

PUBLIC HEARING SCRIPT

**Rosina Food Products, Inc. and/or
individual(s) or Affiliate(s),
Subsidiary(ies), or Entity(ies) Formed or
to be Formed on its Behalf Project**

Public Hearing to be held on August 20, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.,
at the Town of West Seneca Community Center & Library
located at 1300 Union Road (Community Room), West Seneca, NY 14224

ATTENDANCE:

Cheryl Krawczyk – Citizen
Gene Jerge - Citizen
Randy Bernick – Rosina Food Products
Mike Wass - Citizen
Greg Setter – Rosina Food Products
Russell Corigliano – Rosina Food Products
John Chryniewicz – Citizen
Kirk Ruhland – Citizen
Taylor Nigrelli – Bee Group News Paper
Philip Swift – Resident
Lian Bunny – West Seneca Sun
Ron Vaughn – Salsaron’s Foods

☒ 1. WELCOME: Call to Order and Identity of Hearing Officer.

Hearing Officer: Welcome. This public hearing is now open; it is 9:02 a.m. My name is Beth O’Keefe. I am the Business Development Officer of the Erie County Industrial Development Agency, and I have been designated by the Agency to be the hearing officer to conduct this public hearing.

☒ 2. PURPOSE: Purpose of the Hearing.

Hearing Officer: We are here to hold the public hearing on the Rosina Food Products, Inc. and/or Individual(s) or Affiliate(s), Subsidiary(ies), or Entity(ies) formed or to be formed on its behalf project. The transcript of this hearing will be reviewed and considered by the Agency in determination of this project. Notice of this hearing appeared in The Buffalo News on Saturday, August 10, 2019.

☒ 3. PROJECT SUMMARY: Description of Project and Contemplated Agency Benefits.

Hearing Officer: The proposed project (the “Project”) consists of: (i) a portion of a vacant parcel of land located at 3100 Clinton Street, Town of West Seneca, Erie County, New York (the “Land”); (ii) the construction and equipping of a 105,000+/- SF protein manufacturing plant including the installation of a new high speed, state-of-the-art production line (the “Improvements”); and (iii) the acquisition and installation by the Company of certain items of machinery, equipment and other tangible personal property (the “Equipment”, and collectively with the Land and the Improvements, the “Facility”).

The proposed financial assistance contemplated by the Agency includes New York State and local sales and use tax exemption benefits, mortgage recording tax exemption benefits, and real property tax abatement benefits (in compliance with Agency's uniform tax exemption policy).

☒ 4. FORMAT OF HEARING: Review rules and manner in which the hearing will proceed.

Hearing Officer: All those in attendance are required to register by signing the sign-in sheet at the front of the room; you will not be permitted to speak unless you have registered. If you have a written comment to submit for the record, you may do so. Written comments may also be delivered to the Agency at 95 Perry Street, Suite 403, Buffalo, New York 14203 until the comment period closes on September 24, 2019. There are no limitations on written comments.

☒ 5. PUBLIC COMMENT: Hearing Officer gives the Public an opportunity to speak.

Hearing Officer: If anyone is interested in making a comment, please raise your hand, state your name and address; if you are representing a company, please identify the company. I request that speakers keep comments to 5 minutes, and if possible, 3 minutes.

Russell Corigliano - I am Co-owner, President & CEO of Rosina Products. The company is owned by my brother Frank and myself. We are born and raised in this area Buffalo, New York. We have been doing business here since 1963. We have the need to improve our plant and operations from our Cheektowaga site. We acquired the property in West Seneca back in 2005 with the idea that this day would come where we needed to expand and improve operations. We employ about 500 people. Approximately 425 of whom are in Western New York and several people throughout the County in sales positions and things like that. So, this is not a want but a necessary item for us to keep the company viable in Western New York. With that being said I don't want to continue to go on and on. I could probably go on for 8 hours or so.

Greg Setter – Beth did you want me to give a few specifics about the project?

Beth O'Keefe – Yes if you want to give a few specifics about the project

Greg Setter – As far as why the location and size of the project and things like that?

Beth O'Keefe – Yeah, that would be wonderful. Thank you.

Greg Setter – Besides the comments that Russ made that we bought it back in 2005. It is adjacent to Empire Drive where our Pasta & Entrée plant is located, which is next to 3100 Clinton Street. That was the long foresight if you will as why we wanted that location and are choosing that site now. It makes it ideal from a synergy standpoint when you got transportation and things like that that as far as having those two plants really within 100 yards from each other or a couple of 100 yards of each other. So, that's the basis behind it and why it has to be there and why we are choosing it to be there. In addition, the land has been vacant since the 1960's when it was a rail center more like a rail yard where they used to combine the trains and things like that. So, for the last 60 years it has been vacant land and the good news from that, assuming that the project is awarded to move forward, is that we would be doing a clean-up of that land which has some environmental concerns on it from both the coal deposits and cello site that was part of the rail. Not terrible from an environmental impact study, not bad news, but there are some things that need to be cleaned up. Nothing in the water, nothing like that, it's all in the sub-surface which would be removed and transported to a landfill. There is also a benefit to the community from a standpoint of cleaning up an environmental hazard. The new facility will mainly produce meatballs it will be in addition to what we are currently doing at French Road or the backside which is Industrial Parkway in Cheektowaga. When we open this new facility, the current plant will be re-tooled and remain open for the foreseeable future. We do plan on bringing 40 new jobs to the facility in addition to transferring some from French Road. The big news is that we are bringing some production that is currently being made in Chicago, which is about ten million pounds that we would bring back to Western New York and that is why we need 40 new jobs to operate that facility.

Philip Swift – I am a resident of the Town. The 40 new jobs that you are proposing, are they full-time, part-time, salary, hourly?

Greg Setter - It would be a mix of salary and full-time hourly.

Cheryl Krawczyk – I don't know if you know it but come 3:30-4:00 the traffic is backed up all the way up to Harlem Road of people trying to get home from work. So how will this impact with all those people working there coming out onto Clinton? Are there going to be trucks coming in and out of there? Because it's already an issue there.

Greg Setter – Yes to answer the question we did do a traffic study. I don't remember the exact period of time, but it was conducted, and the traffic was deemed to be very little impact if any from that standpoint.

Cheryl Krawczyk – Yeah Right

Greg Setter – I'm just telling you what the study said ma'am

Cheryl Krawczyk – I'm just saying come around 3:30 – 4:00 p.m. and you will see it all the way until Harlem Road.

Greg Setter – It also depends on when our shift's change. So, our shifts change on a swing shift. We don't all start at 3:00 p.m., 4:00 p.m. or 7:00 p.m. It starts between 6:00 – 7:30 in the morning and ends between 2:30 – 4:30 in the evening.

Cheryl Krawczyk – And what about the tractor trailer trucks?

Greg Setter - The tractor trailers would be coming mostly during the early morning and probably later at night rather than during afternoon itself. You're probably talking one about one or two trucks during rush hour if that many during a rush hour of time. So, it's not like there's a mass exit at one time or a mass inflow. They will be coming and going all day. It's one here one there. They are sporadic, it's not like a chain of trucks, it's like a distribution center.

Cheryl Krawczyk – So it's going to be a 24-hour operation?

Greg Setter – Yes, it's a 24-hour operation

Cheryl Krawczyk – So, the tractor trailers will be coming and going? Will they be coming and going at midnight?

Greg Setter - Possibly. They will probably be sitting and waiting for the morning. Typically, we don't receive deliveries after midnight. Could it happen? Sure. We have sanitation going on from 11:00 p.m. until 6:00 a.m. of which there are no tractors, they are cleaning the operation. They are cleaning the facility.

Cheryl Krawczyk – So inside the plant?

Greg Setter – Yes inside the plant

Gene Jerge – I would like to know why is it that you want \$1.26M in tax deductions? Why should we be paying for your buildings?

Greg Setter - The tax deduction that we are looking at is a sales tax deduction, it is not an income tax deduction. But at the same time there is a significant investment that is close to \$58M. We are a large company, but we are not that large of a company to see the biggest investment that Rosina has ever made in its history by far. It is a large investment. There is a benefit to the community on top of it. The \$1.2M will help us spread some of that capital cost.

Gene Jerge – I just can't see it.

Greg Setter - I just wanted to add that if you look at this way, if the facility is not built the \$1.2M will not come either. It's a sales tax exemption. So therefore, if you build a building and the sales tax from a materials standpoint of what's going in the building and if you don't build a building the \$1.2M doesn't either. It's a net effect of zero to the community.

Gene Jerge – Well it's still coming from somewhere. Well it's coming from the state then.

Russell Corigliano – No it is not

Gene Jerge - Somebody will be giving you this money. Its our money you are getting back. Its not being charged.

Russell Corigliano - So, if I could, it's like going to the store and buying a pair of slacks. They charge you sales tax and it goes to the state. We buy a fork truck and we just don't pay that sales tax. It's not coming in.

Greg Setter – So, its not that the community or county is losing anything they just would not be getting it. It's just a different way of looking at it. So, if you don't build a facility that \$1M would not come in. Its not like the community is giving us \$1M that they already had, and they are giving it back, they are just not charging it.

Gene Jerge - Well I'm saying no matter how you look at it, its still tax money that's taken away from you paying for that we are paying for it. Somewhere along the line somebody will be paying for it.

Greg Setter - No sir, it's actually not. You wouldn't have it in the first place. So, in other words if you didn't build the \$50M you wouldn't have a sales tax of \$1M for the materials going in it. So, today you don't have the million dollars. Its not like the county is giving us a million dollars that they already had that they are taking out of your coffers. It's not in your coffers right now. They are just saying we don't need to charge it right now with the community is operating right now its fine in their opinion. So therefore, we can afford to not charge Rosina the million dollars. You are not losing anything, you are not gaining anything, because you're not losing anything.

Gene Jerge – Its coming from somewhere.

Russell Corigliano - It's not coming, it's not going.

Chery Krawczyk – Yeah, Fine.

Gene Jerge – But its money that should have been saved that they shouldn't have paid that somebody else would have had. That the state would have had some.

Greg Setter - You could look at it this way, if we pay the million dollars the county would have \$1M more dollars than they have today. The State and the County because of the sales tax. But the million dollars would be there but what they are saying it that you don't have to pay it. So, it's a net zero to the state and the county. Beth do you have anything to add to that?

Beth O'Keefe – I think that there is another speaker.

Mike Wass – I live on Westcliff across the street. Currently the parcel is about what 13-14 acres correct?

Russ Corigliano - The entire park is 40 acres.

Mike Wass – What is the estimated taxes you pay on that parcel? The County and the Town tax.

Beth O'Keefe – If you would like I can give you my card and I can provide that to you.

Mike Wass – Once the facility is completed and built what would the taxes, the property taxes be to the county wise and town wise on that parcel.

Beth O'Keefe – I will provide you with that information after the meeting.

Mike Wass – I will give you my e-mail

Beth O'Keefe – That would be wonderful thank you. I will give you my card and you can e-mail me and I will send you the information.

Greg Setter - Just in round numbers it's about \$12,000 that we are paying annually right now

Mike Wass – Ok

Greg Setter - The number will be much higher with the tax abatement for the first few years. I don't have the exact number, but we will get it for you.

Mike Wass – All right

Russell Corigliano - But we also pay on another plant a substantial amount more than that.

Mike Wass – Which is adjacent to it correct?

Russell Corigliano – Yes

Greg Setter - I think what you're looking for is what is the benefit to the community right?

Mike Wass – Right

Beth O'Keefe – We have those numbers and I will share them with you.

Kirk Ruhland – I live on Clinton Street. I have been there over 60 years. Where is the sewage and waste going to be pumped to?

Russell Corigliano - There is a 27" main sewer line that runs northeast to old French Road & Union Road.

Kirk Ruhland – So you are pumping to that?

Russell Corigliano – Yes

Kirk Ruhland – Because in our area there are about 8 houses involved and we pay sewer taxes and we have no sewers.

Russell Corigliano - Hum

Gene Jerge – And we also pay sanitary and we have auto septic

Russell Corigliano - That's terrible. How come?

Cheryl Krawczyk – Because they need a lift station and they don't want to put one in for the few houses that are here.

John Chrynowicz – They won't put in a lift station.

Russell Corigliano - I think that is terrible.

Cheryl Krawczyk – Yeah so do we. We have dealt with that for a lifetime.

John Chrynowicz - Her mother fought it for over 75 years.

Cheryl Krawczyk – Yeah, she did.

John Chrynowicz - And they don't care

Cheryl Krawczyk – Yeah, they don't care. But we get charged for it.

John Chrynowicz – I also live on Clinton Street. Do you have a blueprint of the layout of the property of where everything is going to be placed?

Russell Corigliano – Sure

John Chrynowicz – The driveway, do you have a copy of it here?

Russell Corigliano – You can probably get a copy of it next door. The town has it. They have the SEQRA.

Gene Jerge – Yeah, good luck. I've been in there. I have asked questions and they don't give up anything.

Greg Setter - Well we can get it for you though.

John Chrynowicz – Yeah, they don't give up nothing. I'm worried about the pond in the back and wondering what they're going to be doing with it and where the waters going to go?

Cheryl Krawczyk – Yeah, where is the water going to go?

Greg Setter - The retention pond?

John Chrynowicz – Yes, the retention pond. But there is a big water pond back there right now

Russell Corigliano – There are wetlands back there right now.

John Chrynowicz – Oh believe me I know. It runs near my property and they call it a creek, an intermittent stream. It's not an intermittent stream. It runs alot and when it pours my backyard floods.

Russell Corigliano - There is a retention pond going up near the street.

John Chrynowicz – Right

Russell Corigliano - And then it will cross over to it.

Greg Setter – its going to go to the storm drain.

John Chrynowicz – Well here is the problem. There is only a 20” pipe down there.

Greg Setter – Right.

John Chrynowicz - When I had the DEC on my property, and they told me I would have to put in a 48” round pipe which would cost me \$10,000 in piping to put 100 ft. in. I’m not paying \$10,000 to put in the ground and it still wouldn’t help the problem.

Greg Setter - The net effect to the wetlands would be zero. So, what we have done is a number of studies working with the DEC, Army Corps of Engineers, etc. it’s a big concern with the DEC to make sure that we leave the wetlands the way they are. We cannot increase the size of the wetlands and we cannot mitigate or remove the wetlands. It must be status quo. Anything that we remove which is approximately .8 acres. Because where the building is going to be located, we have to remove those wetlands. We have to actually purchase additional wetlands from Ducks Unlimited to offset that for the wildlife that we might be disturbing in this area. The point that I think you are making is the concern about additional water running through that. We have a storm retention area that will be closer to the front of the street. I don’t have the exact metrics.

Russell Corigliano – I think there will be less flow because we are moving it. It’s going to be moved southwest.

John Chrynowicz – Which it will move it away from me but it’s going to cause more problems on the other side of the street. Because all there is now is a 20” culvert pipe in there which would put it back to the early 1980’s

Russell Corigliano - But this retention pond is going to hold a 2-3 day rain fall.

John Chrynowicz – I understand that. Its all good on paper until you go look at the soccer field retention pond that was put in.

Cheryl Krawczyk – Yep

John Chrynowicz – And the same thing, they gave everybody a spiel, and no one takes care of it. Right now, it’s so overgrown.

Cheryl Krawczyk – It’s a woods there. No water retention going on.

John Chrynowicz – And no one takes care of retention ponds once they are built.

Russell Corigliano - What we are doing was approved by the DEC and the Town.

John Chrynowicz – Yeah, I know they approve everything. But down the road nobody does anything.

Russell Corigliano – I guess I don’t have all the answers.

John Chrynowicz – The town doesn’t do anything. I’ve asked questions; I’ve asked them to do stuff and they say it’s not their property and we can’t touch it?

Cheryl Krawczyk – Nobody maintains them.

Russell Corigliano - We can tell you that we will maintain our property. Not only do we like to, but we have to, it’s a USDA facility. There are rules and regulations that we have to abide to if we want to operate.

Cheryl Krawczyk – If you look at Canisius’s retention pond, it’s a woods. There is no water that can go in there. There are trees growing in it. It’s ridiculous.

Russell Corigliano – This won’t be that way. Have you ever seen our property on French Road? Have you ever driven by it? It’s very immaculate and that’s the way we keep our properties and that’s our promise.

John Chrynowicz - Well there’s really nothing there on French Road

Russell Corigliano – As far as what?

John Chrynowicz - Well nothing but a little grass in front.

Russell Corigliano – Yeah but with what we have there we take care of it and the same thing with our pasta plant. Have you seen that facility? I would invite you to drive by and look at how we maintain our properties.

John Chrynowicz - Where is the pasta plant?

Russell Corigliano - Do you know where Empire Drive is?

John Chrynowicz – Yes

Russell Corigliano -It’s right on Empire 75.

Gene Jerge - Ok

Russell Corigliano – Please take a ride through there.

Gene Jerge - Which building is it? Is it the one at the very end?

Russell Corigliano - No. When you drive in off Union Road go around the curve to the right and you will see the large building on the right-hand side, that is our pasta building.

Cheryl Krawczyk – I guess so where is this building going to go? Because we took our golf carts and we rode through there along the railroad tracks. So, there is your plant.

Russell Corigliano – Yeah here

Cheryl Krawczyk – But isn’t that the bagel plant?

Russell Corigliano – We bought the bagel plant

Cheryl Krawczyk – Yeah, right so are you going to use that?

Russell Corigliano – That is going to stay where it is, and the new building is going to be built right behind it a little bit, kitty-corner. Its going to be like 200 yards off Clinton Street. You won’t even see the building.

Cheryl Krawczyk – You won’t even see it. I didn’t think so.

Russell Corigliano – You won’t even see it at all.

Greg Setter – There is actually a little bit of wetlands that’s actually in front of the building that is closer to Clinton that we can’t touch.

Cheryl Krawczyk – So, it’s right around that bagel building, that whole area?

Greg Setter – Right. The entrance will be on Clinton Street.

Cheryl Krawczyk – Well that concerns me because of the traffic.

Greg Setter - Which we commented on already.

Russell Corigliano – I don't think you're going to see much of an impact with the traffic.

Cheryl Krawczyk – It can't get worse than it is. Its bumper to bumper all the way to Harlem Road.

Russell Corigliano – I would say it probably won't get worse than it is now.

Cheryl Krawczyk – It can't.

Russell Corigliano – Ok

Cheryl Krawczyk – It's already an issue there without the extra traffic.

Russell Corigliano- How close are you? Are you on the border of the nursing home?

Gene Jerge – Yes, our property borders it

Russell Corigliano - We will be a couple hundred yards away from the border.

Kirk Ruhland - What 600 ft?

Greg Setter - More than that. It's at least 200 yards.

Kirk Ruhland - The power line that goes south, what side are you going to be on?

Russell Corigliano – If you are facing the building just to the left of it. We are closer to the industrial track and the power line will actually go through part of the parking lot of the proposed parking lot. So, we will be closer to Empire Drive than we are to the nursing home.

Kirk Ruhland - Down the road you could still expand from that correct?

Greg Setter - Yes possibly. It's on that blueprint that was submitted with SEQRA

Kirk Ruhland – As far as the expansion?

Greg Setter – Yes, so we have a proposed II phase assuming everything goes well. Phase I and phase II would be sometime in the future but haven't found out if phase II could be there yet.

Kirk Ruhland – And what would that be?

Greg Setter - Same thing another meatball line.

Kirk Ruhland - Size wise?

Greg Setter - About 45,000 sq. ft. So about half of what we are proposing for this facility.

Kirk Ruhland -Would that come down towards the nursing home?

Greg Setter - Yes, but when I told you how far away it was it included being built already.

Kirk Ruhland -Oh, that included that

Greg Setter - Yes. We are assuming that's going to be built someday

Kirk Ruhland - Oh ok

Russell Corigliano - We are not trying to hide it.

Greg Setter - We have a ring for a road that goes around it. So, we have to build that road in anticipation that something might fill it. So, if you got a site this big building the road would be over here, and it allows this much needed space for the new building to be built sometime in the future. We didn't want to move this road so, part of the blueprint then includes all of this and also because of the wetland we had to disclose to the DEC what our long-term plan was because of the wetlands and make sure that we didn't get in and say ok now I need the rest of the space. We had to disclose what we were thinking about doing even though we might be 5 years into the future.

Kirk Ruhland - Ballpark time is 5-10 years?

Greg Setter- Could be yes

Randy Bernick - I think the other point on that site at some point we are going to try and hook in Empire Drive because there is that extension and also, we would be at the back of our other plant.

John Chrynowicz - Well that's a great plan for traffic

Randy Bernick - We are going to try and eliminate some of the traffic that you are concerned about.

John Chrynowicz - That's a great plan

Gene Jerge - So it would pour out onto Union Road?

Russell Corigliano - Yes

Gene Jerge - So, who do all those tractor trailers belong to?

Russell Corigliano - Our trucking company

Gene Jerge - Rosina, I don't understand, if you're going to build a building there why do you have to come in off of Clinton Street?

Russell Corigliano - That will probably be for our employees and ease of their access.

Greg Setter - Also, we need two entrances for safety reasons. You have to have a front and a back way in and out. The one thing that Randy mentioned would be a 3rd entrance, one from Clinton Street, One from Empire Drive and one from our current facility also on Empire Drive. So, for emergency exits if one gets blocked for whatever reason they would have other ways in and out and that's a requirement that goes back to that ring that goes around the plant. If there is ever a fire, there is multiple ways out.

Kirk Ruhland - Do you know what size pipe is going to be put in the retention pond?

Russell Corigliano - We do, it's all part of the dynamics, but I don't know off the top of my head, but we can find that out for you. Back to that for one second though. It was designed by our engineering firm and on the storm water it also took into account a 10-year rain fall. So, a 10-year rain fall event as far as the size of the amount of water that is going to go in there on a normal rainfall will not be even close to filling that pond up.

Kirk Ruhland - So, where is it supposed to exit to?

Greg Setter - So what happens then it goes to the bottom and there will be sand there and a drain underneath it that then drains through the sand. When it goes through that fill it will go to that pipe then released to the storm sewer.

Kirk Ruhland - There is no storm sewer there

Greg Setter – There is a ditch there

Kirk Ruhland – Right, but nobody takes care of the ditch right now. There is a 20” pipe leading to it which is adjacent to Mr. Swift’s property which is probably closer to you guys on the other side of the street. So that would plug his whole property. Nobody has taken care of it since the 80’s since the pipe was installed. That ditch has not been dug, cleaned, nothing.

Greg Setter - I can’t comment on the ditch or cleaning of the ditch.

Kirk Ruhland - See that’s the problem we have with West Seneca. Nobody wants to do anything with the residents over there but all of a sudden, they want to build more stuff and give us more water.

Russell Corigliano - Is there anybody available to field these questions?

Beth O’Keefe – I think this is a public hearing to talk about what we do, and we are recording all of these comments. There might be some to do’s afterwards. We can contact West Seneca. I know that you’re going through the planning board and perhaps some of these questions can be answered.

Russ Corigliano - I mean these are some valid points that we don’t have answers to.

Kirk Ruhland - That’s a good point

John Chrynowicz - I wish we did too. That’s a very good point. No one around here wants to hear us.

Beth O’Keefe– Right

Kirk Ruhland – When we get flooded, we call and they call it an intermittent stream and say it isn’t our problem. They call it an intermittent stream, there is no such thing because if it was an intermittent stream it would stay the same. Yeah, it might get a little water but where are the storm drains leading to this? And it always floods into our backyards. I got photos from years ago and he may even have some on his phone when the lady next store to us, its normally that much water. Maybe a foot deep, if that.

Russell Corigliano - Right, ok

Kirk Ruhland - When we get a very good rain like the other day that turns into 25 ft. across and 4ft. deep and there’s our backyards for hours and hours.

Beth O’Keefe – So, some of these points have to do with West Seneca. Lets table those and maybe I can get a contact for you there. This is about the company.

Kirk Ruhland - I understand that but what I am saying is that this is where the Town keeps letting not just you guys, we are not attacking you personally but this is where the town keeps letting people build these places and build retention ponds that are supposed to hold the water. It’s like they did years ago where Galley Floor’s use to be. There are all these retention ponds back there and if you go up there after a big rain, the grass isn’t wet. The retention ponds drain all in our backyards and it floods all our stuff and they don’t care. I’ve had the DEC, Matt English from the Highway Dept, John Gullo, the engineer from West Seneca back there on my bridge which is deteriorating because it cuts my property in half. The problem is you can’t touch it, you need a permit to touch it, but it’s my property and its not a storm drain they are calling it. I’ve asked for storm drains and sewer drains on Clinton. There is no such blueprint because there are none and the only time it floods is when we get a good rain and all that water comes down and we get flooded out.

Russell Corigliano - I understand.

Gene Jerge- What about odors coming out of the plant. I live on French Road and now and then, that plant on French Road. Sometimes I tell you that smell is really strong.

Russell Corigliano - What's the baking smell?

Gene Jerge- I don't know what it is but it's an unpleasant smell. The meatballs must be burning or something.

Russell Corigliano - Hopefully somebody's watching the oven

Beth O'Keefe – Ok so there is a comment

Gene Jerge – My wife doesn't work there, and she burns everything.

Kirk Ruhland – No one's going to do anything anyways

Beth O'Keefe – I am sorry we are still just recording let's just finish up the public hearing and we can address the odor issue.

Greg Setter – To address the odor. The odor we are talking about is likely the meatball smell when it comes off the stacks. The stacks will be higher up than our current facility. For one the technology is 25 years newer. So, there will still be a meatball smell from time to time depending on which way the wind blows. The good news from where the plant will be located is when the wind comes out of the southwest it will blow across the property where basically the other 40 acres which is currently vacant. By the time it gets to the end it should be fully dissipated and the smokestack is higher on top of it and there less coming out of it on top of that. So, we believe that that issue that we have on French Road from time to time will be even less.

Russell Corigliano - Part of its waste treatment. No odors omitting from waste treatment at all. Where are current facility is older technology and this is all updated technology and there should be no foul smell.

Gene Jerge – It is terrible the odor you get from it at times. It's not alot but when it is there it is bad.

Greg Setter - So, we believe we addressed that with the new facility.

Philip Swift - Can I ask one more question?

Beth O'Keefe – Yeah, sure just one additional question. Go ahead and state your name again.

Philip Swift –The 40 additional jobs are going to full-time?

Russell Corigliano – Correct

Phillip Swift – You are going to be bringing how many people over from the French Road facility?

Russell Corigliano - Approximately about 100 people

Philip Swift – Ok, so there will be about 140 employees at the plant?

Russell Corigliano - Yes for 3 shifts.

Greg Setter- So, we will have about 30-45 per shift. There are more on first and second shift. Third shift is all cleaning.

Philip Swift – How is the Erie County Industrial Development Association involved with this? What is the Industrial Association providing money? I don't understand.

Beth O'Keefe – We are providing benefits that I mentioned. So, sales tax, property tax abatement and mortgage tax abatement. I can send you a statement after this meeting showing you what those benefits are if you would like.

Philip Swift – Mortgage tax abatement. So, where is the money coming from to build the facility?

Beth O'Keefe – From Rosina. Rosina is making an investment of \$58M.

Philip Swift – So you already have the money and you are giving yourself a break?

Greg Setter - No, we don't have the money. We are going to borrow the money

Philip Swift – That's what I'm trying to find out. Where is the money coming from?

Greg Swift - We are borrowing the money. We will be financing it.

Philip Swift – Thanks

Beth O'Keefe – I'm sorry I just need you to state your name, where you are from and if you want to make a brief comment.

My name is Ron Vaughn from Salsaron's Foods. I am originally from Washington, D.C. but via Jamestown I've relocated. I found out about Rosina in the Buffalo area and my concerns are what type of gifts and incentives are you offering? I am a Military Vet for example, and I noticed you have gotten over \$4M from Empire State Development for your current facility to upgrade. The article here that I read is that you claim that your production line is outdated, and aging and you are sourcing outside the State in Chicago. My main question is what did you do with the \$4.5M grant that you got from Empire State?

Russell Corigliano - One is the protein facility in Cheektowaga and the other is our pasta and entrée facility in West Seneca. The dollars that you are referring to were used in that pasta and entrée operation to bring that up to standard and part of it was used for us to meet the compliance of what we call BRC which is a food safety global initiative on improvements that needed to be done to our current operation in Cheektowaga that we needed to bring up to standards so we could continue to operate. But it is an aging facility that needs to be re-built or replaced. That is under consideration right now. I hope that answers your question.

Ron Vaughn – Ok

Randy Bernick - I would like to add to that in addition to that we bought a 10,000 sq. ft. warehouse at 109 Industrial Parkway and made that into what we call a customer focus center which includes a research & development area and we have about 40 associates working in that facility and its beautiful building. If you drive by go down Industrial Parkway. We have increased the employment there by 10 associates. Very good paying jobs. We went from about 2 people in our R&D area and we now have about 5 or 6. Five full-time chef's and we also are able to bring our customers in to see what our capabilities are. In addition to what Russ said we used that money to get our plants up to the quality standards that our customers expect or we would lose the business from the larger entities like Aldi's, Walmart, Publix; all those large retailers.

Beth O'Keefe – Do you have a follow up question or comment?

Ron Vaughn – Yes. I actually reached out to some of your executives last year. I think it was Mr. Frank Corigliano about a potential partnership that could increase sales revenue with the product that my company offers. This may potentially create additional jobs as well. But I guess I got kind of forgotten about. I think there still is a potential opportunity there that would help more quickly.

Russell Corigliano - I apologize for that happening. Let me give you my card. But I'm sure it wasn't intentional or anything else.

Beth O'Keefe – Ok are there any other comments about the project that anyone would like to make. I want to thank you all for coming.

6. ADJOURNMENT:

As there were no further comments, the Hearing Officer closed the public hearing at 9:39 a.m.

**SIGN IN SHEET
PUBLIC HEARING**

August 20, 2019, at 9:00 a.m.
at the Town of West Seneca Community Center & Library
located at 1300 Union Road (Community Room), West Seneca, NY 14224
regarding:

**Rosina Food Products, Inc. and/or Individual(s) or Affiliate(s),
Subsidiary(ies), or Entity(ies) formed or to be formed on its behalf**

Project Location: 3100 Clinton Street, West Seneca, New York 14224

Name	Company and/or Address	X box to speak/ comment
Cheryl Krawczyk	2965 Clinton Street West Seneca, New York 14224	X
Gene Jerge	159 French Road West Seneca, New York 14224	X
Randy Bernick	Rosina Food Products 170 French Road Cheektowaga, New York 14227	X
Mike Wass	150 Westcliff Drive West Seneca, New York 14224	X
Greg Setter	Rosina Food Products 170 French Road Cheektowaga, New York 14227	X
Russell Corigliano	Rosina Food Products 170 French Road Cheektowaga, New York 14227	X
John Chryniewicz	2982 Clinton Street West Seneca, New York 14224	X
Kirk Ruhland	2979 Clinton Street West Seneca, New York 14224	X
Taylor Nigrelli	Bee Group News Papers	
Philip Swift	3089 Clinton Street West Seneca, New York 14224	X
Lian Bunny	West Seneca Sun	
Ron Vaughn	Salsaron's Foods Jamestown, New York	X