

HOWARD COUNTY
PUBLIC HEARING
WASTEWATER UTILITY MASTER PLAN
FOR THE UNINCORPORATED COMMUNITY OF NEW LONDON PROJECT
March 21, 2016 @ 7:00 p.m.

Jeff Lipinski, Russiaville Town Board President, and Paul Wyman, President of the Howard County Board of Commissioners, opened the public hearing and turned the floor over to Tina Henderson with Mendenhall and Associates.

Tina: Ok, again, my name is Tina Henderson, I am a grant administrator with Howard County and Russiaville and tonight we are here because we are looking to start a planning grant for New London. We'll start this public hearing out tonight with the public hearing notice that was advertised in the paper.

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR FIRST PUBLIC HEARING

On or about March 31, 2016, Howard County intends to apply to the Indiana Office of Community Rural Affairs for a grant from the State Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Planning program. This program is funded by Title I of the federal Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended. These funds are to be used for a community development planning project that will include the following activities: Wastewater Utility Master Plan for the unincorporated community of New London. The total amount of CDBG funds to be requested is \$29,500.00. The amount of CDBG funds proposed to be used for activities that will benefit low- and moderate-income persons is \$15,428.00. The Applicant also proposes to expend an estimated \$3,300.00 in non-CDBG funds on the project. These non-CDBG funds will be derived from the following sources: Howard County Special Project Fund in the amount of \$3,300.00.

The Howard County Commissioners will hold a public hearing on March 21, 2016, at 7:00 P.M. in the Russiaville Town Hall, 250 N Union Street, Russiaville, IN, to provide interested parties an opportunity to express their views on the proposed federally funded CDBG project. Persons with disabilities or non-English speaking persons who wish to attend the public hearing and need assistance should contact Tina Henderson at (317) 984-8639 no later than March 18, 2016. Every effort will be made to make reasonable accommodations for these persons.

Information related to this project will be available for review prior to the public hearing as of March 21, 2016, at the Town of Russiaville, Town Hall located at 250 N. Union Street, Russiaville, IN, between the hours of 9:00am-3pm, Monday - Friday. Interested citizens are invited to provide comments regarding these issues either at the public hearing or by prior written statement. Written comments should be submitted to Tina Henderson, Mendenhall & Associates, PO Box 428, Arcadia, IN 46030, no later than

March 18, 2016, in order to ensure placement of such comments in the official record of the public hearing proceedings. This project will result in no displacement of any persons or businesses. For additional information concerning the proposed project, please contact Tina Henderson of Mendenhall & Associates at (317) 984-8639, Monday – Friday between the hours of 9:00am and 4:00pm_or write to P.O. Box 428, Arcadia, Indiana 46030.

Again we'd like to thank the Howard county commissioners for being here tonight along with Martha Lake and Larry Murrell. It was important that New London partnered with Howard County because the town of Russiaville did not qualify for these planning grant funds. And so the county was willing to serve as the lead applicant and help us obtain these grant funds. And that's how that partnership arrived. Again we're seeking a \$29,500 CDBG grant with a \$3,300 local match. And here tonight I have Ethel Morgan from Hometown Engineering to talk a little bit about the planning and what will take place in New London.

Ethel Morgan: Hi like Tina said my name is Ethel Morgan I'm with hometown Engineering. As Tina said this project is a planning grant for the community of New London. Just a little history I've been working in Russiaville for some time since the 1990's working with the water utility and wastewater utilities. So then I have actually done work in New London in the past. This project is to evaluate the New London wastewater treatment plant which is, if it's not on its last legs today, it will be in the next couple of weeks. So it needs some work. And it's needed work for quite some time. The purpose of the report is to evaluate the best means to take care of the wastewater problems in New London. And we will basically be looking at two different options: one is to...well three options: one is to replace the plant they have now, the second would be to rehabilitate the plant they have now, and the third would be to abandon that plant and bring all their flows to Russiaville. The people in the community know Russiaville did a fairly major wastewater project five years ago. The result that of this project allows capacity at Russiaville's plant to accept the flows from New London which you did not have before. So that's going to make it a whole lot easier if the selected alternative is to bring that flows from New London to Russiaville. Right now Russiaville is operating and maintaining the New London wastewater plant through an agreement with New London and with the county. So that's where we are, that's what the report's going to look at. Timeline I would be hoping to have the report completed before the end of this year. We still have to get the planning grant so depending of when we get the planning grant the goal would be to have the report completed and submitted so that New London could come in for a construction grant depending on what the recommended alternative is come in for a construction grant in the...

Tina: ...spring of 2017

Ethel Morgan: ...Spring of 2017. So maybe a year from now we would be in design and construction on a project that would be the goal. Any questions of the technical side of life?

Donnie Parvin: The question I have is, if it is desired they bring the waste to Russiaville, what will that bring our capacity to, do you, have you done any preliminary studies on that?

Ethel Morgan: I have not done that yet. I believe your plant is rated to treat 200,000 gallons a day. Rob correct me.

...: Rob I don't know

Ethel Morgan: 200,000 and I know you were ...

Rob... We're at 134

Ethel Morgan: You're at 134 and New London's flows are averaging at about 16. The plant is rated to treat 40 and they are consistently under 20 there.

...: Well their average total for last month was less than 8,000

Ethel Morgan: So, ok, so maybe they're rated at 20 and their average flow less than 10. So it would not bring you up to that 80% level again. Which is what drove the last project.

...: And we still want leave some room for growth in town. We've had a lot of new construction in the last two years in town and that's important. We just need to make sure that's going to be viable. The report will definitely get into also what anticipated flows in Russiaville...to make sure you do have the capacity.

Council Member of Russiaville: So you said that, that plant in New London now is on its last legs, you're talking 2017. What're we going to do if that plant collapses tomorrow? How're you going to get New London their wastewater treatment?

Ethel Morgan: We're going to do the same thing we've been doing for the last year, last two years, band-aiding it. Which is what they're been doing if there's a problem Craig or Mike now goes out and does whatever they need to do. To take, you know, duct tape, whatever they have to do to keep it running. The problem, what we're seeing...

...: in compliance.

Ethel Morgan: And keep it in compliance. Not just running but in compliance. What we're seeing is the walls are starting to rust out. And so when they go, they're going to go. Yeah.

...: So, maybe, is there time to get all this grant money or is this something that has to be done and then you get the grant money later?

Ethel Morgan: in talking to Craig he believes there would be time; he was ok with 2017 schedule. So and he is one that's out there a lot.

Donnie Parvin: See they had an opportunity in the early 90's to do this the same thing we did a major repair. And that (8:38 unclear) district chose not to do it that time we were at a meeting to decide to bring them on and things in line to do that. At that given moment the engineer talked them out of doing that. And that's where the plant is today. And that plant was not designed to last that long without some major improvement and there's no way you can fund a thing of that nature, that amount, with the bond interest you have, it's about, it's impossible to do it. You got 54, 56 homes there. So that's where we're at there.

Ethel Morgan: I think it's about 70 isn't it? About 70 homes? Sixty, sixty one.

Ethel Morgan: Donnie brought up a very good point. The average life of a wastewater treatment plant is about twenty years. And then you have to go and do major work on it. So we're there.

...: they even bought that one used I believe

Ethel Morgan: Did they really? I missed that along the way.

..: That was a secondhand wastewater package.

Paul Wyman, Howard County Commissioner: for the minutes to be reflected. The public hearing is open; Commissioner Moore and myself are representing the county and then if we can have public comment at this time that would be fantastic.

Tina: Is anybody from New London here?

Paul Wyman, Howard County Commissioner: So, I'd say this. If there is no comment, if I could. We very much appreciated at the county level the relationship we've had with the town council here of Russiaville. We've all been engaged in some pretty good projects over the last several years. And so it's another opportunity to have another great project to help out this whole area. We're thrilled to be part of it and appreciate the opportunity and you guys keep doing these great progressive things and we're going to be there to help with you guys.

Tina: thank you, thank you Paul. My goal is to have the application finished by the end of this month if not by the end of next month. It's due monthly and if once it's funded I'd assume by June, end of June, you'll be off in planning.

Tyler Moore, Howard County Commissioner: And I'd like to add a couple things, as Paul said, working together and I think when government works together it's somewhat unusual anymore because a lot of times they can't. We've been able to work with the commissioners very well, as he said, and accomplish some things and I think it's going to continue. Projects that help the community and help residents and that's important they've got some other ideas that we've talked about that's not even related to this project that they're going to help us with. It's somewhat unusual when government can work together and I'm glad that we can.

Paul Wyman, Howard County Commissioner: I agree, thank you all. So hearing no other further comment this officially for the record then we'll go ahead and close this hearing. I move to close the public hearing

Tyler Moore, Howard County Commissioner: and I'll second that in favor aye. So our public hearing portion is officially closed and we'll get minutes from you and if you want me to sign some docs that would be great. And we'll let you all get on with your evening.

...: thank you

Tina Henderson, Grant Administrator

Date