

City of Neillsville  
**Grants Committee**

Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, April 23, 2024 - 4:00 pm.  
City Hall 106 W Division St, Neillsville WI

## **MINUTES**

- Meeting called to order by Chair Natalie Erpenbach at 4:02 pm.
- On Roll Call – Present: Deanna Heiman, Natalie Erpenbach, Barb Petkovsek, Brent Shoup and Jody Connor. All Present.
- Motion by Heiman and second by Shoup to approve the agenda. Voice vote, all aye, motion carried.
- Motion by Heiman and second by Conner to approve the March 26, 2024, Grants Committee meeting minutes as presented. Voice vote, all aye, motion carried.
- Citizen appearances - None
- Discussed grant applications and other financial assistance projects in progress.
  - 2023-1A Erpenbach will get invoices from Jill at Police Department to complete 2023-2024 Safety Grant application – League of WI Municipalities.
  - 2023-5 Petkovsek has spoken with Jessica Brown, Parks & Rec Director and received an update on Listeman Ball Park Revitalization Project. Fundraising efforts continue and at this point do not need assistance from the Grants Committee.
  - 2023-7 Safe Routes to Schools Grant in hands of West Central WI Regional Planning Commission. No additional information at this time.
  - 2023-9 Petkovsek reported that the Town Square / Gazebo improvement project has a project cost of approx. \$11,000. Beautification Committee is working on raising funds for the project.
  - 2023-11 Erpenbach reported that the Otto Bremer Trust grant request for the Police Department was denied. Organization is changing their funding model and working with select organizations only.
  - 2024-1 Traffic Calming Grant through Clark Co Health Department has been submitted.
  - 2024-3 Erpenbach reported that the FEMA grant – Assistance to Firefighters Grant was submitted March 8, 2024 with assistance from Matt Meyer, Bill Poeschel, Justin Poeschel, Rex Roehl and especially Michelle Grap. \$250,000 requested for self-contained breathing apparatuses / packs and cylinders along with a new 6000 psi compressor / tank refilling equipment.
  - 2024-6 Erpenbach reported that the National Park Service Grant Paul Bruhn Grant was approved by the City Historic Preservation Commission as one to apply for in Spring 2025. This grant is a block grant that assists Historic Properties (Federal / State listed) projects. (Grant #2023-8, #2023-10 could be sub-applicants for this grant).
  - 2024-7 Heiman is working with Fire Chief Matt Meyer and Neillsville High School Guidance Counselor, Julia Backaus on survey of students regarding a Youth Firefighter Training Program. Will report back results at June Grants Meeting.
  - All other open Grant requests are open and waiting additional information or notice of grant being awarded.

- Discussed opportunities available with Clark County being part of the Rural Partners Network through USDA. Erpenbach and Heiman to coordinate with organization representative, as well as Melinda our WI Economic Development Corporation representative. Signature projects of our Rural Partners group are: greenspace grants, placemaking grants, bike trails, electric vehicle and technology assistance grants.
- It would be helpful if City departments could provide an inventory or list of needs with basic specifications so when a grant is announced we are that much further ahead in the grant writing process.
- Discussed speaking with other communities to learn how they plan / act on grant applications process.

Conner left the meeting at 4:50 pm.

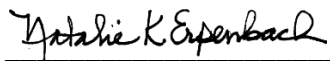
- Community Development Block Grants / City Incentive Applications – None
- **Old Business** - None

**New Business**

No correspondence has been received since last Grants Committee meeting.

No invoices to be paid from Grants Committee Funds

- Set next Committee Meeting Date discussed and set for Tuesday May 28, 2024
- Motion by Petkovsek and second by Shoup to adjourn. Voice vote, all aye, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 4:55 pm.



Natalie Erpenbach, Committee Chair