

**TOWN OF CROMWELL  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
SPECIAL MEETING  
8:00 P.M. THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 2012  
ROOM 222 CROMWELL TOWN HALL  
41 WEST STREET**

**MINUTES**

**1. Call to Order**

Chairman Scott Lamberson called the meeting to order at 8:00 PM.

**2. Roll Call and Seating of Alternates**

Present: Scott Lamberson, John Whitney, Joseph Corlis, Joseph Cap, Alternates Jonathan Pinney & Amanda Thomas

Absent: Ernest Pandolfi

Also Present: BOS Liaisons Ann Halibozek & Allan Spotts

No alternates were seated at the meeting.

**3. Approval of Agenda**

**Joseph Corlis made a motion to approve the agenda as presented, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joseph Cap. All in Favor. Motion Passed.**

**4. Town Planner Report: None**

**5. Old Business: None**

**6. New Business: None**

**7. Farmland Preservation Committee:**

a. Discuss and possible approve "Final Report" of the Farmland Preservation Committee

Scott Lamberson read Craig Minor's memo dated 12/27/11 into the record. Scott Lamberson commented on the State's recommendation of the 4 to 1 acres ratio for farmland preservation. Joseph Corlis said that the Town is too small to afford the 4 to 1 ratio and that he would support the Town's recommendation of a goal of a 2 to 1 ratio. No members present were agreeable to the 4 to 1 ratio.

Ann Halibozek said she was concerned over the fact that there is nothing in writing from any State official that says that they have agreed to the Town's proposal to set the goal at a 2 to 1 ratio. Brian Armet said that he has been in contact with DEEP and DoAG and confirmed that they are agreeable to the 2 to 1 ratio. Allan Spotts noted that the recommendation of the 2 to 1 ratio came from the 1st Selectman.

Alice Kelly said she felt that it is imperative to have this in writing and Brian Armet said he would call DoAG the next day as well as Craig Minor to make sure that it is provided in writing, as the Mattabassett grant funds are dependent on the State accepting the Town's Farmland Preservation Program proposal.

Brian Armet discussed Cromwell's Sewer Service Area Map and the fact that Mr. Millane is now part of the discussions regarding his parcel off of Field Road with the State concerning the conflict between the Town's Sewer Service Area Map showing it as a parcel serviceable by sewers and the Farmland Report listing it as farmland. He said the State views this as a conflict in relation to its Plan of Development.

Scott Lamberson suggested that the map for the available farmland should have another layer showing the actual land currently available for preservation not just any land that fits the preservation criteria.

Discussion on a few revisions to the Farmland Preservation Committee "Final Report" and table were held. Brian Armet suggested that a second list be made of all farmland that fits the preservation criteria not just the PA 490 participants.

**John Whitney made a motion to approve the Final Report with the conditions that the following changes are made:**

- 1. Revise and state the 4 to 1 ratio to a 2 to 1 ratio.**
  - 2. 5. a. (pg 4) site Sec 8-25b Statute language to reflect all open space funding uses not just farmland preservation.**
  - 3. Change the table to state that the farmlands listed are PA 490 participants only. and to submit the report to the P&Z for program funding approval and then to the BOS for adoption, 2nd by Joseph Cap .**
- All in Favor. Motion Passed.**

Ann Halibozek, Allan Spotts and Alice Kelly asked to be added to the DoAG's Agriculture Report email list.

**b. Community Farms Preservation Grant Program**

A brief discussion is held on the criteria for requesting and obtaining farmland preservation grant money for municipalities offered through DoAG that was detailed in CCM's December 15, 2011 State Regulatory Bulletin. Scott Lamberson commented that the POCD will need to be updated to comply with the terms of the program.

**Joseph Cap made a motion to recommend to the Board of Selectman that Cromwell apply for the Department of Agriculture's Community Farmland Preservation Program before the May 31, 2012 deadline, 2<sup>nd</sup> by John Whitney.**  
**All in Favor. Motion Passed.**

- 8. Communications: None**
- 9. Commissioners' Comments: None**
- 10. Public Comments: None**

**11. Approval of Minutes:**

a. November 10, 2011

**Joseph Corlis made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2011 meeting as presented, 2nd by John Whitney.**

**Vote: Yes: Joseph Corlis, John Whitney, Joseph Cap**

**Abstain: Scott Lamberson, Amanda Thomas (not at minutes meeting)**

**Motion Passed.**

a. December 8, 2011

**Joseph Cap made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 8, 2011 meeting as presented, 2nd by Joseph Corlis.**

**Vote: Yes: Scott Lamberson, Joseph Corlis, Joseph Cap**

**Abstain: John Whitney, Amanda Thomas (not at minutes meeting)**

**Motion Passed.**

Discussion was held on setting a special meeting for the same night as the P&Z meeting on February 7, 2012 (at 7:00 PM), so that after P&Z approval the Farmland Preservation Commission's Final Report can be approved by the Conservation Commission and presented to the BOS at their February 8, 2012 meeting.

**John Whitney made a motion to set a special meeting for 7:30 PM on February 7, 2012, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joseph Corlis.**

**All in Favor. Motion Passed.**

**12. Adjourn**

**Amanda Thomas made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:18 PM, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joseph Corlis.**

**All in Favor. Motion Passed.**

Respectfully Submitted By,

Sarah A. Voog  
Conservation Commission Clerk