



GENERAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING NOTES OF OCTOBER 4, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m.

Present: Long, Lutke and Smith
Staff present: Fay and Larrea
Guests: Jared Pontius

Jared Pontius – Container Bathroom presentation

Pontius referred to the information found in the packet. Pontius stated bathrooms seem to be a lingering issue in the Village. The company out of Traverse City takes old storage containers and retro fits them into bathrooms. They would need to be hooked up to Village water and sewer. The proposal contains an ADA bathroom. The bathrooms could have heat and solar power, hopefully open year-round. Container bathrooms are an option that would not cost as much as a brick-and-mortar bathroom, is customizable and it is mobile. The community could get involved with an art piece and a Village logo. A possible location could be where the pocket park is by the Marina. Pontius stated Suttons Bay stays open year-round unlike other small communities within Leelanau County. Funding is the big piece. The cost for the container bathrooms is \$74,000 without utility hook ups, etc. The container bathrooms can always be sold or moved later because they are mobile. It is a need of the visitors, not the businesses, especially in the spring and fall, stated Pontius. There is support from the Suttons Bay Chamber of Commerce.

Larrea stated it is a \$100,000 project with the necessary hook ups for a temporary solution. Year-round bathrooms are in the DDA plan and they are the funding source. The DDA could tax themselves if downtown businesses truly believe there is a tremendous need for permanent, year-round bathrooms. It would require a millage to move forward. Committee questioned whether container bathrooms fit in the overall design of the Village. Committee strongly urges Council as a whole to support year-round bathrooms and would like the concept of year your bathrooms forwarded to the DDA to focus on. Space is a consideration. Committee noted the Village Hall is not geared for heavy use. Perhaps start with a survey to the businesses to see if they support one mill.

VSBS Report 2022-57 Pavilion Coal Dock Park

Larrea referred to the report and stated the pavilion is currently located next to Inland Seas. Electricity and water would be placed in the following year budget if the first step is approved. Larrea stated the pavilion lends itself to be an educational park. An engineer is needed to look at the plan and submit a letter to the Leelanau Building Department that it is adequate. Committee supports moving forward.

VSB Report 2022-58 Waterwheel Cost Estimates

Larrea referred to the costs estimates in his report found in the packet. He stated GEI consultants have a lot of experience in stream restoration. Grants from fisheries is not an option. Committee believes there is a lot more potential for the stream, and other options should be considered. Perhaps improvements can be done in stages. Committee recommends the scenarios be forwarded to Council for consideration, as well as possible other options.

2023 Draft Budget – Preliminary Review

Larrea stated that 50% of the pavilion relocation was in the 2022 budget, and it was not used. Also in the budget is electronic locks for all of the bathrooms due to the fact that staff leaves around 3:00 p.m. This would allow the bathrooms to stay open later. Smaller items in the proposed budget include park signage. Two signs are on order right now. Each park will have a park sign. A community wide educational loop could be created following the installation of signs at all of the parks. In the budget are typical maintenance costs, noting that staff has been taking on a lot more of the work instead of hiring it out. There are a couple of projects in the Street fund for S. Shore Drive, such as ditching and fixing the low area where it floods. Larrea stated S. Shore Dr. will be repaired in sections overtime, a segmented approach.

Status Updates/Committee member comments

The three way stop sign study started in September and a report should be available at the next meeting. The graffiti at Bahle Park is being painted over. Replanting the trees at Marina Park will take place next spring. There are three street trees that need to come down, and some trimming. Ten trees have been budgeted for. There are a lot of maple trees in the Village that are at the end of their life. The Smart Street light project by Consumers should be completed before the end of the year. The drainage on St. Mary's has been surveyed, and an estimate was received from Elmer's for \$47,000. It is hopeful the Village can do 2/3rds of the work saving substantial money. Long appreciates Larrea's ability to see the big picture, one of his greatest attributes.

The meeting adjourned at 9:28 a.m.

Meeting notes submitted by Shar Fay, Clerk.