

Town of Barkhamsted
Economic Development Commission
Barkhamsted Town Hall
February 2, 2026

Meeting called to order at 7:03 PM.

Attendees: Bob Pulford, Todd Winkler, Mark Mahoney, Tim Deschenes-Desmond, and Don Stein. Meaghan Cook, First Selectman, was also in attendance.

Motion: On a motion by Bob Pulford, seconded by Tim Deschenes-Desmond, the minutes of the meeting of January 6, 2026, were approved unanimously.

Discussion: Don Stein told the members that we have a volunteer who is interested in joining the EDC, but that he was ill the night of the meeting. He will attend the March meeting to learn more about the Commission and to decide if he is interested in becoming a member.

Mallory Brook Tax Abatement: Meaghan reached out to Pullman & Comley, the town attorneys, and found that they had not yet acted on the legal agreement for the tax abatement. She is following up with them and will report at the March meeting.

Farmers Market: There was no update on the Farmers Market as Shannon Chatfield was absent.

Business Meet-and-Greet/List of Businesses on Town Website: Don Stein shared the Town's spreadsheet for businesses registered in Town. The members worked through about one-half the total to determine who we should reach out to see if they wanted to be included in the Town website business list. This review will be completed at the next meeting.

After discussing possible locations for this year's Business Meet and Greet, it was narrowed down to the Riverton Fairground. This was chosen as the best site due to the ability to go into the barns in case of inclement weather. The event will be targeted for September as the weather will be good and the water and restrooms will be available. Once the spreadsheet is complete, we will reach out to the local businesses to determine interest in the website and attendance at the meet-and-greet.

We will also need to determine the format for the event and whether we want to open it to the general public.

DISCUSSION: The members briefly discussed the following items:

- The Barkhamsted Housing Trust has gone out to bid for the site work for the affordable housing complex and selected a contractor. That work will begin as soon as the weather clears so the contractor can work. The BHT will be going out to bid in late February for the construction phase and hope to be able to apply for and receive State funding so they can begin the work this Fall. The water line has been installed up to the back of the shopping plaza. The next step is to work out an agreement with the Plaza owner so that between him and the Housing Trust, the vault can be installed. That installation is about \$250,000 and

the Trust will not have the funds until funding for the construction phase is received. The hope is that Mallory Brook will fund it and the Trust will repay him when they get their funding.

- Meaghan discussed the car show to be held at the Fairgrounds scheduled for this spring. This will be good draw for Riverton and its merchants and is expected to bring a significant audience to town.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Don Stein, Chair