

**TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD
SELECTBOARD HALL – 96 MAIN STREET – THIRD FLOOR
PUBLIC HEARING - HUBER BUILDING VENTILATION CDBG
MONDAY, February 12, 2024**

APPROVED MINUTES

A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair, Kristi Morris, called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Selectboard Members: Chair, Kristi Morris, Vice Chair Michael Martin, Walter Martone, Everett Hammond, and Heather Frahm were present in-person.

Administration: Town Manager Jeff Mobus, Town Clerk Barbara Courchesne, and Deputy Fire Chief John Claflin were present in-person. Library Director Sue Dowdell and Fire Chief Paul Stagner were present via Zoom.

School Board Liaison: Steve Karaffa was present in-person.

Public Hearing for Vermont Community Development Program - Huber Building

Town Manager Jeff Mobus discussed that the Town of Springfield received a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) on behalf of the Springfield Housing Authority. Town Manager Jeff Mobus continued that with the work complete, there is a requirement that the Town have a Public Hearing in order to obtain the views of citizens on community development and to give affected citizens an opportunity to examine how the funds were used for this project.

Springfield Housing Authority (SHA) Executive Director Laura Ryan discussed that the Huber building was constructed in 1972 and there were minimal rules around ventilation systems, the previously installed ventilation utilized 100% outdoor air and caused an unaffordable heating situation and was therefore not used. SHA Executive Director Laura Ryan continued that the CDBG was a COVID related grant that allowed them to install and almost pay 100% of the cost of a

new ventilation system with high efficiency energy exchange units. SHA Executive Director Laura Ryan added that they are just about done with the process and just need to address a few things in the balancing report.

Town Manager Jeff Mobus discussed that the grant was originally for \$500,000 and was amended up to \$525,000 and this public hearing is because the Town received the grant, and the Springfield Housing Authority is the subrecipient. Town Manager Jeff Mobus added that this project did not cost Springfield taxpayers extra money. Town Manager Jeff Mobus restated that the CDBG was for \$525,000 for HVAC upgrades at the Huber building.

Further discussion ensued that they are using the systems and have had positive feedback about having fresh air coming into the building. Additional discussion ensued that the air intake is on the roof and is away from the vehicle traffic.

Everett Hammond inquired if the new system provided savings or if it just provided better air quality. Laura Ryan responded that it will likely pick up some expenses as they had not had an operational ventilation system before, but it provided better quality air. Jerry Wuebolt Engineer of the project via Zoom confirmed that the new system would provide better air quality.

Chair Kristi Morris directed any future questions to contact the Springfield Housing Authority.

No further discussion. The Public Hearing was closed at 6:06 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carrie M. Kellow, Recording Secretary