

Comments to Council

*Good Evening Mr. Chairman, Councilors, Mr. Moulder, Citizens,

RBC is enthusiastic about coming to Oconee County.

About a year ago we acquired...well, four years ago we acquired the AID company and sometimes when you make an acquisition you're not entirely sure what's gonna happen with that business. It's in the aerospace market and you all will remember 2008 was not all that much fun and we bought a business and well we bounced back. Stan Griffis and his local team have done a phenomenal job in recovering that business.

The challenge for us is what we do with the existing facility because it no longer supports the business the way it needs to be in a contemporary manufacturing facility.

So, about a year ago we decided we needed to figure out what road we wanted to go down and we started looking and of course we looked where we are now.

And interesting enough, it is really important for you to understand the competition you have for companies like ours. I have calls every week – I get phone calls from economic development folks in places in this country I've never heard of and for you to compete against every phone call is very difficult.

And the programs and opportunities that were presented to us - you guys did the job. There are a bunch of things that made us decide to come here.

Number one – the investment that we're making we were gonna make. You have to spend the money. We are spending the money in a way so it's a long term future so take the money that we are investing aside – we were gonna do it.

So how did we come to Oconee County?

First of all, Mr. Alexander, Mr. Blackwell and whole team have been phenomenal. Every question we had they answered. They answered questions we didn't ask to try to get us to come to Oconee County. Now I told you our decision that we were gonna have to do something about this facility about a year ago.

That's where your shell building came in. We have done Greenfield projects in the past. The problem is you burn a lot of time with a lot of soft costs. What you did with this shell building was create the opportunity for us to walk in. I'm not worrying about the building. I'm not worrying about the land – its clean – it's ready to go. Now unfortunately it wasn't 65,000 sq. ft. We need 65 – you only have 50 – oh well, we'll put on the addition and that's what we are gonna do. **But if you didn't have that shell building I'm not sure that we would have been here tonight.**

So, the team has done a phenomenal job in talking to us and providing us the information but that shell building was a **HUGE** part of making up for the time it took us to make the decision and to find where we want to go. So that took a lot of time out of becoming a productive facility. Good move. Thank you for that.

The other thing I think you want to take some credit for that goes on in this area from an educational perspective. American manufacturing is in trouble. The school systems do not support job development for the American manufacture. CNC machine jobs, maintenance jobs, repair jobs – everything that goes to support a manufacturing facility are good, solid, secure jobs. This country is not doing a good job support it.

Oconee County is. Between the High Schools, Tech Schools and Clemson were bringing this facility to a place where the people to support it are going to be readily available. We have a tremendous amount of confidence that Oconee County and the people and school system are going to provide us an opportunity to grow our business even beyond our expectations now. We are adding 15,000 sq. ft. now before we get started but we have plenty of land for our future. That was all set in place by all of the things that you guys have done.

RBC Bearings thanks you.

We look to the opportunity.

We look forward to working with the Administrator as we go through all of the things that are necessary to get up and running but were excited and the future is bright.

And, I want to thank you very much. Good Night.”