

April 14, 2016

The Town Board of the Town of Warwick held a Public Hearing for the Orange County Community Development Program (HUD). Said public hearing was held on Thursday, April 14, 2016 at the Town Hall, 132 Kings Highway, Town of Warwick. Supervisor Sweeton opened the public hearing at 7:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE: Supervisor Michael Sweeton
Councilman Floyd DeAngelo
Councilman Russell Kowal
Councilman James Gerstner
Councilman Mickey Shuback

Attorney for the Town, Jay Myrow

LEGAL NOTICE: The Clerk read the legal notice, which was duly published in the Warwick Valley Dispatch on March 14, 2016. (Copy of this legal notice is printed at the end of these minutes.)

Supervisor Sweeton – This is a continuation we opened the hearing two weeks ago soliciting projects. For the public's information this is money from HUD, the Federal Government that is administered by Orange County Community Development. Generally it's an income based criteria so that projects are directed towards low to moderate areas of communities or communities of a whole. Exceptions to that are also provisions to provide services for disabled or handicapped individuals. Historically because of the town's income levels doesn't generally qualify for a project and so we have in the past supported organizations that would qualify. Primarily it has been Winslow Therapeutic Riding which provides services to children with disabilities or the Warwick Valley Community Center which also has programming for low income/moderate income families through their community center here in Warwick. One exception was when the town built their senior center which is behind us. Seniors generally will qualify for projects under HUD and they did help us finance that building. This round we solicited projects and we did receive two requests, one from Winslow in the amount of \$50,000 for a tractor and fencing. Their tractor is a 2002 and it's a smaller tractor and their organization has grown significantly since 2002 and they are looking to upgrade to a sturdier, heavier tractor for moving big hay bales and things that they do around the farm. The Community Center has submitted a request for \$125,000 for continued upgrade of the Community Center the old former elementary school that they had worked on over the years to bring up to code and modern standards. We are limited to \$125,000 as a community to submit as a project and after reviewing the projects and receiving no others my recommendation to the Board was to support a project for \$50,000 to Winslow and \$75,000 for the Community Center. Those are the projects that we would submit. These projects go to Orange County and Orange County receives them from other municipalities in Orange

County obviously with the exception of the cities which administer their own. Then there is a ranking system done and visits to the sites and the projects, then a committee selects and ranks the projects then awards. Not every year do our projects get funded and last year was an example, Winslow did not get funded but the Community Center did get a small grant. It really depends on the caliber of projects and because of the fiscal constraints everybody is under there's a lot of competition and HUD has frozen the amount that they supply every year to Orange County. It's a very tough competitive process but I think the two projects should do well and we'll see.

Councilman Gerstner – I think that's a good way to go and we have been lucky in the past to get help with all the projects. I think that's fair to submit them.

Jeremy Havens – Secretary of the Board, Beautiful People – We were not aware of this particular grant opportunity and I am wondering if there is still an opportunity to submit a proposal or has that time already passed?

Supervisor Sweeton – It's pretty much too late. They are due tomorrow. You would have to look to see if you're eligible for a future round. It's done every year so you may be eligible. It sounds like you would be, so yes and no is the answer. Yes it's too late because you'd never get it all done in time.

Jeremy Havens – Ok, thank you.

**CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING: Motion Councilman DeAngelo, seconded Councilman Gerstner, that the public hearing be closed. Motion Carried (5 ayes, 0 nays) 7:14 p.m.
04-14-16 CP**

Eileen Astorino, Town Clerk