Town of Thomaston Economic Development Commission (EDC) Regular Meeting Minutes-November 10, 2025

PRESENT: Lissa Jennings, Chair; Sue Holway, Secretary; Mike Sweeney, Mike Madow, Jeff

Dunn

ABSENT: Alissa Monteleone, Matt Stancavage, Amanda Burch

ALSO PRESENT: Tony Adili, Land Use Administrator/EDC Liaison; Sara Walker, Recording

Secretary; Jeff Jayce

CALL TO ORDER: 7PM

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: October 6, 2025, Regular Meeting

MOTION made by M. Sweeney, seconded by Sue Holway to APPROVE the Minutes of the October 6, 2025, Regular Meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. POCD Implementation (EDC Related)-Tabled to next meeting
- B. CT Main Street Assessment review. Tabled to next meeting

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Subcommittee Members and Goals:

Discussion of Objectives, combining and assigning tasks to subcommittees. Discussion of Downtown Development and possible funding avenue. Formalities tabled for full Committee Discussion.

B. Chamber Updates:

Special Business After Hours- Networking; Wednesday, November 19th, 5-7PM. Introduction to the United Way. Double Tree by Hilton, 42 Century Drive, Bristol.

Multi Chamber Business After Hours-Networking, Thursday November 20th, 5:30-7:30 Free Event. Riverbend, 1 Bridgewater Road, Farmington

Connecticut Outlook - Tuesday, December 2nd, 7:30-9:00AM. Sean Scanlon and Kirti Patel presenting. Doubletree by Hilton, Bristol

Chamber Holiday Party and Awards-Wednesday December 10, 5-8PM. Doubletree by Hilton, Bristol. \$50 for members Any existing business from Thomaston that is a member of the Chamber can attend.

MOTION made by M. Sweeney, Seconded by S. Holway for Economic Development to Cover the Fee from (EDC) Budget for the Chamber Holiday Party and Awards for (EDC) Commission members interested in attending. Motion passed unanimously.

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- C. CT Main Street
 - Preservation for Housing: How Collaborative & Strategic Funding Saved a Downtown Landmark; Thursday, November 20th 11:00am-12:00pm. Zoom Webinar

STAFF REPORT & GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

- a. Regional Plan of Conservation and Development- No meeting in October
- b. Naugatuck Valley Corridor Economic Development District STRATEGIC ADVISORY BOARD-T. Adili met with Chairman and discussed Drawn Metal Tube, Seth Thomas Building, Plume and Atwood for potential manufacturing.
- c. <u>Text Amendment Zoning Update-</u>Short-Term Rental amendment was approved by Planning and Zoning effective November 26th.
- d. Greenway-portion on Elm Street is off; redesign could cost \$300,000. -\$1,000,000.
- e. POCD Implementation-Nothing New
- f. <u>Available Property Listings</u>-Nothing New
- g. Connecticut Municipal Development Authority-BOS opted into program
- h. Budget-Looks Good
- i. Housing Bill-November 11th and 12th Special Session. Housing Growth Plan.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

- A. Business Relations
 - Business Recognition Event: Date January 13, 2026
 Discussion of Venue and Menu

MOTION made by J. Dunn, Seconded by M. Madow to direct ALL REMAINING PROCEEDS from the (EDC) Business Recognition Event Will Fund Economic Development Initiatives. Motion passed unanimously.

- 2. Lunch and Learn-Nothing new
- B. Downtown Development- Discussion of sidewalks, parking and funding sources.
- C. Marketing & Promotion-Nothing new

ADVISORY COMMITTE REPORTS:

- A. Thomaston Greenway Committee- Elm Street portion voted down, entire project on hold
- B. 150th Anniversary Committee-Gala was a Success

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jeff Jayce of Clay Street spoke on the future of the Greenway and the validity of the recent Town Vote. Also, he suggests a further look into the recalculated amount from the town. Asked about Drawn Metal Tube Building.

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ADJOURNMENT

MOTION made by M. Madow, Seconded by M. Sweeney to ADJOURN the meeting at 8:22PM. Motion passed Unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sara Walker, Recording Secretary