

September 16, 2014 Regular BoCC meeting
Agenda Item #24

SUBJECT

Public Hearing to consider adoption of an ordinance granting an Economic Development Ad Valorem Tax Exemption to an expanding business, Metromont Corporation, and approval of a Performance Agreement with the company.

DESCRIPTION

The Board is asked to consider adoption of an ordinance the title of which is:

AN ORDINANCE OF POLK COUNTY, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING AN EXEMPTION FROM CERTAIN AD VALOREM TAXATION FOR METROMONT CORPORATION, AN EXPANDING BUSINESS; PROVIDING FINDINGS OF FACT; PROVIDING A TITLE; PROVIDING THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF REVENUE AVAILABLE TO THE COUNTY FROM AD VALOREM TAX SOURCES FOR THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR, THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF REVENUE LOST TO THE COUNTY FOR THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR BY VIRTUE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AD VALOREM TAX EXEMPTIONS CURRENTLY IN EFFECT, AND THE ESTIMATED REVENUE LOSS TO THE COUNTY FOR THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE EXEMPTION FOR METROMONT CORPORATION; PROVIDING FOR THE GRANT OF AN EXEMPTION FOR 3 YEARS AT 25 PERCENT; PROVIDING FOR A FINDING THAT THE COMPANY MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 196.012 (15), FLORIDA STATUTES, (EXPANSION OF AN EXISTING BUSINESS); PROVIDING FOR CONTINUING PERFORMANCE; PROVIDING FOR APPLICABILITY; PROVIDING FOR REVIEW; PROVIDING FOR EXPIRATION; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Florida counties are authorized to grant ad valorem tax exemptions to qualifying new and expanding businesses under certain circumstances if such exemptions are first approved by voters. On November 6, 2012, Polk County voters approved the granting of such exemptions. On May 7, 2013, the Board adopted Ordinance 2013-017 setting out guidelines and procedures to be followed. The County has received an application under the Ordinance from an expanding business, Metromont Corporation. Along with that application was a letter of recommendation from the Central Florida Development Council and other required documentation showing that the company intends to add 15 new full-time jobs in Polk County paying at least 100% of the average annual wage. As required by the ordinance and statutes, the application was sent to the Property Appraiser for review and the Property Appraiser has submitted her report dated August 26, 2014. Based on the application and supporting documentation it has been recommended that a 25% reduction in applicable ad valorem taxes be granted for a period of 3 years. As required by the statute and the ordinance, a performance agreement is required to insure that the company fulfills all of its obligations.

RECOMMENDATION

(1) Approve and adopt the Economic Development Ad Valorem Tax Exemption for Metromont Corporation; and
(2) approve and execute the Ad Valorem Tax Exemption Performance Agreement between the County and the company.

FISCAL IMPACT

Based on the Property Appraiser's Report it is estimated that \$5,557 in ad valorem taxes will be lost during each year of the exemption period, 2016 through 2018, as a result of this exemption.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Sandra Howard
Assistant County Attorney
863-534-6437

Attachment: [Performance Agreement.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Ordinance Project Metro.pdf](#)