

NRG Meeting Minutes

January 25, 2023

6:00 P.M.

NRG Meeting #1 of 3 January 25, 2023 at 6: 01 P.M.

Project Team: Mayor Anthony Taylor, Fiscal Officer Lydia Coakley, Village Administrator Bill Robinette, Engineer Alan Brown, Hicks Partners Keith Conroy, Hicks Partners Anthony Jones.

Introduction of Mayor A. Taylor, Fiscal Officer L. Coakley, Village Administrator B. Robinette, Engineer A. Brown, Hicks Partners K. Conroy and A. Jones.

Hicks Partners A. Jones lead the meeting discussing the needs for the NRG Grant and the goals. There is a broad range of projects that qualify. Applications are available in March 2023 and due by June 2023. Community participation is crucial to the process. The goal is to have residents participate in the survey, voice opinions during open meetings and plan their wants and needs together. The Village of Bremen will need to qualify for low moderate income (LMI).

The next meeting will be prioritizing projects and allow residents to vote. The third meeting will be to introduce a plan to submit projects to Fairfield County Commissioners public hearings.

Infrastructure questions and comments:

Streets:

- School Street – Paving, sidewalks and drainage: Who is responsible for maintaining sidewalks? Is there stormwater drainage? Concerns of students walking in the street and this being a safety issue due to no sidewalks. Natural springs causing drainage issues, no adequate drainage and no sidewalks.
- Marietta Street – Storm drains and paving: Natural springs near the road, washing out driveways and road due to old drainage.
- Broad Street from Marietta Street to railroad tracks: Sidewalks stamped and street lighting: Concerns are that the sidewalks are not safe for strollers, bicyclist and people trying to walk to nearby commercial businesses. This is the main entrance for the Village of Bremen and curb appeal is a concern.
- Highland Blvd. – Paving and drainage: Drainage cannot be fixed and must be replaced. Concerns with safety and the narrowness of this street.
- Commercial District: Residents are interested in seeing the commercial district return to its historical roots. Suggestions are lighting, awnings, facelifts and pest control. There was a study done in 2000 for downtown revitalization. There have been some additions with an Airbnb, and Sweets to Taste Bakery downtown as well.
- Northridge Drive: The hill needs repaired along with concerns of potholes.
- Lighting: Lighting requested for intersections and residential areas. Residents are concerned about safety and tripping hazards.

ADA Ramps:

- Bremen United Methodist Church at the intersection of Mulberry Street and Walnut Street: Wheelchairs, bicyclist, strollers and walkers would benefit from the ramps. Ramps were not repaired correctly from the gas company the curbs are too high.
- Collins Street and Purvis Avenue Intersection: Not wheel chair accessible. There is a resident close that needs ramps in order to use his motorized wheel chair. Drainage issues because of the brick needing relevelled. Releveling the brick would be costly.

Water:

- Softeners at treatment plant: There was a filter rehab in 2018 but nothing was done with the softener system. The residents feel that everyone benefits from the water including the schools and the Village of Rushville. Water is imperative for quality of life. Residents spoke about years prior there being an issue with so much salt in the water. There is now concerns of water hardness.
- Meter pits: Mayor A. Taylor explained that it takes two village employees 48 hours to read the meters. Then the office puts them into the system. The village water department and office would like to have meter pits with leak detection to lower mistakes, take less time with employees to read and inputting the reads. Leak detection would allow residents to find leaks sooner with monthly reads. There are approximately 560 meters in the village.

Public Facility questions and comments:

Parks and Recreation:

- Pool: Concrete pad repair and replace lighting: Mayor A. Taylor mentioned concrete work needing done from aging. There is no lighting at the pool and some of the residents would like to see this added for evening parties and swim times.
- Walking path: This is a popular location for residents and the annual village Pumpkin Walk. There is a half mile walking path that needs widened with new asphalt.
- Park Addition: Resident would like to see additional land purchased but there is EPA concerns with the property to the east of Howell Park.

Miscellaneous:

- Art: Resident would like art murals added in the village.

Adjourn: 7:34 P.M.