

*Public Hearing
Agricultural District #1
(Towns of Barton, Candor, Spencer, & Tioga)
August 25, 2020*

The Public Hearing on review of a proposed plan for continuation with modifications of Agricultural District #1, which is comprised of enrolled and proposed new parcels in the Towns of Barton, Candor, Spencer, and Tioga was called to order by Deputy Chair Hollenbeck at 1:00 P.M. Legislative members Balliet, Hollenbeck, Standinger, Sullivan, and Weston were present with Legislators Monell, Mullen, Roberts, and Sauerbrey being absent.

Staff members Megan Griffiths, Agricultural Development Specialist, Bryan Goodrich, GIS Technician, and Cathy Haskell, Legislative Clerk were present.

There were five members of the public in attendance.

The Clerk read the legal notice as published in the official newspapers.

Megan Griffiths, Agricultural Development Specialist spoke. "This is the anniversary of the eight-year review of the Spencer Agricultural District. The anniversary will be January 13, 2021. The review of the District is a 300-day process, which started in April 2020. Tioga County ED&P and GIS have done an extensive outreach and data collection to farmers and owners of potential agricultural land in the Towns of Spencer, Candor, Barton, and Tioga and we are now nearing the end of the review process. Tioga County ED&P sent letters to all affected landowners on the maps provided here today regarding the public hearing.

"As of today, the number of acres in the District is 49,711. The number of acres in farms is 29,663, which is approximately 60% of the agricultural parcels in the District. There are 105 farms and the number of acres owned by farmers is 30,442. The number of acres rented from non-farmers is 2,221.

"Since the last review, there has been an addition of 3,142 acres with none being removed, as there were no requests for removal during the process so far. There is an increase of 3,194 acres in farms, as a result of adding 19 farms in the District.

"Maps are on display today; Spencer, Candor, Barton, and Tioga individually with the new parcels highlighted in green that have been added this year.

“The next step in the 300-day review process is approval of the modifications by the Tioga County Agricultural & Farmland Protection Board on September 9, 2020 followed by adoption by the Tioga County Legislature at their October 13, 2020 meeting.”

There being no public comments, the hearing was adjourned at 1:04 P.M.