

STATE OF LOUISIANA
CITY OF WEST MONROE

RESOLUTION NO. _____

MOTION BY: _____

SECONDED BY: _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WEST MONROE, LOUISIANA, TO APPROVE NEIGHBORS, LLC (INDUSTRIAL AD VALOREM TAX EXEMPTION APPLICATION #20210141 - ITE - \$2,276,696.00) PROJECT EXPANSION NO. 2 FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE INDUSTRIAL TAX EXEMPTION PROGRAM AT WEST MONROE, OUACHITA PARISH, LOUISIANA; AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, Article 7, Section 21(F) of the Louisiana Constitution requires the Board of Commerce and Industry (“BCI”), with the approval of the Governor, approve contracts for the exemption of ad valorem taxes of a new manufacturing establishment or an addition to an existing manufacturing establishment on such terms and conditions as the BCI, with the approval of the Governor, deems to be in the best interest of the state; and

WHEREAS, Neighbors, LLC has applied for an Industrial Tax Exemption (“ITE”), a copy of which is attached, and seeks approval of the BCI and the Governor for a contract granting that exemption; and

WHEREAS, Governor Edwards, through Executive Order JBE 16-26 and JBE 16-73, has set forth the conditions for his approval of ITE contracts, and affirmed that those conditions are in the best interest of the State of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order JBE 16-26 and JBE 16-73 provides that ITE contracts should be premised upon job and payroll creation at new or expanded manufacturing plants or establishments, or upon showing that investment in modernization of the facility represents a compelling basis for retention of jobs, and that the percentage of exemption from ad valorem taxes and length of the contract for such exemption may vary depending upon the nature of the project and its economic development benefit in accordance with guidance received from the Secretary of Economic Development and concurred in by the appropriate affected local governing bodies, the applicable school board, and the applicable sheriff; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order JBE 16-26 and JBE 16-73 further requires that certain affected local governmental entities must each signify their consent to the terms of the proposed exemption by resolution, and the sheriff shall signify his consent to the terms of the proposed exemption by letter. Executive Order JBE 16-26 and JBE 16-73 further provides that the resolutions of approval

and the sheriff's approval shall be attached as exhibits to the ITE contract between the BCI and the applicant for the exemption;

WHEREAS, Neighbors, LLC, the applicant, and the Louisiana Department of Economic Development have advised that certain terms and conditions regarding the requested ITE, have been reached, and have conveyed this to the Ouachita Parish Police Jury, the City of West Monroe, the Ouachita Parish School Board, and the Ouachita Parish Sheriff, and thus this matter is now ready for a determination of approval by each of these, as required by Executive Order JBE 16-26 and JBE 16-73.

NOW, THEREFORE,

SECTION 1. BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen of the City of West Monroe, Louisiana, in regular and legal session convened, that upon consideration of the foregoing and the public discussion held this day, the City of West Monroe, Louisiana finds Neighbors, LLC has presented compelling evidence that as a result of the contemplated investment for which the exemption is being sought, it will ultimately create no less than five (5) new manufacturing jobs if this exemption is granted; and the City of West Monroe, Louisiana approves the terms of the ITE contract among the State of Louisiana, the Louisiana Department of Economic Development, and Neighbors, LLC, a copy of which is attached, and the ITE contract between the BCI and Neighbors, LLC, with respect to its manufacturing plant located at West Monroe, Ouachita Parish, Louisiana, based upon inclusion of the following provisions:

- a) There shall be no less than five (5) new jobs in addition to the existing 53 jobs at the manufacturing establishment of the applicant;
- b) There shall be no less than an increase of \$124,000.00 in annual payroll which is attributable to the new jobs;
- c) The term of the ITE shall be 5 years, and there shall be an 80% ad valorem property tax exemption for the newly purchased machinery and equipment, with a renewal of the ITE for an additional 5 years at 80% exemption if applicant has and continues to comply with the requirements above; and
- d) There shall be documentation of the investment and yearly review of employment and payroll, and it shall be provided that failure to obtain 80% of the requirements of a) and/or b) above by December 31, 2021, and/or to thereafter maintain the requirements of a) and/or b) during the time the ITE is effective shall entitle the City to require the applicant to provide explanation/justification of its failure to do so; and, after giving appropriate consideration to all matters presented by the applicant, City shall be entitled to then reconsider the terms of the exemption and/or of the opportunity for an additional up to 5 year renewal of the exemption.

This City of West Monroe, Louisiana further authorizes the Louisiana Department of Economic Development, on behalf of the BCI, to include this resolution as a Exhibit to the ITE

Contract between the BCI and Neighbors, LLC.

SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of West Monroe, Louisiana, in regular and legal session convened, that a copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the BCI and to the Louisiana Department of Economic Development.

The above resolution was read and considered by Sections at a public meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen, in regular and legal session convened on the 21st day of February, 2023, voted on by yea and nay vote, passed and adopted, the final vote being as follows:

YEA: _____

NAY: _____

NOT VOTING: _____

ABSENT: _____

ATTEST:

APPROVED THIS 21ST DAY OF
FEBRUARY, 2023

CHRISTEN HEATH, CITY CLERK
CITY OF WEST MONROE
STATE OF LOUISIANA

STACI ALBRITTON MITCHELL, MAYOR
CITY OF WEST MONROE
STATE OF LOUISIANA