

VILLAGE VOICE

JANUARY 2020

DRAFT

Volume 16, Issue 1

Minutes of the Village Board Meeting of January 14, 2020

The Village Board meeting was called to order by Village President Phil Budde at 6:00 p.m. Board members present were Jeff Rasmussen, Garry Bahe, Jim Malmberg, and George Naxera. Bob Geenen, Village Administrator-Clerk-Treasurer and Justin Schultz, Village Maintenance Operator were also present.

President Budde examined the affidavit of posting and verified that advance public notice of the meeting conformed to statutory requirements.

Public Input: None

Geenen reported that the proposal to rezone property for the Olson Marina has been withdrawn by the applicant. No action necessary.

Malmberg/Naxera moved to approve payment of the bills as listed on the Agenda and the In Progress Checks report, along with the prepaid expenses as listed on the Agenda and Reprint Check Register. Upon roll call vote, all ayes, **motion carried.**

The Board reviewed the monthly financial reports (Balance Sheets & Budget Comparison by fund) for the Water, Sewer, and General Funds for the month of December 2019. Rasmussen/Bahe moved to accept the reports as presented. All Aye. **Motion carried.**

Naxera/Bahe moved to approve the Minutes from the December 10, 2019 Village Board Meeting. **Motion carried.**

Discussion of Street Lights Savings – LED vs alternating light post off-timer. Schultz mentioned many village resident are early morning walkers. He noted past meeting with electrician, prior administrator, and prior maintenance operator concluded the savings was minimum with the village moving to LED fixture and light replacement as lights failed. The timer system in 3 of 4 lights zones would need to be adjusted manually requiring off-hour work and the restart energy usage reduces light-off savings to tiny amounts.

Bahe/Naxera moved to approve the engagement letter from Wegner, CPAs for a compilation and preparation of PSC Report and DOR Schedule C for the Village's 2019 finances. Upon roll call vote, all ayes, **motion carried.**

Naxera/Malmberg moved to approve year-end staff bonuses for all Village employees of \$50 each. Upon roll call vote, all ayes, **motion carried.**

Rasmussen/Bahe moved to begin advertising for the Village Deputy Clerk position with a proposed start date of April 1. **Motion carried.**

Discussion of using Village General Fund monies to pay-off the 2014 Water Tower Refurbishment bank loan at 3.35% in the Water Fund. The Water Fund would then repay inter-

fund loan of 3%. Interest would then stay within the village. A member noted the saving were not significant and no action was taken.

Discussion of refinance of Board of Commissioners of Public Land (BCPL) loan from 5.5% to current rate of 3.25% for the (same) remaining term. Annual interest savings are approximately \$5,730. The refinancing does require the village take an additional loan of 25% of refinanced amount for the same term of 9 years. The BCPL does not have any prepayment penalties but does not take payments from September 1 into the beginning of January. In discussion with the loan officer; although prepayments are allowed a municipality cannot immediately repay the second note. Geenen recommended taking the 2.25% interest reduction noting we do have needs to replace the '98 Village Truck and '02 Village sand/salt truck as part of the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). The interest savings approximately covers 43% of the additional loan payment of \$13,372 and prepay after a few CIP items are settled. The board general inclination was not to take on more debt without more information about the fastest prepayment. Geenen will pursue further detail of prepayment of the secondary loan that BCPL loan officer would consider reasonable.

Administrator's Report: Bob provided to the Board members

Minutes Cont.

copies of the materials as listed on the agenda. Bob noted that Jim Malmberg and George Naxera were the two candidates nominated at the Village Caucus for the Spring Election of two trustees. Malmberg wanted to send a 'Thanks' to the village staff for a job well done – the board agreed and wanted Bob to pass on the compliment to staff. Two potential grants from Alliant Energy open up in February for a 50% match on a Defibrillator located at the Village Hall and playground equipment. Both grants have a maximum amount of \$1000.

Water & Sewer Operations:

Schultz & Seiler Concrete (provides elevator) awaiting better weather to top off the settling WWTP Sand Filter.

Pending Planning & Zoning Items:

Plan Commission meeting will be needed for a conditional use permit and general discussion on growth.

Bahe/Rasmussen moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 PM. All ayes

Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert R. Geenen
Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer

**DEPUTY CLERK
POSITION
Village of Merrimac**

The Village of Merrimac on beautiful Lake Wisconsin has an opening for a 30 hour per week Deputy Clerk with potential for full time.

Minimum requirements include knowledge and experience in MS Office applications, web-based computer applications, and basic accounting. Organizational skills and the ability to work independently to prioritize, coordinate and complete multiple detailed projects. Excellent communication skills – verbal, written, phone and e-mail skills are essential.

Responsibilities include:

Preparation and mailing of monthly Village water and sewer bills; maintenance of utility system data base and accounts; process Village receipts, prepare monthly bills for Board approval and payment; issue licenses and collect tax payments; assist with elections. Deputy Clerk works closely with the Administrator and operations personnel in all aspects of Village management.

To apply for this opportunity, please forward a resume with references to the Village of Merrimac, Attn: Administrator, 100 Cook St., Merrimac, WI. 53561 or you may email to merrimac@merr.com by March 1, 2020.

*The Village of Merrimac is an
Equal Opportunity Employer.*

Upcoming Meetings

Village Board

Tuesday, Feb. 11 at 6:00 PM

100 Cook Street Village Hall

**MERRIMAC COMMUNITY
FESTIVAL**

The 2020 Community Festival Committee will hold monthly planning meetings at 6:30 PM on the 2nd Thursday of the month. Monthly meetings began on January 9th at the Village Hall

For info contact Leis Docken at:

msleis1960@gmail.com

Next Meetings: February 13th
March 12th

Brush Pick-Up Date

Wed. February 19

4 feet wide by 4 feet high up to 8 feet long with brush stacked parallel and near the roadway.

For the winter months, brush pick-up is done once a month through April 2020

METALS

Can be dropped off behind the Village Hall near the storage building or trailer of metal. NO PLASTIC or TV's.

Fitness Program for Seniors

Classes run through April 24, 2020.

Anyone 50 years of age or older can attend *It's not too late to join - \$10 one-time fee.*

When: 9:30-10 am

Each Monday, Wednesday & Friday

Where: Merrimac Village Hall

**SPRING PRIMARY
ELECTION

VOTE

TUESDAY, FEB. 18**

**POLLING PLACE: VILLAGE HALL
100 COOK STREET
HOURS: 7:00 am to 8:00 pm**