

VILLAGE VOICE

September 2020

Volume 16, Issue 8

Minutes of the Village Board September 8, 2020

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 present were Garry Bahe, Jim Malmberg, George Naxera, and Amy Buffardi. Village Administrator Brian Mooney was present, as well as Village Assistant Margaret Budde. Members of the public present were Kirk Olson.

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: One correction noted from the prior month's Village Voice on a misspelling of attendee Olson.

Item 3. Consent Agenda: Mr. Mooney provided amended outstanding bill balances on agenda. **Motion Carried.** Naxera/Bahe moved to approve corrected Items 3a-3c, prior month Balance Sheets, Inspection Reports, Alliant spreadsheet. **Motion Carried.**

Item 4. Approval of Village Bills:

Malmberg/Naxera moved to approve payment of bills. Upon roll call vote, All Ayes. **Motion Carried**

Item 5. Cell Tower Agreement: Final Contract had not been received from Village Attorney to review. Naxera/Bahe motion to postpone until next meeting. **Motion Carried**

Item 6. Short Term Rental Ordinance:

Mr. Mooney presented the various outstanding decisions the Village Board needs to consider regarding adoption of a

Short-Term Rental Ordinance with the Village. Decisions to be discussed include minimum day rental requirements, licensing, and administration of ordinance and fee implications for non-compliance. Naxera/Bahe moved to transfer topic to Plan Commission for Zoning and Ordinance scope considerations. **Motion Carried**

Item 7. CDBG Discontinuance: Mr. Mooney informed the Board of the requirements for the Village to discontinue participation in the Wisconsin Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. Malmberg/Bahe moved to approve Village discontinuance in CDBG Program. **Motion Carried**

Item 8. Commercial Building Inspection Ordinance: Mr. Mooney presented the Commercial Building Inspection Ordinance to the Board. Naxera/Buffardi moved to approve Ordinance Number 185-66 Adoption of Residential and Commercial Building Codes. **Motion Carried**

Item 9. Report of Village Administrator: Payment for Village-covered sewer lateral on River Street was received. Village Administrator discussed the preliminary plan to join the State of Wisconsin Retirement System effective January 1, 2021. Background information regarding annual contribution percentages and annuity options were covered. This information will be discussed at greater length during the special Board meeting on 9/22. Wisconsin Department of Transportation informed Village of proposed Hwy 78 rebuild in Spring 2021 from Village limits to Sauk City. Information on project will be posted to Village Website. Tim's Trucking has been notified of increase in broken glass recyclables on Village Streets over last few weeks. Reminder of Special Board meeting, planned for September 22 at 5 pm to discuss 2021 Preliminary Budgeting.

Item 10. Water/Sewer Operations: Village Assistant Margaret Budde covered the state of the Village Waste Water Treatment Plant's (WWTP) recent performance. On the yearly Compliance Maintenance Annual Report (CMAR) the WWTP has received a failing grade for its discharge quality due to its Total Nitrogen exceedances, and a C regarding our financials for 2019. It is recommended that the Board pass motions demonstrating commitment to improve on these issues.

Buffardi/Malmberg moved to designate \$76,680 Balance in Sewer Bond Reserve-LGIP (fund 300-00-11200-000-000) as a Sewer Equipment Replacement Fund. **Roll Call-All Ayes. Motion Carried**

Buffardi/Bahe moved to authorize Village Assistant to develop Sewer User Charge System (UCS) increase based on projected 2021 Budget, including proposed additional employee compensation costs, yearly Equipment Replacement Fund contribution and projection of CWF Loan Payment. **Roll Call-All Ayes. Motion Carried**

Bahe/Malmberg moved to authorize staff to evaluate causes and potential solutions for exceedances of WWTP Permit Limits for Total Nitrogen, including up to \$500 for additional lab work or test kits. **Roll Call-All Ayes. Motion Carried**

Buffardi/Malmberg moved to approve Resolution 2020-01-09 Declaring Official Intent to Reimburse Expenditures from Proceeds of Borrowing. **Roll Call-All Ayes**

Item 11. Adjourn: At 6:30 pm Naxera/Bahe moved that the meeting be adjourned. **Motion carried.**

Website: villageofmerrimac.org

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

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

VILLAGE VOICE, September 2020

Minutes of the Village Board Special Meeting Sept 22, 2020

Item 1. Call to Order: Village President Budde reviewed the affidavit of posting and confirmed it adhered to statutory requirements.

Item 2-3. Public Input and Thank You: Trustee Naxera inquired about Halloween guidelines next month. MCS provided a thank you note to the Village Board for COVID-related Personal Protective Equipment purchases for the School.

Item 4. 2021 Budget Pre-Planning: The President, Administrator, and Village assistant gave a 25-minute presentation regarding (1) improving compensation packages for employees, including raises for Schultz and Peetz, inclusion in the Wisconsin Retirement System, and an Individual Coverage Health Reimbursement Arrangement contribution of \$400/ month/employee; (2) addressing our aging water/sewer infrastructure through a Clean Water Fund Project; (3) requirements for a \$55,000 tax levy increase and two-step sewer rate increase.

Item 5: Resolutions and Motions: Bahe/Naxera moved to approve all of the following Resolutions and Motions as discussed and stated below:

1. Motion to approve as guidance for 2021 and beyond Resolution 2020-02-09, Resolution Identifying Guidance for Providing Hourly Employees with Wages Comparable to Wisconsin Municipalities of less than Population 1,500.

2. Motion to increase the hourly wage of Justin Schultz from \$21.32 to \$23.28 on January, 1, 2021, in recognition of his 7.5 years of service and promotion to Director of Public Works.

3. Motion to increase the hourly wage of Derek Peetz from \$18.67 to \$19.51 on January 1, 2021, in recognition of his over 3 years of service as Maintenance Operator.

4. Motion to approve Resolution 2020-03-09, Resolution of Inclusion Under the Wisconsin Retirement System for Full-Time employees.

5. Motion to approve Resolution 2020-04-09, Resolution Declaring Official Intent to Provide Individual Health Coverage Reimbursement Arrangements (ICHRAs) for full time employees.

6. Motion to approve Resolution 2020-05-09, Resolution Declaring Intent to Levy for Debt on 2020 Taxes Payable in 2021.

7. Motion in support of sewer rates proposed in DRAFT Resolution 2020-01-10, Resolution to Implement Two-Stepped Sewer Rate Increase, for presentation at the October 13, 2020 Board Meeting

All Resolutions put to vote by Roll Call. Bahe, Buffardi, Malmberg and Budde-Ayes, Naxera-Nay.

Item 6. Proposed Expenditures: a. Naxera/Bahe moved to authorize Village staff to purchase a pole saw and weed whacker, not to exceed \$660. **Upon roll call vote-All Ayes. Motion carried** b. Naxera/Buffardi moved to authorize Village cleaning and jetting of the Recirculating Sand Filter Collector Pipe by Country Plumber for approximately \$1050. **Roll call-All Ayes. Motion carried** c. Bahe/Naxera moved to authorize purchase of replacement stop plate for WWTF Splitter box for approximately \$500. **Roll Call-All Ayes. Motion carried**

One pump in the Lu Foster pump station has failed, requiring replacement to be performed by LW Allen. **Roll Call-All Ayes. Motion carried**

Item 7. Adjourn: At 6:15 pm Naxera/Bahe moved that the meeting be adjourned. **Motion carried**

Respectfully Submitted, Brian Mooney
Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer

Board of Trustees

Regular Meeting,
October 13th 2020

5:00 P.M. VILLAGE HALL

***Update on Trick or Treating**

At the October 13th meeting, The Village Board will be making a decision on whether Trick or Treating can be safely conducted in Merrimac this year or if it should be cancelled. Please check the Village website for updates about Halloween safety guidance.

Election Information

If you need to **register to vote** or would like to request an **absentee ballot** for the November election, please visit **myvote.wi.gov**
If you have any questions, please call the Village office.

Fall "Fitness for Seniors" Club has unfortunately been cancelled for 2020 due to COVID-19. We hope to have this popular program back in 2021.

Brush Pick-Up

Weds Oct 7th and 21st

Recycling: due to issues with broken glass on Village streets after Mondays' recycling pickup, please double-bag your recycling if it contains glass.

The Village encourages all residents to sign up for Auto-Pay with e-Billing for monthly utilities. **See Village Website:** villageofmerrimac.org> utilities and billing> Direct Debit form & Email Bill Sign-Up.