Montrose Charter Township
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Montrose Township Public Hearing Meeting

Community Development Block Grant

PLACE:
Montrose Township Hall, 139 S Saginaw Street, Montrose, MI 48457

DATE:
The Meeting was called to order on Tuesday, Oct. 25 by Supervisor Mark Emmendorfer at 7:08 pm.

The meeting began with The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call: Present: Mark Emmendorfer, Dan Hill, Linda Miller, Gail Fikes, Tom Tithof. Absent: Fred Domine, Gary Keeler

Agenda Approval: A **Motion** to approve the agenda was made by Gail Fikes. Support for the motion was given by Tom Tithof. Vote- All yes. Motion passed.

Business:

Supervisor Emmendorfer explained the purpose of the public hearing is to have an opportunity to brainstorm and come up with ideas to spend the estimated amount of $43,085 expected in the form of Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. He introduced special guest **Beth Schroeder from Wade Trim** who is experienced in helping communities utilize their CDBG funds within the proper guidelines.

Beth Schroeder offered a brief synopsis about the Genesee County Community Development Block Grant funds which are allocated between 28 local governments on a rotating, three-year cycle.

She explained the CDBG projects must benefit low to moderate income families, groups or individuals. One method to determine low to moderate income sections of a community is to use "area mapping." If more than 51% of low to moderate income residents live in one area then the area is eligible for CDBG grant money. She said the difficulty with Montrose is when the county plots all the points there isn't one specific area of low to moderate income people but rather they are intermixed and spread out far

and wide. She recommended focusing on a specific group of people such as seniors, veterans, disabled or homeless people.

Tom Tithof asked who approves the projects the township might select for submission?

Supervisor Emmendorfer said the Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission will approve or deny the projects submitted. He said certain criteria must be met and the deadline to submit the application is Thursday, Nov. 17. In addition, he said it is best to list as many projects and ideas as possible because if a project is rejected or denied, another project discussed within the public hearing can be submitted.

Beth Schroeder suggested to the board and residents to write down every idea and suggestion. In addition she said it would be good to propose a rough cost estimate with each project suggested. Extensive discussion was spent on a variety of topics and ways to spend the CDBG funds.

She recorded the ideas discussed at the public hearing on a giant white board. The projects mentioned include:

- Unisex bathroom at the senior center.
- A front vestibule with door and handicap button at the senior center. ($5-8k)
- A back door with access for motorized wheelchair. ($2k)
- Build an ADA-compliant, cement ramp for the police station. (*Americans with Disabilities Act*) ($8-10k)
- Sewer and water tap-in fund for low to moderate income residents.
- Township Hall insulation.
- Loan to City of Montrose for $9,898.
- A housing winterization program for residents who cannot pay utilities. (*Residents in need of help would be expected to provide proper income/banking documents in order to qualify.)*
- Provide an ADA accessible entrance to the cemetery church.
- Build an ADA-compliant bathroom at the cemetery church.
- Provide a local version of meals-on-wheels for residents in need.
- Park pavilion and providing barrier-free improvements.
- Provide ADA-access at the Montrose Jennings Library. ($5-8k)
- Provide tax payment assistance for residents who cannot pay taxes. (*Residents in need of help would be expected to provide proper income/banking documents in order to qualify.)*
- Fire equipment .

Beth Schroeder suggested the repaving of Allen Drive from school property line to Seymour Road.

Supervisor Emmendorfer said that particular project would fall into the five-year Road Improvement Fund.

Dan Hill inquired about the range of income guidelines which describes low to moderate income.

Beth Schroeder directed everyone to page 20 of the Genesee County Community Development Block Grant Packet which describes "low" as household income of $0-$32,350. "Moderate" is designated as $32,351-$36,950.

Mark Emmendorfer invited everyone to consider all of the proposed projects presented at the public hearing and try to narrow it down to three or four selections. The top three or four choices will be presented for a vote at the next Montrose Township board meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 15. He said the application for the CDBG funds must be returned by Thursday, Nov. 17.

Citizens Comments: None

Adjournment: Tom Tithof made a **Motion** to adjourn the public hearing meeting. Support for the motion was given by Gail Fikes. Vote- All yes. Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Submitted by:
Lisa Briggs
Montrose Township Deputy Clerk

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Fred Domine, Clerk **Mark Emmendorfer, Supervisor**