

**Town of Deep River Economic Development Commission**  
**May 2023 Monthly Meeting Minutes**

**Call to order:** Lewis called the meeting to order @ 7 P.M.

**Members in attendance:** MacKenzie, Hanover, Kornacki, Recchia, Lewis (acting as Secretary).

**Acceptance of Minutes:** Upon **Motion** by Kornacki, seconded by Lewis, the Motion to accept the minutes from the April 2023 meeting carried (Hanover abstained) .

**Audience:** Leigh Balducci.

**Old Business:**

Discussion of the Connecticut Coastal Academies (CTCA) request seeking an endorsement from EDC to modify the Planning & Zoning Commissions regulations for the property F.K.A. Citizens Bank 141 Main Street, to allow for the operation of a private school. The CTCA Director provided an explanatory memo to EDC presenting a brief overview of their operation. Albeit not germane to EDC's decision-making, a second letter was received from CTCA's attorney addressing the tax status of his client. There was a sharp contrast between the two letters regarding CTCA's tax status. EDC requested an explanation of this duality as well as other factors that would impact EDC's decision. As of May 16<sup>th</sup>, there has been no response to the EDC request. CTCA's failure to respond to the request for information identifying how CTCA would or could contribute to the economic development in the downtown area has led to the following decision:

"EDC has not identified any conclusive evidence of how this proposed zoning change would produce any positive contribution(s) to the economic strength of the downtown district."

Upon **Motion** by Kornacki, seconded by MacKenzie and carried (Hanover abstained), that the EDC is not in support of Connecticut Coastal Academies request for a Planning & Zoning regulation modification.

**New Business:** N/A

**Adjournment:**

Upon **Motion** by Kornacki, seconded by MacKenzie then carried unanimously, this meeting adjourned @ 8:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Lewis  
Secretary