

First CDBG Public Hearing

Minutes of Town of Bluff First CDBG Public Hearing Hearing Held at Bluff Community Center, 190 N 3rd East, Tuesday, November 17, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.

The Town of Bluff first CDBG public hearing was held on Tuesday, November 17, 2020 in the Bluff Community Center at 190 N 3rd East. The meeting commenced at 5:30 p.m.

Present: Mayor: Ann Leppanen, Council members Luanne Hook, Brant Murray, Jim Sayers, and Linda Sosa
Elected Officials: Jackie Warren, BSA Chairman
Public: Irene Hamilton, Tim Hamilton, Bob Springmeyer, Jim Hook, Linda Richmond, Barbra Day
City Clerk/Recorder: Linda Sosa

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PUBLIC HEARING:

COUNCIL MEMBER Brant Murray opened the public hearing for the CDBG program and stated that the purpose of the public hearing is to provide citizens with pertinent information about the Community Development Block Grant program and to allow for discussion of possible applications for the 2021 funding cycle. It was explained that the grant money must be spent on projects benefiting primarily low and moderate-income persons. The SEU region, in which Bluff is a member, is expecting to receive approximately \$790,000 in this new program year. All eligible activities that can be accomplished under this program are identified in the CDBG Application Policies and Procedures Manual and interested persons can review it at any time. Council Member Murray read several of the eligible activities listed including examples, such as Construction of public works and facilities, e.g. water and sewer lines, fire stations, acquisitions of real property, provision of public services such as food banks or homeless shelters. Council Member Murray indicated that in the past Bluff has received a grant for a 50-year water study. The town has handed out its capital investment plan as part of the regional "Consolidation Plan". This list shows what projects the town has identified as being needed in the community. It was asked that anyone with questions, comments or suggestions during the hearing please identify themselves by name, before they speak. The clerk will include their names in the minutes and we would like to specifically respond to your questions and suggestions during the hearing. Mayor Leppanen suggested renovating the municipality offices, as the BSA is leaving, and updating for ADA compliance. Jim Hook pointed that the Bluff Town River Trail is nearly finished and asked if the last portion of the trail, .9 miles, could be engineered to ADA standards for wheelchairs. Council Member Luanne Hook responded that ADA compliance was important and those projects were frequently funded. Linda Richmond asked what was happening with the purchase of the old school building? Council Member Sayers responded to the question that it was in negotiations and Mayor Leppanen responded that the timing for submission would not work for this year. Council Member Murray then asked if there were any other suggestions? The hearing was adjourned at 5:53 p.m.

This meeting took place electronically in order to follow the social distancing guidelines given by state and local authorities. The public was able to connect and participate electronically.