,500	6 5,000	
45400-46736 MARC Concession Rev.	2,400	600	2,400	1,581	2,400	2,400	0	
45400-46737 Signs-Youth Hockey Sales	735	0	600	0	600	600	0	
TOTAL Public Charges-Services	63,825	42,880	70,500	23,575	56,500	65,500	(5,000)	
TOTAL REVENUES	63,825	42,880	70,500	23,575	56,500	65,500	(5,000)	
EXPENDITURES								
Personnel Services								
55400-01-21000 Wages - Reg - Perm	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	
55400-01-22000 Overtime	0	0	250	0	250	250	0	
55400-01-25000 Wages - Temp - Regular	33,871	30,249	34,000	18,869	33,500	34,500	500	
55400-01-51000 Social Security	2,591	2,314	2,625	1,443	2,350	2,725	100	
55400-01-52000 Retirement (MRS)	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	
55400-01-55000 Life Insurance	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
TOTAL Personnel Services	36,470	32,663	36,875	20,313	36,100	37,475	600	
Contractual Services								
55400-02-16250 HVAC Service Contract	3,286	5,559	2,500	1,052	1,052	2,500	0	
55400-02-16500 Fire/Security Service Con	805	874	750	71	748	750	0	
55400-02-16700 Electrical Repairs/Maint	0	0	500	130	500	500	0	
55400-02-16800 Door/Window Service	0	175	250	135	250	250	0	
55400-02-21000 Water and Sewer	2,980	2,840	3,000	1,476	3,000	3,000	0	
55400-02-22000 Electric and Natural Gas	32,391	30,118	36,000	25,804	36,000	36,000	0	
55400-02-23250 Cleaning - Mats/Rugs, Etc	2,216	2,279	2,750	1,519	2,500	2,750	0	
55400-02-23600 Waste Removal Services	2,143	1,924	1,500	1,286	2,000	2,000	500	
55400-02-25500 Fiber-Internet-Wireless	5,446	3,813	2,000	1,200	2,000	2,000	0	
TOTAL Contractual Services	49,266	47,582	49,250	32,671	48,050	49,750	500	
Supplies & Expenses								
55400-03-10000 Office Supplies	426	174	500	5	300	500	0	
55400-03-13000 Copier	0	852	750	379	750	750	0	
55400-03-32000 Education & Conference	0	0	200	0	200	200	0	
55400-03-40000 Operating Supplies	3,548	2,213	3,000	490	3,000	3,000	0	
55400-03-41000 Public Relations/Marketin	3,482	3,599	6,000	1,426	4,000	3,825	(2,175)	
55400-03-41022 Signs - Smith Center	1,518	155	1,500	0	1,000	1,500	0	
55400-03-41027 Youth Hockey-Sign &	320	0	0	0	0	0	0	
55400-03-44000 Janitor Supplies	177	0	500	0	500	500	0	
55400-03-50000 Repair/Maint. Supplies	7,346	6,246	5,500	1,307	6,000	6,000	500	

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CITY OF MERRILL
PROPOSED BUDGET WORKSHEET
AS OF: AUGUST 31ST, 2021

10 -General Fund
MARC - Smith Center

	2019 ACTUAL	2020 ACTUAL	(----- 2021 -----) CURRENT BUDGET	(----- 2021 -----) Y-T-D ACTUAL	(----- 2021 -----) PROJECTED YEAR END	(----- 2022 -----) REQUESTED BUDGET	(----- 2022 -----) BUDGET CHANGE	PROPOSED BUDGET
55400-03-51500 Ice Machine Supplies	383	108	500	918	1,250	500	0	
TOTAL Supplies & Expenses	17,198	13,348	18,450	4,525	17,000	16,775	2 1,675)	

55400-03-4100 Public Relations/Marketing

PERMANENT NOTES:
MARC .5% of Room Tax for PR/Marketing - Fund 24 amounts:

2019 \$8,612
2020 \$3,965
2021 \$5,750 Projected
2022 \$7,500 Projected

Capital Outlay								
55400-08-79000 Crack Sealing/Concrete	0	0	1,000	0	0	1,000	0	
55400-08-81000 Floor Scrubber	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
55400-08-82000 MARC/Smith Improvements	3,749	3,995	4,000	985	2,000	4,000	0	
55400-08-82011 Dehumid Compressor Repair	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
55400-08-82233 Scoreboard Replacement	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
TOTAL Capital Outlay	3,749	3,995	5,000	985	2,000	5,000	0	

TOTAL EXPENDITURES	106,684	97,589	109,575	58,494	103,150	109,000	6 575)
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REVENUE OVER/(UNDER) EXPENDITURES	(42,859)	(54,709)	(39,075)	(34,918)	(46,650)	(43,500)	4,425
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CITY OF MERRILL
PROPOSED BUDGET WORKSHEET
AS OF: AUGUST 31ST, 2021

10 -General Fund
Aquatic Center

	2019 ACTUAL	2020 ACTUAL	(-----2021-----) CURRENT BUDGET	(-----2021-----) Y-T-D ACTUAL	(-----2021-----) PROJECTED YEAR END	(-----2022-----) REQUESTED BUDGET	(-----2022-----) BUDGET CHANGE	(-----2022-----) PROPOSED BUDGET
REVENUES								
<u>Public Charges-Services</u>								
45420-46730 Aquatic Center-Sponsors	1,000	400	0	0	0	0	0	
45420-46734 Aquatic Center Revenue	48,952	543	75,000	44,245	47,500	71,350	3,650	
45420-46735 Aquatic Concession Revenue	28,158	209	30,000	36,614	38,250	37,500	7,500	
TOTAL Public Charges-Services	78,109	1,152	105,000	80,859	85,750	108,850	3,850	
TOTAL REVENUES	78,109	1,152	105,000	80,859	85,750	108,850	3,850	
EXPENDITURES								
<u>Personnel Services</u>								
55420-01-22000 Overtime	0	0	2,000	0	0	2,000	0	
55420-01-25000 Wages - Temp - Regular	70,736	168	80,000	85,489	87,500	85,000	5,000	
55420-01-51000 Social Security	5,408	13	6,325	6,540	6,694	6,950	625	
55420-01-52000 WRS - Retirement	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
TOTAL Personnel Services	76,144	181	88,325	92,029	94,194	93,950	5,625	
55420-01-25000 Wages - Temp - Regular								
PERMANENT NOTES: Hours vary based upon weather conditions. Total of 5,925 Hours in 2018 Total of 5,888 Hours in 2019 Closed in 2020 due to COVID-19 Additional 2021 Payroll is pending								
<u>Contractual Services</u>								
55420-02-21000 Water and Sewer	5,876	0	7,500	7,575	8,500	8,500	1,000	
55420-02-22000 Electric and Natural Gas	11,007	2,980	15,500	21,409	23,750	15,500	0	
55420-02-95000 Security-Alarms/Cameras	764	1,100	1,300	1,508	1,508	1,500	200	
TOTAL Contractual Services	17,646	4,080	24,300	30,492	33,758	25,500	1,200	
<u>Supplies & Expenses</u>								
55420-03-19000 Credit Card Fees	489	30	500	784	825	1,000	500	
55420-03-32000 Education & Conference	0	215	600	200	200	250	350	
55420-03-40000 Operating Supplies	14,700	1,774	13,750	19,812	22,500	13,750	0	
55420-03-40100 Concession Supplies	17,427	0	18,000	21,785	23,500	23,500	5,500	
55420-03-40500 License Fee(s)	1,012	1,162	1,150	1,012	1,012	1,150	0	
55420-03-50000 Repair/Maint. Supplies	9,515	0	7,250	8,835	9,500	7,250	0	
TOTAL Supplies & Expenses	43,143	3,181	41,250	52,427	57,537	46,900	5,650	

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CITY OF MERRILL
PROPOSED BUDGET WORKSHEET
AS OF: AUGUST 31ST, 2021

10 -General Fund
Aquatic Center

	2019 ACTUAL	2020 ACTUAL	(----- 2021 -----)	(----- 2022 -----)				
			CURRENT BUDGET	Y-T-D ACTUAL	PROJECTED YEAR END	REQUESTED BUDGET	BUDGET CHANGE	PROPOSED BUDGET
Technology								
55420-15-45000 Network Support/Maint.	0	0	500	0	0	500	0	
55420-15-46352 Member Tracking Software	0	0	500	0	0	500	0	
55420-15-46377 ShopKeep POS System	<u>1,176</u>	<u>5,756</u>	<u>1,500</u>	<u>1,176</u>	<u>1,176</u>	<u>1,500</u>	<u>0</u>	
TOTAL Technology	1,176	5,756	2,500	1,176	1,176	2,500	0	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	138,109	13,198	156,375	176,124	186,665	168,850	12,475	
REVENUE OVER/(UNDER) EXPENDITURES	(60,000)	(12,046)	(51,375)	(95,265)	(100,915)	(60,000)	8,625	

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2022 CAPITAL EQUIPMENT & PROJECT REQUESTS

PROJECT/EQUIPMENT REQUESTED	PRIORITY ORDER	ESTIMATED COST
5 year Outdoor Recreation Plan	1a	\$7,000
Purchase 70 acres adjacent to City Forest	1b	\$140,000
Sand/salt spreader for back of truck AND small mower	2a	~\$6,000~
Plow blade for New Holland Tractor	2b	~\$10,000~
"Tommy/tailgate lift" for pick up truck	3	\$4,000
Replace wood mulch in playgrounds at MARC and Kitchenette (rubber mulch)	4	\$40,000
Replace Ott's & Riverside docks and repair boat launch at Ott's	5	\$40,000
Replace/repave parking lots at Kitchenette, Lions, and Riverside	6	\$100,000
Re-do Streeter Square basketball court	7	\$30,000
Construct shelter at City Forest	8	\$40,000
Granite for topdressing existing trails	9	\$20,000
Pit toilets at Prairie Trails	10	\$20,000

ARTICLE V. - TREES AND SHRUBS

Sec. 14-123. - Statement of policy and applicability.

- (a) **Intent and purpose.** It is the policy of the city to regulate and establish policy for the control of planting, removal, maintenance and protection of trees and shrubs, in or upon, all public areas and terrace areas to eliminate and guard against dangerous conditions which may result in injury to persons using the streets, alleys, sidewalks or other public areas; to promote and enhance the beauty and general welfare of the city; to prohibit the undesirable and unsafe planting, removal, treatment and maintenance of trees and shrubs located in public areas; and to guard all trees and shrubs, both public and private, within the city against **damage and** the spread of disease, insects or pests.
- (b) **Application.** The provisions of this article shall apply to trees and shrubs growing, or hereafter planted, in or upon public areas and terrace areas, and also to all trees and shrubs, growing or to be planted, in or upon any private premises which shall threaten the life, health, safety or welfare of the public or of any public areas.

(Code 1993, § 6-4-1)

Sec. 14-124. - Definitions.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Board means the board of parks and recreation commissioners as constituted under this Code.

Boulevard or terrace areas mean the land between the normal location of the street curbing and sidewalk. Where there is no curb and gutter, the area four feet from the curbline shall be deemed to be a boulevard for the purpose of this article. The term "boulevard" has the same meaning as the term "terrace." Where there are no sidewalks, the area four feet from the curb shall be deemed boulevard areas under this article. **Or as determined by GIS mapping.**

Clear-sight triangle means a triangle formed by the existing or proposed curbines of two or more intersecting streets, roads or alleys and, a third line connecting specified points on those curbines in order to provide vehicular traffic an unobstructed view at intersections.

Evergreen tree means any woody plant, normally having one stem or trunk and bearing foliage in the form of needles and crowns which extend from ground level throughout its entire height.

Forester means a person appointed by the common council to serve as city forester and administrator of this article. Unless otherwise provided, the city forester shall be the parks and recreation director.

Maintenance and protection means and includes all operations of trimming, pruning, spraying, injecting, fertilizing, treating, bracing, doing surgery work and cutting any tree or shrub above or below ground.

Major alteration means trimming a tree beyond necessary trimming to comply with this article. Crowning 30 percent or more of natural growth is considered a major alteration.

Person means a person, firm, association or corporation.

Public areas means and includes all public parks and other lands owned, controlled or leased by the city, except the terrace areas.

Public nuisance means any tree, shrub or part thereof which, by reason of its condition, interferes with the use of any public area; is infected with a plant disease; is infested with injurious insects or pests; is injurious to public improvements, or endangers the life, health, safety or welfare of persons or property.

Public trees and shrubs means all trees and shrubs located, or to be planted, in or upon public areas.

Shrub means any woody vegetation or a woody plant having multiple stems and bearing foliage from the ground up, reaching a height of less than 12 feet.

Tree means any woody plant, normally having one stem or trunk bearing its foliage or crown well above ground level to heights of 12 feet or more.

Tree Protection Zone (TPZ) is defined as the minimum area beneath a tree that must be undisturbed in order to preserve a sufficient root mass to give a tree a reasonable chance of survival. The tree protection zone will typically be represented by a concentric circle centering on the tree's trunk.

(Code 1993, § 6-4-2)

Sec. 14-125. - Abatement of tree diseases and public nuisances.

(a) *Declaration.* The common council declares any of the following to be a public nuisance and therefore subject to abatement:

- (1) Any tree, shrub or part thereof, located upon any public or private property which by reason of its condition, interferes with the use of a public area, is infected with an infectious plant disease, is infested with injurious insects or pests, is injurious to public improvements, or endangers the life, health or safety of persons or property.
- (2) All trees, hedges, billboards, or other obstructions, which prevent persons driving vehicles (to include ATV's, UTV's, or bicycles) on public streets, alleys, or highways from obtaining a clear view of traffic when approaching an intersection or pedestrian crosswalk.

(b) *Abatements.*

- (1) *Public areas.* Whenever the city forester shall find on examination that a public nuisance exists upon any public area except in any area zoned conservancy, he shall immediately cause such nuisance tree or shrub to be treated, trimmed, removed, or otherwise abated in such a manner as to destroy or prevent the spread of the nuisance. The manner in which the nuisance shall be abated shall be determined by the city forester.
- (2) *Private premises.* If the city forester shall determine, with reasonable certainty upon inspection or examination, that any nuisance tree or shrub exists in or upon any private premises within the city, he shall notify the owner of such premises, or his agent, in writing, that said nuisance tree or shrub must be treated, trimmed, removed or otherwise abated. Said written notice shall specify the nature and exact location of the nuisance, the manner in which the nuisance shall be abated, and the time limit in which the nuisance shall be abated, which shall not be less than 15 days after issuance of said notice, unless the city forester shall determine that immediate action is necessary for the public safety.
- (3) *Abatement by city.* If the owner of private premises, or his agent, shall refuse or neglect to comply with the terms of the written notice within the time specified, the city forester shall cause the public nuisance to be abated and shall report the expenses thereof to the city clerk who shall enter it as a charge against the property upon which the tree or shrub is located. No damage shall be awarded to the owner for the destruction of trees or shrubs pursuant to this section.

(Prior Code, § 12.24.040; Code 1993, § 6-4-6)

Sec. 14-126. - Regulations regarding public trees and shrubs.

- (a) *Clear-sight triangle.* No tree, shrub, hedge, or other growth exceeding 30 inches in height above street grade shall hereafter be planted in any clear-sight triangle within the city. The limits of each clear-sight triangle shall be determined by measuring 30 feet each way at the corner of the street intersection.
- (b) *Obstruction of signs, signals, travel.* All trees and shrubs located upon any public way, or upon any private premises adjacent to the public way, shall be kept trimmed so that the lowest projecting branches provide a clearance height of not less than 14 feet above the public street, and not less than nine feet above the public sidewalk. The city forester may waive the provisions of this section for newly planted or naturally low-profile trees, if he determines that they do not interfere with public travel, obstruct the light of any street light, obstruct the view of any traffic sign or signal, or endanger public safety.
- (c) *Violations.* Any tree, shrub or part thereof, found to be in violation of the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, shall be declared to be a nuisance and shall be subject to abatement as set forth in section 14-125.

(Prior Code, § 12.24.050; Code 1993, § 6-4-7)

Sec. 14-127. - Planting public trees and shrubs.

(a) *Requirements.*

- (1) *Permit required.* No person shall plant, remove, maintain, or protect any public tree or shrub, or cause such work to be done, without obtaining a written permit from the city forester.
- (2) *Application and approval.* Any person desiring to plant, remove, maintain, or protect any public tree or shrub shall apply in writing to the city forester for a permit to do such work. Such application shall specify the location and description of the proposed work. If the city forester determines that the proposed work is necessary and in accordance with the purposes of this article, taking into account the safety, health and welfare of the public, location of utilities, public sidewalks, driveways and street lights, general character and aesthetic quality of the area in which the tree or shrub is located or proposed to be located, and the soil conditions and physiological needs of the tree or shrub, he shall issue a permit to the applicant.
- (3) *Conditions of approval.* The size, genus, species and variety of trees and shrubs to be planted in terraces, tree banks and boulevards and the manner of planting shall be submitted to the city forester for approval before commencement of such work. All planting, maintenance and trimming of trees in terraces shall be the responsibility of the individual property owners. No trees, except the types named in this section, shall be planted in or upon any public street or place. They shall be planted, only after written permission has been received from the city forester, which permit shall state the name of the applicant, his address, the property on which the trees are to be planted and the type to be planted.
- (4) *Permit form, expiration, compliance, inspection.* Permits shall be issued by the city forester on a standard form and shall include a description of the work to be done and shall specify the genus, species, variety, size, grade and location of trees or shrubs to be planted, if any. Any work done under such permit shall be performed in strict compliance with the terms thereof. The city forester may inspect all work performed pursuant to this section. Permits issued under this section shall expire three months after issuance.

(b) *Approved standard trees.*

- (1) Only the following named standard trees shall be planted in the streets of the city with a six-foot terrace: **MAPLE SPECIES SHOULD BE AVOIDED DUE TO OVER-STOCKED NUMBERS. ... ASH SPECIES SHOULD ALSO BE AVOIDED DUE TO EAB** These lists will be changed quite dramatically and be referred to Arboricultural Specifications Manual that will be developed
 - a. Schwedler Maple (*Acer platanoides schwedleri*).

- b. Red or Scarlet Maple (*Acer rubrum*).
- Burgundy Belle Maple (*Acer rubrum* 'Magnificent Magenta')
- Matador Maple (*Acer x freemanii* 'Bailston')
- Northwood Red Maple (*Acer rubrum* 'Northwood Red')
- Inferno Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum* 'Jeferno')
- Firefall Maple (*Acer x freemanii* 'AF#1')
- Autumn Blaze Maple (*Acer x freemanii* 'Jeffersred')
- Sienna Glen Maple (*Acer x freemanii* 'Sienna Glen')
- c. Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*).
- d. Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*).
- e. American Elm (*Ulmus americana*).
- f. Moline Elm (*Ulmus americana* var. *moline*).
- Princeton Elm (*Ulmus Americana* 'Princeton')
- Regal Elm (*Ulmus* 'Regal')
- New Horizon Elm (*Ulmus americana* 'New Horizon')
- St. Croix Elm (*Ulmus americana* 'St. Croix')
- g. Scarlet Oak (*Quercus coccinea*).
- h. Pin Oak (*Quercus Palustris*).
- Northern Pin Oak (*Quercus ellipsoidalis*)
- i. Red Oak (*Quercus vubra*).
- Heritage Oak (*Quercus robur x macrocarpa* 'Clemons')
- Swamp White Oak (*Quercus bicolor*)
- Prairie Stature Oak (*Quercus x bimundorum* 'Midwest')
- Bur Oak (*Quercus macrocarpa*)
- Regal Prince Columnar Oak (*Quercus x warei* 'Long')
- Majestic Skies Northern Pin Oak (*Quercus ellipsoidalis* 'Bailskies')
- Ironwood (*Ostrya virginiana*)
- k. Crimson King Norway Maple.
- l. Schwedler's Norway Maple.
- m. Moraine seedless Honey Locust.
- n. White Birch.
- Yellow Birch (*Betula lutea*)
- Heritage River Birch (*Betula nigra* 'Cully')
- Parkland Pillar Birch (*Betula platyphylla* 'Jefpark')
- Whitespire Birch (*Betula populifolia* 'Whitespire')
- o. Crimean Linden (type of basswood).
- American Linden (*Tilia americana*)

American Sentry Linden (*Tilia americana* 'McK Sentry')

Greenspire Linden (*Tilia cordata* 'Greenspire')

p. Ginkgo (ornamental, slow growing) (male only).

- (2) The city forester may allow planting of hybridized species of the hardwood trees listed in subsection (1) of this section. All trees planted shall have a diameter of not less than 1¼ inches at a point three feet above the ground.

(c) **Approved trees.** The following named trees are hereby approved for planting where the terrace shall be at least four feet wide:

(1) Japanese Tree Lilac (*Syringa amurensis japonica*).

Snowdance Japanese Tree Lilac (*Syringa reticulata* 'Bailnce')

Ivory Silk Japanese Tree Lilac (*Syringa reticulata* 'Ivory Silk')

Miss Kim Lilac (*Syringa patula* 'Miss Kim')

(2) Washington Hawthorn (*Crataegus phaenopyrum*).

(3) Mountain Maple (*Acer spicatum*).

(4) Scanlon Red Maple (*Acer rubrum conica scanlon*).

(5) Rancho Sargent Cherry (*Prunus sargentii columnare*).

(6) Pyramidal European Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior pyramidalis vink*).

(7) Globe Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides globosum*).

(8) Globe single seed Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna inermis*).

Thornless Cockspur Hawthorn (*Crataegus crus-galli* var. *inermis*)

(9) Hop Hornbeam (*Ostrya virginiana*).

(10) Idaho Locust.

Northern Acclaim Honey Locust (*Gleditsia triacanthos* var. *inermis* 'Harve')

Vanilla Strawberry Hydrangea (*Hydrangea paniculata* 'Renhy')

(11) Hawthorne.

(12) Flowering Crabs.

(13) Pyramidal European Hornbeam.

(14) Oakleaf European Hornbeam.

(15) Improved Columnar Maple.

(16) Little Leaf Linden (European basewood).

(17) Black Norway Maple.

(18) Erect Norway Maple.

(19) Cleveland Norway Maple.

(20) Crimson king Norway Maple.

Autumn Brilliance Serviceberry (*Amelanchier x grandiflora* 'Autumn Brilliance')

Blue Beech (*Carpinus caroliniana*)

(d) *Planting location; objects in terrace.*

- (1) There shall be a distance of 50 feet (or proportionate to the size of the trees at maturity) between terrace area trees depending upon the size of the tree and other factors. Terrace trees shall be planted with equal distance between the sidewalk or proposed sidewalk and back of the curb or proposed back of curb. In terrace areas less than three feet wide, planting will not be permitted. Terrace area trees shall be a minimum of 30 feet from an intersection.
 - (2) Trees to be planted must be offset 25 feet from under any utility wires that are less than 35 feet from the ground. Trees may not be planted within 25 feet of utility or light poles. TREE SPECIES SELECTION FOR OVERHEAD UTILITIES MUST BE APPROPRIATE SIZE AT MATURITY
 - (3) Evergreen trees or shrubs shall not be planted in a terrace area.
 - (4) It shall be unlawful to plant or maintain shrubbery, ground cover or other plants not considered to be an approved deciduous leaf tree within terrace areas whose growth is in excess of 24 inches in height above the top of the nearest curb, or where no curb exists, above the existing road grade.
 - (5) No plants shall be planted in the terrace islands where two sidewalks intersect. 24" or less -- see above #4??
 - (6) An application for a permit to plant in terrace areas shall be obtained by the property owner at the city clerk's office or the parks and recreation department office and shall be approved or disapproved by the city forester.
 - (7) Terrace areas must not include noxious weeds or noxious grasses; and all lawns and grasses must not exceed eight inches as regulated in section 14-36(b).
 - (8) No foreign objects shall be allowed to enhance the area in or around the terrace areas including, but not limited to, landscape timbers, blocks, rocks, bricks and similar items.
 - (9) If at any time the city, or a utility operating in the city, deem it necessary to do work in a terrace area, they bear no responsibility for damage to plants in the terrace areas. ANYONE DOING WORK IN TERRACE AREA MUST TAKE EVERY PRECAUTION TO PROTECT PLANTS IN TERRACE
 - (10) Tree grates or cut out areas shall be provided for terrace trees surrounded by concrete by the adjacent property owner and shall be level with adjacent concrete.
- (e) *Cottonwood and box elder trees prohibited.* No person shall plant or maintain within the city any female tree of the species *Populus deltoidea*, commonly called the cottonwood, or any tree commonly called the seed-bearing box elder or *Acer negundo*, which may now or hereafter, become infested with box elder bugs, and such trees are hereby declared a nuisance. Any person having any such trees on his premises shall cause the same to be removed.
- (f) *Unlawfully planted trees.* Trees, plants or shrubs planted within any terrace or planting easement without the authorization and approval of the city forester may be removed. The city forester shall notify the abutting owner in writing, listing the unlawfully planted trees, plants or shrubs, ordering their removal, and establishing a reasonable time within which such removal shall be accomplished. In the event that removal is not accomplished within the time specified, the city may remove such trees, plants or shrubs and assess the costs thereof to the owner.

(Prior Code, § 12.24.060; Code 1993, § 6-4-8; Ord. No. 2006-26, § 1, 11-14-2006)

Sec. 14-128. - Removal of trees and shrubs.

- (a) *Standards.* In cutting down trees located in public and terrace areas, the tree shall be removed with the root stump grubbed out, or ground out to a depth of at least nine inches below grade measured in a straight line with the normal grade of sidewalk to top of nine inches below grade measured as a

straight line, normal grade of sidewalk to top of curb. All wood and debris must be removed from the street prior to the end of each working day and all holes shall be filled to normal grade level with topsoil as soon as practicable. The abutting property owner shall have a right of first refusal to keep the wood, provided such wood is not diseased.

- (b) *Private removal.* No person, firm, organization or corporation shall plant, injure, trim, remove or destroy any tree or shrub located in or upon any public place, until a permit shall have been issued by the city forester. Such permit shall be issued only when the removal, trimming or cutting of the tree or shrub is necessary, as determined by the city forester, because of disease, damage, hazardous condition, and/or location, or its location is such that substantial detriment is done to the property upon which the tree or shrub stands, or property abutting the same. Such permit shall expressly state the premises upon which the tree stands and the location of the tree thereon.
- (c) *Disposals.* If any trees are removed from either private property or from public property adjoining private property, pursuant to law, the city forester shall do the following: **NO CUTTING OF OAK SPECIES BETWEEN APRIL 1ST & OCTOBER 1ST TO TRY AND LIMIT SPREAD OF OAK WILT**
 - (1) Arrange for the removal of said tree and/or stump, either through the city street department or by private bid contracts.
 - (2) Any such trees which have fire wood value shall, after being cut into removable lengths, first be offered free to the adjoining landowner, if any; said right of the adjoining landowner shall belong to that landowner alone, and not to other citizens, and the landowner so electing to take said wood shall expressly waive any actions or causes of actions against the city or any employee thereof, resulting from in any way the removal of said trees or wood.
 - (3) The said landowner shall be given written notice of his right to remove the wood lengths from the boulevard within 48 hours.
 - (4) **If the adjoining landowner does not remove said wood, then said wood shall remain the property of the city, and be removed by the city for sale on the open market: FIRST OPTION SHOULD BE FOR URBAN WOOD RE-UTILIZATION – WHERE AND WHEN APPLICABLE**
 - a. Said wood is to be organized at least annually by the city, and the city shall advertise said wood for sale publicly.
 - b. All such wood shall be sold to the highest bidder by sealed written bids, the wood must be removed by the buyer within 20 days of acceptance of the bid.
 - c. Sorting of wood shall not be permitted by the buyer, and the buyer shall remove all wood so purchased; that further, any elm wood shall be disposed of by the buyer no later than April 1, of each year to help prevent the spread of Dutch elm disease.

(Prior Code, § 12.24.070; Code 1993, § 6-4-9)

Sec. 14-129. - Prohibited acts.

- (a) *Damage to public trees.* No person, **business, or contractor** shall, without the consent of the owner, in the case of a private tree or shrub, or without written permits from the city forester, in the case of a terrace-area tree, public tree or shrub, perform or cause to be performed by others any of the following acts:
 - (1) Secure, fasten or run any rope, wire sign, unprotected electrical installation or other device or material to, around or through a tree or shrub.
 - (2) Break, injure, mutilate, deface, kill or destroy any tree or shrub or permit any fire to burn where it will injure any tree or shrub.
 - (3) Permit any toxic chemical, gas, smoke, oil or other injurious substance to seep, drain or be emptied upon or about any tree or shrub or place cement or other solid substance around the base of the same.

- (4) Remove any guard, stake or other device or material intended for the protection of a public tree or shrub, or close or obstruct any open space about the base of a public tree or shrub designed to permit access of air, water and fertilizer.
 - (5) Attach any sign, poster, notice or other object on any tree, or fasten any guy wire, cable, rope, nails, screws or other device to any tree; except that the city may tie temporary no parking signs to trees when necessary in conjunction with street improvement work, tree maintenance work or parades.
 - (6) Cause or encourage any fire or burning near or around any tree.
 - (7) Place any earth fill, rock, trash, or other material within the tree protection zone of any public tree or shrub which may compact or prevent the entry of air and water to the root zone.
- (b) **Excavations.** All trees on any parkway or other publicly owned property near any excavation or construction of any building structure or street work shall be sufficiently guarded and protected by those responsible for such work as to prevent any injury to said trees. No person shall excavate any ditches, tunnels or trenches, or install pavement within a radius of ten feet from any public tree without a permit from the city forester. Contractors are responsible for any/all damage to any tree
**Add in Tree Protection Zone as prohibited excavation area*
- (c) *Interference with city forester prohibited.* No person shall:
- (1) Interfere with or prevent any acts of the city forester, or his agents or employees, while they are engaged in the performance of duties imposed by this section.
 - (2) Refuse to permit the city forester, or his duly authorized representative, to enter upon his premises at reasonable times to exercise the duties imposed by this section.
 - (3) Permit any public nuisance to remain on any premises owned or controlled by him when ordered by the city forester to abate such nuisance.

(Code 1993, § 6-4-10)

Sec. 14-130. - Appeal from determinations or orders.

Any person who receives a determination or order under this article from the city forester, and objects to all or any part thereof, shall have the right to appeal such determination or order, subject to the provisions of this chapter, to the parks and recreation commission within seven days of receipt of the order and the parks and recreation commission shall hear such appeal within 30 days of receipt of written notice of the appeal. After such hearing, the parks and recreation commission may reverse, affirm or modify the order or determination appealed from and the grounds for its decision shall be stated in writing. The parks and recreation commission shall, by letter, notify the party appealing the order or determination of its decision within ten days after the hearing has been concluded. The parks and recreation commission shall file its written decision with the city clerk.

(Code 1993, § 6-4-11; Ord. No. 96-04, 2-13-1996)

Secs. 14-131—14-158. - Reserved.

****Add in PENALTIES TO THIS SECTION:** *Any person found to disturb the root zone, prune, remove, or cause the removal or death of any public tree, shrub, or other plant without a permit shall be subject to a forfeiture of not less than \$??? per incident nor more than the greater of \$1,500 or the calculated value lost according to the latest edition of the Council of Tree and Landscape Appraisers Guide for Plant Appraisal. **In addition to forfeiture, the city may require restitution for the fair market value of the tree(s) and/or shrub(s) which were damaged or destroyed as a result of violation of this ordinance.*

****ADD IN ARBORICULTURAL SPECIFICATIONS MANUAL TO THIS SECTION AND REFER TO THEM (EASIER TO ADJUST SPECS THAN ORDINANCES)**

****ADD IN URBAN WOOD UTILIZATION INTO THIS SECTION FOR BEST USE PRACTICES BY “DISPOSALS” PORTION OF THE ORDINANCE**

****ADD IN TREE PROTECTION ZONE (TPZ) FROM GREEN BAY LANGUAGE:** *The minimum area beneath a tree that must be undisturbed in order to preserve a sufficient root mass to give a tree reasonable chance of survival. The tree protection zone will typically be represented by a concentric circle centering on the tree’s trunk. *Can also be referred to as “drip line”*

****ADD IN PRIVATE PROPERTY TREE AND VEGETATION REGULATIONS:** *The owner of any tree or shrub overhanging any street or right-of-way within the city shall prune the tree or shrub before it interferes with the proper spread of light along the street from a street light or interferes with visibility of any traffic control device or sign or sight triangle at intersections or interferes with the passage of pedestrians or vehicles in the public right-of-way. . . failure to do so may result in City action and potentially be subject to charges for expenses incurred.*

****ADD IN PLANTING PLANS AND NECESSARY APPROVALS FROM DEVELOPERS (COMMERCIAL OR RESIDENTIAL):** *Especially if it involved tree removal or significant tree removal to adjacent private area that could be mitigated with public right-of-way planting – would be at developer/contractor’s expense. Would have to have matching zoning ordinance to this and building permit language?*

****ADD IN INTERDEPARTMENTAL COORDINATION AND COOPERATION LANGUAGE:** *Town of Greenville language is great. . . “Due to the complex nature and often conflicting interrelationships between living plants, such as trees, shrubs, and turf, and public improvements, such as streets, sidewalks, and underground facilities, it is recognized that there is a need to manage both plants and improvements in a manner that will minimize conflict and maximize the benefits to be realized from each.” “Therefore, it is hereby declared to be the intent of the City of Merrill, Wisconsin that there shall exist at all times, a policy of open communication and coordination between various departments and divisions of City government regarding the management, installation and maintenance of the plants or improvements for which they are each responsible.” . . . We are fortunate to have tremendous cooperation and coordination right now but feel this should be included for the future, in the event we don’t have the wonderful interdepartmental cooperation that we are fortunate to have now.*

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ICE AGE TRAIL COMMUNITY

WHAT IS A TRAIL COMMUNITY?

The Ice Age Trail Alliance's Trail Communities program is designed as a symbiotic relationship between the Ice Age Trail Alliance (IATA) and communities near the Trail which enhances awareness of the Ice Age National Scenic Trail (IANST) and improves the quality of life in communities throughout Wisconsin. Initially, a Trail Community will be defined as a community with the IANST going directly through it, is part of a school district and has had a partnership with the IATA. Future definitions of a Trail Community may expand to include broader regions. This program will formalize existing partnerships as well as establish a template that can be used to build partnerships in the future.



THE APPLICATION PROCESS

Criteria – A strong community application will include the following:

- An application committee comprised of elected officials, Chamber of Commerce (or related group), businesses and local Ice Age Trail Alliance chapter representatives
- Community support for the Ice Age Trail and Ice Age Trail Alliance is evident
- Language for the protection of the Ice Age Trail is included in local land use plans, planning tools, ordinances, and/or guidelines; or demonstrate support to amend change or add to such plans
- Involvement with the Ice Age Trail Alliance or Ice Age Trail with a local school including participation, or willingness to participate in, a Saunters program or service-learning event
- Willingness to host a volunteer-based event such as a Mobile Skills Crew event, local chapter hike(s) or trailwide events



ICE AGE TRAIL

COMMUNITY APPLICATION



What is the Ice Age Trail Community?

The Ice Age Trail Alliance's Trail Communities program is designed as a symbiotic relationship between the Ice Age Trail Alliance (IATA) and communities near the Trail which enhances awareness of the Ice Age National Scenic Trail (IANST) and improves the quality of life in communities throughout Wisconsin.

Initially, a Trail Community may expand to include broader regions. This program will formalize existing partnerships as well as establish a template that can be used to build partnerships in the future.

Ice Age Trail Community **Application**

Criteria

A strong community application will include the following:

- An application committee comprised of elected officials, Chamber of Commerce (or related group), businesses and local Ice Age Trail Alliance chapter representatives.
- The community supports the Ice Age Trail Alliance and Ice Age Trail is evident.
- Language for the protection of the Ice Age Trail is included in local land use plans, planning tools, ordinances, and/or guidelines. Or demonstrate support to amend change or add to such plans.
- Involvement with the Ice Age Trail Alliance or Ice Age Trail with a local school including participation, or willingness to participate in, a Saunters program or service-learning event.
- Willingness to host a volunteer-based event such as a Mobile Skills Crew event, local chapter hike(s) or trailwide events.





Prior to filling out the following application, please contact the Ice Age Trail Alliance with questions or concerns, at 608.798.4453 or amy@iceagetrail.org.

1) Community Information

Town _____

City _____

Community Name _____

2) Contact information of community representative

Name _____

Title _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

3) Contact information of lead volunteer

Name _____

Title _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____



Ice Age Trail Community Application

- 4) Please include all application committee members, including contact information and affiliation with the community.
- 5) Describe community event(s) or plans for event(s) that may include the Ice Age Trail Alliance and Ice Age Trail.
- 6) Are there existing land protection, management, or development projects that may benefit the Ice Age Trail? Please describe.



Ice Age Trail Community Application

- 7) **Attach any documents or links referencing language for the protection of the Ice Age Trail in local land use plans, planning tools, ordinances, and/or guidelines. Or, describe demonstrated support to amend change or add to such plans.**
- 8) **Describe why your community should be selected as an Ice Age Trail Community. What can the program do for your community? What can your community do for the Ice Age Trail?**
- 9) **What expectations does your community have of the Ice Age Trail Alliance?**



Ice Age Trail Community Application

10) Please check the hiker services available in your community. (Check all that apply)

Service	Not Available	On The Trail	1-5 Miles From The Trail	6-10 Miles From the Trail	Not Applicable
Lodging					
Camping					
Outfitter					
ATM's					
Hiker Friendly Restaurants					
Laundry					
Grocery					
Showers					
Pharmacy & Medical Services					
Library					
Internet Access					
Post Office					
Public Restrooms					
Discounts for Hikers					
Signage for IAT					
Kiosks about IAT					

**11) Please describe any of the hiker services mentioned above.
You are also encouraged to send pictures if possible. (Please rate each)**





12) What is your community's state of action for each of the following?

Action	Not interested/ sure, NA	Thinking about it	Definitely Getting Ready to Do This	Started Taking Actions	Already Doing This
Our community has strong partnerships with public land agencies.					
Volunteer leadership for the IATA in our community is committed.					
New IATA volunteers have stepped up recently.					
Our community offers community-led hikes on the IAT.					
We have made trail protection a priority.					
Our community regularly donates to the IATA.					
We partner with the IATA on programs.					
The IAT is included in our community brochures.					
Information about the IAT is included on our website.					
Community events have a focus on the IAT.					
Our community offers clear communication about the IAT to audiences through websites, signage, newsletters, etc.					

13) The IATA frequently hosts trainings, meetings and conferences. Please list any facilities in your community that can host a group of 40 people or more.





Ice Age Trail Community Application

14) Please describe the condition of the access points for the IAT. List any planned improvements that may be needed.

15) Please list the schools actively engaged with using the Ice Age Trail as an educational resource. Include grades and number of youth.

16) Please check all of the following your community has:

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ Visitor or Community Center | ☐ Shuttle services from IAT to town and vice versa |
| ☐ Comprehensive plan and zoning ordinance (Please send in with application) | ☐ Public transportation to airports |
| ☐ Downtown beautification plan (Please send in with application) | ☐ Car rental or taxi service |
| ☐ Strategic marketing plan (Please send in with application) | ☐ Farmers Market |



*Thank you for your support of the Ice Age Trail Alliance!
Please contact us at 608.798.4453 or amy@iceagetrail.org if you have any questions.*

Save

Submit





September 2021 Parks & Recreation Director's Report

Parks: An extremely busy summer season is drawing to a close. The heat, humidity, and above average moisture never gave us much of an opportunity to slow down on grass cutting and weed trimming but everything looks so green yet so we'll take that as a positive. The last day at the Bierman Family Aquatic Center was August 22nd, capping off a very strong summer. Our numbers were very good all summer long (especially when the weather was nice) and for the most part, things ran smoothly. We had our fair share of rain days and early closures which makes it that much more impressive that our numbers were excellent. Our shelter reservations were/are/continue to be off the charts as well. We have consistently filled almost all of our shelters every day of every weekend, which is great to see. Summer youth sports have come to an end as well, with Youth Soccer ending recently. All of the youth sports associations had very good seasons with excellent participation. We hosted our final baseball tournament at Athletic Park on August 20-22. It was an adult Dairyland League tournament bringing in numerous teams in from around the State. This wraps up a season of heavy usage at all of our baseball fields. Merrill Fastpitch began their Sunday Fall Softball league on 8/22 and will host 4 Sundays into the middle end of September. They bring in 16 or so teams from around the area for a few games each. It is great to see how many visitors our parks and facilities bring into our community throughout a normal year. We are very proud of our facilities and fortunate that the City of Parks continues to invest in improvements that, in turn, return that investment by way of bringing people here that otherwise wouldn't have a reason to visit. The T.B. Scott Tower rehab was finished a few weeks ago. I met with Park City Credit Union to formulate a plan to finish the landscaping and fencing. Our crew will get things ready and available for PCCU's staff to volunteer their time for the plantings and we will work to get the railing ordered and installed. A special thank you to Park City Credit Union for their generosity in helping beautify the tower, as well as Ascension, In the Lite Electric, Findorff, Wisconsin Professional Painters, and others for stepping up to see this through. The new section of the River Bend Trail by Lincoln Windows was backfilled a short time ago with black dirt and hydro-seeded right afterwards to ensure that we don't have any erosion. The conduit and light post anchors were already completed so the area is ready when funding is available to purchase and install the light poles without disturbing anything else. The Friends of the River Bend Trail are still raising funding for that, as well as the fencing that is required for that area.

Forestry: We had several strong storms since our August meeting. We were fairly fortunate in the City limits there was no significant damage or tree loss. We did have a few locations with broken limbs and smaller trees down, but nothing like it could have been. The above average rainfall and saturation that we have had this summer has started to stress some trees recently. Excess moisture in the ground depletes the oxygen in the soil that the tree needs for its root system. This can cause early leaf discoloration and branch flagging, amongst other things. I have had some calls on this and it is nothing to be alarmed about for a shorter period of time but if we see extended periods of these conditions it can become an issue. Our trees will be fine as we have had enough drying time recently to help out. I

have been trying to keep up with tree inspections that have piled up a bit from mid-late summer so we are ready for the fall list. Very soon I will be setting up and finalizing all of our tree sites and species and ordering our trees for our fall tree plantings. On August 19th, I attended a virtual course hosted by Waukesha County UW-Extension on Trees, Construction, and Site Development. It was a very informative class.

Recreation: Our summer programs have also concluded. We were very pleased with how all of our programs went this season. Our numbers were very good and we had virtually no issues at all. We were fortunate to have a great staff this summer and those who were comfortable participating had opportunities to do so. The best part about this summer was seeing people of all ages out and about interacting and being active again. After last year, it was very obvious to us that people needed an outlet to interact, recreate, socialize, exercise, and engage once again. Our fall programs are about to begin with both leagues of Flag Football and Colorama Bike Ride again this year. We re-did Flag Football this year to accommodate 6th graders back into our program. So our age divisions will be 1st – 3rd grade and 4th – 6th grade. This gives 6th graders another year of football experience and growth before beginning tackle football in 7th grade. We worked with the new MHS Football Coach on this initiative.

Smith Center: It appears we have a great theme going for this summer with more arena and community room rentals. We have hosted more occasions this summer than even before COVID. Many different kinds of reservations as well, which is really good to see. We have hosted numerous Celebrations of Life, family functions, a Quincenero, a Quincenera, showers, and other parties. We also have Barleyfest and the Paper Cities Kennel Club Dog Show coming up as well. Then we will be looking at turning the floor down and installing the ice again for another season. We are really hopeful that the trend of people renting our facility continues!

Note: As always, all of the great things that our department has accomplished and is doing is only made possible by the hard work by our amazing staff members. I would like to thank each and every one of our full time, part time, and seasonal employees. I am not sure if anyone realizes how many moving parts and responsibilities we have during the summer months. Just to name a small sample of things our staff covers daily in the summer: garbage pick-up, cleaning restrooms, mowing, weed trimming, grooming athletic fields, organizing programs for and interacting with children, guarding lives, serving food, and taking admissions at the pool, city beautification, watering flower baskets and flower beds, caring for trees, trail maintenance, preparing for and cleaning up after reservations in shelters and Smith Center, and general maintenance and care for over 1200 acres of park property. Our staff members deserve a tremendous THANK YOU for everything that you do!!!

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dan Wendorf" with a stylized "D" and "W".

Dan Wendorf
Parks & Recreation Director
City of Merrill