

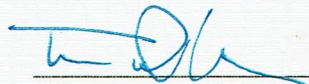
Proclamation

Town of Windham Honoring October 2021 CO-OP MONTH

- WHEREAS,** The first national “Co-op Month” was celebrated in 1964 by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and has since been celebrated every October in the United States of America; and
- WHEREAS,** Co-operatives are businesses that are locally owned by everyday people who join together to achieve shared goals, solve a challenge, or meet a community need; and
- WHEREAS,** Co-operatives are recognized in the laws and statutes of the State of Connecticut as member or user-owned, user governed, and user benefiting enterprises, giving people a real stake in their economic destiny and the future of their communities; and
- WHEREAS,** Co-operatives enable people to meet a wide variety of needs, goals, and aspirations including healthy food, employment, farm products, financial services (credit unions), electric, telephone and cable services, health care, housing, and insurance; and
- WHEREAS,** To put it in its proper perspective. In the United States, there are about 65,000 co-operatives, and one out of every three people is a member of at least one co-op or credit union. Around the world, there are about 3 million co-operatives, where nearly 12% of the human population are members of a co-op; and finally, about 10% of the world’s population, or around 280 million people, are employed by co-ops; and
- WHEREAS,** Co-operatives play a major role in the regional economy of Windham; and
- WHEREAS,** The co-operative philosophy of working together for the common good has promoted community wellbeing and improved the quality of life for the citizens of Windham; and
- WHEREAS,** The Willimantic Food Co-op is joining with other members of the Neighboring Food Co-op Association in endorsing the Co-op Month 2021 theme established by the National Co-operative Business Association / CLUSA International, “Build Back for Impact,” emphasizing the manner in which co-operative enterprises are helping our communities rebuild from the pandemic in a more inclusive, resilient, and sustainable manner;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, I, Thomas DeVivo, Mayor of Windham in the State of Connecticut, do hereby proclaim the month of October 2021 to be **CO-OPERATIVE MONTH** in the Town of Windham, in the State of Connecticut and we salute co-operatives and their members for their commitment to our community and the role they play in serving our citizens.

IN WITNESS THEREFORE, I hereunto set my hand and cause the Seal of the Town of Windham to be affixed the 8th day of October 2021.



Thomas DeVivo
Mayor of Windham

