

**FIRST CDBG PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
TOWN OF JOSEPH FIRST CDBG PUBLIC HEARING
HEARING HELD JOSEPH COMMUNITY CENTER NOVEMBER 2, 2023 @ 8:00 PM**

The Town of Joseph first CDBG public hearing was held on Thursday November 2, in the Joseph Community Center, meeting commenced at 8:00 pm.

Present: Troy Campbell Councilman, Doug Nowell Councilman, Zac Kearney, Robyn & Robert Rodriguez, Terry Balch, Gina Nowell, Whitney Vandersluis,

City Recorder: Haley Obray

City Clerk: Nikole Campbell

City Attorney: Justin W Wayment

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PUBLIC HEARING:

Councilman Troy Campbell opened the public hearing for the CDBG program and stated that the purpose of the public hearing is to provide citizens with pertinent information about the Community Development Block Grant program and to allow for discussion of possible applications for the 2024 funding cycle. It was explained that the grant money must be spent on projects benefiting primarily low and moderate-income persons. The Six County in which Town of Joseph is a member, is expecting to receive approximately \$850,000 in this new program year. All eligible activities that can be accomplished under this program are identified in the CDBG Application Policies and Procedures Manual and interested persons can review it at any time. Councilman Troy Campbell read several of the eligible activities listed including examples, such as Construction of public works and facilities, e.g., water and sewer lines, fire stations, acquisition of real property, provision of public services such as food banks or homeless shelters. Councilman Troy Campbell indicated that in the past the Town of Joseph has not received any CDBG grants. The city has handed out its capital investment plan as part of the regional "Consolidated Plan". This list shows which projects the city has identified as being needed in the community. It was asked that anyone with questions, comments or suggestions during the hearing please identify themselves by name, before they speak. The clerk will include your names in the minutes and we would like to specifically respond to your questions and suggestions during the hearing. Mr Zac Kearney would like to see the Park and playground equipment updated. Specifically the ground underneath the playground should be updated. Fencing to go around the basketball courts. He would love to see more trees. An updated sprinkler system and drinking fountain. ADA updates to the building. For infrastructure he suggested city lights with LED's. Paving the roads all the way up to and around the cemetery. Councilman Campbell responded that the roads are paved up to and around the cemetery. Councilman Nowell responded by stating that the town would need to become a dark community and convert the lights to LED with a fugitive light, but the town could check with Rocky Mountain Power. Nowell said they were all good suggestions. Councilman Campbell then opened the meeting up to further suggestions from the audience.

Mr. Terry Balch would like to see trees planted not only at the park, but throughout the town. With drip lines to water them more than 2 times. Councilman Nowell said there used to be a lot more trees in town, but Councilman Campbell said the canals were what fed them. They have been converted. Mr. Balch would also like to see every street sprayed with weed killer three times a year to prevent puncture weeds. Councilman Nowell responded that they would have to see if there is funding available for that. Mr Balch would also like to have water lines put in, in the new part of the cemetery. He would also like the town roads to be fixed. Someone asked if there were funds available for that. Councilman Nowell said we receive money from the state in class C road funds. The town has allotted that money already to the previous CIB grant the town received for the sealing and chip sealing of the towns roads.

Mrs. Gina Nowell wanted to buy a storage container and buy supplies, like bandages, water, water purification kits, diapers, hygiene kits, a backup generator, etc. Councilman Nowell and Campbell responded that the town had donated towards a trailer with Monroe a while ago for things like that, but that they didn't know what had become of it. They felt that being prepared for an emergency would be a great asset to the town.

Mr Zac Kearney suggested the Commercial Industrial Infrastructure, helping with the Flying U's parking at the store. He suggested putting in bathrooms and showers for people to stop at and use to bring in business. Also the possibility of bringing in diesel pumps. Councilman Nowell responded that anything the town could do to help our little store would be great, because the town relies heavily on it for funds.

Mr Kearney also suggested using some of the grant money for shipping costs to pick up the park equipment needed for the Health Department Grant. Councilman Nowell said he had a number for a truck driver that might be willing to split a load with us to spend more money on the kids' equipment instead of the shipping.

Councilman Campbell then asked if there were any other suggestions. The hearing was adjourned at 8:30 pm.