

The VILLAGE VOICE

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Draft minutes of the Parks & Recreation Meeting August 7, 2025

Item 1. Call to Order: The Village of Merrimac Parks and Recreation Meeting was called to order in Village Hall by Chairperson Nate Taylor at 7:00pm. Committee members Amy Buck, Tim Klecker, Jennifer Thompson, and June Krbeczek were present. Also in attendance were Administrator Jennie Klecker, and members of the public, as listed on the sign-in sheet. Chairperson Taylor 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. Eagle Scout Project: Local Eagle Scout, Kyle Garten reached out to the Parks & Recreation Committee regarding a scouting project proposal. He would like to build a kiosk that displays information about Lake Wisconsin, local events, and historical facts about the Merrimac Ferry and install it on the WISDOT land on Wisconsin Street. Committee member Klecker reached out to WISDOT for permission to build the kiosk and they were very supportive. Klecker will continue communicating with WISDOT for final approval.

Item 4. Sunrise Shore Park: 4.a. Survey 2nd public park lot and road right-of-way; Taylor/Klecker motioned to ask the Village Board to approve spending \$2,000 of Parks & Rec's \$7,500 budget to have the 2nd public park lot and road right-of-way in Sunrise Shores surveyed by Grothman & Associates. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.** 4.b. Riprap and kayak launch design and time line; The group discussed contacting 3 different contractors to get estimates on installing riprap and a kayak launch at Sunrise Shore Park.

Item 5. Memorial Park Pavillion Project Status: The Committee discussed fundraising goals, possible grant opportunities, and alternative designs for

the Memorial Park Pavillion project. They also discussed possible improvements to make using the Vern Weisensel Memorial Donations including rejuvenating the pier, adding a bench, fishing rod holders, and installing a plaque. Chairperson Taylor will reach out to the Weisensel family for their input.

Item 6. Palisade Street Boat Launch: In light of possible access changes to the Palisade Street Boat Launch settlement agreement, Taylor/Krbeczek motioned to recommend the Village Board allow only Village residents, short-term rental and Colsac Lodge guests to use the boat launch, rather than fully open it up to the public. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.**

Item 7. Budget: 7.a. Allocate remaining 2025 Budget Funds; The Committee decided to allocate all remaining 2025 budget funds (\$7,500) to be used to survey the rest of public land in the Sunrise Shore Platt and to the riprap/kayak launch in Sunrise Shore Park 7.b. Discuss 2026 Budget Plan; The Committee will request \$10,000 to be allocated to Parks & Recreation in the 2026 Budget.

Item 8. Village Administrator's Report: 8.a. Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan; Administrator Klecker informed the Committee that in order to apply for many of the park improvement grants offered by Wisconsin DNR, the Village will need to create a Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. These plans are extensive and may require professional assistance to complete. She is currently looking for examples from similar communities to share with Parks & Rec and the Plan Commission. 8.b. Discuss potential TID #1 Creation and Park's & Recreation Committee's Role; If approved, the proposed budget for TID #1 includes funds for park improvements. She encouraged the committee to begin evaluating the recreation needs of the Village. The Committee will start working on creating a survey to obtain feedback on what

improvements the community would like to see most.

Item 9. Adjourn: At 7:43PM, Taylor/Klecker motioned to adjourn. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.**

Draft minutes of the Village Board Meeting August 12, 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 5:30pm. Village Trustees Collin Bourgeois (via telephone), 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 meeting conformed to statutory requirements.

Item 2. Public Input: Trustee Budde spoke about her concerns regarding how vague the Village ordinances are regarding noise. She feels the Colsac Lodge Developer's Agreement should contain rules about outdoor speakers and level of sound.

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

Item 4. Approval of Village Bills: Budde/Gallus 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. Jean Lawrin: Palisade Street water runoff issue: Jean Lawrin spoke to the Village Board regarding a water runoff issue she has been dealing with for several years on Palisade Street. She explained that about 10 years ago the Village installed berms on the street to help direct water flow away from the homes on the south side of the street. The berms have since eroded due to time and damage from large

trucks. The water is causing her retaining wall to fail and is in danger of collapsing. Gallus/Taylor motioned to have DPW Schultz get an estimate on installing an asphalt curb. He will also look to having Village staff fix the issue themselves. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.**

Item 6. Report of the Director of Public

Works: 6.a. WWTP Polishing Project and chemical purchase; In order to continue the WWTP Polishing Project, additional chemicals need to be purchased. Gallus/Bourgeois motioned to approve up to \$12,000 for the purchase of MicroC and potassium acetate. All Ayes, **Motion Carried.** 6.b. Emergency Siren Timer; DPW Schultz consulted with a representative from the Emergency Communication System of Sauk County to get help with repairing the siren timer. Budde/Taylor motioned to approve up to \$6,200 to upgrade the siren timing system. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.**

Item 7. Report of the Parks & Recreation

Committee: Chairperson Taylor reviewed the 8/7/25 Parks & Recreation meeting with the Board. The Committee would like to finish surveying the rest of the Village owned property in the Sunrise Shore Platt, including the 2nd Public Park and road right-of-way. Taylor/Gallus motioned to approve up to \$2,500 (using budgeted Parks & Rec Funds) to complete the survey. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.** The Committee received around \$1,500 in park donations for the Vern Weisensel Memorial. They would like to use the funds to fix up the pier at Memorial Park, installing a bench, fishing rod holders, and a plaque. He shared the Committee's recommendation on continuing to restrict the use of the Palisade Street Boat Launch to Village residents, but also allow short-term-renters and Colsac Lodge guests to use it.

Item 8. Report of the Administrator: 8.a. Joint Review Board Recap and TID #1 Progress Update; The Joint Review Board meeting will be held on 8/13/25 at 9:30am at Village Hall and is open to the public for all who wish to attend. After learning that Bart Olson is willing to release the Village from an old settlement pertaining to the public boat launch, Administrator Klecker will speak to the Village attorney about next steps. Last week Administrator Klecker along with DPW Schultz, President Gallus, Trustee Senger, Plan Commission member Hartmann, and Village attorney Rick Manthe had a meeting with the Colsac Lodge team. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the details of the road dedication and come to an agreement on

whether the Village or Colsac Lodge would be responsible for the construction of the boulevard. After much discussion, the group proposed that Colsac Lodge would handle construction of the boulevard and in return the Village would offer a partial lump sum payment upfront (to be determined) and pay the rest over time with the TID funds. Attorney Manthe is drafting a Developer's Agreement between the Colsac Lodge and the Village and should have a rough draft available by the end of the week. She also shared the updated TID #1 Project Plan Proposal with the Board. 8.b. School Street Cost Estimate Update; Administrator Klecker received an update on the cost estimate for the School Street Project from Daniel Johnstone (Strand and Associates). Due to WISDOT storm sewer regulations, there is a possibility that additional piping may be required, which could drive the cost up to as much as \$875K. Johnstone is scheduling a meeting with WISDOT to ask about waiving the requirements or using a less conservative approach, which would bring the cost back down to between \$650 - \$700K. 8.c. Board Designated Equity Account for Test Well No. 2; Gallus/Budde motioned to approve that Administrator Klecker create a Board Designated Equity account for "donor restricted" donations received for Test Well No. 2. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.** 8.d. New Operator Hiring Update; The Village has received 2 applications for the new Maintenance-Operator position. Highway 78 Resurfacing in 2033; Administrator Klecker and DPW Schultz had a meeting with Highway 78 Resurfacing Project Engineer, Jaime Boado to discuss the project and go over the State/Municipal Financial Agreement. The project, set for 2033, will be a complete resurface of Hwy 78 through the entire length of the Village as well as Wisconsin Street (Hwy 113). The Village will need to plan on paying around \$33K for their portion of the project.

Item 9. Convene in closed session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes Section §19.85(1)(c) to consider employee compensation: Gallus/Budde motioned to convene in closed session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes Section §19.85(1)(c) to consider employee compensation. All Ayes, **Motion Carried.**

Item 10. Reconvene in open session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes Section §19.85(1)(c) to act on employee compensation: Gallus/Bourgeois All Ayes, **Motion Carried.** For successfully completing the 3-year UWGB Clerks Training Course and for recognition of her

excellent job performance, Gallus/Senger motioned to award Deputy Clerk, Amy Stevens a \$0.50 credential raise effective next pay period, rather than waiting until 1/1/2026. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.**

Item 11. Adjourn: At 7:17pm, Budde/Gallus motioned to adjourn. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.**

Draft minutes of the Joint Review Board Meeting August 13, 2025

Item 1. Call to Order: The Joint Review Board Meeting was called to order in Village Hall by JRB member Stan Senger at 9:30am. JRB Members Amy Brehm (Sauk Prairie School District), Jessica Machovec (Sauk County), Sylvia Ramirez (Madison College), Jennie Klecker (Village of Merrimac At-Large), and Village TID Consultant Katrina Becker were present as well as members of the public as listed on the sign in sheet. JRB member Senger examined the affidavit of posting and confirmed that advance public notice of the meeting conformed to statutory requirements.

Item 2. Roll Call and verification of quorum: The group introduced themselves and verified a quorum.

Item 3. Selection of public member by majority vote: Machovec/Ramirez motioned to select Village Administrator, Jennie Klecker to serve as public member on the Joint Review Board. All Ayes, **Motion Carried.**

Item 4. Selection of chairperson by majority vote: Senger/Machovec motioned to select Jennie Klecker to serve as Chairperson for the Joint Review Board. All Ayes **Motion Carried.**

Item 5. Discuss proposed TID #1 boundary and project plan: Katrina Becker gave an overview of the proposed TID #1 boundary and project plan. The TID is a 20-year mixed use plan to promote business and residential development. The creation of the TID was spurred by a proposed hotel development near the Merrimac Ferry. The hotel's developers are requesting TIF assistance with the creation of a boulevard to provide access to the hotel and potential future businesses, that bypasses ferry traffic. The TID would also provide incentives for additional development as well as help fund other much-needed road improvements.

Item 6. Future agenda items: Resolution to officially create the TID.

Item 7. Next Meeting Date: The next JRB meeting was scheduled for September 25, 2025, at 9:30am at Merrimac Village Hall.

Item 8. Adjourn: At 9:50am, Machovec/Senger motioned to adjourn. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.**

**Draft minutes of the Plan Commission
Public Hearing on Creation of TID #1
August 18, 2025**

Item 1. Call to Order: The Village of Merrimac Plan Commission Public Hearing on Creation of TID #1 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, Village TID consultant Katrina Becker, 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 hearing conformed to statutory requirements.

Item 2. Public Hearing: 2.a. Presentation on Creation of Tax Increment (TID) #1; The Plan Commission began the public hearing with a short presentation. Village TID consultant, Katrina Becker gave an overview of Tax Incremental Financing (TIF). Plan Commission member Hartmann walked through the risks and benefits of TIF. Chairperson Bourgeois explained why Merrimac is considering TIF. Administrator Klecker went over the timeline for the potential creation of TID#1. 2.b. Public Comment; Members of the public asked questions, voiced concerns, and offered support for the creation of the TID. 2.c. Consider Resolution No. 2025-08-01 Approving Tax Increment District No. 1 Boundary and Project Plan; Hoffman/Bourgeois motioned to approve Resolution No. 2025-08-01. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.**

Item 3. New Business: 3.a. Hellman Certified Survey Map – Combining parcels 151-0117-00000 & 151-0124-00000; Bourgeois/Hoffman motioned to approve the Hellman Certified Survey map combining parcels 151-0117-00000 & 151-0124-00000. Discuss Hellman rear yard setback options; Combining the two parcels creates a 6-sided corner lot, which gives the landowner several options when it comes to setbacks and home placement.

The group verified that the setback options Administrator Klecker explained to the landowner adheres to Village ordinances.

Item 4. Adjourn: At 7:59pm, Hoffman/Bourgeois motioned to adjourn. All Ayes, **Motion Carried.**

Respectfully Submitted,
Jennie Klecker

Jennie Klecker

Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer

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


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

Recycling Pickup Dates:

September 2, 15, & 29

Brush Pick-up Dates
September 10 & 24

Scrap metal recycling dumpster is located in the Village Hall parking lot.
METAL ONLY! No TV's Please!

Fall Leaf Clean-up Policy
Placing leaves in plastic bags for pickup is unnecessary and strongly discouraged. Residents should either compost their leaves on their own property, or pile them near the curbside on the Village's designated brush pick-up days. **Burning leaves is prohibited within the Village.** Because we do not have a street sweeper or vacuum, we ask that you **do not rake or blow your leaves into the Village's gutters, or streets.** Heavy rains then wash this debris into our storm sewers, impeding proper drainage and flow. Thank you for your cooperation throughout the coming fall season!


Senior Fitness Program

Starts September 29, 2025 & runs through May 8, 2026

- Open to anyone 50 years of age or older.
- **ONLY \$10.00 per person for the entire program!**



Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays
9:30 – 10:00am
Merrimac Village Hall


Sauk County Clean Sweep
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 27, 2025
8:00AM – 12:PM
Old Sauk County Landfill
E8795 Evergreen Lane, Baraboo
Sauk County strives to host an annual collection of household and agricultural hazardous waste for residents of Sauk County. Sauk County residents with used chemicals and oil-based paints can dispose of these items and more in a safe and environmentally sound manner at the Clean Sweep Program.
For more detailed information:
<https://www.co.sauk.wi.us/landconservation/clean-sweep>
Phone: 608-355-3245
conservation@saukcountywi.gov


School Starts September 2nd!!
Please slow down & watch out for school buses and children crossing our streets.