

HOPKINTON TOWN COUNCIL MEETING – March 1, 2021

BUSINESS AGENDA

6:45 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 March 1, 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 6:45 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 6:45 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."

6:45 P.M. Call to Order –Moment of silent meditation and a salute to the Flag.

Convene Open Session and Recess to Executive Session under:

1. RIGL sec. 42-46-5(a)(1) Interview - Land Trust Board of Trustees.

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.

Adjourn.

7:00 P.M. Call to Order – Moment of silent meditation and a salute to the Flag.

HEARING

PROPOSED ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

1. Reconvene the 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 March 1, 2021 during the February 16, 2021 Town Council Meeting.

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 Meeting Minutes of February 8, 2021; Town Council Meeting Minutes of February 16, 2021; Special Town Council Meeting Minutes of December 14, 2020; Special Town Council Meeting Minutes of December 28, 2021; Approve abatements on the 2019 & 2020 MV Tax Roll due to corrections, adjustments to condition/days owned and duplicate billings and approve abatements to the 2020 Real Property Tax Roll due to condition and living area adjustments submitted by the Tax Assessor; Ratify and approve the Thirteenth Local Declaration of Emergency from February 9th to April 5th, 2021.

MOTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion re: dog-related issues requested by Councilor Hirst.

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

1. Discuss, consider and possibly vote to reappoint Marilyn Grant to the Land Trust Board of Trustees.
2. Discuss, consider and possibly vote to reappoint Jared Rhodes to the Affordable Housing Partnership.

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 25, 2021