

MUNICIPAL BUILDING
7:15 PM

CDBG FIRST PUBLIC HEARING
JANUARY 22, 2015

The township meeting of the Township Committee took place on the above date, time and place with the following being present: Mayor Art Midgley, Deputy Mayor Gene Kobryn, Committeeman Ed Nuttall, Committeeman Ray Gormley, Committeeman John Kehm, Township Administrator Garrett Loesch, Township Engineer Jason Worth, Recording Operator Linda Cicco and Township Clerk Diana McCracken.

Township Clerk Diana McCracken read the Open Public Meeting Statement and opened the meeting.

Flag Salute - Moment of Silence

First Public Hearing 2015 Community Development Block Grant Program

Township Engineer Jason Worth reported this is the first of the two required public hearings. The Community Development Block Grant is a federally funded program from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development administered through the Ocean County Planning Department. Funding is provided to municipalities for improvements aimed to benefit low to moderate income residents or those with disabilities. This program has become increasingly competitive over the last ten years with grant awards in the range of thirty to thirty five thousand dollars. Past projects have included handicap accessibility improvement door projects and sidewalk and curb ramp projects. The program is targeted for certain neighborhoods. After the 2010 Census, HUD created new DTN maps for the township which were distributed and they identify where the townships designated target neighborhoods are located. Currently there is a sizeable portion in Mystic Islands and the area between Center Street and Radio Road. We have looked at areas where storm drainage improvements are needed.

Mayor Art Midgley: Asked if 7 Gifford Lane was in a designated area.

Township Engineer stated no, not currently.

Committeeman Ray Gormley: From looking at the map, 7 Gifford Lane does not appear to be in the designated area however in the past we have used Community Development Block Grants for projects such as that. We could possibly think outside the box regarding that building.

Township Engineer Jason Worth stated he believes that is correct and could speak with the County Planning Department, they work well with us.

Township Administrator Garrett Loesch stated with Municipal Alliance being a county backed program it may be beneficial.

Public Comments

Motion to open to the public: Gormley

Second: Kehm

All in favor

Mr. Ed Gautier: Asked if there is anything in the requirements for low income housing for Sandy victims.

Township Engineer Jason Worth explained this is not specifically targeted for Sandy victims. It is a long standing program dating back years therefore the funding guidelines are following that same rule.

Mr. Ed Gautier: Explained an application came through the Zoning Board where there was handicap access on the first floor which only consisted of one bedroom apartments. Explained if there was a handicapped person who needed two bedrooms, there was nothing available for

them. Asked if there is anything in this grant that specifies that and also shopping centers and recreation facilities.

Township Engineer Jason Worth explained the areas on the map are designated areas where the work should occur. The type of handicap accessibility improvements generally are promoting barrier free access to public buildings such as handicap door improvements, sidewalk and curb ramps along the road.

Motion to Close: Kehm

Second: Gormley

All in favor

Township Committee Comments

Gormley: No comment

Kehm: No comment

Nuttall: Asked how HUD would prioritize the blocks.

Township Engineer Jason Worth explained they are not necessarily prioritized and one area would not get more consideration than another.

Nuttall: Questioned if they are equal in monetary amount.

Township Engineer Jason Worth stated yes they are equal. The CDBG steering committee will meet in March after all the applications have been submitted. The available funds are split somewhat evenly amongst the municipalities that have applied and have a qualifying application.

Nuttall: Asked how many municipalities have applied.

Township Engineer Jason Worth stated most communities do apply. It is an every other year cycle so about half of the communities every year in Ocean County minus the larger ones such as Jackson and Brick which are in a separate pot of money. So about ten to twelve every year.

Nuttall: Regarding the larger geographic areas, are they by county or section of the state.

Township Engineer Jason Worth stated they are by county.

Kobryn: No comment

Midgley: No comment

Being no further business

Motion to adjourn: Kehm

Second: Gormley

All in favor

Respectfully submitted,



Diana K. McCracken, RMC
Township Clerk