

City of Neillsville Grants Committee

Special Meeting

Monday, August 7, 2023 - 4:30 pm.

City Hall 106 W Division St, Neillsville WI

MINUTES

1. **Meeting Call to Order** by Chair Natalie Erpenbach at 4:30 pm
2. **On Roll Call** – Jody Conner, Natalie Erpenbach, Deanna Heiman, and Brent Shoup. Not present – Barb Petkovsek.
3. **Motion to approve the agenda** – Motion by Heiman, second by Shoup to approve the agenda. Voice vote, all aye, motion carried.
4. **Review / approval of Minutes** – Motion by Heiman, second by Shoup to approve the minutes of the July 25, 2023, Grants Committee meeting. Voice vote, Aye – Erpenbach, Heiman and Shoup, Conner abstains. Motion carried.
5. **Citizen appearances** - None
6. **Grant Applications**

Discussion and action on City of Neillsville Grant Application - US Dept of Transportation's Build America Bureau - Rural and Tribal Assistance Pilot Program.

Heiman has reviewed the application, the timeline, and specific qualifications related to this grant. She has spoken with US DOT to discuss whether City of Neillsville meets application criteria (we do), read all material pertaining to this grant and watched the related webinars.

This is a US DOT grant (no matching local funds required) for planning and feasibility studies of future DOT projects. Application process is on-line and can be first filed August 14, 2023. Applications must meet two criteria to be funded. Grant awards given on a first applied basis. If you qualify and there is still money available, it is awarded. Grant request not to exceed \$320,000 per US DOT contact.

Reviewed and discussed draft of application prepared by Heiman. Feasibility planning project relating to the O'Neill Creek Trail project. The study would evaluate existing conditions, identify potential challenges, examine alternate routes, assess environmental impacts, develop cost estimates, and recommend funding strategies. Trail will consist of an approximately 13-20 mile non-motorized trail to consider connecting Neillsville, Granton, and Chili WI. Project will also consider trail to the West of Neillsville to the Highground. Suggested wording changes discussed and agreed upon.

Motion by Conner and second by Shoup to approve August 14, 2023, submittal of City of Neillsville Grant Application - US Dept of Transportation's Build America Bureau - Rural and Tribal Assistance Pilot Program as presented. Voice vote, aye Conner, Erpenbach, and Shoup. Heiman abstains. Motion carried.

7. **Old Business** – no discussion or action taken.
8. **New Business** – no discussion or action taken.
9. Motion by Heiman and second by Shoup to adjourn the meeting. Voice vote, all aye, motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm.