

OTHER POLICY MATTERS:

a. CDBG Discussion

Scott Modesitt explained the CDBG Grant. There is an application due date of May 6, 2019, for the 2018 Grant cycle. The 2019 cycle will begin about August. There are requirements of low to moderate income to be eligible. It is a \$600,000.00 grant and no matching funds are required. The Town would need to select a Housing Relocation Grant or a Neighborhood Revitalization Grant. He explained both grants. The Neighborhood Revitalization grant can be used for infrastructure. There is also a Commercial Revitalization Grant, but the Town does not qualify for that.

Mr. Modessit explained the program objectives. The program must benefit low to moderate income persons, aid in the prevention or relief of slum or blight, or other urgent development needs.

The Housing Relocation Program provides physical improvements to owner-occupied dwellings. Low to moderate income individuals apply for assistance and it corrects health, safety and code issues in the home. Anyone who participates in this program must be low to moderate income.

The Neighborhood Revitalization Program is the infrastructure component. It provides for public infrastructure such as water, sewer, street resurfacing and utility lines, as long as the geographic area that is served by the project is low to moderate income. They go out and do household income surveys to determine eligibility requirements are met.

There is also a Commercial Revitalization Program. It requires that the Town be 61% low to moderate income overall. The Town does not currently meet those requirements, so is not eligible to apply for that grant.

There is also a special category Economic Development grant. That requires a participating business to partner with the Town and it will provide for any type of infrastructure the business may need. The business has to create a certain number of jobs.

Mr. Modessit commented that he had met with Town Staff. Last year they discussed doing the sewer project in the low-income areas of the Town. We are at the absolute minimal amount of homes that have to benefit from the project. He believes the 2018 or 2019 cycle will work for the Town. They have to be able to help 48 homes. The community can only have one grant open at a time. If the Town is not successful in the 2018 funding cycle, the application could be resubmitted for the 2019 funding cycle.

Mr. Modesitt pointed out that the Town's score is low and they could increase the score by providing matching funds from the Water Management District or the State, or provide for an additional expansion of the project itself.

Commissioner Ramos asked if that included renters.

Mr. Modesitt stated that with the Neighborhood Revitalization Grant, it does not matter if there are renters. It is based upon the occupant of the home.

Town Manager Koontz stated that the Town does not have matching funds at this time.

Commissioner McMullen asked what the total cost of connecting the eligible area to sewer.

No one was sure of the amount at this time. \$8,000.00 to \$12,000.00 per home is the estimated amount.

Vice Mayor Satterfield commented that the \$600,000.00 will not cover all of the homeowners in that area. There are people who cannot bear the cost. The Town will have to come up a plan to further help the citizens.

Manager Koontz stated that there are opportunities with St. John's Water Management District and the Department of Environment Protection.

Vice Mayor Satterfield opened a Public Hearing. With no one from the audience wishing to speak, he closed the Public Hearing.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Polland, seconded by Commissioner McMullen, to proceed with the 2018 CDBG Grant for Neighborhood Revitalization.

AYE: McMullen, Polland, Ramos, Satterfield

NAY: None

MOTION was made by Commissioner Polland, seconded by Commissioner McMullen, to proceed with the 2019 CDBG Grant for Neighborhood Revitalization.

AYE: McMullen, Polland, Ramos, Satterfield

NAY: None

MOTION was made by Commissioner Polland, seconded by Commissioner McMullen, to proceed with 2018 CDBG grant for Economic Development should a project be identified.

AYE: McMullen, Polland, Ramos, Satterfield

NAY: None

OACS Teacher Pay

Human Resources Director Nancy Kulscar spoke about the proposed pay increase for teachers. She talked about the cost of teacher turnover and that they are averaging a turnover of eight teachers per year. There is no pay for experience and the starting rate is \$38,000.00 no matter where you are in your career. Orange County Public Schools (OCPS) starts at \$40,650.00. We also have a benefit and retirement gap between us and OCPS. We need to be more competitive. The new starting rate we are proposing is \$40,576.00. We have also set up a schedule that will compensate for experience. 26% of our teachers will not be getting an increase because they have been here long enough that their annual increases have them caught up.

Principal Dwyer stated that a few years ago the salary was more competitive, but it has come off that mark and they need to do something to make it up.

Commissioner Ramos asked how many teachers we have. He also wanted to know if there is a cap on raises.

Principal Dwyer answered that there are 40 counting all staff members. She said that there is a range that caps out.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Polland, seconded by Commissioner Ramos to approve the proposed salary schedule for teachers.

AYE: McMullen, Polland, Ramos, Satterfield

NAY: None

Oakland Park Lots

Town Planner Marder explained the lot changes for Oakland Park. The changes will allow them to keep the open space. This will create the need for the developer to change the plat.

This is informational use only.

MAYOR & COMMISSION REPORTS:

Town Manager Koontz reported that he and the Mayor went to Tallahassee and met with James Harris and a couple of Senators. The biggest part of most conversations was rebuilding the Panhandle after Hurricane Michael. As of right now, the Senate budget has us in for \$100,000.00. The House budget does not have us in there at all. Once they reconcile the two budgets, we may get the \$100,000.00, but not looking like we will get any more than that. It was a good use of our time, but wish I had better news. We will keep in the budget as a line item and come back next year.

Commissioner Ramos commented on Best Fest and said he hopes that everyone can make it.

Commissioner McMullen commented on the Tri-County League of Cities. Normally every third Thursday there is a luncheon and the next one is in Longwood with Leo Longworth as the speaker. He is trying to get as many people to attend as possible.

Commissioner McMullen also reported that May 9, the second Thursday in May, they will also be doing the Ethics Training after the Tri-County Luncheon. Legislature is trying to take away Home Rule, so Tri-County is trying to get more involved and hopefully help prevent that from happening. Trying to push more involvement. He also reported that the 5G wireless is a hot topic right now.

The School Gala was brought up. Principal Dwyer reported the amount of funds so far.


ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Commissioner McMullen adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

TOWN OF OAKLAND:


MICHAEL SATTERFIELD, VICE MAYOR

ATTEST:


KIMBERLY GAY, TOWN CLERK