

HOPKINTON TOWN COUNCIL MEETING – February 5, 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 February 5, 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: February 5, 2024, 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Topic: Town Council Meeting – February 5, 2024 - Hybrid

**REMOTE MEETING ACCESS:**

**Please click the link below to join the webinar:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85280530013?pwd=V3RVT3ZYN3FXSkNNd1grVmhDbzZQZz09>

*Meeting ID: 852 8053 0013*

*Passcode: 958638*

*Dial-In: 1-507-473-4847*

**\*\*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](http://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**

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

## **CHARIHO REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT STAGE II APPLICATION**

Presentation and discussion of the Chariho Regional School District Stage II Application.

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA ORDER**

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Approve Town Council Meeting Minutes of January 22, 2024; Approve Town Council Executive Session Meeting Minutes of January 22, 2024; Approve the Annual and Multi-Year Goals.

## **MOTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA**

## **VACANCIES AND APPOINTMENTS**

1. Discuss, consider and possibly vote to accept the resignation of Judith Scholfield from the Board of Canvassers as of March 1, 2024.
2. Discuss, consider and possibly vote to appoint Joseph Moreau to the Economic Development Commission.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Discuss, consider and possibly vote to adopt a Resolution in Support of the Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns, 2024 Legislative Priorities.

## **TOWN MANAGER REPORT**

- Hopkinton Citizen's Police Academy
- Retirement of Chief Palmer
- FAFSA Workshops

## **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 1, 2024

### **RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF HOPKINTON IN SUPPORT OF RHODE ISLAND LEAGUE OF CITIES AND TOWNS 2024 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES**

WHEREAS, all 39 cities and towns are members of the Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns; and

WHEREAS, the Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns serves as a convener and advocates to the Governor and General Assembly to support the needs of municipalities throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, the Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns believes in:

- Supporting robust local government funding through municipal aid programs, education aid and grants.
- Increasing opportunities, through various methods, to raise local revenues.
- Fully funded policy proposals and programs, particularly related to workforce management and personnel costs.
- Adopting policies that support 39 distinct communities, avoiding one-size-fits-all solutions, especially regarding land use, business licensing and other important policy areas.
- Maintaining local control and decision-making that reflects community needs, including land use, business operations, licensing, etc.
- Supporting greater flexibility for local government to innovate, improve efficiency and save tax dollars.

WHEREAS, the Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns surveyed all 39 members to develop legislative priorities for the 2024 session of the Rhode Island General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, stable local and education aid from the state will ensure that cities and towns can maintain municipal operations while investing one-time Federal funds toward necessary capital improvements and economic recovery; and

WHEREAS, property taxes represent approximately two-thirds of revenue for municipal budgets statewide, and Rhode Island has the eighth-highest property tax burden in the nation; and

WHEREAS, any reduction in state funding would exacerbate a dependence on property taxes, ultimately leading to service reductions, layoffs and property tax increases; and

WHEREAS, Rhode Island's municipalities are an important piece of Rhode Island's economic success.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council of the Town of Hopkinton supports the priorities identified by the Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns on behalf of the 39 cities and towns in Rhode Island.