

CITY OF BURTON
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 16, 2000, 7:00 P.M., COUNCIL CHAMBERS

The Special Meeting was called to order by Vice President, Bob Centilli, at 7:10 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Brawner, Centilli, Martinbianco, Tinnin and Wells.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Cross and Zelenko.

OTHERS PRESENT: Mayor C. Smiley; J. Major, DPW Director; Attorney R. Hamilton and G. Webster, City Clerk.

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING: PUBLIC NEEDS HEARING FOR THE 2001 COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT.

PRESENTATION:

Mr. Major said the purpose of this meeting was to allow residents and council to provide input on the 2001 Community Development Block Grant fund allocations. It was his understanding that the three-year allocation would be \$453,595.02 and should be spent within an 18-month time period. However, he needed to clarify the spending timetable. The administration recommended continuing on going projects of gravel street paving, sidewalks, street ditching, senior citizen's salary, watermain construction, fire department equipment, public safety equipment and neighborhood park and recreation programs. This would include needed improvements for school playground equipment.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Terryl Sperlich, 1253 Howe Rd., felt community development funds should not be used for Kelly Lake Park. However, she felt the money should be used for improving existing neighborhood parks and school recreational facilities and programs.

Pauline Dargel, 6119 Hugh, approved of the public hearing notification that was published in both local newspapers. She suggested community development funds be used for playground improvements in the Bendle area. She felt we needed more programs and places for youth activities. In addition, she suggested the senior center be transformed into a youth center.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION:

Mr. Martinbianco inquired into the status of the existing CD funds.

Mr. Major assured council that all existing CD allocations would be spent. The West Bendle playscape project would be completed and zeroed out in the near future.

Fire Chief Halstead indicated that he did not have enough CD funds to finish ongoing projects. He planned to add the remaining funds to next year's allocations to purchase fire equipment.

Mr. Tinnin asked if the money could be used for the clean up of abandon homes and cars in the south end.

Mr. Major indicated most vacant homes were still on the tax rolls and scheduled for rehabilitation. These are not abandoned homes without ownership, such as the case in Flint. He said abandon cars have not been a problem because the city can have them removed from private property. These matters fall under the jurisdiction of local ordinances.

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

OCTOBER 16, 2000 / 7:00 P.M.
PAGE -2-

Mr. Abbey said we can scrap abandoned cars and recoup all costs for the pick up.

Mrs. Tinnin suggested using CD funds for a tornado signal.

Mr. Major said we were unable to convince the federal CD office to let us add a tornado signal with these types of funds. They ruled this was not an eligible project. We are watching to see if the City of Fenton's request for a tornado siren is approved.

Mr. Abbey said the playscape at West Bendle has been constructed and he expressed the need to add a new playscape at South Bendle.

Mr. Brawner asked for clarification on the allocation process.

Mr. Major said after the public hearing, the administration would develop a list of requested projects. A dollar value and percentage will be assigned to each project item. The council will address projects and dollar values at the next regular meeting to be held November 6, 2000. The administration will then finalize the CD application and send it to the county.

Mr. Martinbianco commented on Kelly Lake Park. He asked if CD funds might be redirected to a new area after the census was completed.

Mr. Major felt CD dollars would not be eligible for Kelly Park. He said the 2002 allocations would not be readjusted due to census results. He did indicate that an income survey could be conducted in any area to determine low income eligibly. We could attempt this process to help fund the paving of dirt roads such as Brabbs.

Mrs. Tinnin wanted to know if all schools were eligible for CD funds.

Mr. Major indicated federal funds were used to build tennis courts at one of the schools years ago. At one time, Atherton and Bentley were eligible for CD funds.

Mayor Smiley didn't think all schools were eligible for CD funds because they weren't located in the designated low-income zone. An income survey could be conducted in a targeted area to determine eligibly.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:30 P.M.

Gayle Webster
City Clerk

GW/cml