



**CITY OF SCOTTSBLUFF
Scottsbluff City Hall Council Chambers
2525 Circle Drive, Scottsbluff, NE 69361
LB 840 Application Review Committee**

**Regular Meeting
March 23, 2022
10:00 AM**

1. **Roll Call**
2. **For public information, a copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act is posted in the back of the room on the south wall.**
3. **Notice of changes in the agenda by the city manager** (Additions may not be made to this agenda less than 24 hours before the beginning of the meeting unless added under Item 4 of this agenda.)
4. **Citizens with business not scheduled on the agenda** (As required by state law, no matter may be considered under this item unless the committee determines that the matter requires emergency action.)
5. **Approval of Minutes**
 - a) for meeting of March 11, 2022
6. **Extension Request**
 - a) Receive information and consider action on the extension request from Aulick Truck Shop.
7. **Consideration of Applications for Economic Development Assistance**
 - a) Receive additional information and consider approval of Prime Metal Products application.
8. **Closed Session (to consider any of the above matters, where an Executive Session is appropriate).**
 - a) Following passage of motion to enter into executive session, presiding officer must state purpose of executive session.
9. **Adjournment.**

City of Scottsbluff, Nebraska
Wednesday, March 23, 2022
Regular Meeting

Item 1

for meeting of March 11, 2022

Staff Contact: Starr Lehl

CITY OF SCOTTSBLUFF
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION REVIEW COMMITTEE
March 11, 2022

A meeting of the Economic Development Application Review Committee was held on March 11, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. at City Hall, 2525 Circle Drive, Scottsbluff, Nebraska. Notice of the meeting was published in the Star-Herald on March 8, 2022.

Present were Committee members Dave Schaff, Marla Marx, and Nate Merrigan. Also present were Starr Lehl, Economic Development Director and John L. Selzer, Deputy City Attorney.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Merrigan at approximately 10:02 a.m.

Merrigan announced that a copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act is posted on the back wall of the meeting room.

It was moved by Member Schaff and seconded Member Marx to approve the Minutes of the February 7, 2022 Application Review Committee Meeting. Voting yes: Schaff, Marx and Merrigan. Voting no: None.

The next item on the agenda was the consideration of an Application for Economic Development Assistance submitted by Prime Metal Products, Inc. The President of Prime Metal Products, Herb Gibson, was in attendance. Gibson presented information regarding the application and answered questions from the Committee relating to the proposed expansion of business operations, the need for the assistance, and the expected number of additional employees.

A motion was made by Member Schaff to go into closed session for the purpose of a strategy session related to the consideration of Prime Metal Products, Inc.'s application. The closed session is clearly necessary for the protection of the public interest. Marx seconded the motion. Voting in favor: Schaff, Marx, and Merrigan. Voting no: None. Chairman Merrigan announced that a closed session would be held for the limited purpose of a strategy session related to the consideration of Prime Metal Products, Inc.'s application. The closed session began at 10:40 a.m. The Committee exited closed session at 11:04 a.m.

After the closed session, the Committee explained to Mr. Gibson that the Committee would like to review further information before making a decision on the application. The Committee requested the following information: updated tax returns, business financial statements, and personal financial statements; a detailed equipment list; a timeline for the expanded operations and hiring new employees; and a letter from Platte Valley Bank relating to their increased financing commitment.

The Meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:07 a.m.

Starr Lehl, Economic Development Director

City of Scottsbluff, Nebraska

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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.

City of Scottsbluff, Nebraska

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Receive additional information and consider approval of Prime Metal Products application.

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