

City of Neillsville

MINUTES

Grants Committee - Regular Meeting

Tuesday, December 16, 2025 - 4:00 pm.

City Hall 106 W Division St, Neillsville WI

1. The meeting was called to order by Chair Erpenbach at 4:10 pm.
2. On roll call:, Natalie Erpenbach, Deanna Heiman, and Barb Petkovsek. Brent Shoup and Jody Conner were not present. Quorum deemed present
3. A motion was made by Heiman and seconded by Petkovsek to approve the Agenda. Voice vote, all aye, motion carried.
4. A motion was made by Heiman and seconded by Erpenbach to approve the minutes of the October 28, 2025, Grants Committee Meeting as presented. Voice vote, all aye, motion carried.
5. Citizen appearances- None.
6. Committee discussed the following Grant Applications:
 - a. Discussion and review of Grant applications that have been submitted but no decisions have been made as of the meeting date. No additional action taken:
 - i. *FEMA – Assistance to Firefighters Grant* – submitted 12/20/2024 – No communication received to date, but FEMA website shows over 1600 grants awarded in September 2025. Our grant application status still shows “Application submitted 12/20/2024”. By consensus agreed to mark this application as “denied”.
 - ii. *National Endowment of the Arts – Our Town Grant* program – Petkovsek had submitted Phase 1 grant application, and we were approved for Phase 2 application. Petkovsek received notice that without 5 years’ history we are not eligible this year. Will be resubmitted in 2030
 - iii. *Listeman Foundation request* - Erpenbach submitted a request on August 13, 2025 for city-wide needs. We received all amounts requested except tennis court resurfacing. Mark as complete.
 - iv. *WI DNR Tree Grant* - Application has been submitted. Erpenbach reported that Luke Friemoth had reported that the City did not receive this grant in 2025.
 - b. Grant applications that have been awarded and are in various stages of completion.
 - i. *WI Emergency Management - Cybersecurity Grant Cycle 1*. Erpenbach has submitted first, second and third quarter 2025 reports for reimbursement. To date we received reimbursement from the State for first and second quarters 2025. 4th quarter will be submitted once payment for Dec services checks clear bank account.
 - ii. *WI Emergency Management - Cybersecurity Grant Cycle 2*- submitted 5/30/2025. Erpenbach that the City has been awarded \$82,600 of this grant request. Covers managed service provider costs (Dirks Group costs) for all of 2026 and eight months of 2027. Nothing additional to report at this time.
 - iii. *WEDC – Community Development Investment Grant* – Erpenbach is

working with property owners on this CDIG grant for the renovation grant - 150 E. Division St. project. Project is moving along as planned. Hoping to have soft open around January 1, 2026.

iv. City Tourism Commission Grants –The HPC - \$1000 has been submitted and received from Neillsville Area Chamber of Commerce – City Room Tax / Tourism Grant coordinator.

- c. Discussion and possible action on grant application projects to be prepared and submitted by due dates.
 - i. *Firehouse Subs Foundation* and others – Shoup reported to Erpenbach, prior to the meeting that he has prepared the grant application [backup generator and electrical work – Police department] and will attempt to submit on January 8, 2026.
 - ii. Erpenbach reported that WI Emergency Management – Cybersecurity Grant Cycle2 – ROUND 2 is open and due by January 30, 2025. This round allows request for equipment reimbursement. Up to \$100,000 (no match) available in this round. Erpenbach will prepare this grant application.
 - iii. Discussed the WI – Office of Rural Prosperity “THRIVE” grant submitted by Neillsville Improvement Corporation. Management team includes NIC officers / members and other local representatives including Erpenbach and Friemoth.
 - iv. Erpenbach noted that she is attending the Clark County “Housing Coalition” meeting on December 19, 2025. She will report back at next Grants Committee meeting.

7. Old Business – None not already discussed.

8. New Business – None.

9. Adjournment – Motion by Petkovsek and seconded by Heiman to adjourn. Voice vote, all aye, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 4:55 pm.

Next meeting date is January 27, 2026, at 4:00 pm at City Hall.

Respectfully submitted



Natalie K Erpenbach, Recording Secretary