October 1, 2015

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

From: Peter Simmons, Economic Development Coordinator

Subj: Economic Development Progress Report #43 – September 2015

1. Business Development
   a. New England Propeller
      i. Continued work on tax incentive agreement
      ii. Updated agreement prepared and submitted to NEPS
      iii. Planning to plan approval on BOS/BOF October agendas
   b. The Fresh Kitchen
      i. New Breakfast Shop in Grist Mill Plaza
      ii. Assisted in finding potential financing
      iii. Received application for assistance through East Haddam Tax Incentive Program
         i. Reviewing application and business plan
         ii. Applicant needs to submit a copy of the lease agreement
         iii. Small-scale Project
   c. Researched and evaluated a Farm Tax Incentive Program. Provided report to Selectman’s Office and EDC Chair.
   d. Assisted a business in drafting their business plan (confidential)

2. Planning & Zoning
   a. Resubmitted the Revised Proposed IG Zone package to Town Land Use for review

3. STEAP Grant: Harris Project
   a. Completed various task related to preserving the STEAP Grant funding
   b. October 1 Referendum to abandon the community agriculture project and returned grant to State

4. RECOMMENDATIONS
   a. The EDC needs to determine its role with projects
   b. The Town needs to determine what kinds of economic development project it wishes to support. The C & D Plan mandates need to be included in the discussion, i.e. pursue all available grant resources, support agriculture, etc.
   c. EDC should host a workshop, open to boards, commissions and the public should be well advertised to solicit public input.
   d. Future economic development projects will need significant outreach and consensus building. In particular those, which will require investment such as: 1) public funding to sewer the four corners; or revitalizing East Haddam Village.