

PUBLIC HEARING  
Final CDBG Public Hearing  
October 2, 2017

Members Present: Douglas Baker, Mayor  
Michael Dulaney  
Donna Fletcher, Deputy Mayor  
James Johnson  
Samuel Lyons  
James Marshall  
Fred Mays

Members Excused: None

In Attendance: Tracy Jamieson, City Manager  
Brian Spaid, Esq., City Solicitor  
James Wetzel, Deputy City Manager  
Harmony Motter, Finance Director  
Sheila Boughner, Community Development Director  
Charles Gibbons, Code Enforcement/Zoning Officer  
Darla Hawke, Recording Secretary  
Ally-Karen Miller, Miller-Sibley Pool Manager  
Jodi Baker-Lewis, Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce  
Mathew Beith, Beith Associates  
Marissa Dechant, Venango Newspapers, Inc.

Mayor Baker called the hearing to order at 7 PM.

Ms. Boughner explained that this was the second and final required Public Hearing for the FY-2017 CDBG Program monies. The purpose of this hearing was to take comments from the public on the proposed uses for the grant. Specifically, those were:

Street Improvements. . . . .	\$117,300
Elm Street, the 1400 block of New Street, Railroad Street, and the 1400 block of Chestnut or Otter Street.	
Sidewalks and Curb Ramps. . . . .	\$103,785
As needed in the 1300 block of Franklin Avenue and Otter Street, and the eastern side of 14 <sup>th</sup> Street, between Franklin Avenue and Otter.	
Administration (18%). . . . .	\$48,530
Total. . . . .	\$269,615

Ms. Boughner explained that the street and sidewalk projects meet the CDBG national objective of benefitting low to moderate income persons. The area for the sidewalks and curb cuts and Railroad Street are all located within and serve residents of Census Tract 2004, Block Group 1, which is 75% low-to-moderate income. That is the area within the City with the greatest proportion of low to moderate income residents. The City believes the service areas of Elm Street, New Street and the 1400 blocks of Chestnut and Otter will meet the low-to-moderate requirements and is conducting income surveys of residents in those areas to see if they qualify.

The proposed activities will work in conjunction with other projects recently undertaken or planned by the City to help make neighborhoods, especially those in predominantly low-to-moderate income areas, more livable and sustainable. As it plans future CDBG projects, the City will continue this targeted approach aimed at improving and strengthening neighborhoods and enhancing living conditions for residents.

Noting that since the Department of Economic & Community Development has moved back the application deadline from November 3 to December 8, Ms. Boughner asked Council to postpone taking action on the CDBG application until the November 13 meeting. She explained this delay will allow for any adjustments that might be needed based on the results of the income surveys.

Mr. Marshall ascertained that 60% of the surveys have been returned and Ms. Boughner will begin going door-to-door, noting that 100% of the surveys must be returned.

There being no comments from the audience, the hearing was closed at 7:07 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Darla Hawke, Recording Secretary