

VILLAGE VOICE

January 2022

Volume 18, Issue 1

Minutes of the Village Caucus January 8, 2022

The Village Caucus was called to order in Village Hall by Chairman Phil Budde at 9:00am. Trustees George Naxera, Andrew Gallus, Kirk Olson and Jim Malmberg were present. Administrator Brian Mooney and Village Deputy Clerk Jennie Klecker were present. Members of the public in attendance were Amy Buffardi, Chris Buffardi, Tim Klecker, Kathy Jo Naxera, Vern Weisensel and Marie Weisensel.

Item 1. Call to Order: Chairman Budde examined the affidavit of posting and verified that advance public notice of the Caucus meeting conformed to statutory requirements

Item 2. Caucus Process: The purpose of the caucus was to secure nominations of candidates for two Village Trustee positions with terms ending on the third Tuesday of April 2022. Caucus Chairman Budde informed the attendees of the requirements to serve as an elector and to serve as a qualified candidate for a Village Board position.

Item 3. Call for Tellers: Chairman Budde called for nominations of two people to serve as tellers of the caucus for vote attestation, if so needed. Phil Budde moved to nominate Tim Klecker, with the motion seconded by Jim Malmberg. Phil Budde moved to nominate Vern Weisensel, motion seconded by George Naxera. Vote was called for these caucus tellers. **Motion carried.**

Item 4. Candidate Nominations:

Chairman Budde called for candidate nominations for the two Village Trustee positions. Kathy Jo Naxera/Tim Klecker nominated George Naxera. Tim Klecker/Chris Buffardi moved to nominate Amy Buffardi; George Naxera/Marie Weisensel moved to nominate Jim Malmberg. **Motion carried.** Chairman Budde then made calls for trustee nominations with no additional candidates nominated following those calls. George Naxera/Marie Weisensel moved to close nominations for Village Trustee.

Item 5. Adjourn: At approximately 9:05 am Naxera/Gallus moved to adjourn.

Minutes of the Village Board Meeting January 11, 2022

The Village Board meeting was called to order in Village Hall by Village President Phil Budde at 5:00 p.m. Village Trustees Jim Malmberg, George Naxera, Andrew Gallus and Kirk Olson were all in attendance. Village Administrator Brian Mooney, Village Assistant Margaret Budde and Village Public Works Director Justin Schultz were also in attendance. Members of the public in attendance were Bart Olson, Cheryl Anderson, Robin Meier and Ted Walmer.

Item 1. Call to Order:

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

Item 2. Public Input: Mr. Walmer addressed the Board and stated the

Snowbusters snowmobile club had an interest in expanding their route to include sections of Darwin Drive and School Street. Mr. Walmer stated the required sign designations for snowmobile trails will be placed on the new trail. Upon discussion, Gallus/Olson moved to approve the additional snowmobile route request provided snowmobilers stay on the marked trail and the designated parking zone is ultimately authorized by proposed Village business owners. Upon Roll Call Vote, All Ayes. **Motion Carried**

The Board requested Village Administrator Mooney work with Mr. Walmer to update the Snowbusters contract to include the added route and designated parking locations.

Mrs. Anderson spoke next and thanked the Board for allowing the recent Village Parks Committee Meeting. Mrs. Anderson stated she was very happy that the Parks Committee selected Mr. Zeman to Chair the Village Festival in 2022, and looks forward to its potential return this fall.

Trustee Naxera stated Merrimac Community School First/Second Grade Teacher Mrs. Jenna McCann had just been recognized for a National Teaching award. Upon discussion, the Board agreed the Village would like to acknowledge this accomplishment in the form of a congratulatory letter and gift.

Item 3. Consent Agenda:

Naxera/Gallus moved to approve items 3a., 3c., 3d. of the Consent Agenda as posted. Item 3b. prepared and handed out to Trustees prior to the Board Meeting. Upon Roll Call Vote, All Ayes. **Motion Carried**

Website: merrimacwi.gov

Email: merrimac@merrimacwi.gov **Village Hall:** 608-493-2122
REGULAR OFFICE HOURS: Monday—Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Item 4. Approval of Village Bills:

Naxera/Gallus moved to approve payment of outstanding monthly bills as listed on items 4i.-4iv.of the Agenda. Upon Roll Call Vote, All Ayes. **Motion Carried**

Item 5 Report of the Village Administrator:

A.) Village Financial Audit Mr. Mooney stated he has begun conversations with Wipfli to plan the 2021 Village financial audit. The audit has tentatively been scheduled to take place the week of February 7th.

B.) Verizon Wireless Antenna Contract Village Administrator Mooney recently received the updated Verizon land lease contract from the Village Attorney. The Attorney requested a few items be clarified, and Trustee Olson provided the Village responses to those points. Mr. Mooney stated he had a final scheduled conference call on Wednesday morning, and will incorporate Mr. Olson's Trustee-consensus updates for inclusion. Upon the Attorney's completed revisions, Mr. Mooney stated he intended to send the contract back to Verizon for their review and response.

C.) Lake Wisconsin Drive Well Parcel The Village recently received a second inquiry from a resident regarding the Village's Well Parcel land on Lake Wisconsin Drive. Upon Board discussion, the decision was made to first have the Village Plan Commission assess Village-owned property and begin determining land-uses in advance of the Village Comprehensive Plan review in 2022.

D.) Economic Development Plans Administrator Mooney stated in light of the need to review the Village's Comprehensive Plan in 2022, it might also be a good time to consider looking at Economic Development needs and formulate actionable plans for the Village's economic future. Mr. Mooney informed the Board he has researched Economic Development grant opportunities, as well as reached out to Organizations in the State and locally that assist in this capacity. Mr. Mooney said tools like Tax Increment Financing

(TIF) projects and forming a Village Economic Development Committee to review ideas would be good options to consider.

Recommendations such as scheduling a meeting of all Village businesses to talk about what the Village can do to assist, as well as identifying areas of the Village to develop in the future were mentioned. President Budde stated Plan Commission Chairman Malmberg's idea to complete a Strengths Weaknesses Opportunities and Threats analysis (SWOT) may suffice in lieu of a Comprehensive Plan Review. Upon discussion, Mr. Budde suggested Plan Commission Chairman Malmberg and Administrator Mooney discuss again in Spring.

E.) Caucus Update The Village held its annual Caucus on Saturday January 8th. The Village will have three candidates running for two Trustee positions in the Spring April 5th election. This year's Trustee candidates will be Jim Malmberg, George Naxera and Amy Buffardi.

F.) Sauk County ARPA Funding The County Finance Committee will be holding its next meeting on February 3rd. Mr. Mooney informed the Board that he had spoken with the Sauk County Administrator and the Village will be invited to speak during the February Meeting.

G.) Lu Foster Lane Property Concern The Village is aware of an ongoing matter involving Ordinance enforcement at a property on Lu Foster Lane. Trustee Olson stated he had been in touch with a local Attorney to discuss Village Ordinance enforcement action. Mr. Olson asked the Board for a supporting motion to authorize \$2,000 for Attorney Cross to review the Village Ordinances, and current Ordinance violations on Lu Foster Lane, in order to proceed with an enforcement letter. Motion seconded by Trustee Gallus. Upon Roll Call Vote, All Ayes. **Motion Carried**

H.) Operators Permit Approval Village Deputy Clerk Klecker recently received an Operator's Permit request from

Village resident Sidney Kimpfbeck and her review had been completed. Naxera/Gallus moved to approve the Operator's Permit. Upon Roll Call Vote, All Ayes, **Motion Carried**.

I.) LGIP Fund Transfer Request Mr. Mooney stated upon completion of his monthly financial review, he determined it was necessary to transfer funds from the LGIP Sewer reserve in order to cover incurred Sewer expenditures the past month. Mr. Mooney asked for a motion to authorize the Administrator to move \$20,000 from LGIP Sewer funds to the Bank of Prairie du Sac Sewer Checking account. Naxera/Malmberg moved to approve this motion as requested. Upon Roll Call Vote, All Ayes. **Motion Carried**

J.) Staff Progress Report (Closed Session)

Trustee Olson requested that item J be moved to the end of the night's Agenda.

Item 6. Report of the Public Works Director:

A.) Grove Street Winter Parking Signs Mr. Schultz informed the Board that the Public Works crew continues to have issues with alternate street parking enforcement on Grove Street. Mr. Schultz stated given this is the only Street within the Village having an issue, he would like to propose the Village purchase and post Winter Parking enforcement signs for Grove Street. Mr. Schultz stated upon their installation, the Sauk County Police Department can enforce during snow events versus Village Staff calling in these requests. Naxera/Malmberg moved to authorize the Village to purchase parking enforcement signs to be posted on Grove Street. Upon Roll Call Vote, All Ayes. **Motion Carried**

B.) CTW well site update Mr. Schultz stated CTW had completed their test drilling last month, and will be returning on January 13th to begin the water pumping and testing portion of their analysis. Village Administrator Mooney stated he would update the Village website to notify residents of the water runoff anticipated from this test.

C.) Sprecher Plumbing/Memorial Park Mr. Schultz stated he has been in touch

with Sprecher Plumbing to discuss the replacement purchase items needed for installation at Memorial Park.

Item 8. Report of the Village Assistant:

A.) Consider Approval of Mapping Software purchase Mrs. Budde stated that with the assistance of Strand Inc., the Village intends to update the GIS maps of our sewer and water laterals in 2022. The updated map plan will also assist in the Village qualifying for additional Points within the DNR Safe Drinking Water loan for the upcoming well project. Mrs. Budde stated the software costs approximately \$500/year. Olson/Naxera moved to authorize the purchase of the Village GIS Mapping software. Upon Roll Call Vote, All Ayes. **Motion Carried**

B.) Hach Test Purchase Mrs. Budde stated additional Hach chemical test materials were needed at the Waste Water Treatment Plant for ongoing test sampling and monitoring. Naxera/Malmberg moved to approve purchase of \$500 Hach Test supplies. Upon Roll Call Vote, All Ayes. **Motion Carried**

Item 9. Planning/Zoning Updates:

None

Item 10. Adjourn:

At 6:00 pm, President Budde stated the Board would adjourn to Closed Session to begin Item 5J. Staff Progress Reports. Upon Completion of this Closed Session of Trustees, the Board meeting will officially adjourn. (7:20 pm)

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian Mooney

Brian Mooney,

Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer

Calendar Reminders

Next Regular Board Meeting

February 8, 2022

5:00 PM @ Village Hall

Special Board Meetings

February 1, 2022

5:00 PM @ Village Hall

February 22, 2022

5:30 PM @ Village Hall

These meetings will cover a variety of topics concerning the new well project. Please see our website for agendas. Village residents are encouraged to attend and voice any questions, comments or concerns.

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.

Senior Fitness Program

Monday, Wednesday, & Friday

9:30 – 10:00 AM

Through April 22, 2022

\$10 for the whole season!

Join anytime!

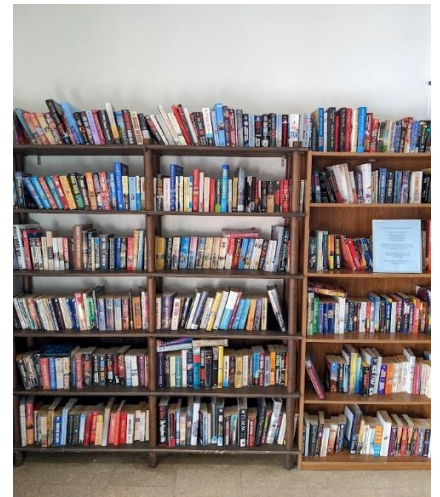


Village Hall, 100 Cook Street

Fiction, Non-Fiction,
Western, Romance, Politics,
Mystery, Thrillers, Sy-Fi,
Cookbooks, Crafts,
Gardening and more!

We've got a little bit of everything!

Stop by and check out our growing library at Village Hall.



Fall/Winter Street Parking Regulations



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!

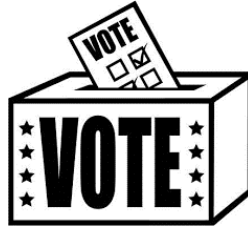
Snow Removal

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.

AA Meetings

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



Spring Election April 5, 2022

Polling Place:
Merrimac Village Hall
100 Cook Street
7:00 AM – 8:00 PM

Registered candidates on the ballot for two Village Trustee Positions Include:

Amy Buffardi
George Naxera
James Malmburg

2022 PET LICENSE NOTICE



All dogs and cats more than five months old residing in the Village of Merrimac are required to be licensed no later than April 1st of each year. Dog and cat licenses can be purchased at Village Hall or by mail. Please provide a proof of rabies vaccination certificate along with the appropriate fee shown below:

*Please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope if paying by mail.

	DOGS	CATS
Unaltered	\$12.00	\$8.00
Neutered or Spayed	\$7.00	\$4.00

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, 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



Merrimac Community Blood Drive

Merrimac Village Hall
100 Cook Street

Tuesday, February 22, 2022
1:00 pm – 5:30 pm

For an appointment call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit redcrossblood.org and enter Sponsor Code: Merrimac