

## **BOARD OF SELECTMAN REPORT**

**April 21, 2014**

### ***PUTNAM REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY:***

#### **Community Development Block Grant – 2012 – Housing Rehabilitation**

Final properties are being reviewed and mandatory site walks are being conducted that will close out the remainder of the 2012 CDBG round. Report will be submitted in the May Selectman's update report.

#### **Former Putnam Foundry**

CME Associates and the environmental consultants have conducted the walkthrough of the property on April 1<sup>st</sup> to conduct a Pre-Demolition Hazardous Building Material Survey update and a geophysical survey to identify underground utilities and subsurface structures. The next step is the preparation of bid documents.

#### **CDBG Incubator Building**

Discussions are continuing with the CT Office of Housing regarding the potential sale of 39 Ridge Road to ERW, Inc.

### ***ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT***

#### **88 Main St. Façade Improvement Project**

Final payment to Rose Construction is being finalized this month with any further improvements being the responsibility of the property owner.

#### ***S.T.E.A.P.***

The 3 Small Community Projects Grant has been closed out and finalized with the State. The 20 StoryWalk kiosks have been installed by Putnam Welding with the one of the beginning and ending stands being used by the Recreation Dept for informational and/or event signage.

### ***Industrial Park Updates***

- Foster Corporation purchase of Lot 19-2. Legal descriptions and Closing documents are being drafted.
- Renchel Tool – 45 Ridge Road, newly constructed 17,000 s/f Medical components manufacturer moving from Eastford, CT. Taking occupancy on May 5<sup>th</sup>.
- New England Plasma

### ***Move to 156 Main Street***

All items have been moved (4/4/14) to the new office space thanks to the Public Works Dept. As of 4/11/14 we have not yet been connected to the Network although computers are up and running. AT&T will be connecting phone service on 4/11/14. The Economic and Community Development Cmsn and the Putnam Redevelopment Agency invite all members of the Board to visit the office.

### ***Arts Catalyze Placemaking Leadership Grant***

A grant has been submitted to the CT Office of the Arts for the planning and/or implementation of arts-based creative placemaking projects. The grant requires that the arts play a leadership role and requires authentic partnerships, collaborative planning and relevant community engagement. The grant was proposed in support of 2014/2015 First Friday events' theme of "A Celebration of Cultural Diversity" to include Song, Dance, Theater, Architecture, Food and Folklore. Grant if awarded provides \$10,000 cash, \$2,500 cash match from PBA and \$2,500 In-Kind required match. Announcement will be made in June.

### ***Dr. Robert R. Johnston Community Garden***

Opening Day for the garden is scheduled for May 10<sup>th</sup>. Four trees have been removed in the area for needed expansion of the garden. Planning meetings have been taking place throughout the winter season.

### ***Grant Opportunities and Writing***

- Downtown Historic Designation
- Mainstreet Incentive Program- researching the possibility of the Providence Streetscape Phase 2