

AGENDA
CHARLESTOWN AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
Wednesday July 20, 2022
REGULAR OPEN MEETING/TOWN HALL
4540 SOUTH COUNTY TRAIL
CHARLESTOWN, RI
7:00PM

- 1) 1.CALL TO ORDER
- 2) ROLL CALL
- 3) REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF April 20, 2022
- 4) OLD BUSINESS
 - a. Current status of the commercial solar statute being worked on by the Planning board.
- 5) NEW BUSINESS
 - a. Discussion of Deb Carney's letter (see attached) about Tourist visits to Farms over 15 acres
 - b. Discussion of Ed Goulet's request to Mike Merner about preserving his land by leasing his land to a farmer.
- 6) PUBLIC COMMENTS AND ADDITIONAL BUSINESS
- 7) No public comments have been received to date
- 8) ADJOURNMENT

A forty eight (48) hour notice is required for all persons with sensory impairment needing auxiliary aids.

POSTED AT TOWN HALL	07/13/22	JJG
POSTED ON TOWN'S WEBSITE	07/13/22	JJG
POSTED ON SOS WEBSITE	07/13/22	JJG

----- Original Message -----

Subject: RVs or tents on farms

From: Deb Carney <Deb.Carney@CharlestownRI.gov>

Date: Sun, May 22, 2022 4:52 pm

To: "nrowe@primate.org" <nrowe@primate.org>

Cc: Joe Warner <jwarner@CharlestownRI.gov>

Hi Noel,

I spoke with Joe Warner, Charlestown's Building and Zoning Official, regarding the request from the Agricultural Preservation Committee to amend the Comp Plan or zoning to allow farms of over 15 acres to host tourists who would like to rent a tent or park an RV on a farm.

There are many factors that need to be considered and obstacles in the way.

Joe provided the list below of items that would need to be addressed with commercial activity taking place on agricultural land:

- Building/Fire Codes
- Public water supply
- Sewage disposal
- Emergency service access
- Traffic control
- Enforcement
- Insurance
- Tax consequences
- Music/entertainment
- Food/Alcohol
- Farmland preservation laws
- Any other local, State and Federal Laws to include Town Code, Zoning, Subdivision and Land Use Regulations and RIGL's.

Joe also provided some links with additional information:

<https://onerural.uky.edu/right-to-farm/RI>

<https://apnews.com/article/f445b9e4659d4bdfb24ef9f3429f2ca5>

<https://www.providencejournal.com/story/news/politics/2018/01/16/ri-supreme-court-says-no-to-weddings-on-exeter-farmland/16081579007/>

<https://nationalaglawcenter.org/wp-content/uploads/assets/articles/AgritourismLitigationHallFinal.pdf>

I copied Joe on this email so you have his contact information if you have any questions.

Deb

Deborah Carney
President
Charlestown Town Council

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