

FARMINGTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Tuesday, March 24, 2020

The meeting was conducted through remote access by telephonic, video, and electronic means. The public attended by viewing the livestream at <http://mtbluetv.org/program-live-stream-farmington-selectmen.html> or Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/MBTV11/> and/or calling 778-5874

Chairman Joshua Bell called the meeting to order at 6:33 P.M. with the following members present: Matthew Smith and Scott Landry. Michael Fogg and Stephan Bunker were unable to attend. Town Manager Richard Davis, Code Enforcement/Planning Officer Steve Kaiser, Administrative Assistant Cindy Gelinas, and the Mt. Blue TV camera operator were also physically in attendance.

Votes were taken by roll call.

ITEM 1: Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Chairman Joshua Bell led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ITEM 2: To Hold Public Hearings on the Following Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Applications:

Chairman Joshua Bell read from the list of CDBG program applications: Economic Development for Franklin Printing, Inc., Housing Assistance for Farmington land, LLC., Micro-Enterprise Assistance for Mosher's Meat and Seafood, and Micro-Enterprise Assistance for Heartfelt Cookies, LLC.

Richard Davis stated the four applications are in the Board's packets with the information and summaries of the amounts requested. Mr. Davis said there was a fifth application from Tumbledown Brewing, LLC for the CDBG Economic Development program, and that has been withdrawn. Mr. Davis said the purpose of the Public Hearing is to take questions and comments from the public, which is being livestreamed and the public can call in to the phone number (778-5874) that is posted above them on the wall.

Chairman Joshua Bell opened the Public Hearing under Item 2 for Economic Development - Franklin Printing, LLC at 6:34 P.M.

Chairman Joshua Bell said the purpose of the grant funds is to expand their printing business by purchasing specialized machinery, providing working capital, and creating five new jobs.

Cindy Gelinas called applicants David and Greg Nemi by cell phone and put them on speaker to allow them to participate.

Chairman Joshua Bell introduced himself, and he asked if they had anything else to add that wasn't included in the summary. David Nemi said no, everything is explained in the summary. Richard Davis said the amount requested is \$250,000 in CDBG funds.

ITEM 2: To Hold Public Hearings on the Following Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Applications – cont.

There being no questions or comments from the public, Chairman Joshua Bell closed the Public Hearing under Item 2 at 6:38 P.M.

Scott Landry asked if this was part of the ongoing project in order to finish their project off. David Nemi said it is in conjunction with the expansion to allow Franklin Printing to improve their product offering by getting into the packaging and folding carton industry, and these funds will be used to purchase equipment to complement what they have already invested in.

Scott Landry moved to accept the Economic Development Program – Franklin Printing, Inc. Grant Program in the amount of \$250,000; Matthew Smith seconded.

Roll Call Vote – Joshua Bell: Yes, Matthew Smith: Yes, Scott Landry: Yes

VOTE	AFFIRMATIVE	3	ABSENT	2	MOTION CARRIED
			(Bunker, Fogg)		

Chairman Joshua Bell opened the Public Hearing under Item 2 at 6:41 P.M. for the Housing Assistance - Farmington land, LLC. The purpose of the grant funds is to provide infrastructure and site work for the building of 25 new affordable units for low-moderate income residents 62 years or older or disabled individuals or couples.

Richard Davis said the amount requested is \$500,000 in CDBG funds.

Cindy Gelinis called applicants Bill Marceau and Byron Davis by cell phone and put them on speaker to allow them to participate.

Chairman Joshua Bell introduced himself and asked if they had anything else to add that wasn't included in the summary.

Bill Marceau said that he was there with Byron Davis and that Nate Howes from Avesta Housing was on speaker phone. Mr. Howes said there wasn't anything to add to the summary.

There being no questions or comments from the public, Chairman Joshua Bell closed the Public Hearing under Item 2 at 6:43 P.M.

Matthew Smith moved to accept the Housing Assistance - Farmington land, LLC Grant Program in the amount of \$500,000; Scott Landry seconded.

Roll Call Vote – Joshua Bell: Yes, Matthew Smith: Yes, Scott Landry: Yes

VOTE	AFFIRMATIVE	3	ABSENT	2	MOTION CARRIED
			(Bunker, Fogg)		

ITEM 2: To Hold Public Hearings on the Following Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Applications – cont.

Chairman Joshua Bell opened the Public Hearing under Item 2 at 6:45 P.M. for the Micro-Enterprise Assistance - Mosher's Meat and Seafood. The purpose of the grant funds is to purchase and install a new digital sign to increase sales.

Cindy Gelinas called applicant Tawnya Clough by cell phone and put her on speaker so she could participate.

Richard Davis said the amount requested is \$30,000 in CDBG funds with a total estimated project cost of \$45,000.

Chairman Joshua Bell introduced himself and everyone present.

Scott Landry and Matthew Smith agreed it looked progressive.

There being no questions or comments from the public, Chairman Joshua Bell closed the Public Hearing under Item 2 at 6:47 P.M.

Scott Landry moved to accept the Micro-Enterprise Assistance - Mosher's Meat and Seafood Grant Program in the amount of \$30,000; Matthew Smith seconded.

Roll Call Vote – Joshua Bell: Yes, Matthew Smith: Yes, Scott Landry: Yes

VOTE	AFFIRMATIVE	3	ABSENT	2	MOTION CARRIED
			(Bunker, Fogg)		

Chairman Bell opened the Public Hearing under Item 2 at 6:48 P.M. Micro-Enterprise Assistance - Heartfelt Cookies, LLC. The purpose of the grant funds is to purchase machinery and equipment and expand advertising to increase sales.

Cindy Gelinas called applicant AnnMarie Comeau by cell phone and put her on speaker so she could participate.

Chairman Joshua Bell introduced himself and everyone present.

Richard Davis said the amount requested is \$50,000 in CDBG funds with a total estimated project cost of \$75,000.

There being no questions or comments from the public, Chairman Joshua Bell closed the Public Hearing under Item 2 at 6:50 P.M.

Matthew Smith moved to accept the Micro-Enterprise Assistance – Heartfelt Cookies Grant Program in the amount of \$50,000; Scott Landry seconded.

Roll Call Vote – Joshua Bell: Yes, Matthew Smith: Yes, Scott Landry: Yes

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 3 ABSENT 2 MOTION CARRIED
(Bunker, Fogg)

ITEM 3: *To Hold a Public Hearing on a Proposed Amendment to the Town of Farmington Revolving Loan Fund Management Plan

Richard Davis said the proposed amendment will give the Finance Director the authority, with the concurrence of the Town Manager, to do payment adjustments and/or loan rescheduling with the RLF recipients on a case by case basis. This is in response to the current financial crisis. If the loan recipients find themselves in trouble because of the forced downturn in business, this will give the Town some flexibility to work with them.

Chairman Joshua Bell opened the Public Hearing under Item 3 at 6:52 P.M.

The Board concurred that this is the right thing to do given the new developments that are coming out every day. Chairman Joshua Bell said he was asked if a member of the Revolving Loan Fund Committee should sit in on that. Richard Davis said our Code Enforcement Officer does the majority of the packaging for the loans, and he and the Town Manager are ex-officio members of the RLF Committee. Mr. Davis said they often attend the meetings, and he thought there are enough eyes on the loans to make sure the Towns' interest is adequately protected.

There being no questions or comments from the public, Chairman Joshua Bell closed the Public Hearing under Item 3 at 6:54 P.M.

Scott Landry moved to accept the proposed amendment to the Town of Farmington Revolving Loan Fund Management Plan; Matthew Smith seconded.

Chairman Joshua Bell asked that we send a letter to all individuals that currently have a loan with the Town so they are aware of this amendment.

Roll Call Vote – Joshua Bell: Yes, Matthew Smith: Yes, Scott Landry: Yes

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 3 ABSENT 2 MOTION CARRIED
(Bunker, Fogg)

ITEM 4: To Accept a Homeland Security Grant to the Police Department in the Amount of \$5,198 to Purchase two (2) Forward Looking Infrared (FLIR) Handheld Thermal Night Vision Monoculars

Richard Davis said he didn't have anything to add and that Police Chief Peck is standing by to answer any questions. Scott Landry said the price is right, and he asked if these were for pursuing people at night. Mr. Davis said these are for any night-time activities and will augment the night-vision equipment the Police Department currently has through the LESO Program.

Roll Call Vote – Joshua Bell: Yes, Matthew Smith: Yes, Scott Landry: Yes

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 3 ABSENT 2 MOTION CARRIED
(Bunker, Fogg)

Minutes respectfully submitted by Cindy Gelinas.

Michael J. Fogg - Secretary