

# Woodstock Agricultural Commission

Regular Meeting, Town Hall, 1 pm, Monday, August 16, 2021

**Members Present:** Stewart Morse, Rebecca Hyde, Richard Norman, Paul Miller, Linda Auger, Emilie Hebert, Jon Hermonot

**Absent:** Doug Young

**Public Present:** Amy Monahan, Senexet Grange

**1. Call to order.** Meeting called to order at 1:03 pm

**2. Seat alternates.** Jon Hermonot was seated

**3. Review of minutes.** July 2021 minutes were approved

**4. Public participation.** None

**5. Old business**

**a. WOLSLAFP report.** No meeting last month

**b. P&Z report.** Ag rules discussion but no action, considered high priority. Next planning mtg Sept 9th. May want to check where other towns' regulations are challenging to agricultural interests.

**c. Tax abatement ordinance.** Motion to approve the proposed amendments to the Ordinance Regarding Tax Abatements For Dairy Farms, as submitted by Rich Roberts, with request to also amend the title of the Ordinance if possible. **All in favor**

**d. Alternate for open space** no ordinance yet, which is needed for an alternate system

**e. Woodstock locally grown day** Went well, if small, biggest challenge is communication

**f. Other**

**6. New business**

**a. Celebrating Agriculture.** Sept 25th. Moving forward

**b. State of CT Ag Report.** Solar arrays vs farmland remains problematic

**c. Woodstock land map review.** 5705. This land runs between Rawson Rd and 169 in North Woodstock, and contains a good deal of forested interior. Just a little prime farmland on Rawson and 169.

**d. 2021 public program** The Senexet Grange will be having talks related to small farms and forestry on Sept 30, Oct 13, Oct 17 and Nov 16, each at 6:30 pm. Thus no Ag Commission talks until spring of 2022.

**e. Other**

**7. Announcements.**

**8. Adjourn.** The meeting adjourned at 2:20 pm.

Rebecca Hyde, Secretary

(These minutes are subject to approval at the next meeting of the full Commission.)

