VINELAND – The city has cleared a local firm to build a 140,000-square-foot industrial building on private land off West Forest Grove Road and Mill Road, close to the municipal industrial park.

The Zoning Board approved the proposal from B.D.G.S. Inc. after a site plan review at its Wednesday night meeting.

B.D.G.S. President Ethan Byler said the approval comes ahead of landing a tenant or tenants for the facility or a timetable to build it. The company took the same speculative approach with a slightly larger warehouse that opened about two years ago at Mill and Garden roads, he said.

“The industrial market has been strong in Vineland,” Byler said Thursday. “Vacancy still is relatively low, which allows the opportunity to do these types of spec buildings.”

Byler said the existing building ended up with two refrigerated food storage users and two general warehouse users, and the new building also could end up with multiple users.

The new building is planned with two levels: A ground floor with about 125,000 square feet of space; and a mezzanine of about 15,000 square feet.

The board approval includes a variance from the height limit in that area from the code maximum of 40 feet to 46 feet.

The roughly 16.5-acre property is not far from Kroelinger Airport. The height variance still is within airport safety standards, according to the city.

Joe Smith is a Philly native transplanted to South Jersey more than 30 years ago. He is a former editor and current senior staff writer at The Daily Journal in Vineland. Have a news tip? Reach out at (856) 563-5252 or jsmith@thedailyjournal.com or follow me on Twitter, @jpsmith-dj. Help support local journalism with a subscription to The Daily Journal.