

# The VILLAGE VOICE

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



July 2025 - Volume 51, Issue 03

## Draft minutes of the Zoning Change Public Hearing July 8, 2025

**Item 1. Call to Order:** The Village of Merrimac Public 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 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 Public Hearing conformed to statutory requirements.

**Item 2. Public comment on proposed zoning changes:** There were no public comments on Amending Village of Merrimac Ordinance No. §185-50 entitled Fences and Hedges, Amending Village of Merrimac Ordinance No. §185-12 entitled R-1 Single-Family Residential, Amending Village of Merrimac Ordinance No. §185-13 entitled R-2 Single- and Two-Family Residential, and Amending Village of Merrimac Ordinance No. §185-14 entitled R-3 Multifamily Residential.

**Item 3. Close public comment on proposed zoning amendments:** Hearing no public comment, President Gallus declared public comment closed.

**Item 3. Adjourn to regular Village Board Meeting:** At 5:34PM, Gallus/Budde motioned to adjourn the public hearing and call to order the regular Village Board meeting. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.**

## Draft minutes of the Village Board Meeting July 8, 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 at 5:34pm. President Gallus examined the affidavit of posting and confirmed that advance public

notice of the meeting conformed to statutory requirements.

**Item 2. Public Input:** None

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

**Item 4. Approval of Village Bills:** Senger/Taylor 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. TID Presentation: Katrina Becker of Becker Professional Services:** Becker Professional Services is a community planning and economic development services firm based out of Stoughton, WI. After previously meeting with Ms. Becker, President Gallus and Administrator Klecker asked her to come to the Village Board meeting to give the Board an overview on Tax Incremental Financing (TIF) and to look into the potential of creating a Tax Incremental District (TID) around the Colsac Lodge. The developers of Colsac Lodge have proposed dedicating land to the Village to construct a new boulevard. The boulevard would allow easy access to the Colsac Lodge, and any other future businesses, that avoids ferry traffic and provides 49 public parking spaces. The Village would pay for the construction of the boulevard using TIF, and once completed, it would become a new Village owned public road. Creating a TID around the Colsac Lodge and surrounding downtown business district would allow the Village to collect taxes on the growth in property values within the TID boundary to use towards additional economic and community improvement projects, such as revitalizing Downtown, fixing sidewalks, and the School Street Repair Project.

**5.a. Consider quote for Becker Professional Services for creating TID:** Budde/Bourgeois motioned to hire Becker Professional Services to assist the Village with moving forward in the process of creating TID#1. All Ayes, **Motion Carried.**

**5.b. Appoint TID Joint Review Board Members:** Gallus/Bourgeois motioned to appoint Trustee Senger and Administrator Klecker as the Village's representatives on the Joint Review Board. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.**

**Item 6. Report of the Director of Public Works:** 6.a. PH meter replacement; The 10-year-old PH meter has failed and needs to be replaced. DPW Schultz recommended the Village purchase a combination PH/DO meter. Budde/Gallus motioned to approve the purchase of a PH/DO meter for \$2,500. All Ayes, **Motion Carried.** 6.b. Town of Merrimac Use of Burn Pit May through October; Gallus/Budde motioned to approve Town of Merrimac use of the Village burn pit once a month from May to October for the fee of \$1,000. All Ayes, **Motion Carried.** 6.c. Snow Plowing Idlewild & Albrite for Town of Merrimac; Gallus/Budde motioned to ask the Town of Merrimac to draft a contract proposal for the Village to plow Town roads Idlewild and Albrite. All Ayes, **Motion Carried.**

**Item 7. Consider Operator's Permit for Diana Gliden for Mac's Pub & Grub:** Gallus/Budde motioned to approve Operator's Permit for Diana Gliden for Mac's Pub & Grub. All Ayes, **Motion Carried.**

**Item 8. Consider final approval of "Amending Village of Merrimac Ordinance No. §185-50 entitled Fences and Hedges":** Gallus/Senger motioned to approve "Amending Village of Merrimac Ordinance No. §185-50 entitled Fences and Hedges." All Ayes, **Motion Carried.**

**Item 9. Consider final approval of "Amending Village of Merrimac Ordinance No. §185-12 entitled R-1 Single-Family Residential":** Budde/Taylor motioned to approve "Amending Village of Merrimac Ordinance No. §185-12 entitled R-1 Single-Family Residential." All Ayes, **Motion Carried.**

**Item 10. Consider final approval of "Amending Village of Merrimac Ordinance No. §185-13 entitled R-2 Single- and Two-**

**Family Residential’:** Gallus/Senger motioned to approve “Amending Village of Merrimac Ordinance No. §185-13 entitled R-2 Single- and Two-Family Residential.” All Ayes, **Motion Carried.**

**Item 11. Consider final approval of “Amending Village of Merrimac Ordinance No. §185-14 entitled R-3 Multifamily Residential”:** Taylor/Budde motioned to approve “Amending Village of Merrimac Ordinance No. §185-14 entitled R-3 Multifamily Residential.” All Ayes, **Motion Carried.**

**Item 12. Report of the Administrator:** 12.a. Strand Amendment No. 1 to Task Order No. 24-03 (School Street Reconstruction); The Strand Amendment to Task Order No. 24-03 updates the scope of service to include bidding related services, changes the compensation from \$50,400 to \$64,200, and extends the project schedule from June 30, 2025, to June 30, 2027. Gallus/Bourgeois motioned to approve the Strand Amendment to Task Order No. 24-03. All Ayes, **Motion Carried.** 12.b. Soils & Engineering Services Quote for Geotechnical Exploration on School Street; Gallus/Taylor motioned to approve Soils & Engineering Services \$4,500 quote for geotechnical exploration of School Street. All Ayes, **Motion Carried.** 12.c. Operator Job Listing and Interview Timeline; The final draft of the Operator job listing and position description is complete. The job will be posted July 15 through August 15 on the Village of Merrimac Website, Facebook Page, Chamber of Commerce, League of WI Municipalities Job site, and WRWA. Candidate interviews will begin August 18 with a target new hire start date of September 29. 12.d. UW Green Bay Training July 14 – 18. Administrator Klecker reminded the Board that both she and Deputy Clerk Stevens will be attending the virtual UW Green Bay Clerk/Treasurers Institute July 14-18, so there may be a delay in email responses. Deputy Clerk Stevens will be earning her Clerk’s Certificate of Completion this year, and Administrator Klecker will be earning her Treasurer’s Certificate of Completion.

**Item 13. Adjourn:** At 7:45pm, Taylor/Gallus motioned to adjourn. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.**

**Item 1. Call to Order:** The Village of Merrimac Plan Commission Meeting was called to order in Village Hall by Chairperson, Collin Bourgeois at 5:30pm. Commission Members Bob Garrison, Nicole Hartmann, Ann Hoffman, and Bob Pfaff were present. Also in attendance were Administrator Klecker and members of the public, as listed on the sign-in sheet. Chairperson Bourgeois examined the affidavit of posting and confirmed that advance public notice of the meeting conformed to statutory requirements.

**Item 2. Public Input:** None

**Item 3. Discuss proposed Boundary and draft Project Plan for TID #1 Creation:** Katrina Becker of Becker Professional Services shared with the Plan Commission 3 proposed TID boundaries and the group discussed the pros and cons of each of them. They decided to select the largest TID boundary that encompasses the Colsac Lodge property, Ferry area, downtown, and extends to the west edge of the Village to include the Old Varsity Club property and the 10-acre lot of agricultural land currently for sale. Next, they reviewed the DRAFT Project Plan Proposal and identified projects to include in the TID budget. The two main projects the Village would like to fund with the TID are the construction of the proposed Colsac Lodge boulevard and the School Street Repair project. The group then worked on completing a high-level draft budget with the remaining anticipated TID funds. Katrina will rework the DRAFT Project Plan Proposal to incorporate the Plan Commission’s decisions. The next step in the process will be the preliminary meeting of the Joint Review Board, followed by a public hearing at Village Hall on August 18 at 6:00pm. This hearing will give residents a chance to offer comments and ask questions about the proposed TID.

**Item 4. Comprehensive Plan Update: Share progress on new drafts:** The group briefly shared their progress on the new draft Comprehensive Plan update.

**Item 5. Adjourn:** At 7:58pm, Garrison/Pfaff motioned to adjourn. All Ayes, **Motion Carried.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jennie Klecker



Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer

**Draft minutes of the Plan Commission Meeting July 24, 2025**

Next Village Board Meeting  
**August 12, 2025**  
5:30 PM @ Village Hall

Parks & Recreation Meeting  
**August 7, 2025**  
7:00PM @ Village Hall

### **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

The Plan Commission will hold a public hearing on August 18, 2025, at 6:00pm at Village Hall regarding the proposed project plan and boundary for TID 1 in the village. At the public hearing, all persons will be afforded a reasonable opportunity to be heard concerning the proposed project plan. Please contact Village Administrator, Jennie Klecker at [merrimac@merrimacwi.gov](mailto:merrimac@merrimacwi.gov) or call 608-493-2122 with any questions or to view a copy of the TID 1 project plan and boundary.

### **AA Meetings**

Wednesday Evenings 7:00pm  
@ Memorial Park Pavilion - Questions?  
Contact Chuck @ 608-795-0050

### Recycling Pickup Dates:



**August 4 & 18**

### Brush Pick-up Dates

**August 13 & 27**

Scrap metal recycling dumpster is back for the season. Located in the Village Hall parking lot.

**METAL ONLY! No TV's Please!**

### **Bar Buddies needs drivers!**

Call Cat for more information  
847-371-1918

## **Maintenance-Operator**

Department of Public Works  
Village of Merrimac

The Village of Merrimac is seeking qualified individuals to fill a Maintenance, Water & Wastewater Operator position that reports to the Director of Public Works (DPW). The position performs the repair and maintenance related to Village streets, public works, parks, water, storm sewer and sanitary sewer utilities. Applicants must possess a valid Wisconsin Driver's License. Ideal candidates should possess strong communication skills, basic competency in math, computers, and record keeping, mechanical aptitude, and equipment operating experience. Must possess the physical ability to safely lift a minimum of 50lbs, sustain long workdays and to function effectively outdoors in all types of weather. The position requires periodic after-hours emergency response. Desire residency within 15 miles of the Village within 6 months of hire. Additional minimum requirements include high school diploma or equivalent and experience in a municipal public works department, or public works construction experience in the position of equipment operator, or laborer. Within (2) two years of hire, must obtain the two (2) required DNR Municipal Water Supply Operator Certifications. Within 3 years of hire, must obtain three (3) DNR wastewater certifications, as required by the Village's wastewater treatment plant system. Starting wage range dependent on applicant's experience and/or certifications. Position offers paid-time off and holiday pay in first year; 40-hours per week starting September 2025. Benefits also include participation in the Wisconsin Retirement System and Village contribution to a QSEHRA (Qualified Small Employer Health Reimbursement Arrangement).

Please submit resume, cover letter, and references to the Village Administrator **by August 15, 2025** at 100 Cook Street, Merrimac, WI 53561 or email [merrimac@merrimacwi.gov](mailto:merrimac@merrimacwi.gov)

Visit the Village of Merrimac website @ [merrimacwi.gov](http://merrimacwi.gov) to view a full position description.



### **Who Doesn't Enjoy the Twinkling of Fireflies on a Summer Evening?**

There's something magical about sitting outside on a warm summer night, watching tiny golden lights drift across the yard. Fireflies – also known as lightning bugs – are more than just a beautiful reminder of childhood; they are an important part of our ecosystem. Sadly, their numbers are declining due to habitat loss, light pollution, and pesticide use.

### **But the good news? You can help!**

#### **Grow Native Plants:**

Native grasses and wildflowers attract the insects that fireflies feed on and create the perfect habitat for their survival. Even a small patch can make a big difference.

#### **Skip the Pesticides:**

Many chemicals used to kill insects and weeds also harm fireflies – especially their larvae, which live in soil and leaf litter for up to two years. Choose natural pest control methods instead.

#### **Reduce Outdoor Lighting:**

Fireflies use their natural glow to find mates. Bright lights from porch bulbs, floodlights, or garden features can confuse and disrupt them. Use motion-sensor or low-wattage amber bulbs, and turn off unnecessary lights at night.

Every yard matters. Every light turned off, every patch of native flowers planted – it's all a step toward protecting these tiny beacons of summer.

### **Become a firefly champion.**



## **Short-Term Rentals**

Thinking about renting your home on a short-term rental platform such as Airbnb or VRBO? You'll find everything you need to get started on the Village website. Look for "Short-Term Home Rental Permit" under the "Permits, Licenses & Forms" section to read the ordinance and fill out a Conditional Use Application. Have questions? Call Village Hall or email [merrimac@merrimacwi.gov](mailto:merrimac@merrimacwi.gov) and we'll be happy to walk you through it.



### **Sign Up Today!**

Keep it simple with Auto-Pay & E-Billing for monthly utilities.



Visit the Village website at [merrimacwi.gov](http://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.

# Softeners in the Village should be set to 18 Grains



## Did you know...

wastewater treatment plants aren't designed to treat for softener salt? So, any salt we use to soften our water is released into the environment. Village of Merrimac residents and businesses use about...

**...120 lbs of salt every single day.**

Fleck 5600  
Econominder



Electronic  
Controller



**We can help check that yours is set correctly.  
Call Village Hall to set up an appointment.**