

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**

**TOWN OF GRAFTON**

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

**WARRANT**

**ARTICLE 45. CITIZEN PETITION –AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION**

To see if the Town will vote to adopt a new By-Law for the establishment of an AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION as described below.

**PURPOSE:** The mission of the Agricultural Commission, hereinafter “the Commission”, is to represent the Town of Grafton’s agricultural community and interests. The Commission once appointed shall develop a work plan to guide its activities. Such activities include, but are not limited to the following: serve as facilitators for encouraging the pursuit of agriculture in Grafton; promote agriculture-based economic opportunities in the Town; act as mediators, advocates, educators, and/or negotiators on farming issues for established Town Committees and Departments; and pursue all initiatives appropriate to creating a sustainable agricultural community.

**MEMBERSHIP:** The Commission shall consist of five members who shall be Grafton residents, appointed by the Board of Selectmen. The initial term of two members shall be three years, of two members shall be two years, and of one member shall be one year. After the initial term, the term of a member shall be three years. The Board of Selectmen may appoint two alternates and any number of non-voting advisory members without residency restrictions. The term of an alternate member shall be one year. The Board of Selectmen shall fill a vacancy based on the unexpired term of the vacancy in order to maintain the cycle of appointments. The Commission may recommend appointees to fill vacancies, or to the any other action relative thereto.

The Attorney General’s Office approved the new by-law which will now be Article 38 of the Town of Grafton General By-Laws.