

# **City of Scottsbluff, Nebraska**

**Wednesday, March 23, 2022**

**Regular Meeting**

## **Item Extension1**

**Receive information and consider action on the extension request from Aulick Truck Shop.**

**Staff Contact: Starr Lehl**

# Aulick Industries LB840

## **Labor retention factor allowance for LB840 terms**

Dear, Scottsbluff LB840 committee and whom may be concerned,

Recent discussions at Aulick Industries have included the LB840 loan granted to Aulick on 9/30/2020. The discussion stem from the underlaying issues surrounding the covid pandemic and how it brought forth labor retention issues at a global level. After further consideration of this labor crisis, we at Aulick's would like to ask for an extension of hiring terms via the original LB840 grant/loan. While the company's focus to grow its labor force continue due to its products and services demands are well above current capacity, we continue to be impacted by the covid labor characteristics seen. We currently have 20+ positions available, majority of which are in Scottsbluff. The positions available are across a vast array of trades such as truck and trailer mechanics, fabricators, welders, truck drivers, parts associates, painters, and clerical staff. Our efforts to fill these positions can be seen it the company's turnover rate the last year however finding personal willing to work the hours needed has become a hurdle in itself. Because of this the company has been developing partnerships with a handful of trades schools in the surrounding communities. Because recent success has been seen in hiring from these programs, we will continue to broaden this reach. With that said there is a lot of good to come from it not only for the company but the community as well beings these people are often moving to our community for the career opportunity. We will continue to reach for any opportunity presented in growing our workforce however are asking for an allowance or extension of the LB840 terms of employment. Note we are not asking to lower the number we set out to hire per the terms just that we would like more time to do so. We ask this due to us entering the terms directly before the pandemic began. Aulick's are committed to the growth statistics set forth originally or hopefully well beyond that. The demand for product and service is great and how the markets look today will be for some time yet. With that we will continue to hire all we can and retain what we hope is 100% but know that isn't the case currently. Hopefully the explanation above is enough to consider an extension of terms and would be greatly appreciated if awarded.

Thanks,

Austin Aulick.