

**MINUTES OF LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE
HELD AT THE TOWN OF MERRILL COMMUNITY CENTER
JANUARY 9, 2020**

Meeting called to order at 9:04 A.M. by Town Chairman Mike Matushak.

Present: Town Chairman Mike Matushak and Members, Rodney Gutenberger, Scott Voigt, Larry Wenning and Secretary Kay Tautges. Absent Jerry Lokemoen.

AGENDA

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Fire Contract: Chairman Matushak gave an overview of where the town is at in respect to contract negotiation. An attorney has been hired to represent all three townships who are under contract with the City of Merrill for fire service (Town of Merrill, Town of Rock Falls, Town of Scott). The cost of representation will be split between the three townships.

Recycling: Chairman Matushak explained that the Town has to pay for over \$6000.00 in costs associated with offering the recycling drop-off at the Town Garage. We do receive a grant for just over \$4000.00, but total costs are in excess of \$10,000.00 per year. For this reason and because we have had some interest in contracting with a curb-side recycling/garbage service expressed from Town residents, we are now asking the Long Range Planning Committee to look into ways of offering recycling to Town Residents without having the Town incur the annual expense of offering a drop-off recycling site.

Currently, there are 1378 residential units in the Town of Merrill. Committee members compiled a list of questions which need to be answered. A representative from Eagle Waste will be at the February 5th meeting to provide information/answer questions regarding curb-side pick-up costs procedures etc.

Chairman Matushak will collect information from other townships who have recently contracted with services for town-wide curb-side pick-up.

Secretary Tautges will check to see if grant requirements will be met if we decide to discontinue the drop-off recycling at the Town Garage and begin to contract with & bill town residents for curb-side pick-up of recycling & garbage.

NEXT LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING SET FOR FEBRUARY 5, 2020.

Chairman adjourned meeting at 11:20 A.M.

Kay Tautges, Secretary