

JULY BLASS FIELD REVITALIZATION UPDATE

The town has now contacted 4 construction companies directly and additionally put a Request For Proposal ad in local papers. Those efforts so far have resulted in only 2 firms expressing interest and submitting initial bids. The 2 companies are S&L Builders and Double O, estimates are between \$48,000 and \$47,800, so almost exactly the same. Both bids are broken out by Labor and Materials, so none are over \$35K. Both builders have worked in Ancram previously.

We have also reached out to an interesting company by the name of Enwood that is somewhat like a modular home builder, but they construct Pavilions (and other structures) in pieces then ship the parts to a location where someone else puts it together. More to follow.

Both estimates include a metal roof which according to builders and what research I could find poses no lightening threat, and both assume the work for the concrete floor will be donated to the town from local builders, specifically Jim Stickle and the Ancram Construction Company. Further, we have an offer to provide electrical work also (Kyle).

Materials for the concrete floor are estimated to be a maximum of \$18,000, probably closer to \$15,000, and no estimate for the electrical materials is available yet.

We are setting up a Zoom call with both current options to discuss next steps and timing.

MAY BLASS FIELD REVITALIZATION UPDATE

Progress on the project to build a pavilion at Blass field has been slow but steady. Establishing a safe site started with the replacement of a years old and leaky culvert under the field, with the labor, machines, and time all donated by Jim Stickle and the Ancram Construction Company.

The site chosen for the building is alongside and parallel to the current basketball court to minimize building on wet land and minimize impacting ballfield use. Several of the old unused light posts have already been removed. The current thinking is to update the court and perhaps also add or paint a pickleball court on the blacktop there, immediately turning the pavilion into a multi-use area.

Several town board members are working on securing potential grants to fund the project, though if secured would likely not be seen until after the pavilion was built. Funding is also being sought to upgrade the pool and facilities, consistent with the theme to turn Blass field into a broader attraction than just the pavilion. Additionally, money has been allocated to upgrade the currently unused ballfield this spring, a project led by David Boice and the Fire Company.

Biggest challenge to date has been finding a construction company to do the work. 3 firms have declined, and one bid has been secured so far.

The tentative plan is to present to the community at the next Town Board meeting the full plan for input.

Feel free to direct any questions to Steve Olyha at solyha@msn.com.