

The Westfield Republican

"First Republican Newspaper Printed in U. S. A."
Also serving the communities of Chautauqua and Mayville since 1856

WESTFIELD REPUBLICAN, Thursday, June 10, 2021



Main Street improvements are one of the projects in the Sherman Comprehensive Plan for which the Village will be applying for grants. Here a concept sketch illustrates what the future could hold.

Sherman reviews status of Community Development Block Grant applications, awards

By David Prenatt

editorial@westfieldrepublican.com

SHERMAN — The Village of Sherman conducted a public hearing on Wednesday, June 2 to review the status of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) applications and awards.

Prior to the submission of a CDBG funding application, a public hearing is required to allow citizens to view and respond to the proposed application. Citizens are also informed of the intended use of the funds, should they be awarded.

The CDBG funds that the Village is applying for relate to projects that are part of the Village's overall comprehensive plan. Prior to the public hearing regarding Community Development Block Grants, Sherman residents had the opportunity to attend an Open House presented by the Village Steering Committee. At the Open House, held on May 24, residents were invited to review the Village's comprehensive plan.

See REVIEWS,
Page A3

REVIEWS, From Page 1

Sherman Mayor Colleen Meeder said that \$20 million will be available in Community Development Block Grants for 2021. These grants are for housing, economic development, public facilities, public infrastructure and planning activities, with the principal purpose of benefiting low/moderate income persons, she said.

Meeder explained the CDBG awards that the Village has received to date. "We have successfully completed two CDBG Community Planning Grants for 2017 sewer, 2018 water and stormwater, each in the amount of \$50,000," she said. "We were recently awarded a 2020 CDBG Community Planning Grant for market analysis in the amount of \$47,500 and the 2020 CDBG Co-funded Infrastructure Grant for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements in the amount of \$1.25 million."

Meeder went on to describe plans for the future. "We have an outstanding application with CDBG for housing improvements and we are planning to apply for another infrastructure grant for the storm water Project," she said. Infrastructure grants range from \$1 million to \$1.25 million for co-funded initiatives, she said.

Future applications will include public facilities grants for \$300,000, Meeder said. She also noted that applications are due July 30 and awards will be announced in December.

Meeder also explained 2020 Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus Aid (CDBG-CV) which is part of the CARES Act and provides for a supplemental appropriation of Community Development Block Grants. She said that \$60 million will be available for housing, economic development, public facilities, public infrastructure and planning activities, again with the principal purpose of benefiting low/moderate income persons "for COVID-19 response."

Meeder said that examples include air quality improvement projects for public spaces and HVAC for the fire hall. She noted that for these grants, applications are accepted and awarded on a rolling basis, and the final deadline is August 27, 2021, or until funding has been exhausted.

There were no questions or comments from members of the community and all CDBG plans will be incorporated into the Village's Comprehensive Plan. There will be a public hearing on the Comprehensive Plan on July 14 at 6 pm, Meeder noted.