

## An Ordinance Establishing Hampton Agriculture Commission

**Statutory Reference or Authority:** Conn. General Stat. §§ 1-1(q)

**Purpose:**

General

- a. To foster agricultural viability and preservation of agricultural land in Hampton.
- b. To foster a healthy environment.
- c. To serve as a conduit between local farmers and non-profit agencies, civic organizations, municipal boards and commissions, elected officials, and non-farm residents.
- d. To advocate for agriculture before land use and other commissions.
- e. To act as a resource for agricultural information.
- f. To chart land use in Hampton to support a balance between agriculture, preservation, and other land uses.

Education and Outreach

- a. To increase awareness of agricultural enterprises in the community.
- b. To promote the value of viable agriculture to the Town in the areas of employment, property taxes, environment and farmland preservation.
- c. To provide information and guidance on agriculture-related issues- such as zoning, inland wetland, public works and other- to town departments and other boards and commissions and residents as necessary.
- d. To promote young farmers by supporting local, regional, and state vocational agricultural education, 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 commissions concerning the impact of proposed town policies on agricultural activities.

Economic Opportunities

- a. To identify opportunities to preserve and expand agriculture in Hampton.
- b. To promote opportunities for residents and local businesses to support agriculture.
- c. To provide information regarding available financial support related to agricultural viability.

**Definitions:** None.

**Exceptions:** None

**Ordinance Text:****MEMBERSHIP:**

The Agriculture Commission will consist of five (5) voting members and three (3) alternates appointed by the Board of Selectmen. Insofar as practical, members appointed shall be representative of all groups interested in the management, protection, and regulation of agriculture as defined by Connecticut General Statutes 1-1q, particularly those directly involved in agriculture. A chairman, vice chairman and a secretary will be elected and will serve for a term of one (1) year.

**LENGTH OF TERM:**

The appointments will be for two (2) year terms.

**Fees:** N/A

**Penalties:** N/A

**Cross References:**

**Date Approved:** May 16, 2011

**Date Published:** Pending

**Effective Date:** Fifteen (15) days after pending publication

**History:**