

July 11, 2013

To: East Haddam Economic Development Commission
From: Peter Simmons

Subj: Economic Development Progress Report #17 – June 2013

1. Business Assistance

- a. Town approved participation in C-PACE energy conservation and green energy finance program for commercial properties at the May 8th Town Meeting. Assisted Selectman's Office with processing of the resolution and agreement.
- b. Transfer Station: researched and prepared whitepaper on commercial use of transfer station for municipal solid waste (MSW). Station damaged and use by commercial haulers temporarily curtailed. Coordinating with Selectman's Office. Priority issue for EDC.
- c. 385 Town Street, LLC and tax incentive program benefits: met with NEPS and reviewed the draft agreement and supporting documents. Transmitted comments on draft documents to Town Attorney with request to revise as soon as possible. Contact information for NEPS' counsel provided to Town Attorney to coordinate document revision. Requested First Selectman to inform Town Attorney of project priority. NEPS wishes to begin construction within two months.
- d. Assisting a town business (name withheld) with an application for government contracts (Procurement Technical Assistance Program; "P-TAP") through the South East Connecticut Enterprise Region (SECTer). Also assisting business with applications for financing
- e. Assisting 32 Main Street with local approvals for their opening.
- f. Assisting established Town business (name withheld) coordinate its expansion plans through Town approvals.

2. Business Outreach

- a. Prepared news article on P-TAP Program for Summer Events Magazine
- b. Continued visiting Town Businesses
- c. Arranging Town Business meeting with DECD regarding business interruption assistance for Norwich Road closure (see 5.b.ii. below).

3. Completed draft of Town Economic Development Strategy. Draft attached for EDC review. Strategy Clusters include:

- a. Agriculture
- b. Manufacturing & General Commercial
- c. Leisure, Humanities and Tourism
- d. Health care
- e. Affordable (worker) Housing (not an industry cluster, but needed)

4. Grant Activity and Contract Coordination Priorities

- a. Drafted Required Town letters to Federal and State Delegation and Governor thanking them for their support of the program. Will prepare a business development program for the performances.
- b. \$431,200 STEAP grant for Community Agriculture Center
 - i. Assistance Agreement (contract) received Board of Finance approval on June 10th
 - ii. Selectman's Office packaging resolutions and legal documents from Town Attorney.
 - iii. Final Step: submit to DECD for final execution.

- c. \$20,000 CT Dept of Ag Farmland Restoration Fencing Grant
 - i. Fence bid opening July 3rd
 - 1. Two bids received, both bids over the estimate
 - 2. Likely will reissue bid invitation after modification
 - ii. Site visit with Dept of Agriculture Officials to be arranged.
5. Construction and Design Project Coordination
- a. Mobility Project: wrapping up involvement in coordinating activities with CONNDOT. Transferring administrative responsibilities to Town Public Works.
 - b. Norwich Road Bridges: CONNDOT Update
 - i. Recently scheduled CONNDOT meeting with Town Public Works cancelled. Not yet rescheduled.
 - ii. Planning to schedule a meeting with Town businesses, DECD and MCRC once status of CONNDOT project known. CONNDOT Rep to be invited to business meeting.