

VILLAGE VOICE

April 2021

Volume 17, Issue 4

Minutes of the Village Board April 13, 2021

The Village Board meeting was called to order in the Village Hall Large Meeting Room by Village President Phil Budde at 5:00 p.m. Board members Jim Malmberg, Garry Bahe, George Naxera, and Amy Buffardi were present. Administrator Brian Mooney, Public Works Director Justin Schultz Village, and Village Assistant Margaret Budde were present. Members of the public in attendance were Cheryl Anderson, Andrew Gallus, Kirk Olson, Bart Olson, Ethan Kent, and Jason Zander. Claire Walmer and Tim Klecker joined shortly after the meeting began.

Item 1. Call to Order:

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

Item 2. Public Input:

President Budde inquired as to whether there was any public input. Mrs. Anderson indicated that Mrs. Walmer (not yet present) had a Village Festival update to provide, it was decided to revisit Agenda item 2 upon her arrival.

Item 3. Consent Agenda:

Naxera/Bahe moved to approve items 3a, 3c., 3d. and 3e. of the Consent Agenda as posted. **Motion Carried**

Item 4. Approval of Village Bills:

Naxera/Bahe moved to approve payment of outstanding monthly bills as listed on the Agenda. Upon Roll Call Vote, All Ayes. **Motion Carried**

Item 5. Plan Commission Recommendation and letter to Taylormade Tops:

Mr. Budde stated that the March issue of the Village Voice included the minutes of the Village Plan Commission hearing regarding Taylormade Tops' request for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP). Mr. Budde noted that all the principals involved were present and that he hoped all principals had read the letter request for evidence ["Conditional Use Permit (CUP) Application," dated March 24, 2021, to Mr. Zander and cc: Mr. Olson]. He also noted that most of that evidence requested by the Village had *not* been provided by the applicant. Mr. Budde inquired if there were any comments why that information was not received.

Mr. Zander responded, stating he misunderstood the process. He thought the required building modifications had to be made first and then inspected. Mr. Budde asked, "Have you read the letter? We were to have *all* the evidence 5 days prior to this meeting." Mr. Zander apologized for his misunderstanding what was requested. A follow-up inquiry was made by Mr. Kent whether it was acceptable for the principals to go into another meeting room to write and sign the required "written commitment" and have the CUP approved at this Board meeting.

The Village again emphasized the importance of protecting the Village's Wastewater Treatment Plant from any potential industrial debris entering the sewer system. The Board stated that it was important to identify Taylormade Tops' contracted waste hauler before approving the CUP, as well as ensuring that the Public Works Director and Building Inspector have an opportunity to inspect the building after modifications are made, to verify adherence to required disconnection of floor drains.

Mr. Budde stated the Board is still without a written commitment from the applicant

and owner. Mr. Budde inquired whether Mr. Olson would be willing to co-sign a letter, to which Mr. Olson said he would be agreeable. Mr. Budde asked, "Have you read our letter? We were to have this and all the other evidence 5 days prior to this meeting." Mr. Olson responded that he had not read the letter and had not been involved in responding to it.

(Naxera/Buffardi) motioned to table the discussion until the Board receives the requested information and they can hold a Special Board meeting to discuss.

Mr. Bahe proposed that the Administrator be authorized to make the decision whether to approve the CUP based on the information requested, once it is provided by the applicant. After discussion of the outstanding requested evidence, the language of the new motion was reread for accuracy. Mr. Budde inquired if Mr. Naxera wished to rescind his motion. Mr. Naxera and Mrs. Buffardi agreed.

Mr. Malmberg asked Mr. Mooney to recite the new motion to the Board. Mr. Mooney read the following: "If the requested evidence within the CUP Application letter is submitted to the Administrator, and acceptable to the Administrator, Mr. Mooney can approve a Conditional Use Permit without a Special Board meeting. The documents need to be provided to the Administrator by Friday April 16th at 3:00 pm, and deemed satisfactory by Mr. Mooney. Upon receipt, the Administrator will respond within a reasonable timeframe with his decision." Malmberg/Bahe motioned to approve the language as recited. All Ayes. **Motion Carried**

Item 2. Public Input:

Claire Walmer introduced herself and let the Board know she has been working with Village Staff and Festival Committee on ascertaining the level of public interest in

Website: villageofmerrimac.org

Email: Merrimac@merr.com **Village Hall:** 608-493-2122

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

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future Merrimac Community Festivals. Mrs. Walmer informed the Board the Festival Committee plans to release a web-based survey asking for Merrimac area resident feedback on what is perceived to be the most important needs for our Village Festival. The proposed survey would be provided to the Board at their May meeting.

Item 6. Report of the Administrator:

Village Accountant Assistant Robin Meier began discussion of Agenda Item 6h Cash Account Balance Report/Monthly Fire Protection. Mrs. Meier discussed how these reports are calculated monthly, as well as how they are recorded within the Village's Accounting software program. Mrs. Meier stated she will begin work on a Cash flow statement report to be shared with the Board at an upcoming meeting.

Mr. Mooney thanked Mrs. Meier, and proceeded with the rest of the Administrator's report. Mr. Mooney informed the Board of the outcome of the April Spring election and stated the Oaths of Office would be given to the new Trustees during Agenda Item 8.

Mr. Mooney reminded the Board that, with the transition of Trustees in May, the Board needs to review and update the Chairs and membership ranks of our Village Committees.

Mr. Mooney notified the Board that the Village will be receiving Federal Assistance as a part of the recently passed American Rescue Plan legislation. Mr. Mooney explained that this funding will be received in two separate payments, with the funds to be spent by 2024.

Mr. Mooney next informed the Board that the Village has received its Attorney's fee reimbursement payment from US Cellular for the recently completed Water Tower antenna contract.

Mr. Mooney's next agenda item covered the Village's need to invest in a new zero turn radius lawn mower. Public Works Director Justin Schultz explained the maintenance problems with the mower and that it has become unreliable. The Board was reminded that the \$13,000 mower purchase was planned for during

the Budgeting process, but that their formal approval was still required. Additionally, it was explained that obtaining a loan for the mower would allow the Board the option of levying for the debt payments in upcoming years. Naxera/Bahe made the motion to authorize the Administrator Brian Mooney, Village President Phil Budde, and Trustee Jim Malmberg to sign financing of a lawn mower through the Bank of Prairie du Sac." All Ayes. **Motion carried.**

Mr. Mooney's next item involved ongoing concerns expressed by Village residents regarding recycling debris in streets on garbage pickup Mondays. Mr. Mooney informed the Board he has spoken with Tim's Trucking in the past about the matter, but issues continue. The Board recommended Mr. Mooney contact Tim's Trucking and seek a full-time replacement vehicle be assigned to the Village.

Mr. Mooney's last agenda item was a reminder that the Village's Public Open Book Assessment will likely be scheduled in May, meaning a Village Trustee will need to register for the required State Board of Review training. Trustee Gallus stated he would be willing to complete the training and serve on the Village Board of Review in this capacity. Mr. Mooney stated he would provide Mr. Gallus with the necessary training materials and submit the completed Training Affidavit to the Wisconsin Department of Revenue.

Item 7. Water/Sewer Operations:

Mrs. Budde recommended tabling this agenda item until the next meeting due to time.

Item 8. Trustee Updates:

Mr. Mooney welcomed recently elected Village Trustees Kirk Olson and Andrew Gallus. Mr. Mooney asked both new Trustees along with Village President Budde to join him by the American flag in order to recite their new term Oaths of Office. Upon completion, Mr. Mooney turned the floor over to Mr. Budde.

Mr. Budde again welcomed the new Trustees, and thanked departing Trustees Bahe and Buffardi for their service to the Village of Merrimac and its residents. Both

Trustees thanked the Village for the opportunity to serve and shared well wishes to everyone moving forward.

Item 9. Adjourn: At 6:50 pm Bahe/Naxera moved that the meeting adjourn. **Motion Carried.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian Mooney,

Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer

Calendar Reminders

Next Board Meeting

May 11, 2021

@5:00 PM

VILLAGE HALL

Property Maintenance

We suggest all Village 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.

**2021 Merrimac
Community Festival
UPDATE**

The 2021 Community Festival Planning Committee has made the difficult decision to cancel the 2021 Village Community Festival. We are rededicating our focus on fundraising and recruiting support for 2022. More details coming soon...

Bring your thoughts and ideas on how we can make 2022 a success to our next Festival meeting

**June 10, 2021
6:30 pm Village Hall.**

**HWY 78 ROAD
CONSTRUCTION UPDATES**

The Village staff will be posting weekly project updates to the website beginning 4/30/2021.



**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, driveway, 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

BRUSH PICK-UP DATES:

Wed. May 5th & 19th

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

**Merrimac
Fire Department
Annual Pancake Breakfast**

Saturday, May 29th
7:00 AM – 11:00 AM

All you can eat breakfast!
\$8.00 Adults
\$3.00 children 8 & under.
Carry outs available.
120 School Street



AA Meetings

Wednesday Evenings
7:00 @ Village Hall
Questions? Contact Mike
@ 608-643-9521

Village Hall will be closed
on May 31st
in observance of
Memorial Day

