



**MINUTES
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
November 12, 2025
7:00 PM - ENFIELD ROOM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair LaPlante called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: William Cote (arrived at 8:09), Karen LaPlante, Gretchen Pfeifer-Hall, Kathleen Vose, Nancy Wyzga

Absent: Michael Dynia

Also present were Director of Planning, Laurie Whitten; Assistant Planner, Stephen Hiney; and Recording Secretary, Rebecca Jones. Megan Kelley, member of the public was also present.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. October 14, 2025

MOTION by: Nancy Wyzga **seconded:** Kathleen Vose to approve the October 14, 2025 meeting minutes.

UPON A SHOW OF HANDS VOTE, the Chair declared the motion approved. Yes: KAREN LAPLANTE, Gretchen Pfeifer-Hall, Kathleen Vose, Nancy Wyzga No: None Abstain: None

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Connecticut Land Conservancy Conference will be on March 21, 2026 at Wesleyan University. Ms. Kelley is a volunteer; which allows for free admission to the seminars.

6. CORRESPONDENCE/STAFF REPORT

None.

7. APPROVAL OF INVOICES/OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Connecticut Farm Bureau membership dues were received. Chair LaPlante asked about CACIWC admission.

8. REPORTS OF OFFICERS, COMMITTEES AND STAFF

The CT Farm Bureau membership annual dues were accepted. There was discussion about filling vacancies within the commission.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Farm Friendly Zoning Regulations

Mr. Hiney reviewed the latest draft with Ms. Whitten, and it was decided that these regulations should be pared down. Mr. Hiney recommended creating a document with many of the definitions that are to be removed from the proposed regulations and having it serve as a guideline. Attorney Dwight Merriam will be working with Town Planning staff to draft the farming regulations. Mr. Hiney reviewed the definitions and noted that repetitive definitions will be moved to the guideline document. Chair LaPlante expressed opinions related to the 'right to farm' definition. The commissioners and staff reviewed each definition and shared comments. The special use requirement was discussed. Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall asked questions related to 'right-to-farm' communities.

Commissioner Cote joined the meeting at 8:09pm.

Beekeeping regulations were discussed. Mr. Hiney reviewed other municipalities' regulations, including New Britain. Staff has never had an issue with beekeeping here in town, and they believe this should be in the guidelines and not in the regulations. Ms. Whitten highlighted examples of the repetition within the regulations that will likely have to be removed.

B. List of Priority Parcels for Community Farmland Preservation

Chair LaPlante spoke with the Assessor's Office and asked for a list of 490 and properties that have vacant land and assessments of less than \$5,000.

10. NEW BUSINESS

A. Agricultural Summit

These agricultural summits were held at Asnuntick and were very well attended before the pandemic. Ms. Whitten would like to bring these back with the assistance of this commission. They are aiming for March 2027.

Chair LaPlante asked if Enfield students attending Suffield VoAg would be interested in serving as liaisons on the commission.

11. DATE OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING

A. December 9, 2025

12. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by: William Cote, seconded: Nancy Wyzga to adjourn.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared the motion adopted unanimously, and the meeting stood adjourned at 8:46pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Vose

Secretary

Rebecca Jones

Recording Secretary