

T H E T O W N O F  
**MERRIMAC**

S6911 State Highway 113 - P.O. Box 115  
Merrimac, WI 53561

**Minutes of the Public Hearing - December 4, 2013**

Chairman Steve Peetz called a Public Hearing to order regarding a proposed amendment to the Town of Merrimac Zoning Ordinance as adopted November 10, 1992. The purpose of the public hearing is to accept public comments on the proposed amendment to the Town of Merrimac Room Tax Ordinance 1-78 as amended on January 1, 1992. McCumber reported the changes proposed reflect numeric changes to the state statute and will make the forfeitures for non-compliance and non-payments similar to those allowable by Wisconsin Statute. No persons spoke regarding the matter. Motion to adjourn by Peetz, second by Gaedke. Motion passed.

**Minutes of the Public Hearing - December 4, 2013**

Chairman Peetz called a Public Hearing to order regarding consider proposed town ordinance 2013-11 providing for the confidentiality of certain financial records when requested by the town. McCumber reported the purpose proposed is to provide confidentiality of the records of taxpayers who provide income and expense record information to the town assessor the town treasurer per Wisconsin Statutes to exempt that information from being subject to the right of inspection or copying as a public record under s. 19.35 (1), Wis. stats.. Wisconsin law requires a municipality to adopt such an ordinance when requesting financial information for these purposes. No persons spoke regarding the matter. Motion to adjourn by Peetz, second by Gaedke. Motion passed.

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN BOARD MEETING - Wednesday, December 4, 2013**

Present were Steve Peetz, Chair, Supervisor Terry Frosch, Supervisor John Gaedke, and Tim McCumber, Town Administrator & Clerk – Treasurer.

Chairman Peetz called the **TOWN BOARD MEETING** to order. McCumber confirmed the meeting had been properly noticed. The board considered approval of minutes of the town board meeting of November 6, 2013 & November 9, 2013. Motion to approve was made by Peetz to approve, second by Gaedke. Motion passed. The board reviewed the financial reports and approval of bills. Motion by Frosch to approve, second by Gaedke. Motion passed. Under **PUBLIC COMMENT**, Laura Olah, CSWAB, said they were not aware of the Army's proposal to change the private well testing. 75 private wells that have been regularly tested. 24 wells will no longer be tested; 31 wells will only be tested annually. While reviewing a map of the well sites, Mike Sitton clarified that a site Olah indicated a site that had a DNT was a "J-flag" hit. McCumber asked for clarification, and Sitton stated the results were not measurable. Olah also commented that the Army was no longer holding Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meetings and asked the town board to hold more meetings to keep the public informed. Sitton mentioned the town board should have received a letter from the EPA regarding the RAB meetings. McCumber mentioned that the town received a copy of the EPA letter as a result of Representative Pocan's inquiry after the agenda was published and that had been emailed to the town board last week. Peetz asked Olah if she had seen the letter yet, and she had stated she had heard about it but it had not been forwarded to her from Pocan's office. McCumber read from the letter dated November 27, 2013 as addressed to Olah that they had sent an earlier letter to her stating there are a limited number of remediation decisions and they are opening the decision-making process to a more representative cross-section of the community by holding the meetings with the existing RAB members together with the public at-large and the letter cited 7 such meetings with one coming up on December 11, 2013. Under **CORRESPONDENCE**, the town received a copy of a letter from the US Army to the WI Dept. of Natural Resources (DNR) requesting to

suspend notification requirements regarding the proposed municipal water system due to unforeseen issues relating to land ownership requirements, the earlier letter to CSWAB from the EPA. The town also received a Recycling Excellence Award for 2012 Enforcement Leadership. Under **REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES**, McCumber reported that Tim Healy had been notified of John Gaedke's return from Qatar. The board asked to have a letter thanking him for his service. McCumber reported the town's attorney has requested financials from Devil's Head for the room tax audit and they agreed to supply the information by December 15<sup>th</sup>. McCumber also reported that the county is working to form a commission for the rails-to-trails program and that the working group would like to see that the commission is made up of the communities impacted with town officers serving on the commission. He is hoping to have a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for next month's meeting. John Gaedke volunteered to serve as the town's representative when the commission is formed. McCumber also announced the tax bills were in today's mail. There was no **OLD BUSINESS**. Under **NEW BUSINESS**, the board considered adoption of proposed Town Ordinance 2013-10, an ordinance amending Ordinance 1-78 for room non-payment penalties and non-compliance. McCumber reported that Attorney Cross presented a couple of changes that clarify definitions in accordance with the state law which states that the "bundling" of lodging packages with other items are taxable in their entirety that are in the proposed ordinance before the board. Cross stated they are already required by statute to pay taxes on bundled packages, but suggested it would be beneficial to have also stated in our ordinance. Motion by Peetz to adopt the ordinance with the changes from Attorney Cross, second by Gaedke. Motion passed. The board then considered adoption of proposed Town Ordinance 2013-11 relating to the confidentiality of certain financial records as it relates to property assessment and room tax collection per Wisconsin Statutes. Motion by Peetz to adopt, second by Frosch. Motion passed. The board also considered a 3-year contract renewal with Equity Appraisal for maintenance of property assessments for property tax purposes. The contract is for \$10,500 for the next three years. Motion by Peetz to accept the contract, second by Gaedke. Motion passed. The board then considered a 3-year contract renewal with Miller, Brussell, Ebben and Glaeske LLC., for the annual audit of town financial records. McCumber reported the rate is still lower than some of the quotes the town received 10 years ago when we hired this firm. Motion to accept the contract by Peetz, second by Frosch. Motion passed. Finally, the board considered an addendum item added to the agenda regarding the adoption of Resolution 2013-10 appointing election worker's for the 2014-15 term. McCumber reported the town is required to appoint poll workers to two-year terms. Peetz read the names of the poll workers and made a motion to approve the resolution, second by Frosch. Motion passed.

Motion to adjourn by Frosch, second by Healy. Motion passed.