

TOWN OF PLAINFIELD
Notice of Enactment of Ordinance No. 123

Notice is hereby given that at a duly called Town Meeting on June 29, 2015, the following ordinance was adopted and became effective upon passage:

ORDINANCE 123: AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING
THE PLAINFIELD AGRICULTURE COMMISSION

ESTABLISHED:

CHARGES/DUTIES: The Agriculture Commission shall be an advisory/non-regulatory board with the following charges and duties:

General

- a. To foster agricultural viability and preservation of agricultural land in Plainfield.
- b. To serve as a conduit between local farmers and non-profit agencies, civic organizations, municipal boards and commissions, elected officials, and non-farm residents.
- c. To advocate for agriculture before land use and other relevant boards, commissions and/or committees.
- d. To act as a resource for agriculture information.

Education and Outreach

- a. To increase awareness of agriculture enterprises in the community.
- b. To promote the value of agriculture viability in the areas of employment, property taxes, environment and open space preservation.
- c. To provide information and guidance on agriculture-related issues to town departments and other commissions, committees, and residents as necessary.
- d. To support young farmers and 4-H programs.
- e. To recognize and support new farming operations.
- f. To act as a sounding board and provide review to town departments, boards and committees concerning the impact of proposed town policies on agricultural activities.
- g. To promote opportunities for Plainfield's agricultural community to collaborate and coordinate activities with each other and with others in the region.

- h. To encourage and promote generally accepted management practices for farming and celebrate successful ones.

Economic Opportunities

- a. To identify opportunities to preserve and expand agriculture in Plainfield.
- b. To promote opportunities for residents and local businesses to support farming.
- c. To provide information regarding available financial support related to agricultural viability.
- d. To support efforts to secure the land base necessary for future agricultural uses.
- e. To foster, with the support of residents, boards, commissions, and the town planner, a climate that supports the economic viability of farming as a career in Plainfield.

MEMBERSHIP: The Agricultural Commission will consist of five (5) regular members and up to three (3) alternate members, appointed by the Board of Selectmen, who shall be residents and voters of the town and be persons with interest and involvement in the viability, sustainability, and protection of agriculture as defined by Connecticut General Statutes 1-1(q) and 19a-341. The failure of a voting member to attend four (4) consecutive meetings of the commission may constitute cause for the Agricultural Commission to recommend removal of the member and fill the position thus vacated from a list of residents recommended to the Board of Selectmen by the Agricultural Commission. The members of the Commission shall receive no compensation for service. Members shall elect their own officers and establish their meeting schedule.

LENGTH OF TERM: Initial appointments will be as follows: Three (3) members to be appointed for a period of three (3) years; two (2) members to be appointed for a period of two (2) years; one (1) alternate member to be appointed for a period of three (3) years; and two (2) alternate members to be appointed for a period of two (2) years. Thereafter, appointments shall be for three (3) year terms.

This ordinance shall become effective upon passage.

Date at Plainfield, CT
The 10th of July, 2015

Paul E. Sweet, First Selectman
Albert E. Brunsdon, Selectman
George Krecidlo, Selectman