

**PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY OF VERNONIA
April 21, 2008**

Open Public Meeting: Mayor Sally Harrison opened the Public Hearing at 7:03 pm
The flag salute was recited.

Proposed Action: The City of Vernonia is preparing an application for a 2008 CDBG from the Oregon Economic and Community Development Department for the Vernonia Flood Recovery Housing Rehabilitation Program. The project will assist primarily low and moderate income homeowners in the City of Vernonia with disaster recovery home rehabilitation projects that could include elevations, rehabilitation or buyouts. It is estimated that the proposed projects will benefit at least 100 persons, of whom 80% will be low or moderate income.

Mayor Harrison declared abstention her home flooded. Councilor Randy Parrow declared abstention his home flooded and ex parte as he is part of the Columbia County Relief Committee.

Jim Tierney gave a staff report: Approximately \$14 million will be awarded to Oregon non-metropolitan cities and counties in 2008. The maximum grant that a city or county can receive is \$1,000,000. Permanent involuntary displacement of persons or businesses is not anticipated as a result from the proposal projects. If displacement becomes necessary, alternatives will be examined to minimize and provide required/reasonable benefits to those displaced. Any low and moderate income housing which is demolished or converted to another use will be replaced.

Public Comment in Favor

Dan Brown who is part of the Columbia County Relief Committee explained that this grant is critical to Vernonia.

Jesse Jones, explained that this is the first of many grants that will benefit Vernonia

Public Comment in Opposition There was no comment in opposition

Public Comment Neutral

Noni Andersen asked for clarification on what the Community Action Team roll was in the grant process. Response was CAT'S role would be determined later.

Public Hearing was Closed at 7:15 pm

Deliberation of City Council toward decision/recommendation of Public Hearing

Shirlee Daughtry made a motion "The City of Vernonia moves to apply for a 2008 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) from the Oregon Economic and Community Development. Community Development Block Grant Funds come from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The grants can be used for public facilities and housing improvements, primarily for person with low and moderate incomes." The motion was seconded by Steve Whiteman. Mayor Harrison and Randy Parrow abstained. Motion passed with three Ayes and two abstain.