

Town of Andrews

CDBG Stormwater Improvement Project (SIP)

PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

January 22, 2018

6:00 P.M.

Public Hearing opened at 6:00 P.M. at Andrews Town Hall, 66 N. Main Street, Andrews, IN 46702.

Those in Attendance:

Town Council: William "Bill" Johnson (President), John Harshbarger, & Bonnie Walker

Clerk-Treasurer: Laura Dillon

Utilities Superintendent: Colin Bullock

Region 3-A: Matt Brinkman & Shaun Tilghman

RQAW Corporation: Eric Woodmansee

Audience Members: David Walker, Mandy Woods, Tom Wuensch, Jay Rhoads, Michael Young, Jordan Rhoads, Kathy Gamble, Julie Newsome, Roger Newsome, Barbara Gressley, Travis Wuensch, Scott Howell, Chase Stephan, Peyton Hosler, & Austin Bullock

Matt Brinkman: I am Matt Brinkman, and I am a grant administrator with Region 3-A. We are assisting the Town of Andrews with a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). This grant is for a Stormwater Improvement Project. On or about February 9, 2018, the Town of Andrews will be applying to the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA) for federal funding from Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

The town is applying for the maximum amount available, which is \$600,000. Of this, approximately \$312,600 will benefit low- and moderate-income persons. The town anticipates providing an estimated \$70,000 in matching funds towards the project. The local match portion will be in the form of CREDIT funds.

This is the second public hearing, which must be conducted before an application can be submitted. The first public hearing was conducted on November 27, 2017, prior to proposals being due. This is a competitive grant, and we will be competing with other applications from across the state. We will know whether our grant application will be funded on April 5, 2018. OCRA has indicated that there were 10 proposals submitted in our category so we will be competing against nine other applications. They did not indicate how many they will be funding.

I would like to give a brief overview of the project – this is a stormwater project that will see the upgrade and installation of stormwater infrastructure throughout the town. Eric Woodmansee, from RQAW, is with us tonight, and he will provide additional information on the project in a moment.

The project will occur along rights-of-way and property owned by the Town of Andrews. It is anticipated that no displacement of persons will occur; however, the town will provide a displacement plan.

Laura, have you received any written comments since publication of the legal notice?

Laura Dillon: No.

Brinkman: I would now like to provide an overview of the grant-scoring criteria. This is a competitive grant with a possible total of 700 points available. We must achieve a minimum of 420 points to be eligible. Points are achieved in five ways - national objective, distress score, local match, project design, and sustainability.

The project design category is worth 300 points. The breakdown of this is, 50 points for description of the project, 125 points for project need, and 125 points for financial impact. One way to achieve a better score in this area is by evidence of need. I will be opening up for comments shortly, and those will be a part of the meeting minutes that will be submitted with the application. We would also like to submit letters of support from residents affected by the project. If you would like to submit a letter, I ask that you email it to me by Friday, February 2nd, which is a week before our application is due.

The distress score category has a maximum available of 175 points. This score is based on the distress score calculated by Indiana University for the town. There is nothing we can do to impact this score within the application. The factors that go into a community distress score are: percentage of households with income under poverty level, median household income, percentage of housing units that are vacant, median home value, unemployment rate, and labor force participation. The distress score for the Town of Andrews is 106.76.

The local match area has a maximum available of 75 points. For each percent of the project that is funded through local match, you get a point, up to 75 points. Our project would be funded at 11% local match.

The national objective category has a maximum available of 100 points. This is directly tied to the number of low- and moderate-income persons that will benefit from the project. We will get one point per percent of the beneficiaries that are low-to-moderate income. We are in the process of conducting a new income survey, and that will determine our score in this category; and, we are on track to get that done in time for the application submittal.

The last category is project sustainability, and there is a maximum of 50 points available in this category. The score in this category is tied to the amount of the monthly user rate for stormwater.

At this time, I would like to ask Eric Woodmansee, from RQAW, to speak on the project. Eric, I gave a very brief description on the project, could you discuss the project in further detail, please?

Eric Woodmansee: Thank you, Matt. Again, I'm Eric Woodmansee, from RQAW, thank you all for attending. A brief overview of the project is basically the storm sewer along McKeever Street is dilapidated – not letting water flow through the storm sewers, but yet over ground. So, what we're proposing is, to go all the way down to Loon Creek and run a storm sewer main all the way back from there to Leedy Street. There's a question about how far we'll get with the funds are available, but that will be discussed through the construction and design process. So, with that, we have \$670,000 pretty much total in the project itself – a series of inlets, manholes, and pipes ranging from 12-inch pipe, all the way up to 30-inch pipe to take care of the stormwater. It will greatly help the stormwater to get away from all the residents' houses and the roadway a lot more efficiently. Matt...

Brinkman: Thank you, Eric. At this time, we'll open it up for public comments. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, now is the time to bring those up. And I ask that, since this is a public hearing, we do have to document those who speak, so please state your name before speaking. and address for the record. Are there any comments, questions, concerns?

Bonnie Walker: My name is Bonnie Walker, and we lived down on the corner of Berry and McKeever for a number of years, and in 1996, they did some work over here at the bridge. At that time, they must have cleared out whatever, because the water started coming down, and we were flooded down there on the corner every time it rains really bad. Now, what you're talking about doing, is directing all that to Loon Creek, which is going to go right into that area, and it's a low area. What happens if that develops again, or yet?

Woodmansee: So, right now, all stormwater gets to that area.

Walker: Well, when there's a storm, it's affected. There have been at least 6-8 properties that get flooded.

Woodmansee: Okay. I can't speak to that yet, because we haven't done the full scope of the project; but, all this water from McKeever, and from east of town, gets all the way to Loon Creek at this point, at some point. So, I can't say if this will or won't help, but we will definitely take that into account, because we have to model that watershed as well, just to make sure of what we're doing – DNR is going to require us to look at that, because it's in a floodway.

Walker: Okay, thank you.

Mandy Woods: I guess I'll just make one comment. Umm Mandy Woods, I'm with the Department of Community Development. You mentioned floodway, we're the local people for floodplain committee; so, I guess if that comes up later on during the project, I'm the person that you would talk to.

Woodmansee: Perfect.

Woods: Otherwise, I don't have any other comments.

Brinkman: Any other comments, questions, concerns? Alright, thank you.

William Johnson: Thank you, guys.

Public Hearing closed at 6:15 P.M.

Minutes submitted by:

Matt Brinkman, Executive Director
Region 3-A Development & RPC