

VILLAGE OF RED HOOK
PUBLIC HEARING
October 1, 2007

Present: Mayor Cohen, Trustee Gilfeather, Trustee Blundell, Trustee Trapp, Trustee Kovalchik
Village Attorney Jeffrey Martin

Mayor Cohen opened the public hearing at 7:00 pm on the
2008 COMMUNITY BLOCK GRANT

Mayor Cohen stated that a meeting was held with Beth Doyle. Mayor Cohen had a discussion with Beth Doyle with regard to the best route for this years Block Grant funding. Discussions were held with the Town.

Mayor Cohen read aloud the public hearing notice – made a comment that it was listed as 7:30 pm – should have been 7:00 pm. Mayor Cohen indicated that due to the misprint, should a resident present wish to speak regarding the Block Grant at 7:30 pm – they will be given that option. After discussions with the County and the possibility of 1/3-1/3-1/3 from each different project - it was recommended that we go with one – the strongest of which we put on the table being water improvements – which would help with street improvements and mapping the pipes which locations are not known at this time. In that grant it would be asked to put new service lines in at the streets where needed and replace pipes. It is Mayor Cohen's recommendation that we go for the water grant this year and ask for the full \$150,000.00.

Trustee Blundell asked if that amount can be broken down. Mayor Cohen replied no. Beth Doyle has advised against that.

Trustee Gilfeather stated he believes that priorities are such that water is a big priority.

Trustee Kovalchik asked about covering road repairs – how much of area. Mayor Cohen stated he thought so – he stated it may not cover complete repairs, but that whatever was dug up would be repaired - said that he would discuss this matter with Beth Doyle.

Trustee Blundell asked about sidewalk sections. Mayor Cohen stated that we would have to look for a different grant for that – a multi-mode grant from the State of New York. We have gotten this once or twice before.

Mayor Cohen said he spoke with Saland the other day and advised him that we needed funds for this projects. There are a couple of sections of sidewalk – 1-at the firehouse (which is our voting place) and 2- piece on Park Avenue. Then we would start identifying other areas.

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Trustee Gilfeather mentioned that in the Dutchess County Consolidation Plan for 2008-2012 – water and sanitary projects are the top items. The other is community revitalization.

Mayor Cohen spoke of his meeting on today's date with Trustee Kovalchik and Steve Grimm with Rural Water Association (very enlightening) They were given a time table and that we are right where we should be and that it was asked if we were premature on anything – and we were told that we were going at the right pace.

Trustee Kovalchik mentioned the meeting today and how enlightening he felt it was and that it was good to have such competent people overseeing the feasibility study recommendations. Mentioned the importance of conference which is being held on October 16, 2007.

Mayor Cohen spoke of attendance at Block Grant meeting early in year and that he told everyone there (except Poughkeepsie housing authority) that infrastructure was our biggest problem.

Trustee Kovalchik mentioned that we deal with water this year and infrastructure next year. That we sequence the water. Is there a list or plan of which has priority first? Mayor Cohen said that would tie into with you.

Trustee Gilfeather stated the big thing was to know the priorities of the County.

Mayor Cohen said he feels that the meeting we had this year is going to be an ongoing meeting for every year prior to the Community Block Grant and that is the way it will work. This plan is good for 4 years - therefore infrastructure is in for the next 4 years – so he feels we are on the right track.

Trustee Blundell asked about consolidating few years of grants.

Mayor Cohen said that would be CHIPS money to do streets. We would bond. CHIPS money would pay the bond rather than coming out of the general fund.

Trustee Trapp asked if small cities have been looked into for money? Mayor Cohen stated that if you do small cities you cannot get Community Block Grant.

Trustee Kovalchik stated that small cities was based upon median household income of the Village.

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Mayor asked if there was anymore discussion on this.

Village resident George Beekman stated that Tivoli has had senior housing before we did. Mayor Cohen said Tivoli income is higher than Village of Red Hook and ours will go down a little more at next census because of income eligible senior residence.

7:14 pm Mayor Cohen closed the Public Hearing.
So moved by Trustee Gilfeather
Seconded by Trustee Blundell
All in Favor.

Submitted by,

Lara Hart
Secretary

