

STATE OF CONNECTICUT – COUNTY OF TOLLAND
INCORPORATED 1786



TOWN OF ELLINGTON

55 MAIN STREET – PO BOX 187
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JAMES M. PRICHARD
Deputy First Selectman

MELINDA M. FERRY
AARON J. FOSTER.
DAVID E. STAVENS
RONALD F. STOMBERG
JOHN W. TURNER

LORI L. SPIELMAN
First Selectman

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Monday, March 29, 2017

Town Hall – Meeting Hall

SELECTMEN PRESENT: Lori L. Spielman, Melinda M. Ferry, Aaron J. Foster, James M. Prichard, David E. Stavens, Ronald F. Stomberg, John W. Turner

OTHERS PRESENT: Peter Sanborn, President, Community Opportunities Group, Inc.; Timothy Webb, Director of Public Works/WPCA Administrator

PUBLIC HEARING: SMALL CITIES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM

First Selectman Lori Spielman opened the public hearing at 7:03 p.m. and stated that written copies of the call of the hearing that appeared in the press were available to all attendees. Ms. Spielman asked for a motion to waive the reading of the call:

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (PRICHARD), AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO WAIVE THE READING OF THE CALL OF THE HEARING.

Ms. Spielman noted that Peter Sanborn, President of Community Opportunities Group, Inc., was present to answer questions. Ms. Spielman asked if there were any comments from the public.

Mr. Sanborn noted that the Small Cities application is due April 13th to the CT Department of Housing. The proposed motion reads that the allocated amount is not to exceed \$600,000, and that the Community Opportunities Group is going to recommend \$450,000. There are some limits that prevent the group from moving faster, and so they are recommending that the funding request hold at a level or rate at which they can spend the money.

Mr. Sanborn said that there is a new proposed grant that is estimated to assist about ten units. This is similar to the existing grant. There is a waiting list of about 50 cases. This is a strong position to be in for future funding requests.

Mr. Sanborn explained that the finance program is a 0% interest loan until the property that is helped is sold. At that time, the Town will be paid back the assistance that they provided. Five Thousand dollars is able to be granted for lead paint work.

Mr. Sanborn said that the State requires that the Town have a program income plan. The majority over the years has been spent recycling back into housing rehab and Snipsic Village.

Mr. Foster asked if the Town has to pay the State back. Mr. Sanborn responded that the Town does not have to pay the State back, as this is a grant.

Mr. Turner asked about the crumbling foundations. Mr. Sanborn said that there is a State cap per unit at \$30,000. The price to repair crumbling foundations is beyond the capacity of the grant. The State has made a provision that has not been incorporated here. If someone wants to use a portion of the grant for testing of the foundations, they are allowed \$2,500.

Mr. Prichard asked if they would put the money into a house that has a crumbling foundation. Mr. Sanborn explained that there is a walk away policy if a project is so big that it is beyond the intention of the program.

Mr. Foster asked if the Town has spent the \$450,000 in past years. Mr. Sanborn said that the Town has applied for different amounts and that the State has set different limits in the past. The range is between \$300,000 and \$500,000. However, in the past there have been grants that are larger than \$500,000 for Snipsic Village.

Hearing no further comments, Ms. Spielman closed the public hearing at 7:11 p.m.

Submitted by Meaghan Maguire Approved by Lori L. Spielman
Meaghan Maguire Lori L. Spielman

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BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SPECIAL MEETING
Wednesday, March 29, 2017
Town Hall – Meeting Hall

SELECTMEN PRESENT: Lori L. Spielman, Melinda M. Ferry, Aaron J. Foster, James M. Prichard, David E. Stavens, Ronald F. Stomberg, John W. Turner

OTHERS PRESENT: Peter Sanborn, President, Community Opportunities Group, Inc.; Timothy Webb, Director of Public Works/WPCA Administrator

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

First Selectman Spielman called the Special Meeting of the Board of Selectmen (BOS) to order at 7:11 p.m.

II. CITIZENS' FORUM: No one came forward.

III. NEW BUSINESS:

A. 2017 Small Cities Grant Program

1. Approval to Apply

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (FERRY) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY THAT THE FIRST SELECTMAN LORI SPIELMAN IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO SIGN ANY REQUIRED DOCUMENTS AND TO TAKE ALL OTHER ACTIONS NECESSARY RELATING TO SUBMITTING A GRANT APPLICATION FOR FY 2017 FUNDING UNDER THE CONNECTICUT SMALL CITIES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM AND, FURTHER, TO ADOPT THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS, Federal monies are available under the Connecticut Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program, administered by the State of Connecticut, Department of Housing pursuant to Public Law 93 -3 83, as amended; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 127c, and Part VI of Chapter 130 of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Commissioner of the Department of Housing is authorized to disburse such Federal monies to local municipalities; and,

WHEREAS, it is desirable and in the public interest that the Town of Ellington make application to the State in an amount not to exceed \$500,000.00 in order to undertake a Small Cities Community Development Program and to execute an Assistance Agreement therefore, should one be offered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN OF ELLINGTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

1. That it is cognizant of the conditions and prerequisites for State Assistance imposed by Part VI of Chapter 130 of the Connecticut General Statutes; and,
2. That the filing of an application by the Town of Ellington in an amount not to exceed \$500,000.00 is hereby approved, and that the First Selectman is hereby authorized and directed to file such application with the Commissioner of the Department of Housing, to provide such additional information, to execute such other documents as may be required by the Commissioner, to execute an Assistance Agreement with the State of Connecticut for State financial assistance if such an Agreement is offered, to execute any amendments, rescissions, and revisions thereto, and to act as the authorized representative of the Town of Ellington.
3. That it adopts or has adopted as its policy to support the following nondiscrimination agreements and warranties provided in subsection (a)(1) of Connecticut General Statutes sections 4a-60 and 4a-60a, respectively, as amended by Public Act 07-142, and for which purposes the "contractor" is the Town of Ellington and "contract" is said Assistance Agreement:

The contractor agrees and warrants that in the performance of the contract such contractor will not discriminate or permit discrimination against any person or group of persons on the grounds of race, color, religious creed, age, marital status, national origin, ancestry, sex, mental retardation or physical disability, including, but not limited to, blindness, unless it is shown by such contractor that such disability prevents performance of the work involved, in any manner prohibited by the laws of the United States or of the State of Connecticut. The contractor further agrees to take affirmative action to insure that applicants with job-related qualifications are employed and that employees are treated when employed without regard to their race, color, religious creed, age, marital status, national origin, ancestry, sex, mental retardation, or physical disability, including, but not limited to, blindness, unless it is shown by such contractor that such disability prevents performance of the work involved.

The contractor agrees and warrants that in the performance of the contract such contractor will not discriminate or permit discrimination against any person or group of persons on the grounds of sexual orientation, in any manner prohibited by the laws of the United States or of the State of Connecticut, and that employees are treated when employed without regard to their sexual orientation.

2. Approval of Program Income Plan

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (STOMBERG) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE PROGRAM INCOME PLAN FOR THE 2017 CONNECTICUT SMALL CITIES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM, AS SUBMITTED AND RECOMMENDED BY PETER SANBORN, PRINCIPAL IN CHARGE OF PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION.

3. Authorize the First Selectman to Sign Joint Community Agreements

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (FOSTER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY THAT THE FIRST SELECTMAN IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO ENTER INTO AND EXECUTE THE JOINT COMMUNITY APPLICATION COOPERATION AGREEMENTS BY AND BETWEEN THE TOWN OF ELLINGTON AND THE TOWN OF SOMERS, AND THE TOWN OF ELLINGTON AND THE TOWN OF SUFFIELD, AND THE TOWN OF ELLINGTON AND THE TOWN OF WINDSOR LOCKS, AND TO TAKE ALL OTHER ACTIONS NECESSARY REGARDING JOINT PARTICIPATION IN THE ELLINGTON HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM, TO BE FUNDED THROUGH A CONNECTICUT SMALL CITIES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM.

B. Water Pollution Control Authority Crew Chief

1. Approval of Job Description

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (FOSTER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE JOB DESCRIPTION FOR THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY CREW CHIEF AS PRESENTED.

Mr. Webb discussed that there is an opening for the position of maintainer. Over 10 people were interviewed for the position. Spencer Hutchinson was in house and wanted to move over to this position. This created a vacancy. In addition, the foreman, Lenny Descheneaux, will be retiring soon. Looking forward to sustainability, they will need to have someone in a crew chief position.

Mr. Turner asked if this position requires certifications. Mr. Webb responded that it does not require certification at this time. Mr. Descheneaux does not hold any certifications now. Mr. Webb detailed the structure- Descheneaux was originally the foreman for the WPCA. Now there is one foreman and one assistant foreman. There is also a lead mechanic, crew assistant, and maintainers that act as leaders when they're assigned projects.

Ms. Spielman told the Board that the WPCA has now gone digital. They have iPads, and take pictures to document.

Mr. Webb told the Board that most of the crew members have received the Confined Space Entry Certification. However, not everyone is allowed to go down into the manhole. They also send people to UCONN to take seminars and classes.

Mr. Turner asked if this is a new position. Mr. Webb said that it is a new position in the department. They are hoping not to add any additional people, and hope that someone in the department will apply.

Mr. Prichard asked who would dig a pipe if that was necessary. Mr. Webb said that it depends what it is. If they were digging up and replacing sewer realms, that is out of the realm of what they can do. However, they can run equipment and Rebecca has been trained to run a backhoe and excavator. Mr. Webb noted that they were responsible for 50 grinder pumps a year. The pump stations are checked twice a week.

Mr. Webb noted that the WPCA presented their budget of plant upgrades. The Town owes 20% of both plant upgrades. Vernon will begin to break ground in 2019. Mr. Prichard asked if we are getting grants to pay for the balance. Mr. Webb said yes, but that there will still be a balance. We will pay 20% of that balance, and set up a payment plan with each town. This has been included in the capital expenditures.

2. Authorization to Hire

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (FERRY) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO AUTHORIZE THE FIRST SELECTMAN TO HIRE A WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY CREW CHIEF, AS APPROVED BY THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY AND RECOMMENDED BY THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS/WPCA ADMINISTRATOR.

C. Water Pollution Control Authority Technician/Maintainer II: Authorization to Hire

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (FOSTER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO AUTHORIZE THE FIRST SELECTMAN TO HIRE A WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY TECHNICIAN/ MAINTAINER II, AS APPROVED BY THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY AND RECOMMENDED BY THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS/WPCA ADMINISTRATOR, TO FILL THE VACANCY CREATED BY THE TRANSFER OF SPENCER HUTCHINSON.

D. Reappointment Hocine Baouche, Inland Wetlands Commission

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (FOSTER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO REAPPOINT HOCINE BAOUCHE TO THE INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION TO SERVE A FOUR-YEAR TERM ENDING JANUARY 31, 2021.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (PRICHARD) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN AT 7:33 PM.

Submitted by Meaghan Maguire Approved by _____
Meaghan Maguire


Lori L. Spielman