

**TOWN OF VASS
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
RECONVENED MEETING
PUBLIC HEARING
SEPTEMBER 22, 2016
VASS TOWN HALL
140 SOUTH ALMA STREET
6:00 p.m.**

Minutes

The Vass Board of Commissioner reconvened meeting from September 12, 2016 was called to order by Mayor Callahan at 6:00 p.m. Commissioners in attendance were: Kosem, Mosley, Kellis, and Callahan.

Mayor Callahan asked for a motion to go into Public Hearing. Commissioner Kellis made motion. All were in favor.

The Board of Commissioners for the Town of Vass held a public hearing on September 22, 2016 for providing explanation and description of the 2016 North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Community Development Block – Infrastructure Grant (CDBG-I.

Mike Apke of McGill Associates was present to discuss the purpose of the public hearing for the Town's CDBG-I funding application. Mr. Apke stated that the purpose of the public hearing was to obtain citizen's views and to respond to funding proposals and answer any questions posed by citizens. Mr. Apke also stated that the public hearing must cover the Town's community development needs, development of the proposed activities, and a review of program compliance before the submission of the Town's CDBG-I funding application to the state of the North Carolina.

The Town proposes to request funding from NCDEQ'S CDBG-I program for the **Phase II Sewer System Improvements** project. The purposes of the CDBG-I grant program are:

- To improve the quality of life for low to moderate income people by providing a safe, clean environment and clean drinking water through water and sewer infrastructure improvements and extensions of service.
- To benefit a residential area where at least 51% of the beneficiaries are low to moderate income as defined by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.
- To perform eligible activities.
- To minimize displacement, and
- Provide displacement assistance as necessary.

For this fiscal year, the CDBG-I funding available is expected to be \$26,000,000. The maximum available grant is \$2.0 million over a 3 year period. Applications for funding are received until September 30, 2016.

The CDBG program is able to fund a wide variety of community development activities. The State of North Carolina has chosen to fund two activities: water and sewer infrastructure, and economic development projects that lead to job creation or retention. The infrastructure program, or CDBG-I program can fund a range of water and sewer infrastructure and economic development activities, including, but not limited to the following:

Water:

- Projects that resolve water loss in distribution systems.
- Projects that extend public water to areas with contaminated wells.
- Projects that extend water lines to areas with dry wells.
- Projects that assist with low water pressure in public water systems.
- Projects that regionalize two or more water systems.
- Project that rehabilitate or replace a water treatment plant.

Wastewater:

- Projects that resolve inflow and infiltration to collection systems and surcharges from pumps stations and manholes.
- Projects that extend public sewer to areas with failed septic tanks.
- Projects that rehabilitate a wastewater treatment plant to allow for greater efficiency/compliance with regulations.

The Town is seeking an amount in CDBG-I funds not to exceed \$2 million for the **Phase II Sewer System Improvements** project. The purpose of the Town's request is to **extend public wastewater collection service to existing un-sewered areas in Vass.**

A total of 100% of the CDBG- I funding will be used to benefit Low to Moderate Income (LMI) people. The project area in the Town of Vass has an income survey area of over 51% LMI. The project area includes, but is not limited to Poplar Street, Sellars Street, Barnes Avenue, US Highway 1 North, Lincoln Avenue, and Maple Lawn Lane.

The range of activities covered by the CDBG-I funds for the **Phase II Sewer System Improvements** includes:

- Construction.
- Environmental Review
- Engineering Design
- Construction Administration and observation.
- Legal activities.
- Surveying.
- Grant Administration.

If the Town of Vass is awarded a CDBG-I grant, the Town is required to adhere to federal procurement requirements and other federal regulations which include:

- American with Disabilities Act/Section 504 Survey
- Davis-Bacon & Related Labor Acts
- Adoption/Submittal of a Citizen's Participation Plan
- Adoption/Submittal of an Equal Opportunity Plan
- Adoption/Submittal of a Fair Housing Plan
- Adoption/Submittal of a Language Access Plan
- Adoption/Submittal of a Relocation Assistance Plan
- Adoption/Submittal of a Section 3 Plan
- Excess Force Provision

The State of North Carolina requires that if the Town of Vass receives CDBG grant funding that the Town will certify that it will comply with the requirements of the general displacement and relocation policy for CDBG grant funding. This policy assists low to moderate income people with costs associated with relocation or displacement, should such relocation become necessary due to the project activities. CDBG funds can be used for those costs, if necessary; however, no displacement and relocation is anticipated to occur as a result of the proposed CDBG grant activity.

The Town has previously applied for and received for the following completed CDBG project:

- List Name of Projects: **None**

The Town will submit its CDBG-I application for the **Phase II Sewer System Improvements** on September 30, 2016 (Application deadline). The CDBG-I application will be available for review during normal business hours at Town Hall, 140 Alma Street, Vass, NC 28394. Additional information is available from Town Administrator Barbara Boyd at (910) 245-4676 or 140 Alma Street, Vass, NC 28394. Should you have any complaints or grievances regarding the subject public hearing, they should be addressed to the addressee mentioned above within 10 business days or by October 7, 2016 and a written response to the written complaints and/or grievances will be sent by the Town within 10 business days, where practicable.

The following comments were obtained from the public:

Mae Frances Barrett of 171 Union Church Road signed up to speak. Ms. Barrett wanted to know if where she lives would be covered by the grant. Mike Apke told her she would be in the area covered by the grant.

No one else signed up to speak.

Mayor Callahan asked for a motion to come out of Public Hearing. Commissioner Kellis made the motion. All were in favor.

Mayor Callahan asked for a motion to accept the resolution to make application for 2016 North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Community Development Block – Infrastructure Grant. Commissioner Kosem made motion. All were in favor.

Adjournment:

Commissioner Mosley made motion to adjourn at 6:26 p.m. All were in favor.

Henry E. Callahan, Mayor

Barbara Boyd, Town Administrator/Clerk