

it is to keep FOG out of our sewer system. With no further matters brought before the Board, Bahe/Malmberg moved to adjourn the meeting. **Motion carried** and the meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald D. Senger
Administrator

Alternate-Side Parking

To aid the Village's staff in winter snow removal from our streets, the Village's alternate-side parking policy is now effect for the season. On odd-numbered days, residents must park on the odd-numbered side of the street. On even-numbered days, residents shall park on the even-numbered side of the street. We thank you all for your cooperation throughout the winter season!

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.

Merrimac Community Festival

Please mark your calendars for Saturday, August 4, 2018 for next year's festival and pause to check out some of our 2017 festival photos at the following link:
<http://villageofmerrimac.org/events.htm>

Jeff Voll's Retirement Send-Off

Friday December 8, 2017
Village Hall, from 1-3pm

Please stop by the Village Hall between 1-3 pm to say farewell to Jeff Voll and to wish him well in celebrating his 33 years of dedicated, continuous service to the Village of Merrimac. We will have cake, coffee and punch available for those who stop in to share stories and congratulate Jeff on his well-earned retirement.

WANTED!

Candidates for Public Office

Interested Village residents wishing to run for public office for the Village of Merrimac should plan to attend the Village Caucus on January 13, 2018, at 9:00am at the Village Hall. The Caucus process is used to secure nominations of candidates for trustee posts that will expire in April, 2018. Immediately following the Caucus, Declaration of Candidacy (forms) and Campaign Registration Statements must be submitted to the Sauk County Clerk for candidates to appear on the official ballot at the April 3, 2018 Spring Election. Please contact Ron Senger if you are interested or have questions.

Direct Payment of Utility Bills

We encourage our water-sewer utility customers to pay their monthly bills directly from a bank account by completing the ACH Direct Debit Form available on our Village website under the tab "Utilities." This automated payment method provides one more way to simplify your life and save time and money. Over 44% of our current utility customers are using this simple payment method. Please call the Village office if you have questions, or need help with the ACH form.

CALENDAR REMINDERS

Village Board Meetings

Tuesday, Dec. 12, 2017, 6 pm
Tuesday, Jan. 9, 2018, 6 pm

Village Caucus

Saturday, Jan. 13, 2018, 9 am
(for trustee nominations)

Brush Pick-Up Dates

December 13

Please place your yard waste at curbside in CLEAR plastic bags; sticks or branches must be in neat 4' x 4' x 8' piles (or smaller) and aligned linear to street with easy access for pick up by our tractor grapple bucket **without driving on grass or lawns.**

NOTE: Brush pick-up will be once per month until April, 2018.

Fitness Program for Seniors Is Currently In Session

Please come join us for a fun exercise program designed to help you achieve and maintain a healthier fitness level. Our program is jointly sponsored by the Village of Merrimac and the Township of Merrimac. Class started Monday, October 23 and runs through April 20, 2018. Anyone 50 years of age or older can attend.

When: 9:30-10 am (Started 10/23 but you can join anytime!)

Each Monday, Wednesday & Friday

Where: All sessions are held at the **Merrimac Village Hall, 100 Cook St.**

Cost: Only \$10.00 for entire season
Instructor: Deb Raschka

Memorial Park and Ball Park

Please note the bathrooms at both parks are closed for the winter season. Staff will re-open bathrooms by May 1, 2018 for the summer season.

Website: villageofmerrimac.org **Email:** Merrimac@merr.com

Village Hall: 608-493-2122 **Fax:** 608-493-9908

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

VILLAGE VOICE

NOVEMBER 14, 2017

Volume 13, Issue 11

Minutes of the Village Board Meeting of Nov. 14, 2017

President Hahn called the Village Board meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. Board members present upon roll call included Nick Hahn, George Naxera, Garry Bahe, Phil Budde and Jim Malmberg. Ron Senger, Village administrator/Clerk /Treasurer was also present.

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

Public Input: None.

Following review of the Village's outstanding bills and prepaid expenses, Naxera/Malmberg moved to approve payment of the bills as listed on the agenda. Upon roll call vote, **motion carried.**

Hahn/Malmberg moved to approve the monthly financial reports including the balance sheet and budget comparison by major fund accounts for October, 2017. Upon roll call vote, **motion carried.**

Bahe/Naxera moved to approve the draft Minutes of the October 10, 2017 Village Board meeting. **Motion carried.**

Malmberg/Hahn moved to approve proposed Ordinance No. 2017-2 (Providing for Exemption

from Treasurer's Bond). Upon roll call vote, **motion carried.**

Administrator's Report:

Board Members received copies of the Merrimac Area Fire District 2018 budget; Minutes of the Sauk Prairie School Board meetings of September 25 and October 9, 2017; the Village Inspection Report for November 9, 2017 and a notice of Jeff Voll's retirement send-off, scheduled for 1-3 pm on Friday, December 8, 2017 at the Village Hall.

Sewer & Water Operations:

Ron had reported on two recent dosing pump alarms that had raised some concern at the wastewater treatment plant (WWTP). He reminded the Board that we have three dosing pumps pushing the treated effluent from the underground dosing chamber uphill to the recirculating sand filter beds. All three dosing pumps (Hydromatic 15 HP, 3-phase power, 460 gallons per minute capacity) have been in use since late 2002 when the plant went into full operations and none of them have been removed from service for that 15 year period. Based on monthly run hours recorded in the SCADA computer system, we estimate the operational hours for the pumps during this period to be over 9,200 hours each. Due to the seal-fail alarm on one and a high-temp alarm on the other pump, our operators shut down the two pumps. Ron had them pull and deliver the two pumps to LW Allen's repair shop in Madison for periodic maintenance and a thorough inspection of all

systems. Upon inspection, the good news was they found only a trace amount of water in the pumps' lower units, and there was no serious damage to either pump; based on the technician's recommendations and the fact the pumps were pulled apart in their shop for inspections, Ron directed their service manager to do the periodic maintenance needed on both pumps to ensure their continued operations for another 10 years or more. The technicians will replace the pumps' worn bearings with new sets of bearings, add new seals, and change the oil in each pump at a cost of \$2,800 per pump. Ron anticipates we will re-install the pumps and restore them to operational status at the WWTP by mid-December, 2017. We will plan to remove the plant's third dosing pump in the first quarter of 2018 to have the same periodic maintenance and new pump bearings installed by LW Allen in Madison.

During the latter half of October and into early November, Village staff had completed their scheduled semi-annual lift station inspections and cleaning for our nine wastewater lift stations serving the Village. Staff cleaned and flushed the wet wells, pumps and floats of all fats/oil/grease (FOG) that had built up since the last periodic maintenance was completed during our spring inspections. Staff followed up by placing door hanger notices to remind customers how important

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