

TOWN OF HOLLAND BOARD MEETING

July 3, 2023

Special Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT	Chair Bob Stupi, Nikole Hauser, Jeff Herlitzke, Mike Hoffman and David Weber
STAFF PRESENT	Clerk Marilyn Pedretti

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Stupi called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Notices were posted.

CASBERG BRIDGE – ENGINEER REPORT

Lukasz Lyzwa, Project Engineering, General Engineering Company (GEC), explained his written report concerning the Casberg Coulee Road bridge starting with the bridge failure. He outlined four options (1) culvert relining and fill stabilization (approximately \$700,000); (2) temporary bridge rental (\$80-\$170 a day); (3) temporary bridge purchase (\$85,000 - \$160,000); or (4) do nothing and stay with the 3.8 mile detour. Discussion followed concerning options of a hinge (passenger vehicles only) or hybrid (accommodate emergency vehicles) structure, installation, delivery, resale value, slope concerns, engineering options and maintenance. Lyzwa suggested an engineer report could determine the bridge length based on slopes but without boring, using worst case scenarios. Discussion followed. Board members expressed their intent to pursue the hybrid structure to allow for emergency vehicles. Lyzwa suggested checking with an attorney to see if bid publishing would be required, which could delay action by a few weeks.

CITIZEN INPUT

Paul Olson, W6602 Casberg Coulee Road, suggested purchasing a temporary bridge was a good option and that the Town could sell or rent the structure in the future.

Pat Eveland, W6888 Casberg Coulee Road, said the detour was more than an inconvenience and that safety was the priority. She suggested the Town chose the structure that will allow for emergency vehicles.

Steven Eisermann, W6667 Casberg Coulee Road, asked if the money would come out of the budget. Stupi noted the Town could take out a loan and add as a tax levy adjustment, which would equate to about \$100 per household. Eisermann noted that over the next two years, their extra mileage expenses would be \$20-30,000 and suggested a \$100 levy was more affordable. He noted their family has health issues and if the road is not opened to traffic and something drastic happens they will seek legal action.

Kevin Olson, W6688 Casberg Coulee Road, did not think the Town was working fast enough and board members were not doing their duty. He would rather see money being used to fix the bridge rather than provide a temporary structure. Olson suggested other companies in the area could do the job.

Miranda Kiel, W6663 Casberg Coulee Road, had safety concerns and reported there have been some dangerous drivers. She asked for a stop sign at Moe Coulee and Casberg Coulee intersection. Stupi noted a stop sign was ordered and will have the Town crew installed it soon.

Kristen Marcou, W6610 Casberg Coulee Road, asked if the Town works with cell phone providers and noted there is poor reception which is a concern should someone need emergency service. Stupi noted that typically the cell phone companies work on their own.

Cory Licht, W6656 Casberg Coulee Road, asked why the Town could not just slip in another culvert, which would be cheaper and faster. Lyzwa explained the current erosion and slope would require a longer pipe (most likely 90 feet) with costs starting at \$100/foot for the pipe plus \$4,500-5,000/foot for assembly. He noted permitting would still be required and could take up to 9 months and possible acquisition of right-of-way.

Jay Bratberg, N7274 Casberg Coulee Road, stated that they do not have a park anywhere on the east side of Town and pay for parks with their taxes and so paying for this bridge should be a Town responsibility.

Sherrie Halvorson, W6584 Casberg Coulee Road, said it sounds like the Town will move towards getting a single lane temporary bridge and asked how long will it take. Stupi responded that this item will be on next Wednesdays' agenda for possible action but if we have to bid that could take a couple weeks. She asked if the culverts along the detour are stable. Stupi responded Casberg is the largest culvert and the others are more like 18-36" culverts and have been inspected and cleaned-out as needed.

Mike Koziara, W6531 Casberg Coulee Road, asked if the temporary bridge would be operational during the construction. Lyzwa said it would depend on the type of replacement. Koziara suggested a 50 foot span would be sufficient. Lyzwa noted it would depend on the engineering calculations and soil loss assessment.

Lindsey Meindl, W6880 Casberg Coulee Road, asked for clarification on the next steps. Stupi said that if the engineer provides numbers, the Board could vote on a temporary structure at next week's meeting but could require a couple weeks more if posting is required. Stupi stressed the Town will have special meetings if needed to move this forward. Lyzwa also noted the contractors are busy and results may be slow.

Eisermann noted the rumor was the structure was a 100 year bridge and asked if there was a guarantee on this bridge. Lyzwa responded the failure could be do to poor installation, frost heaving, poor drainage and/or overload trucks/farm equipment. He noted bridges are guaranteed for one year. Eisermann asked if the state had bridges to rent. Lyzwa said they do not.

Rachel Olson, W6688 Casberg Coulee Road, asked who was responsible for maintenance along the creek bed. Lyzwa explained the state law requires landowners to maintain with the DNR in charge. He suggested the Town clarify legal status of the area and notify landowners if they have responsibility to maintain. Kevin Olson said a resident has a bid from a contractor that Lukasz should look at.

Stupi thanked the residents for attending and thanked Lukasz for his input.

Motion by Herlitzke/Hoffman to authorize Lukasz to do a study recommendation on the size bridge the road can support. **MOTION** carried unanimously.

ADJOURN

Motion by Herlitzke/Hauser to adjourn. **MOTION** carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn J. Pedretti
Town Clerk