

State of Rhode Island

County of Washington

In Hopkinton on the fourth day of January 2016 A.D. the said meeting was called to order by Town Council President Frank Landolfi at 6:30 P.M. in the Town Hall Meeting Room, 1 Town House Road, Hopkinton, RI 02832.

PRESENT: Frank Landolfi, Barbara Capalbo, Sylvia Thompson, David Husband, Thomas Buck; Town Solicitor Kevin McAllister; Town Manager William McGarry; Town Clerk Elizabeth Cook-Martin.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR CAPALBO AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR HUSBAND TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER RIGL 42-46-5A (1) INTERVIEW - CHARIHO BUILDING COMMITTEE.

POLL VOTE:

IN FAVOR: Landolfi, Capalbo, Thompson, Husband, Buck

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR THOMPSON AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR HUSBAND TO RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION.

IN FAVOR: Landolfi, Capalbo, Thompson, Husband, Buck

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

The meeting opened with a moment of silent meditation and salute to the Flag.

**SWEARING IN OF TOWN SOLICITOR**

Kevin McAllister, Esq. was sworn in as Town Solicitor for term ending November 2016 by Town Clerk Elizabeth Cook-Martin.

The introduction of Elizabeth “Beth” Metcalf as Tax Assessor Senior Clerk was continued to January 19, 2016.

**HEARINGS**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR THOMPSON AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR CAPALBO TO SIT AS A LICENSING BOARD.

IN FAVOR: Landolfi, Capalbo, Thompson, Husband, Buck

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

**CAMPGROUND LICENSE RENEWALS**

The Council opened a hearing on the renewal of the following campground licenses:

Frontier Camper Park, LLC– Scott W. Thompson, 180A Maxson Hill Road, Ashaway, RI licensed for 225 Campsites & Safari Sites. Dorothy Thompson was present. Filing fees had been paid and notice posted.

Greenwood Hill Campground Association, Inc. – Jeff Aldrich, 13 Newberry Lane, Hope Valley, RI licensed for 80 Campsites & Safari Sites. Mr. Aldrich was present. Filing fees had been paid and notice posted. Councilor Capalbo asked Mr. Aldrich to provide his phone number on the application form.

Holly Tree Campground, Inc. – Marie Patrizzo, 109 Ashaway Road, Ashaway, RI licensed for 158 Campsites & Safari Sites. Marie Patrizzo was present. Filing fees had been paid and notice posted.

Whispering Pines Campground – Cameron May, 41 Saw Mill Road, Hope Valley, RI licensed for 213 Campsites & Safari Sites. Dave Wightman was present. Filing fees had been paid and notice posted.

Ashaway Pines, LLC - Clint Ramsden, 41 Saw Mill Road, Hope Valley, RI 02832 for the Ashaway Pines RV Resort on Vuono Place licensed for 266 Campsites. There are no Safari Sites. Dave Wightman was present. Filing fees had been paid and notice posted.

Building & Zoning Official Brad Ward had informed the Town Clerk that Ashaway Pines and Whispering Pines had not called for their inspections and there were a couple of issues with a couple of campgrounds that were being worked through with his office. He recommended that the Council grant renewal

subject to all state and town regulations being met. Mr. Wightman indicated he would call for an inspection. There were no objectors present.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR THOMPSON AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR CAPALBO TO GRANT RENEWAL TO EACH LICENSE SUBJECT TO ALL STATE AND TOWN REGULATIONS BEING MET AND ALL TOWN TAXES CURRENT PRIOR TO ISSUE.

IN FAVOR: Landolfi, Capalbo, Thompson, Husband, Buck

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR THOMPSON AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR CAPALBO TO ADJOURN AS LICENSING BOARD AND RECONVENE AS COUNCIL.

IN FAVOR: Landolfi, Capalbo, Thompson, Husband, Buck

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

#### **TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FFY'S 2017-2025**

The Council opened a hearing regarding future road repair projects for inclusion into Rhode Island Department of Administration's Statewide Planning Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for Federal Fiscal Years 2017-2025. The TIP is a multi-year program consisting of various road repair projects to State-owned roads eligible to receive Federal funding. Notice of the hearing had been advertised and posted on the Town's website. Town Planner James Lamphere and DPW Director Tim Tefft were present. Mr. Lamphere reported the State of Rhode Island was developing the Transportation Improvement Program that would cover from 2017 through 2025 and the State has asked for input from the Towns for any new projects and to prioritize the projects. He reported he had met with Mr. McGarry and DPW Director Tim Tefft where a decision was made to include two additional projects: Chase Hill Road and; a sidewalk running to Spring Street Market from Highview Avenue. Mr. Lamphere provided the list of the eighteen projects that had been assembled and divided into three categories: High, Medium and Low Priority of six projects in each category. The projects

listed as Low Priority are: resurfacing Clarks Falls Road (Connecticut State Line to Main Street); New London Turnpike Bridge at Green Falls River, Canonchet Brook Bridge – Route 3 Nooseneck Hill Road and Canonchet Brook, Potter Hill Culvert – Potter Hill Road at Maxson Brook, Holburton Bridge at Route 91 Alton-Bradford Road and Wood River at Route 91 Church Street. The projects listed as High Priority are Resurfacing Maxson Street (Laurel Street to Route 3), Statewide resurfacing, Mechanic Street (Nichols Lane to Route 3), Statewide resurfacing, Woodville-Alton Road (Route 3 to Townsend Road), Meeting House Bridge, Route 3 Main Street at Pawcatuck River, Wellstown Road Bridge at Ashaway River, Main Street Route 3 at No Named Brook. The projects listed as High Priority are Resurfacing Laurel Street (Potter Hill Road to Route 216), Resurfacing Route 3 Main Street (Route 216 to I-95), Resurfacing Wellstown Road (Route 3 to Route 216), Resurfacing Woodville Road (Route 3 to Switch Road), Chase Hill Road Project, Main Street Handicap Access Sidewalk (Highview Avenue to Spring Street).

**Council Discussion:**

Councilor Buck stated Laurel Street was a high priority and simply resurfacing the road would not do it; culverts would have to be installed. He questioned Woodville Road and whether that was just relative to Hopkinton's side to the Woodville Bridge, over the bridge was Richmond, as he would be concerned that Richmond may not rank the road the same way as it was not in as poor a condition. Mr. Lamphere indicated the State would resurface this two-town road all the way to Switch Road. Councilor Buck added that the Meeting House Bridge was done not that long ago. Councilor Capalbo noted the Wellstown Bridge was done after the 2010 floods and suggested moving other projects higher. Mr. Tefft stated he had not been provided a lot of information from the State about any of the bridge's condition. Councilor Capalbo suggested moving the Meeting House Bridge and Wellstown Bridge down on the list and move other projects up unless there was something the Council did not know. Councilor Thompson felt the bridges should be left where they were as she felt the State would know more about their condition. She asked about the anticipated date for the Laurel Street project. Mr. Lamphere noted the current TIP has Laurel Street to be done in 2016

and Woodville Road in 2014. The proposed TIP schedules Woodville Road for 2018 and Laurel Street in 2024. He noted Statewide Planning and RIDOT had worked together on the project priority list. He reported that on January 14, 2016 in South Kingstown there would be a regional public input session scheduled for 6:00 PM. Councilor Buck indicated he was interested in attending. Council President Landolfi stated he was disappointed that Woodville Road was put off. Councilor Thompson suggested taking photos of the road and to bring them to the public meeting. Mr. McGarry noted that the drainage and survey work had already been completed on the road and that it was likely a funding problem. He indicated he could call and see if it can be moved up as the preliminary work was done. He added that it was to have been done in three stages; one third of the road at a time. The Council is interested in having this road moved up in priority. Councilor Husband commented that he thought the Canonchet Brook Bridge had been repaired after the 2010 floods. Mr. Lamphere noted he agreed, but it was the State that pulled the list together. Councilor Capalbo asked about including other roads, such as Wellstown Road, on the list as a high priority due to its horrible condition. She noted that Woodville Road was heavily travelled by buses. Councilor Buck added it was also used by people coming off Exit 2 off I-95 and going to Route 91. Councilor Thompson suggested contacting Representative Brian Kennedy to let him know of the Council's concerns about Woodville Road. She suggested moving Woodville Road up on the priority list. Councilor Buck asked the location of the No Name Brook and it was explained that it was near Frontier Road off of Main Street. Councilor Buck noted that Laurel Street was also used by the buses from Ashaway Elementary School.

**Public Comment:**

Al DiOrio of Woodville Road thought it was a great idea to move Woodville Road up on the list and he appreciated the concerns expressed about the road. He felt there may not be enough people expressing concerns to move the road priority up. He suggested he and Mrs. DiOrio would be willing to go door to door to get public input from the residents. Councilor Thompson suggested they attend the January 14, 2016 public meeting but Mr. DiOrio was not sure of the intention of the meeting. Mr. Lamphere stated the meeting was open to the public and would

allow presentation of oral or written statements. Councilor Thompson suggested Mr. DiOrio could also place the petition in local stores.

Mrs. Cook-Martin provided the Council with a letter from a resident who wanted to provide her input to the public hearing but could not be in attendance. Council President Landolfi read the letter: “I live at 39 Laurel Street. In 2005 we put in an upper driveway. Although satisfactory for about a year, the condition of the road resulted in a drop which caused cars to hit bottom. This became so bad, especially after road equipment scraped the sides of the road resulting in a “curb” between end of driveway and street. A telephone call to the State DPW resulted in no action. I paid to have fill put down to ease the situation. Hopefully, a new road would deter some speeding and less litter which I pick up every week. I hope that the Town will consider Laurel Street a priority. It is a residential area. Thank you. Annabel Sherwood”.

The Town Council adjusted the High Priority Projects as follows:

1. Resurfacing Woodville Road (Route 3 to Switch Road)
2. Resurfacing Laurel Street (Potter Hill Road to Route 216)
3. Main Street Handicap Access Sidewalk (Highview Avenue to Spring Street)
4. Resurfacing Wellstown Road (Route 3 to Route 216)
5. Resurfacing Route 3 Main Street (Route 216 to I-95)
6. Chase Hill Road Project

There were no changes made to the Medium and Low Priority Projects.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR CAPALBO AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR HUSBAND TO APPROVE THE SELECTED PROJECTS AND AUTHORIZE THE TOWN MANAGER TO SUBMIT THE APPLICATION.

IN FAVOR: Landolfi, Capalbo, Thompson, Husband, Buck

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

**CONSENT AGENDA**

The Town Council Meeting Minutes of December 21, 2015 were removed from the Consent Agenda.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR CAPALBO AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR HUSBAND TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS FOLLOWS: Approve Petition of National Grid & Verizon for a new joint utility pole and anchor on Burdick Place Lane; Set February 16, 2016 as the second Town Council Meeting in February due to President’s Day Holiday. Set February 1, 2016 as a hearing date re: proposed Comprehensive Plan amendments; Approve refunds submitted by Tax Collector; Approve abatements submitted by Interim Tax Assessor.

IN FAVOR: Landolfi, Capalbo, Thompson, Husband, Buck

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

The December 21, 2015 minutes were amended: Councilor Thompson asked that page two in the last paragraph to add to the motion after Discussion to read: “Councilor Thompson felt the Town Clerk’s application should not be part of the motion as the wording might be changed.” Council President Landolfi asked to add wording to page seven, second paragraph under the Police Vehicle Bid Award, to include the question he had asked of Chief Palmer: If the vehicles had any mileage on them with the Chief responding, no, they were brand new.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR CAPALBO AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR HUSBAND TO APPROVE THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 21, 2015 AS AMENDED.

IN FAVOR: Landolfi, Capalbo, Thompson, Husband, Buck

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

**PUBLIC FORUM**

No one spoke during the first public forum.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**CHARIHO REGIONAL SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT**

This matter had been scheduled to discuss and consider appointing one additional Town resident to the Chariho Regional School Building Committee. Etta Zasloff had been interviewed.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR CAPALBO AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR BUCK TO APPOINT ETTA ZASLOFF TO THE CHARIHO REGIONAL SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE.

IN FAVOR: Landolfi, Capalbo, Thompson, Husband, Buck

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

**SOLAR ENERGY COLLECTION FACILITIES TANGIBLE PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT APPLICATION**

This matter had been scheduled to discuss and consider the revised Solar Energy Collection Facilities Tangible Property Tax Abatement application. The application had been revised and submitted for Council review with the additions requested by Council President Landolfi on December 21, 2015. Councilor Thompson requested to include an area for the applicant's phone number on the application. There were no other additions or revisions. It was the consensus of the Town Council to approve the application.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**BUDGET TIMETABLE AND SCHEDULING OF BUDGET WORKSHOPS**

The Council set the following dates for Budget Workshops in accordance with the Budget Timetable: Monday, February 8, 2016, Monday, February 29, 2016, Thursday, March 3, 2016, Wednesday, March 9, 2016 and Monday, March 14, 2016. The Workshops will begin at 6:30 PM in the Town Hall Meeting Room. Councilor Thompson asked that they receive the six months actual expenditure and revenue reports to date. Mr. McGarry indicated he hoped to provide that to them the third week in January. Councilor Buck asked for three years budgeted and actuals for comparison purposes and to track trends. Mr. McGarry anticipated there would be one additional column added with the proposed and actuals.

**AWARD RECOGNITION: 6<sup>th</sup> STORM READY MUNICIPALITY**

The National Weather Service has recognized the Town of Hopkinton as Rhode Island's sixth Storm Ready municipality, with Town eligibility to receive up to



\$2,500 in grant funding from RIEMA. EMA Director Ron MacDonald was present. He stated the Town was determined Storm Ready by the National Weather Service which meant the Town had to meet or exceed various criteria established by the National Weather Service: Establish a 24-hour weather warning point of contact as well as an emergency operations center; Identify multiple means of communication to receive and disseminate severe weather warnings and information to the public; Have various methods to monitor local weather conditions; Conduct public outreach and education initiatives relative to storm readiness and; Develop a formal hazardous weather action plan including severe weather spotter training and drills for emergency management officials. Mr. MacDonald noted he was heavily involved in social media; He has conducted weather related power point talks; The WeatherBug has been installed on the website; He has provided weather alert radios to various town departments, schools, emergency services and other high hazard locations to keep everyone informed of severe weather and the Town recently upgraded our CodeRed Emergency Notification System so residents and business owners can stay up to date on weather related events. On December 18, 2015 a committee comprised of RIEMA Officials, three Meteorologists from the National Weather Service Taunton, MA Office, FEMA Official, a local EMA representative from Tiverton, RI and Mr. MacDonald reviewed the StormReady applications and it was determined that the Town met the current standards. He will receive a \$2500.00 grant that will go into the Hopkinton EMA Department budget to purchase hand held lightning detectors for the two elementary schools and Yawgoog Boy Scout Camp. Council President Landolfi asked how many weather radios were purchased. Mr. MacDonald responded he bought eight radios that were placed at the Town Hall, Recreation Department, Police Department, Public Works Department, the two ambulance corp's and the two fire districts. He would be purchasing four more radios and four lightening detectors. He noted the radio's were set up to stay quiet but in weather events would broadcast a three minute weather alert. The Council congratulated Mr. MacDonald on the award.

## **PUBLIC FORUM**

No one spoke during the second public forum.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR CAPALBO AND SECONDED BY  
COUNCILOR THOMPSON TO ADJOURN IN MEMORY OF HOWARD  
WALKER.

SO VOTED

Elizabeth J. Cook-Martin

Town Clerk