

**TOWN OF FARMINGTON AGRICULTURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JANUARY 21, 2016**

The following minutes are written as a summary of the main points that were made and the actions taken at the Town of Farmington Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting.

Committee Members Present: Peter Maslyn, *Chairperson*
Henry Adams
Robert Gerlock
Donald Jones
John Marvin
Doug Payne
Royal Purdy

Committee Member Excused: James Gray

Vacant Positions: One vacant committee position

Staff Present:
Ronald L. Brand, Town of Farmington Director of Development and Planning
David Degear, Town of Farmington Water and Sewer Superintendent

1. MEETING OPENING

Mr. Maslyn called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

2. DISCUSSION OF VACANT POSITION ON THE COMMITTEE

Mr. Brand explained that the forthcoming Farmington Farmland Protection Plan will recommend an expanded role for the Agriculture Advisory Committee and the appointments of additional committee members possibly from the Planning Board, the Conservation Board and a liaison from the Town Board. Potential new committee members may also be selected from property owners who lease their farmland, or from citizens who live in farming areas. Mr. Brand said greater participation on the committee by members with diverse backgrounds would provide better opportunities for the acceptance and adoption of the recommendations to be included in the Farmland Protection Plan by the Town Board, the other agencies that will review it and create a larger synergy for implementing the Plan’s recommendations.

Mr. Brand noted that currently there is one vacant committee position. He asked committee members to consider individuals who may be interested in serving. Residents interested in being considered for the committee should then submit a letter or e-mail of intent to Marcy Daniels, the confidential secretary to the Town supervisor. He said the

May–June 2016

Application to NYSDAM
For Town Code Amendments Town Board/NYSDAM

November 2016–March 2017

Drafting Town Code Revisions Town Agriculture Advisory Committee/
Town Board

December 2016–August 2017

Intermunicipal Drainage Project Town Board/County Planning

March 2017

Adoption of Town Code
Amendments Town Board

December 2016 and Annually

Annual Report on Agriculture
and Farmland Changes Town Agriculture Advisory Committee/
Town Board

Mr. Brand explained the importance of incorporating the Farmland Protection Plan as an amendment to the Town’s *Comprehensive Plan* which assures that it would be maintained and periodically reviewed.

He again noted that the Farmland Protection Plan would call for an increased visibility and role of the Agriculture Advisory Committee that would be called upon to strengthen the role of protecting the farmland resources within the Town.

Among the steps and major topics discussed in the Farmland Protection Plan are:

- Approve the Plan
- Amend the *Comprehensive Plan*
- Focus preservation and promotion efforts on lands in an agricultural district
- Farmland preservation and protection report
- Farm viability
- Amend Town Code
- Education
- Database maintenance and development

5. NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Brand and Mr. Adams discussed the timing for the next meeting, which would be scheduled for April. A meeting notice will be forthcoming.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Following the meeting, Mr. Robortella secured the building.

Respectfully submitted,

John M. Robortella L.S.