



TOWN OF WARE

Planning & Community Development

126 Main Street, Ware, Massachusetts 01082

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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Meeting Minutes from

Monday June 10, 2020

Select Board Room, Town Hall

CDA Members Present:

Paul Opalinski, John Carroll, Danielle Souza,
James Baird, & Brandy Bruso

Guests:

John O'Leary (PVPC), Monica Moran, Judith
Roberts, Sheila Cuddy, Doug Albertson,

Staff Present:

Rebekah DeCoursey, Director of Planning &
Community Development; Stuart Beckley, Town
Manager; Jack Carolan, PCD Assistant

Pledge of Allegiance:

Chairman P. Opalinski called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Administration

a. Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the 5/18/2020 were tabled until the following meeting

2. Public Hearing- Regional CDBG-COVID19 Application

a. An overview of the application was provided by T. Harvey which seeks funds for the Domestic Violence Victim Safety Enhancement Program, The Literacy project, and a Senior Outreach Program. There are a number of towns included in the application including Agawam, Belchertown, Blandford, Brimfield, Chester, East Longmeadow, Granby, Granville, Hadley, Holland, Huntington, Middlefield, Monson, Montgomery, Russell, South Hadley, Southwick, Ware, Hardwick, Warren, Chesterfield, Palmer, Plainfield, Easthampton, Hampden, Hatfield, Ludlow, Southampton, Wales, Westhampton, and Amherst.

b. M. Moran Provided a more description of the Domestic Violence program stating that there has been an increase in issues surrounding victims as a result of COVID-19. With more people staying at home, there are more incidences of domestic violence. One specific initiative of the program is to offer support to potential perpetrators as a form of prevention, this would involve starting a hotline for

perpetrators. A number of the different outreach activities in relation to the program were also discussed, including the involvement of the Ware River Valley Domestic Violence Task Force.

- c. J. Roberts provided an update on the Adult Literacy Program. They are seeking \$20,360 for online learning programs including funding for software, an education/career advisor, and salary for an online program's person. It was stated that expenses for this program have increased as a result of COVID-19. A donation of laptops has allowed the Adult Literacy Program to go to remote learning and has been successful.
- d. S. Cuddy provided an update on the Senior Outreach Program. The goal is to expand the program to include Ware, Warren, Hardwick, and Belchertown. Part of the application would include \$38,000 for grocery/prescription pick-up services for one year. Money would also go towards aging in place and money for paying staff (chore providers). Outreach for this program would be done by working with the senior centers, sending out post cards, and social media. There is an expected increase in enrollment in adult learning programs as a result of COVID-19.
- e. The Chair of the CDA asked for a timeline on the application. Ted Harvey (PVPC) stated that applications are due June 12, 2020 by 5 pm and awards are expected to be announced in 6-8 weeks. There is also a 10-15% administration fee to PVPC for handling the application.

Motion by J. Baird to vote to approve and submit the application as presented. Seconded by D. Souza. Approved 5-0.

Motion J. Carrol to close the public hearing. Seconded by B. Brusco. All in favor.

3. Updates

- a. Spring Street has been repaved
- b. 73 W. Main Street has been demolished. Town DPW will be doing the final clean up.
- c. J. Baird asked if there would be pedestrian scale street lights going in on Main Street after construction. The WBCA is working on this, and PCD is looking into grant options.

Adjourn

J. Carrol made the motion to adjourn, J. Baird seconded, no further discussion.

All in Favor 5-0.

Adjourned at 7:33 pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for July 13, 2020, if needed, at 6:30 pm.

Minutes from June 10, 2020
Respectfully submitted by,

Jack Carolan
Department Assistant

<i>Minutes Approved on:</i> _____	
Opalinski	_____
Carroll	_____
Souza	_____
Bruso	_____
Baird	_____