

Panel votes to pursue ‘hybrid’ multi-use trail

By **Marcus Nesemann**

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The area around Kemp Street in Rhinelander could be the home of a new multi-use pedestrian trail, if all goes according to the plan created by the city of Rhinelander and MSA Professional Services.

The city’s Finance, Wage and Salary Committee last week approved a grant application for the trail, which will run

along Kemp Street and Sutliff Avenue. The city is attempting to obtain Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program grant dollars for the project.

The city’s Parks, Buildings and Grounds Committee last week reviewed drafts from MSA on two multi-use trail studies — one along the Pelican River and one along the Wisconsin River.

A quickly-approaching grant application deadline — along with the cost of each project — caused that committee to direct City Administrator Blaine Oborn, Parks Director Gunder Paulsen and alderman Alex Young to work with MSA to reduce costs and bring options before the finance committee.

Those discussions led to the creation of a third “hybrid” option.

“We had a little meeting in between to kind of tweak things ... and came up with a hybrid which we’re calling the chamber trail,” Oborn said.

“It’s goes up Sutliff (Avenue) to where the lift station ends there, along that nice piece of property the city owns, then it puts a nice jaunt over into the hotel section (on Kemp Street)”

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