

moved to approve the bartender's license. **Motion carried.**

Administrator's Report:

Ron distributed copies of the Minutes of the Sauk Prairie School Board Meetings of October 10, October 24 and November 14, 2016; the Merrimac Area Fire Commission Meeting Minutes of October 3, 2016 and the Village Inspection Report for December 7, 2016. Ron reminded the Board of the Village Caucus scheduled for Saturday, January 14th at 9:00 AM. (Terms for Village President Nick Hahn and Trustees Garry Bahe and Jeff Rasmussen will expire in April 2017.)

Sewer & Water Operations and

Planning & Zoning: Nothing reported

With no further matters brought before the Board, Bahe/Naxera moved to adjourn the meeting. **Motion carried** and the meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald D. Senger
Administrator

The Lake Wisconsin Alliance will host an educational meeting at the Village Hall on Tuesday, January 17, 2017 from 6-8 pm. The meeting is open to the public and the program is titled "The Merrimac Railroad Bridge: Past, Present, and Future." This past August, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation approved a \$17 million plan to repair the bridge. Virgil Kasper will outline the planned repairs and improvements to occur over the next two years. Please join us.

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 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 the service.

WANTED

Candidates for Village Public Office

Interested Village residents wishing to run for public office for the Village of Merrimac (Village President and Trustee positions) should plan to attend the Village Caucus set for January 14, 2017, at 9:00 AM at the Village Hall. The Caucus process is used to secure nominations of candidates for public office posts that will expire in April, 2017. Immediately following the Caucus, the formal Declaration of Candidacy (forms) and Campaign Registration Statements must be submitted to the Sauk County Clerk in order for candidates to appear on the official ballot at the April 4, 2017 Spring Election. Please contact the Village Administrator, Ron Senger at 493-2122 no later than January 3, 2017 if you are interested or have any questions.

CALENDAR REMINDERS

Next Village Meetings

Village Board
Tuesday, January 10, 2017, 6pm

Village Caucus
Saturday, January 14, 2017, 9am

Next Brush Pick-Up Date
January 18, 2017

NOTE: *Brush pickup returned to once a month beginning in November.*

Please place your yard waste at curbside in CLEAR plastic bags (or in neat 4' x 4'x 6' piles, readily accessible for pick up by our grapple bucket).

Fitness for Seniors Program is Underway!

It's not too late to join in on the fun exercise program designed to help you achieve and maintain senior fitness and flexibility. Invite a friend, or come and join your friends here at the Village Hall. All seniors are welcome to participate.

When:

Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays
9:30 – 10:00 a.m.

Cost: \$10 for the entire season

Instructor: Deb Raschka

ACH Direct Payment of Utility Bills

Utility customers can pay their monthly bills directly from a bank account by completing the Direct Debit Form available on our Village website under the tab "Municipal Forms." It's one more way to simplify your life and to save time and money. We are here to help so please call the Village office if you have questions, or need assistance with the form.

VILLAGE VOICE

DECEMBER 13, 2016

Volume 12, Issue 12

Minutes of the Village Board Meeting of Dec. 13, 2016

President Hahn called the Village Board meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Board members present upon roll call included Nick Hahn, Jeff Rasmussen, George Naxera, and Garry Bahe. Jim Malmberg was present via telephone. Also present were Village Administrator Ron Senger, Sauk County Development Corporation Organizational Facilitator Keri Olson, and Snowbusters Snowmobile Club President, Ted Walmer.

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

Public Input:

Ron introduced Keri Olson and invited her to provide a progress report on the reorganization of the Sauk County Development Corporation (SCDC). Serving as Organizational Facilitator for the past 18 months, Keri Olson shared that the SCDC's mission is "to promote and retain the diverse economic vitality of Sauk County and its individual communities." She reminded the Board that the SCDC was originally founded in 1976 in response to the closing of the Badger Army Ammunition Plant and the threat of double-digit unemployment in Sauk County. Fast forward four decades

later, and the SCDC is transforming from a quasi-governmental agency into a private/public partnership in an attempt to address the economic development needs of Sauk County in the 21st century business climate. Keri Olson then provided the Board some copies of the SCDC's 21st Century Plan; their action plan states there are four key areas of focus including business retention and expansion; workforce recruitment and development; housing; business attraction, financing and loans. Each of these four key areas of work have stated objectives, customers, measurements, and products identified. Ms. Olson closed by inviting our Board and residents to learn more by visiting the SCDC's website at the following on-line link: <https://www.co.sauk.wi.us/scdc>

Snowbusters Snowmobile Club President, Ted Walmer returned to discuss the club's request for closing a segment of the Village's sidewalk to pedestrians, and open to snowmobile traffic only (with appropriate signage posted). The club's snowmobilers are seeking better access to the Ferry X-ing Bar & Grill during the winter months. Following discussion and a review of the affected 320' section of sidewalk (located on the south side of W. Main St. and west of the Ferry X-ing Bar & Grill), the Board noted an agreement should be drafted and signed with the following conditions indicated: the snowmobile club will be responsible to reimburse the Village for any sidewalk damage that is attributable to snowmobile use.

Any damage will be reasonably determined by the Village. The snowmobile club will provide a certificate of insurance that names the Village of Merrimac as an additional insured with liability coverage limits defined. The agreement will terminate when the snowmobile club closes its trails for the year and the agreement must be renewed each December. With these conditions in place, Malmberg/Bahe moved to approve the agreement. **Motion carried.**

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

Hahn/Rasmussen moved to approve the monthly financial reports including the balance sheet and budget comparison for November, 2016. Upon roll call vote, **motion carried.**

Naxera/Hahn moved to approve the draft Minutes of the November 10, 2016 Village Board meeting. **Motion carried.**

Hahn/Bahe moved to approve the draft Minutes of the Special Meeting on the proposed 2017 budget held November 10, 2016. **Motion carried.**

The Board considered an application from Alisha Anderson for an Operator/bartender's license at CG's Pub & Grub. Bahe/Naxera

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