Town of Thomaston Economic Development Commission (EDC)
Regular Meeting Agenda • November 9, 2026 • 7:00 PM
Town Hall • 158 Main Street • Selectman's Conference Room

1) **CALL TO ORDER**
2) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
   A. September 14, 2026; regular meeting
   B. September 9, 2026; special meeting
3) **OLD BUSINESS:**
   A. Business Recognition
      (1) Nominations
      (2) Sponsors
      (3) Marketing, Press Release, Social Media (Town website, Chamber newsletter, email to businesses, flyer/poster, Rotary (Jeff)
   B. Banner and Façade Improvement programs
   C. EDC 2025-2026 budget (final) and 2026-2027 budget review
   D. Subcommittee Goals
4) **NEW BUSINESS:**
   A. CT Main Street Assessment; review Recommendations
   B. EDC Strategic Plan
5) **STAFF REPORT**
   A. Updates (Historic District, UCONN/school project, P&Z actions, grant opportunities, POCD implementation, Sustainable CT)
6) **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:**
   A. Business Relations
      (1) Lunch & Learn opportunities (town website, CBIA presentation, Chamber, etc.)
      (2) **Chamber Updates**
         (a) **Business Expo & After Hours update:** Held October 27 from 5-7pm. Table display, networking.
         (b) **Morning Jolt:** networking: Tues., Nov. 17, 8-9am. Chamber Office, 440 N. Main St., Bristol.
         (c) **Workforce Wednesday lunch & learn – Leader vs. Manager:** Wednesday, Nov. 18, 11:30am-1:00pm; Chamber Office, 440 North Main St., Bristol. $15 members with lunch.
         (d) **Chamber Tune-up:** Tuesday, November 24, 8:30-9:30am, Chamber Office, 440 N. Main Street, Bristol. Learn how to get the most out of your membership.
         (e) **2027 Legislative Agenda & Advocacy Training:** Tues., Dec. 1; 7:30-9:00am; Donna Hamzy Carroccia of Kozak & Salina discusses the agenda and contacting legislators with details on written and in-person testimony. DoubleTree by Hilton, 42 Century Drive, Bristol. $40 Members; $60 future members
         (f) **Annual Holiday Party:** Wednesday, December 9; 5:00-8:00pm. DoubleTree by Hilton, 42 Century Drive, Bristol, $55 members; $75 future members. Food, drink ticket, raffles.
         (g) **Startup Panel:** Thurs., Dec. 10, 5-7pm. Present your idea to experienced professionals to gain advice, insight & connections. Chamber office, 440 North Main Street, Bristol.
         (h) **Morning Jolt:** networking: Tues., Dec. 15, 8-9am. Chamber Office, 440 N. Main St., Bristol.
         (i) **Workforce Wednesday lunch & learn – Emotional Intelligence:** Wed., Dec. 16, 11:30am-1:00pm; Chamber Office, 440 North Main St., Bristol. $15 includes lunch.
         (j) **PYVOT After Hours** young professionals networking (ages 21-40): Thurs., Dec. 17; 6-8pm. Spare Time Bristol**,** 177 Farmington Ave, Bristol. PYVOT members free; Chamber members & future members $25. Laser tag, arcade games; $20 game card for $10

(3) **CT Main Street (CMSC)**

(a) Assessment; review

(b) **Webinar: Strengthening Downtowns: A Legislative Preview.** Thursday, Nov. 19; 11am–12pm. Featuring leaders from the Connecticut Main Street Center (CMSC), the Council of Small Towns (COST), the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM), and the Connecticut Business & Industry Association (CBIA). Together, they will engage in a dynamic conversation about their key priorities for the upcoming legislative session and the policies, initiatives, and advocacy efforts poised to strengthen Connecticut's downtowns and Main Streets. The discussion will be moderated by Erica Phillips, State Policy Editor at the CT Mirror, who will guide a candid dialogue on the opportunities and challenges facing communities across the state. Free.

(4) **Save the Date: State of Main 2027.** Thursday, June 10, 2027. The premier gathering of main street stakeholders dedicated to the vitality of our downtowns.

B. Marketing & Promotion

(1) Solar workshop – Energy Resources (business solar & energy improvements)

(2) Arts & Culture District

(3) Website (ribbon cuttings, events, etc.)

(4) EDC newsletter (quarterly)

C. Downtown Development (parking)

(1) Map & QR code

5) ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Thomaston Greenway Committee

B. 150th Anniversary Committee

6) ANNOUNCEMENTS/PUBLIC COMMENT

7) ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,
Lissa Jennings, EDC Chair