



**Town of Wallingford**  
**Economic Development Commission**  
**45 South Main Street, Room 311**  
**Wallingford, CT 06492**

**Economic Development Commission**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**April 13, 2026**

**Present:**

**Anthony Bracale, Chair**  
**John Bau, Alternate**  
**Susan Gomes, Alternate**

**Absent**

**Frank Apuzzo, Vice Chair**  
**Carl Casper, Commissioner**  
**Rob Fritz, Commissioner**  
**Gary Gonzalez, Commissioner**  
**Nick Lombardi, Commissioner**  
**Austin McAnney, Commissioner**  
**Amy Souchuns, Alternate**

**Others Present:**

**Don Crouch, Economic Development Specialist**  
**Stacie McCarthy, EDC Secretary**

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Bracale called the regular meeting of the Economic Development Commission to order at 6:38PM.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Chair Bracale led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **Consent Agenda:** Note: All items listed under ‘Consent’ will be enacted by one motion. Commissioners can request to remove an item from consent. (One Motion covers all items)
  - Adopt Meeting Minutes dated March 2, 2026 – **No Action Taken Due to No Quorum**
  - Adopt Monthly Expenditure Reports – February 2026 – **No Action Taken Due to No Quorum**
4. **Items removed from Consent:** None
5. **Reports:**
  - a. **Committee Reports:**
    - Retention and Marketing Committee**

Commissioner Bau asked for an update regarding 55 Kondracki Lane. Mr. Crouch noted that Town Council endorsed a fixed tax assessment for the proposed 66-unit affordable housing development based on an appraised value of \$3,300,000 for a duration of eighteen years and the developers continue to move the project along.
    - Planning and Zoning Committee**

Commissioner Gomes provided an update from the March 30, 2026, Special Planning and Zoning Meeting on Housing, which she attended. She noted that the Planning & Zoning Commission provided a list of approved projects that have not yet been developed.

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Commissioner Gomes suggested that this list may present an opportunity for the Economic Development Commission to proactively reach out to project representatives to determine whether the Commission can assist in advancing these developments. The group agreed with this approach, and Mr. Crouch will work to obtain contact information for the identified projects.

**Housing/Workforce Development/Education Committee**

Commissioner Bau provided an update on the Connecticut Manufacturing, Engineering and Technology Career Fair, which he coordinated in his role as Assistant Dean for Student Experience and Career Development at Quinnipiac University. He reported that more than 70 technical employers from across Connecticut participated, and the event was highly successful. While the event was very well attended, he noted an opportunity to increase participation among Wallingford high schools. Commissioners Bracale and Gomes, who both attended, shared very positive feedback about the event.

Mr. Crouch reported that he recently met with Joe Mirra and Maria Campos-Harlow, Executive Director of United Way of Meriden and Wallingford. As part of their work, they are developing a program to help parents engage in informed discussions with their children about high school course selection and post-graduation career opportunities, particularly in healthcare, hospitality, manufacturing, and service industries. Mr. Crouch suggested that Commissioners Bau and Gomes invite Mr. Mirra and Ms. Campos-Harlow to future Housing/Workforce Development/Education subcommittee meetings to explore opportunities for collaboration.

Commissioner Bau also discussed partnering with the Boys & Girls Club to organize site visits for middle school students to Wallingford manufacturers in support of Manufacturing Month in October. The group considered developing a “Manufacturing Day Site Visit” plan that would provide transportation for middle school students to visit local manufacturing facilities and learn about potential career paths. The discussion emphasized the importance of workforce development in shaping students’ futures and strengthening the town’s economy by supporting local manufacturers. The group agreed to continue advancing this initiative.

**Manufacturing Business Roundtables**

Mr. Crouch reported that Economic Development staff working with the Mayor’s Office on a letter to local manufacturers to encourage their participation in kicking off the initiative.

**b. Economic Development Specialist / Staff Report**

Mr. Crouch provided updates in his Staff Report:

- Attended Budget Workshops in support of Economic Development and Program Planning. He noted that the Public Hearing is scheduled for 4/27/2026 @ 6:30PM and the Motions Meeting is 4/30/2026 @6:30PM.
- Small Business Administration Visit to Small Business Week Winner, Exporter of the Year – Novel Aero, Wallingford scheduled for April 14, 2026.
- Connecticut Main Street Center Spotlight on Main: Wallingford is scheduled for May 7, 2026.
- The Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) project continues to move forward, with the final steering committee meeting scheduled in May with approval expected in June 2026 and adoption in July 2026.

- 93 - Mr. Crouch and Town Planner Kevin Pagini have continued to be in contact with new owners
- 94 of Campus at Green Hill, 108/110 Leigus Road, as they consider subdividing the property into
- 95 multiple parcels
- 96 - A vendor has been chosen to develop a new town website. Revize out of Michigan is the new
- 97 vendor. Kick off meetings are scheduled for later this month, and the project will continue
- 98 through Q12027. Anticipate developing an Economic Development micro-site.
- 99 - Working on system integration of Sikich Customer Relationship Management system.
- 100 - CT Proton Therapy project continues to move ahead and is anticipated to open on schedule.
- 101 - Mr. Crouch highlighted social media statistics, noting a recent post focusing on Wallingford's
- 102 central location between New York and Boston which generated 1,114 impressions. The
- 103 group noted how social media offers marketing opportunities for both the town and economic
- 104 development initiatives.

105 **c. Chairman Report**

106 No update.

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108 **6. Old Business:**

109 No update

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111 **7. New Business:**

112 No Update

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114 **8. Commission Around Town**

115 No update.

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117 **There being no further business, Commissioner Bau made a motion to adjourn the meeting at**

118 **7:45PM.; Commissioner Gomes seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.**

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120 Sincerely,

121 *Stacie McCarthy*

122 Stacie McCarthy, Secretary