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RESULTS OF DECISION MANAGEMENT FOR PUBLIC PROJECTS AT THE LEVEL OF THE IBĂNEȘTI COMMUNE IN BOTOȘANI COUNTY, ROMANIA

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RESULTS OF DECISION MANAGEMENT FOR PUBLIC PROJECTS AT THE LEVEL OF THE IBĂNEȘTI COMMUNE IN BOTOȘANI COUNTY, ROMANIA

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Abstract

The content of this article is dedicated to the analysis of details in the documentation for public projects in order to highlight, based on the situation existing in the administrative-territorial unit taken into consideration, of practical results of local development of the decision management, with particularization at the level of Ibăneşti commune in Botoşani county, Romania. The research carried out shows that, in recognition of the efforts made by the decision-making administrative authorities for local development, considering that the inhabitants have rehabilitated local roads, street lighting, drinking water supply, sanitation services, the commune received the status of "European locality". From the study we see that by 2020 various public projects have been initiated, executed and finalized, the analysis of only three of them showing the strategic directions proposed by the decision-making authorities of the local public management for the modernization of the locality by paving the public road, modernizing the school, kindergarten thermal rehabilitation.

Keywords:

Decision management; local public administrative authorities; inhabitants; commune; local development; public projects; asphalting public road; school modernization; kindergarten thermal rehabilitation.

JEL classification: H41, H75

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I. DESCRIPTIVE REFERENCES CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATIVE-TERRITORIAL UNIT IBĂNEȘTI COMMUNE

Ibăneşti is a common residence, comprising two villages - Ibăneşti and Dumbrăviţa in its administration, and is part of Botoşani county, after the territorial-administrative reorganization of 1968, occupying a strategic place due to its proximity to the borders of Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova. The county residence is the municipality of Botosani, which is located at a distance of about 55 km from the Ibăneşti locality.

The location of Ibăneşti commune, but also of its neighbors within the county, can be viewed within the following satellite maps (see Figure no. 1).

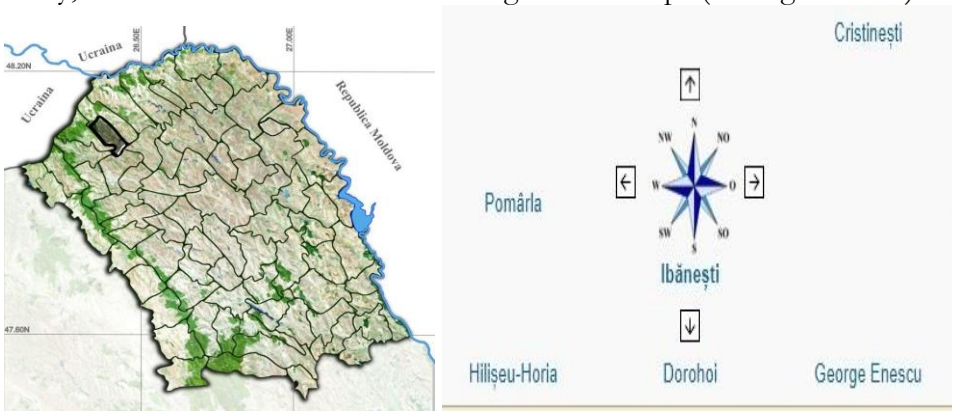


Figure no. 1. Location of Ibăneşti Commune and its neighbors within Botosani County
Source:https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/d/d3/Ibanesti_judetul_Botosani.jpg [accessed on 2.03.2019] [8]

It is observed the location of the commune in the NW part of the county, as well as its neighbors locally, respectively: in the northeast part Cristineşti commune, in the southeast George Enescu commune (Liveni), in the south Dorohoi municipality, in the southwest Hilişeu-Horia commune, in the west, Pomârla commune, and in the north is the village of Poiana, which is part of Cristineşti commune.

The commune of Ibăneşti, with its almost rectangular shape, has an area of approx. 4,660 ha, being inhabited by approximately 3,940 persons established in 1,939 households.

The geographical positioning, correlated with the involvement of the community in the development at the local level and with a public administration in the service of the citizens, have led, in the last period of time, to the social and economic development of the Ibăneşti commune. Also, the 31 commercial companies and a number of 29 authorized natural persons together form a sum of 60 commercial companies existing at the level of Ibăneşti Commune.

At present, the main source of subsistence of the local community is represented by the agriculture due to the varied relief, being followed by the raising of animals, and supplemented by the enterprise and the maintenance of economic activities such as milling, fish farming, beekeeping, forestry, trade, grazing, milk processing, to the level of the commune being a milk factory whose production is given to marketers to well-known supermarket chains but also to export, wood processing in a primary phase with the help of saws and circulars, extraction of material resources from the stone quarry, processing of seed sunflower using oil presses, production of adhesives for construction, but also textile and leather garments. Therefore, all these activities undertaken by the citizens of the commune contribute to the economic development of the area, both in terms of jobs and minimizing the migration of the locals to other areas.

As a recognition of the efforts made for local development, considering that the inhabitants of the commune have local roads rehabilitated according to European norms, street lighting, drinking water supply, within the project competition launched by the Delegation of the European Commission in Romania, as well and for sanitation services, the town of Ibăneşti received in 2006 the "status of a European village".

The position occupied by the Ibăneşti commune in the top accurately portrays the degree of involvement of the local public authorities at the commune level in the faithful fulfillment of their attributions to serve the general interests, and not only, of the Ibăneşti community, as well as in the most efficient management of the resources that they have, but also the assurance of the smooth running of the activity performed at the level of institution and commune.

II. THE AUTHORITIES OF LOCAL PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AT THE LEVEL OF THE IBĂNEȘTI COMMUNE

The institution of the City Hall of Ibăneşti is located in the direction of DJ291D, being thus easily accessible as can be seen (see Figure no. 2):

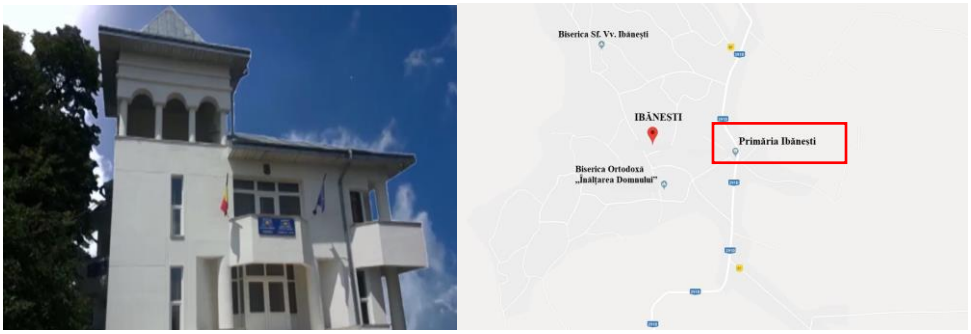


Figure no. 2. The institution of Ibăneşti City Hall and its location within the commune
Source: http://consiliulibanesti.ro/ [accessed on 2.03.2019] [5]

Within the Ibăneşti City Hall, a number of 24 human resources are active, of which 2 dignitaries (the mayor and the deputy mayor), 1 civil servant (the secretary), 7 civil servants of execution, and 14 constitute the contract staff [2]. Also, at the city hall level, there are 7 departments, respectively: Financial-Accounting Service, Social Assistance, Urban Planning, Agricultural Register, Civil Status, Voluntary Service for Emergency Situations and the Public Procurement Service [9].

The Local Council of the Ibăneşti Commune is made up of 12 local councilors, [1] this number being established by order of the prefect of Botosani County, referring to the population of the commune.

The development at the local level aims to modernize the Ibăneşti Commune by 2020 through investments in industry, in improving public services, in agriculture and by rehabilitating the necessary infrastructure for raising living standards and improving the social and educational environment, with a special focus on ensuring the sustainability of this process" [10].

Regarding the position in which we observe the practical achievements at the level of Ibăneşti Commune, the development took place with the active

involvement in the implementation of road and educational infrastructure projects [6], respectively: Construction of the Multifunctional Cultural Hall in Ibăneşti Commune, Rehabilitation of the village road Măgura, Rehabilitation of the road Pomârla - Dumbrăviţa center through the association of the communities of Ibăneşti and Pomârla from Botoşani County, Modernization of Dumbrăviţa-Ibăneşti road, Construction of the school with classes I-IV Ştefan cel Mare Ibăneşti, Construction of the kindergarten the commune of Ibăneşti, Construction of Mihail Sadoveanu School Dumbrăviţa in Ibăneşti Commune, Construction of multifunctional sports base with nightlife in Ibăneşti Commune, Construction of a fixed outdoor scene in Ibăneşti Commune.

III. PUBLIC ROAD ASPHALTATION ON THE INTERSECTION SEGMENT DJ291D (KM 12 + 200) - CENTER IN IBĂNEŞTI COMMUNE

One of the projects of public interest initiated and materialized by the public authorities from the level of Ibăneşti with and for the local community is represented by the *Public road asphalting Project on the segment of the intersection DJ291D (km 12 + 200) - Center of the Ibăneşti commune, Botoşani county* (see Figure No 3):



Figure no. 3. Asphalted public road on the intersection segment km 12 - Center from Ibăneşti Commune, Botosani County

The *task book* prepared regarding this public project includes a part of activities that have been carried out in several stages: the realization of a

foundation based on gravel and broken stone, followed by the actual hot execution of some cylindrical bituminous road coatings, carrying out some bridge works, installing during the execution of the asphalting works some road signs and the permanent location of the vertical signs.

The initiation of the project consisted in *the Decision of the Local Council of Ibăneşti Commune* regarding the approval of the investment objective Asphalting public road on the segment of intersection DJ291D (km 12 + 200) - Center in Ibăneşti commune, Botosani county. The decision that establishing the estimated value of the objective of RON 972,923 (excluding VAT) is based on the analysis of the specialized report prepared by the mayor of the commune, but also on the basis of the legal provisions. [3] [4] [7]

Three of the functional compartments at the level of the City Hall of Ibăneşti Commune, respectively the Public Procurement Department, the Legal Department and the Accounting Department, elaborate on 27.07.2014 a *foundation note* regarding the acquisition of asphalting public road works, which identifies the needs that determined the decisions regarding the project, among which: reducing the expenses incurred for fuel, car care and repairs, facilitating the access of citizens to national and county roads, extending the state of road sustainability according to current and future traffic, increasing the degree of safety, but the degree of safety, and promoting the ability to adapt to the current system of the road system. The note of justification justifies the choice of the procedure for awarding the public procurement contract - *tender request with electronic tender stage, framing the procedure in the category Paving and asphalt works.*

At the level of the Institution of the City Hall of Ibăneşti, a *justifying note* is elaborated, at the same date, setting out essential data that led to the choice of the public procurement procedure, respectively: the category of works - paving and asphalt works, the estimated cost of the purchase - 972,923 RON, the procurement procedure used according to the law - request for tender, and the justification of the acquisition consists in the need to asphalt a communal road to facilitate the movement of the citizens of the Ibăneşti Commune between their points of interest. Also, the justifying note also provides for the division of the estimated amount in the expenses for the actual investment in the amount of 952,923 lei, for the works regarding the organization on the site

during the execution, the amount of 0,00 lei is allocated, and the remaining 20,000 lei are available for miscellaneous and unforeseen expenses.

The *data sheet* generated regarding this project of public interest includes information regarding: how to finance and pay for the works, respectively from the local budget and co-financing through the Rural Development Program at National level; the award of the contract is made according to the lowest price; the dimension on which the contract extends, asphalting of 1,500 m road comprising a carriageway with two lanes and the associated sidewalks; the completion period is 3 months from the date of issuing the orders to start the works.

The *tender notice* published on 03.09.2014 on the website of the Electronic Public Procurement System specifies the deadline for submitting and opening tenders - 15.09.2014, the auction being conducted electronically through an offline procedure, while the contract is part of a program with community funding.

Regarding the *announcement of the award of the contract*, it is specified the date of its notification and publication in the Electronic Public Procurement System, 06.10.2014, as well as the choice of the winner TRANSPORTURI AUTO S.A. from 3 bidders.

On 20.10.2014, an *order to start the works* was issued to TRANSPORTURI AUTO S.A. as a result of the approval of his offer regarding the execution of the paving and asphalting works at the *Asphalting public road objective on the segment of the intersection DJ291D (km 12 + 200) - Center in Ibăneşti commune, Botosani county.*

At the completion of the works, the company responsible for the execution of the indicated road brought all these to the knowledge of the City Hall of Ibănești. All this was followed by the convocation of the reception commission which concluded a *reception report on the completion of the works*, on 25.04.2015, in which the findings made on the spot were recorded, with no deviations from the lists of quantities and the works provided for in the project, thus admitting the reception upon completion of the works.

IV. MODERNIZATION OF THE "ȘTEFAN CEL MARE" SCHOOL IN IBĂNEȘTI COMMUNE

One of the most recent projects of public interest at the level of the Ibăneşti Commune is materialized in the design and execution of works for the Modernization of the "Stefan cel Mare" School in Ibăneşti (see Figure no. 4):



Figure no. 4. "Stefan cel Mare" School in Ibăneşti commune, Botoşani County, "before" and "after" modernization

In order to initiate this project, the Local Council, in a public meeting of February 21, 2016, elaborated the decision regarding the approval of the objective of *Modernization of the "Stefan cel Mare" School in Ibăneşti, Botosani County*. The decision came as a result of the analysis of the specialized report no. 715 of February 20, 2016, prepared by the mayor of Ibăneşti Commune, by which he proposes to approve the submission of the request for objectives that can be financed through the National Program for Local Development. By this decision, the Local Council assumes the financing of the ineligible expenses related to the objective and the assurance of its maintenance for a period of 5 years from the completion and specifies the estimated value of the investment of 800,000 lei.

The *task book* includes the reasons that led to the implementation of such a public project: granting students with conditions conducive to learning, improving the costs of maintenance and hygiene, increasing the quality of the study through the idea of modern, granting conditions of safety at the place of study. Also, are presented all the activities envisaged when initiating the project of modernization of the school: restoration of interior and exterior finishes, solving deficiencies regarding the way of evacuation in case of fire, external

thermal insulation of the building, refurbishment of sidewalks in the school yard, replacement of the boiler, facilitating access to the building for persons with disabilities, rehabilitation of electrical installations, adding a secondary access for evaluation, decommissioning of stoves on solid fuel, as well as other such activities regarding the architecture, resistance, installations, aesthetic, urban aspect of building. The technical specification, geotechnical study, topographic study, feasibility study and energy audit are attached to this task book.

The *procedure for awarding* the public procurement contract is a request for tender - a simplified procedure, the object of which is included in "General repair and renovation works" and in "Technical design services for the construction of public works". All these specifications are summed up in the *foundation note* elaborated at the level of the Institution of the City Hall of Ibăneşti Commune.

The justification of the acquisition is based on the *justifying note* from 02.03.2016, which allocates the proposed amount of 815,747 lei (excluding VAT) for: expenses allocated to the execution of the actual works of 767,747 lei, expenses for the site organization worth 15,000 lei, and the amount the remaining 33,000 lei is directed to the design and technical assistance services.

The *announcement of participation in the procurement* published on 16.06.2016 in the Electronic Public Procurement System gives the object of the contract of this project, consisting in maximizing the safety of the students and the teachers regarding the fire protection norms, but also creating favorable conditions for the deployment as much as possible efficient of the course hours.

Not long after, a declaration of participation of the bidders was registered in the procurement procedure through which their identification data are transmitted: the association between SC DELTA CON SRL - leader and SC AGHEMIR COMPANY SRL - associate. As a difference of one day, the minutes of the tenders evaluation sessions were concluded: evaluation of the SEAD (Single European Procurement Document) and of the guarantee of participation, technical evaluation and financial evaluation by which it was found compliance with the legal provisions.

On 22.07.2016, the Electronic Public Procurement System publishes the announcement of the award of the public procurement contract that falls under the type "Works" and specifies the winner of this auction, namely the trading company DELTA CON SRL from Dorohoi Municipality, Botosani County.

The elaboration of the order to start the works was carried out on 25.01.2017 to S.C. DELTA CON S.R.L. as a result of the award of his offer regarding the execution of the works of general repair and renovation to the objective of the Modernization School "Stefan cel Mare" Ibăneşti, Botoşani County.

Following the execution of all the works set out in the project documentation, but also based on the initial technical and financial evaluation studies, the trading company DELTA CON SRL announces their completion to the institution of the City Hall of Ibăneşti in order to convene the reception commission to inform the completion of the works.

The reception commission made up of 10 members carried out its activity on 27.03.2018, preparing the reception report on the completion of the works on the Modernization objective of the "Stefan cel Mare" School, Ibăneşti Commune, Botosani County.

This commission found that, from the written and presented documentation, there were no missing pieces, there are no quantities of unfinished works, it is not the case to find works that do not respect the provisions of the project, the declared value of the execution of the work is 815,747 lei without VAT, and the measures provided in the execution documentation from the point of view of fire prevention and extinguishing are performed.

V. THERMAL REHABILITATION KINDERGARTEN DUMBRĂVIȚA VILLAGE, IBĂNEȘTI COMMUNE

With a view to sustainable development on all levels in the whole of the Ibaneşti Commune and to participate in supporting as much as possible the education of the young people, the local public authorities have launched and have completed the project of public interest entitled *Thermal rehabilitation Kindergarten village Dumbrăviţa, Ibăneşti Commune, Botoşani County* (see Figure no. 5):



Figure no. 5. Kindergarten in Dumbrăvița village, Ibănești Commune, Botoșani County, "before" and "after" thermal rehabilitation

In achieving the proposed objective, the Local Council elaborated the decision regarding the approval of the investment work *Thermal rehabilitation Kindergarten Dumbrăvița village, Ibănești Commune, Botoșani County*. By this decision, the Local Council assumes the financing of all the expenses resulting from the local budget, initially estimated value for this objective being 68,223 lei.

The data sheet submitted to the Electronic Public Procurement System on 15.05.2013 specifies what can be found in the foundation note elaborated by the three compartments at the level of the Institution of the City Hall of Ibănești (Public procurement, accounting and legal departments) namely, the award of the public procurement contract based on the Development Strategy of the Ibănești commune 2013-2020 approved by the Ibănești Local Council through HCL no. 16/16.04.2013, ensuring optimal conditions for educating students and conducting educational activities by teachers in favorable conditions; improving the quality of the building by adapting to the current times.

The task book includes the actual description of the activities to be carried out once the works have started on the objective of thermal

rehabilitation, such as: surface preparation, fixing of the thermal insulation plates, subsequent completion of the decorative and dry plastering.

Also, the same data sheet reproduces the procedure for awarding this contract - *request for tender, simplified procedure with electronic auction stage,* conducted offline, the object of the mentioned procedure falling under the category "Thermal insulation works", and this public procurement contract not being divided into lots.

The justifying note issued divides the estimated amount initially in the expenses with the thermal insulation works and subsequent finishes at a decorative level in the amount of 62,021 lei without VAT, plus miscellaneous and unforeseen expenses in the amount of 6,202 lei without VAT, all of which are financed from the local budget.

On May 20, 2013 was published in the Electronic Public Procurement System the announcement of participation in the public procurement in simplified form that includes information on: the action of complete thermal insulation with polystyrene plates, the reinforcement of the system of thermal insulation with fiberglass, followed by finishing in stages with decorative plaster; as well as the date of submission and opening of offers from companies - 03.06.2013, the contract not being registered in a program of financing from community funds.

Subsequently, on 02.09.2013 was published the award announcement related to the public procurement contract for the objective *Thermal rehabilitation Kindergarten Dumbrăviţa village, Ibăneşti Commune, Botoşani County* in which the winner of the auction of the 3 received offers is specified - SC CORNELL'S Roma FLOOR SRL Botosani County. At a later date, an order for the provision of services is issued as a result of the award of the winning commercial offer.

As a result of the successful completion of the service provision actions, on 21.04.2014, a reception commission met, which prepared a reception report on the completion of the works. In this report were recorded all the findings made on the spot by the reception commission, of which the exact execution of the quantities of works included in the written documentation of the project and the observance of the provisions of the project in the execution of the works, proposing thus the acceptance of the reception upon completion the planned works.

VI. CONCLUSIONS

Based on the lines contained in the previous pages, one can draw the conclusion that the present research allowed the highlighting, based on the existing local situation, of results of the decision management through the implementation of projects of public interest, with particularization at the level of Ibaneşti commune in Botoşani county.

The introductory part presented identification and descriptive data of this administrative-territorial unit, being located in the northwestern part of the county and designated in 2006 as a European locality.

In relation to the decision-making authorities from the analyzed commune, we have found that they aim to modernize the locality by 2020 by investing in industry, improving public services, agriculture and rehabilitating the necessary infrastructure for raising living standards and improving the social environment and education, with a special focus on ensuring the sustainability of this process.

Also, the study showed practical achievements of development at the commune level through active involvement in the implementation of public projects.

Initiation, execution and completion of the works within only three of these projects that have been carried out, respectively *Asphalting public road on the segment of the intersection DJ291D (km 12 + 200) - Center Ibăneşti Commune; Modernization of the "Stefan cel Mare" School Ibăneşti Commune; Thermal rehabilitation Kindergarten in Dumbrăviţa village, Ibăneşti Commune* constitute instruments of concretization of the strategy of modernization of the managerial decision-making authorities in this administrative-territorial unit.

Finally, we can conclude that the presentation of details regarding the entire documentation of the mentioned projects highlighted an elaborate decision-making process, the complexity and the imperative of the decisions taken by the local public administration authorities in the Ibăneşti commune in order to obtain practical results of local development.

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