



## **GOSHEN CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**Minutes - February 4, 2026 - Meeting - Goshen Town Hall Conference Room and Zoom**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Iain Kinsella - Chair, called the February 4, 2026, meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

### **ATTENDANCE:**

**Present at Goshen Town Hall Conference Room:** Iain Kinsella-Chair and Paul Gallo-Vice Chair

**Present on ZOOM:** Cindy Barrett, Annette Lott, and Jason Masi

**Excused:** Laura Saucier-Krukar and Sue Rinaldi

### **APPROVAL of MINUTES:**

The minutes of the January 7, 2026, meeting were emailed for review **Paul Gallo made a motion to accept the minutes, and it was seconded by Jason Masi. The motion carried.**

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Iain reported no correspondence received in the mailbox this month. Other correspondence will be covered under Agenda items.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

#### **Torrington Water Company:**

- Iain reported that he had talked with Joe Welsh, the contact at Aquarion Water Company, and the installation of the bridges on Hart Hollow Trail on East Street North are on hold due to snow cover. Will report next month. 5 people requested permits to hike on the property last year.
- PURA rejected the application for the sale of Aquarion to RWA citing concerns over the structure of the deal. The rejection was challenged in CT Superior Court by the utility companies (RWA, Eversource) citing the structure of the deal was laid out and mandated by the State of CT legislature in Public Act No. 24-1 that was passed authorizing the deal. The Judge sided with the utility companies and returned the application back to PURA for re-evaluation. In response to the court victory, conservation groups are drafting a letter to be sent to the Town of Goshen and Town of Torrington to garner support for permanent protections for the water resource lands in their respective communities. The letter is a collaboration by Goshen Land Trust, Goshen Conservation Commission, Housatonic Valley Association, Northwest CT Land Conservancy, Save The Sound, and The Nature Conservancy. Iain read the draft of the letter and discussion was had by members that we are in support of the letter and any edits as long as it stays aligned with Goshen Open Space Plan and Plan of Conservation and Development.
- **Jason Masi made a motion to support and approve the letter, and it was seconded by Paul Gallo. The motion carried.**

#### **Trail Maintenance Report:**

- Sue had reported to Iain that the East Street North Trail parking lot area had not yet been plowed after the storm and Iain notified Garret Harlow, Goshen Public Works. He asked to



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please keep the parking lot plowed to accommodate the people who use the trail system and pond for skating.

- Discussion of maintenance to the wood duck boxes at East Street North trail was had and the possibility of completing the task on the weekend was discussed. Expected extreme cold temperatures were discussed and Iain will notify members of the possible times via email for upcoming weekend or next.
- No report on Town Hill Trail this month from Joe Welsh.

**Bantam Lake watershed project status:** No email alerts to report on this month.

### **Goshen Town Topics:**

- Thanks were given to Virginia Perry, First Selectman's Aide, for the reminder email that the deadline is February 16, 2026, for the submission of an article for the Goshen Town Topics.
- Paul will submit an article on invasive plants and Iain will be drafting an article on the **Open Space Plan**. He would like to get an article done on the bridge replacements in the Goshen Town Topics as soon as they are installed. Members were encouraged to work on articles of interest for future submissions.

### **Goshen Open Space Plan 2026:**

- Iain reported the maps were added to the document and it was converted to a PDF. Final digital copy was sent to the Goshen Town Clerk and 5 paper copies were made (3 copies to be forwarded to the State of Connecticut and 2 copies were done on waterproof paper to be kept locally).
- Iain attended the **Planning and Zoning Commission** meeting on Tuesday, January 27, 2026, in regards to submitting the **OSP**. Iain explained that he presented a copy of the previous **OSP** and the new **OSP**. Changes were highlighted for clarification and Iain reviewed the changes with P&Z members. Feedback will be forthcoming.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**NEXT MEETING - March 4, 2026 - AGENDA:** Agenda will remain the same as this meeting but add Town Hall Walkway beds.

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion to adjourn was made by Paul Gallo and seconded by Jason Masi at 7:09 p.m. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

*Cynthia A. Barrett*  
Cynthia A. Barrett

Received Feb. 10, 2026 @ 2:05 P.M.

Attest *Barbara Z. Breen*  
Goshen Town Clerk