

Portsmouth Public Hearing, Community Development Block Grant funding available.

Friday, March 17, 2023 11:00am

Present: Lea Hitchens, Portsmouth Planning Director ; Christian Belden, executive director, Church Community Housing Corp. ; Bob Plain, CDBG manager, Church Community Housing Corp. ; Sharlene Patton, Portsmouth resident.

Hitchens called the Public Hearing to order.

Belden informed the group that the reason for the Public Hearing is to inform the people of Portsmouth about the availability of CDBG funds. He said, CCHC is asking to the Town to considering applying for \$750,000 of the available CDBG funds to pay for the architectural, engineering, and legal costs associated with the construction of a new 54-unit Affordable senior housing complex.

This is the first of two public hearings that would need to occur if the Town is to apply for the CDBG funding, said Belden. The next hearing would take place at a Town Council meeting.

Patton asked if other low and moderate income housing developments in Portsmouth could also apply for these funds, such as Quaker Manor. Belden said it could be eligible, and explained in broad terms the eligibility requirements.

It was discussed that the second public hearing should be scheduled as soon as possible. Plain said he would work with Hitchen to schedule that.

The Public Hearing was closed at 12:00pm.