

CITY OF GARDNER

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING



PUBLIC HEARING

FY 2009 CDF I Reserves Application

January 13, 2010 – 10:30 a.m.

Meeting Room – City Hall Annex

Gardner, Massachusetts

Committee Members Present: Jennifer Dymek, Robert Hubbard, David Curran, James Cruickshank, Councilor James Minns, Darlene Morrilly, Bernard Sullivan, Julie Meehan, and Joanne Foster

Committee Member Absent: Richard Reynolds

Others present: Terri Hillman, Katie Fucile, and Trevor Beauregard, CD&P

J. Dymek called the Public Hearing to order at 10:35 a.m.

On December 14, 2009, the City was invited to submit an application to DHCD for CDBG Reserve Funds in order to purchase, abate and demolish 214 Pleasant Street, Gardner. This building is located within the boundaries of the proposed Urban Renewal Plan and, under that plan, was slated for demolition. It was purchased in July 2007 by South Middlesex Opportunity Council (SMOC). Based on the City's intended use for the property, SMOC abandoned their plans and decided to look elsewhere for property. Demolition of this property is consistent with the City's Community Development Strategy and Urban Renewal objectives. It will improve the line of sight at a dangerous intersection. The City is requesting Reserve funds in the amount of \$557,750.

R. Hubbard responded to the question about the intended future use for the property, by stating that the City proposes to widen Willow Street and the small vacant space that would remain will probably be rendered useless. The widening of Willow Street would be as proposed in the Urban Renewal Plan currently being finalized.

After further discussion, J. Dymek closed the Public Hearing at 10:45 a.m.