

The VILLAGE VOICE

"The Official Publication of the Village Board"
FREE to Every Family in Merrimac

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Draft minutes of the Parks & Recreation Meeting August 7, 2024

Item 1. Call to Order: The Village of Merrimac Parks and Recreation Meeting was called to order in Village Hall by Chairperson Nate Taylor at 7:00pm. Committee members Amy Buck, Tim Klecker, June Krbecsek, and Jennifer Thompson were present. Also in attendance were Administrator Jennie Klecker, and members of the public, as listed on the sign-in sheet. Chairperson Taylor examined the affidavit of posting and confirmed that advance public notice of the meeting conformed to statutory requirements. Chairperson Taylor reiterated that this committee does not have the final authority to make decisions or spend money, rather their purpose is to gather information and make recommendations to the Village Board.

Item 2. Public Input: Residents of the Lakeview Avenue neighborhood voiced the following concerns regarding an idea that was suggested at the last Parks & Rec meeting of creating a dog park at Jeffrey Voll Park: The effect on existing playground and safety of kids, limited parking and increase in traffic, the ruckus it would create with neighboring homeowners who own dogs and those who work from home, dog waste, insurance, funding, and maintenance. They encouraged the Village find a better suited area for a dog park should the matter be pursued further. No recommendation has been made to the Village Board to create a dog park at this time.

Item 3. Discuss survey on public accesses: The Land Survey of public access points on Pacific Road and Palisade Street has been completed, and was significantly cheaper than anticipated. The existing survey markers on the public access lot off of

Pacific Road are accurate, however, the road is not centered on the right-of-way resulting in some residents on the lake side having less front yard than they thought. Also, the path that is currently being mowed has no correlation to the proposed road on the Certified Survey Map. The committee is looking to clear a path down to the lake and remove the overgrown underbrush, while leaving the large trees. The Committee will recommend to the Board that the project begin this fall, after the leaves and poison ivy/underbrush dies, which will make it easier to walk through.

Item 4: Discuss signage by parks, boat landing and public access points: Committee members will work on new signage for existing parks and public access points that match the new Welcome sign designs. The signs will include park hours, rules and permitted uses, with a focus on positive vs negative wording. Each access is unique and will need its own individual sign. The Palisade Street Boat Launch signage will need to follow the stipulations outlined in a 1994 settlement agreement. The Committee will work with the fire department for the verbiage on the sign on Weynand Drive by the fire boat and pier. The Committee will ask that the funding for signage come from room tax revenues and the 2025 Budget.

Item 5: Discuss donation of pier for boat landing: A community member has offered to donate a pier to be installed at the Palisade Street Boat Launch. Several Committee members agreed to volunteer their time to help with installation. The Committee will recommend the Village Board accept the donation.

Item 6. Discuss Festival outcome: The Merrimac Community Festival seemed to run smoother this year with the added electric in Memorial Park. Having the vendors and crafters up on the road helps open the park area. Public Works staff did

a nice job trimming shore line weeds to open the view to the lake and the ski show. The Committee wishes to thank the Festival Committee and volunteers who made the Community Festival possible and enjoyable for all!

Item 7. Plan next meeting's agenda: The next meeting will be held Wednesday, September 4th at 7pm at Village Hall. Possible next agenda items include review of signage verbiage, Village Board decision of donated pier, Ballpark improvements and parking concern, land between church parking lot and ballpark, festival feedback, and 2025 budget.

Item 8. Adjourn: At 8:10pm Buck/Klecker motioned to adjourn. All Ayes **Motion Carried.**

Draft minutes of the Village Board Meeting August 14, 2024

Item 1. Call to Order: The Village of Merrimac Board of Trustees Meeting was called to order in Village Hall by Village President Andrew Gallus at 5:30pm. Village Trustees Margaret Budde, Jim Malmberg, Stan Senger, and Nate Taylor were present. Also in attendance were DPW Justin Schultz, Administrator Jennie Klecker, and members of the public, as listed on the sign-in sheet. President Gallus examined the affidavit of posting and confirmed that advance public notice of the meeting conformed to statutory requirements.

Item 2. Public Input: None

Item 3. Consent Agenda: Malmberg/Budde motioned to approve the Consent Agenda. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.**

Item 4. Approval of Village Bills: Budde/Taylor 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. Operator's License Approval for William M. Quast for Mac's Pub & Grub: Gallus/Budde motioned to approve Operator's License for William M. Quast for Mac's Pub & Grub. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.**

Item 6. MFD to Perform Work on Old Fire Station at Memorial Park: The MFD would like to perform electrical updates and general maintenance at the Old Fire Station at Memorial Park. The Village and the MFD have historically agreed to share the building, however, the MFD would like the Village to formally approve their use of the upstairs portion of the station before they spend money on repairs. Budde/Gallus motioned that the Village shall enter into a lease agreement that respects the Merrimac Fire Department's use of the upstairs of the Old Fire Station for the next 30 years, at the rate of \$1.00 per year. All Ayes, **Motion Carried.**

Item 7. School Street Project: Strand Associates has completed a feasibility study for improving School Street and provided a cost estimate for 4 proposed repair alternatives. All alternatives include: Some street widening, west side sidewalk, portions of rolled asphalt curb, and regrading driveway aprons/sidewalk where required for stormwater management. Alternative A (\$295K) proposes managing stormwater on the road surface and chipsealing. Alternative B (\$487K) proposes installing storm sewer, pulverizing the street, and finishing with asphalt overlay. Alternative C (\$960K) includes all of Alternative B plus water main replacement. Alternative D (\$1.55M) includes all of Alternative B, water and sewer main replacement, and full depth road reconstruction. The School Street Project Committee recommends the Village pursue Alternative B. Village Trustees value public input on the project and have decided to opt for a **Public Hearing on Monday, September 9th at 7:00PM @ Village Hall** to present the plans and offer residents the opportunity to ask questions. A letter will go out, along with a door hanger notifying residents about the Public Hearing. Information will also be posted on the Village website and Facebook page. The Board also discussed a proposed construction schedule, financing, and impacts on property taxes. Budde/Gallus made the following motions: Motion to

recommend Alternative B for discussion at Public Hearing, motion to hold Public Hearing (instead of Referendum) on the School Street Project on September 9 at 7:00PM, motion to authorize Administrator or Trustee to seek terms from Bank of Prairie du Sac for a 4 month \$50K loan, payable in early 2025, and in order to balance 2025 and future budgets, motion for Trustees to signal their intention to roll School Street debt payments on to property taxes for short-term loan for design and bidding, and long-term construction loan. All Ayes, **Motions Carried.**

Item 8. WWTP: The Village has received our Wastewater Treatment Plant Permit renewal for 2024-2029. Trustee Budde gave an overview of the permit changes and emphasized the importance of continuing efforts to improve plant performance, to avoid costly major project requirements in the future. Budde/Gallus made the following motions: Motion to thank DNR for their consideration of the Village's circumstances and ongoing efforts in drafting our upcoming permit, motion to acknowledge criticality of 2024-2029 permit term and signal the Trustees' intention to financially support Village efforts to improve WWTP performance, Authorize DPW Schultz to hire Robinson Brothers to perform in situ rehab of Recirculating Sand Filter and seepage cell for approximately \$10K. Upon Roll Call Vote, All Ayes. **Motions Carried.**

Item 9. 2025 Budget Considerations: The Board discussed various 2025 budget topics including potentially forming a budget committee, personnel costs, new auditor costs and options, 2026 Revaluation Assessment, MFD Levy increase, a list of proposed projects, and budget shortfalls with discussion on possible remedies, including a sewer rate increase. Since all the Trustees expressed interest in being on a "Budget Committee," the Board decided to have a special budget meeting in the near future to go over these topics in greater depth.

Item 10. Parks & Recreation Report: Chairperson Taylor gave an overview of the August 7 Parks & Recreation meeting. The Committee discussed the results of the land survey on Pacific Road and potential impact it may have on a neighboring residence. The Committee voted to

recommend to the Village Board that the project begin this fall, after the leaves and poison ivy/underbrush dies which will make it easier to walk through. The Committee is working on designing signage for public access points and improving signage at existing parks. Chairperson Taylor informed the board that a community member has offered to donate a pier to be installed at the Palisade Street boat launch. The Committee voted to recommend the Village accept the donation. Gallus/Malmberg motioned to accept the donated pier for use at the Palisade Street Boat Launch. All Ayes, **Motion Carried.**

Item 11. Report of the Director of Public Works: None

Item 12. Report of the Administrator: 12.a. Gallus/Budde motioned to adopt Resolution 2024-08-01: A Resolution Relating to Cellular Communication Lease. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.** 12.b. Gallus/Taylor motioned to authorize President Gallus and Administrator Klecker to sign Dolan Realty Advisor's Collateral Assignment of Land Lease, Lease Estoppel Certificate, and Lessor's Subordination documents. All Ayes, **Motion Carried.** 12.c. Gallus/Budde motioned to approve First Amendment to Tower and Ground Space Lease. All Ayes, **Motion Carried.** 12.d. Administrator Klecker has been notified by our auditor, Wiplfi, that they will not be keeping the Village as a client going forward. She will be seeking new auditor quotes as well as looking into alternatives.

Item 13. Adjourn: At 7:47pm, Malmberg/Taylor motioned to adjourn. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.**

Respectfully Submitted,
Jennie Klecker



Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer

<p>PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED SCHOOL STREET PROJECT <u>September 9, 2024</u> 7:00PM @ Village Hall ***** Next Village Board Meeting <u>September 10, 2024</u> 5:30 PM @ Village Hall</p>

Parks & Recreation Meeting
September 4, 2024
7:00 PM @ Village Hall

Plan Commission Meeting
September 5, 2024
5:30 PM @ Village Hall

AA Meetings
Wednesday Evenings 7:00
@ Memorial Park Pavilion
Questions?
Contact Chuck @ 608-795-0050


Recycling Pickup Dates:
September 3*, 16 & 30
No pickup on Labor Day

Brush Pick-up Date
September 11 & 25
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 at Village Hall. Please place items in the dumpster located in the Village Hall parking lot. **METAL ONLY! No TV's**

Senior Fitness Program

Starts September 30, 2024 & runs through May 2, 2025

- Open to anyone 50 years of age or older.
- **ONLY \$10.00** per person for the entire program!



Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays,
9:30 – 10:00am
Merrimac Village Hall


School Starts September 3rd!!
Please slow down & watch out for school buses and children crossing our streets.


Green Merrimac encourages residents to participate in:
Sauk County Clean Sweep!
Saturday, September 28, 2024
8:00AM - 12PM
Old Sauk County Landfill
E8795 Evergreen Lane, Baraboo

Clean Sweep is an opportunity for area residents & businesses to dispose of hazardous products and items that pose an environmental risk, such as pesticides and toxic cleaning products. Hazardous waste will be collected at no charge, however, there are fees for tires, some electronic items, and appliances. For more information about this event can be found on the Village website or Google "Sauk County Clean Sweep 2024."
**Used motor oil can be recycled at Taylor Made Repairs, call 608-493-3289*


General Election
NOVEMBER 5, 2024
Elections are coming up!
Are you registered?
Visit **MyVote.wi.gov**

Merrimac Fire & Rescue

Be a hero to your daughters

Our kids need lots of loving attention from their parents -- and to be kept safe from harm. As you've helped them read, watched their sports matches, and attended their recitals, you've become so proud of them.



EMR & Firefighter "Linda Sue"

Know what?
Your daughters want to be proud of you, too.

Parents, when you join Merrimac Fire & Rescue, you'll become a hometown hero, ready to respond to nearby emergencies. Help us keep our community safe and sound (especially our kids).



EMR "Shell"



Firefighter "Tina-bop"

Who knows?
Maybe they'll grow up to be heroes, just like you.

JOIN OUR TEAM
You need us. We need you.



Thank you, Thank You, THANK YOU!!!

The Village would like to extend a very heartfelt *thank you* to The Merrimac Festival Committee, event day volunteers, sponsors, and all those involved with putting on this year's Merrimac Community Festival. We truly couldn't pull this off without you! Wasn't it just incredible?!

Diamond Sponsor:

Frosch Tree Service

Gold Sponsors:

Ferry X-ing Bar & Grill

Consumers Cooperative

Strand Associates

Sullivan Lawn Care

Silver Sponsors:

Ferry Landing Marine

Prairie Plumbing & Heating, Inc

Springfield Welding & MFG

Bank of Prairie du Sac

Wisconsin Tow Boat

GEC Engineering

CTW Corporation

Mayberry Electric

Copper Sponsors:

Grothman & Associates

Hills Wiring

Village Family Dental

Scott Construction

Merrimac Power Sports

Raffle Sponsors:

Fitz's on the Lake, McFarlanes'

Taylor Made Repairs, Tools of

Marketing, Durwood's Glen Retreat,

Piggly Wiggly, Farm & Fleet, Merry

Macs, & Ann Thompson.

Special thanks to the talented musicians, the Mad City Ski Team for putting on an amazing show, the amateur wake board competitors, Car Show participants and the wonderful craft and food vendors. And last but certainly not least, we would like to thank all of **YOU** for showing your support through donations and attending the Festival. With last year's proceeds, we were able to upgrade the electrical at the park!

THANK YOU!!!

Short-Term Rentals

Thinking about renting your home on a short-term rental platform such as Airbnb or VRBO? You'll find everything you need to get started on the Village website. Look for "Short-Term Home Rental Permit" under the "Permits, Licenses & Forms" section to read the ordinance and fill out a Conditional Use Application. Have questions?

Call Village Hall or email

merrimac@merrimacwi.gov and

we'll be happy to walk you through it.



Sign Up Today!

Keep it simple with Auto-Pay & E-Billing for monthly utilities.



Visit the Village website at merrimacwi.gov and click on the Utilities icon for sign-up links. As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to call the Village Office.

Fall Leaf Clean-up Policy

Placing leaves in plastic bags for pickup is unnecessary and strongly discouraged. Residents should either compost their leaves on their own property, or pile them near the curbside on the Village's designated brush pick up days. **Burning leaves is prohibited within the Village.**

Because we do not have a street sweeper or vacuum, we ask that you do not rake or blow your leaves into the Village's gutters, or streets. Heavy rains then wash this debris into our storm sewers, impeding proper drainage and flow. Thank you for your cooperation throughout the coming fall season!



**Village Hall will be closed on
Monday, September 2nd,
in observance of**

