A public hearing regarding Submission of a NYS Community Development Block Grant - was held by the Town Board of Thurston, County of Steuben, and the State of New York at the Town Hall, 7578 County Route 333, Thurston, NY on the 19th day of August 2026.

Present: Town Supervisor, Michael Volino
Town Board: Holly Chase, John Hawley, Noel Sylvester, Jennifer Hargrave
Highway Superintendent: Alan Crooker
Assessor: Diana Dixon
Code Enforcement Officer: Nick Lewis-Nolton

Visitors: Dorlores Crooker, Sam Dick, Jeff Sweeney, Lisa Hargrave, Tim Hargrave, Jamie Hawley, Mary Schoonover, Wilma Stewart, Richard Stewart, Eva Turner, Chelsea Robertson

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 pm following an extensive presentation by Chelsea Robertson, Executive Director of the Southern Tier Regional Planning and Development Board. The presentation outlined the reason for the public hearing, how the grant is administered, other grant programs offered and who is eligible to apply and receive the CDBG. This is a requirement when a municipality applies for a CDBG grant. A copy of the presentation is attached to these minutes.

Chelsea said only three municipalities in the area have applied for and received funding and there is a lot of work that goes on behind the scenes. She thanked Michael for all the work he did on the application and follow-up. Corning and Cameron are the other two local towns who have applied for and received the housing grant.

The Town of Thurston is once again applying for a $400,000 grant for low-moderate income residents needing assistance with stick-built home repairs. The Town has shown there is urgent community need for this assistance in many areas after a survey was done. The objective is to encourage investment in the community, help with revitalization and providing affordable safe housing. It is available to those Towns with a 50,000 or under population in a county of 200,000 or less people.

There is no cost to the town for as funding for the consultant comes from the grant itself. There is $35,000 set aside for program administration. If the town has 35,000 or less left at the end of the grant year, it can be kept with the town and used for future funding for homeowners. If more than 35,000 remains, it must be returned. This will be the second round for Thurston.

There being no further discussion, motion was made by Jennifer Hargrave and seconded by Holly Chase that the public hearing be adjourned at 7:20. Put to vote, all those present, aye. Carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Sue Conklin, Town Clerk