



TO: President Gardiner and Members of the Council

FROM: Deputy Town Manager

DATE: April 17, 2023

RE: Pedestrian Bridges over Hart Ditch and Cady Marsh Ditch
Quote for Potholing of NIPSCO Gas Mains

Background

The Town has been working on the design to extend the existing bike trail in the NIPSCO easement south of Schoon Ditch into the Town of Highland. Two pedestrian bridges are needed to cross Hart Ditch and Cady Marsh Ditch. Several underground and overhead utilities are located in the corridor, including pipelines owned by Wolverine, Buckeye, and NIPSCO, as well as overhead NIPSCO electric transmission lines.

After the original trail alignment was rejected by Wolverine Pipeline Company as being too close to their pipeline, the Town's engineering consultant, SEH, proposed a route further to the south. We have been working with NIPSCO to obtain their approval for the final route. A condition of this approval is that the Town verify the horizontal and vertical locations of two NIPSCO gas mains in the vicinity of the proposed trail alignment.

Methodology

On March 17, a request for quotes was sent to four local hydro-excavation companies to provide a cost to hydro-excavate at twenty locations along the 6-inch gas distribution line and 30-inch transmission pipeline. One quote, from Blood Hound Underground Utility Locators, was received on March 29 by the 2 PM deadline. Blood Hound proposes to do the work outlined in our request for a not-to-exceed cost of \$36,038.00.

Recommendation

By motion and voice vote, authorize the Town Manager to sign the contract with Blood Hound to complete the hydro-excavation work at a cost of \$36,038.00.