



**Lebanon Conservation and Agriculture Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
January 3, 2022
Lebanon Town Hall**

Members present: Marc Lang (Chair), John Slate, Ethan Stearns, Alton Blodgett, Jan Fitter, Emery Gluck, John Drum (Alternate), Mia Colasuonno (Alternate)
Absent: Keith LaPorte, Marc Wolf (Alternate), Michael Wolf (Student Rep.)
Also present: Philip Chester (Town Planner)

- I. Marc Lang called the meeting to order at 4:31 p.m.
- II. Public Comment. Joy Tyler, The Grown ConNECTed program at UConn Extension described the organization's outreach to northeastern CT farmers and presented materials they produce to promote local agriculture. She has presented at Lebanon Fair and provided farm brochures that were handed out at Lebanon Farmers Market. 14 Lebanon farms are promoted in their brochure and it includes several Lebanon farmer photos.
- III. Meeting Minutes.
 - a. **Motion made by Alton Blodgett, seconded by Jon Slate, to approve the November 1, 2021 meeting minutes. Motion unanimously approved.**
- IV. New Business.
 - a. FY 2022-23 Operating Budget.
Motion by Marc Lang, seconded by Ethan Stearns, to recommend a \$250.00 operating budget. Motion unanimously approved.
 - b. FY 2022-23 Capital Budget.
Motion by Alton Blodgett, seconded by Marc Lang, to recommend that \$107,074.26 be added to the Open Space Account in conformance with the open space account recommendation in the 2020 Plan of Conservation and Development (#1, page 34) and Implementation Table (#26, page 48).
 - c. Mr. Chester updated the Commission on the following items:
 - Survey bids for were received for the Himmelstein, Stearns, and Andrews farms.
Motion by Marc Lang, seconded by Alton Blodgett, to recommend to the Board of Selectmen the expenditure of \$43,239.70 from the Open Space Account to conduct farmland preservation surveys for the Himmelstein, Stearns, and Andrews properties. Motion unanimously approved.
 - The Board of Selectmen has provided a total of \$10,000.00 in ARPA funds for the 2022 and 2023 farmers markets.
Motion by Jan Fitter, seconded by Ethan Stearns, to request \$5,000.00 in ARPA funds for the 2024 farmers market. Motion unanimously approved.
 - List of infrastructure needs for the Airline Trail has been submitted to CT RC&D
 - The town is supporting a DEEP grant application made by Friends of Lake Williams to help eradicate invasives in the lake. The Commission agreed to supply a letter of support should it be needed.
- V. The Commission adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Philip S. Chester, AICP
Town Planner
1/4/22