

**PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING
VILLAGE OF NORTH HORSELL
MARCH 11, 2019 6:00:00 PM**

ATTENDANCE: Mayor: John Falci
Trustees: Joseph Ingalls, Elise McCollum, Peter DiRaimondo, Frank Libordi
Frank Libordi
Clerk/Treasurer Kristene Libordi
Deputy Clerk Vanessa Scott
DPW Superintendent Richard Scavo
DPW Charles Harrison

Mayor Falci opened meeting at 6:00.

Trustee Joseph gave a brief description of what work will be done on Seneca Rd Streets and Sidewalks. They are hoping for a bid date of April third with the project to be completed by the end of October. Includes curbs & gutters, drop inlets (brought up to a reasonable level for cyclists), new frames and grates, driveway aprons from the sidewalks to the street and new sidewalks (includes handicap ramps at the 13 intersections) The need for the project was based on 47 tripping hazards on the mile stretch of sidewalk on both sides of the road. There were 21 drop inlets that are cyclist hazards and 13 intersections that are nonhandicap accessible. The application that was approved was for a total of \$1,378,688 and it was an 80/20 Federal government grant –they pay 80% local pays 20%. The Village paying \$275,038. The Federal government will not go above what is allocated for the project. If the bids come in higher than expected, the Village has options of declining the project, or committing to the project and financing it. The application was placed in October of 2016. Lu Engineers is the Village engineer who has been putting together a set of plans and proposals for the Village over the past 15 months. The bidding was delayed until the board could present the plans to the residents. Mayor Falci noted that we are not sure of the Village's cost until bids are open.

Questions from residents:

Does the tree activity on Seneca Rd have anything to do with project?

Yes. The tree removal is necessary for the project.

Can bidders charge more at the end of the project than their bid?

No. There could be savings throughout the contract and there is a contingency in the contract for \$75,000 for things that may be missed or extra costs.

Can you give a description of what the project is, what streets and sidewalks are involved?

The sidewalk replacements will be five feet wide from new bridge to new bridge – the length of Seneca Rd. At the intersections it may go back a slab or two to tie into the old sidewalks. There will be edge striping on Seneca Rd. with two eleven foot lanes and two five foot bicycle lanes (edge striped and bicycle symbols) on each side. There will be no widening of the road but about eight inches narrower on each side.

Will more trees be taken down?

It is the intent of the Village to remove all trees between sidewalks and curbs. Thirteen trees total. There is another restoration process where we can put a tree on the homeowner's property in the front yard. This is not a part of the grant.

In widening the sidewalk to five feet will it be between the sidewalk and the road?

Yes. Everyone on Seneca Rd received a right of way release form that gives the contractor permission to work on the area of the property owner's front yard while digging out and replacing the sidewalk. Topsoil and seeding will be done afterwards.

Will they replace my fence that borders the sidewalk?

They should be able to work around it and if necessary they will put it back if taken out.

Can we use the same contractor to put in a new driveway so the new drive entrance will be at the same level as the new drive?

It is possible, but the contractor will not be able to do this until the completion of the project. There will be construction inspection every day by an engineer whose office will be at the DPW. If questions, you can ask them

Will there be parking allowed on Seneca Road during the yard sale weekend?

Yes. It is a 30 mph zone and it is only one weekend. Any other weekend there is no parking.

Will the turning lane for Bethesda Drive still be there?

Yes

How is the additional cost for the project going to be paid for? Will it be added to our taxes?

Until we get the bid and where we stand, we don't know what we will do. We have talked about bonding and our debt limit is very low and our taxes are low – the second lowest in Steuben county.

How confident is the engineering firm that the bids will come in at the 3.1 mil?

That's not what their estimate is right now and we can't talk about it because it is prior to bids opening.

Is there a way to modify the plan so that there are sections that could be changed or modified?

The project has to meet DOC specs so you can't change things to save on costs. We have to commit to the DOT before going forward with the contract within a reasonable amount of money. If it comes in very high the Village has the option of walking away. In doing so we would pay the engineering costs that are up to \$140,000. If the Village adjusts the contract and rebids, by not doing a third of the contract, the DOT states that they have to have assurances of when the balance of the job will be done by our crews or another contractor.

Could the Village have asked for more money for the project?

Based on calculations at the time the amount that was asked for was based on what was needed. Not aware if there would have been an upper number. The board did investigate for additional monies available thru the state and federal to supplement the project, but nothing was available. The DOT cannot spend money on a non state highway.

Will the roadway remain 30 mph?

Yes.

How does the selection of the low bidder work?

A low bid may come in and it will be scrutinized by the engineers as far as the companies qualifications go – have they had past state work (not a requirement) and if they can bond themselves for the project.

Who oversees the contractors?

The Village pays the engineer to oversee.

Is there any resistance from residents on Seneca Rd to sign easements?

No

Has there been any thought to having residents on Seneca Rd paying some type of assessment to cover the costs?

The board has not discussed that.

Will driveway aprons change?

Most if not all driveway aprons will be widened.

Will maintenance of sidewalk still be property owners?

Yes

Will there be a change in traffic pattern?

Contractors shouldn't be able to move from one side to another. They will work on one side at a time. There will probably be a week's time where residents will not be able to park in their drive ways. They will have to work out parking with the contractor. Possibly on the street.

How will my customers be able to get to my establishment?

You will have to work with the contractor on this.

How long will the double poles be on Seneca Rd?

Mayor Falci noted that the only poles that will be left will be the new ones. Everything will be switched over to the newer taller poles.

Trustee Ingalls thanked residents in attendance. Meeting ended at 6:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristene Libordi
Clerk/Treasurer