

Ellison Bronze Requests IDA Fundin

By MANLEY J. ANDERSON

A Falconer company has a problem a lot of other area manufacturers probably would like to have.

"Our business is booming. We've either got to expand or not take any more orders," James E. Graves, president of Ellison Bronze Co. of 125 W. Main St., said at Thursday afternoon's meeting of Chautauqua County Industrial Development Agency.

Graves attended the meeting in the agency's Hotel Jamestown office, along with Weldon M. Nelson Jr., company secretary/treasurer, and Alfred G. Ford, attorney/director.

They presented a proposal for an expansion project for which agency members recommended issuance of up to \$600,000 in industrial-revenue bonds.

Graves said a 10,000-square-foot addition to the present three-story plant is planned, along with the purchase of an estimated \$150,000 worth of new equipment. He said indications are that the investment will be more in the \$500,000 range than \$600,000, and is expected to create about 15 more jobs within the next two years.

IDA Administrative Director David G. Dawson said Ellison Bronze is one of the world's leading manufacturers of architectural balanced doors. He noted it is locally and privately controlled as a wholly owned subsidiary of Dowcraft Corp. of Falconer.

Dawson said a commitment has been received from Marine Midland Bank to buy the industrial-revenue-bond issue.

Graves said the company's business has increased considerably during the last five to six years, with a store builder recently becoming a potential new customer.

He said the builder plans to construct 26 new stores in the next two years, representing about \$1.5 million worth of new work.

Graves noted the local company has its own foundry and machine shop to

make all its basic hardware.

Ford said the position of a mortgage holder will be clarified before the company proceeds with its proposed expansion.

Much of the balance of the IDA meeting involved updates by Dawson and other staff members on various projects with which the agency is associated.

Members agreed to accept the low bid of L.C. Whitford Co. of Wellsville for construction of about a one-mile rail siding to serve the Joseph H. Mason South County Industrial Park, with Bush Industries expected to be the primary user.

Dawson said Whitford proposed to construct the line for \$1,200,630.20, with Acme Construction Co. of Cleveland as the second lowest bidder of five, offering to do the work for about \$1.32 million.

Dawson said the rail line, which would be operated by Conrail, would be owned by the agency. The IDA, he said, would be reimbursed by Bush and other users for upkeep costs.

He noted construction and associated costs in connection with building the rail link have been set at \$1.75 million.

Dawson added the state has made provision for up to \$100,000 in state/federal funding for on-site and engineering costs during construction.

He said a side benefit of the project will be greatly improved drainage in the Allen Street Extension area as a result of grading and other work in connection with the siding construction.

On a separate matter, staff member Lawrence Taylor said the first meeting of creditors of the former Fraser Furniture Co. of Jamestown is set for early October, with Dunkirk attorney Albert W. Foley as trustee.

Taylor said a tentative agreement has been made to connect the Fraser Building to the city's district-heating system to protect the property this winter.

Dawson said the Harrison Street building still has not been foreclosed on, with Alan Fraser still continuing as owner of record although it has been abandoned. He said that after the creditors' meeting it is expected that the

SEP 6 1985