

**Minutes of the Public Hearing  
Held October 10, 2017**

Mayor David L. Jack called the Public Hearing to order at 6:30 p.m., October 10, 2017, in the Borough Assembly Chambers. Assembly Members Powell, Howell, Gilbert and Prysunka were present. Assembly Member Decker participated by telephone. Assembly Member Rooney was absent. Borough Manager Von Barga and Clerk Kim Lane were also in attendance.

**Public Hearing Item:**

Community Development Block Grant Application Project Selection

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY**

There was no written testimony.

**ORAL TESTIMONY**

*Carol Rushmore, Economic Development Director* explained that the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) was an annual program that the State does; funded through the Housing Urban Development (HUD); 2.4 million available Statewide this year.

Rushmore stated the grant was only available to communities that met the eligibility of were low to moderate income. There are set guidelines that the Federal Government provides to establish if the particular household is LMI. Wrangell was originally at 46% Low Moderate Income (LMI). We did a survey last winter/spring and the State has certified Wrangell at about 53% LMI; will be good until the 2020 Census.

Rushmore stated that this was our second required Public Hearing; have solicited input from the community, a variety of projects that meet the eligibility requirements for the Community Development Block Program through the Public Hearing, Facebook, and in the Newspaper; we did receive an additional project form a community member to put in infrastructure at the Institute Property; believe that it would meet the requirements; the rest of the projects in the packet are projects that Staff has proposed. Rushmore stated that there are a list of different community development projects; planning projects; special economic development activities, if they create jobs.

Rushmore asked the public if there were any questions on those types of projects. There were none.

Rushmore described the seven projects that were eligible for the CDBG program:

1. Public Safety and Fire Department Building Rehabilitation, specifically all areas that affected the Fire Department facilities. She stated that the total buildings estimated project cost was \$549,633; estimated cost associated with the Fire Department was \$294,273; estimated community match was 25% of the total project cost (\$137,408).
2. Fire Truck Replacement: estimated cost for a relatively new used pumper truck was \$315,000 to \$450,000; could use the CDBG funding for this if the assembly chose to do so.

3. Water Treatment Facility Construction: estimated cost is \$9,051,000; although the rehabilitation of the Treatment Plant is the top priority for the community, Staff is still working on the final analysis of the component new vs. old of what we need for the design; won't have all of the information needed before the CDBG application is due.
4. Shoemaker Bay Harbor Construction project: estimated cost is \$11,453,472; not recommended because we do have the funding in place for this project; coming out of the Enterprise Fund, not the General Fund; will be bonding for some of this project.
5. Mill Property Acquisition: can use the CDBG funding to purchase land; have to know what you will be using the land for and at this time, we do not know what the exact use would be.
6. Pool Roof Replacement and facility improvements: estimated cost is \$1,700,000; will need to address the roof soon; however, since the recent discovery of the repairs needed for the public safety building, this project was not chosen.
7. Institute Property Infrastructure: can do improvements and design work; do not have any cost details at this time.

Rushmore stated that we had been seeking public input for alternative proposals through our Website, Facebook, Public Notices, and the Newspaper; today we had received the request for infrastructure at the Institute property; that was the only one that we had received.

This Public Hearing essentially is for the public and the Assembly to discuss the different proposed projects and to determine which project was the most critical to the community.

Gilbert stated that the recommended project was a good project; looked at the point system online and we more that meet the requirement of 25 points; probably the best option for the community.

In response to Prysunka, Von Bargaen stated that the envelope survey on the Public Safety Building had been completed and was in the packet this evening.

Von Bargaen stated that the two main reasons for choosing this project was because it was currently the most critical and also because the general fund that funds the Public Safety Building is the one that we have the most difficulty in getting the money for. Von Bargaen further said that for the Shoemaker project, we have the ability to bond for that project; cannot bond for the public safety building.

Von Bargaen also said that because this program is very competitive, we are asking for a very reasonable amount of funding that doesn't take up too much of the 2.4 million available.

Gilbert agreed since we are looking at funding 46% match for that criteria.

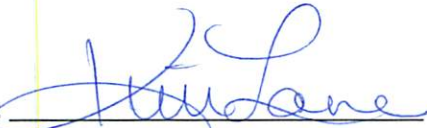
Prysunka wanted to recognize that a community member took the time to send in a project; however, don't have enough information to support the plan with so many other projects needing attention.

Von Bargaen stated that we could possibly look at the community member's project for next year.

**There were no comments from the public.**

Public Hearing Meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

ATTEST:

  
Kim Lane, MMC, Borough Clerk



David L. Jack, Mayor

