

Hidden Valley Animal Adventure Project

PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

WCIDA Public Hearing for the Hidden Valley Animal Adventure request for IDA incentives was held on February 13, 2020 at 2 pm in the Orangeville Town Hall, 3529 Route 20A Warsaw, N.Y.

In Attendance: James Pierce, Executive Director and Robin Marschilok, Director of Operations

1. James Pierce opened the hearing at 2:00 p.m. and had available the published hearing notice and summary of the project. Pierce announced the public hearing is necessary as the project is eligible to receive more than \$100,000 in tax incentives. Pierce explained that the purpose of this hearing is to take public comments on incentives proposed for the project which is the construction of a 224'x80' or 18,000 sq. ft. animal housing facility with a total cost or investment of \$477,351.

Pierce reported that the project will receive total incentives of approximately \$127,662 including sales tax exemption of up to \$18,778, a mortgage recording tax exemption of \$5,313 and real property tax abatement of approximately \$108,345.

Pierce state that the project will allow Hidden Valley to house their animals on site through the winter months. This will reduce the costs of housing offsite, allow for indoor space for those currently housed outdoors reducing the costs of animal health care, and allow visitors to enjoy the animals during the colder months. Hidden Valley currently has 10 employees and expects to create 1 fulltime and 12 part-time jobs. Pierce stated that during its peak season of 2019 the business employed 6 fulltime managers, 7 fulltime staff and 75 part-time staff, making them a substantial employer for Wyoming County.

Pierce explained that the project falls under a tourism destination project in accordance with the WCIDA's Uniform Tax Exemption Policy and therefore will receive a Real Property Payment In Lieu Of Tax (PILOT) that will span 15 years.

The meeting was open for possible attendees with questions or comments.

There were no guests and with no questions or comments Pierce closed the hearing at 2:15 pm.

Minutes prepared by R. Marschilok

This Public Hearing was recorded live and can be viewed on youtube.com at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CVCi1EletC0>