



*City of Waltham, Massachusetts*

## **Resolution**

**Concerning the UMASS Field Station**

*December 26, 2018*

**WHEREAS...** The University of Massachusetts (UMASS) Field Station at 225 and 240 Beaver Street in Waltham is comprised of three separate parcels of land totaling 58 acres, and

**WHEREAS...** The UMASS Field Station was also known as the Market Garden Field Station, the Waltham Experiment Station, the UMass Suburban Experiment Station and the UMASS Waltham Center, and

**WHEREAS...** The UMASS Field Station was originally donated by Waltham resident and philanthropist Cornelia Warren in 1922 with a reversionary clause to the City of Waltham, and

**WHEREAS...** Warren's legacy as a pioneering conservationist is unparalleled in the region's history, and

**WHEREAS...** Warren's legacy is reflected in the current use of the UMASS Field Station by many non-profit and educational groups, and

**WHEREAS...** The UMASS landscape has been continually farmed for the last three centuries, and

**WHEREAS...** One of the current tenants, Waltham Fields Community Farms (WFCF), represents the last working major farm in Waltham, and

**WHEREAS...** Locally grown produce is good for our community in many diverse ways, as local food promotes energy conservation, supports local farmers and preserves open space, and

**WHEREAS...** Portions of the property are listed on the Massachusetts State Register of Historic Places, and

**WHEREAS...** The UMASS Field Station is where the famous Waltham Butternut Squash and the Waltham Broccoli were invented, and where significant research about corn was undertaken by Dr. Walton C. Galinat, and

**WHEREAS...** The current owner, UMASS, intends to shutter the facility and evict all tenants by the end of 2019, and

**WHEREAS...** Federal recognition of the UMASS Field Station's historical significance is essential to its preservation and protection;

**NOW, BE IT RESOLVED...** That the Waltham City Council investigate the acquisition of the publicly owned UMASS Field Station, for farming and open space purposes, for low or no cost, thus preserving the last working farm in Waltham, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED...** That the Waltham City Council investigate nominating the UMASS Field Station landscape and historic structures for inclusion to the National Register of Historic Places;

**Read and adopted** \_\_\_\_\_

**Attest: Robert J. Waddick, City Clerk**

Respectfully submitted:

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Councillor Sharline Nabulime

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Councillor George A. Darcy III

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Councillor John J. McLaughlin