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**Public Hearing
City of Mt. Vernon, Illinois
CDBG Housing Rehab Grant Application
Monday, November 20, 2023
6:30 p.m.**

Mayor John Lewis called the Public Hearing to order at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall in Mt. Vernon, Illinois.

Present at the Public Hearing were Mayor John Lewis, Council Member Ray Botch, Council Member Joe Gliosci, Council Member Donte Moore, Council Member Mike Young, City Manager Mary Ellen Bechtel, Assistant City Manager Nathan McKenna, City Attorney David Leggans, Deputy City Clerk Rebecca Barbour, Finance Director Stephanie Bailey, Crosswalk Community Action Agency Housing Specialist Jacob Wach, Community Action Agency Housing Support Staff Member Leslie Fitzpatrick, and approximately 12 residents in the audience.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor John Lewis explained that the Public Hearing is to inform the public of the State of Illinois Community Development Block Grant Application process. Mayor Lewis then introduced Crosswalk Community Action Agency Housing Specialist Jacob Wach. Mr. Wach explained that the agency is in the process of writing a \$650,000 grant application, which is the maximum amount for which the City can apply. The maximum amount spent is \$65,000 per home, therefore this amount would be used to repair and improve ten (10) homes. The grant will be available to City residents who qualify. Mr. Wach explained the grant's timeline and the process of applying. This is a long process; it takes approximately one year to complete the process after the applications are completed and turned in. As the first step, audience members were instructed to complete a survey. Everyone who completes a survey will be contacted by Crosswalk with instructions on how to complete an application. He explained the application process and what to expect if one is awarded a grant. Wach stated that residents must provide proof of ownership of their home and homeowner's insurance. The repairs must be for health and safety issues, which could include bringing plumbing and wiring to code, roof repairs, and HVAC to name a few that would be considered health and safety related. The main focus of this program is to keep homeowners in their homes. Mr. Wach then answered questions posed by audience members and council members.

The Public Meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Becky Barbour".

Becky Barbour, Deputy City Clerk