

FIRST CDBG PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

Interlaken Town CDBG Public Hearing

HEARING HELD Electronically via Zoom Video Conference, November 3rd, 2021 at 6:00pm

The Interlaken Town first CDBG public hearing was held on Wednesday, November 3rd, 2021, electronically via Zoom Video Conference, meeting commenced at 6:03 pm.

Present: Greg Harrigan, Mayor _____,
Marge Bowen, Council Member _____,
Sue O’Nan, Council Member _____,
Chuck O’Nan, Council Member _____,
Justin Hibbard, Council Member _____,
Susanna Littell, Planning Commission Chair _____,
Jess Bedingfield, Mountainland Association of Governments
Chuck Collum, Interlaken resident and Council Member elect
Bob Marshall, Interlaken resident

City Recorder: Bart Smith, present, _____
City Clerk: Bart Smith, present, _____
City Attorney: Jeremy Cook, not present, _____

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PUBLIC HEARING:

Mayor Greg Harrigan 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 2022 funding cycle. It was explained that the grant money must be spent on projects benefiting primarily low and moderate-income persons. The Mountainland Region, in which Interlaken Town is a member, is expecting to receive approximately \$600,000 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. Mayor Greg Harrigan noted that there are several eligible activities listed in this manual. Mayor Harrigan indicated that Interlaken has never received any CDBG grant funding in the past, but the town will proceed to apply for some of these grants. Mayor Harrigan asked that anyone with questions, comments or suggestions during the hearing please identify

themselves by name, where they live, and who they represent, before they speak. The clerk will include your names in the minutes and we would like to specifically respond to your questions and suggestions during the hearing. Jess Bedingfield from the Mountainland Association of Governments announced that she was present. Mayor Harrigan opened up the hearing for public comment.

Jess Bedingfield spoke about the CDBG program, noting that it is a federal program and that the Mountainland Region gets these funds through the state CDBG program through the housing and urban development department. These funds are used to primarily benefit low to moderate income persons in the community. This public hearing is meant to open up a discussion of any ideas that the public has. If they have any questions about the policies and procedures, the application process, and eligible projects they are more than welcome to contact Jess Bedingfield at Mountainland Association of Governments.

Mayor Harrigan asked about the timing of the grant application process. Jess Bedingfield answered his question by stating that the state required workshop was conducted previously and the next step would be to complete the application. A low to moderate income survey will be required. Completed applications are due for submission by the end of January, and she noted that she would like them submitted to her by January 1st for preliminary review. Decisions will be made in March. Applicants will be advised of their status in April, and funding doesn't start until July 1st. Any expenses incurred prior to this July 1st date would disqualify the grantee. Jess Bedingfield also stated that the Mountainland Region was rewarded \$612,000 in CDBG grants last year, and felt that based on her preliminary investigation, the town would qualify with its current LMI profile.

Chuck Collum, an Interlaken homeowner, residing at 269 Interlaken Drive, asked Jess Bedingfield to define the abbreviated term, LMI. Jess Bedingfield responded to the question by explaining that LMI stood for low to moderate income individuals, or individuals with income 80% or lower than the area median income.

Chuck Collum asked if there was a survey form that the town needs to complete to qualify. Jess Bedingfield answered the question by stating that she would help the town create an LMI survey that's approved by the state with a script and would work with the town to complete the survey.

Chuck Collum stated that he was thankful for the clarification and that he felt relative to Park City, the town should qualify. Jess Bedingfield stated that the LMI qualification requirement was 51% or greater and that Park City never qualifies.

Mayor Harrigan asked if the survey was conducted by residents of the town. Jess Bedingfield stated that the residents would conduct the survey, door to door, using a script that she will provide. The completed income survey will be placed in an envelope. The envelope doesn't have a name or address, but it could be color coded by street name. She noted that the results will remain anonymous.

Bob Marshall, an Interlaken homeowner, residing at 270 Interlaken Drive, announced that he was present.

Mayor Harrigan asked if there were any other suggestions from the public. There was no response from the public and the hearing was adjourned at 6:15 pm.

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