

# MEETING MINUTES

TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN  
COUNTY OF OCEAN  
January 16, 2024  
5:30 PM

## Community Development Block Grant

### FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL: BAULDERSTONE   X   LOPARO   X   DODD   X  

STATEMENT: Pursuant to the provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of this meeting was properly provided by sending copies of the Notice of Meeting to two newspapers, The Press of Atlantic City and the Asbury Park Press. The Notice was posted at the office of the Township Clerk and on the bulletin board in the Administration Building.

### Public Hearing

#### ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

Township Engineer, Jason Worth, T&M Engineering, discussed this is the Township's first public hearing for the Community Development Block Grant, which is a grant program that is administered by the Ocean County Planning Department and funded through the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. It is a program that is intended to benefit low to moderate income individuals.

In the past, the Township has undertaken Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) improvements throughout many different municipal buildings and sites. The Township has done a bulkhead before, roadway and drainage improvements and various public improvements. The Township is required to have two public hearings. The first one is to roll out the program and announce it for the year. The Township can then start to formulate ideas on potential projects. It is an opportunity for non-profits and other individuals in the Township to begin to provide input to the Township Committee on a good application.

The Township is required to have a second public hearing to discuss the application that will be put forth. That is scheduled for February 1<sup>st</sup> at 9:30am. Applications are due by February 16<sup>th</sup>. All municipalities in Ocean County are eligible to participate, however, it is on a two-year cycle. The last time the Township of Ocean was able to apply was in 2022.

Township Administrator/Clerk Ambrosio discussed she printed out Township Engineer Worth's email for the Township Committee and they have the Designated Target Neighborhood (DTN) maps. The Fire Department Hall is used for elections and for Township meetings. The only thing the hall is missing in order to be 100% in compliance for the elections is the electronic door. There is no need for ramping or concrete work.

Township Engineer Worth discussed the grant amount varies based on the amount the County is given by the Federal Government. On average, the amount has been \$32,000 per municipality.

Township Administrator/Clerk Ambrosio discussed the possibility of installing electronic ADA approved doors at the firehouse building, due to having two election districts that vote in the building. The application would be under ADA Compliance.

Township Engineer Worth discussed there are municipalities that do not have a designated target neighborhood. For those, if it is a public building, you can do handicap accessibility. It would be classified as inherently beneficial. There was recent discussion of the test results along the waterfront at different inlets and areas. There was one recent test at the end of Baltic Avenue that was high. The other areas that tested high before, tested better in this round of water quality reporting. If there is a potential stormwater drain issue in the Baltic Area, roadway infrastructure work does qualify and it is within the map areas. The outfall pipe from the street could be replaced so that it is sloped properly so no water is stagnant. If the small outfall is the only focus it would probably be around \$50,000.00. Those pipes are probably 40-50 years old and falling apart.

Mayor Dodd inquired what would be the price on the Fire Department doors.

Township Engineer Worth discussed if it is just the automation and not replacement the price would probably \$30,000-\$40,000.

Township Administrator/Clerk Ambrosio discussed there are two districts that still do not meet the criteria for elections, the Fire Department, and the Methodist Church. The firehouse has two doors when you walk in, so this could get expensive.

The Township Committee discussed both ideas and felt the storm drains at Baltic should be looked at. The Township has been working with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection to assist in water quality along the town shoreline throughout the Township.

Township Engineer Worth discussed he will take a look at the storm drains and see if there is more than one and report back on the various costs of things. A decision does not need to be made until the second hearing in two weeks. Oregon Avenue has been done, the other side of the yacht basin, Adriatic Avenue, Illinois Avenue and Michigan Avenue all have been done.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**Motion to open Public Comment** was moved by Deputy Mayor LoParo, seconded by Committeeman Baulderstone.

Roll Call: Baulderstone: Yes, LoParo: Yes, Dodd: Yes

No comment from the public.

**Motion to close Public Comment** was moved by Deputy Mayor LoParo seconded by Committeeman Baulderstone.

Roll Call: Baulderstone: Yes, LoParo: Yes, Dodd: Yes

Next Meeting Public Hearing - CDBG  
9:30 am – February 1, 2022

**Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn Community Development Block Grant Meeting was moved by Deputy Mayor LoParo seconded by Committeeman Baulderstone.

Roll Call: Baulderstone: Yes, LoParo: Yes, Dodd: Yes

Signed and Submitted:

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Diane B. Ambrosio, RMC  
Municipal Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date