

TOWN BOARD WORKSHOP OPENED AT 6:04 pm

PRESENT

Councilman Dennis Robinson
Councilman Jesse Hrycik
Councilwoman Patricia Zurbrick
Councilman Gerald Pietraszek
Supervisor James DePasquale

ALSO PRESENT

Planning Board Chairman Walt Kammer
Town Clerk Deborah Jusiak
Approximately 2 residents

1. Overview of Kummer Park NYS CFA Grant Submission

Planning Board Chairman Walt Kammer reported on the NYS Parks Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) submitted on behalf of the Town by Rotella Associates & Planning Board Chairman Walt Kammer. If awarded, the grant would be used to substantially upgrade Walter Kummer Park. Chairman Kammer said he added a lot of technical details to the application to make it easier to understand and to increase the odds of it's being accepted. The Chairman also acknowledged the assistance received from Nussbaumer & Clarke, acting as Town Engineer for Special Projects. They supplied engineering data and drawings needed for the CFA application.

The proposed grant application park improvements included installation of several ADA compliant trails, benches and playground equipment, a new ADA compliant pavilion than can be used as a winter ice rink, a multi-use trail with exercise and gaming stations, a longer nature trail and an expanded upper parking lot. Chairman Kammer said that the total proposed disturbance is less than 1 acre so only a short form SEQR would be needed.

2. Status of remaining Tasks for Kummer Park

Chairman Kammer reviewed the proposed project's organizational flow chart; Nussbaumer & Clarke would manage the engineering, site work, equipment and construction will be bid out. Rotella would provide grant administration and status reporting services. The Town's contribution of 50% is slated to come from approximately \$200,000 in remaining Federal Cares Act money, \$188,000 of in-kind services (known as "town force labor"), and approximately \$68,000 in cash which would be included in the 2025 Town Budget allocations. "Town force labor" involves code enforcement for project oversight, parks department with creation and maintenance of the disc golf course, Town accounting oversight, grubbing and filling performed by summer help or the highway department, planning board involvement and oversight, and even citizen volunteer involvement. All in-kind services would need to be recorded daily. Jim stated

that the residents expressed their willingness to help with projects like this, as they stated during the Public Hearing held prior to adoption of Colden Comprehensive Plan in May 2024.

Chairman Kammer reviewed the proposed CFA project schedule beginning with project specifications, bidding and scheduled notice of award at end of October 2024, project kickoff meeting in January 2025 and a proposed project completion date of November 2025. He credited it's being an election year probably resulting in a faster CFA award by NYS prior to election day. He also gave Town Board members a detailed breakdown of proposed project costs.

3. Potential Erie County DEP Municipal Planning Grant

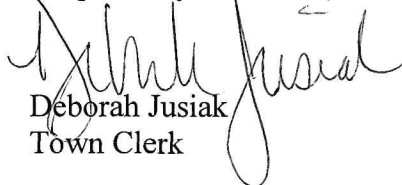
Chairman Kammer reported on his submission of an Erie County Department of Environment and Planning Grant application for Colden's first Parks and Recreation Master Plan. He was assured by Erie County that there is no prejudice against Colden for having recently been awarded two other Erie County DEP grants. The Town has already passed a resolution to allocate \$5,000 needed to match a \$27,000 grant if awarded. During the workshop Chairman Kammer performed an assessment showing Colden's current park use and he reviewed an organizational chart and project schedule for the proposed Park Planning project. He stated that Rotella tried to win this grant for Colden last year but was unsuccessful. Rotella assisted in some of the basic submissions used for the grant application, with details added by the Chairman.

4. Grant Effort Level Summary

Chairman Kammer indicated that one major issues for Colden, that impacts our ability to submit major grant applications, is the effort level needed from the Town to support the questions from Rotella. The effort needed is significant. For example, Chairman Kammer said he spent 77 hours of his personal time on the NYS CFA submission and the ECDEP Park Planning Grant Application. That was over approximately a 5-week period. That volunteer time by the Planning Board Chairman was substantial but Chairman Kammer cautioned that frequent sustainment of that scope and effort level could be a challenge in the long term.

SUPERVISOR DePASQUALE ADJORNED THE WORKSHOP AT 6:51PM

Respectfully submitted,



Deborah Jusiak
Town Clerk