

TOWN OF HOLLAND BOARD MEETING

March 20, 2019

Public Input Session: Environmental Impact Fees

MEMBERS PRESENT	Chair Steve Michaels, Supervisors Mike Hoffman, Jerome Pedretti, Robert Stupi, Kathy Warzynski
STAFF PRESENT	Clerk Marilyn Pedretti

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Michaels called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Notices were posted.

BACKGROUND

Chair Michaels explained the handouts on the CapX and Badger Coulee Lines Environmental Impact Fees and how the funds can be expended. He noted the balance of \$337,802.34 is the subject for tonight's input session.

PUBLIC INPUT

Brian Gray (not present), N7007 Sunrise Lane, sent an email on 12/13/18 requesting the money be used to subsidize the upkeep of natural areas and the Holland Sand Prairie.

Jennifer Westlie (not present), N8730 Garfield Road, sent an email 1/21/19 suggesting money be allocated for a safe path "to town" which would connect residents west of the 4-lane with the school.

Michael Nied, N8350 Ducke Drive, spoke on behalf of the Friends of the Holland Sand Prairie (FHSP) who have requested \$50,000 to establish an endowment with proceeds from the endowment used for maintenance. He referenced several items from their 1/30/19 request letter and answered questions.

Patrick Caffrey, Trempealeau, spoke on behalf of the Mississippi Valley Conservancy (MVC) and their request for \$250,000 to help leverage funds for their conservation program and the protection of natural lands. He referenced several items from their 2/6/19 request letter and answered questions.

Kathy Warzynski, Park Committee chair, reported on the Park Committee's recommendations which included \$10,000 earmarked for matching funds for a dog park, funds for a gazebo in the Wildflower park, \$100,000 towards purchasing land for a multi-use recreational sports facility, \$100,000 towards environmental preservation and \$100,000 towards funding the park budget for the next five years.

Patrick Caffrey, Trempealeau, spoke on behalf of the Friends of McGilvrary Road and their request for \$16,350 for materials to repair corroded beams and replace bridge decking. He referenced several items from their 2/13/19 request letter and answered questions.

LaVern Kleinsmith, W7732 Old NA, spoke in favor of funding the Friends of McGilvrary Road request and noted it is a very popular and important attraction. He further suggested that the funds should be used to preserve areas for the enjoyment of future generations.

Doug Klenke, N6954 Sunrise Lane, explained his proposal for preserving the bluffs and farmland by providing \$100,000 to \$150,000 in a fund to be used to assist in offsetting legal costs required to establish an easement. He stated this would fit with the 2004 survey in which residents wanted to preserve the rural character. He also noted this effort could be in collaboration with the MVC.

Shasta Powell (not present), 108 Johnson Street, sent an email on 2/20/19 in support of money going towards the dog park.

Barbara Larsen, W7771 Van Dunk Place, stated she served on the Dog Park Subcommittee and spoke in favor of funding the dog park. She was concerned that they were the only group required to match funds. She gave background on the subcommittee's work and support for a dog park. Larsen reported she is discussing collaboration ideas with the Outdoor Recreation Alliance.

Karen Ekert, 122 Lake Street, spoke in favor of funding a dog park and listed the benefits. She suggested it could be combined with a wildlife park and that it should encompass more than two acres for a decent dog park.

Denis Downing (not present), W7853 Country Avenue, sent an email on 2/22/19 in support of a bike path down McHugh Road.

Steve Mieden (not present), N7123 Bice Avenue, sent an email on 3/19/19 requesting money be used for the 2019 flood damage and to address drainage issues in the Town.

Larry Warzynski, W7728 Meadow Way, suggested the Town contact the PSC to request a variance to allow the money be spent on paying down the fire truck loan, assist with drainage issues and/or address major road projects.

Brian Meeter, W7948 Country Avenue, asked for clarification on the handout that describes: "installation of rain gardens, rain infiltration paving and other measures to decrease rain or surface water run-off and increase recharging of ground water aquifer" and whether that would include addressing some of the drainage issues. He spoke in support of dividing the money into several buckets.

Jared Noffke, N7105 Bice Avenue, asked if any of the funds could be used to assist in the drainage issue on his parcel.

Jay Fernholz, 401 Russell Drive West, explained he was a Town resident for 38 years before moving to the Village and that the Holland Sand Prairie is the most efficient rain garden.

Meeter asked how the process will work in allocating the funds. Stupi explained that there is no rush and the Board will contemplate these suggestions and have additional discussions at future meetings.

Carol Labuzzetta, N6948 County Road V, stated she was recently hired by the MVC and encouraged the Board to consider what we give our children and their children. She stated the environmental piece should be kept in place.

Jerome Pedretti, Town Board, suggested checking with La Crosse County about a collaboration they proposed a few years ago to develop a walking trail along the bluff. Caffrey noted that proposal was for a trail from Drugan's to Goose Island and is in collaboration with several organizations.

Pete Putnam, W7788 County Road MH, stated as chair of the FHSP, he supports their endowment proposal to be used forever. He also supported preserving the bluffs.

Ben Filter, W7935 Prairie Meadows Street, suggested checking with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation concerning the scenic highways/bi-ways initiative, which could help preserve the bluffs.

ADJOURN

Motion by J Pedretti/Hoffman to adjourn. **MOTION** carried unanimously. Adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn J. Pedretti, Town Clerk