



TOWN OF MANSFIELD
ORDINANCE DEVELOPMENT AND REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE
Thursday, May 24, 2012
Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
Conference Room B
6:00 p.m.
Minutes-Draft

- I. Call to Order/Roll Call Chair Carl Schaefer called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.
Present-Keane, Lindsey, Schaefer.
Staff: Jennifer Kaufman and Irene Luciano
- II. Approval of May 3, 2012 minutes-*Lindsey moved to approve the minutes of May 3, 2012, Schaefer seconded. Motion passed. Keane abstained.*
- III. Old Business
 - a. Right to Farm Ordinance and Municipal Tax Incentives for Farms
 - **Farm Property Tax Abatement** – O'Brien made changes to the ordinance per the committee's comments at the 5/32012 meeting. The revised draft was circulated. Committee members asked Irene Luciano if she felt that ordinance as written would give her enough authority to implement the while preventing abuse by non-farmers. Irene reported that she felt that the implementation would be straightforward. She has discussed the abatement at length with the Woodstock assessor who has been implementing this ordinance for years. After analysis of all three farm tax incentive ordinances, she estimates that the uncollected revenue will be approximately \$23,000 per year, or approximately .0009031% of the overall budget. The approximate additional taxes paid per year on a house valued at \$200,000 would be \$6.00. The committee agreed that including non-traditional farm made the ordinance too vague and suggested removal. *Schaefer moved "To send the Farm Property Tax Abatement to the Town Council for consideration, provided that the changes meet the approval of the Town Attorney and that non-traditional farms are removed from the ordinance." Lindsey seconded. Motion passed unanimously.*
 - b. Next Meeting Date: No future meeting date was scheduled.
- IV. Public Comment-None
- V. Adjourn-Lindsey motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 pm. Keane seconded. Motion passed unanimously.