



Community Development Subcommittee

Economic and Community Development Commission

Regular Meeting

February 25, 2014

The Community Development Subcommittee of the Economic and Community Development Commission conducted a regular meeting on Tuesday, February 25, 2014 in Room 104 of Stratford Town Hall, 2725 Main Street, Stratford, CT pursuant to a notice duly posted.

Members Present: Jason Santi, Fourth District Councilman, Subcommittee Chair, and Brian Dempsey, Fifth District Councilman

Members Absent: Stephanie Philips, Third District Councilman

Also Present: C. Duncan Yetman, Jr., Community Development Administrator

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Santi at 6:05PM.

II. Review and Approval of Minutes of the Public Hearing, February 20, 2014; and Special Meeting, February 20, 2014.

Mr. Dempsey made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Santi and approved unanimously.

III. CDBG Budget Status Report Update

The only update that Mr. Yetman had to share since the 2/20/14 meeting was the perspective of the Administration that the Connecticut Air and Space Center (CASC) was close to signing a lease for the Curtiss Hangar.

IV. Discussion of Proposed Activities to include in the CDBG Action Plan for the 2014 Program Year (Year 40 Program) and Possible Adoption of Proposed Action Plan for Public Comment

Mr. Yetman explained, upon further review, that it would not be possible to use the CASC project as a float, as float-funded activities need to generate program income equal to the amount of the float, in this case, \$60,000, and there was not likely to be \$60,000 in program income generated from any or all of the proposed activities. After some discussion, Mr. Santi proposed addressing the issue by examining other projects with unspent funds. He proposed cancelling \$40,000 previously awarded to Stonybrook Gardens Cooperative, Inc. for their stormwater drainage project and reducing the amount allocated to sidewalk improvements by \$20,000. In making this proposal, Mr. Santi noted that there was still nearly \$20,000 available to the Cooperative to get started on a feasibility study and that the Cooperative itself did not apply for additional funding this year because they have been allocated several

years of funding that has gone unspent. He asked Mr. Dempsey if he had any questions or comments. Mr. Dempsey said that he could not argue with removing the funding for Stonybrook at this time, but would like the opportunity to restore funding to these activities in future CDBG years, if the Cooperative's progress with the water distribution project and this project warranted doing so.

Mr. Santi questioned whether Mr. Dempsey could vote on any matter regarding Stonybrook Cooperative because he lived there. Mr. Yetman said that he thought that though it might seem like a conflict of interest, Mr. Dempsey was not on the Cooperative's Board of Directors and that in this particular case he would be voting to remove funding from the Cooperative, not award additional funds. Mr. Yetman said that he would seek a written ruling from the Town Attorney, if necessary, in the event of future votes.

Mr. Yetman also said that it might be easier to handle this particular substantial amendment by increasing funding to a previous year's sidewalk improvements project rather than adding it to next year's proposed plan.

Mr. Santi asked Mr. Dempsey for a motion that addressed either funding scenario explained by Mr. Yetman.

Mr. Dempsey made a motion to make a substantial amendment to the 2013 Action Plan by cancelling CD Project #3910; Stonybrook Gardens Cooperative, Inc. Stormwater Drainage; and thereby use the \$40,000 to either increase funding to CD Project #3813, Sidewalk Improvements and reduce funding to Sidewalk Improvements in the proposed 2014 Action Plan to \$26,250 or just reduce funding in the previously proposed 2014 allocation to Sidewalk Improvements by \$20,000 to \$66,250.

Mr. Santi seconded the motion and after further discussion he called for a vote and it passed unanimously.

The draft 2014 Annual Action Plan will be made available for 30-day public comment on March 6, 2014. Mr. Yetman mentioned that we hope to hear what our actual allocation amount will be by March 18th.

V. Adjournment

There being no further business, Mr. Santi entertained a motion to adjourn. Mr. Dempsey made a motion, seconded by Mr. Santi and the meeting adjourned at 6:27 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



C. Duncan Yetman, Jr.
Community Development Administrator