PUBLIC HEARING
Wednesday, August 1, 2018

PUBLIC HEARING ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

The Board Chair called the public hearing to order.

The Clerk of the Board read the Notice of Hearing as follows:

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Otsego County received a 2004 Economic Development Grant from the New York State Small Cities Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) to assist Otsego County’s Small Businesses. Otsego County’s Revolving Loan fund Program II was established per the Grant Agreement from the repayments of loans authorized by the Block Grant.

On March 29, 2018, the NYS Department of Housing and Community Renewal release a notice of policy change to the retention of CDBG program income by current and past recipients of the CDBG Program administered by New York State since the start of Program Year 2000. Under CDBG Program income rules at 24 CFR 570.489(e), the State can choose to allow recipients to retain and reuse the program income subject to all CDBG requirements, or to require it to be returned to the State and reallocated under the State’s Method of Distribution. The State will require all past and present local recipients of the State’s CDBG Program (since the year 2000) to return any uncommitted program income in their possession on March 31, 2019 or received after that date.

Otsego County as a recipient of CDBG funds “Small Cities Program” is considered a “non-entitlement” county with a population of less than 200,000 and having received funding directly from the State.

The county has certified as of May 31, 2018 a total of $638,704.60 in program income and has identified the following county projects as eligible CDBG activities that demonstrate a National Objective and meet CDBG program requirements:

- $85,000 Community Center for on site training and laundry services associated with the open Public Facilities Project 868PF28-17 “Tiny Homes” for the construction of a community center for training and laundry services.
- $50,000 Feasibility Study for the Proposed Town of Maryland distribution site
- $50,000 Housing Rehabilitation “Farm Restore” program to assist with house repairs
- $200,000 Micro-Enterprise Program with a focus on Agricultural businesses
- $100,000 Coditum Education Program
- $100,000 Transfer of funds to the City of Oneonta for the ARC ReUse
Each funded activity must meet one of the three National Objectives: Benefit Low-Moderate-Income (LMI) persons; Aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight; or, Meet community development needs having a particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community and other financial resources are not available to meet such needs.

The hearing, scheduled for Wednesday August 1, 2018 at 9:55 a.m. will be held at the Otsego County Office Building 197 Main Street, Cooperstown, NY 13326. The venue is handicapped accessible. Persons or groups needing other special accommodations should contact Carol McGovern at least one week prior to the meeting at 607-547-4202.

The CDBG program is funded under Title 1 of the Housing and Community Act of 1974 as amended.

Dated: July 26, 2018

Carol D. McGovern
Clerk of the Board of Representatives
Otsego County, New York

The Board Chair asked if anyone wished to speak on the proposed Community Development block grant.

Since no persons present wished to be heard, the Board Chair declared the public hearing closed.