

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
Chaired by Council Member Johnson
Committee Members: Johnson, Andrew, Cook, McKiver
June 4, 2024 – 4:00 P.M.
Council Chambers – Municipal Building
211 S. Hamilton Steet

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Johnson called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and indicated all members were present.

Present: Chair Tyrone Johnson, Committee Member Tim Andrew, Committee Member Amanda Cook, and Committee Member Vickie McKiver

Community Development Committee - Council Member Johnson, Chair

PRESENTATION OF ITEMS

2024-277 Consideration of the Revised 2024 Annual Action Plan

City Council is requested to consider the Revised 2024 Annual Action Plan.

Nena Wilson, Community Development Director, presented the item. She indicated the department had received the final allocations for the programs and said she wanted to present the line items that were adjusted due to the reduced allocation. She indicated they would be receiving \$799,042 in CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) funds and \$429,477 in home funds. She explained due to the reduction in allocations they put the draft plan back out for public review on May 17 until June 17. She spoke on the expected resources and stated the total for CDBG would be \$861,042 and \$459,277 for HOME (Home Investment Partnership Program) funds. She emphasized the amounts were based on the projected program income from loan payments, payoffs, and other income.

She spoke on the annual goals and objectives and explained some of the line items that were affected by the reduction in funding. She explained CHDO (Community Housing Development Organizations) funding was reduced, as well as reductions in both the HOME and administration line items. She said they received the proposed budget from the budget office and adjusted the general fund allocation. She explained some more areas affected by the reduced funding. She spoke on the home funds for CHDO activities and explained the actual funds for construction were affected but that they did not change the \$15,000 allocation for operations.

She went over the public services activities for nonprofits and explained the Citizen's Advisory Council reviewed the applications and made recommendations for funding. She said the proposed agencies for potential funding include The Housing Authority of the City of High Point, Senior Resources of Guilford, Helping Hands, The Salvation Army Boy's and Girl's Club, The Arc of High Point, Operation Xcel, Tag Art Club, and The Heroes Center.

Committee Member said he thought some of the public services funding came from the General Fund.

Ms. Wilson explained that they only present funds specific to CDBG and they were separate accounting units and budgets.

Greg Ferguson, Deputy City Manager, clarified the funding was separate.

Chair Johnson asked about the home funds and if the \$15,000 for operations was included in that amount.

Ms. Wilson indicated it was included in the annual goals and objectives section because operations is a separate contract and activity.

Committee Member Andrew asked if loan repayments had traditionally been steady.

Ms. Wilson explained that due to shifting to deferred loans, loan repayments have decreased. She said those deferred loans ultimately become grants as long the individuals maintain the home as their primary residence.

She said if the Committee makes a recommendation to approve, they will be looking to submit the 2024 Action Plan at the June 30th Council meeting.

A motion was made by Committee Member Cook, seconded by Committee Member Andrew, to approve agenda item 2024-277.

Aye: Chair Johnson, Committee Member Andrew, Committee Member Cook and Committee Member McKiver

2024-178 Consideration of an Internship Program

City Council is requested to consider an internship program for high school students.

Committee Member Cook presented the item and spoke on the proposed Internship Program. She indicated the proposal was written by a high school student and reviewed by her and other community partners. She emphasized it would not be one-to-one matching and interested students could apply to be matched with a Council Member who had interest in acquiring an intern.

She mentioned some concerns that were voiced about the impact on staff. She said a community partner was interested in handling the process to ensure there was no extra burden on staff. She said she did not want to disclose the name of the community partner now, because the proposal had not gone through the approval process within the organization.

She emphasized she did not want the program to add a burden to Council Members who were not interested in participating. She said she wanted to gauge the interest of the committee before moving it forward to the full Council.

Chair Johnson asked about the process. A discussion ensued about some of the details, including the process, accreditation, and competition with other organizations who employ student interns.

Greg Ferguson, Deputy City Manager, suggested one-on-one conversations offline with members of Council to gauge interest.

Committee Member Cook asked about the timeline and how a vote in August would impact the program start time at the beginning of the school year. She indicated she could continue to investigate to see how many members of Council would be interested in the program.

Chair Johnson asked how it would look if Council voted against the internship if brought to Council.

Meghan Maguire, City Attorney, said it was up to the discretion of the Committee how they wanted to move forward.

Committee Member Cook said she appreciated the conversation and hoped they could get the details hammered out in the future. She said that even if only a few Council Members elect to have interns, it would be worth it. She emphasized she did not want to force or shame anyone for not wanting to opt in.

She indicated that the Committee should not vote on the item at this time to give her some more time to see if there is more interest.

For Information Only.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 4:34 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tyrone Johnson, Chairman
Community Development Committee

Attest:

Alison Glynn, Deputy City Clerk