

CITY OF BURTON
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 6, 1997, 7:00 P.M., COUNCIL CHAMBERS

The Special Meeting was called to order by Ted Hammon, Council President, at 7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Centilli, Cox, Cross, Hammon, Martinbianco and Walls.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Zelenko.

OTHERS PRESENT: Mayor Charles Smiley; J. Major DPW Director and G. Webster, Clerk.

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING: Public Hearing for the 1997-1998 Community Development Block Grant

PRESENTATION:

Mayor Smiley said the predicted CD allocations would be approximately \$170,000.00. This number is a little less than normal. Gayle Webster attended the October 2nd CD meeting. The Mayor's recommendations for CD funds included the following areas:

- Paving
- Ditching
- Water and Water main improvements
- Senior Citizen Salary
- Parks
- Fire Department
- Sidewalks

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Pauline Dargel, 6119 Hugh, agreed with the Mayor's proposed recommendations. She suggested the Bendle School area, which is densely populated, would be a good location for neighborhood parks. This would provide localized areas for the children to play. Other suggestions included, programs for crime prevention and a Master Plan.

Carol Donnelly, R.N., Genesee County Health Department, Burton's Community Health Nurse, gave an overview of Burton's Health Assessment. The most obvious problem reflected in the data was that a large portion of Burton's population is below poverty level. Most of these people are concentrated in the Bendle area. (See Summary of Health Assessment on the City of Burton.)

Mr. Hammon asked Ms. Donnelly if she had spoken to Mr. Nesmith about the possible appropriation of CD funds for Bendle's area health needs.

Ms. Donnelly asked Mr. Nesmith if CD funds could be used for health needs in this area. He didn't know how the money was appropriated for health services, but it was definitely part of community development.

Mr. Martinbianco made reference to the large number of homes in the Bendle area that were built in the 1960's. He said many of these homes probably contain high levels of lead. He asked Ms. Donnelly if there were funds for Burton to address this situation.

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Ms. Donnelly said there were funds in the Flint area. However, Burton does not have any funds at this time for this type of project. Individual blood samples can be tested to determine lead content. Flint may help train residents to remove lead from their homes.

Mr. Martinbianco suggested, in reference to lead research, if funds are available for these types of projects, we should qualify for a portion of those funds. It's just a matter of making a determination and applying for some of the funds.

Ms. Donnelly agreed with these comments.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION:

Mr. Martinbianco commented on the need for housing services in the Bendle area, whether it be Burton Neighborhood Housing Services or a similar organization. He thought we should consider some level of financial support for housing needs.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:20 P.M.

Gayle Webster
City Clerk

GW/cml