

**CDBG PUBLIC HEARING**  
**Borough of Edinboro**  
**July 13, 2020**

**Welcome to the Public Hearing:**

Mayor Gast opened the public hearing at 6:16 PM. Council members present were Mary Ann Horne, Aaron Gast, Jim Kiley (via phone), Pat Davis, Fred Langill, and Alyssa Dobson. Absent was Mark Eisert. Also present were Manager Kevin Oppe, Finance Director Jason Spangenberg, Solicitor Tim Wachter, Joe Berdis of Erie County Planning, Curtis Hals, and MJ Campbell. The meeting was turned over to Joe Berdis.

**Purpose of Hearing:**

This is the second and final public hearing regarding the Borough's CDBG-COVID program. The first hearing was held by phone conference on June 8th. Notice of this hearing was advertised in the Sunday, July 5, 2020 edition of the Erie Times News as well as posted on the Borough's website. No comments were received prior to this hearing. The primary purpose of this hearing is to identify the activities the Borough proposes to undertake with its CDBG-COVID allocation and to take comments.

**Background Information:**

In response to the Coronavirus Pandemic (COVID-19) the PA Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) has notified Erie County and its 4 entitlement municipalities including Edinboro Borough that it is eligible to apply for and receive a special CDBG allocation to be used specifically for the prevention of, preparation for, and response to the Coronavirus. The Borough's allocation is \$67,247 and the deadline to submit the funding request to DCED is July 31, 2020.

**Proposed Activities:**

Based upon comments from the first hearing and subsequent discussions with municipal officials, the Borough proposes to undertake the following activities with its CDBG-COVID allocation:

- \$65,205 will be allocated to undertake the Meals on Wheels Assistance Project.

One need which came to the forefront during discussions with Borough officials was ensuring that the food needs of homebound, severely disabled individuals be met during the pandemic.

A person with disabilities who may have been homebound prior to COVID-19 now faces even more challenges. Obtaining food and preparing nutritious meals can be a daunting task. For many, their support systems have broken down due to family members and friends being unable to visit

and bring them food. Without proper nutrition these individuals are at high risk of becoming malnourished resulting in hospitalization or risk losing what little independence they have by having to live in a long-term care facility.

To address this need, the Borough will allocate \$\$65,205 in CDBG-COVID monies to "Meals on Wheels Erie" who will have meals prepared and delivered to sixteen (16) homebound, disabled adults ranging in age from 18 to 60 for a period of two (2) years. The meals would be provided Monday through Friday which comes out to 260 days a year. A meal or Unit of Service is defined as one chilled meal (Ready-To-Heat Meal or RTH) and one cold lunch (Light Meal) delivered to the home daily by a volunteer. These meals can be custom made for people with food allergies, specific nutrition requirements, personal preference and other restrictions.

The proposed project responds to a need resulting from COVID and meets the LMI Objective in that the project will benefit severely disabled adults who are "presumed by HUD to be persons of low-to-moderate" income.

- \$2,042 or 3% of the allocation will be set aside for Program Administration to be provided by County Planning.

**Comments/Questions:**

Alyssa Dobson asked about the process for selecting the individuals who would receive the meals. Mr. Berdis replied that Meals on Wheels would handle the selections, based on their existing knowledge of those in need.

**Adjournment:**

The public hearing was adjourned at 6:22 PM.

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Manager Kevin Opple

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Aaron Gast