

VILLAGE VOICE

MARCH 13, 2018

Volume 14, Issue 3

Minutes of the Village Board Meeting of March 13, 2018

President Hahn called the Village Board meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Board members present upon roll call included Nick Hahn, George Naxera, Phil Budde, Jim Malmberg and Garry Bahe. Ron Senger, Village Administrator-Clerk-Treasurer was also present, along with Tim McCumber, Town of Merrimac Administrator, and Steve Flottmeyer from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation.

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

Public Input:

As the DOT Chief of Planning for highway projects in Wisconsin's southwest region, Mr. Flottmeyer informed the Board the DOT had taken pavement core samples at locations along Highway 78 (north/northeast of Prairie du Sac) on February 21st. He explained the analysis of the asphalt, subgrade, and base course would require 3 weeks or more before a plan could be made for the appropriate course of action to fix the rapidly deteriorating highway surface. Steve stated the DOT would have more definitive options once the analysis and findings were made available by the Central Office Materials Lab. Ron requested a

DOT representative should plan to come monthly (on a recurring basis) to either the Village, or the Town of Merrimac's Board meetings to provide information and updates to the public until a plan of action is set in motion by the DOT, to either repair or replace the deteriorating highway. Steve Flottmeyer agreed they could support our request, so Ron will coordinate to ask for an update at the Village's April 10th Board meeting.

Following review of the Village's outstanding bills and prepaid expenses, Budde/Naxera moved to approve payment of the bills as listed on the agenda. Upon roll call vote, **motion carried.**

Hahn/Malmberg moved to approve the monthly financial reports including the balance sheet and budget comparison by major fund accounts for February, 2018. Upon roll call vote, **motion carried.**

Budde/Bahe moved to approve the draft Minutes of the February 13, 2018 Village Board meeting. **Motion carried.**

Naxera/Malmberg moved to approve the 2019-2021 Memorandum of Understanding with Sauk County for WisVote Voter Registration Services provided by the county clerk's office. Upon roll call vote, **motion carried.**

Naxera/Bahe moved to hire Bob Geenen, our top candidate of 14 applicants for the position of Village Administrator-Clerk-Treasurer, to

replace our current Administrator, Ron Senger upon his retirement on April 30th. Ron proposed Bob's start date to be March 26, 2018 with starting salary to match the current Administrator's salary. Upon roll call vote, **motion carried.**

Ron also recommended the Board consider approving a \$40 per month cell phone stipend for the new Administrator's personal smart phone use for work-related and emergency contact purposes. Budde/Malmberg moved to approve the \$40 monthly cell phone stipend for Bob Geenen. **Motion carried.**

Administrator's Report:

Ron provided Board members copies of the Minutes of the Sauk Prairie School Board meetings of January 8 and February 12, 2018 and the Village Inspection Report for March 8, 2018. Ron and Jim both noted there were several generous grants and matching donations made to the Merrimac Community Charter School by local residents and organizations. The Board emphatically stated their appreciation for the continued generous financial and volunteer support provided to our community charter school (its staff, students and families alike).

Ron summarized a few items of note including the great work being done on a daily basis by fellow Village staff Justin Schultz, Derek Peetz, and Tana Holmblad. The positive teamwork, dedication and

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communication of this small group of professionals enables them to accomplish a wide array of tasks, far more than most would imagine possible for such a small team.

Recent tasks completed include submission of the online application to the WI DNR for the reissuance of our Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (WPDES) Permit. Our current wastewater treatment plant discharge permit expires on March 31, 2019. This WPDES Permit application when approved by the DNR, will identify and summarize the Village's regulatory requirements, including sampling deadlines and technical parameters it must meet to operate and discharge treated effluent for the next 5-year permit period starting on April 1, 2019. Ron commended Justin and Derek for their recent clearing of heavy brush and trees within the street right-of-way along the west and south sides of Cemetery Street. Additional brush clearing is planned for the (west end) roadsides of Church Street.

Sewer & Water Operations:

Coordination is underway to pump and remove septage (deposits) from our wastewater treatment plant's two secondary settling tanks. This should be completed by the end of April. Ron closed by reminding the Board a Spring Election is scheduled for April 3, 2018. With no further matters brought before the Board, Bahe/Naxera moved to adjourn the meeting. **Motion carried** and the meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald D. Senger, Administrator

Ron's Retirement Send-off

Friday, April 27, 2018

Village Hall, from 1-3pm

Mark your calendars and come celebrate Ron's retirement following his service to the Village and residents of Merrimac. Refreshments will be available; please stop by, share some stories and wish him well in his retirement and future endeavors.

2018 Merrimac

Community Festival

Saturday, August 4, 2018

Our first **Festival Planners' Meeting** for 2018 will be held at the Village Hall on **Wednesday, April 18 at 6pm.**

Please see the enclosed informational letter and festival form. Volunteer helpers are encouraged to contact Ron at (608) 493-2122. Many of our local community organizations will be needing volunteers to help during the festival day. We anticipate most of the following organizations will again participate, including the Immanuel Lutheran and the United Methodist Churches, Merrimac Fire & Rescue, and Merrimac Snowbusters Snowmobile Club. Serving 2-3 hours as a volunteer is an excellent way to meet and make new friends, get involved and raise money for a good cause (our Village Parks) and to give back to our wonderful community. Please say yes to serving this year!

Brush Pick-Up Dates

Wednesday, April 11, 2018

Please place your yard waste at curbside in CLEAR plastic bags; sticks or branches must be in neat 4' x 4' x 8' piles (or smaller) and aligned linear to street with easy access for pick up by our tractor grapple bucket **without driving on grass or lawns.**

CALENDAR REMINDERS

Village Board Meeting

Tuesday, April 10, 2018, 6 pm

Spring Election

Tuesday, April 3, 2018

Village Hall, Polls Open

From 7:00 am - 8:00 pm

Registered candidates on the ballot for two expiring Village trustee positions include:

Jim Malmberg

George Naxera

Real Estate Tax

Open Book

Friday, May 4, 9:00-11:00 am

Village Hall

(municipal appraiser will be present)

Board of Review

Saturday, May 12

9:00 am until adjournment

Village Hall

(municipal appraiser will be present)

Please see official Public Notices posted on the Village's website

Direct Payment of Utility Bills

We encourage our customers to pay their monthly bills directly from a bank account by completing the ACH Direct Debit Form available on our Village website under the tab "Municipal Forms." This automated payment method provides one more way to simplify your life and save time and money. Now over 40% of our customers are using this simple payment method. Please call the Village office if you have questions, or need help with the form.

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