

# The VILLAGE VOICE

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

June 2024 - Volume 50, Issue 02

## Draft minutes of the Village Board Meeting June 11, 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 5:30pm. Village Trustees Margaret Budde, Jim Malmberg, 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:** George Naxera informed the Board that the Sauk Prairie Ambulance Committee is in the early stages of possibly hiring a team of paramedics to assist with transports to hospitals. Cheryl Anderson provided the Board with copies of the Merrimac Community Festival flyer and encouraged them to promote and attend the event. Ron and Shelly Senger requested that the Village post a notice on the Village website and Village Voice reminding the public that fireworks permits are required. Administrator Klecker stated that a notice will be included in the June Village Voice and that the Village will continue to notify the public via our website and Facebook page when fireworks permits are issued. Trustee Taylor relayed general concerns that had been brought to his attention regarding potential plans to improve public lake access points in the Village.

**Item 3. Consent Agenda:** Malmberg/Taylor motioned to approve the Consent Agenda. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.**

**Item 4. Approval of Village Bills:** Taylor/Senger motioned to approve payment of outstanding monthly bills as

listed on items 4.i.-4.iv. of the Agenda. Upon Roll Call Vote, All Ayes. **Motion Carried.**

**Item 5. Annual Liquor License "Class B" Combination (BLB) renewal applications and Operator's Permits for:** 5.a. Mac's Pub & Grub; Gallus/Malmberg motioned to approve Operator's licenses and "Class B" liquor license renewal application for Mac's Pub & Grub. All Ayes, **Motion Carried.** 5.b. Ferry X-ing Bar & Grill; Gallus/Budde motioned to approve Operator's licenses and "Class B" liquor license renewal application for Ferry X-ing Bar & Grill. All Ayes, **Motion Carried.** 5.c. Lake House Burger & BBQ; Gallus/Malmberg motioned to approve Operator's license and "Class B" liquor license application for Lake House Burger & BBQ and grant a 12 month exemption to the Business Continuation Ordinance to allow time for needed renovations. All Ayes, **Motion Carried.** 5.d. Annual Tobacco License for Ferry X-ing Bar & Grill; Gallus/Budde motioned to approve Tobacco license renewal for Ferry X-ing Bar & Grill. All Ayes, **Motion Carried.** 5.e. Renewal of Alcohol Beverage License Application for Class "B" Beer License for Candy's Café; Gallus/Senger motioned to approve Class "B" Beer license renewal for Candy's Café. All Ayes, **Motion Carried.** 5.f. Merrimac Community Festival Picnic License; Taylor/Budde motioned to approve Picnic License for the Merrimac Community Festival. All Ayes, **Motion Carried.** 5.g. Merrimac Fire & Rescue Picnic License; Malmberg/Senger motioned to approve Picnic License for Merrimac Fire & Rescue for use during the Merrimac Festival. All Ayes, **Motion Carried.** 5.h. Discuss issuing reserve "Class B" liquor license to H's Place; Kathy Hunt, owner of H's Place Pizzeria located in the Town of Merrimac, asked the Board to consider granting her business the Village's extra liquor license. The Town of Merrimac does

not have a license available for her at this time, however, they are close to gaining an additional license due to population growth. Kathy stated that once the Town of Merrimac obtains that additional license, she would apply for it and return the original license back to the Village. The Board expressed their willingness to accommodate her request but agreed that more information is needed before any decisions can be made. Administrator Klecker, along with President Gallus will be contacting state officials to discuss options and report back at the next meeting.

**Item 6. Security Camera for Outside Village Hall:** Trustee Taylor obtained a quote from Mid Wisconsin Security to install security cameras at Village Hall for \$2,000 - \$2,500. The Board decided to get more information and additional quotes before proceeding.

### **Item 7. Compliance Maintenance Annual Report (CMAR) Approval:**

Budde/Malmberg made the following motions relating to the CMAR report:

- 1.) Motion to continue to support Staff efforts to optimize WWTP nitrogen removal, including (a) running a pre-polish pilot into the winter months of 2023-4 and (b) budgeting for MicroC and Aquafix.
- 2.) Motion to appoint Derek Peetz as Operator in Charge, until DPW Schultz's N Subclass certification is resolved.
- 3.) Motion to acknowledge 2023 CMAR GPA of 3.52, on par with 2022. Budde, Malmberg and Senger voted Aye, Gallus voted Nay with Taylor abstaining. **Motion Carried.**

### **Item 8. Preliminarily Proposed Merrimac Fire Protection Equipment Replacement Fund:**

Town of Caledonia President, Stephanie Brensike recently spoke with Trustee Budde about the possibility of creating a joint Merrimac Fire Protection equipment replacement fund. Since the MFD has historically received enthusiastic

financial support from the community, the Board felt that the fund may not be necessary at this time.

**9. Discuss Possible November Referendum to Fund School Street Repair:** The Board discussed the possibility of putting an advisory referendum on the November General Election ballot to fund the School Street repair project. The Board agreed that village residents should have an opportunity to vote on the issue. Administrator Klecker will reach out to the Sauk County Clerk and Village attorney to begin the process.

**Item 10. Parks & Recreation Report:** Trustee Taylor informed the Board that the newly formed Parks & Recreation Committee will meet the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00pm at Village Hall. Meetings will be posted and the public is encouraged to attend. The first order of business that the committee would like to pursue is clearing brush from 2 public lake access points in the Village. Gallus/Taylor motioned to rent a Kubota Forestry Mulcher for 3 days at \$1,000 per day. Upon Roll Call Vote, All Ayes. **Motion Carried.**

**Item 11. Report of the Director of Public Works:** DPW Schultz informed the Board that repairs are needed on pumps at Lift Stations 1 and 2. Budde/Gallus motioned to approve required repair of Lift Station 1 Pump 1 due to seal failure. Upon Roll Call Vote, All Ayes. **Motion Carried.** Taylor/Malmberg motioned to approve Lift Station 2 pump 2 upgrade. Upon Roll Call Vote, All Ayes. **Motion Carried.**

**Item 12. Adjourn:** At 7:16pm, Taylor/Gallus motioned to adjourn. All Ayes. **Motion Carried.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jennie Klecker

Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer

Next Village Board Meeting  
**July 9, 2024**  
5:30 PM @ Village Hall

Parks & Recreation Meeting  
**July 3, 2024**  
7:00 PM @ Village Hall


**The Village Hall Office will be closed for Staff Training July 15-19**

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

  
Recycling Pickup Dates:  
**July 8 & 22**

Brush Pick-up Date  
**July 10 & 24**  
*4 feet wide by 4 feet high, up to 8 feet long with brush stacked parallel to and near the road.*

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

  
We all want our lawns and gardens looking nice and green this summer, but before you reach for those harsh chemical fertilizers, which can be harmful to the environment and dangerous for pets & wildlife, consider trying one the following natural treatments on your lawn this year:  
1.) Coffee grounds contain nitrogen, carbon & other compounds that feed organisms in the soil. Perk up your yard by mixing half a pound of coffee grounds with 5 gallons of water and spray your lawn with it.  
2.) Epsom salts are rich in magnesium and sulfur, two key nutrients that may be deficient in your turf. Scatter a light dusting of Epsom salt over your lawn, then water thoroughly to help it dissolve and reach the roots.  
3.) Bananas are a potassium powerhouse, and an essential nutrient that helps strengthen plant roots and build up disease resistance. Chop up banana peels and bury them alongside your vegetable garden.

  
**Merrimac Fire & Rescue Annual Fireworks Show!**  
**Saturday, July 6, 2024**  
NEW LOCATION on the corner of Hwy 78 & Idlewild Road!!  
Just follow the signs for parking.  
**\* \$5.00 a carload \* Gate opens @5pm\* Concessions Available\***  
*Bring your blankets & lawn chairs, but please leave your fireworks & grills at home.*

**\* FIREWORKS PERMITS\***  
If you've lived in Merrimac longer than a minute, you've certainly noticed how much folks around here like to set off fireworks all summer long. While fireworks have been a symbol of celebration for centuries, they can cause extreme stress and anxiety for many people and pets. If you are planning on setting off any fireworks that leave the ground (roman candles, bottle rockets, mortars, etc.) **PLEASE, be a good neighbor, and APPLY FOR A FIREWORKS PERMIT!** This gives the Village time to inform the public about when and where fireworks will be occurring, which gives those who find fireworks distressing a chance to prepare. Besides, it's the **LAW**. The Fireworks Permit Application is available on the Village website, or call Village Hall and we will be happy to help walk you through it. If you would like to sign up to receive a notification when fireworks permits are issued, call or email Village Hall. If we work together, we can all have a safe and happy summer! **THANK YOU!**

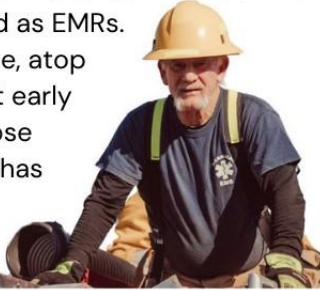
**Reminder:**  
In order to maintain a neat and attractive appearance, grass should be kept at a minimum of 4 inches.



# Merrimac Fire & Rescue

They're musicians, local business owners, grandparents, and home-town heroes. With over 40 years of combined service, **Roxanne and Steve Ostrowsky** are the longest-serving couple on Merrimac Fire & Rescue. Both are certified as Firefighters and as EMRs.

Here's Steve, atop Engine-2 at early morning Hose Check. He has served his country in the

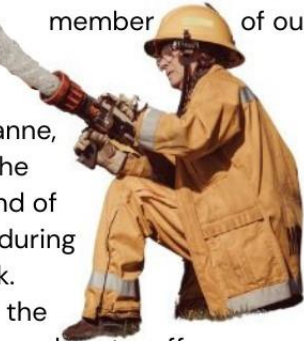


Air National Guard and worked as an electrician for 30 years.

Roxanne has been an officer on Fire & Rescue and a member of our

Board of Directors.

Here's Roxanne, managing the business end of a fire hose during Hose Check.



She's often the very first member to offer a warm welcome to our new recruits. It is couples like the Ostrowskys who help form the backbone of every thriving community.

**Thank you, Steve and Roxanne!**

Come join Roxanne, Steve, and the other dedicated Merrimac Fire & Rescue firefighters and EMRs in serving our community.

**JOIN OUR TEAM!**

**You need us. We need you.**

## What a Mess!

### VBS

(Nondenominational)

**July 15-19**

**1-4PM Ages 5-12**

Kickball on Tuesday & Thursday

Join us for some messy fun because life can be messy sometimes!

Call or email for registration information or questions.

608-717-9625

kjonaxera@gmail.com

**United Methodist Church**

**117 Church Street**

**Merrimac, WI**



**PLEASE BE A  
GOOD NEIGHBOR**

**CLEAN UP  
AFTER YOUR DOG**

*Thank You*



Partisan Primary

**AUGUST 13, 2024**

General Election

**NOVEMBER 5, 2024**

Elections are coming up!

Are you registered?

Visit **MyVote.wi.gov**

**Important Information for  
Village of Merrimac  
Water Utility Customers:**

The 2023 Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) of the MERRIMAC WATERWORKS (Public Water System ID 15700938) is now available.

Official copies are posted in the following places:  
merrimacwi.gov/officialpostings  
Merrimac Post Office  
Merrimac Village Hall,  
or

you may also request to receive a copy of the CCR by mail, by email, or by hand. Contact us at merrimac@merrimacwi.gov or 608-493-2122

Village Hall will be closed on  
Thursday, July 4th

*Have a safe & Happy  
4th of July!*



SATURDAY, AUGUST 3, 2024



# MERRIMAC COMMUNITY FESTIVAL



CAR SHOW, SKI SHOW, LIVE MUSIC, FUN FOR  
KIDS, CRAFT VENDORS, FOOD & DRINKS



*KIDS ACTIVITIES ALL DAY*

- 10 AM CAR SHOW- NEW THIS YEAR
- 10 AM KIDS GAMES OPEN UNTIL 3
- 10-5 PM FIRE DEPT BAGS & HORSESHOES
- 11 AM AMATEUR WATER SPORT CONTEST
- 12:30 PM BAR-STYLE TRIVIA- ADULT SHOW
- 1 PM MAD-CITY SKI TEAM
- 2 PM 50/50 RAFFLE GIVEAWAY
- 2:30 PM MUSIC BY JOHNNIE MILLER
- 3 PM BASKET RAFFLE GIVEAWAYS
- 4PM MUSIC BY SCHELL BOUND



- |               |  |                    |  |               |
|---------------|--|--------------------|--|---------------|
| Kids Games    |  | Bounce House       |  | Food Trucks   |
| Raffle Prizes |  | Chicken Drop Bingo |  | Beer Tent     |
| Face Painting |  | Scavenger Hunt     |  | Food & Drinks |

**TICKETS ON SALE NOW!!!!!!**

[coordinator.merrimacfestival@gmail.com](mailto:coordinator.merrimacfestival@gmail.com)

# Merrimac Community Festival – Saturday, August 3 2024

Please return this application by July 19, 2024. Fill in applicable section/s that apply to you, make check payable to: **Village of Merrimac and mail to or drop off at Village of Merrimac, 100 Cook St., Merrimac WI 53561.** Form may also be scanned and emailed to [deputyclerk@merrimacwi.gov](mailto:deputyclerk@merrimacwi.gov) with check mailed no later than July 19th.

**DONATIONS:** Send your donation check to the above address with the following information:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

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**VOLUNTEERS:** I would love to help make this year's festival a huge success by offering 2- 3 hours of my time to assist with festival set-up or operations on August 3, 2024. You can also find the SignupGenius link on the Village website under "Residents" tab, then "Merrimac Community Festival."

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

How would you like to help? \_\_\_\_\_

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**VENDOR BOOTHS:** All craft booths operate from 10am - 4pm.

Name of Person Responsible for Booth: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_ Website \_\_\_\_\_

Brief description of items to be sold: \_\_\_\_\_

Vendor Fee: \$50.00 for a 10' x10' Booth Space Enclosed Total Fees \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## **Vendor Agreement**

Booth items must be appropriate for both children and adults to view. This is a family event.

The festival committee reserves the right to decline a proposed vendor's participation.

Each vendor will be responsible for preparing, setting up, staffing and removing his/her booth.

Booth areas are **10 feet by 10 feet** – the committee advises that vendors bring an awning/cover for their booth if at all possible.

Booth location assignments will be made by the festival committee.

This festival will be held rain or shine on August 3. There will be **NO fee refunds**.

Vendors bring booth items to the festival and participate at their own risk.

The festival committee or the Village of Merrimac is not liable for the loss or damage of booth items.

All booth registration and set up will start at 8am and should be ready to sell by 10am

Booth take down finished no later than 5 pm

Vendors will allow the festival committee to use booth information or photos for promotional purposes.

I hereby agree to all requirements and fees aforementioned on this application form:

Vendor Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_