

HOPKINTON TOWN COUNCIL MEETING – May 13, 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 May 13, 2024. This meeting is also a hybrid meeting and will be held in person and remotely using Zoom. Joining by Zoom allows you to see the Town Council members on-screen and will allow you to participate in the meeting remotely.

When: May 13, 2024, 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Topic: Town Council Meeting – May 13, 2024 - Hybrid

REMOTE MEETING ACCESS:

CITIZENS WISHING TO ONLY VIEW THE MEETING – SELECT [MEETING VIDEOS](#) OR FROM THE HOME PAGE, SELECT ‘Meeting Videos’ ON THE HOPKINTON TOWN WEBSITE, www.hopkintonri.gov.

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://zoom.us/j/94267393026?pwd=eWdkcEZoR2h4c2wxOXZiMGZuMzFRQT09>

Meeting ID: 942 6739 3026

Passcode: 245158

Dial-In: 1-669-900-6833

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

Any participants wishing to speak during the public forum should indicate so as early as possible. The 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."

Marita D. Murray, CMC
Council Clerk/Town Clerk

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

6:30 P.M. Call to Order – Moment of silent meditation and a salute to the Flag.

ROLL CALL

Discuss/revise proposed FY 2024/2025 Budget, including expense, revenue and Capital Improvement Plan.

Discuss, consider and vote to adopt the FY 2024/2025 Budget and warrant item for the June 11, 2024, Budget Referendum Ballot.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Recess to Executive Session under: RIGL 42-46-5(a)(2) to discuss pending opioid litigation.

Reconvene in Open Session.

Statement by the Council President that any votes taken in executive session will not be disclosed at this time in accordance with RIGL 42-46-4(b) which states “All votes taken in closed sessions shall be disclosed once the session is reopened; provided, however, a vote taken in a closed session need not be disclosed for the period of time during which its disclosure would jeopardize any strategy, negotiation or investigation undertaken pursuant to discussions conducted under § 42-46-5(a).”

Consider and vote on Motion to Seal the minutes of the Executive Session.

PUBLIC COMMENT

APPROVAL OF AGENDA ORDER

CONSENT AGENDA

Approve Town Council Meeting Minutes of April 15, 2024; Approve Town Council Budget Workshop Minutes of April 15, 2024; Set May 20, 2024, as a public hearing date for a Multi Event Permit filed by Holly Tree Campground.

MOTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Open a hearing to determine whether or not the Town should accept a new road entitled Hana Lane.

Council discussion/public comment. Motion to continue hearing or close hearing and set date for decision.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Discuss, consider and possibly vote to adopt the recommendations made by the Planning Board regarding the updating of the town’s Growth Management Ordinance.
2. Discuss, consider and possibly adopt Resolution urging the RI State Legislature to support allocating funding for permanent safety barriers on Rhode Island’s bridges over Narragansett Bay.
3. Discuss, consider and possibly vote to write a letter in support of a traffic study to be performed by the State Traffic Commission at the intersection of Route 91 and Route 216 in Bradford, sponsored by Councilor Geary.
4. Discuss, consider and possibly vote to schedule a workshop with the Charter Review Commission to discuss their proposed changes to the Town Charter.
5. Discuss, consider and possibly vote to hold a candidate’s night at the Town Hall, sponsored by Councilor Davis.

6. Discuss, consider and possibly vote to award the bid for the following RFP: Animal Control renovation and construction contract.
7. Discuss, consider and possibly vote to award the bid for the following RFP: 1904 Demolition contract.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

- Update on CodeRed
- Update on road repairs

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: May 9, 2024

Resolution urging the RI State Legislature to support Allocating funding for permanent safety barriers On Rhode Island's bridges over Narragansett Bay

WHEREAS, the Town of Hopkinton recognizes that any and all suicides are devastating and extend our sympathies to our loved ones, family, friends, neighbors, co-workers and communities affected by the loss; and

WHEREAS, we thank our Town of Hopkinton first responders for their heroic efforts to save lives including from our bridges over Narragansett Bay; and

WHEREAS, suicides from our state's bridges over Narragansett Bay have affected our community since the time the bridges were built; and

WHEREAS, we seek ways to make our bridges safe from potential suicides; and

WHEREAS, the barriers erected by the Army Corps of Engineers on the Bourne and Sagamore Bridges have been shown to greatly reduce access to the bridge railings as means for suicide; and

WHEREAS, most recently safety netting installed on Florida's Skyway Bridge is showing great promise for reducing suicides from said bridge; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the railings on the bridges over Narragansett Bay, including the Jamestown, Pell, Sakonnet and Mount Hope bridges do not exceed approximately 42 inches and are not tall enough or designed to keep the public from going over the bridge railing as a means to suicide; and

WHEREAS, according to statistics from the RI Department of Health from 2012 – 2021 there were 1,199 suicides in Rhode Island of which 54 were bridge related suicides and of those 51+/- were bridge related suicides from bridges located Bristol, Kent, Newport and Washington Counties; and

WHEREAS, in recent years the RI General Assembly appropriated funding to the RI Turnpike and Bridge Authority for engineering studies for the Jamestown and Mount Hope and the Pell and Sakonnet but we need to make the installation of safety barriers a reality on all four bridges.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Hopkinton, Rhode Island urges the Rhode Island Senate and House Finance Committees and the Rhode Island General Assembly to support the legislative efforts to immediately and once and for all install suicide prevention safety barriers on several Rhode Island's bridges, especially those over Narragansett Bay.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Clerk shall digitally transmit copies of this Resolution to members of the legislative delegation representing the Town of Hopkinton, as well as the Governor and Rhode Island cities and towns.