

Woodstock Agricultural Commission
Regular Meeting, Town Hall Room A, Monday, August 20, 2018

Members present: Stewart Morse, Richard, Norman, Paul Miller, Doug Young, Lynn Weaver, Linda Auger.

Public present: Grace Jacobsen, Mike Alberts, Frank Olah, Chandler Paquette

1. **Call to Order** – Stewart Morse called the meeting to order at 1:00pm.
2. **Alternates** – S. Morse moved to seat L. Auger as full member, R. Norman seconded. All in favor. L. Auger volunteered to take the minutes. L. Weaver arrived at meeting after alternate was seated.
3. **Review of June Minutes** – R. Norman moved to accept the minutes as presented; D. Young seconded. All in favor.
4. **Public Participation** – Mike Alberts thanked the WAC for allowing the selectmen to address the group about the three ordinances on the books that allow for tax abatements for various aspects of the town's farms. They stated that they wanted to begin a dialogue with the WAG about updating these ordinances which are dated as far back as the late 1990's and make them more reflective of current agricultural businesses in town. Questions have risen from the Assessor's office as to how to view certain agricultural businesses/buildings as it pertains to taxing (i.e. Ag? Retail?)
After much discussion, the Commission agreed to schedule time for this project after our event in November. The BOS hope to address this by November 2019. Mike Alberts will send all Commission members a copy of each of these ordinances as well as a summary of what they are looking for from us. We also encouraged the BOS to attend this very timely event in November.
5. **Old Business**
 - a. **WOLSAFP Report** – No report.
 - b. **P&Z Sub-committee Report** - S. Morse stated that the draft of the sub-division regulations would be taken up at the next regular meeting of P&Z in September for purposes of a public hearing.
 - c. **2018 Program** – Agritourism in the 21st Century is on track. Posters are out. S. Morse to schedule time on WINY with J. Nichols and L. Weaver. J. Nichols will send email blast.
6. **Announcements** – L. Weaver announced that plans for Celebrating Agriculture are going well.
7. **Adjournment** – S. Morse adjourned the meeting at 2:20pm.

Respectively Submitted,
Linda Auger
Acting Secretary

