

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

September 11, 2026

TO: Members of the Economic Development Commission
FROM: Stacie McCarthy, EDC Secretary
SUBJECT: Regular Meeting Agenda – Monday, September 14, 2026 @ 6:30PM
LOCATION: Town Hall, Room 315
45 South Main Street
Wallingford, CT 06492

1. **Call to Order**
2. **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 June 1, 2026
 - Adopt Monthly Expenditure Reports – August 2026
4. **Items removed from Consent**
5. **Guest Presentations:**
 - Fred Welk, Jr., Director of Business Development, The Community Economic Development Fund
 - Liz Davis, Executive Director, Wallingford Center Inc.
6. **Reports**
 - a. Committee Reports
 - Retention & Marketing
 - Planning & Zoning
 - Housing/Workforce Development/Education
 - b. Economic Development Specialist / Staff
 - c. Chairman
7. **Old Business**
 - Manufacturing Roundtable Discussions
8. **New Business**
 - Review Current Incentives and Next Steps
9. **Commission Around Town (comments/concerns)**
10. **Adjournment**

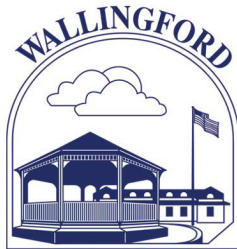
Dates to Remember:

9/14 – Planning and Zoning Meeting
9/22 - Town Council Meeting
9/22 – Mayor Business Leadership Forum
(Manufacturing Roundtable)

Individuals in need of auxiliary aids for effective communication in programs and services of the Town of Wallingford are invited to make their needs and preferences known to the ADA Compliance Coordinator at 203-294-2070 five days prior to meeting date.

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

Economic Development Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
June 1, 2026

Present:

Frank Apuzzo, Vice Chair
John Bau, Alternate
Carl Casper, Commissioner
Gary Gonzalez, Commissioner
Nick Lombardi, Commissioner
Amy Souchuns, Alternate
Susan Gomes, Alternate

Absent

Anthony Bracale, Chair
Rob Fritz, Commissioner
Austin McAnneny, Commissioner

Others Present:

Don Crouch, Economic Development Specialist
Stacie McCarthy, EDC Secretary

1. **Call to Order:** Vice Chair Apuzzo called the regular meeting of the Economic Development Commission to order at 6:37PM.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Vice Chair Apuzzo 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 May 4, 2026
 - Adopt Monthly Expenditure Reports – April 2026

Commissioner Bau made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Casper seconded the motion. Consent Agenda was unanimously approved.

4. **Items removed from Consent:** None

5. Reports:

a. Committee Reports:

Retention and Marketing Committee

Commissioner Lombardi updated the group regarding the recent sale of 33-39 North Main Street and 24-25 Wallace Avenue. Commissioner Lombardi noted that he, Economic Development Specialist Don Crouch and Mayor Cervoni, recently met with the new ownership. Commissioner Lombardi explained that they own another downtown property, and he anticipates a good

working partnership going forward.

Mr. Crouch discussed the recent Business Visit to Novel Aero Inc. noting, Novel Aero and its President & CEO, Yoganandan “Yogi” Tharinibalan, were recognized as the 2026 National Small Business Exporter of the Year, an honor presented by the U.S. Small Business Administration during National Small Business Week.

Mr. Crouch also provided a recap of the CT Main Street Spotlight on Main that visited Wallingford on May 7, 2026. He noted there were 60+ attendees from more than 26 communities that participated in the events of the day including walking tours through downtown. It was a very successful event, and the Administration received very positive feedback from all who attended.

Mr. Crouch also updated the group regarding his recent attendance at a Fireside chat with Deputy Commissioner Matthew Pugliese of the Department of Economic and Community Development who sat down with CEDAS President Kevin Bielmeier to discuss the areas he oversees: Real Estate, Capital Projects, Brownfield and Community Development initiatives. The discussion was followed by a Talk & Tour led by Mark Garilli, CEO of West Hartford Fellowship Housing. West Hartford Fellowship Housing provides and supports affordable housing for the elderly and for adults with disabilities.

Planning and Zoning Committee

Commissioners Casper and Souchuns updated the group related to the recent items ‘Resubdivision and Special Permit for 110 Leigus Road’ discussed at May 11, 2026, Planning and Zoning Commission meeting. They noted that the application for these items was approved.

Commissioner Souchuns also noted that she attended the May 27, 2026, Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) Steering Committee meeting, noting the final public meeting is June 11, 2026, with an anticipated completion date in September 2026.

Housing/Workforce Development/Education Committee

Commissioner Gomes updated the group regarding a recent discussion between Wallingford Works for Housing and the Administration, explaining the group is open to providing support for other housing opportunities in town, noting they remain committed and engaged to these initiatives.

Commissioner Gomes also asked for an update related to Wallingford’s participation with the Connecticut Municipal Development Authority (CMDA). Mr. Crouch noted that he will be meeting with David Kooris on June 2, 2026. Mr. Crouch will continue to provide updates as the process moves along.

Commissioner Bau provided an update regarding a recent discussion he had with Don Crouch, Joe Mirra and Jermaine Mitchell, Unit Director – Ulbrich Wallingford Boys & Girls Club, regarding the opportunity to partner 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 plans to coordinate a “Manufacturing Day Site Visit” plan that would provide transportation for

students to visit local manufacturing facilities and learn about potential career paths. More will be shared regarding this initiative at future meetings.

Commissioner Bau also provided an update regarding the recent Career Pathways 101 event which he attended and was hosted by the United Way of Meriden and Wallingford, Wallingford Public Schools and the Economic Development Commission. The participating organizations provided useful and valuable information for attendees.

Commissioner Bau also noted Senator Cicarella is hosting the 'Building a Future-Ready Workforce: An AI Roundtable' on June 4, 2026, at Choate Rosemary Hall which he plans to attend. He encouraged other Commissioners to attend if available.

Manufacturing Business Roundtables

Mr. Crouch reported that Economic Development staff drafted and mailed outreach letters to manufacturers throughout town to gauge interest in participating in the Mayor's Business Leadership Forum. He noted that Novel Aero President & CEO Yogi Tharinibalan was the first to respond, followed shortly thereafter by Ben Hahn, President of SensorWorx. Mr. Crouch reiterated the importance of the Business Visits initiative, noting that it has created valuable opportunities for collaborative discussion between local businesses and the Administration, while also helping to support the launch of new initiatives such as this.

b. Economic Development Specialist / Staff Report

As Mr. Crouch provided most updates previously, he noted the following:

- Town Council recently approved the budget at the May 26, 2026 meeting.
- EDC staff are in early stages of redesigning town website.
- EDC staff working with vendor to implement Customer Relationship Management System (CRM)

Chairman Report

No update as Chairman Bracale is absent.

6. Old Business:

a. Manufacturing Roundtable Discussion – previously discussed during Retention & Marketing Committee Report.

b. Transit/Trolley Discussion – no update; however the group noted the overall interest in creating additional transportation opportunities for businesses and organizations throughout town.

7. New Business:

No Update

8. Commission Around Town

Commissioner Lombardi noted that 144 South Main Street has recently been listed for sale.

There being no further business, Commissioner Casper made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:40PM.; Commissioner Lombardi seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

Sincerely,

Stacie McCarthy

Stacie McCarthy, Secretary

THROUGH 08/31/26

2/12 = 16.7%

FOR 2027 02

	ORIGINAL APPROP	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	MTD EXPENDED	ENC/REQ	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
10011050 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSIO							
10011050 51000 REGULAR SALARIES &	108,409	108,409	18,763.11	6,254.37	.00	89,645.89	17.3%
10011050 53000 TELEPHONE	500	500	35.08	35.08	439.92	25.00	95.0%
10011050 55110 TRANSPORTATION REIM	1,000	1,000	.00	.00	.00	1,000.00	.0%
10011050 55405 PROMOTIONAL EXPENSE	27,500	27,500	496.00	496.00	.00	27,004.00	1.8%
10011050 56100 OFFICE EXPENSES & S	2,500	2,500	.00	.00	.00	2,500.00	.0%
10011050 58735 OPERATING EXPENSES	7,000	7,000	843.29	.00	.00	6,156.71	12.0%
10011050 58810 DUES AND FEES	2,000	2,000	.00	.00	.00	2,000.00	.0%
TOTAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMIS	148,909	148,909	20,137.48	6,785.45	439.92	128,331.60	13.8%
TOTAL EXPENSES	148,909	148,909	20,137.48	6,785.45	439.92	128,331.60	
GRAND TOTAL	148,909	148,909	20,137.48	6,785.45	439.92	128,331.60	13.8%

** END OF REPORT - Generated by Maggie Maldonado **