Minutes not yet approved.
Approval and any edits to be made in succeeding minutes.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION & DEVELOPMENT AGENCY – REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING**
**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2026, 8:30 A.M.**
**ZOOM MEETING PLATFORM**

**Members Present**: Siddiq Abdullah; Bonnie Bercowetz; Tricia Martin; Vivian Nabeta (joined at 8:44 am)
**Members Absent**: None.

Also Present: Lynda Laureano, Assistant Director of Building and Land Use; Denise Robidoux, Mike Goman, Justin LaFountain and David Driver of Goman + York on behalf of the Town of Bloomfield; and Rebecca Jones, Recording Secretary.

## I. Call to Order

Chair Bercowetz called the meeting to order at 8:31am.

## II. Approval of Minutes

a. August 11, 2026

**It was moved by Commissioner Abdullah and seconded by Commissioner Martin to approve the August 11, 2026 regular meeting minutes. The motion was approved unanimously by a 3-0-0 vote.**

## III. Old Business

a. ArtFX branding and signage proposal using BEAT update

The Commission reviewed several design options for new signage, focusing on a structural design that allows easy replacement of tenant names. Commissioner Abdullah suggested rearranging the lettering to make "BEAT" more readable, which Chair Bercowetz agreed to bring back to the designers. The Commission expressed preference for the third design, though some found the lettering difficult to read. Chair Bercowetz proposed seeking additional feedback from the Arts Commission and Design Review Board before presenting to the Town Council.

*Commissioner Nabeta arrived at 8:44am, making a quorum of 4 members.*

b. Town Council's possible recommendations for new EDC/DA Commissioners to Town Manager

This will be discussed at the September 14th Town Council meeting.

## IV. New Business

None.

## V. Commission Member Updates

None.

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## VI. EDC Consultant Reports (Goman + York)

a. August 2026 Report

Mr. Driver provided an update on a recent meeting with Cigna's new CEO Brian Ivanko, who agreed to meet with town officials to discuss rebuilding their relationship after many years of attempts. Chair Bercowetz inquired about public art and concert series discussions, which Mr. Driver confirmed were mentioned but not detailed. He explained that the Town Manager requested land donation opportunities and that Cigna's government relations teams received the full downtown center plan for federal funding pursuit.

Ms. Robidoux reported on recent meetings with legislators regarding a $4 million grant request, noting that this represents about 20% of the original funding ask, with the remainder expected from private developers. Mr. LaFountain reported on a recent developer webinar that attracted about 6 participants, with written questions being collected to comply with RFP requirements. Ms. Robidoux also reviewed details about a mixed-use development project in the Bloomfield Center District (BCD) that will double the size of The Green and include commercial elements. Chair Bercowetz highlighted challenges with the current special permit process, which requires public hearings for most developments, and noted that Town Planning staff are working on potential changes to streamline this process.

Mr. LaFountain noted the importance of getting community buy-in and suggested early November as the latest timeline before holiday season impacts. They agreed to proceed with an RFP process for quotes and confirmed that businesses wanting signage would need to pay for it themselves, with one-year terms and option for renewal.

## VII. Town Planner Report

a. POCD Update

Ms. Laureano shared that the TPZ commissioners are in receipt of the final POCD and a public hearing will be scheduled in the future.

b. Town Development Update

Commissioner Abdullah asked about construction occurring near Carbone's Kitchen.

c. Town Center Update

*This was discussed under EDC Consultant Report.*

## Development Agency

## VIII. Continued discussion on Granby/Tobey TIF District

The Commission discussed scheduling changes for upcoming meetings and decided to hold a special meeting on October 6th and a public tour on November 10th followed by a meeting on November 17th.

## IX. Public Comment

Steven Kaplan, owner of 31 Tobey Road, offered an event space within his building to hold the meeting at.

Minutes not yet approved.
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## X. Updates

None.

## XI. Adjournment

**It was moved by Commissioner Nabeta and seconded by Commissioner Abdullah to adjourn the meeting. The motion was unanimously approved and the meeting stood adjourned at 9:23am.**