

Little Chute village board examines Island Park windmill project estimates

By Tom Collins

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At the Wednesday, May 21, Little Chute Village Board meeting, trustees reviewed a series of preliminary cost estimates for improvements at Island Park in the village associated with the Little Chute Windmill Project.

The village will split the costs of the estimated \$39,700 in improvements required for such items as parking, walkways, lighting, landscaping, storm water drainage and erosion control on the Island Park grounds to support the windmill facility.

Village administrator Chuck Kell said the cost split is currently estimated at \$18,225 for the village with the windmill committee picking up \$13,475.

The windmill building will be along the western tip of Island Park and will include meeting space for business groups on the second floor of the building as well as housing the Little Chute Historical Society. Restroom facilities for park goers are planned in the lower level with outside access.

Island Park also will include one, and possibly two, parking lots as well as walkways, playground equipment and a public shelter. A boat dock is being considered nearby at Doyle Park as well. And if grant money comes in, an enhanced trail will connect Island Park with Heesakker Park. The Windmill Committee intends to gather estimates for its facility in the next two months.

“It will be different when all the numbers come in,” Kell cautioned trustees. “We will have to negotiate it again when the final costs come in.”

“We don’t want to overbuild this thing,” Kell added, explaining that not everything included in the current estimates may be constructed right away. “We might just see what the usage of the facility is.”