City of Merrill
Regular Council Meeting
April 20, 2026

A regular meeting of the Merrill City Council was held on April 20, 2026, in the City Council chambers at the Kissinger Center building, 608 Main St., Merrill, Iowa. Mayor Norgaard called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and roll call. Council attendees: Conley, Held, Hoyt, Hemmelman, Rieken. Other attendees: Pat. Gray, Barb. Gross, Karina. Flores and City Attorney Patrick Murphy.

AGENDA: Held motioned to approve, Hemmelman seconded. Upon roll call, all voted aye. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDAL: Held moved to approve, Conley seconded. The following corrections and approvals were noted: (a) Minutes from 03/16/2026 amended to specify Merrill Daze as occurring on 06/05/2026; (b) Minutes from the Tax Levy Hearing dated 03/26/2026; (c) Minutes from the Special Meeting dated 03/26/2026; (d) Special Class Liquor License for Lucky Wife Wine Slushies. Upon roll call, all voted aye. The motion carried.

03/2026 TREASURER'S REPORTS: Conley motioned to approve, Hoyt seconded. Upon roll call, all voted aye. Motion carried.

CLAIMS LIST 04/20/2026: Hemmelman motioned to approve, and include claim for Laser Technologies, Hoyt seconded. Upon roll call, all voted aye. Motion carried.

PUBLIC FORUM: Craig Anderson, for Plymouth County Supervisor, made a formal introduction. Joel Conley, 915 Northside Ct. Concerns regarding water buildup at the end of his driveway and possible fixes to prevent future issues.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS: The City Clerk briefly reviewed the curbside cleanup flag concerns. Fire/EMS reported issues with the Ambulance, starter in the Engine replaced. Library: In-house/online circulation up, summer reading program in the works, applying for the Merrill Community Foundation Grant, also working on newspaper archives. MCBC: Reported good turnout for the easter egg hunt, raffle ticket awarded, applied for MHRD grant for the flooring project. Public Works provided an update on the Campground sewer relocation progress, reported possible issues with lift station. Police: Technical issues with laptop mount, scheduled to get repaired. Lidar should arrive this week, repairs covered under warranty, still awaiting date for car equipment installation.

PUBLIC HEARING

Held motioned to open the public hearing for Proposed Full Budget Adoption For FY2027, Hoyt seconded. Mayor Norgaard declared the hearing open at 7:15 p.m. No Comments were had. Held motioned to close the hearing, Conley seconded. Upon roll call, all voted aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-11 FY2027 Full Budget Adoption and Certification of City Taxes: Conley motioned to approve, Hemmelman seconded. Upon roll call, all voted aye. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Conley motioned to set the Public Hearing date for the Proposed Budget Amendments for FY2026, Hemmelman seconded. Upon roll call, all voted aye. Motion carried. Hearing scheduled for May 18, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-04 FY2027 Employee Compensation: Hemmelman motioned to approve, Conley seconded. Upon roll call, all voted aye. Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-12 Transfer 100K from LOST to IPAT Account: Held motioned to approve, Conley seconded. Upon roll call, all voted aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-13 eSoft Planner Management Software agreement and payment: Hoyt motioned to approve, Rieken seconded. Upon roll call, all voted aye. Motion carried.

A discussion was had concerning the City Utility Expansion Project for City AG Land, also referred to as the South Park/Roosevelt Edition. It was determined that additional information was required before proceeding. The Mayor appointed a committee comprising Jacob Conley, Randy Hoyt, and Pat Gray to evaluate the project's infrastructure. Conley motioned to approve, Hemmelman seconded. Upon roll call, Conley, Hemmelman, Hoyt, and Rieken voted in favor while Held abstained due to reasons of conflict of interest. Motion carried.

Officer Karina Flores appeared before the council to discuss the residency requirements outlined in her employment contract and formally requested an exception or extension to permit her continued residence in Sioux City. Held motioned to grant an extension to the employee contract provisions until June 1, 2027, with a follow-up review Conley seconded. Upon roll call, all voted aye. Motion carried

BUILDING PERMITS

B2026-04, 920 Northside Ct., 10x56 Cement Parking Pad: Motion by Conley, Hemmelman seconded. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

B2026-06, 920 Northside Ct.: Approval granted for a 6x21 cement porch pad, including an Eve add-on to accommodate variance for front structure setback. Motion by Held, Rieken seconded. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

B2026-07, 530 Calhoun St.: A request for a 24x30 garage with a cement pad, including a variance for lot line setback. Motion by Hemmelman, Conley seconded. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

B2025-06A, 201 Williams St.: An amendment to 2025-06 was proposed, altering the pole building dimensions from 25x40x20 to 35x40x25. Held motioned, Hemmelman seconded. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS FY2026 Budget Amendment Discussion was had with budget amendment changes provided to the council for review.

ADJOURN Held motioned, Conley seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

CLAIMS

3D AG SERVICES	GRADE 2	2,064.75
ACS	LAB TESTING FEES	889.50
ARNOLD MOTOR SUPPLY	WELDING SUPPLIES	177.94
BANYON DATA SYSTEMS	FUND INVOICE SUPPORT	295.00
BOMGAARS SUPPLY	WELL MAINT	882.06
CENTRAL INSURANCE	2026-27 CYBER RENEW	1,464.08
CENTRAL STATES FUNDS	2026-03 GRP INS	3,525.60
CENTURY BUSINESS	PRINTER LEASE	115.13
CHASE CARD SERVICES	MISC CC PURCHASE	1,572.72
CHEM-SULT INC	H2O CHEMICALS	877.65
CJ ENTERPRISES LLC	DUMP TRUCK REPAIR	715.00
COLLIN HOOPS	RFND OVRPMT AG LEASE 2026	470.22
DEPT OF TREASURY	FED DEPOSIT	5,576.30
DORSEY AND WHITNEY LLP	PW FACILITY NOTE SERIES 2025	8,627.50
EMC INSURANCE CO	2026-27 INS RENEW	67,184.00
FIREFLY RESERVATION	RESERVATION FEES	67.00
HM CRAGG	LIFT STATION REPAIRS	5,098.47
HUNTINGTON NATIONAL BANK	PD LAPTOP LEASE	237.00
IA DOT	SIGN TUBING (10)	372.30
IA DOT	94 FORD TITLE RPLC *VOID*	(35.00)
IOWA DEPT OF REVENUE	Q1-2026 STATE W/H	2,484.44
IOWA DEPT OF REVENUE	2026-03 WET TAX	794.00
IOWA DHS	VENDOR LIABILITY	756.92
IOWA INFO GROUP	FY27 TAX LEVY HEARING	513.26
IOWA WORKFORCE	2026 Q1 UNEMPLOYMENT	69.59
IPERS	IPERS	3,234.72
KELLEN EXCAVATING	CRUSHED ASPHALT	3,229.58
MATT FISCHER	DEPOSIT REFUND-GY	100.00
MENARDS	JANITORIAL SUPPLIES	157.69
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY	UTILITY-GAS/ELECTRIC	4,117.78
MURPHY COLLINS MCGILL	LEGAL FEES	150.00
NICOLE CAKEBREAD	REFUND: GYM RENTAL	100.00
OC SANITATION	2026-03 SANITATION	3,408.72
ON THE CLOCK LLC	TIMECLOCK SUB	23.10
ONE BILLING SOLUTIONS	AMB BILLING SVS	230.27

PEOPLES BANK	PD CHARGER LOAN		3,339.84
PLYCO SOLID WASTE	2026-03 LANDFILL FEES		2,873.52
PREMIER COMM	UTILITY PHONE/INTERNET		437.32
PYE BARKER	YRLY SVS-AMB		529.75
SIOUX SALES COMPANY	BALLISTIC VEST		1,517.90
TEAMSTERS UNION #554	EMP UNION DUES		136.00
THE SHERWIN WILLIAMS CO	KISSINGER PAINT		364.18
TROY DICE	REFUND: GYM DEP		100.00
USA BLUE BOOK	CHLORINE SENSOR		2,172.53
VERIZON	WIRELESS/BROADBAND		216.58
WAGNER AUTO SUPPLY	MISC SUPPLIES, TRK REPAIRS		2,494.82
WEX FLEET	FUEL		785.63
			134,515.36
OTHER CLAIMS			
LASER TECHNOLOGIES	LIDAR REPAIR		86.50
ESOFT PLANNER	SCHED MGT SOFTWARE		420.00
CLAIMS BY FUND			
001 GENERAL			103,286.26
110 ROAD USE			5,753.38
200 DEBT SERVICE			3,339.84
301 CAPITAL PROJECT			8,618.26
310 FEMA			3,229.58
600 WATER			4,634.20
610 SEWER			6,160.34
			135,021.86
PAYROLL		APRIL 2026	14,610.28

Angela Gray, City Clerk-Treasurer

Bruce E. Norgaard, Mayor