

VILLAGE VOICE

JANUARY 2018

DRAFT

Volume 15, Issue 1

Minutes of the Village Board Meeting of January 8, 2019

The Village Board meeting was called to order by Village President Nick Hahn at 6:23 p.m. following adjournment of the Plan Commission meeting. Board members present were Nick Hahn, George Naxera, Phil Budde, Garry Bahe and Jim Malmberg. Bob Geenen, Village Administrator-Clerk-Treasurer was also present.

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

Public Input: None

Malmberg/Bahe moved to approve the Plan Commission's recommendation to approve combining Phil Budde's residential lot 151-0295 with lot 151-0158 which adjoins his property & Plan Commission's recommendation to approve combining Ronald & Barbara Von Hadens' residential lot 151-0159-20000 with lot 151-0158 which adjoins their property. **Motion carried with Budde abstaining.**

Following review of the Village's outstanding bills, Malmberg/Bahe moved to approve the prepaid expenses and payment of the bills

as listed on the Agenda. Upon roll call vote, **motion carried.**

The Board reviewed the monthly financial reports (Balance Sheets and Budget Comparison by fund account) for the month of December, 2018. Malmberg/Hahn moved to accept the financial reports.

Motion carried.

Discussion of current tractor lease coming to an end this spring with the option of purchasing or solicit new tractor bids with leasing. General discussion talked about potential problem with keeping current tractor which is at 980 hours versus 300 annuals hours allowed under lease (total 1500 hours). The tractor is in very good condition and well maintained with good records. Less snow the last few years and not having a mower attachment the beginning of last summer has reduced the amount of hours accumulated. A loan for the purchase option on the lease would be easily obtainable through our local bank or the Bureau of Commissioners of Public Lands.

Discussion of continuing audit or change to agreed upon procedures by a CPA Firm. Currently the only requirement for the audit is the USDA loan with the loan balance being slightly larger than one million dollars – the threshold for audit. Paying down the sewer loan with general funds would allow the Village Trustees to reconsider the need for oversight or the type of fiscal review

and/or reporting services. President Hahn thought a balance sheet audit could suffice. The general fund reserves generate about 2%; whereas the USDA loan is 4.5%.

Discussion of ending contract with vendor USIC Locating Services for Village Electrical lines between Village light poles. The purchase of a locating device would allow village operators to find these lines and would also augment sewer/water locates. The contract requires 30 days notice of termination. Administrator to purchase upgraded locator for these purposes.

Budde/Malmberg moved to approve the Minutes of the December 11, 2018 Village Board meeting. **Motion carried.**

Bahe/Naxera moved to approve an Operator's Permit for Larry Schultz for work at Mac's Bar & Grill (formerly C-G's) **Motion carried.**

Budde/Malmberg moved to approve the Village's contract with Wegner CPAs for the 2018 audit, Schedule C and PSC report with the administrator to seek cost savings with Wegner. **Motion carried.**

Administrator's Report:

Bob provided to the Board members copies of the materials as listed on the agenda. Briefly spoke about no/low cost benefits by ETF - Wisconsin Deferred Comp & Income

Website: villageofmerrimac.org **Email:** Merrimac@merr.com

Village Hall: 608-493-2122 **Fax:** 608-493-9908

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

continuation Insurance withheld from employee payroll.

Water & Sewer Operations: Follow-up letters to three businesses for cross connection surveys to be completed.

Planning & Zoning Items: None

Naxera/Malmberg moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 PM. **Motion Carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Robert R. Geenen
Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer

Direct Payment of Utility Bills

This automated payment method provides one more way to simplify your life and save time and money.

Now nearing 50% of our customers are using this simple payment method.

Please call the Village office if you have questions to request the form.

Keeping you informed

Water / Sewer utilities will be requesting/verifying phone and email information in 2019. This will allow us to communicate urgent or ongoing work in your neighborhood of the Village.

**CALENDAR
REMINDERS**

**Village Board
Meetings**

Tuesday, February 12

Tuesday, March 5

Tuesday, April 9

Spring Election

April 2, 2019

Registered candidates on the ballot for two expiring Village trustee positions will include Garry Bahe and Jeff Rasmussen. Phil Budde is the sole registered candidate for the expiring Village President position.

Statewide Primary Election

There are no offices requiring a Spring Primary Election.

Alternate-Side Parking

To aid the Village's staff in winter snow removal from our streets, the Village's alternate-side parking policy is now effect for the season.

On odd-numbered days, residents must park on the odd-numbered side of the street. On even-numbered days, residents shall park on the even-numbered side of the street. We thank you all for your cooperation throughout the winter season!

Snow Removal

Clearing snow from sidewalks and ensuring access to mailboxes is the property owner's responsibility pursuant to Village Ordinance 129-5. Sidewalks shall be cleared within 24 hours following the end of a snowfall event. If walks are not cleared within 48 hours, the Village will clear the walks and bill the homeowner for this service.

Brush Pick-Up Date

Wed. February 13

For the winter months, brush pick-up is done once a month through April 2019. *Brush pickup may be delayed for more pressing duties.*

Senior Fitness Program

Monday, Wednesday, & Friday

9:30 – 10:00 AM

Through April 20, 2019

Village Hall, 100 Cook St.

Instructor: Deb Raschka

\$10 for the whole season!

**JANUARY UTILITY BILLS
ARE ESTIMATED**

Due to the bitter cold and accumulation of snow recently, water meters were not read by Village staff in January. Water and sewer utility bills for the month of January have been estimated based on the average monthly usage for each residence or business for the last 12 months. Meters will be read again at the end of February and adjusted actual consumption will appear on the February bills.

**MERRIMAC FOOD
PANTRY TO CLOSE FEB. 1**

The Merrimac Food Pantry will be combined with the Sauk-Prairie Food Pantry as of February 1, 2019. The new location is:

821 Industry Road, Sauk City.

(Located one block behind McFarlanes Implement.)

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