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By: Karen Richard Date: 4/26/21

Town of Stratham
Public Hearing Notice
Community Development Block Grant Project

The Stratham Select Board will hold a public hearing on Monday May 10, 2021, at 7:00 pm. This public hearing notice can be found at the Town's website at www.strathamnh.gov

The public may access this meeting at the date and time above using this conference call information. Please dial the conference number (877) 205-7349 and input 2254 when prompted for a user pin/code.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds are available to municipalities through the NH Community Development Finance Authority. Up to \$500,000 annually is available for economic development projects, up to \$500,000 for public facility projects, up to \$500,000 for housing projects, and up to \$350,000 for emergency activities. Up to \$25,000 is available per planning study grant. All projects must directly benefit a majority of low and moderate income persons. The public hearing is to update the public on, and take public comment on, the progress of the Regional Economic Development Center (REDC) CDBG loan program intended to create jobs by making loans to small businesses. \$50,000 was loaned in 2019. In 2020, due to COVID-19, the focus changed to both creating and retaining jobs. In 2020, the REDC provided 10 loans totaling \$240,000. The loans provided much-needed assistance to 11 small businesses ranging from an event venue, restaurants, paper tube manufacturer, dog daycare, home décor specialty store, karate studio, a mushroom and foraging company, gymnastics gym, and dental implant manufacturer. In 2021 the REDC will make six loans totaling \$180,000 to clients ranging from a beauty supply store, child-care center, insurance agency, event center, and a tax preparation office. The total project will create or retain 25 jobs, with 60% of those available/occupied to persons of low to moderate-income.

Interested persons can attend in person or remotely and comment on the progress of the project. Please contact the Town at 603-772-4741 x181 at least five days in advance if you need assistance to attend the hearing. Anyone wishing to submit written comments should address them to: Town of Stratham Select Board, 10 Bunker Hill Ave, Stratham, NH 03885 or submit electronically to krichard@strathamnh.gov.