

City of Neillsville  
**Grants Committee - Regular Meeting MINUTES**

Tuesday, March 25, 2025 - 4:00 pm.

City Hall 106 W Division St, Neillsville WI

- Meeting called to order by Chair Natalie Erpenbach at 4:00 pm.
- On Roll Call – Present: Natalie Erpenbach, Brent Shoup, Barb Petkovsek and Jody Conner. Deanna Heiman excused. Quorum deemed present.
- Motion by Conner and second by Shoup to approve the agenda. Voice vote, all aye, motion carried.
- Motion by Shoup and second by Petkovsek to approve February 25, 2025, meeting minutes as presented. Voice vote, all aye, motion carried.
- Citizen appearances - None
- Discussed grant applications and other financial assistance projects in progress.
  - Discussed four grant opportunities considered ON HOLD pending additional information or interest.
  - Noted 2 grants applied for – Still pending Notification (#2024-11 EPA Rural Economies for Rural Communities submitted 10/16/24 and #2024-12 FEMA Assistance to Firefighters submitted 12/20/2024).
  - #2023-7 – Safe Routes to Schools Grant – Awarded & In Process. Luke Friemoth, Heiman, Shoup and Conner to meet with local stakeholders and then meet with Hailee Bushman (WCWRPC). Erpenbach will send email reminder to all.
  - #2024-8 Cybersecurity Grant - WI Emergency Management. Grant was awarded and funded in the amount of \$42,000 with a 10 % cost share. Technology Committee to meet again in April. Erpenbach continues work on Cybersecurity Plan documents.
  - New Grants in Process:

#2025-3 – Innovation Planning Grant was applied for Feb 2025 meeting and City has already been awarded \$23,500. If efficiencies of 10% or more are identified, there is a second Phase to this Innovation Grant in support of implementation of identified efficiencies.

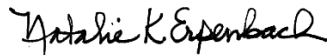
Motion by Conner and second by Shoup to recommend to City Council that the grant award of \$23,500 be accepted and that the City enter into an agreement with Innovative Public Advisors LLC who will conduct the efficiency study of the City’s Police, Public Works and Municipal departments. Work to be completed by November 2025. Voice vote, all aye, Motion carried.
  - #2025-4 – WI Dept of Health – Oral Health Program. Grant for new City Water Dept. fluoride pump and other equipment. Application due 3/28/2025. Erpenbach working with Luke Friemoth and Water Utility staff to complete.
  - #2025-5 – Firehouse Subs Foundation. Applying for Police Department surveillance equipment. Short turn around on this application. Erpenbach and possibly Heiman will work on this application with City Police Department.
  - #2025-6 – WI DNR Urban Forestry Grant. Application information is available 7/1/2025 and closes 10/1/2025. Dan Clough has offered help with this grant application.
  - Erpenbach reported that she and Heiman continue to work with Sarah Sippl at NW Wisconsin Rural Partners Network.

- Community Development Block Grants / City Incentive Applications – This program has been mandated to close and forward all funds transferred to the Regional Housing Authority. There will be no further action on CDBG housing through this committee.
- Old Business – None.

[Conner leaves the meeting at 4:50 pm.]

- New Business – Erpenbach presented invoice for \$164.52 for Cybersecurity publications for Grant #2024-8 grant work. Motion by Petkovsek and seconded by Shoup to approve reimbursement. Voice vote, all aye, with Erpenbach abstaining, motion carried
- Motion by Petkovsek and second by Shoup to adjourn. Voice vote, all aye, motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 4:55 pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 22, 2025 at 4 pm at City Hall.



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Natalie Erpenbach, Committee Chair