





Foundations have been interested in funding the administration, not the land, and for the next year (2004) the BRC has only garnered \$3000 of foundation support for administration (as opposed to \$15,000 in 2003). Some taxpayer's have complained about taxpayer money being used to buy-out development rights. Also, the Town never knows from year to year if federal funds will be available. With no other outside sources of funds apparent at this time, the deals are dependent on competing well for federal funds.

### Suggestions

- **Combine committees.** Now that the procedures and criteria are set up, the Town could consider folding the Farmland Preservation Committee in with the Review Committee. That group could help promote the program and serve as a sounding board for reviewing easement terms or other business having to do with supporting the program. Having more Town residents involved is good for the program.
- **Celebrate accomplishments.** The successful first round is a significant accomplishment. A celebration of the first year would highlight the community benefits of saving farmland. 81.5% of those surveyed for the land use plan wanted the Town to take efforts to protect farmland.
- **Continue the initiative**  
If Town funds permit, a second round of applications from growers should begin. I believe a grant application to NRCS would receive a favorable response.



### Draft Financial Summary for 2003

#### Income

Federal reimbursement \$137,625 (recouped over 5 years)  
 Landowner donations \$ 14,590  
 \$152,215

#### Expenses

Development rights \$291,800 total (\*over 5 years)  
 Appraisals \$ 6,500  
 Closing costs \$ 1,778  
 Admin/legal etc. \$ 15,000  
 \$315,078

\* Net cost to Town of purchasing land development rights for 2003

<u>Year</u>	<u>Devel. Rights</u>
2003 Nov	\$43,924.25
2004 Jan 15	\$43,924.25
2005 Jan 15	\$17,245.50
2006 Jan 15	\$17,245.50
2007 Jan 15	<u>\$17,245.50</u>
	\$139,585



Income less expense is (\$162,863) the total cost to Town for the Farmland Preservation Program 2003.

For more info: see [www.brcland.org/farmland.htm](http://www.brcland.org/farmland.htm) or call 779-LAND

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