

VILLAGE VOICE

October 2020

Volume 16, Issue 9

Minutes of the Village Board October 13, 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.

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: Members of the public in attendance were Cheryl Anderson, Ted Walmer, Kirk Olson, and Bart Olson. Mr. Walmer's Snowbusters Snowmobile Club recertification was moved up from Item 6, per request. Bahe/Buffardi moved to approve recertification of Village and Club agreement for the 2020 Winter Season. Roll Call-All Ayes. **Motion Carried**

Item 3. Consent Agenda: Malmberg / Bahe moved to approve items 3a.,b.,c.,d.,e. of the Consent Agenda as posted. **Motion Carried**

Item 4. Approval of Village Bills:

Naxera/Buffardi 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: Plan Commission (PC) Chair Jim Malmberg introduced the various topics up for discussion from his recent PC meeting. Bahe/Naxera moved to approve

Conditional Use permits for Ringquist boathouse, Buffardi garage and Olson storage units. Motion to table discussion regarding Short-Term Rental Ordinance, as additional time to research was deemed necessary. **Motions Carried**

Item 6. Snowmobile Club Recertification:

Moved up to Item 2 Public Input.

Item 7. Halloween Safety: Board recommendation for Merrimac Annual Halloween event on 10/30/2020 from 4-7pm adhering to public safety guidelines. If residents wish to participate, please leave your porch light on during those hours, otherwise please leave porch light off. See Village Website for safety recommendations.

Item 8. Cell Tower Agreement: Discussion tabled as final Agreement was not provided in time for meeting.

Item 9. CARES Grant: Naxera/Buffardi moved to give Village Staff discretion to purchase needs within the Village with the remaining \$5,600 in CARES Grant funding. Roll Call, All Ayes- **Motion Carried**

Item 10. 2021 Budget: Village Assistant Margaret Budde spoke to the 2021 Budget items. a. Review of Draft 2021 Budget completed and provided to the Board b. Naxera/Malmberg moved to approve Alternative 1 as outlined on Impact of Public Works Personnel Cost Allocation, for Adoption as Resolution in November Hearing for 2021 Budget. c. Review of 2021 Draft Budget Category Summary completed. d. Naxera/Malmberg moved to approve Reimbursement Resolution 2020-04-10 regarding Engineering Expenses. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.** E. Naxera/Malmberg moved to approve Resolution 2020-02-10 to Post in Lieu of Publishing. All Ayes. **Motion Carried**

Item 11. Two-Step Sewer Rate Increase: Buffardi/Naxera moved to approve Resolution 2020-01-10 Resolution to Implement Two-step Sewer Rate Increase. Roll Call Vote-Buffardi, Budde, Bahe, Malmberg-Ayes. Naxera-Nay. **Motion Carried**

Item 12. Report of the Administrator: a. Mr. Mooney informed the Board that a Village Staff member had a minor injury on the job and was filing Workers Compensation reimbursement paperwork for Doctor's review. b. Mr. Mooney informed the Board of a number of unlicensed Vehicles parked within the Village and steps taken to resolve. c. Mr. Mooney informed the Board of his research into potential Accounting Firms available to handle the Village Annual Audit. Naxera/Buffardi moved to grant Mr. Mooney discretion to choose audit firm based on cost comparisons and recommendations. Roll Call-All Ayes **Motion Carried**

Item 13. Village Sewer/Water Updates: Village Assistant Margaret Budde spoke regarding a number of Village Sewer and Water concerns. a. New Village Public Works weekly monitoring on power consumption at the Lift Stations (LS) will help to identify future pump issues in a timely fashion b.i. Bahe/Malmberg moved to authorize approximately \$6,000 for replacement of both pumps at the Lu Foster LS 6. Roll Call-All Ayes **Motion Carried.** b.ii. Bahe/Buffardi moved to approve Resolution 2020-03-10 regarding Lu Foster LS. Roll call-All ayes. **Motion Carried.** c. Progress has been made on Lateral Infiltration issue impacting the Village Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Item 14. Adjourn: At 6:45 pm Naxera/Bahe moved that the meeting adjourn. **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.

**Minutes of the Village Plan
Commission Meeting Sept 8,2020**

Item 1. Call to Order: The Commission (PC) Chairman Jim Malmberg reviewed the affidavit of posting and confirmed it adhered to statutory requirements. PC Members present were Ann Hoffman, Bob Garrison, Tom Gallus, Tim Klecker and Bob Pfaff. Chris Buffardi was present to speak on item 3, Jenny Ringquist was present to speak on Item 4, and Bart Olson was present to speak on Item 5. Rachel Baehr was present to speak on Item 6.

Item 2. Public Input: None

Item 3. Buffardi Garage Conditional Use Permit (CUP): Proposed specifications of project presented by Chris Buffardi at his property 546 W. Main St. Hoffman/Gallus moved to recommend approval of CUP to the Village Board. All Ayes-**Motion Carried**

Item 4. Ringquist Boathouse (CUP): Jenny Ringquist presented an overview of the scope of her family's boathouse rebuild project to the attendees. Pfaff/Garrison moved to recommend approval of CUP to Village Board. All Ayes- **Motion Carried**

Item 5: Olson Storage Unit (CUP): Proposal to convert vacant Commercial buildings at 320 W. Main to Commercial storage presented by Bart Olson to attendees. CUP needed, property zoned appropriately for Commercial Storage use. Hoffman/Garrison moved to recommend approval of CUP to Village Board. All Ayes-**Motion Carried**

Item 6: Short Term Rentals (STRs): The Village discussion regarding Short-Term Rental properties offered a number of varying viewpoints and considerations.

Negative public concerns raised included past home rentals involving properties where there were multiple noise violation complaints, illegal fireworks, properties left with debris littering the rental property and neighbors yards, as well as verbal arguments amongst property renters and neighbors.

Positive public feedback was received regarding ways to properly manage STR's and examples of licensing requirements for property owners currently managing STRs.

Commission members welcomed the feedback received from the public during this discussion. Given the large volume of information to research and review, the Commission announced it would not be making a formal decision on STRs at this evening's meeting. Future decisions on STR's involve proper zoning, licensing requirements, and minimum number of days a residence can be rented.


Item 7. Adjourn: At 6:00 pm Committee members Gallus/Pfaff moved that the meeting adjourn. **Motion carried**

Respectfully Submitted, Brian Mooney
Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer

Board of Trustees
2021 Budget Hearing 5pm;
Regular Meeting,
November 10, 2020 to
follow Budget Meeting
VILLAGE HALL

Fall/Winter Street Parking
Regulations begin
November 15th.

Vehicles cannot be left between 2am to 8am on the even-numbered side of the street on the even-numbered calendar days, and on the odd-numbered side of the street on the odd-numbered calendar days.



GENERAL ELECTION
November 3, 2020
Voting Location is the Village
Hall at 100 Cook Street,
Merrimac, WI 53561
7:00am-8:00pm

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 Nov 4th and 18th

Scrap Metal Recycling at Village Hall- Ending for this season in October. Stay tuned to Spring Village Voice for updates on when it will begin in 2021.

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.