September 3, 2015

To: Mark B. Walter, First Selectman
    Robert Casner, Chairman
    East Haddam Economic Development Commissioners

From: Peter Simmons

Subj: Economic Development Progress Report #42 – August 2015

1. Vacation week of August 9 through August 16

2. Business Development
   a. New England Propeller
      i. Restarting tax incentive agreement
      ii. Updated agreement prepared and submitted to NEPS
      iii. Assisted NEPS with electric company coordination
   b. Met with Staehly’s Farm regarding agricultural business programs

3. Planning & Zoning
   a. updated Proposed IG Zone amendment
   b. C & D Plan Chapter 8 on hold pending subcommittee reports

4. Selectman’s Office Support
   a. STEAP Grants
      i. Coordinated payment requests to State for grant reimbursement
      ii. Prepared budget revision
   b. Assisted with preparation for August 27th Presentation

5. STEAP Grant: Harris Project
   a. Thursday, August 27th Public Meeting on the proposed changes to the project did not go well.
   b. Opposition calling for Grant to be returned to State
   c. Default on grant will likely negatively impact future grant awards to Town for development projects
   d. STRONGLY ENCOURAGE EDC MEMBERS TO ATTEND AND RALLY RESIDENTS TO ATTEND BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETINGS TO PREVENT A DEFAULT
   e. Question: what economic development project will be supported by the town? The controversy of this agriculture-based project – low impact economic development – is disconcerting. Mainstream economic development projects will need significant outreach and consensus building. The EDC needs to determine its role.