**Town of Maxton**

**Public Hearing Meeting Minutes**

 **August 20, 2019**

The Board of Commissioners for the Town of Maxton held a public hearing on Tuesday, August 20th, 2019, for providing explanation and description of the FY2019 North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Community Development Block – Infrastructure Grant (CDBG-I). Members present were Mayor Emmett Morton, Mayor Pro Tem Virgil Hutchinson, Commissioner Elizabeth Gilmore, Commissioner Paul McDowell, Commissioner Victor Womack, Commissioner James McDougald, Town Manager Roosevelt Henegan, Attorney Timothy Snead, Tax Collector Angela Pitchford, Town Clerk Jaqueline Johnson, Utility Billing Clerk Rosemary Wilkerson, Detective Kelly Jacobs. Motion was made by Mayor Emmett Morton to open the public hearing.

Mayor Emmett Morton presented the purpose of the public hearing for the Town of Maxton’s CDBG-I funding application. Ms. Renbarger 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. Catherine Renbarger 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 requesting funding from NCDEQ’S CDBG-I program for Water Distribution System Improvements. The purpose 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 the fiscal year of 2019 the CDBG-I funding available is expected to be approximately $26,000,000, with a maximum available grant of $2.0 million over a 3-year period. Applications for funding are received September 30, 2019.

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, 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 extent 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 of Maxton is seeking an amount in CDBG-I funds not to exceed $2,000,000 for Water Distribution System Improvements. The purpose of the Town’s request is to repair or replace water distribution lines in town known to be 40 years of age or older and that are also identified by the town utilities department to be problematic sources of water loss.

The project proposed by the Town of Maxton was identified in Asset Management Plan updated in 2018. Informal community meetings were held in the project area to inform citizens of the potential project, and get feedback from the residents.

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 Maxton has been determined to have an LMI population well above 51%. The project area includes the following streets: McCaskill, Cottingham, Graham, Central, First, Hooper, Henderson, Martin Luther King Jr., Holly, and Sixth Streets. If time and budget allow, Howard, Lombard, Courtland, Academy, and Wilkerson will serve as alternative streets.

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

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

If the Town of Maxton 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 Maxton receives CDBG grant funding that the town will certify that they 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. No displacements and/or relocation will occur as a result of the proposed CDBG grant activity.

In the past, the Town of Maxton has applied for and received for the following completed CDBG project: Town of Maxton Water Loss Reduction Project. Maxton was awarded $2,600,000 to repair or replace over 18,400 linear feet of water lines.

The Town will submit its CDBG-I application for the Water Distribution System Improvements on September 30, 2019. The CDBG-I application will be available for review during normal business hours at Maxton Town Hall, 201 McCaskill Ave. Additional information is available from the Interim Town Manager Myra Tyndall, at 910-884-5231. 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 September 04, 2019 and a written response to the written complaints and/or grievances will be sent by the Town within 10 business days, where practicable.

No comments or questions were asked during the public hearing. Motion was made by Mayor Emmett Morton to close the public hearing.

Motion was made by Commissioner Gilmore to close the public hearing, seconded by Commissioner McDowell. The vote was unanimous motion carried.

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 Mayor, Emmett Morton

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Town Clerk, Jacqueline Johnson