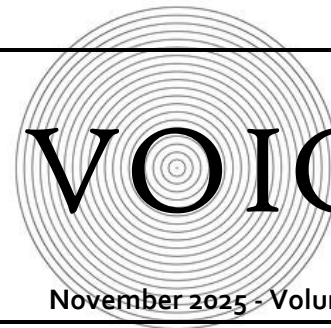


# The VILLAGE VOICE

"The Official Publication of the Village Board"  
FREE to Every Family in Merrimac



November 2025 - Volume 51, Issue 07

### Draft minutes of the Joint Village Board & Plan Commission Special Meeting November 6, 2025

**Item 1. Call to Order:** The Village of Merrimac Joint Village Board & Plan Commission Special Meeting was called to order by Village President Andrew Gallus at 5:00pm. Village Trustees Collin Bourgeois, Margaret Budde, Stan Senger, and Nate Taylor were present, as well as Plan Commission Members Bob Garrison, Nicole Hartman and Ann Hoffman, with Bob Pfaff absent. Also in attendance were Administrator Klecker, Village Attorney Rick Manthe, Village TID consultant Gary Becker, Colsac Lodge developer Rod Ripley, Colsac Lodge General Contractor 1848, and members of the public as listed on the sign-up sheet.

**Item 2. Public Input:** None

**Item 3. Colsac Lodge Garage Setback:** The group discussed the placement of a planned storage garage near the hotel. It was determined that the garage would have to be placed in a different location or be incorporated into the principal building design, as accessory structures are not permitted in street yards.

**Item 4. Becker Professional Services financial analysis of Colsac Lodge TIF request:** Village TID consultant Gary Becker, presented his findings from the financial analysis he performed on the Colsac Lodge TIF request/Pay-Go. He concluded that there is a need for TIF assistance/Pay-Go with this project, that the request is reasonable, and does not overly enrich the developer.

**Item 5. Negotiate Colsac Lodge TIF request and Developer's Agreement:** The developer is requesting a TIF award of 80% of the TIF revenue from the parcels covered by the project, after deducting the annual School Street debt service payment, estimated to be around \$75K and TID expenses. In return, the developer will construct and fund the proposed

**WEBSITE:** merrimacwi.gov

boulevard, modify Hwy 78 site entrances as required by WISDOT, and install a stormwater filtration system. Upon completion of the boulevard, they will dedicate all public infrastructure to the Village. Also discussed was the Village's LRIP grant application for the School Street Project and how the proposed Pay-Go might be affected. After robust discussion, all parties agreed to the general premise of the proposal. No motions were proposed. Village attorney Rick Manthe will work with Mr. Ripley's attorney to re-draft the Developer's Agreement with the new terms.

**Item 6. Adjourn:** At 6:32pm, Taylor/Hoffman motioned to adjourn. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.**

### Draft Minutes of the General & Parks 2026 Budget Hearing November 11, 2025

**Item 1. Call to Order:** The Village of Merrimac General & Parks Fund Budget Hearing was called to order in Village Hall by Village President Andrew Gallus at 5:30pm. Village Trustees Collin Bourgeois, Margaret Budde, Stan Senger, and Nate Taylor were present. Also in attendance were Administrator Jennie Klecker and members of the public, as listed on the sign-in sheet. President Gallus examined the affidavit of posting and confirmed that advance public notice of the meeting conformed to statutory requirements.

**Item 2. Consider public comment on proposed General and Parks Fund 2026 Budget:** None

**Item 3. Consider approval of proposed General and Parks Fund 2026 Budget:** Gallus/Budde motioned to approve General and Parks Fund 2026 Budget. All Ayes, **Motion Carried.**

**Item 4. Adjourn:** At 5:34PM, Gallus/Budde motioned to adjourn. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.**

**EMAIL:** merrimac@merrimacwi.gov

### Draft minutes of the Village Board Meeting November 11, 2025

**Item 1. Call to Order:** The Village of Merrimac Board of Trustees Meeting was called to order in Village Hall by Village President Andrew Gallus immediately following the Budget Hearing. President Gallus examined the affidavit of posting and confirmed that advance public notice of the meeting conformed to statutory requirements.

**Item 2. Public Input:** Bart Olson commented that agenda items pertaining to recent closed sessions should have more detailed information. Bob Pfaff spoke on behalf of Green Merrimac to propose installing a native planting demonstration site at Memorial Park. The plan involves re-landscaping a 4 x 8 foot section of shoreline using native plantings as a buffer zone. The demo would serve as an example to help educate residents and promote shoreline restoration. Green Merrimac would use existing funds received through donations. The Board granted permission to proceed with the project.

**Item 3. Review Consent Agenda:** Gallus/Taylor motioned to approve the consent agenda. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.**

**Item 4. Approval of Village Bills:** Bourgeois/Senger motioned to approve payment of outstanding monthly bills as listed on items 4.i.-4.iv. of the Agenda. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.**

**Item 5. Consideration of Operator's License Application for Shawna Thiel for Mac's Pub & Grub:** Gallus/Taylor motioned to approve Operator's License for Shawna Thiel for Mac's Pub & Grub. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.**

**Item 6. Report of the Director of Public Works:** 6.a. Polishing Project; To ensure that the polishing project works effectively during the winter months, the piping has been insulated. An ice shanty was also

**PHONE:** (608) 493-2122

**REGULAR OFFICE HOURS:** Monday - Friday, 9:00am to 3:00pm

installed to house the chemical feed system. 6.b. Winterizing Parks; All Village parks have been winterized and closed for the season.

**Item 7. Report of the Administrator:** 7.a. Consider Resolution 2025-11-01: Resolution for Exceeding the State Imposed Levy for Post-2005 General Obligation Debt Service; Gallus/Bourgeois motioned to approve Resolution 2025-11-01. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.** 7.b. Consider Resolution 2025-11-02: Resolution Regarding the Payment in Lieu of Tax (PILOT); Budde/Taylor motioned to approve Resolution 2025-11-02. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.** 7.c. Snowbusters Agreement; Gallus/Taylor motioned to approve the Snowbusters Agreement. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.** 7.d. Town of Merrimac Snowplowing Contract; Taylor/Gallus motioned to approve the Town of Merrimac snowplowing contract after adding a per trip minimum charge of 1 hour and confirming employees and equipment are covered under the Village's insurance plan. 4 Ayes with Budde abstaining. **Motion Carried.**

**Item 11. Convene in closed session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes Section §19.85(1)(c) for Board to consider concerns from October 13 closed session meeting:** Gallus/Senger motioned to convene in closed session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes Section §19.85(1)(c) to consider concerns from October 13 closed session meeting. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.**

**Item 12. Adjourn from Closed Session:** The Board adjourned from closed session at 8:09pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jennie Klecker



Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer

Next Village Board Meeting  
**December 9, 2025**  
5:30 PM @ Village Hall


Next Parks & Recreation Meeting  
**December 4, 2025**  
7:00PM @ Village Hall

**AA Meetings**  
Wednesday Evenings 7:00pm  
@ Merrimac Village Hall - Questions?  
Contact Chuck @ 608-795-0050

Recycling Pickup Dates:  
  
December 8 & 22

Brush Pick-up Dates  
December 17th

\*\*\*Scrap metal recycling has ended  
for the season\*\*\*  
It will resume in April 2026.

Fall/Winter Street Parking  
  
**Between 2AM through 8AM** vehicles cannot be left 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.

\*\*\*\*\*  
Village residents wishing to **run for public office** for the Village of Merrimac should plan to **attend the Village Caucus**, to be held sometime between Jan 2 and Jan 21, 2026. **(Date to be determined at the December 9th Village Board meeting).**

The Caucus process is used to secure nominations of candidates for Village Trustees' posts that will expire in April 2026. Immediately following the Caucus, Declaration of Candidacy forms and Campaign Registration Statements must be submitted to the Sauk County Clerk for candidates to appear on the official ballot at the April 7th, 2026 Spring Election.  
\*\*\*\*\*

  
**Holiday Office Hours**  
Village Hall will be closed

December 24 - 26  
December 31 thru Jan 2  
**Happy Holidays!**

*Look Who's Back!*  
**MEET & GREET**  
WITH *SANTA*  
BRING YOUR CHRISTMAS WISHLIST  
& A BOOK TO SWAP!



**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7TH**  
**4PM - 6PM**  
*Merrimac Fire Station*



**Think Local for the Holidays!**

- \* Locally produced goods meet higher standards than mass produced items made abroad.
- \* Buying from local manufacturers who tend to source their supplies locally is an environmentally friendly choice and reduces the carbon footprint.
- \* Buying gift cards that support local businesses can provide thoughtful gifts without the hassle of traveling.
- \* It boosts the local economy and creates a profit cycle that benefits the whole community!