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**ENFIELD AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION**  
**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING**  
TUESDAY April 12, 2016

A Regular Meeting of the Enfield Agricultural Commission was called to order by Chair Karen LaPlante in the Enfield Town Hall, 820 Enfield Street, Enfield, Connecticut on Tuesday, April 12, 2016 @ 7:07 PM.

Prior to the meeting a motion was made by Commissioner Kneiss to have the Enfield Agricultural Commission meet prior to the Enfield Conservation Commission – seconded by Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall – No discussion – Passed unanimously.

**ROLL CALL**

Secretary Kathy Vose took the roll.

Present were Commissioner McGuire, Chair LaPlante, Commissioner Cote, Commissioner Dynia, Commissioner Vose, Commissioner Kneiss and Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall.

Also present: Karen Timpone –Recording secretary and Kim Holden from staff.

Absent – Commissioner Szewczak.

Chair LaPlante empowered Commissioner Kneiss to be a voting member at this meeting.

Approval of Minutes - A motion was made by Commissioner Vose to approve the minutes seconded by Commissioner Kneiss. No discussion - passed unanimously 6/0/1 - Abstention by Commissioner Cote.

Kim Holden did pull up the maps and bring copies to the meeting for certain parcels so the EAC could discuss and rate them based on the current criteria.

Chair LaPlante changed the rating points to 3/5/9 from 1/2/3 – this will help add up to 100 for rating. As the properties start to be rated, it can be decided if the point system is working well.

The By-Laws for the EAC have been approved and recorded.

Farms and Farmland Preservation –

This meeting involved rating 5 farms using the current criteria established by the EAC.

Commissioner McGuire explained some of the types of soils. All soils are made up of sandy, silt, clay and organic matter. Sandy loams are prime soil. Commissioner McGuire stated under USDA Natural Resource Conservation Services, web soil survey – this gives the types of soils on individual parcels.

Parcel 1 - 31.6 acres - 62 points

Parcel 2 - 22 acres - 67 points

Parcel 3 – 13.9 acres – 78 points

Parcel 4 – 32 acres – 50 - 60 point range (done individually)

Parcel 5 - 35 acres - will be done individually at home for the next meeting for discussion.

C - For criteria on sewer and water the points are either 3 points or 9 points.

H – Industrial/Business or Residential – It was decided residential should get a higher ranking, and Industrial will become Industrial /Business and will get 3 points. Residential will get 5.

I – Amount of town funding participation – this is questionable and will be discussed as possibly being eliminated from the criteria.

Criteria will be discussed at the next meeting for possible changes.

Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall suggested that possibly we could have another town that is actively rating farmland to come to the EAC, possibly Suffield. Commissioner McGuire will speak to someone from Suffield to see if they would come to talk about rating farmland.

Correspondence / All Commissioners – None.

Next Meeting Date - Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Adjournment – Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Kneiss seconded by Commissioner Cote – No discussion – Passed unanimously

Meeting adjourned @ 9 PM