

HOPKINTON TOWN COUNCIL MEETING – February 16, 2021
BUSINESS AGENDA
6:30 P.M.
Town Hall, 1 Town House Road, Hopkinton, RI 02833

**NOTICE
MEETING BEING HELD REMOTELY**

Understanding the people have a vested interest in the operation of their government, the Hopkinton Town Council intends to include the public on February 16, 2021. However, due to the COVID-19 virus, the Council wants to be sure that everyone will do so safely from their own homes. Therefore, this meeting will be held remotely using Zoom.

To get the most out of the remote meeting technology, participants are urged to 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, please connect in by 6:30 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 6:30 PM.

To Join meeting by computer:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83022943969?pwd=SGtkUVNSWXgzTXZ4YU52bmJmdENyUT09>

Meeting ID: 830 2294 3969 - Passcode: 939803

To Join meeting by telephone:

Dial 877 853 5247 or 888 788 0099 Meeting ID: 830 2294 3969# - Passcode (if asked): 939803

****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.org for updates on these meetings and other important Town or COVID-19 information.

Elizabeth J. Cook-Martin
Council Clerk/Town Clerk

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

6:30 P.M. Convene Open Session and Recess to Executive Session under:

1. RIGL sec. 42-46-5(a)(2) Status and review of litigation involving the Town from the Town Solicitor.

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.

HEARINGS

PROPOSED ZONING DISTRICT USE TABLE AMENDMENT TO PROHIBIT ADDITIONAL GAS/DIESEL STATIONS

Open a hearing on proposed text amendments to the Town’s Zoning Ordinance District Use Table. The intent of the proposed amendments is to prohibit any additional gas/diesel stations; to allow electric charging stations in commercial, manufacturing and neighborhood business zones, including the two current gas stations. This proposed amendment had been introduced and sponsored by former Councilor Sylvia Thompson, scheduled on the November 2, 2020 Town Council Agenda where the hearing date was set for February 16, 2021.

Proposed amendments to the Zoning Ordinance, Appendix A; Chapter 135 Section 5 District Use Regulations are shown in bold italics:

Section 5 – District Use Regulations.

District Use Table – P = Permitted N = Prohibited S = Special Use Permit A = Aquifer Protection Permit

Use Category	RFR-80	RES-1	NB	Comm.	Mnufct.	Aquifer Overlay	
						Primary	Secondary
554 Gasoline Service Stations	N	N	N	P	S	N	A

Proposed amendments in bold italics:

<i>554 Gasoline Diesel Service Stations</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>N</i>
<i>559 Electric Charging Stations</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>P</i>	<i>P</i>	<i>P</i>	<i>P</i>	<i>P</i>

Section 8. Nonconforming development (C. Addition, enlargement, expansion, replacement or intensification of a nonconforming development shall be allowed by special use permit. ***Unless prohibited in the district use table.***

Sponsor present.

All fees paid/notices posted

Council discussion.

Public comment.

Consider motion to continue or resume public hearing at a later date, place and time or set a date for a decision.

PROPOSED ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

1. Reconvene hearing on a Petition to consider amendments to the Hopkinton Zoning Ordinance, including the Farm Viability Ordinance, and Chapter 246 entitled “Non-Residential Photovoltaic Solar Energy Systems (PSES)” as amended January 22, 2019, filed by Tom & Cynthia Sculco, 192 Woodville Road, Hopkinton, RI 02833 and 132 East 95th Street, New York, NY. The application is filed in accordance with Section 16 of the Zoning Ordinances of the Town of Hopkinton, as amended. The hearing was continued to February 16, 2021 on January 19, 2021.

The proposal would amend Sections 2, 5, 5.3, 5.5-7, & 10 of the Zoning Ordinance in order to substantially revise the manner in which “major”, “minor”, “accessory” and “contaminated” Solar Energy System proposals including roof-mounted and commercial solar energy systems are considered and approved throughout the Town of Hopkinton. Proposed changes include, but are not limited to, limiting principal use/commercial solar energy systems to manufacturing zones, requiring land development project review for principal use/commercial solar energy systems, requiring special use permit approval for such uses, altering the dimensional requirements for such uses, and establishing a precedence

of approvals when multiple approvals are required. The application describing the proposed amendments is a 22- page document that, if adopted, would represent a comprehensive overhaul of the Town's regulation of all proposed solar energy systems throughout the Town.

Applicant or representative present.

All fees paid/notices posted

Council discussion.

Public comment.

Consider motion to continue or resume public hearing at a later date, place and time or set a date for a decision.

Consider motion to resume workshop at conclusion of Town Council Meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approve Town Council Remote Workshop Meeting Minutes of January 27, 2021; Accept the following monthly financial/activity report: Town Clerk; Approve refund due to overpayment by taxpayer on 2017 MV Tax submitted by the Tax Collector.

MOTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

OLD BUSINESS

1. Discuss, consider and vote on a motion to either approve or reject, the proposed amendment to Chapter 250 - Hope Valley Waterline Distribution System Ordinance, to add to the Prohibited Activities Section: Item G. Every property within the district may not increase development beyond the lot's current RI Department of Environmental Management (DEM) approved onsite wastewater treatment system (OWTS), following the completion and closing of the public hearing on February 8, 2021.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Discuss, consider and possibly vote to appoint a substitute Municipal Court Judge to hear a housing matter Judge Steele has a conflict with.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

1. Discuss, consider and possibly vote to appoint Clifford Heil, Jr. as alternate to the Zoning Board of Review.
2. Discuss, consider and possibly vote to reappoint Sherri Ryan to the Recreation Commission.
3. Discuss, consider Clifford Heil, Jr. to the Wood-Pawcatuck Wild and Scenic Stewardship Council.
4. Discuss, consider and possibly vote to appoint Steven Wiehl to the Juvenile Hearing Board.

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: February 11, 2021