

Beacon Falls Board of Selectmen
10 Maple Avenue
Beacon Falls, CT 06403



BEACON FALLS BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Public Hearing
February 13, 2017
MINUTES
(Subject to Revision)

1. Call to Order/Pledge to the Flag

First Selectman Chris Bielik called the meeting to order at 7:10 P.M.

Members Present: First Selectman Chris Bielik, Selectman Peter Betkoski (arrived at 7:18 PM), and Selectman Mike Krenesky

Others present: Lisa Low; Mike Yamin, Superintendent of Region 16 Schools; Dave Prickett; Luke Marshall, Citizens News; and 1 member of the public.

2. Notice of Public Hearing to Discuss the Fiscal Year 2017 Community Development Block Grant Program and to Solicit Citizen Input

C. Bielik asked the clerk to read the resolution as posted for tonight's Public Hearing. The clerk read the resolution as follows:

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Town of Beacon Falls will conduct a Public Hearing by the Board of Selectman on February 13, 2017, at 7:00 P.M. at the Town Hall, 10 Maple Avenue, Beacon Falls, CT 06403 to discuss the Fiscal Year 2017 Community Development Block Grant program and to solicit citizen input.

Maximum award limits: \$700,000 for Public Facilities; \$700,000 for Public Housing Modernization of 25 units or less, or \$800,000 for 26 units and over; \$500,000 for Infrastructure; \$400,000 for Housing Rehabilitation Program for single towns, \$500,000 for two-town consortium, and \$600,000 for three or more Towns; \$25,000 for Planning Only Grants; \$500,000 for Economic Development Activities, and \$500,000 for Urgent Need.

Major activity categories are: Acquisition, Housing Rehabilitation, Public Housing Modernization, Community Facilities, Public Services, and Economic Development. Projects funded with CDBG allocations must carry out at least one of three National Objectives: benefit to low- and moderate-income persons, elimination of slums and blight, or meeting urgent community development needs.

The purpose of the Public Hearing is to obtain citizen's views on the Town's community development and housing needs and review and discuss specific project activities in the areas of housing, economic development or community facilities which could be part of the Town's Application for funding.

Also, the Public Hearing will be to give citizens an opportunity to make their comments known on the program and for approval of the Program Income Reuse Plan. If you are unable to attend the Public Hearing, you may direct written comments to First Selectman Christopher J. Bielik, 10 Maple Ave, Beacon Falls, CT 06403 or you may telephone Christopher J. Bielik at 203-729-4340. In addition, information may be obtained at the above address between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. on Mon-Thurs and 9:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. on Fridays.

The Community Development/Housing Department on behalf of the Town of Beacon Falls anticipates applying for the maximum grant amount of \$400,000 under the housing rehabilitation category. In addition, the Town will create a revolving loan fund with program income (principal and interest) generated from the grant for a housing rehabilitation loan program.

The Town of Beacon Falls promotes fair housing and makes all programs available to low- and moderate-income households regardless of age, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, familial status, disability, sexual orientation, marital status, lawful source of income, or gender identity or expression.

Dated in Beacon Falls, CT this 8th day of February 2017.

If you are unable to attend the Public Hearing, you may direct written comments to the First Selectman Christopher J. Bielik, 10 Maple Ave, Beacon Falls, CT 06403 or you may telephone Christopher J. Bielik at 203-729-4340. In addition, information may be obtained at the above address between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 9:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. on Fridays. The hearing will also review and discuss the Town's prior Small Cities projects including any currently open or underway.

"All are encouraged to attend. The hearing is accessible to the handicapped. Any disabled persons requiring special assistance or non-English speaking persons should contact First Selectman Christopher J. Bielik, ADA Coordinator, at 203-729-4340 at least five days prior to the hearing."

Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action

C. Bielik introduced Lisa Low, the program administrator for the Small Cities Block Development Grant program. L. Low explained that the program is run in the State of Connecticut to provide funding for low- and moderate-income families throughout the state to make health and safety improvements to their homes. L. Low noted that the loan is a 0% interest loan and is deferred indefinitely until the change of title. The money is not repaid until the home is sold or the owner passes away. L. Low also noted that two rounds have been done, one in 2012 and one in 2013, and 16-20 families were served. Currently, there are eight families that were not served previously and there is availability for more families to be served.

L. Low further explained that in order to qualify and participate in the program, the homeowner must be current with the local taxes, have 10% equity in the home, and meet HUD income limits. The application is due by April 13, 2017 and the next step is to have some documents provided by the town.

C. Bielik asked three times if there were any further questions and there were none at this time.

3. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss at tonight's Public Hearing, C. Bielik indicated that the Public Hearing was closed at 7:24 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marla Scirpo
Clerk, Board of Selectmen