

**TAX INCENTIVE REVIEW COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 18, 2019
8:30 A.M.**

The City of Alliance/Lexington Township Joint Urban Enterprise Zone Tax Incentive Review Council Annual Meeting was held at the City Administration Building, Second Floor Conference Room, 504 East Main St., Alliance, Ohio on Monday, March 18, 2019 at 8:30 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Andrew Grove, Alliance City Council
Brant Luther, Stark County Commissioner's Office
Janet Creighton, Stark County Commissioner
Jon Oates, Stark County Auditor's Office
Alan Harold, Stark County Auditor
Dave Thorley, Stark County Appointee
Kirk Heath, Alliance City Schools
Ryan Jones, Marlington Local Schools

OTHERS PRESENT: Joseph Mazzola, Planning & Development
Alan Andreani, Mayor
Vanessia Freeman, Planning & Development/Mayor's

The Tax Incentive Review Council held its annual meeting to review the previous year's progress and discuss the current status and compliance of the five companies participating in the Enterprise Zone/CRA. This year the county and the local level had elected not to invite any of the companies to the meeting unless there was cause for concern.

Seeing a quorum present, the meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Stark County Auditor Alan Harold. Introductions were made by all present. Jon Oates stated that all the companies taxes were current.

Harold turned the meeting over to Joseph Mazzola, Director of Planning & Development for the City of Alliance. Mazzola explained to the committee that letters (CRA Project Status Report for 2019) were sent out to the companies explaining that they would be notified if they needed to attend the EZ/CRA meeting on March 18, 2019.

LAVERY CHEVROLET-BUICK, INC.

CRA 12-001 – Agreement executed November 2012 and expires November 2024- Exemption 50% / 12 years. Alliance School District – Original Term agreement for real property investment of \$2,295,000.00 to retain 63 employees and 3 new employees with a new payroll of \$105,000.00. As of 2018 their real property is \$1,426,000.00 and total employee retained 63 and 18 new employees, with a new employee payroll of \$436,543.00. The company payroll is presently over three times the original agreement, this company has well exceeded our expectations. Creighton question the Lavery’s 2018 real property investment, why the company did not meet the original real property investment commitment?

Recommendation: CRA 12-001 Tax abatement agreements to be continued
Moved: Thorley Seconded: Creighton Motion Carried

ALLIANCE VENTURES (Western)

CRA 10-002 ASPEN – Abatement Exemption 49% 12 years beginning July 2011 expires July 2023. The original commitment term agreement has a real property investment of \$1,400,000.00 with new employees 11 full time and 42 part time with a new payroll of \$500,000.00. As of 2018 their real property investment \$2,995,000.00 with 17 full time and 48 part time, with a new payroll of \$923,289.00. Mazzola stated that the employee payroll has gradually declined in 2016 due to fewer part time people, but the company has well exceeded their agreement.

Recommendation: Tax abatement agreement to be continued.
Moved: Thorley Seconded: Luther Motion Carried

ALLIANCE VENTURES (Kohl’s)

CRA 10-001- 100% 12 year Exemption- Beginning December 2011 expires December 2023. The original commitment term agreement has a real property investment of \$3,000,000.00 with new employees 8 full time and 60 part time with an new payroll of \$800,000.00. As of 2018 the real property investment is \$1,786,599.00 and new employee payroll of \$1,110,117.00 with 18 full time and 184 part time. Creighton question the Alliance Ventures (Kohl’s) 2018 real property investment, why the company did not meet the original real property investment commitment?

Recommendation: Tax abatement agreement to be continued.
Moved: Thorley Seconded: Creighton Motion Carried

ALLIANCE VENTURES (Mt. Union Gateway)

CRA 14-100- Agreement executed December 2014 and expires December 2026. Alliance School District-Abatement terms 100% / 12 yrs. The original commitment term for real property investment is \$3,500,000.00 new employees retained 30 full time and 70 part time with a new

payroll of 2,000,000.00. As of 2017 their real property investment is \$3,800,000.00 with retained employees 31 full time and 197 part time with a new employees payroll of \$1,956,684.00. Mazzola stated that the company had a slow start, but has grown to more than satisfaction.

Recommendation: Tax abatement agreement to be continued.
Moved: Creighton Seconded: Luther Motion Carried

COASTAL PET PRODUCTS (City of Alliance)

CRA 02-003- Agreement was executed on January 2004 and had expired January 2019 -Coastal Pet commitment for Real Property and Investment is \$5,550,000.00, original term commitment with (15) 94 part-time and (25) 399 full-time with a new employee payroll of \$344,000.00, as of 2018 real property investment of \$4,721,369.00 and new employee payroll of 555,000.00 with (1) full time and (37) part time. The company lost a major customer (Pet Smart) and starting to recover and looking to hire in 20 new employees.

Recommendation: Board recommends agreement to continue.
Moved: Thorley Seconded: Luther Motion Carried

TRILOGY PLASTICS (City of Alliance) CRA

CRA 05-002 executed December 2005 and expires December 2020- Marlinton School District- Original terms commitment is real property investment of \$3,900,000.00 with 93 retained employees and 15 new employees and a new payroll of \$375,000.00. As of 2017 Trilogy plastic has real property investment of \$4,000,000.00 and has retained 93 employees and has 151 new employees with a payroll of \$3,500,000.00.

Recommendation: Tax abatement agreement to be continued.
Moved: Creighton Seconded: Luther Motion Carried

The Board approved March 12, 2018 EZ/CRA meeting minutes.

Moved: Thorley Seconded: Luther Motion Carried

Meeting adjourned 8:57a.m.

A tape recording of this meeting is on file in the Department of Planning and Development, 504 East Main Street, Alliance, Ohio.

Vanessia Freeman
Department of Planning and Development
City of Alliance, Ohio