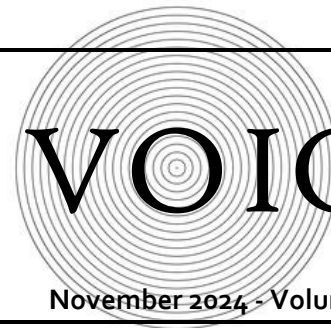


The VILLAGE VOICE

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



November 2024 - Volume 50, Issue 07

**Draft Minutes of the General & Parks 2025 Budget Hearing
November 12, 2024**

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 Margaret Budde, Jim Malmberg, Stan Senger, and Nate Taylor were present. Also in attendance were Administrator Jennie Klecker, DPW Justin Schultz, 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 2025 Budget: Bob Garrison asked if there was a specific dollar amount allocated in the 2025 budget for the Pacific Road public lake access area. The Parks & Recreation committee has been given a budget of \$7,500, but there have been no decisions made yet as to what those funds will be used for. Cheryl Anderson asked the Board if the budget included a \$500 allocation to Green Merrimac, which the Board confirmed.

Item 3. Consider approval of proposed General and Parks Fund 2025 Budget: Budde/Malmberg motioned to approve General and Parks Fund 2025 Budget. All Ayes, **Motion Carried.**

Item 4. Adjourn: At 5:33PM, Taylor/Budde motioned to adjourn. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.**

**Draft minutes of the Village Board Meeting
November 12, 2024**

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 at 5:33pm. Village Trustees Margaret Budde, Jim Malmberg, Nate Taylor, and Stan Senger were present. Also in attendance were DPW Justin Schultz, 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. Public Input: Bob Garrison requested that before any additional work is performed at the Pacific Road public lake access area, a written drawing or schematic plan be prepared and approved by both the Parks & Recreation Committee and the Village Board.

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

Item 4. Approval of Village Bills: Malmberg/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. Consider Application for Operator's Permit for Ray Graham Jr., for Mac's Pub & Grub: Gallus/Taylor motioned to approve Operator's Permit for Ray Graham Jr. for Mac's Pub & Grub. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.**

Item 6. Consider DRAFT Lease Agreement between the Village of Merrimac and Merrimac Fire & Rescue for the Old Fire Station Building at Memorial Park: The Board discussed the DRAFT lease agreement between the Village and Merrimac Fire & Rescue for the upper floor of the Old Fire Station, located at Memorial Park. The Board directed Administrator Klecker to add a maintenance clause that allows MFD to perform upgrades to the building.

Item 7. Palisade Street Public Access Dispute: Becky Easland and her attorney, Jamie Radabaugh of Boardman & Clark, LLP, presented information to the Board, claiming that a 20ft wide strip of land that adjoins the Easland property (206 Palisade St.) was unlawfully deemed a public access by the Village in 1991. After lengthy discussion, the Board agreed that ownership of the property must be determined before any decisions are made. Budde/Senger motioned to authorize Village attorney at Stafford Rosenbaum to meet with Easland's attorney regarding the

Palisade Street Public Access Easement, table any further discussion of Village development of that easement until an agreement can be reached, and for the time being, remove the public access designation. All Ayes, **Motion Carried.**

Item 8. Speed Limit Modification Request - Formal Response and Proposed Changes: The Village received a formal response from WISDOT to our request for a reduction to the speed limit on Hwy 78. Within Village limits, all 35MPH zones will be lowered to 30MPH and the existing 25MPH zone will be extended to Lake Street. New signs are anticipated to be installed sometime in March or April of 2025.

Item 9. Radar Speed Sign Quotes: Administrator Klecker shared updated quotes for a radar speed signs. Decker Supply was willing to honor a quote from 2023 for \$4,125 per unit. Gallus/Budde motioned to purchase two (2) radar speed signs with Streetsmart Data Collection Software from Decker Supply. All Ayes, **Motion Carried.**

Item 10. Christmas Light Pole Decorations: George Naxera notified Administrator Klecker that Liberty Flag and Specialty Company out of Reedsburg was liquidating their warehouse of used Christmas light pole decorations. The Village was able to purchase 20 decorations for \$50 each.

11. WWTP monitoring well plans & specifications: Trustee Senger sent a request to Strand Associates for a cost estimate to draft a work plan for installing a new monitoring well at the WWTP. They will be sending the Village a quote in the next week or two. Trustee Senger also reached out to the WI DNR for feedback regarding potential test site locations for a future Municipal Well No. 2. He will continue working with them to help identify the best location for the test well and provide updates to the Board. Senger/Gallus motioned to authorize Administrator Klecker to approve up to \$3,500 for Strand to draft a work plan for installing the new WWTP monitoring well, if

the estimate is received before the next board meeting. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.**

Item 12. School Street: 12.a. Revised Task Order with WISDOT modeling requirement; WISDOT has confirmed that additional modeling will be required for the School Street Project, which will result in an additional fee of \$9,900 (Board approved on 10/8). 12.b. Sidewalk width; After a brief discussion, the Board decided to instruct Strand to design a 5 foot wide sidewalk in front the church and school.

Item 13. Report of the Director of Public Works: 13.a. Well House No. 1 - Progress Update; DPW Schultz informed the Board that next week Mid-City will be installing windows, soffit, and fascia at the Wellhouse and LW Allen will be working on the computer system. 13.b. RSF Update; So far it seems that the aerating work performed on the recirculating sand filter by Robinson Brother has been successful. 13.c. School Street Geotech Results; Public Works bored several holes in School Street and determined the underlying base course to be 16 to 18 inches. This initial investigation is promising, however, additional geotech work may be needed. 13.d. Forestry Mower Work Performed; The Village performed all planned work with the rented forestry mower including clearing brush at the WWTP, Cemetery St., Church St., the public access on Pacific Rd., and the utility easement on Weynand/Lu Foster. 13.e. Aquafix Purchase Approval; to help improve WWTP performance during cold weather months, Budde/Gallus motioned to purchase Aquafix in the amount of \$2,400. All Ayes, **Motion Carried.**

Item 14. Report of the Administrator: 14.a. SDWLP Disbursement Request; Administrator Klecker informed the Board that she had requested SDWLP disbursement No. 4 in the amount of \$174,054.71, to pay Mid-City for work performed at the Wellhouse, and reimburse the Village for additional costs associated with the project. 14.b. Budde/Gallus motioned to approve Resolution 2024-11-01: Resolution for Exceeding the State Imposed Levy for Post-2005 General Obligation Debt Service. All Ayes, **Motion Carried.** 14.c. Gallus/Budde motioned to approve Resolution 2024-11-02: Resolution Regarding the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT). All Ayes, **Motion Carried.** 14.d. Budde/Gallus motioned to approve Resolution 2024-11-03: Resolution for Exceeding the State Imposed Levy for Merrimac Fire & Rescue Cost Increase. All Ayes, **Motion Carried.**

Item 15. Adjourn: At 6:49pm, Taylor/Senger motioned to adjourn. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.**

Respectfully Submitted,
Jennie Klecker

Jennie Klecker

Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer

*****Interested 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, 2025 (Date to be determined at the December 10th Village Board meeting). The Caucus process is used to secure nominations of candidates for Village President and Trustee's posts that will expire in April 2025. 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 1st, 2025 Spring Election. *****

Next Village Board Meeting

December 10, 2024

5:30 PM @ Village Hall

Next Parks & Recreation Meeting

December 5, 2024

7:00pm @ Village Hall

Next Green Merrimac Meeting

January 7, 2025

9:30am @ Village Hall

All interested village residents are welcome!

AA Meetings

Wednesday Evenings 7:00

@ Merrimac Village Hall - Questions?

Contact Chuck @ 608-795-0050

Recycling Pickup Dates:



December 9 & 23

Winter Brush Pick-up Dates

December 18, January 15,

February 12, & March 12



Holiday Office Hours

Village Hall will be closed

December 24 & 25

December 31 & January 1

Happy Holidays!

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.



Friday Night Eco-Flicks are back!

Green Merrimac kindly invites you to attend a series of environmentally focused films to be shown this winter at Merrimac Village Hall. Save the dates:

January 17 & February 21

*Santa Claus is Coming to...
The Fire Station!!!*



On December 8th, Santa will be visiting the Merrimac fire Station. Kids can arrive at 3:00pm with Santa arriving at 3:15pm on the fire truck. He will read a book to kids at 3:30 pm. The kids will be able to tell Santa what they want for Christmas. He will be leaving at 5 pm to go judge those that have entered the holiday light decorating contest. Anyone that would like to enter the holiday light decoration contest needs to send their name and address to moey6078@yahoo.com