



To: President and Members of Town Council

From: Dustin Anderson, Town Manager
Tom Vander Woude, Planning Director

Date: October 4, 2021

Re: America In Bloom / CN “EcoConnexions From the Ground Up” landscaping project contract with Hubinger Landscaping Corp.

The purpose of this memo is to request authorization for the Town Manager to enter into an agreement with Hubinger Landscaping Corp. to implement the CN Railroad Beautification Landscape Project, funded through the America In Bloom / CN “EcoConnexions From the Ground Up” grant program.

Background

In 2020, the Town partnered with Centennial Village LLC to submit an application to the America In Bloom / CN “EcoConnexions From the Ground Up” grant program. This program is funded by the CN Railroad and administered by the nonprofit America In Bloom organization; it has the goal of supporting collaborative community greening projects that enhance landscapes in communities neighboring CN rail lines. The Town’s application proposed a series of landscaped areas along the Pennsy Greenway trail between Centennial Village and the CN railroad tracks that would enhance the trail corridor and screen the railroad tracks from Centennial Village.

In December, the Town’s proposal was selected by AIB/CN. The total cost of the project is \$50,000. AIB/CN is providing the maximum \$25,000 in grant funding and requires a 50% match. Centennial Village LLC has agreed to provide half of the match. The Town’s contribution will be \$12,500.

In late summer 2021, the Town requested qualifications from four different landscaping companies to identify a contractor to complete the work. Based on their response, Hubinger Landscaping Corp. was selected as the best qualified. They worked with staff and Matt Kimmel of Centennial Village LLC to develop a detailed plan for the landscaping project and have begun the work. Their proposal is attached.

Recommendation:

By motion and voice vote, authorize the Town Manager to enter into an agreement with Hubinger Landscaping Corp. to implement the CN Railroad Beautification Landscape Project, funded through the America In Bloom / CN “EcoConnexions From the Ground Up” grant program.

Attachments:

1. Hubinger Landscaping Corp Munster Bike Path America In Bloom proposal
2. Hubinger Landscaping Corp Munster Bike Path America In Bloom detailed landscaping plan