

VILLAGE VOICE

April 2023

Volume 19, Issue 04

Draft Minutes of the Village Board Meeting April 11, 2023

Item 1. Call to Order: The Village of Merrimac Board of Trustees Meeting was called to order in Village Hall by Village President Phil Budde at 5:00PM. Village Trustees Andrew Gallus, Jim Malmberg, George Naxera, and Kirk Olson were present. Also in attendance were Administrator Jennie Klecker, Village Assistant Margaret Budde, Trustee-elect Nate Taylor and members of the public, as listed on the sign-in sheet. President Budde examined the affidavit of posting and confirmed that advance public notice of the meeting conformed to statutory requirements.

Item 2. Public Input: Cheryl Anderson spoke to remind all present about the Highway 78 Cleanup on Earth Day, April 22. This will be the first event sponsored by the new local environmental group "Green Merrimac." Mrs. Anderson asked the Board to "save the date" for the 2023 Merrimac Community Festival and hoped that members would consider volunteering to help with the event. Trustee Malmberg brought up the topic of "No Mow May" and how that might conflict with Village Ordinances regulating grass length be kept at a 4 inch minimum. He suggested, and the Board agreed, the Village should pause sending any grass cutting notice letters until June 1st to allow interested residents to participate in the national event.

Item 3. Consent Agenda: Malmberg/Naxera motioned to approve items 3.a., 3.b., 3.c., 3.d. of the Consent Agenda as posted. Upon Roll Call Vote, All Ayes. **Motion Carried.**

Item 4. Approval of Village Bills: Gallus/Naxera motioned to approve payment of outstanding monthly bills as

listed on items 4.i.-4.iv. of the Agenda. Upon Roll Call Vote, All Ayes. **Motion Carried.**

Item 5. Report of the Administrator: 5.a. Approve Hiring New Deputy Clerk; After conducting several interviews, the Hiring Committee made a unanimous decision to recommend hiring Amy Pieplow-Stevens as new Deputy Clerk. Olson/Gallus motioned to hire Amy Pieplow-Stevens as Deputy Clerk, full-time at the rate of \$18.50 per hour. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.** 5.b. Resolution 2023-04-03 Honoring Kirk Olson for His Outstanding Service to the Village of Merrimac; The Board expressed their sincere appreciation to Trustee Olson for his admirable public service during his tenure as Village Trustee. Gallus/Malmberg motioned to adopt Resolution 2023-04-03. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.** Trustee Olson was presented a framed copy of the resolution as a token of the community's appreciation. 5.c. Resolution 2023-04-02 Honoring Philip Budde for His Outstanding Service to the Village of Merrimac; The Board commended President Budde for his dedicated leadership and significant contributions to the Village during his many years of public service. Gallus/Olson motioned to approve Resolution 2023-04-02. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.** President Budde was presented a framed copy of the resolution as a token of the community's appreciation. 5.d. Resolution 2023-04-01; Gallus/Malmberg motioned to approve Resolution 2023-04-01 Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of Up to \$428,876 Water System Revenue Bonds, Series 2023, and Providing For Other Details and Covenants With Respect Thereto, and Approval of Related \$612,681 Financial Assistance Agreement. Upon Roll Call Vote, All Ayes. **Motion Carried.** 5.e. Authorization to Pay Back Bank of Prairie du Sac in Full for Well House No.1 Project Interim Financing From

Proceeds of SDWLP; Naxera/Gallus motioned to approve Administrator pay back Bank of Prairie du Sac in full for Well House No. 1 Project interim financing from proceeds of SDWLP, in the amount of \$67,017.66. Upon Roll Call Vote, All Ayes. **Motion Carried.** 5.f. Authorization to Pay Back \$50K of the \$75K Inter-Fund Loan From Water to General Fund; Naxera/Gallus motioned to authorize Administrator to pay back \$50K of the \$75K inter-fund loan from Water to the General Fund. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.**

Item 6. Report of the Director of Public Works: 6.a. Tom Luck/Post Office Waterline Relocation Discussion. As the DPW was unable to attend the meeting, Administrator Klecker spoke on his behalf. It has been discovered that the waterline for the Post Office runs through Mr. Luck's property on the corner of Main and School Street. The location of the water line interferes with Mr. Luck's planned commercial building project. Administrator Klecker and DWP Schultz contacted the PSC for guidance on which party is responsible for relocating the waterline. As no easement has been presented, the PSC advised that the owner of the Post Office, Ron Benish, bears responsibility for relocating the lines. After conducting research at the Sauk County Register of Deeds, Village Assistant Budde discovered information that may show responsibility lies with the current owner, Mr. Luck. Ultimately, the Board advised Administrator Klecker to contact both parties to relay that this is not a Village matter or responsibility, rather a private land owner issue.

Item 7. Report of the Village Assistant: 7.a. Authorization to Join Municipal Environmental Group. Gallus/Naxera motion to authorize Village to join Municipal Environmental Group for an

Website: merrimacwi.gov

Email: merrimac@merrimacwi.gov **Village Hall:** 608-493-2122

REGULAR OFFICE HOURS: Monday—Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

annual membership rate of \$100. 7.b. Lead Service Line Inventory; Gallus/Olson motioned to authorize incoming Trustee, Margaret Budde, to contact priority households regarding Lead Service Line Inventory. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.**

Item 8. Village President's Comments: As outgoing Village President, President Budde offered parting advice on several topics he feels are crucial the Board stay on top of, such as negotiating total Nitrogen limits with the WI DNR for the WWTP Permit Renewal, identifying a Well. No. 2 site, supporting the MFD, careful Planning and Zoning decisions and supporting Village Staff. He commended the Board for their willingness to tackle important issues and thanked them for the opportunity to serve. He, also thanked Village Assistant Budde for all of the volunteer work she has done for the Village over the last few years.

Item 9. Swearing in of Elected Officials: President Budde administered the Oath of Office to newly elected Trustees, Nate Taylor and Margaret Budde, and newly elected Village President, Andrew Gallus. Their two-year terms begin on April 19, 2023.

Item 10. Adjourn: At 6:03 pm Naxera/Malmberg motioned to adjourn. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennie Klecker
Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer

Next Village Board Meeting
May 9, 2023

5:00 PM @ Village Hall

Plan Commission Meeting
May 22, 2023

5:00 PM @ Village Hall

AA Meetings

Wednesday Evenings 7:00
@ Merrimac Village Hall. Questions?
Contact Chuck @ 608-795-0050

Brush Pick-up Dates

May 10 & 24

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

Scrap metal recycling is available in the dumpster located in the Village Hall parking lot.
No TV's Please! **METAL ONLY**

May Recycling Pickup Dates:
May 1, 15 & 30



Merrimac Fire & Rescue Annual Pancake Breakfast



Saturday, May 28th

7:00 AM – 11:00 AM

120 School Street

All you can eat breakfast!

\$10 Adults, \$5 Kids Age 4-8

3 & Under FREE

Carry outs available.

A big THANK YOU to all who participated in Green Merrimac's Earth Day Highway 78 Cleanup!



If you would like to sign up to receive emails about future Green Merrimac events, please contact Village Hall.

Village Hall will be closed on
Monday, May 29th
in Observance of
Memorial Day



! SAVE THE DATE !

Merrimac Community Festival
August 5, 2023

Details Coming Soon!

If you are interested in helping out,
email merrimacfestival@gmail.com

Considering a Building Project?

Don't Forget the Permit!

Most construction projects in the Village require a building permit. If you are thinking of a renovation project, a new deck or pool, or an addition, *please contact our building inspector before you start!* If you begin a construction project without a permit, you may be charged a \$150.00 Red Tag Fee. Don't risk it, just call.



Contact our Building
Inspector, David Bieno at
608-617-9869 or email
dbieno@generalengineering.net

Property Maintenance

The Village kindly suggests residents stand back and assess the overall condition of your property. Please take appropriate actions to spruce up your property so our Village looks great to your neighbors and everyone who visits this summer!

This includes vehicles on the property that appear to be abandoned & constitute a public nuisance.