

VILLAGE VOICE

February 2021

Volume 17, Issue 2

Minutes of the Village Board February 9, 2021

The Village Board meeting was called to order in the Village Hall Large Meeting Room by Village President Phil Budde at 5:03 p.m. Board members Jim Malmberg, Garry Bahe, George Naxera, and Amy Buffardi were present. Village Administrator Brian Mooney was present. Members of the public in attendance were Cheryl Anderson, Margaret Budde and Village of Merrimac Public Works Director Justin Schultz.

Item 1. Call to Order:

President Budde examined the affidavit of posting and verified that advance public notice of the meeting conformed to statutory requirements.

Item 2. Public Input:

President Budde inquired as to whether there was any public input. Trustee Bahe wanted to recognize Robin Meier for her ongoing accounting and mentoring assistance to the Village over the past year.

Trustee Buffardi noted that the Caucus minutes required one update as Mrs. Budde was the second member of the public to nominate her for the Village Trustee position in the April Spring Election.

Trustee Naxera informed the Board of updates involving the addition of a lift system with the Sauk Prairie EMTs, as well as a recently introduced pay bonus for staff.

President Budde spoke to the matter of the recent concern involving water runoff on the Olson family property. Mr. Budde stated that, following the December Board Meeting, Mr. Budde followed the Board's recommendation and reached out to the

Village Attorney. Mr. Budde also informed the Board he had an opportunity to discuss the issue at length with an Engineer familiar with the Lift Station installation. Mr. Budde stated he currently feels he has enough information to draft a letter to Mr. Olson on the matter. Trustees Naxera/Buffardi moved to add the Olson Water concern to the next month's Agenda. **Motion Carried**

Item 3. Consent Agenda:

Bahe/Malmberg moved to approve items 3a, 3b., 3c., 3d. and 3e. of the Consent Agenda as posted. **Motion Carried**

Item 4. Approval of Village Bills:

Naxera/Buffardi moved to approve payment of outstanding monthly bills as listed on the Agenda. Upon Roll Call Vote, All Ayes. **Motion Carried**

Item 5. Report of the Administrator:

Mr. Mooney informed the Board that he identified an accounting update need within the Village's accounts. Mr. Mooney introduced Resolution 2021-01-02 Reallocation of Parks Fund Money in order to successfully move the parks fund reserve balance money from the Village General Fund account back to the Parks Fund. Bahe/Naxera moved to approve Resolution 2021-01-02. Upon Roll Call Vote, All Ayes. **Motion Carried**

Mr. Mooney next alerted the Board that the first of the bi-annual Fire Dues payments was a part of this month's in-progress check report. The second payment installment for the Village will be due around August.

Mr. Mooney next reminded the Board that the Village's annual financial Audit is underway, with the first week's review already having been completed virtually. The onsite portion of the audit will take

place over the next two days within Village Hall.

Mr. Mooney continued his report notifying the Board that Deputy Clerk Klecker was making progress on updating the Village's Personnel Policy Handbook. Mr. Mooney was optimistic that the revised Village Policy Handbook would be included in next month's Board Packet.

Mr. Mooney provided the Board with a brief update on the status of the Village's Annual Community Festival plan schedule. Mr. Mooney let the Board know that two recent communications were sent to Village of Merrimac residents notifying them of the hopeful return of the Village Community Festival in August. The next Village Festival meeting is scheduled Thursday February 11th, at 6:30pm.

Mr. Mooney closed his report by stating that he followed up on Trustee Malmberg's request related to the two sidewalk issues at the Village Post Office. Mr. Mooney stated there was initial progress regarding snow clearing from the Post Office sidewalk, and a tentative agreement regarding the needed sidewalk repair. Any such agreement will follow the Village's typical practice and procedures. The Village Ordinances are clear in regard to a property owner's duty in many areas of care, maintenance and repair of their property, all for the public good. As in this specific case, the property owner was informed by the Village staff of their responsibility and options were discussed. If necessary, the Village may undertake, in whole or in part, the property owner's duty for which the Village has a specific fee schedule and/or a staff-time fee schedule to fairly recover Village costs. The Board voiced continued support for this, the Village's standard approach.

Website: villageofmerrimac.org

Email: Merrimac@merr.com **Village Hall:** 608-493-2122

REGULAR OFFICE HOURS: Monday—Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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Item 6. Water/Sewer/Maintenance:

Mr. Budde handled the Water and Sewer update on the agenda. Mr. Budde notified the Board that the Task Order and Agreement from Strand Associates, Inc. were received. After some discussion; Naxera/Bahe moved to approve the Task Order with Strand Associates, Inc. as provided. Upon Roll Call Vote, All Ayes. **Motion Carried**

Naxera/Bufardi moved to approve the Agreement with Strand Associates, Inc. as provided. Upon a Roll Call Vote, All Ayes. **Motion Carried**

Item 7. Adjourn: At 5:35 pm Bahe/Bufardi moved that the meeting adjourn. **Motion Carried.**

Calendar Reminders

Next Board Meeting
March 9th, 2021
@5:00 PM
VILLAGE HALL

2021 Merrimac Community Festival

The 2021 Community Festival Planning Committee is meeting the 2nd Thursday of each Month. Next Meeting:
March 11, 2021
6:30 pm Village Hall.
Volunteers needed!
Please Visit the Village Website for more information.

Fall/Winter Street Parking Regulations in effect.

Vehicles cannot be left between 2am to 8am 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.

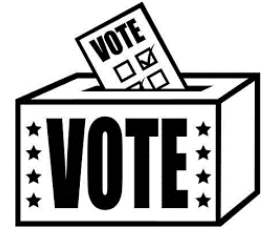
Snow Removal

Clearing snow from sidewalks and ensuring access to mailboxes is the property owner's responsibility pursuant to Village Ordinance 129-5. Sidewalks shall be cleared within 24 hours following the end of a snowfall event. If walks are not cleared within 48 hours, the Village will clear the walks and bill the homeowner for this service.

Sign Up Today!

The Village encourages all residents to sign up for Auto-Pay with e-Billing for monthly utilities.

See Village Website:
villageofmerrimac.org>
utilities and billing>
Direct Debit form & Email Bill Sign-Up.



Spring Election

VOTE TUESDAY APRIL 6, 2021
Polling Place: Village Hall
100 Cook Street
Hours: 7:00am-8:00 pm

Registered candidates on ballot for two Village Trustee positions include:

Amy Buffardi
Andrew Gallus
Bob Pfaff
Kirk Olson

One registered candidate for Village President position:
Philip Budde

BRUSH PICK-UP

Wednesdays, March 10th
& 24th, 2021

Village Hall will be closed
on April 2nd in observation
of Good Friday

