

TOWN OF NORTHAMPTON
Special Meeting
March 2, 2021

The Town of Northampton held a Special Meeting on Tuesday, March 2, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. in the Municipal Building, 412 South Main St., Northville, NY.

PRESENT: Supervisor: James Groff
Councilmen: Darryl Roosa and Art Simmons
Absent Councilmen: William Gritsavage and Molly Zullo

RECORDING SECRETARY: Elaine Mihalik, Town Clerk

Other Town department representative in attendance was:
Ken Cramer – Highway Superintendent

Also Present: Andrew Bell - Engineer from A.S. Bell Engineering PC
John Hodgson Sr. - HRBRRD Administrator

New York State Department of Transportation “Bridge NY” program

Ken Cramer introduced Andrew Bell who came to discuss the process of possibly applying for the Bridge NY program grant.

It was noted that there is funding available through the “Bridge NY” program.

Discussion was on whether the Town Board was interested on applying for a grant for the Spillway Bridge. Mr. Bell explained the Background, eligible applicants, funding availability, maximum award, matching funds and eligibility requirements

It was an understanding that the bridge was owned by the Town of Northampton, and HRBRRD owns the dam. We would have to research the right of way explained Mr. Hodgson. We need everything to be researched as to who owns what including the embankment on each side to see what are we allowed to do and in what areas stated Mr. Bell.

The engineer from HRBRRD concerns has always been with the sidewalk is any drilling or anything that can compromise the dam itself stated Mr. Hodgson.

It was asked when they do the inspection on this, do they do the inspection on the bridge itself or do they do the spillway too?

Mr. Hodgson responded that NY Safety inspects all of the HRBRRD dams yearly but he wasn't sure about the spillway.

What percentage of the total project will the State pay for?

Mr. Bell responded that his understanding is that the municipality would be responsible for 5%, the Feds he believes is 25% and the State will pick up the rest. The municipality will pay up front and you submit periodically for payment. You do not have to wait for the whole project to be completed. You would pay for any engineering as that comes along and then there's the bid process. You would pay for the contractor coming in and starts work. You would submit applications for payment on a monthly basis and then you would get reimbursed. There is some

financial impact short term. If you have to bond or whatever you have to do to cash flow a piece of it. I don't think you'll get paid until you pay the contractor first.

Where do we start?

Response: You would start with application on your desk. If you are going to make it a local project at 25% then I would try to replace the super structure pieces that are really bad.

There was discussion on the traffic implications of having the bridge closed Mr. Bell talked of his scenario of placing a precast concrete plank down on top of the steel beams, paving it and opening it up to traffic.

Depending on what the structure looks like that would depend on what we would do beyond the bridge.

Councilman Simmons wanted to know if we know what the Village of Northville has started so maybe they could be contributing somewhat to this project?

Response: I don't believe that they can. It is the Town's bridge and if they were going to put a walkway on one side or the other, we would have to figure a way on how to possibly put in a cantilever or a walkway or something. They are still working with HRBRRD in the planning stages and what they can do with it.

I understand that it is the Town's bridge and the cost of doing whatever we are doing that. Is it going to be x plus y with whatever the Village wants to do down there? And should we be paying more for what the Village wants to do?

Response: I think that the overall project the Town is just trying to bring the bridge up to better shape and the fact that the Village is trying to do something to improve safety there may go along with the grant. I'm not sure stated Supervisor Groff.

Mr. Bell mentioned that he thinks that it is on the scope of what the Town is going to try to do down there as far as the sideway goes. It is simple enough to roll in a sidewalk.

You are going down South Main Street and everything there now is pretty much straight. Is it going to look like you are going to go down South Main Street and it is going to be like this, wider?

Response: I think that the bridge is probably narrower than the encroach is explained Mr. Bell? Yes, it is. You have a curve on South Main Street before you come to the bridge going South, it is wider than the bridge is stated Supervisor Groff.

Where the bridge is right now that could end up being wider on both sides?

Response: I'm not quite sure if it might be a little bit wider because it will be constricted by the bridge itself.

I think we should concentrate on the bridge itself and whatever they do after the fact, and I am not sure what they are working on stated Mr. Cramer.

Mr. Bell asked what the desire is for the far side of the bridge, is there a sidewalk over there?

Response: No, they wanted to put a walkway at least on the little lake side if they could somehow without disturbing the dam. Otherwise, they would have to put some sort of walkway bridge all the way across. The purpose of the walkway would be for safety. There are a lot of

people that walk over that spillway. It is really narrow. Especially the bridge part is narrow. The Village has come up with a couple of ideas stated Mr. Hodgson. Discussions have subsided there for a while because of COVID and have just started up a little lately. I believe they are looking at an engineer to come up with the best idea to set up a walkway over there. Discussion ensued on what to do with traffic diversion during the work being done on the bridge. There was discussion on the water main under the bridge.

Supervisor Groff felt that the Town should put together a project and apply for the grant.

Councilman Gritsavage asked about the Village of Northville, NY Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP) that the Village Board has been working on. They have sent out surveys but nothing is being done on that as of yet.

Mr. Bell and the Board discussed the project review process for culvert applications and for bridge applications, the draft application submittal for pre-review deadline dates, and the final application submittals including all documentation when it needs to be received on or before dates.

MOTION

Councilman Simmons motioned to approve having Mr. Bell fill out the application process and apply for the Bridge NY program for the Town of Northampton. Councilman Roosa seconded the motion and carried by voice vote as follows:

3-Ayes: Groff, Roosa, and Simmons

0-Nays

0-Abstain

By submitting the application without of the plans where does that leave us? Do you need to have to have that all up front before you apply?

Mr. Bell responded. No, You're hiring me to assist you on the application I would write up the estimate for what we think we would want based on square footage of the bridge and what we are going to be able to do based on research on what we can do. Then it would be based on what the construction cost are going to be. Based on the construction costs on what they are going to be and they have guidelines. It is full time construct inspection once the contract bid and you have an engineer there full time to account for every penny that is spent. You have a preliminary hearing, scoping the developing plans or the actual design of the bridge and sending it out to the state. After the reward, then you have to do the construction inspection. The \$900,000 includes the engineering. The Town is only responsible for 5% of the total. You show the need and the cost.

There was discussion on figuring out who has the right of way. Mr. Hodgson will check to see if HRBRRD may or may not have plans.

Mr. Hodgson is asking to have an email send him requesting what information they need.

The meeting at has ended at 10:45 a.m.

Resolution to Approve the alteration of the Boundaries of Fire Protection District FD021 to include the Village of Northville Pursuant to Town Law §172-c

MOTION: Councilman Roosa motioned approval for the Town Clerk to post a notice of a Public Hearing to be held at the Town hall – 412 S. Main St., Northville, NY on March 23, 2021 at 5 p.m. regarding the Resolution to Approve the alteration of the Boundaries of Fire Protection District FD021 to include the Village of Northville Pursuant to Town Law §172-c. Councilman Simmons seconded the motioned and carried by voice vote as follows:

3-Ayes: Groff, Roosa, and Simmons

0-Nays

0-Abstain

Having no further business come before the board, Councilman Roosa motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:49 a.m. Seconded by Councilman Simmons, and carried by voice vote as follows:

3-Ayes: Groff, Roosa, and Simmons

0-Nays

0-Abstain

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Mihalik, Town Clerk