

City of Neillsville

MINUTES

Grants Committee - Regular Meeting

Tuesday, January 27, 2026 - 4:00 pm.

City Hall 106 W Division St, Neillsville WI

1. The meeting was called to order by Chair Erpenbach at 4:05 pm.
2. On roll call:, Natalie Erpenbach, Deanna Heiman, Barb Petkovsek, Brent Shoup and Jody Conner. All 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 Petkovsek to approve the minutes of the December 17, 2025, Grants Committee Meeting as presented. Voice vote, all aye, motion carried.
5. Citizen appearances- None.
6. Housing Loan programs discussed.
 - a. Discussion held on the State of WI's decision to recall all regional Housing Loan program funds back to the State Housing program. Available funds currently on hand with the Chippewa County Housing Authority will be sent to the state. Current housing loans (approximately 27 loans with a balance of approximately \$330,000) will remain with the City. If and when repaid, these loan balance funds are to be returned to the State of WI Housing program Fund.
 - b. Reviewed proposed "Tax Incremental District (TID) Affordable Housing Extension Resolution related to City of Neillsville TID #3. Final project costs and tax roll increments in are projected to be complete in 2026. Discussion keeping TID #3 open for an additional year to allow funds to accumulate that would fund a housing program to assist City families / individuals / landlords maintain and repair their primary residences. City Clerk-Treasurer Rex Roehl was asked and answered questions. Motion made by Conner and second by Heiman to recommend to City Council that a Resolution be adopted where the City "shall use the final increment (of TID #3) to improve housing quality and affordability by putting monies in the City housing program to assist families / individuals / or landlords to maintain and repair houses or apartments through loans or grants". Voice vote, all aye, motion carried.
7. 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. *WI Emergency Management – Cybersecurity Grant Cycle 1 – Round 2 due 1/30/2026. Erpenbach is working on this application.*
 - b. Grant applications that have been awarded and are in various stages of completion.
 - i. *WI Emergency Management - Cybersecurity Grant Cycle 1. \$42,000 awarded. Erpenbach has submitted final fourth quarter 2025 report for reimbursement. To date we received reimbursement from the State for first, second and third quarters of 2025. Close out report needs to be*

done yet.

- ii. *WI Emergency Management - Cybersecurity Grant Cycle 2- \$82,600 awarded. Covers MSP costs Jan 2026 thru August 2027 plus MFA fobs (\$1000). Jan expenses to be submitted by 2/12/2026.*
- 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 in February, 2026.*

c. Discussion and possible action on grant application projects to be prepared and submitted by due dates.

- i. *Firehouse Subs Foundation and others – January 2026 round closed within a few hours on day applications were accepted. Shoup needs more detailed information (part #s and costs) from electrician. Erpenbach will ask another electrician for assistance.*
- ii. *Discussed the following areas of community concern and sources of possible funding. No action taken.*
 - Unsheltered / homeless population
 - Technology equipment / costs
 - Spring 2026 Listerman Fund request
 - Beautification Committee - 250th Anniversary of United States.

Conner left the meeting at 4:55 pm.

8. Old Business – None not already discussed.

9. New Business – None.

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

Meeting adjourned at 5:05 pm.

Next meeting date is February 24, 2026, at 4:00 pm at City Hall.

Respectfully submitted



Natalie K Erpenbach, Recording Secretary