A regular meeting of the Housing & Community Development Committee was held Remotely on the above date commencing at 7:00 p.m.

The following responded to the roll call:

Stephen Greco Present
Subbash Dani Absent
Mike Jones Absent
Andrea Corcoran Present
Bill Coyle Present
Carol Schroeder Absent
Bob Dessino Present
James Eodice Present
Council Representative

Secretary Kelsey Meixner opened the meeting with the Sunshine Law Statement saying the meeting had been advertised in the Meeting Notice of January 11, 2022.

Kelsey Meixner requested a nomination for the Chairman of the Housing & Community Development Committee. Mr. Coyle nominated Mr. Greco for Chairman, seconded by Ms. Corcoran. There were no other nominations, the nominations were closed. Mr. Greco was elected by unanimous consent of members present.

Kelsey Meixner requested a nomination for the Vice Chairman for the Housing & Community Development Committee. Ms. Corcoran nominated Mr. Dessino for Vice Chairman, seconded by Mr. Coyle. There were no other nominations, the nominations were closed. Mr. Dessino was elected by unanimous consent of members present.

Mr. Greco made a motion to approve the February 2, 2021 Meeting Minutes seconded by Mr. Coyle and carried by a unanimous consent of members present.

The Committee secretary discussed how the allocation of funds had been used in the past, and certain salaries that were supplemented with HUD Funding:

The Federal Community Block Grant are funds that Middlesex County gets from the federal government, whom then disburse it to municipalities within the County. Certain regulations and steps must be followed to designate this money, most of which is used for seniors. In addition, it is only for targeted areas around the East bound side of 28 through Mountain Avenue down to South Lincoln. If the funds were/are designated for salaries, the Council would need to fund these items with funds in the current budget. These items included the Senior Van Driver ($9,205), Code Enforcement Officer ($10,575), Nutritional Program ($6,500) and the Senior Coordinator Salary ($10,000).
There will be approximately $27,000 of grant funds left, and the committee discussed options for these funds.

The 2021 HUD Grant funds included the renovation of the Men’s restroom at the Recreation Center. At this time, we are still waiting on information from the County regarding the total funds that the Borough will receive for 2022.

The secretary then discussed suggestions for the 2022 HUD Grant. The Business Administrator and the Senior Coordinator made a few recommendations, such as the purchase of Benches and an ADA table for the tot lot park near the American Legion, an awning at the Library and Community room entrances, sliding vestibule doors at main door of Library, and fixing the entrance sidewalk in front of the library where the slant of the walk is allowing water to run into and flood the community room. The Committee discussed these recommendations, and based upon the fact that they are assuming that they have approximately $27,000 left to distribute (omitting the salaries) they discussed putting the remaining funds towards the recommendations of the Administrator and the Senior Coordinator.

Discussion was had on the second HUD meeting date. Mr. Greco made a motion to hold the next meeting on February 15, 2022, seconded by Mr. Coyle and carried by a unanimous consent of members present.

Mr. Greco opened the public portion of the meeting for comments or suggestions. Seeing that there were no public comments, Mr. Greco closed the public portion of the meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned on motion of Mr. Greco, seconded by Mr. Dessino.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelsey Meixner, Secretary