

FY 2017 ALLOCATION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) and NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION GRANT (NRG)

PUBLIC HEARING NO. 2

Meeting Notes

June 26, 2017 7:05 pm

President of New Philadelphia City Council Sam Hitchcock called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers in the John Knisely Centre. The Hearing was presented by Erin Begue, Funding Administrator for W.E. Quicksall and Associates. Present were Councilmembers Cheryl Ramos, Darrin Lautenschleger, Aimee May, Dean Holland; Mayor Joel Day; Council President Sam Hitchcock; Clerk of Council Julie Courtright; Service Director Ron McAbier, Treasurer Tom Gerber, Julie Levensgood Stephen with the New Philadelphia Business and Community Association, as well as Erin Begue, Funding Administrator for W.E. Quicksall and Associates and Construction Coordinator for the project Chip Stephan.

ITEM(S): To provide citizens with pertinent information about the Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) and Neighborhood Revitalization Grant (NRG) including explanation of eligible activities and program requirements.

PRESENTATION BY Erin Begue, Funding Administrator with W.E. Quicksall and Associates: Ms. Begue stated that this is Public Hearing 2, which is a follow-up from Public Hearing 1 which was held on March 13, 2017. Every year the City has been able to apply for CDBG funds. Starting this year it's going to be every other year, therefore the Ohio Department of Development Services increase the use of our funding for CDBG from \$75,000.00 to \$150,000.00. The project that the City is going to apply for is new sidewalk on the east and west sides of 2nd Street and the south side of North Avenue. The project will include removing the existing sidewalk and will replace existing sidewalk to its current dimensions. Existing drive approaches will be replaced in the same project area to match their existing dimensions. The total project cost is \$168,000.00 and the local share would be \$18,500.00. In order for the project to be successful at the CDBG level income surveys are going to be needed. Within the central area there are three different block groups, one of them being Block Group 2 which is 25.74%, Block Group 3 at 40% and Block Group 4 at 62.39%. Income surveys are being done currently, I am reviewing them, going through the list that Jeff Erb gave me. The application is due July 14, 2017. Attached to the handout is the detailed cost estimate. The second part of this hearing is for the Neighborhood Revitalization Grant which when the City applies for the yearly amount every other year for CDBG funds they can partner it with the NRG funds. The funding went from \$300,000.00 to \$500,000.00. The total project costs for the combined CDBG project, which I just briefly spoke about, and the improvements to this proposed project is \$700,000.00. NRG will contribute \$500, CDBG will contribute \$150,000.00 leaving your local share of approximately \$50,000.00. The proposed project includes public utilities, flood and drainage improvements along 2nd Street and North Avenue, street improvements, the alley behind Central School, to allow better access near the schools. This full project, sidewalk improvements along 2nd Street and North Avenue fire facilities improvement, sanitary sewer facility improvements. This application is going to be submitted at the same time which is July 14, 2017. If successful, the project, through The Ohio Department of Developmental Services, will be one project, versus 2. The detailed cost estimate is included, and then a map showing the layout of the project. Chip Stephan can answer specifics about the project

Mr. Ricklic had the following question:

Just for clerical, the streets are in the northwest, correct? Because there is a northeast that would have the same names?

Ms. Begue had the following reply:

Yes that is correct.

THE FLOOR WAS OPENED UP TO QUESTIONS FOR ERIN BEGUE AND CHIP STEPHAN:

Mrs. Ramos had the following question:

I think all Council got an email from a lady who was very upset that she had just installed sidewalks on Fair by East Elementary and they were ripped up in the new project, so if there are people who have paid their own money to install sidewalks or that portion of their driveway. Do you protect that or rip it up and replace it and they kind of lost their investment?

Mr. McAbier had the following response:

The person you're speaking of, I went back and investigated and her last sidewalk was installed 12 years ago and it was a total of \$900.00. She was on the Sidewalk Replacement Program and she paid \$450.00. There are two that we did leave down there that were in good shape. We kept those. Where she was at had cracks and it was hooved up in a couple spots.

Ms. Begue had the following response:

Typically before they start construction and they start design before they begin the project they will walk the project to see if they can save anything to utilize the money to the best that the City can utilize it. If they can save something that gives them an extra piece to put somewhere else.

Action: No action was taken.

With no further questions or comments regarding the CDBG and NRG Programs, the meeting was adjourned at 7:13 p.m.