

MAY 1, 2013
WAYNESBORO, PA 17268
PUBLIC HEARING RE: 2013 CDBG PROGRAM

Council President Jason Stains called the public hearing of the Waynesboro Borough Council to order at 7:15 p.m. with the following in attendance:

Borough Council Members – Benjamin Greenawalt, Darrel Potts, Jason Stains, Wayne Driscoll and Michael Cermak (Craig Newcomer was absent)

Mayor Richard Starliper

Borough Staff – Lloyd R. Hamberger, II, Borough Manager
Denny Benshoff, Maintenance Superintendent
Dan Sheffler, Zoning-Code Enforcement Officer
Kevin Grubbs, Head of Engineering Services
Sam Wiser, Borough Solicitor (Salzmann Hughes, PC)
Jason Cohen, Assistant Borough Manager

Mr. Stains stated the purpose of the hearing was to provide an opportunity for citizens to comment on proposed uses for the Fiscal Year 2013 State Community Development Block Grant Program funds and on the prior use of such funds.

Karen Parish (a representative of Mullin and Lonergan, the Borough's Community Development Block Grant consultants), was present to explain the program and answer any questions. Following that, input from the public and comments on the proposed use of funds will be received.

Ms. Parish explained that the CDBG program is an entitlement program in PA for larger boroughs, townships and cities (over 4,000 in population) based on distressed criteria from 1979. Waynesboro has been getting these funds for many years, and will continue to do so. It is anticipated that this year's funding will be approximately \$130,000, but next year's will probably be much less. The federal funds must be used for activities that benefit low and moderate income persons, so Waynesboro is fairly limited in using the funds for public infrastructure to a few areas on the north side of town. However, curb cuts can be done Borough-wide; and funds have been used for that type of work in the past. Funding can also be used to assist in housing developments or other community projects that serve low-income people. A handout that more fully explains the use of funds was available for anyone who wished to receive one.

Ms. Parish stated that the Borough doesn't intend to cause displacement, and no structures that are actively available for housing will be demolished. However, she added that demolition work can be done if Council so desires (if it is a blighting influence

on the community).

Mr. Hamberger reminded Council of the process ... the first hearing is held, the staff will make recommendations to Council, and Council will discuss their recommendations and hold a second hearing to discuss the proposed uses. He noted that the second hearing will probably be held in July or August, depending when the State announces the final grant amount. The staff will, more than likely, recommend that funds be used (as in the past) for streets and curb cuts. Kevin Grubbs has already sent a list of streets for Ms. Parish's review.

Mr. Hamberger noted that Council will need to schedule the second CDBG hearing and approve the annual Fair Housing Resolution at its meeting following this hearing.

Pat Fleagle, Executive Director of Mainstreet Waynesboro, Inc. - Mr. Fleagle asked for an explanation of the "lag time" in funding and when this money will be used, and if there are other years' grants that have remaining funds that could be used. Ms. Parish stated that the funding being discussed at this time probably wouldn't be under contract until near the end of this year. However, the 2012 contract was just received from the State in January; so the activities for the 2012 funding will probably be under contract at some point in the near future. There is some money yet to be committed under "Street Improvements" to tie into this year's "bundle of streets", but Council always has the discretion to modify the program if some opportunity arises that they wish to pursue.

The hearing adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melinda S. Knott
Administrative Assistant