



Town of Ashland , Office of Conservation

MEETING MINUTES
ASHLAND CONSERVATION COMMISSION
February 12, 2026

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6 Present: Gregory Wands (Chair)
7 Carl Hakansson (Vice Chair)
8 Owen Ackerman
9 Preston Crow
10 Gene Crouch
11 William Moulton
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14 Agent: Becca Solomon
15 Assistant: Sofia Chrisafideis
16

17 Meeting held remotely via zoom
18 Call to order: 2:01 P.M.
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20 **Chair Gregory Wands read the Ashland Conservation Commission virtual meeting protocols, and meeting**
21 **recording announcement. Mr. Wands announced that the Conservation Commission was implementing a**
22 **three-minute limit for each resident comment per hearing.**
23

24 **Discussion and vote, Request for use of other counsel**

25 Mr. Hakansson summarized that, it came to his attention that the Town Counsel's firm, which
26 represents the Town of Ashland, is also representing the applicant for a 40B Development at 10-60 Main
27 Street, which is a conflict of interest. Mr. Hakansson explained that he requested permission from Town
28 Counsel that the Conservation Commission may seek alternate counsel. Mr. Hakansson continued, that
29 Town Counsel responded that was appropriate, and that he then asked the Select Board for permission
30 as well. Mr. Hakansson added that the Select Board advised him to discuss this with the Commission
31 beforehand and take a vote before this item advances.
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33 **Mr. Moulton left the meeting.**

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35 Mr. Hakansson stated that Mr. Moulton is unable to reconnect to the meeting, and suggested that they
36 continue without him. Mr. Wands asked for confirmation that the Commission is seeking alternate
37 counsel, and are not discussing funding or alternate counsel options at this time. Mr. Hakansson
38 confirmed, and added that funding and alternate options for legal counsel would be handled by the
39 Select Board and the Town Manager.

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41 **Motion:** Mr. Hakansson moved that the Conservation Commission request to the Select Board, that the
42 Conservation Commission be allowed to hire outside counsel for the hearing of 10-60 Main Street, due
43 to the appearance of a conflict of interest with the current Town counsel. The motion was seconded by
44 Mr. Crow.
45 **Vote:** The motion passed with a 5-0-0 vote (OA, PC, GC, CH, GW).
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47 **Member Prerogative:**
48 The Commission discussed policies regarding phishing emails.
49
50 Mr. Hakansson explained that he received an email from the Chair for the Town Forest Committee
51 concerning the removal of invasive plants in the Town Forest, and that he will keep the Commission updated
52 on what they may have planned. Mr. Hakansson asked Ms. Solomon to notify the Town Manager's Office
53 that a vote was taken with regard to the Commission's request seeking alternate counsel.
54
55 Mr. Crouch asked when the next 40B hearing is. Ms. Solomon responded that it will be held on March 2,
56 2026. Mr. Hakansson asked if Mr. Lucas (Lucas Environmental, Representing the Applicant for the Notice of
57 Intent at 10-60 Main Street) responded to the Commission's request regarding a Release Abatement
58 Measure (RAM) Report. Ms. Solomon responded that Mr. Lucas would look into providing that, and added
59 that their Narrative explicitly states that they would provide a RAM Report, if requested. Ms. Solomon
60 continued that MassDEP has not received the filing at this time.
61
62 **Meeting Adjournment:**
63 **Motion:** Mr. Hakansson moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Crow.
64 **Vote:** The motion passed with a 6-0-0 vote. (Rollcall vote: OA, PC, GC, CH, GW)
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66 **The meeting was adjourned at 2:17 PM.**
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68 **Documents Reviewed by the Commission:**
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- Document entitled, Meeting Agenda, dated 2/12/2026