

RESOLUTION NO. _____-2023

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMITTAL OF A RECONNECTING COMMUNITIES PILOT PROGRAM GRANT TO THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TO SUPPORT THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE CHARLES STREET BRIDGE AND VIADUCT

WHEREAS, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) included funding to the United States Department of Transportation to support, among other programs, the creation of the Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program; and,

WHEREAS, the Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program is “dedicated to reconnecting communities that have been previously cut off from economic opportunities by transportation infrastructure” including railroads, interstates, and highways; and,

WHEREAS, funding through the Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program supports planning or capital construction grants and technical assistance, “to restore community connectivity through the removal, retrofit, mitigation, or replacement of eligible transportation infrastructure facilities;” and,

WHEREAS, the City of Oelwein, Iowa will pursue planning monies in an amount not to exceed 1,500,000 and provide the mandatory match of 20% of the project costs, which combined, will be used to identify improvements to transportation barriers that impact residents, vehicular traffic, pedestrians, and rail service in the City of Oelwein; and,

WHEREAS, the planning priorities will identify pedestrian and vehicular traffic impacts and design solutions to the 1888 Charles Street Bridge and Viaduct and the transportation barriers that exist for facilities located at that site including pedestrian, rail, and vehicular traffic; and,

WHEREAS, planning activities and outcomes will include an aggressive and appropriate community engagement strategy, final preliminary design, cost estimates, historical and archeological surveys, environmental assessment, and flood modeling; and,

WHEREAS, combined, these activities should lay the foundation for a Reconnecting Communities Construction Grant Application in subsequent funding cycles or for other state and federal opportunities through either the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, Inflation Reduction Act, or another law or program of which the City would be eligible.

NOW THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF OELWEIN, IOWA, RESOLVES:

SECTION 1. That the foregoing recitals are incorporated in and made a part of this resolution by reference.

SECTION 2. That the City Administrator on behalf of the City of Oelwein is authorized to submit an application to the United States Department of Transportation for a Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program grant to support planning activities related to the Charles Street Bridge and Viaduct Project in Oelwein, Iowa.

SECTION 3. That the City of Oelwein hereby commits to contribution of a 20% match in the amount of \$300,000 which includes in-kind service provided by Iowa Northern Railroad.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS 11th DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2023, BY THE CITY OF OELWEIN, IOWA.

Brett DeVore, Mayor

ATTEST:

Dylan Mulfinger, City Administrator

It was moved by _____ and seconded by _____ that the Resolution as read be adopted, and upon roll call there were:

AYES NAYS ABSENT ABSTAIN

Stewart
Weber
Lenz
Garrigus
Seeders
Payne