

HOPKINTON TOWN COUNCIL MEETING – March 4, 2024
BUSINESS AGENDA
Town Hall, 1 Town House Road, Hopkinton, RI 02833

**NOTICE
HYBRID MEETING BEING HELD IN PERSON AND REMOTE**

Understanding the people have a vested interest in the operation of their government, the Hopkinton Town Council intends to include the public on March 4, 2024. However, due to the COVID-19 virus, the Council wants to be sure that everyone can do so safely from their own homes. Therefore, this hybrid meeting will be held in person and remotely using Zoom.

To get the most out of the hybrid meeting technology, participants can join by computer when possible. Joining by computer allows you to see the Town Council members on-screen and makes it easier to use the functions for indicating you wish to speak and muting/un-muting yourself.

To attend the meeting remotely, please connect in by 7:00 PM. **Note:** Participants will not be able to connect before the host begins the session, and anyone trying to connect who are unable to do so should try again after 7:00 PM.

You are invited to a Zoom webinar.

When: March 4, 2024, 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Topic: Town Council Meeting – March 4, 2024 - Hybrid

REMOTE MEETING ACCESS:

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82235993445?pwd=MFNCN29jdE1FYU84OXNlazBJZnhOUT09>

Meeting ID: 822 3599 3445

Passcode: 520789

Dial-In: 1-689-278-1000

****Citizens wishing to speak during public forum:**

Any participants wishing to speak during the public forum should indicate so as early as possible. The Zoom meeting has a ‘Raise your hand’ indicator that you enable to let the host know you wish to speak.

To ‘Raise your hand’ in Zoom:

By Computer:

Click “raise hand” from the Zoom menu bar and wait for the meeting host to ask you to unmute. Once asked to unmute, press “unmute” to unmute and speak.

By Phone:

Dial *9 to “raise your hand” and wait for the meeting host to ask you to unmute. Once asked to unmute, dial *6 to unmute and speak.

"Please remember when making a public comment to state your name and address before speaking."

Please note: Because of ever-changing regulations due to the COVID-19 virus, this meeting may be cancelled. Please check the Town of Hopkinton website www.hopkintonri.gov for updates on these meetings and other important Town or COVID-19 information.

Marita D. Murray, CMC
Council Clerk/Town Clerk

"Please remember when making comments to state your name before speaking."

7:00 P.M. Call to Order – Moment of silent meditation and a salute to the Flag.

ROLL CALL

Oath of Office Swearing-In of Captain Carrier as Police Chief.

PUBLIC COMMENT

APPROVAL OF AGENDA ORDER

CONSENT AGENDA

Approve Town Council Meeting Minutes of February 5, 2024; Approve Town Council Budget Workshop Minutes of February 12, 2024; Approve Town Council Meeting Minutes of February 20, 2024; Approve Town Council Executive Session Minutes of February 20, 2024; Approve Town Council Budget Workshop Minutes of February 22, 2024; Approve Town Council Budget Workshop Minutes of February 26, 2024; Set March 18, 2024, as the public hearing date for a Special Event Permit filed by Ashaway Sportsman's Club for their annual Huck Finn Day.

MOTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

PUBLIC HEARING:

1. PROPOSED AMENDED ORDINANCE RE: ANIMALS

Open a hearing on an amendment to the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 4 "Animals", Article 1, Sec. 4-5(c) and Section 4-105 to increase amount of fines, introduced and sponsored by Councilors Burns and Geary. See attached.

Council discussion/public comment.

Motion to close hearing and possibly vote to adopt the ordinance amendment.

MOTION TO SIT AS A LICENSING BOARD

1. MULTI-EVENT PERMIT – ASHAWAY PINES RV RESORT, LLC

Open a hearing on an application for a Multi-Event Permit filed by Deborah Covey, Manager of Ashaway Pines RV Resort for property located at 235 Ashaway Road, Bradford, RI and owned by Ashaway Pines RV Resort, LLC, in order to hold various events on Saturdays, including DJ music and karaoke to end by 9:00 p.m.

Application complete/consider waivers (none requested).

Discussion.

Discuss, consider and possibly vote to grant approval of the Multi-Event Permit.

MOTION TO ADJOURN AS LICENSING BOARD AND RECONVENE AS COUNCIL

NEW BUSINESS

1. Discuss, consider and possibly vote to adopt a Resolution regarding the increase of the fines in the Animal Control Ordinance, sponsored by Councilor Geary.

2. Discuss, consider and possibly vote to ask Representative Brian Patrick Kennedy to sponsor a Bill regarding Hopkinton’s increase of the fines in the Animal Control Ordinance.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Discussion with Representatives Kennedy and Cotter and Senator Morgan regarding new proposed legislation for accessory dwelling units, H7062.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

- Update on Animal Control facility

PUBLIC COMMENT

ADJOURNMENT

If communication assistance (readers/interpreters/captions) is needed or any other accommodation to ensure equal participation by any person, please contact the Town Clerk’s Office at 377-7777 (V) or 377-7773 (TDD) at least two (2) business days prior to the meeting.

Posting Details: Town Hall, Hopkinton Post Office, Hopkinton Website, Secretary of State Website.
Posting date: February 29, 2024

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF HOPKINTON
IN SUPPORT OF AN ACT OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF HOPKINTON TO INCREASE
THE FEES AND FINES ASSOCIATED WITH ANIMAL CONTROL

WHEREAS, the Town of Hopkinton provides animal control services within the Town; and

WHEREAS, the Town has not raised its fees and fines associated with animal control in forty-four years—since 1980; and

WHEREAS, the Town’s fines for violations of its ordinances related to animal control are as low as \$10.00 per offense; and

WHEREAS, there are multiple repeat violators of the Town’s ordinances related to animal control who may only be fined, at most, \$25.00 per offense; and

WHEREAS, a \$25.00 fine has proven ineffective to deter repeat violation of the Town’s ordinances.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Hopkinton Town Council supports an Act of the General Assembly amending G.L. 1956 § 4-13-1 and 4-13-15 to authorize the Town of Hopkinton to increase its fee and fine schedule in accordance with the amendment to the Town’s Animal Control Ordinance attached as Exhibit A; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution shall be sent to Hopkinton’s members of the RI General Assembly.

Hopkinton – Old Fines	<i>1st Offense - \$10.00</i>	<i>2nd Offense - \$15.00</i>	<i>3rd Offense - \$25.00</i>
Hopkinton – Proposed	<i>1st Offense - \$50.00</i>	<i>2nd Offense - \$100.00</i>	<i>3rd Offense - \$150.00</i>