

**AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
OCTOBER 9, 2019**

Members Present: Evan Carpenter (Chair), Kim LaMotte, Marie McRae, Brian Magee

Absent: Steve Foote, Erin Bieber

Liaison(s): Craig Schutt, Conservation Board

Guest(s): Monika Roth, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Tompkins County

The meeting was called to order at 7:42 p.m.

Old Business

M. Roth of CCE-Tompkins produced maps with agricultural overlays. The Committee and M. Roth reviewed multiple maps and discussed corrections and changes to the maps. Several privately-owned parcels were coded as Cornell property in error. The point of the Agricultural District is to look at active agricultural land and where it is concentrated. Discussed different areas and if they should or should not be in the Ag District. There are some isolated parcels that are not getting ag assessment and are surrounded by rural land.

M. Roth will go to the assessment office and determine parcel numbers and owners. She will bring that information back to the Ag Committee for their input prior to the information being given to the Planning Board for their review. The County Legislature has the final say as to which parcels will be added or removed.

Being in the Ag District does give someone protection from development; the same as if they were a farmer. Any time there is a municipal infrastructure that were to go through an Ag District, the rural landowners are similarly protected. If you have a lot of road frontage in an Ag District, you are limited on what the municipality can charge you, as you pay only for the area where the house is, not the whole road frontage. You are exempt from the linear foot charge along the road frontage. M. Roth stated she is not 100% sure the exemption would apply to non-farming operations.

New Business

Discussed that an email will go out to Committee members approximately 10 days before each meeting for input on agenda items. It was suggested the Committee review the Ag Protection part of the Comprehensive Plan to prepare for the future meeting with the consultant, EDR.

Review and approval of minutes dated September 11, 2019

E. Carpenter made a motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by K. LaMotte and unanimously approved.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chrystle Terwilliger
Deputy Town Clerk