

August 22, 2023

HEARING OF McKEAN TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

CALL TO ORDER

A hearing of the Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chair Janice Dennis as previously publicized by the Erie County Department of Planning and took place August 22, 2023 at 3:30 p.m. at the McKean Township Municipal Bldg.

ROLL CALL

Members present were Janice Dennis, Brian Cooper, and Ronald Bole. Guest present was Tony Cunningham, Erie County CDBG Administrator.

Jan Dennis turned the meeting over to Tony who made the following comments:

- This is the first of two required public hearings regarding the Township's FY 2023 CDBG program.
- Notice of this hearing was published in the Classified Ads Section under Public Notices in the Tuesday, August 10, 2023 edition of the Erie Times News. No comments were received.
- The purpose of this hearing is to: (1) Provide a brief overview of the CDBG program; (2) Review the Township's prior use of CDBG funds; (3) Discuss what projects the Township may be interested in undertaking with its FY 2023 allocation.
- McKean Township is "entitled" to apply for and receive an annual allocation of CDBG funds from the PA DCED pursuant to PA Act 179 of 1984.
- CDBG funds are to be used to address a community's housing and community development needs as identified in the municipality's Three Year CDBG Plan.
- The FY 2023 allocation is \$99,386. A portion of the allocation will be set aside for administration to be provided by County Planning.
- Tony went on to discuss eligible and ineligible activities and how each eligible activity must meet one of three National Objectives to be considered for funding. Of the three (3) objectives, the primary objective is to Principally Benefit Low-to-Moderate Income (LMI) persons.
- A LMI person is an individual whose income is no more than 80% of median income for the area as determined by HUD, based on a four-person family and adjusted upward or downward for larger or smaller families. The 2023 Income Limits have not yet been issued by HUD. Normally this happens in early April. "Principally benefitting" means that at least 51% of the persons to benefit from a project must be LMI.
- Tony stated that concentrations of LMI persons can be determined in one of two ways-- Census Information [American Community Survey (ACS) 2011-2015 Data] or Income Surveys. Census data can be used when the service area of a proposed project is generally coterminous with a

August 22, 2023

census geographic area-- Census Tract or Block Group having a LMI population of 51% or above. The current census data currently in use is the 2011 to 2015 American Community Survey (ACS) Data.

- Tony went on to identify other ways to qualify projects as LMI-- (1) Benefit certain classes' of persons who are presumed by HUD to be LMI - abused children, battered spouses, elderly persons, severely disabled adults, homeless persons, illiterate adults, persons living with AIDS and migrant farm workers. Typical "limited clientele" activities include construction of ADA curb-cut ramps; improvements to a senior center; and public services for the homeless and elderly, and (2) One other way to meet the LMI criteria is to provide a direct benefit to a LMI family - The most common activity is single family housing rehabilitation.
- Tony and Township officials discussed potential future projects. Projects discussed a potential removal of blight, on Sterrettania Rd and I90, purchasing new gurneys for McKean Emergency services, and helping fund new hospice that may or may not be moving into the area. Further research is needed for all of these projects and will be tabled until more information is available at the final public hearing for the 2023 CDBG funding application.
- Township Supervisors indicated that the township would still like to fund single family home rehabs at this time with the 2023 funds. This plan will be finalized at the second and final public hearing.

ADJOURNMENT

With no objections, the hearing adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice T. Dennis, Secretary