

CITY OF HIGH POINT AGENDA ITEM



**Title: SELS USA LLC Project – Local Match/State Grant
& Resolution of Support**

From: Sandy Dunbeck, Director
High Point Economic Development

Meeting Date: May 15, 2023

Public hearing: Yes

Advertising Date: May, 4, 2023

Attachments: Legal Notice

Advertised by: HPE

PURPOSE:

The High Point City Council is asked to consider a request to approve a local match and resolution of support for a State of North Carolina Building Reuse Grant for SELS USA LLC. The local match would not exceed \$5,000.

PROJECT & BACKGROUND:

SELS (Smart Era Lighting System) Solar specializes in innovative, efficient, off-grid energy solutions. Their solar-powered products include streetlights, bench charging stations, transit lighting, mobile power units, signs/billboards, garden lights, and more. The SELS building reuse project would allow for in-house assembly of several of their products.

The company has purchased buildings at 1710 and 1720 King St. in High Point, totaling 21,400 square feet, and plans to invest a total of \$921,241 to purchase, renovate, and equip the facilities.

The company will relocate 5 jobs and create 13 new jobs paying above the county average wage over a 3-year period.

BUDGET IMPACT:

Upon the company being awarded the grant, the City would provide an amount not to exceed \$5,000 to the State as the local match. The source of those monies would be the City's Economic Development Incentive Fund, which is funded by general and electric revenues.

RECOMMENDATION / ACTION REQUESTED:

The High Point Economic Development staff recommends that City Council authorize an amount not to exceed \$5,000 as the City's local match for the grant and approve a resolution of Support for the State of NC Building Reuse Grant.

Thursday, May 4, 2023

Pursuant to N.C. General Statute 158-7.1, notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held on Monday, May 15, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers, High Point Municipal Building, 211 S. Hamilton St., High Point, NC. The purpose of the hearing is to receive public input on a respective funding request for a local match for a State of NC Building Reuse Grant for SELS USA LLC. The company expects to expand at 1710 and 1720 King St., High Point, NC, and proposes to relocate 5 full-time jobs and create 13 full-time jobs. The High Point City Council will consider authorizing an amount not to exceed \$5,000 – with the source of funding being the Economic Development Incentive Fund, which is funded by general and electric revenues. The City would be authorized to provide this local match to the company upon the company being awarded the State grant.

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA BUILDING REUSE
GRANT FOR SELS USA LLC OF HIGH POINT EXPANSION IN HIGH POINT, NC**

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina (“State”) is considering approval of a Building Reuse Grant (“Grant”) in the amount of \$100,000 for SELS USA LLC. (“Company”), which will be received by the City and passed on to the Company along with a City of High Point 5% match, upon performance; and

WHEREAS, the High Point City Council supports the State of North Carolina funding a Building Reuse Grant for the Company which is an assembler and installer of innovative, efficient, off-grid energy solutions.; and

WHEREAS, the funding will allow the company to reactivate vacant buildings located at 1710 and 1720 King St, High Point and create 13 jobs paying above the Guilford County average wages; and

WHEREAS, the State requires that a resolution of support be adopted by the High Point City Council proclaiming its support for the Company and the funding; and

WHEREAS, the City believes that it is in the best interests of the citizens of High Point to encourage and support economic development within the City through the recruitment of new industries to the City and the expansion of existing industries in the City.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. The High Point City Council hereby adopts this Resolution of Support for the State of North Carolina to provide a Building Reuse grant to SELS USA LLC for its expansion project in High Point, NC.
2. The Mayor and the City Clerk are hereby authorized to sign all necessary documents on behalf of the City.
3. This resolution shall become effective upon adoption.

This 15th day of May 2023.

ATTEST

Sandra Keeney,
City Clerk

Jay W. Wagner,
City of High Point Mayor