

CARLIN CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF CARLIN, STATE OF NEVADA
**PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDING IN 2010**
CARLIN CITY HALL
101 SOUTH EIGHTH STREET
CARLIN, NEVADA

September 9, 2009, 7:00 p.m.

Call to Order and Roll Call:

Mayor Cliff Eklund called the meeting of the Public Hearing of the City Council to order at 7:00 p.m.

1. Council Members Present: Mayor Cliff Eklund
Vice Mayor Donnetta Skinner
Councilperson Lee Griswold
Councilperson Lincoln Litchfield
Absent: Councilperson David Trujillo
2. Administrative Staff: City Manager Glenn Trust, City Clerk LaDawn Lawson, Carlos Esparza,
Director of Public Works
3. Public Present: Anna Dean, Craig LaGier, Steve Feasel, Howard Wright, Fred Montes de Oca

Pledge of Allegiance

I. Presentation of information regarding the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program and eligibility requirements for suggested projects (Non-Action Item)

1. Mayor Cliff Eklund stated they are required to hold a public meeting prior to applying for a CDBG grant.
2. City Manager Glenn Trust explained he attended a CDBG Block Grant Workshop in order to apply for a grant; there are two events we have to attend, one is the Workshop and one is a forum. "The information we had all been offering was that Carlin did not qualify for Community Development Block Grants, because our median income was too high. We do qualify. The Grant Program requires that 50% plus 1 of the population served qualifies as low-to-moderate income for that region. The median income in Elko County, which is the number they use, is \$69,700. Low to moderate income is defined as 80% of the median income or \$55,760. Our threshold we have to hit is that 51% of our residents have to be at \$55,000 or less in income annually. The CDBG director and I went through the numbers and where the discrepancy is that we have the ability, even though we have to use the current medium income level of \$69,700, we are allowed to use the 2000 census numbers for our base income. If you take the base income from 2000 and compare that to the 2009 low to moderate income based on the median income, we have almost 61% of residents in the low to moderate income level. We have the ability to apply and qualify for a grant". He explained the Senior Center CDBG grant was directed toward the seniors a few years ago.
3. Mayor Cliff Eklund stated. "The County was very involved in that CDBG grant when we applied for the Senior Center".
4. City Manager Glenn Trust explained, "We do qualify for low to moderate income grants and the director was very supportive. There is no guarantee, because it is a competitive grant and they only award half the grants applied for. He pointed out a large grant for them would be about \$300,000, an average grant \$100,000. The next step is that we have to hold two (2) public hearings. We have to document our public hearings to invite public participation and suggestion, recommendations to be decided by the City Council. In selecting a grant, next year we will do this earlier next year, we have to have the grant in by January 10, 2010. We

want a grant that is reasonably 'doable' in the few months we have left. The grant project has to meet the criteria, one (1) eligible activity; two (2) meet a national objective, three (3) weighted toward Nevada priorities. The national objectives are low-to-moderate income, blight and slum and emergency. Probably, there is not an emergency contingency here. These would be emergencies that have existed for about 6 months and no longer than 18 months. We definitely qualify under low to moderate income. The State priority for the year is health and safety".

5. Mayor Cliff Eklund stated, "We were all on our way to using that blighted scenario on Main Street. We had one hearing on it, but at that point we were going to pave the street and put curb, gutter and sidewalk in".
6. City Manager Glenn Trust stated "One of the things they pointed out at great length is that governing Boards should be very careful in approaching that when an area is declared blighted, insurance companies tend to shy away completely. Financing also becomes very difficult. If a section was declared blighted to obtain a grant, the property owners might face a situation if they wanted to sell or expand their business, lenders might not lend. The way around that is to use, because we do qualify, low to moderate income and we can say that these are the categories we fall into. Purchases of land are included if you wanted to put in a park or recreational area or business development to renovate or demolish buildings for rehabilitation. Another category is for public improvements, anything from sidewalks, streets, utility lines and there are examples. One thing they emphasize is that the monies cannot be for maintenance or restoration of public utilities. We have a water line that may be able to work, but it can not be for maintenance, they would have an issue with that. We want to hear as many ideas as possible before the board makes a decision. Public services, planning projects and Programs are eligible. If we got a grant to do the planning, engineering and assessment long before we actually get a grant to do the project, it might be beneficial, for example on the Tomera Ranch water line.. Administration costs are not covered".
7. Steve Feasel inquired if they are discussing the planning, would doing the study analysis fall under the grant.
8. City Manager Glenn Trust replied affirmatively, noting "but in some cases, that is actually required before you do the project".
9. Steve Feasel inquired if they could qualify again to continue with that.
10. City Manager Glenn Trust stated, "Yes, but it is competitive each year. The grants are done on an annual basis".
11. Steve Feasel stated, "Is there a time limit and all of a sudden we are going to run out".
12. City Manager Glenn Trust stated CDBG has been around for 20-25 years. Actually in 2009, they did two (2) grant cycles. I suggest that we make a very strong effort to get information from the public as it is a requirement, and good business, before the Council makes a decision to apply for a grant. I have talked to some of the departments and asked if they have a project they would like to submit, get it on the next agenda".
13. Mayor Cliff Eklund stated, "This is good news, because we have been turned down by the CDBG people, because of this low-moderate income and have been told that we are ineligible. We have streets, waterline extension to the Tomera Ranch."
14. Steve Feasel clarified that the public bring ideas to the next meeting and would it be better to for the public to be more informed on what projects would qualify. I have read through this and still have some questions, but the public to have just examples of the types of projects that would qualify so the public would be better be able to make a decision.
15. City Manager Glenn Trust stated, "We are required to hold two (2) hearing for public participation. The Board will then have to make a decision as soon as possible in order to have the grant application ready in time."
16. Mayor Cliff Eklund stated two meetings could be held, but they have to meet the January 10th deadline and this is a lot of work.
17. Discussion was held on taking a project before the board and arguing its case.

18. Steve Feasel stated, "If I came up with a plan and present it to the board, if I have a better idea of what types qualify, I won't waste time.
19. City Manager Glenn Trust suggested, "If anyone has a project, it would be to get it to the Council prior to the meeting so they could review and digest it. They could be brought to me also and I could provide to the Board".
20. Discussion was held on getting ideas from the public and making them available to the public.
21. Mayor Cliff Eklund stated, "Citizens can come to the Office and get information".
22. Councilperson Lincoln Litchfield stated, "You might take suggestions for both shovel ready or projects that might take sometime organizing. As this is an ongoing prospect and can be applied for next year, no project is off the shelf basically".
23. Councilperson Lee Griswold inquired how many can be submitted or is there limits.
24. City Manager Glenn Trust stated the City could only apply for one.
25. Member Anna Dean stated, "Could we bring up the goals and objectives we had the meeting on and look at those to see what the public wanted. If we could find that list, it would give ideas".
26. Steve Feasel stated they could revisit the goals from the master plan.

II. Comment and suggestions from City staff regarding CDBG projects. (Non-Action Item)

1. None.

III. Comments by the General Public: Pursuant to NRS 241.020(2C) this time is devoted to comments by the general public and discussion to those comments. No action may be taken upon a matter raised under this item until the matter has been included on a successive agenda and identified as an action item. (Non-Action Item)

1. None

IV. Adjournment. (Action Item)

The meeting was adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

APPROVED:

CLIFF EKLUND, MAYOR

ATTEST:

LADAWN LAWSON, CITY CLERK