

# MEETING MINUTES

**TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN  
COUNTY OF OCEAN  
January 18, 2022  
5:30 PM**

## **Community Development Block Grant**

**ROLL CALL: DODD   X   BAULDERSTONE   X   LOPARO   X**

### **FLAG SALUTE**

STATEMENT: Pursuant to the provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of this meeting was properly provided by sending copies of the Notice of Meeting to two newspapers, The Press of Atlantic City and the Asbury Park Press. The Notice was posted at the office of the Township Clerk and on the bulletin board in the Administration Building.

### **Public Hearing**

#### **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:**

1. ADA Compliant - Entrance Doors
  - a. Construction/Zoning Department

Township Administrator/Clerk Ambrosio discussed her recommendation for this year's Grant is to look at the Construction and Zoning Department. The door is not American Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant.

Jason Worth, Township Engineer, discussed the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) is federally funded from the Department of Housing and Urban Development. It is administered through the County of Ocean Planning Department. This is the first public hearing the Township is required to have. The Township will have a required, second public hearing next month as well. The first public hearing is to announce the program. Members of the public can weigh in and make recommendations to the Governing Body as to projects they would like to see, including non-profit and other organizations.

Past projects undertaken by the Township have been ADA improvements, barrier free access improvements, door automations, handicap ramps and the handicap lift in the Court. The program is meant to benefit the general public but also low to moderate income residents. The County is working with the 2010 census data and identifies designated target neighborhoods within all the municipalities of the County. Those neighborhoods have greater than 51% low-moderate income residences. The Township of Ocean currently does not have a designated target neighborhood and is limited in the types of projects we can do, mainly barrier free access and ADA type improvements to public facilities. If the Township gets a designated target neighborhood in the future, sidewalk and road projects can be looked into.

The Township has gone through many of the public facilities, senior center, Town Hall, Police with automating doors. The last one is the Construction and Zoning office. Grant awards are typically in the \$32,000 range, which is comparable to what the Township would pay for door upgrades and automation.

Mayor LoParo inquired what is a targeted neighborhood.

Mr. Worth discussed targeted neighborhoods are set by the State and the County. It is a neighborhood that has more than 51% low-moderate income residents under the census. That's where funding and programs get targeted to benefit those low-moderate income residents. There are no targeted neighborhoods in the Township right now. In the next coming year, the next set of maps will be issued for all 33 municipalities in Ocean County.

Mayor LoParo inquired what is needed to make the Construction office compliant.

Mr. Worth discussed the outside door could get automated for handicap individuals. The Township needs to make sure the door is compatible for just an upgrade or it will need to be replaced. The ramps and sidewalks need to be looked at to make sure they are ADA compliant.

Township Administrator/Clerk Ambrosio discussed the door is not shutting properly at all and recommended to get a price on the steps. The grout and concrete between the steps are deteriorating at the Construction office and Town Hall.

Mayor LoParo discussed the Construction office has a 6 inch lift between the porch and the door

Mr. Worth discussed the threshold needs to be looked at and will be discussed with the Governing Body before going out to bid or any design work.

Applications are due February 18<sup>th</sup>. The second public hearing needs to be prior to February 8<sup>th</sup>.

Township Administrator/Clerk Ambrosio discussed she advertised for February 3<sup>rd</sup>, before the Township Committee morning meeting.

Mr. Worth discussed the grant is available every two years. It used to be every year. The funding levels dropped and then it was moved to every two years so the grant awards would be more substantial. Now the awards are down to where they used to be annually at \$30,000-\$33,000 but every other year. No action is needed tonight. Further action will be needed at the second public hearing to approve the applications.

Mayor LoParo, Deputy Mayor Baulderstone, Committeewoman Dodd and Township Administrator/Clerk Ambrosio agreed on the Construction doors and stairs for the CDBG grant.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**Motion to open Public Comment** was moved by Deputy Mayor Baulderstone, seconded by Committeewoman Dodd.

Roll Call: Dodd: Yes, Baulderstone: Yes, LoParo: Yes

No public comment.

**Motion to close Public Comment** was moved by Deputy Mayor Baulderstone, seconded by Committeewoman Dodd.

Roll Call: Dodd: Yes, Baulderstone: Yes, LoParo: Yes

Next Meeting Public Hearing  
9:30 am – February 3, 2022

**Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn Community Development Block Grant Meeting was moved by Deputy Mayor  
Baulderstone, seconded by Committeewoman Dodd.

Roll Call: Dodd: Yes, Baulderstone: Yes, LoParo: Yes

Signed and Submitted:

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Diane B. Ambrosio, RMC  
Municipal Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date