



TOWN OF ELLINGTON

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2026, 7:00 PM

IN-PERSON ATTENDANCE: TOWN HALL ANNEX, 57 MAIN STREET, ELLINGTON, CT
REMOTE ATTENDANCE: VIA ZOOM MEETING
(ATTENDEES IN PERSON UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED)

PRESENT: Chairman Sean Kelly, Vice Chairman Donna Resutek, Regular Members David Hurley, Cynthia Soto, Alternates Amos Smith and Nicholas Pina

ABSENT: Regular Member Chris Todd and Alternate Michael Swanson

STAFF

PRESENT: Lisa M. Houlihan, Town Planner (via Zoom) and Ashley DuBois, Recording Clerk

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Sean Kelly called the Economic Development Commission meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS (on non-agenda items): None

III. ACTIVE BUSINESS:

1. Review of the Plan of Conservation and Development Implementation Schedule for economic development initiatives.

- a. Town Center Village Plan.

No new updates were shared and commissioners agreed to table the discussion.

- b. Create a Celebrate Ellington Businesses Program.

Commissioners reviewed implementing a business recognition program by discussing the categories used by the Tolland County Chamber of Commerce, including Economic Development, Corporate Citizen, Beautification, Best New Business, and Non-Profit of the Year. To avoid redundancy, commissioners agreed the local chamber awards are best suited for the Town. Further discussion ensued regarding the mission of economic development in Town. Commissioners agreed to review the Commission's Mission Statement, budget, and the Plan of Conservation and Development at the next commission meeting.

2. Report: Tolland County Chamber of Commerce

- a. Discuss establishing Taste of Ellington Week

The Tolland County Chamber of Commerce proposed a new event for participating towns, featuring a "Taste of [...]" week per town for 2027. Round table discussion ensued regarding

marketing, logistics, and vision for the event. Lisa Houlihan will provide more details at the next meeting after meeting with the Chamber's Director.

3. Agricultural Initiatives - Nothing new to report.
4. CEDAS Best Practices
 - a. Monthly Customer Service Satisfaction Survey Results (None received) - Nothing new to report.
5. Report: Current Economic Activity
 - a. Quarterly Ellington Business Networking Event – October 21, 2026, Earthlight Technologies, 128 West Road, 10AM.
6. Discuss Shop Ellington 2026
 - a. Review of Shop Ellington 2025 Survey Results.

Commissioners reviewed the survey results gathered from the 2025 Shop Ellington Event previously sent to participating businesses. Consensus proved favorable for the event, but marketing and promotion could use improvement. Commissioners decided to work towards new and revised marketing approaches.

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

1. Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Budget & Expenditures Update. – Nothing new to report.
2. Approval of June 10, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes.

MOVED (SMITH), SECONDED (HURLEY) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE JUNE 10, 2026, REGULAR MEETING MINUTES AS WRITTEN.

3. Correspondence/Discussion:
 - a. Hartford Business Journal – Connecticut's Best Places for Business

Commissioners reviewed the marketing proposal for a page about Ellington in the Hartford Business Journal (HBJ). The deadline to reserve a page is September 15, 2026, and the cost of the page is \$750. Commissioners agreed the HBJ is not suited for smaller towns and decided not to move forward with the publication.

V. ADJOURNMENT:

MOVED (SOTO), SECONDED (SMITH) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MEETING AT 8:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ashley DuBois, Recording Clerk