Economic Development Finance Authority Riverview, LLP Project #6-0037

Public Hearing City Hall/Community Center, 115 E Main Street, Bryant, SD Tuesday, March 2, 2021, 1:00 p.m. CST

A local public hearing under ARSD 12:22:01:09 concerning Economic Development Finance Authority Project 6-0037 convened at 1:00 PM on Tuesday, March 2, 2021 at the City Hall/Community Center, 115 E Main St., Bryant, SD.

Timothy M. Engel of Pierre, South Dakota, acted as hearing officer.

Present on behalf of the Economic Development Finance Authority was Senior Loan Officer Terri LaBrie.

Others in attendance in person were Winfred Noem, Erik Schafer, Fred Staudy, Rick Metzger, Alex Hohertz, Jeff Davis, Harvey Virechoas, Nate Knobloch, Chris Schafer, Doug Noem, Leland Roe, Terry Schlagel, Brady Jarnza, Tom Walsh, Stephanie Sauder, Isaac Sauder, Debra Laube, and Jon Anderson

Persons in attendance via telephone were Ashley Moore of the Governor's Office of Economic Development and Jason Grubbs of the Frazer Lanier Company. Frazer Lanier Company is the bond underwriting company hired by the owner of the project to assist with the bond issue.

Mr. Engel explained the purpose of the proposed bond issue is to assist in the acquisition and construction of manure collection, processing and disposal facilities associated with a new dairy. The proposed solid waste disposal expenditures include site preparation, concrete collection lanes, lagoons, settling ponds and related equipment to collect, process and dispose of animal waste. The maximum principal amount of the bonds sought to be issued is twenty-five million Dollars. The owner/operator is Riverview LLP, 26406 470th Ave., Morris, MN 56267. The project location is 19287 440th Ave, Bryant SD 57221.

Mr. Engel further explained the purpose of hearing is to take public testimony on the proposal for the Authority to issue an Agricultural Development Revenue Bond for the project as described by him. The proceeds of the Bond shall be loaned to Riverview LLP, which will also be the owner and operator of the project, for the purpose of financing a portion of the cost of the Project.

Mr. Engel first asked for proponent testimony from persons attending in person and on the phone. There was none.

Mr. Engel then asked for opponent testimony from persons attending in person.

Erik Schafer requested an explanation of the bond, what the tax exemption is, and explained he is concerned that the project is completed and now they are asking for a bond after the fact. Ms. LaBrie and Mr. Engel answered these questions and explained the bond and the process, including that the request for issuance of the bond and an inducement resolution were made and adopted before the work to be financed by the bond commenced. Harvey Virechoas asked about the term of the bond, which question was answered by Jason Grubbs.

Terry Schlagel had a question on the interest rate the bonds will have. Although the rate is not yet determined, Jason Grubbs estimated between 1.5% and 2%. Mr. Schlagel was also concerned that the loan could be converted to a grant and asked if that could happen. Mr. Engel explained the funds that will be loaned are not state funds and thus could not be converted into a state grant.

Leland Roe had a question on the process that was answered by staff.

Chris Schafer indicated that there are several requirements that need to be met to make sure the solid waste costs were verified, and he asked who does that. He also asked about the environmental issues of the project and who from the state is making sure those things are done. Ms. LaBrie reiterated that the underwriter will make sure the project is completed as it was supposed to be, and that numerous others involved, such as the underwriter, bond counsel, underwriter counsel, etc. will make sure the project is completed as expected and that all expenses paid for with bond proceeds are eligible under the Internal Revenue Code. Ms. LaBrie also explained the environmental permit matters are within the jurisdiction of other agencies.

Eric Schafer asked about the total project costs, which question was answered by Ms. LaBrie.

Terry Schlagel asked if this bond is only for this project or could it also be used for future projects. Ms. LaBrie explained the bond is for this project only.

Mr. Engel then asked for questions or comments from persons on the telephone; there none.

Mr. Engel then asked again for questions or comments from those present in person. Hearing none, Mr. Engel declared the hearing adjourned at 1:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Terri LaBrie Senior Loan Officer Governor's Office of Economic Development 3/2/21