

Newtown Municipal Center  
3 Primrose Street  
Newtown, CT  
[www.newtown.org](http://www.newtown.org)



## MINUTES

Newtown Economic Development Commission held at regular meeting on June 21, 2016 in Meeting Room 3 at 7:00pm at the Newtown Municipal Center, 3 Primrose St, Newtown, CT 06470

These minutes are subject to the approval of the Economic Development Commission at the next meeting, July 19, 2016.

Members Present: Bob Rau, Wes Thompson, Mike Boyle, Amy Dent, Bill May, Dana Trado

Members Absent: Paul Fadus, Matt Mihalcik, Al Roznicki

Others Present: Courtney Hendricson, CERC (Connecticut Economic Resource center), Betsy Paynter, Economic Development Coordinator, one member of the press

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm. Mr. Rau introduced Courtney Hendricson, VP of Municipal Services, CERC. She presented a research tool CERC offers communities titled the Municipal Assessment tool. She provided an overview of the 70 question questionnaire which would be completed by the EDC and other members of the government to determine where there may be opportunity. The fee for this assessment is \$250 for the initial questionnaire and \$2,500 for the final presentation of findings. She explained the focus of successful economic development is first to retain existing businesses and encourage growth/expansion of those existing businesses, followed by business attraction. Ms. Hendricson provided information on CERC's research department and the assistance they provide regarding specific parcels and potential for development. The EDC will find out more about this tool in regards to the Hawleyville business district.

### Reports:

Bob Rau discussed the Tractor Supply development proposal going through the various boards for approval.

Amy Dent discussed the EDC Business Outreach program. She is the chair of the Business Development subcommittee. There are 4 outreach teams created to meet with local businesses in Hawleyville, Newtown Central/Borough, Sandy Hook and South Main Street business districts. This will be an ongoing effort to connect with local business owners and determine what type of help they may need for growth, etc.

Al Rozenki and Wes Thompson will meet with Betsy to outline the 2016/2017 EDC budget. The EDC will determine the projects they want to work on the next year.

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Mike Boyle reported on a meeting he and Betsy had with Pat Llodra regarding 7 Glen Road in Sandy Hook Village. This contaminated gas station has become a blight issue within the thriving, commercial area of Sandy Hook Village. Mike is working with SHOP to have the building remediated and demolished.

Betsy Paynter is working with DOT to obtain encroachment permits for the directional signage at exit 10 & 11. Betsy also discussed the first Newtown/Sandy Hook Restaurant week taking place the week of Sept 26 – Oct 2. The website and promotional materials are being developed. Marketing will begin in mid August.

Adjournment: With no additional business, Bill May made a motion to adjourn at 8:55pm, Amy Dent seconded.