



City of Fort Wright

409 Kyles Lane | Fort Wright, KY 41011 | www.fortwright.com | 859.331.1700

City of Fort Wright Public Hearing Wednesday, March 3, 2021 – 6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

The Public Hearing was called to order at 6:00 PM by Mayor Dave Hatter. Mayor Hatter led the Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence. City Clerk Maura Russell called the roll.

Councilman Abeln	Here
Councilman Feinauer	Here
Councilman Wall	Here
Councilman Weber	Here
Councilman Wessels	Here
Councilwoman Witt	Here

Also present for the meeting were:

City Attorney Tim Theissen
Fire/EMS Chief Steve Schewe
Police Chief Ed Butler
Public Works Director Jeff Bethell
City Clerk Maura Russell

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Hatter read from the Public Hearing Notice, advising all interested citizens of Fort Wright about the Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus Response [CDBG-CV] Program. He said the City intends to apply for assistance for emergency utility relief funding for residents. Mr. Theissen advised that this is a Public Hearing for the application process and funding will not be administered by the City of Fort Wright. He said no one has registered any objection prior to this meeting and it is not an expense item for the City.

Lisa Cooper, Executive Director of Northern Kentucky Area Development District [NKADD], was present for the meeting and spoke about the grant. She said cities can apply for up to \$200,000 for households in their city that are behind on utility bills due to the Coronavirus. She said residents must live in the city, be financially impacted by the Coronavirus by having delinquencies or disconnect notices from January 2020 to present and sign an affidavit. She confirmed that the funds will come to the city as pass-through funding because the city is the applicant as required by CDBG. She said residents will go to Northern Kentucky Community Action Commission [NKCAC] to receive up to \$250 per month for up to six months if eligible. Ms. Cooper said the funds will go straight from NKCAC to the utility provider and NKCAC and NKADD will monitor and report on funding usage.

Ms. Cooper said NKADD recommended to City Administrator Jill Bailey that the City of Fort Wright should apply for \$125,000 in funding based on numbers received from Duke Energy, Northern Kentucky

Water District, and SD1 [Sanitation District No. 1 of Northern Kentucky], and more funding may be available if residents fully use those funds.

Ms. Cooper said most cities in Kenton County are applying for funding and were encouraged to do so if there was at least \$50,000 in delinquencies within their city. She said this was encouraged to allow more residents quicker access to funds.

Councilman Wessels asked Ms. Cooper what will happen to unspent funds. Ms. Cooper said each city has three years to use the funding. At that time, she said NKADD will reach back out to the utility providers to review delinquencies again. She said if funds are not used by residents then the money will go back to the state of Kentucky for redistribution to communities.

Resident Jason Worms, of Pickett Drive, asked Ms. Cooper if residents are identified based on their utility bills and if targeted outreach will be done. Ms. Cooper said there is not a list of individuals or private information, just delinquency numbers, and amounts. Ms. Cooper said NKADD will work with NKCAC on outreach, each utility will be doing outreach, and each city will be asked to do outreach as well.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

There being no further comments, Councilman Wessels made a motion to adjourn the Public Hearing. Councilman Feinauer made a second. City Clerk Maura Russell called the roll.

Councilman Abeln	Yes
Councilman Feinauer	Yes
Councilman Wall	Yes
Councilman Weber	Yes
Councilman Wessels	Yes
Councilwoman Witt	Yes

MOTION CARRIED

The Public Hearing adjourned at 6:07 PM.

Respectfully submitted,


Dave Hatter, Mayor

Attest:



Maura Russell
City Clerk