

**APPROVED
TOWN OF PELHAM
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION – MEETING MINUTES
July 15, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER – Chair Jenny Larson called the meeting to order at 6:44 pm.

PRESENT: Jenny Larson, Steve Doherty, Danielle Masse-Quinn, Laura Spottiswood, Alternate Theresa Wentzell, Alternate John Spottiswood, Selectman Kevin Cote, Joe Boissonneault

Roll call:

Steve Doherty - Present
Jenny Larson - Present
Jessica Edwards - Absent
Danielle Masse-Quinn - Present
John Spottiswood – Present
Laura Spottiswood - Present
Theresa Wentzell - Present

ABSENT: Jessica Edwards

Ms. Larson appointed Alternate John Spottiswood as a voting member.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MEETING MINUTES:

Motion to accept June 3 & July 1 meeting minutes as written. (Masse-Quinn / Doherty)

VOTE: (5-0-0)

MOTION CARRIES

ANNOUNCEMENT(S):

No announcements

OPEN FORUM:

No one came forward.

APPOINTMENTS:

No appointments.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Spottiswood gave donations (\$301) to Steve from the 7/10/21 market. The insurance is all set. John paid the balance of \$450.00. The original bill was sent to another company in error, they had paid the balance. John paid balance back to clear insurance and make sure all set. Binder is good until June of 2022.

MOTION: To reimburse John \$450.00 he paid for the insurance binder.
(Masse-Quinn/Doherty)

VOTE: (5-0-0)

MOTION CARRIES

Ms. Larson discussed the option of the Farmer's Market becoming a non-profit. She is gathering information to start the process for 2022. It helps separate the Market from the Ag Commission. It would be easier to handle the money. Now we have to bring it to the town to get money used for the Market from the Ag Commission. Becoming a non-profit also qualifies the Market for more grants.

DISCUSSION:

Hawkers & Peddlers Town Ordinance and how that impacts the Market. The current ordinance as it stands, would charge the vendors \$50.00 for the 1st 30 days and then \$25.00 for each month after. A charge of that amount would hurt all of our vendors. The Farms (Farmer Dave's & Doherty Farms) would be exempt per the ordinance.

Ms. Larson & Mr. Spottiswood are on the agenda for the Board of Selectman meeting on Tuesday 7/20/21. The Board of Selectman exhibited a lack of knowledge, during the 7/6/21 BOS meeting, on the Farmers Market rules and RSA's and the Ag Commission would like to clarify some of the statements made by some of the members of the Board of Selectman.

Some other points of discussion on benefits of the Farmers Market in Pelham:

Community event with many vendors being from Pelham, kids are involved

High School volunteers are a big part of the market

Library has a community table scheduled with story hour

Ms. Larson clarified that the term Farmers Market is a branded seal and that she has registered the Pelham NH Farmers Market with the state.

Some of the items brought up for discussion with Selectman Cote:

How market is “policed”

Clarify the Farmers Market Managers vs the Farmers Market subcommittee

Vendor rules such as displaying their business name, products & pricing

Homesteader regulations

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting. (Masse-Quinn/Doherty)

VOTE: (5-0-0)

MOTION CARRIES

Ms. Larson adjourned meeting at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Spottiswood