

The VILLAGE VOICE

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

April 2026 - Volume 51, Issue 12



Draft Minutes of the Parks & Recreation Meeting April 2, 2026

Item 1. Call to Order: The Village of Merrimac Parks and Recreation Meeting was called to order in the Village Hall by Chairperson Nate Taylor at 7:00pm. Committee members Amy Buck, June Krbecek, and Jennifer Thompson 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: Bob Garrison asked the committee for an update on the new Sunrise Shores park. Once the area dries out, the committee plans to add more fill to taper the hill and work on drafting a site plan. Leslie Muller-Johnson stated she visits the park daily and would like to donate some benches when the committee is ready. Joyce Ogden-Portz gave an update on behalf of Green Merrimac. She invited the group to attend a Native Plant presentation hosted by Green Merrimac, on April 4th at 9:30am. The presentation will feature a guest speaker from Wild Ones and is open to the public free of charge. Green Merrimac is planning a work day at Memorial Park on April 19 to remove some lilac and rose bushes that are located in too much shade. Krbecek suggested transplanting them at Sunrise Shores along the property line.

Item 3. Finalize Community Parks Survey: The committee made final revisions to the draft Community Parks Survey. The survey was designed to be quick and easy to fill out, with an area to add optional comments. The surveys will be available on election day at both the Village and Town Halls.

Item 4. Open Parks & Recreation Committee Seat – Recommendations: The group discussed possible candidates to fill

the open seat the on Parks & Recreation committee.

Item 5. Village Administrator’s Report: None.

Item 6. Adjourn: At 7:58pm, Krbecek/Buck motioned to adjourn. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.**

Draft Minutes of the Plan Commission Meeting April 13, 2026

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, and Ann Hoffman 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. Ringuist Boat House Conditional Use Permit: The Commission determined that the boathouse plans conformed to Village ordinances. Bourgeois/Hoffman motioned to recommend approval of the Ringuist Conditional Use Permit to build a boathouse. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.**

Item 4. Colsac Lodge: 4.a Proposed Wisconsin Street (HWY 113) modification to add dedicated turning lane onto Palisade Street; Colsac Lodge developer, Rod Ripley informed the Plan Commission that WISDOT has signed off on a proposal to modify Hwy 113 to add a right turn only lane onto Palisade Street that would provide access to the lodge. Plans are still preliminary at this time. 4.b. Proposed boulevard alternative with intent to dedicate to Village; Rather than constructing a boulevard connecting Palisade to Hwy 78, which WISDOT will not allow, Mr. Ripley has proposed constructing a long U-shaped court with approximately 50 parking spots. Once completed, the road

would be dedicated to the Village. Mr. Ripley expects his engineers have 60% plans completed in the next week or two and will provide copies to the Village for review. 4.c. Discuss New Terms for Developer’s Agreement; Changes to the Developer’s agreement include adding language to clarify that parking spots on the new court will count towards the required minimum called for in the Village ordinances, details regarding the modified turn, and changing the boulevard to a court. Administrator Klecker will reach out to the Village attorney to begin the update.

Item 5. TID #1: 5.a. Review/Approve DRAFT “Tax Incremental Financing Development Incentives Policy Manual”; after making a few small edits, Bourgeois/Hoffman motioned to recommend approval of the draft policy manual. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.** 5.b. Review /Approve DRAFT “Tax Incremental Financing Incentives Application”; Bourgeois/Hoffman motioned to recommend approval of the draft TIF Application. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.** 5.c. Review/Approve DRAFT “Building Façade and Signage Improvement Matching Grant Program Guidelines & Application”; Bourgeois/Hoffman motioned to recommend approval of the draft façade improvement grant guidelines and application. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.**

Item 6. Adjourn: At 6:49pm, Bourgeois/Hoffman motioned to adjourn. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.**

Draft minutes of the Village Board Meeting April 21, 2026

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, Stan Senger, Nate Taylor, and Margaret Budde 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: Joe Krasovec spoke to the Board about issues that he is having with constructing a commercial building on his B-1 business property at 627 Main Street.

Item 3. Review Consent Agenda: Bourgeois/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. Colsac Lodge: 5.a. Proposed HWY 113 modification to add right turn lane onto Palisade Street for hotel access; Colsac Lodge Developer, Rod Ripley, informed the Board that WISDOT has approved a preliminary plan to add a right turn only lane on Hwy 113 to provide access to the lodge via Palisade Street. 5.b. Proposed boulevard alternative with intent to dedicate to Village; With WISDOT rejecting the proposed boulevard, Mr. Ripley presented an alternative plan to construct a long U-shaped court that will provide approximately 50 parking spots. Upon completion, the new road with public parking will be dedicated to the Village. 5.c. Discuss new terms of Developer's Agreement; Mr. Ripley's attorney is working on updating the previous version of the Developer's Agreement to reflect the new changes. The new draft will be sent to the Village attorney for review.

Item 6. WWTP Planning: The polishing PILOT program at the WWTP will be turned off in May. This will allow Public Works staff to evaluate the effectiveness of other changes that have been made aside from adding MicroC.

Item 7. Report of the Plan Commission: 7.a. Consider Conditional Use Permit for Ringquist Boathouse: Parcel 151-0073-00000; Gallus/Budde motioned to approve the Conditional Use Permit for the Ringquist Boathouse. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.** 7.b. TID#1: Recommendations for approval of Policy Manual, Application, and Façade Improvement Grant; Plan Commission Chair Bourgeois presented the DRAFT TIF Policy Manual, Application, and Façade Improvement Grant documents, which the Plan Commission voted to recommend the Board approve. The Board discussed

various changes including adding an option for Single Family Residential properties within the TID boundary to be eligible to apply for improvement grants.

Item 8. TID#1: 8.a. Consider approval of DRAFT "Tax Incremental Financing Development Incentives Policy Manual"; **No motions made at this time.** 8.b. Consider approval of DRAFT "Tax Incremental Financing Incentives Application"; **No motions made at this time.** 8.c. Consider approval of DRAFT "Building Façade and Signage Improvement Matching Grant Program Guidelines & Application"; **No motions made at this time.** The Plan Commission will take the feedback received from the Board and revise the documents for future review and approval.

Item 9. Report of the Parks & Recreation Committee: Parks & Recreation Chair Taylor shared that the community park survey was a huge success, gathering input from around 300 participants. The committee will compile the data to help guide their efforts over the next several years. Results will be shared publicly for residents to review. Watch for additional survey polls to be posted on the Village Facebook page in the coming months.

Item 10. Report of the Director of Public Works: DPW Schultz informed the Board that the motor that operates the handicap accessible front door at Village Hall is beyond repair and needs to be replaced. He made several calls for quotes, but only one company still makes motor replacements for this style of door. Gallus/Senger motioned to approve Entrance Technologies I, LLC to replace the motor in the amount of \$3,226.00. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.** The Village experienced extensive downed tree and limb damage during the April 14th windstorm. Cleanup efforts are ongoing, however, with just a 2-person crew, it will take quite a while to get all the debris hauled away. The Board thanked the Public Works Team for all the extra time and effort they've put into dealing with the effects of the storm. Administrator Klecker informed the Board that due to the extent of storm damage, the Village will qualify for financial relief from the Wisconsin Disaster Fund.

Item 11. Report of the Administrator: 11.a. Municipal Street Improvement Discretionary (MSID) Grant; Administrator Klecker was excited to announce that the Village was awarded the MSID LRIP grant for the School Street reconstruction project. This award will cut the total project costs in half, saving the Village

\$350K. 11.b. Discussion on appointing two Trustees to serve on Plan Commission; The Board discussed changing the Village ordinance to allow for up to two Trustees to serve on the Plan Commission instead of one. This would ensure that no matter the outcome of any given election, there would always be a Trustee on the Commission ready to step into the role of Plan Commission chairperson. The Board asked Administrator Klecker to draft a proposed amendment to the Village ordinance that would allow up to two Trustees to serve on the Plan Commission for the Board to review at the next Board meeting.

Item 12. Resolution 2026-04-01 Honoring Stan Senger: President Gallus read Resolution 2026-04-01: A Resolution Honoring Stan Senger for His Outstanding Service During His Tenure as Trustee. Trustee Senger was presented with a copy of the resolution as a token of the community's appreciation for his service. Gallus/Bourgeois motioned to approve Resolution 2026-04-01. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.**

Item 13. Resolution 2026-04-02 Honoring Margaret Budde: Administrator Klecker read Resolution 2026-04-02: A Resolution Honoring Margaret Budde for Her Outstanding Service During Her Tenure as Trustee. Trustee Budde was presented with a copy of the resolution as a token of the community's appreciation for her service. Gallus/Taylor motioned to approve Resolution 2026-04-02. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.**

Item 14. Swearing in of Elected Officials: President Gallus administered the Oath of Office to newly elected Trustees', Nicole Hartmann and Scott Thompson, whose terms run April 21, 2026 through April 18, 2028.

Item 15. Adjourn: At 7:10PM, Taylor/Bourgeois motioned to adjourn. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.**
Respectfully Submitted,
Jennie Klecker



Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer

Next Village Board Meeting May 12, 2026 5:30 PM @ Village Hall

AA Meetings

Meetings will resume this summer at the Memorial Park Pavilion
Contact Chuck @ 608-795-0050

Brush Pick-up Dates

May 6 & May 20

Recycling Pickup Dates:



May 11 & 26*(Tuesday)

Monday, May 25 is Memorial Day

The Merrimac Community Festival will be held at Memorial Park on **SATURDAY, JUNE 13th 2026!!**



Bar Buddies is looking for additional volunteer drivers!
Contact Jodie (608)434-3009
or Cat (847)371-1918

Merrimac Fire & Rescue ANNUAL PANCAKE BREAKFAST



SATURDAY, MAY 23rd

7:00 AM – 11:00 AM
120 School Street

All you can eat breakfast!
\$10 Adults, \$5 Kids Age 4-8
3 & Under FREE
Carry outs available.

Village Hall will be closed on **Monday, May 29th**
in Observance of
Memorial Day



Kids Flowerpot Decorating For Mother's Day!!

SATURDAY, MAY 9TH
Kid Crafting | 10am - 2pm

Let Mom shop while the kids decorate a flower pot and plant a flower for her this Mother's Day.

Buttermilk Barn
E13313 State Road 78 & 113
Merrimac, WI 53561

Cost \$5.00

Includes: flowerpot, decorations, and one flower to plant. All proceeds go directly back into the Merrimac Community.



Scrap metal recycling is available at Village Hall. Please place items in the dumpster located in the Village Hall parking lot.

**THIS DUMPSTER IS FOR
METAL RECYCLING ONLY!**
No TV's, No Furniture

We are currently seeking sponsors for the Merrimac Fire Department Cash Raffle drawing on July 4th.

Your support will help fund the cash prizes:

Bronze Sponsor - \$50

Silver Sponsor - \$125

Gold Sponsor - \$250

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor, please contact Sun Step Financial at 608-354-1041.

Thank you!

Claire



The Merrimac Community Festival Needs Volunteers!

We can't pull this event off without you!

- *Event Day Workers Needed!
- *No Meeting Attendance Required!
- *Short (or long) Shifts Available!

Please consider volunteering for a few hours to help make our Community Festival a success!

Contact merrimac@merrimacwi.gov or call Village Hall to sign up today!

Reminder:

In order to maintain a neat and attractive appearance, grass should be kept at a maximum of 4 inches.

