

July 3, 2014

To: East Haddam Economic Development Commission
From: Peter Simmons
Cc: Mark Walter
Subj: Economic Development Progress Report #29 – June 2014

1. Business Development
 - a. New England Propeller Services expansion
 - i. Tax Incentive: Draft agreement provided for NEPS
 - ii. Coordinated CL & P energy conservation meeting
 - b. Eddie's Auto Body
 - i. Approved by Board of Finance at the June 19th
 - ii. Referred to Next Town Meeting for approval
 - c. Arranging meeting and site visit for a real estate investor on a targeted property in Town (confidential).
 - d. Dutch Oil
 - i. supporting Dutch Oil's development lower Mill at Brownell
 - ii. P&Z Public Hearing planned for 7/8
2. EDC input needed on the Town Tax Incentive Program
 - a. Drafted Ordinance Revisions
 - b. Discussed Program at June 9th and June 19th Board of Finance Meeting
 - c. First Selectman supports revising the program to make it a worthwhile tool for attracting new businesses.
 - d. Steps
 - i. EDC endorse specific changes
 - ii. Board of Selectman presentation
 - iii. Coordination with Tax Assessor and Tax Collector
 - iv. Board of Finance Approval
 - v. Town Meeting Approval of revised Ordinance
3. Norwich Road Bridge Reconstruction: responded to one business complaint regarding traffic bypassing detour; coordinated with CONNDOT staff.
4. Town Economic Development Strategic Plan Development
 - a. Contracted with S. Wheeler for the revision of the Town Plan of Conservation & Development, Chapter 8
 - b. Contracted with Gibbons Estimation Services to prepare cost estimates for Town Office Site (Support Future Grant Applications): Report due beginning of July.
 - c. Continued development of Town Strategy to promote local businesses to recreational tourists (hikers, cyclists, etc.).
 - i. Coordinate pilot program with Town Restaurants
 - ii. Complete implementation plan
5. Meeting with Richard Harrell, a CT leader in Economic Development, on East Haddam Village
 - a. Dick prepared the 2006 Market Assessment for the property
 - b. Town Office site is one of most desirable development site in the State
 - c. Need Access to Rt 149
 - d. Razing garage is a good idea
 - e. High-end residential, such as condominiums is a likely market

- f. Combine with neighboring residence and access to NH School house would help with attractiveness.
- 6. Financial Assistance Programs and Grant Management
 - a. Department of Agriculture: Farmland Restoration Grant
 - i. Coordinating with Dept of Ag in grant application review
 - b. Continued research on grant sources to support town economic development
- 7. Food Processing Plant
 - a. Participated in Schematic Design Review Meetings with Architect
 - b. Participated in the planning and presentation of the Food Processing Plant Project at the June 25 Town Information Meeting
 - c. Continued search for financial resources for additional site activities