

Transcript of the October 15, 2020 HTFC Board Meeting. Audio file available upon request.

Linda Manley (LM):

We have a quorum with Chairperson Visnauskas, Ms. Leicht and Mr. Valella. Is there a motion to call to order the meeting of the Members of the Housing Trust Fund Corporation? Is there a second?

Holly Leicht: Aye

Commissioner Visnauskis: Aye:

LM: Mr. Valella, how do you vote?

Alex Valella: Aye

LM: And I'll just note that due to the virus, emergency orders and executive orders prohibiting large gatherings that was initially executed in March of 2020, and then was extended on October 2020, the executive order 2 2.1, we are holding this meeting by a conference call, rather than through a public meeting, which could be attended by members of the public. We've posted this call in number so that any members of the public wishing to attend, could attend the meeting and look into the proceedings. In addition we will be transcribing the minutes of the meeting, or the events to the meeting so that that can be publicly available. As a result of this will also change our procedures slightly as we have in the past, and we will take a roll call vote for each of, um for each of the items before the board today, and we will use the 1st and 2^{nds} that have already been entered throughout today's meeting, unless a member wishes to record his or her vote differently.

So, the 1st item on the agenda is the approval of the minutes of the meeting held on September 10th, 2020. Are there any questions or comments? Nope.

The next item for consideration is a resolution authorizing ratifying the authorization for funds and the entry into contracts for the New York COVID-19 program. Just to refresh our recollection this was approved by written authorization on September 14th, 29, 2020. but we still want to ratify that action. If there are any questions, Becky is on the line and available to answer.

Right if there are no questions, assuming the 1st, and 2nd previously entered now before the board is the resolution ratifying the authorization of funds and entry into contracts for the New York COVID 19 Rent Relief program. Assuming the 1st and 2nd previously entered. Will not take a vote. Commissioner Visnauskis?

Commissioner Visnauskis (CV): aye

LM: Mr. Valella?

Alex Valella (AV): Aye

LM: Ms. Leicht?

Holly Leicht (HL): Aye

LM: Motion is passed and the resolution adapted. Next for your consideration is the 3rd amendment to the contract, the same contract for the COVID program. This has not yet been considered by the board. So, Becky would you like to provide an overview?

Rebecca Koepnick (RK): Yes, thank you. So, as we discussed last time we had been implementing the COVID rent, relief program for the state of New York. We received over 90000 applications for this program, and some of most of those online, but about 11000 of those for paper applications. We have brought the LIRO group. Um, to support efforts on this, uh, on this endeavor, and you have authorized up to 7M dollars for this program. Over the last few weeks we have cut contractors staff by half, and we are continuing to reduce staff throughout October. We will, we are asking the board, though, to extend their contract for another 1M dollars to keep a small group of contractors on board until early December to help us finish review and paper applications, manage the appeals process. And issue required tax documents to the landlords at. But program close out, I would note that the. Her team has created a number of systems that we were that we needed to run this program. So the focus of this smaller group will be on keeping those systems running so that we. Uh, close out the program and I'm happy to take any questions.

(?): No questions for me.

LM: Thank you and now before the board is resolution authorizing the amendment of contract for the COVID 19 Rent Relief program. assuming the 1st, and 2nd previously entered the for the board we will now take a vote. Commissioner Visnauskis?

Commissioner Visnauskis (CV): aye

LM: Mr. Valella?

AV: Aye

LM: Ms. Leicht?

HL: Aye

LM: Thank you the motion is carried and the resolution adopted. Now, your consideration is the authorization of a contract protection 8 housing, choice voucher administration, Cattaraugus county.

RK: We're going while I'm on a roll, I'll keep going so. As, you know, the hasn't trust on Corporation, manages a housing choice. Voucher program was approximately 45000 vouchers across the state of New York. Um, we administered this program through a network of 41, local administrators across the state and 52 pounds and 52 counties, and they are paid an administrative fee for administering this program for us. And Kat, or August County, the local administrator is the cat or August development corporation. They notified us in June that they intended to cease operations of their section. 8 program by the end of this calendar year. Our teams moved very quickly to find a new administrator for the 425 families that are served and Kat or August county. We issued an emergency bid process to the existing network of local administrators. We received 3 responses to that bidding process and selected opportunities. Who was the lowest bidder they have been in good standing with the program for the work they currently do with the section 8 voucher program. And so we would like to execute it.

We executed a contract with them starting on October 1st, to help with the handoff between catalog heterologous county and backward to make sure that everyone gets their rep payments on time. And so we are looking for that day, presenting you for approval for a 1 year contract for to talk about opportunities to continue to administer this program. Are there any questions for me?

LM: Right now, before the board, the entering into a contract Section 8 HCV administration in Cattaraugus county, assuming the 1st and 2nd previously entered for the board. I'll now turn to a vote. Commissioner Visnauskis?

CV: Aye

LM: Mr. Valella?

AV: Aye

LM: Ms. Leicht?

HL: Aye

LM: I thank you the motion is carried and the resolution adopted. Now, for your consideration is authorization of the community development block grant funds for the town of Batavia for HP Hood. And I think Scott is going to present this.

Scott LaMountain (SL): Yes, thank you. This is Scotland mountain program director for economic development. For the board, today's a proposed economic development award for the town of behaviour who's requested. 750000 dollars to assist hood. Llc with machine and equipment needed to expand its operations at the facility located. genessee Valley agro, business park. This is an expansion of our previous projects. The company has proposed the installation of an additional filler line. In order to produce lactose reduced and almond milk. As part of the proposed project, each will purchase additional equipment, which will allow them to increase. Production capabilities and realize other efficiency. In order to meet the growing demand for the products. The total project cost is 2001.6000. The project will create 56 full time equivalent jobs over 2 years with. 39 of those benefit low income persons. The cost per job is 13333 dollars. Each of those dollars provided will leverage over 27 in private investment. Without the funds, the gap and financing will prevent the business moving forward and creating those positions. So, in summary. Requesting a resolution authorizing trust when to award. Economic development funds, and amount of 750000 dollars to the town of the to enter into a contract. Any questions?

HL: Nope, I like milk and milk.

LM: Now before the board for approval is a resolution authorizing development block, grant, economic Development funds for the town of Batavia for H. P. hood LLC. assuming the 1st and 2nd previously entered for the board. Commissioner Visnauskis?

CV: Aye

LM: Mr. Valella?

AV: Aye

LM: Ms. Leicht?

HL: Aye

LM: Thank you the motion is carried and the resolution adapted next few consideration is authorization at the community development block, grant, economic development fund also for the town of the Batavia this time for upstate Niagara, cooperative ink.

SL: Thank you before the board to proposed economic development award for the time of TV, which is also requested 750000 dollars. In order to assist upstate Nagra crap, cooperative, incorporate or. With equipment again, working capital need to expand its operations in the density Valley agro business park. You can see it's 1 of the largest, very cooperatives in the US. That's. Price and over 300 family owned and operated dairy farms. U. S. he's grown like, spin production providing R and D. In manufacturing services for companies located throughout the state in the world. Is seeking to a restart and expand yoga production with the former Alpine food facility. But in order to bring up that facility to suitable standards, and also to respond to higher cost grid, operating through the pandemic. You might see must make improvements to the plant's infrastructure. Means acquire you machinery equipment and making it upgrades. The total project costs a little over 4M dollars. Project who will create 50 full time equivalent jobs over 2 years with 34 of those benefit loan, modern income people. The cost per job is 15000 in each of those dollars will leverage over 4 dollars in private investment. Can without the funds, there will be a gap and financing for the project from moving forward in those positions. Be created some summary we're requesting resolution authorizing the trust funds to award. cbg economic development fund 750000 dollars of a TV and enter into an agreement.

LM: All right good, thank you. Right and now for the board for consideration resolution, authorizing to community development block grant, economic development funds for the town of Batavia. For upstate Niagara cooperative. and assuming the first and second previously entered for the board. Commissioner Visnauskis?

CV: Aye

LM: Mr. Valella?

AV: Aye

LM: Ms. Leicht?

HL: Aye

LM: The motion is carried and resolution adopted. The next 2 items are informational items and do not require board action. The 1st is review authorized contract under the governor's office of storm recovery, and the next review of disbursement of funds under the imperiled project policy. Are there any questions about those items or any other business to bring before the board. Right there being none, um, we will move to adjourn the meeting. Uh, so assuming the 1st and 2nd previously entered for the board. We will vote. Commissioner Visnauskis?

CV: Aye

LM: Mr. Valella?

AV: Aye

LM: Ms. Leicht?

HL: Aye

LM: Thank you all. The motion is carried the resolution adopted and our next board meeting is scheduled for November 12, 2020.