

#### OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE OXFORD MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING PUBLIC HEARING MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2021 – 6:45 PM CITY HALL

PRESENT: David S. Eady, Mayor; Councilmembers: George Holt, Jeff Wearing, Avis Williams, Laura McCanless, Lynn Bohanan.

**Councilmembers not present: James Windham** 

Staff members present: City Manager Matt Pepper, City Clerk/Treasurer Marcia Brooks, Utility Superintendent Jody Reid, City Attorney David Strickland

OTHERS PRESENT: Stuart Swinea – Northeast Georgia Regional Commission (NEGRC), Barbara Cole, Mike Ready, Cheryl Ready, Theresa Eady, Kevin Wilhite (Oxford Baptist Church), Gwendolyn Green, Dr. Lakliesha Izzard

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by the Hon. David S. Eady, Mayor.

Matt Pepper introduced Stuart Swinea from NEGRC, who explained that the grant being applied for is a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) administered by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) to replace a water main along Oxford Road, Keel Street, Cat's Paw Court, Beakhead Court, and Perry Circle. Mr. Swinea presented information about the grant application requirements and application process (Attachment 1).

The maximum amount Oxford can apply for is \$750,000. This is the second year that the City of Oxford is applying for the grant, as it was not approved for 2020. The environmental review, which encompasses much of the work to apply for the grant, was completed last year. Mr. Swinea is focusing this year on bolstering the justification for the grant to increase the likelihood of its award. The deadline is normally April 1 but has been extended this year to June 4, 2021.

Barbara Cole asked why the grant was not approved in 2020. Mr. Swinea advised that he was given that information and is incorporating changes into this year's application. Essentially, Oxford's position was not as strong as other cities that received the grants.

There being no further discussion, Mayor Eady adjourned the Public Hearing at 7:03 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marcia Broder

Marcia Brooks City Clerk/Treasurer



# Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)



• Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, created the CDBG program



 The primary objective of the Housing and Community Development Act is the development of viable communities through the improvement of living conditions and the expansion of economic opportunities in cities and counties, principally for persons of low- and moderate-income.



- The program addresses three National Objectives
  - 1. Benefit to low- and moderate-income persons
  - 2. Removal of Slum and Blight
  - 3. Immediate Threat and Danger

# **LMI National Objective**



 Low- and moderate-income person means a member of a family having an income equal to or less than the Section 8 low-income limit established by HUD. Unrelated individuals will be considered as oneperson families for this purpose.

# **Typical CDBG Activities**



#### Infrastructure

- Water lines, sewer lines, lift stations, wells, pumps, drainage pipe, drainage structures, road paving, drainage inlets, buildings, equipment loans, elevated water storage tanks
- Homeowner and homebuyer activities
  - Rehabilitation, e.g.

# **Basic Limitations**



Activities and projects are eligible for funding only to the extent:

- Local governments are applicants (subrecipients may implement)
- They are eligible according to law and regulation
- They primarily benefit low- and moderateincome persons or remove slum and blight



# **CDBG Ineligible Activities**

- Acquisition of furnishings
- Acquisition of movable equipment, machinery
- Land write-downs
- Operating and maintenance expenses
- Buildings for the conduct of general local government

- Direct grant assistance to a for-profit business
- Cost of furnishings and personal property
- Generally, construction of new housing

# **Maximum Grant Amounts**



Single-Activity

\$750,000

• Multi-Activity

\$1,000,000

# **Grant Rating System**



- Demographic Need- 100 points
- Program Feasibility- 100 points
- Program Impact- 100 points
- Program Strategy- 100 points
- Leverage of Additional Resources- 25 points

# **Environmental Review**



National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)



### CDBG Annual Competition Applications must be submitted by June 4, 2021