



**MINUTES
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
June 11, 2024
7:00 PM - SCITICO ROOM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair LaPlante called the meeting to order at 7:23pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: William Paul Cote, Karen LaPlante, Gretchen Pfeifer-Hall, Nancy Wyzga,
Kathleen Vose

Absent: Michael Dynia

Also present was Recording Secretary; Rebecca Jones.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. May 14, 2024

MOTION by: Kathleen Vose **seconded:** William Cote to accept the May 14, 2024 meeting minutes.

UPON A SHOW OF HANDS VOTE, the Chair declared the motion approved. Yes: William Paul Cote, Karen LaPlante, Gretchen Pfeifer-Hall, Kathleen Vose, Nancy Wyzga No: None Abstain: None.

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

6. CORRESPONDENCE/STAFF REPORT

Chair LaPlante shared an article related to PFAS. She attended a plastics e-seminar, and it is available for replay. PFAS has been found in the Enfield drinking water. It is likely coming from the dump. Commissioner Cote shared that it has also been found in remote areas of the Great Lakes.

7. APPROVAL OF INVOICES/OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS

None.

8. REPORTS OF OFFICERS, COMMITTEES AND STAFF

Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall reported that the Economic Development Commission will be meeting next week for the first time in several months.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Farm Friendly Zoning Regulations

Chair LaPlante has reviewed a draft of the new zoning regulations. The commission will have to wait until the public hearing to give input. She sent commissioners all the regulations related to farming. She also reviewed surrounding towns' regulations related to farming activities, farm stands and staff housing. Chair LaPlante hasn't figured out what is changing, if anything. The commissioners decided to each take a farming-related section to review and compare. They found that this would be more efficient than forming a subcommittee. The timeline for review and approval was discussed.

B. Update on tax abatement ordinances

Chair LaPlante spoke with Councilor Ludwick about the proposed tax abatement options and received an update on the three initial options. A Town Council subcommittee also reviewed the three options, and it appears that the 50% tax break may be the most prudent. The commissioners will likely attend the Town Council meeting to share their support.

C. Solar Farm - 141 Town Farm Road - Siting Council Hearing Update

The hearing will be continued for several months. There was some intense questioning of the applicant per Chair LaPlante. There was new information provided to the applicant regarding an frontage easement.

10. NEW BUSINESS

A. List of priority parcels for Community Farmland Preservation

The commissioners continue to discuss formulating this list and will discuss at the next meeting. It is critical to compile this list in order to move forward with farmland preservation.

11. DATE OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING

A. July 9, 2024

12. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by: William Paul 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 8:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Vose

Rebecca Jones

Secretary

Recording Secretary