
VILLAGE OF OAKWOOD
PUBLIC HEARING – CDBG
August 27, 2019

PRESENT:

Ed Hren-Engineer	Elaine Gaither-Council-at-Large
Chris Callender-Ward 1	Eloise Hardin-Ward 2
Anthony Akins-Ward 3	Patricia Rogers-Ward 4
Debra Hladky-Clerk of Council	Residents

Ed Hren opened the meeting at 6:35p
Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and roll call was taken.

Hren: ADA compliance (architectural obstructions) is a permitted use. We can't use it for construction equipment, operating or repairing public facilities or political activities. We can use them for the acquisition of property – something that benefits the entire population; Senior Centers, playgrounds, neighborhood facilities, street improvements, water and sewer improvements, demo and other activities. Applications are due December 6, 2019. Between now and then we must pass legislation for the Mayor and I to apply for this funding. To meet the public hearing requirements, waiting seven days for legislation, this was the best time to meet for this. He explained the Community Development Block Grant is issued via the County Dept. of Development through Federal HUD dollars. **Hardin** asked if the project is in progress. **Hren:** No, this is for new projects only. **Rogers** asked about using it on Fair Oaks. **Hren:** When I-271/480 construction is complete, we will then look at how to fund that project. We notified ODOT about the constant use of those roads for the construction, causing damage. We will review the project area. Under their contract, ODOT is required to restore it to equal or better condition, however, Fair Oaks wasn't in good condition. Macedonia had a similar situation and ODOT came up with a compromise sharing the cost of renovating it. We will pursue that. He explained the new maps of low to moderate income (LMI). Federal guidelines are available on the County website, Dept. of Development; 41.6% of the County residents are within the LMI. **Hardin** asked if a road coming off Broadway is eligible. **Hren:** I don't believe so but can check into that. That is a development for business. The project under these funds must benefit the community, not economic development. **Gaither** asked about using it to fund a new Village Hall. **Hren:** If it benefits the community; Council Chambers or Community Room is eligible but not administrative offices. Woodmere was awarded the \$150,000 to eliminate architectural obstructions for ADA. **Hardin** asked if land can be purchased with it. **Hren:** Yes. **Rogers** asked if the elimination of blight is included. **Hren:** You could set up a store front renovation program if someone wanted to redo their facade on their commercial building similar to the Ward 4 exterior maintenance. It could be dollar for dollar match, but it would be up to you. **Callender** asked about the timetable. **Hren:** They give you one year to use the funds. We applied for the Community Supplemental Grant program, which is the casino dollars and has more flexibility, but for this program, the deadline is set in stone. December 31, 2019 you must give them the invoice showing what you are paying for. The reimbursement doesn't happen until March of the following year. **Hardin** asked who sets the \$150,000 figure. **Hren:** The Dept. of Development sets that amount. **Rogers:** That isn't a matching fund. **Hren:** Correct. A committee scores the applications. **Hardin:** Is it guaranteed? **Hren:** I will help you, but it may not be your number one project. Your #5 project may be what they are looking for, so we could apply for that to have a better chance to get the funds. **Hardin:** I am sure we will go back to our Wards and get feedback. You need it by when? **Hren:** December 6th is my hard deadline so by our last meeting in November legislation should be passed. Last year was a great example. Wright Avenue wasn't our number one project. However, the Mayor had an agreement with Kokosing to pave it, but when the program came out, that is the one which would score the highest by CDBG. We applied for Wright and were successful. I will assist Council. **Rogers:** Could all the little streets combined for repaving qualify for LMI, Painter, Hickory, etc.? **Hren:** That is eligible. OPWC, the State and County are looking at County roads. Free, Wright, Hickory, Garden, are all eligible under this program. Between now and September, I will download those LMI maps to identify that criteria. They also have improvement target area maps as well under block grant. **Hardin** asked about Raynham. **Hren:** That isn't a low to moderate income area. Resident asked if he is considering infrastructure only. Can programs be included? **Hren:** You can get a copy of the list of qualifying sustainable programs. The infrastructure plans are easier because we can show

sustainability. Other projects are more difficult. Beautification, streetscape, store front renovations are some. **Resident:** That doesn't affect low to moderate income residents. **Hren:** Sure, it does. You are eliminating slum and blight. That is one of the national objectives. Resident asked if councilmembers will have Ward meetings to make residents aware of these dollars? **Rogers:** That is a good idea. **Hardin:** Yes, that is an objective. When this comes out in a newsletter or special invitation, we will make a point to ensure residents know.

Adjourned at 6:59p

Approved: Sept 24, 2019

Johnnie A. Warren
Johnnie Warren, Council President

Debra L. Hladky
Debra L. Hladky, Clerk of Council