

CITY OF MERRILL
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
301 E SECOND STREET MERRILL, OREGON 97633
Wednesday, July 08, 2026 6:00 P.M.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

Mayor Guthrie called the Wednesday, July 08, 2026 Business Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Roll call was taken with the following members of Council and others being present: Councilor Johnson, Councilor Gatliff, Councilor Baley, Vacant, Mayor Guthrie and City Recorder Hernandez.

FLAG SALUTE:

The **Flag Salute** immediately followed with Mayor Guthrie taking the lead.

MAYOR STATEMENT:

Mayor Guthrie asked that everyone please turn cell phones on silence. All meetings are recorded. When addressing the City Council, please speak clearly and state your name.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mayor Guthrie stated the public is invited to provide their comments and opinions to the City Council at this time on issues of concern. Non-emergency issues brought up in this form will not be considered tonight other than in this preliminary discussion, but if found warranted, may be considered at a future meeting of the city council. Public comment is limited to five minutes per person.

No public comment followed.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Meeting Minutes:

1. Approve June 10, 2026 Budget Hearing and Regular Business Meeting Minutes

Councilor Gatliff made a motion the approve the June 10, 2026 Budget Hearing and Regular Business Meeting Minutes. Councilor Johnson 2nd the motion. The motion passed 3-0 in favor.

Phone Poll Ratification:

Business Licenses:

Accounts Payable:

3. June 2026 Account Payables

Councilor Gatliff made a motion to approve the Account Payables. Councilor Johnson 2nd the motion. The motion passed 3-0 in favor.

4. June 2026 Water Transfer

Councilor Baley made a motion to approve the Water Transfer. Councilor Gatliff 2nd the motion. The motion passed 3-0 in favor.

STAFF REPORTS:

Police:

- Report: Councilor Johnson read Chief Hetherwick's Monthly Report into the record in his absence: 15 traffic stops, 6 citations for speed, arrest for assault at 15170 Swisher Road, received 5 unfounded 911 hang-up calls, trespass at Merrill Mobile Manor, arrest at 656 Third Street when responding to harassment, report taken at 656 Third Street for vandalism to vehicle, attended Grand Jury for 2 felony cases, attended MDT monthly meeting (no open child abuse cases), and followed up on 2 harassment cases.

Public Works:

- Report: Councilor Gatliff read submitted report into the record in the absence of Public Works Director Roman Vazquez as follows: checked lift station pumps, hung pink tags, performed multiple locates, took water and sewer samples, sent Discharge Monitor Report (DMR) to Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), assisted Public Works Director Grounds set-up mutual account to submit DMR via portal, outside

dumping invoiced for \$118,000.00, bulk water invoiced \$2,676, fixed sewer pumps at lift stations, cleaned lagoon, read water meters, sprayed weeds, mowed parks, chopped weeds, resolved multiple sewer plugs, replaced approximately 70 feet of main sewer line at Washington and Main Street alley, connected 1" meter on Klamath Lower Lake Road, obtained bid for water meters and boxes from Ferguson for \$4,177.00, and Rocky Mountain Construction is replacing broken water hydrant at S. Garfield next to the Civic Center.

City Recorder:

- Report: City Recorder Hernandez read submitted report as follows: met with Midland Empire and CIS regarding Tulelake Police Contract, submitted Workman's Comp year end payroll, set-up new year in accounting program, submitted FY 26/27 Budget to Klamath County Assessor and County Clerk, submitted FY 26/27 City Certification-Revenue Share, and other administrative duties.

Lawyer:

- Report: Court date scheduled for July 09, 2026. Citizen complaint letter submitted to City Attorney Ratliff.

Code Enforcement:

- Report: Councilor Johnson read Chief Hetherwick's Monthly Report into the record in his absence: notified owner at Third and McKinley Street to remove appliances immediately. Received a citizen complaint regarding Tacos ala Mexicana.

Planning:

- Report: No report.
- File #04-2026 General Review Application: Construction for Tax Lot 4110-001CD-00609: Tabled.
- Approve *Municipal Code Article 154 Development Code* June 12, 2007, Updates per DLCD Guidelines: Tabled.

LOST RIVER ARTS AND CULTURAL ALLIANCE:

- Report: No report.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Request for FFA Waiver (435 N. Polk Street): A waiver has been submitted to the City Council for 2 FFA sheep at 435 N. Polk Street. Councilor Johnson made a motion to approve the waiver. Councilor Gatliff 2nd the motion. The motion passed 3-0 in favor.
- November 03, 2026 General Election Notification: Filing deadline is August 25, 2026.
- Discuss 1996 Yukon w/Snow Plow: Kelly Phillips installed a snow plow on a 1996 Yukon, which has approximately 150,000 miles. The snow plow with installation cost \$13,000.00. Kelly Phillips offered to sell the vehicle and plow for \$10,000.00. City Council consensus was to pass on the offer and defer to Interim Public Works Director Roman Vazquez. Funds would be better utilized toward a new vehicle.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Discuss Dangerous Dog Restrictions and/or Ban: City Council discussed desired items for an updated Ordinance such as: fenced yard, definitions, dog run with kennel, dog leashed when walking, and licensed. A registry held by the City of Merrill was discussed; however, Klamath County Animal Control already has a registry available to law enforcement. A notification about dangerous dogs is to be included within the next newsletter. Other discussion ensued.

ORDINANCES:

- 2071 Hunter Franchise-Third Reading: The strike through of Section 8 (3) has been rescinded. Councilor Johnson made a motion to approve Ordinance 2071 Hinder Franchise. Councilor Baley 2nd the motion. The motion passed 3-0 in favor.

RESOLUTIONS:

- Resolution 2026-996 Assign Residential Address: Resolution 2026-996 Assign Residential Address was read into the record by title. Councilor Johnson made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-996 Assign Residential Address. Councilor Baley 2nd the motion. The motion passed 3-0 in favor.

OTHER-FUTURE AGENDAS:

PUBLIC COMMENT:

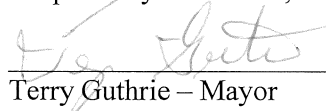
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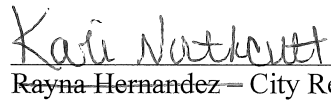
No public comment followed.

ADJOURN MEETING:

Councilor Gatliff made a motion to adjourn the July 08, 2026 Meeting. Councilor Johnson 2nd the motion. With all in favor, the meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

 8/12/26
Terry Guthrie – Mayor Date

 8/12/26
Rayna Hernandez – City Recorder Date
Interim City Recorder

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