

ARTICLE 35: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to establish and charge an Agricultural Commission to represent the Town of Falmouth's agricultural community and interests

The Selectmen and said Commission, once appointed, shall develop a work plan to guide its activities. Such activities shall include, but are not limited to the following: serve as facilitators for encouraging the pursuit of agriculture in Falmouth; promote agricultural-based economic opportunities for the Town; act as mediators, advocates, educators, and/or negotiators in an advisory capacity on farming issues for established Town Committees and Departments; work for the preservation of agricultural lands owned by the Town; and pursue all initiatives appropriate to creating a sustainable agricultural community.

For the purposes of this article, agriculture is defined to include fresh water and marine aquaculture and the keeping and boarding of horses or livestock for personal or commercial purposes.

The Commission shall consist of seven members appointed by the Board of Selectmen. The terms shall stagger of three-year intervals with the initial terms being: three members for three years, two members for two years, two members for one year, and three years thereafter.

Whereas; the Town currently owns substantial agricultural land;
Whereas; current Town Committees are faced with agricultural issues;
Whereas; Town Department heads are faced with agricultural sensitive decisions;

The creation of an Agricultural Commission will aid Committees and Departments along with the agricultural community to preserve, revitalize, and sustain farming as a vital part of the future of the Town of Falmouth, and to fully act thereon. On request of the Board of Selectmen.