

Town of Garland

Board of Commissioners Public Hearing

March 10, 2015

Town Hall 6:30 p.m.

Minutes

The Town of Garland's Board of Commissioners held its public hearing on Tuesday March 10, 2015 with the following members and staff present:

Mayor Pro Tem Haywood Johnson
Commissioner Ralph Smith
Commissioner S. J. Smith
Commissioner Carolyn Melvin
Commissioner Denise Toler
Town Clerk/Finance Officer Pamela Cashwell

Public Hearing – CDBG for water infrastructure “Water System Improvements”

Commissioner Ralph Smith made a motion to go into Public Hearing at 6:36 p.m. Commissioner Denise Toler seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Mr. Bill Cowan, of McGill and Associates, stated that the purpose of the public hearing is to gather public input on the possible Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for the improvement of water system infrastructure. There is one public hearing required prior to applying.

There is approximately \$26 million available in water/wastewater CDBG funding for 2015 and approximately half or \$13 million will be made available for March 2015 funding round. The deadline for submitting an application to the program is March 31, 2015. 100 percent of the CDBG funds will be used to benefit low-to-moderate income people.

CDBG funding can pay for nearly any type of water or wastewater or economic development project, but projects that mitigate problems causing regulatory actions, and projects addressing environmental and public health threats are most important. The funding will cover construction and administrative costs, and administrative costs are capped at 10 percent. The administrative line item covers environmental review, the engineering report, application preparation, and the administration of the grant requirements.

The proposed project title is Water System Improvements. The project will include the replacement of existing water lines in several areas of Town and is considered a system-wide project. Lines to be replaced include various water lines on the north side of town between Gray Ave and Herring Avenue

and water lines on Church Ave., East Third Street and North Belgrade Avenue. The project cost is \$1,437,000. The impact on low-to-moderate income people in Garland as a result of this project will be reduced water withdrawals from Town wells (environmental benefit) as well as cost savings ensuring that water rates won't have to be increased to cover capital expenses for water line replacements.

The Town was approved previously for a CDBG grant of \$1,563,000 for Sewer System Rehabilitation in the May 2014 CDBG cycle. The Town is waiting on a contract from NC DENR in order to commence with the project. The funding for all recipients has been delayed but the schedule will be adjusted once the contracts are released.

The Town of Garland has a Residential Displacement and Relocation Plan, however, no displacement or relocation of citizens will occur as a result of the proposed CDBG grant activity.

The application, when complete, will be available at Town Hall for citizens' review at 190 South Church Avenue, Garland, North Carolina 28441. If you have any feedback, complaints or grievances for the Board of Commissioners to consider regarding this proposed project, please submit them in writing to:

Attn: Winifred Hill Murphy, Mayor, Town of Garland
PO Box 207, Garland, NC 28441

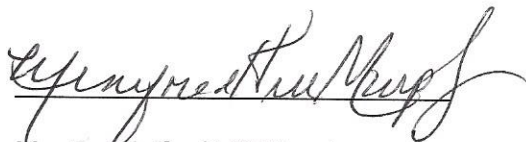
All correspondence will be provided written timely answers within 15 business days. If necessary, the Town will hold community meetings to discuss grievances. Any feedback, complaints, or grievances must be received by March 24, 2015.

Bill Cowan opened the floor to provide citizens in attendance the opportunity to comment on the proposed project:

No public comments received

Commissioner Ralph Smith made a motion to come out of the Public Hearing at 6:45 p.m. and Commissioner S. J. Smith seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

BOARD APPROVED:



Mayor, Winifred Hill Murphy



Town Clerk, Pamela Cashwell