

**CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT
2022 PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
JULY 1, 2021 – 6:30PM
VIA ZOOM**

Mayor Pierson called the *Community Development Block Grant Public Hearing* to order at 6:30pm. **City Clerk Fran Stevens** asked everyone on the Zoom Meeting to state their name and address. See attached list of participants.

The Public Handout from St. Louis County Office of Development was read aloud by **Grant Writer, Rodney Robinson** and discussion was opened regarding desired usage of the Community Development Block Grant Funds of \$29,500.00.

Alderwoman Dailes suggested the funds to be allocated to the St. Louis County Home Improvement Program for eligible residents.

Alderwoman Avant-Elliott questioned how the funds were used last year and if the funds can be used to repair the gymnasium? She also asked for clarification of how the funds are applied for. **City Clerk Stevens** explained the procedure for residents to apply for the home improvement funds. Applicants would contact St. Louis County for applications. She stated that applicants must be a Bellefontaine Neighbors resident/home owner and taxes must be current. If approved this would be a 5-year forgivable loan and applicants must be within the 80% median wage bracket.

Alderwoman Tatman stated the Parks and Rec Grant will cover the cost to fix the gymnasium roof. She also questioned the basis of the awarded amount and inquired if the amount is based on per capita or the census data. It was explained that the funds are determined through a committee and the amount is based on past census data and amount of homes (vacant and occupied) in the community and household income.

Other residents stated the funds should be allocated to the home improvement program.

Rodney Robinson explained that the funds could indeed be used to repair the gymnasium but the amount awarded is substantially low in comparison to the needed cost for gymnasium repairs.

Mayor Pierson explained that there is a Park and Rec Grant already in preparation and will be applied for after the Resolution is passed. He also concurred that the funds should be used for the citizens.

Resident Wanda Lane stated that in the past the CDBG Funds were used for the community and should go back to community use.

Alderman Thomas stated the funds should be placed back in the pool for the citizens to apply for. Although the gymnasium is in need, the residents should be able to utilize the C.D.B.G. Funds.

Alderwoman Avant-Elliott questioned all the possible used for the funds. **Rodney Robinson** explained that the C.D.B.G. funds can be used for upgrade and/or new construction, home improvement among other uses.

Resident Gail Garnett stated to use the funds in Home Improvement.

Alderwoman Avant-Elliott asked how long before the funds will be available to the approved citizens. **City Clerk Stevens** explained the funds will be released after January 2022.

Alderwoman Dailes explained that at this time, the funds will go into the waiting list surplus until the applicant waiting list has been lowered. Also she explained the funds will be disbursed after the current waiting list is serviced.

The phone number and address was posted for applicants to apply and Alderwoman Dailes explained that the waiting list is extensive and the funds will not be available until the current waiting list is resolved.

Rodney Robinson explained that the vast majority agreed that the funds should be allocated to the Home Improvement Program.

Public Hearing adjourned at 7:04pm.

Attest:

Fran Stevens, City Clerk



Judy Mantych
City Clerk pro tem

Approved by the Board of Aldermen: 05/05/22