

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 27<sup>th</sup> Presentation
5. STEAP Grant: Harris Project
  - a. Thursday, August 27<sup>th</sup> 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.