

Lincoln Housing Commission Enabling Legislation
Adopted ACTS, 1979 – Chapter 359
Amended 2023

Chap. 359. AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF LINCOLN TO PROVIDE HOUSING FOR PERSONS OF LOW AND MODERATE INCOME AND OTHERS.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. The town of Lincoln is hereby authorized to appropriate money and receive gifts and grants to acquire land, including buildings thereon, to construct, renovate, reconstruct, equip, furnish, rent, manage, maintain, or sell land or buildings, or any portions of such land or buildings, at a location or locations to be selected by said town for the purpose of providing housing for persons of low and moderate income and others whose needs may be identified from time to time.

SECTION 2. There shall be a commission, to be known as the Lincoln housing commission, to carry out the purposes of this act. Membership on the commission shall be restricted to residents of Lincoln. With respect to the organization of the commission and the selection of its members, the following provisions shall apply:

(1) The Select Board shall appoint 7 members of the commission for staggered terms of 3 years; provided, however, that the town may, by bylaw, (a) decrease the membership to 5, whether through attrition or by terminating the terms of the 2 members with the shortest time left in their then-current appointment, or b) increase the membership back to 7. The Select Board shall also adjust the terms of any new appointees so that the terms of no more than 3 members expire in any given year.

(2) The Select Board shall endeavor to have two of the appointed positions include a) a resident selected to represent the Council on Aging and Human Services (COA & HS), and b) a resident currently living in low-income housing, or low or moderate income senior housing, or moderate income housing, as such terms are defined by section 2 of chapter 44B of the general laws.

SECTION 3. To provide such housing, the town of Lincoln may appropriate money not in excess of two million five hundred thousand dollars for acquisition of property and the renovation, and maintenance of a building or buildings at such sites as may be selected therefor and, any appropriation therefor shall be raised by taxation or the issuance of bonds or notes and for such borrowing there shall be required by a two thirds vote at a town meeting and shall be for a period not exceeding twenty-five years and as provided in chapter forty-four of the General Laws, but such borrowing shall not be included in the limit of indebtedness prescribed by section ten thereof. The town is further authorized to secure any borrowing by a grant of mortgages and other securities as appropriate in connection with which such borrowing is incurred.

SECTION 4. The Lincoln Housing Commission shall, on behalf of the town, have the authority to employ agents, managers, and employees, enter into contracts, including construction contracts and loans, subject to approval of the town counsel of the town of Lincoln as to form, for the purposes of this act, establish rents and sale prices, receive and expend funds appropriated by the town from state and

federal housing agencies and other sources, and make such rules and regulations concerning use, occupancy, and other matters relating thereto and as it shall deem proper. All revenues of the land, buildings, or land and buildings shall be town funds and the Lincoln Housing Commission shall, except as provided above or as otherwise provided by law, expend only such funds as are appropriated for it by said toe. Said commission shall annually report to the town on its activities.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Approved July 3, 1979