

**City of Northampton**  
**MASSACHUSETTS**

*In City Council, January 21, 2016*

***Upon the recommendation of the Conservation Commission and the Office of Planning and Sustainability***

WHEREAS, The *Open Space and Recreation Plan: 2011-2018* recommends preserving privately owned farmland with agriculture preservation restrictions to permanently preserve farmland and provide food security;

WHEREAS, On August 13, 2015, City Council authorized the purchase of an Agriculture Preservation Restriction (under MGL Chapter 184, Section 31) on 0.85± acres of farmland on Island Road (Map ID 46-025) and the property owners have agreed to sell an agriculture preservation restriction on their property for \$1,000;

WHEREAS, The Massachusetts Department of Agriculture Resources has declined to approve the Restriction because they only sign Restrictions on larger parcels. The Conservation Commission and Agriculture Commission support a local agriculture preservation restriction program for property owners who want to participate to preserve farmland;

WHEREAS, The City is prepared to proceed as a local Agriculture Preservation Restriction that does not require state approval;

***Ordered, that***

The Conservation Commission is authorized to purchase or otherwise acquire an agriculture preservation restriction in the above land and any immediately adjoining land; and that the City Council hereby accepts such restriction;

Further that any grants or donations, shall be used to reimburse open space funds used for the purchase.

