

## **1. TO SUPPORT POLLINATOR-FRIENDLY LANDSCAPE PRACTICES**

Motion made by

Seconded by

**WHEREAS**, pollinator species such as bees, birds, butterflies, and other pollinating insects are vital to maintaining healthy and diverse ecosystems; and

**WHEREAS**, pollinators are in decline due to destruction and fragmentation of habitat from development, a lack of native plants due to an increase of invasive species, inappropriate and excessive use of pesticides, and a lawn culture that promotes turf grass monoculture which offers no benefits to pollinators and other wildlife; and

**WHEREAS**, native plants support pollinators and all wildlife in the Town of North Salem and beyond by providing food and shelter; they also help prevent erosion, keep our waterways, ground water, and reservoirs clean, restore soil health and improve the air we breathe; and

**WHEREAS**, pollination is responsible for most of the food we eat; and

**WHEREAS**, the town of North Salem is cognizant of the need for safe and healthy landscapes for its residents and habitat for important pollinators;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of North Salem hereby recognizes and supports the following practices of pollinator-friendly landscapes:

1. Reduce mowed lawn size where it is reasonable, safe, and feasible and encourage pollinator-friendly plants and landscaping practices.
2. Protect and enrich soils by limiting or eliminating the use of synthetic fertilizers, pesticides and treated mulch where possible
3. Encourage residents and businesses to follow best practices for garden clean-up, provide habitats for pollinators and soil nourishment and regeneration
4. Allow the Town of North Salem to be listed on the national Pollinator Pathways' website (a nationwide educational resource that promotes pollinator-friendly best practices for residential and commercial landscaping and yard management)