

CDBG PUBLIC HEARING
Borough of Edinboro
June 10, 2024

Welcome to the Public Hearing:

The Public Hearing was called to order at 6:35 PM. Council members present were Pat Davis, George Gast, Kelly Gheres, Mark Eisert, and Amanda Frantz-Mamani. Absent were Mary Ann Horne and Aaron Gast. Other officials present were Solicitor Tim Wachter and Borough Manager Jason Spangenberg. Citizens present were Curtis Hals, Gina Mussett, Bill Sibbald, Kathy Sibbald, Pat Koloskee, Mary Ann Mook, Ray Overholt, Jane Crawford, Nancy Crawford, Jackie Rhen, Rick Larimer, Sharon Larimer, Judy Davenport, Mike Zahorchak, MJ Campbell, Mary Schenck, Dan Beggs, Andrew Olson, and Marti Martz.

The meeting was turned over to CDBG Administrator Tony Cunningham from Erie County.

Discussion:

This Public Hearing is to inform residents that the County of Erie “on behalf of” Edinboro Borough intends to apply for FY 2024 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from the PA Department of Community and Economic Development. The Borough is entitled to receive an annual allocation of CDBG funds from the PA DCED pursuant to PA Act 179 of 1984. For FY 2024 the Borough allocation is not yet known, although it is typically around \$100,000.

Mr. Cunningham went on to explain that CDBG funds can be used for a wide array of activities which include, but are not limited to: Water, sanitary sewer, and storm sewer construction, street reconstruction, sidewalk/curb replacement, recreation improvements, housing rehabilitation, homeownership assistance, property acquisition, fair housing activities, handicapped accessibility improvements, planning activities, and administration.

The primary objective of the CDBG program is to benefit low-to-moderate income persons and at least 70% of the funds must go towards meeting this objective. That means 51% of the persons benefiting from an activity are of low-to-moderate income.

Manager Spangenberg provided a Nature’s Outlet project overview, which is using prior year CDBG funds. Last year, a sidewalk, railing, lamp posts, and drinking fountain were installed. This year, additional walkways and a gazebo will be installed.

Mr. Cunningham discussed potential uses for the 2024 allocation of CDBG funds. A second hearing will be scheduled this year to finalize the planned use for FY 2024 funds.

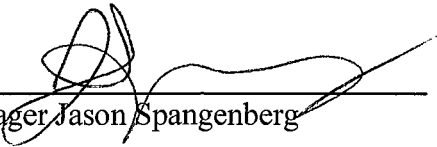
Members of the audience asked which entities are eligible to receive CDBG funds, and the layout of the block groups that are used to select projects. Mr. Cunningham noted that only municipalities and the County can receive the funds, and Mr. Spangenberg discussed the makeup of the block groups in the Borough and the difficulty of finding eligible projects for the funds. A

member of the audience asked about the potential for using the funds to add a public boat dock in Nature's Outlet. Mr. Cunningham stated that such an item would be difficult to justify, since the projects have to primarily benefit low-to-moderate income individuals. Mark Eisert noted that it would be difficult to get ADA access to the water there due to the slope.


Adjournment:

The Public Hearing was adjourned at 6:46 PM.

ATTEST:



Manager Jason Spangenberg



Mayor Aaron Gast