

VILLAGE VOICE

JULY 2019

DRAFT

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Minutes of the Village Board Meeting of July 9, 2019

The Village Board meeting was called to order by Village President Phil Budde at 6:00 p.m. Board members present were Phil Budde, Garry Bahe, Jim Malmberg, Jeff Rasmussen and George Naxera. Bob Geenen, Village Administrator-Clerk-Treasurer, was also present.

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

Public Input: No residents spoke at this time.

Jennifer Morgan and Kurt Kirchstein, two lead volunteers for the 2019 Merrimac Community Festival, presented an update on the preparations for this year's Festival to be held August 3rd.

Representatives of TDS were present to discuss the proposed contract regarding the phone and Internet services via fiber optics to be provided to the Village upon completion of the changeover from Merrimac Communications to TDS. Bob also presented a technology improvement timeline for the foreseeable future; highlighting a need for a portable tablet for the operators and the potential to move to Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP) telephone phone

service that will offer expanded capabilities.

Naxera inquired on the increased electrical costs for street lighting and payment to a past electrical vendor. Administrator Geenen noted the prior year the village received credits for multi-years' overcharges of poles by Alliant offsetting monthly costs until capturing all the PSC ordered credit. Bob noted the village purchased a case of LED street lights the prior vendor had on hand specific for converting village street lights to LED bulbs (installed by new vendor this summer). Rasmussen/Bahe moved to approve payment of the bills as listed on the Agenda and In Progress Checks report along with the prepaid expenses as listed on the Agenda and Reprint Check Register. Upon roll call vote, all ayes **motion carried**.

The Board reviewed the monthly financial reports (Balance Sheets and Budget Comparison by fund account) for the separate Water, Sewer, and General Funds for the month of June 2019. Rasmussen/Naxera moved to accept the reports. **Motion carried**

Naxera/Bahe moved to approve the month-to-month TDS lowest speed & price quoted option for fiber optics internet services at 140/50 MB speeds at the WWTP without analog phone and the Village Hall with two analog phone lines and secondary ringing to facilitate incoming faxes eliminating a third line charge. Upon roll call vote, all ayes **motion carried**.

Bahe/Malmberg moved to approve the Minutes from the June 11, 2019 Village Board Meeting. **Motion carried.**

Rasmussen/Naxera moved to approve the Resolution adopting the updated 2019-2024 Sauk County Hazard Mitigation Plan. **Motion carried.**

Rasmussen/Naxera moved to approve the Village's application for a 3% water rate increase effective August 27, 2019. **Motion carried.**

Naxera/Malmberg moved to approve the application of Gail R. Hentges for an Operator's Permit to work at the Merrimac Bar & Grill (Varsity Club). **Motion carried.**

Administrator's Report:

Bob noted budgeted pay step increases for staff this July and the notice of retirement from the Deputy Clerk in May 2020.

Water & Sewer Operations: Bob noted the improved score from 3.26 to 3.58 (4.0 scale) annual CMAR rating. Lead Operator witnessed unauthorized access from a fire hydrant. Being the third incident Bob forwarded to Sauk Sherriff's Department which investigated and cited the vendor for theft.

Bahe/Rasmussen moved to adjourn at 7:11 PM. **Motion Carried.**
Respectfully submitted,

Robert R. Geenen
Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer

