

HOPKINTON TOWN COUNCIL MEETING – August 7, 2017
BUSINESS AGENDA

Town Hall, 1 Town House Road, Hopkinton, RI 0283

6:30 P.M.

Convene Open Session and Recess to Executive Session under:

- I. RIGL sec. 42-46-5(a)(7) for Preliminary Discussions and/or Considerations Related to the Investment of Public Funds Where the Premature Disclosure Would Adversely Affect the Public Interest; and,
- II. RIGL secs. 42-46-5(a)(2) discussions and/or work session pertaining to collective bargaining – Public Works Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Reconvene in Open Session.

Statement by the Council President that no votes were taken in Executive Session.

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

7:00 P.M.

Call to Order – Moment of silent meditation and a salute to the Flag.

Presentation of a Certificate of Accomplishment to Captain Mark J. Carrier in recognition of his graduation from the 268th session of the prestigious Federal Bureau of Investigation National Academy in Quantico, Virginia.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approve Town Council Meeting Minutes of July 17, 2017; Accept the transcript of July 17, 2017 as the record of the decision re: RI Solar Renewable Energy LLC & Peloquin Builders, Inc. Zoning Ordinance amendment & Future Land Use Map amendment; Executive Session Minutes of July 17, 2017; Set August 21, 2017 as hearing date for a Special Event Permit filed by Foster Parrots, Ltd.; reconsider/approve a petition from National Grid & Verizon to install a new utility pole numbered #35-S and attached anchor on Oak Street; consider/approve a petition from National Grid & Verizon to relocate Pole #12 fifteen feet in a southeasterly direction toward Pole #13 on Oak Street.

MOTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

PUBLIC FORUM

COUNCIL PRESIDENT REPORT

- Federal Rail Road Administration Decision re: NEC FUTURE Tier 1
- Meeting with Senate President Dominic Ruggerio

NEW BUSINESS

1. Consider and vote on a motion to approve the tentative Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Town of Hopkinton and Local 808 of LIUNA (representing Public Works Department Employees).

2. Consider scheduling a workshop to discuss the recent changes in renewable energy, which will be in a presentation by Christopher Kearns, Chief of Program Development, for the State Office of Energy Resources.
3. Set hearing date for an ordinance regarding Taxes on Renewable Energy Systems introduced & sponsored by Council President Landolfi.
4. Discuss, consider and possibly vote on the following resolutions:
 - A Resolution in Opposition to H-5601a and S-0896a an Act Relating to Towns and Cities-Optional Retirement for Members of Police and Firefighters. See attached.
 - A Resolution in Opposition to H-5593 and S-0285 an Act Relating to Labor and Labor Relations—Arbitration—continuance of Contractual Provisions. See attached.

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

1. Discuss, consider and vote to reappoint Alfred DiOrio to the Planning Board.
2. Discuss, consider and vote to reappoint Richard Prescott to Historic District Commission.

PUBLIC FORUM

ADJOURN

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, Police Station, Hopkinton Website, Secretary of State Website. Posting date: August 4, 2017

TOWN OF HOPKINTON, RHODE ISLAND
A RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO H-5593 AND S-0285
AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- ARBITRATION -- CONTINUANCE
OF CONTRACTUAL PROVISIONS

WHEREAS, House Bill 5593, an Act Relating to Labor and Labor Relations – Arbitration – Continuance of Contractual Provisions, and companion Senate Bill 0285 have been passed in the Rhode Island General Assembly and were transmitted to the Governor; and

WHEREAS, these Bills require that the contractual provisions contained in an otherwise expired collective bargaining agreement with certified school teachers and municipal employees continue until a successor agreement has been reached between the parties; and

WHEREAS, the practical effect of this legislation for Hopkinton and other municipalities will be to place an unnecessary burden on the bargaining process between town officials and certain unions; and

WHEREAS, contracts with unions represent a significant portion of Municipal and school budgets; and

WHEREAS, these contracts need to be renegotiated from time to time to serve the needs of Hopkinton's and other town's citizens; and

WHEREAS, these Bills may force the Town of Hopkinton to adhere to provisions of a contract long after it has expired; and

WHEREAS, these Bills will have the practical effect of retroactively modifying union contracts that are in place to, among other things, potentially make them permanent, or to require perpetual annual raises when those provisions were never the intent of the parties negotiating the agreement; and,

WHEREAS, these proposed changes are significant and were approved despite opposition from the municipalities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Hopkinton Town Council respectfully requests that the Governor veto House Bill 5593 and Senate Bill 0285.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Clerk is hereby instructed to submit a copy of this resolution to the Town of Hopkinton's State Senators and State Representatives in the Rhode Island General Assembly, the Senate President, the Speaker of the House, the Executive Director of the Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns, all the Cities and Towns in the State of Rhode Island and the Governor in consideration of their support to defeat this amendment to the General Laws.

The **RESOLUTION** shall take effect on August _____, 2017.

TOWN OF HOPKINTON, RHODE ISLAND
A RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO H-5601A AND S-0896A
AN ACT RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES - OPTIONAL RETIREMENT FOR MEMBERS OF
POLICE AND FIREFIGHTERS

WHEREAS, House Bill 5601A, an Act Relating to Towns and Cities – Optional Retirement for Members of Police and Firefighters, and related Senate Bill 0896A have been approved in the Rhode Island General Assembly and were transmitted to the Governor; and

WHEREAS, these Bills would add the word “illness” as a path to obtain an accidental disability retirement allowance; and

WHEREAS, under current law, police officers and fire fighters are already entitled to receive an accidental disability retirement allowance for ailments sustained as a result of the performance of duty such as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder or occupational cancer;

WHEREAS, the practical effect of these Bills for Hopkinton and other municipalities will be to place a significant and long-lasting strain on resources by increasing the number of accidental disability pensions; and

WHEREAS, Hopkinton has already committed a substantial amount of resources to pay accidental disability pensions for injuries sustained while on duty; and

WHEREAS, the addition of illness to the definition of accidental disability is not within the original spirit of the accidental disability retirement system, and would have a deleterious effect on the Town’s ability to provide for those who are already receiving pensions; and

WHEREAS, these proposed changes are significant and were approved despite opposition from the municipalities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Hopkinton Town Council respectfully requests that the Governor veto House Bill 5601A and Senate Bill 0896A.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Clerk is hereby instructed to submit a copy of this resolution to the Town of Hopkinton’s State Senators and State Representatives in the Rhode Island General Assembly, the Senate President, the Speaker of the House, the Executive Director of the Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns, and the Governor in consideration of their support to defeat this amendment to the General Laws.

The **RESOLUTION** shall take effect on August _____, 2017.