

HOPKINTON TOWN COUNCIL MEETING – April 18, 2022
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 April 18, 2022. 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: DATE 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Topic: Town Council Meeting – April 18, 2022 - Hybrid

REMOTE MEETING ACCESS:

You are invited to the Town of Hopkinton Town Council Meeting - Zoom Webinar.
When: Apr 18, 2022 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81122154028?pwd=b3FITXZaQ1JwSDYwMINMbnZBaWFpZz09>

Webinar ID: 811 2215 4028

Passcode: 607581

Dial In: 1-646-558-8656

****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."

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

Call to Order – Roll Call

Public Comment

Acknowledgments & Announcements:

1. May 5, 2022 is the date that has been selected by the Chariho School Committee for the second Chariho Budget Referendum.

Approval of Agenda Order

Consent Agenda

Approve Town Council Meeting Minutes of April 4, 2022; Accept the following monthly financial/activity report: Town Clerk; Approve 2021 real property tax abatement due to double billing software error submitted by the Tax Assessor.

Motion to Approve Consent Agenda

Vacancies & Appointments

1. Discuss, consider and possibly vote to reappoint Carolyn Light to the Planning Board.
2. Discuss, consider and possibly vote to reappoint Gary Marsh to the Conservation Commission.

New Business

1. Discuss and consider the calculation on the number of seats for the Chariho School Committee for the next year, received from Andrew M. Lentz, Esq.
2. Discuss, consider and possibly vote to oppose proposed legislation HB 7942 Relating to Towns and Cities – Zoning Ordinances.
3. Discuss, consider and possibly vote to send a proposed Zoning Ordinance District Use Table amendment relating to marijuana uses, to the Planning Board for an advisory opinion, introduced and sponsored by Councilor Moffitt.
4. Discuss, consider and vote re: Resolution in support of full funding restoration of Categorical Transportation Aid to Regionalized School Districts as outlined in §16-7.2-6, see attached.

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, Police Station, Hopkinton Post Office, Hopkinton Website, Secretary of State Website. Posting date: April 14, 2022

**TOWN OF HOPKINTON, RHODE ISLAND
RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF FULL FUNDING
OF CATEGORICAL TRANSPORTATION AID
AS OUTLINED IN RIGL §16-7.2-6**

WHEREAS, the regional incentive was promised to local districts when the Regional School Districts were formed; and

WHEREAS, the regional incentive was phased out in 2010 with the passage of the new funding formula; and

WHEREAS, Transportation Categorical Funds were provided to the Regional School Districts to partially offset the loss of the regional incentive by partially reimbursing the higher transportation costs of the regional districts; and

WHEREAS, the Regional School Districts have designed and implemented a number of innovative education programs that meet the learning needs of students; and

WHEREAS, the investment of resources in our Regional School Districts has yielded positive education results and innovative educational programs and services for students and adults that have been a wise investment of local and state resources; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to ensure that students attending Regional School Districts continue to receive a high-quality public education and to reduce the burden on regional taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, according to the RI Department of Education, the Governor has requested a total of \$4,185,284 for regional transportation aid for the regional districts of Bristol-Warren, CHARIHO, Exeter-West Greenwich, and Foster-Glocester; and

WHEREAS, according to the RI Department of Education, \$5,793,117 of categorical transportation aid is required under the intent of RIGL §16-7.2-6(e); and

WHEREAS, the funding requested by the Governor represents a \$1.6-million-dollar shortfall for the regional districts as follows: Charlestown, Richmond and Hopkinton (\$590,584); Bristol-Warren (\$454,763); Exeter-West Greenwich (\$394,429); and, Foster-Glocester (\$168,057).

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Hopkinton Town Council,

1. Respectfully requests that Transportation Categorical Funds between the State and Regional Districts be fully funded in an amount equal to that intended under RIGL §16-7.2-6(e) to protect the interests of regional school districts and advance the education mission of our schools; and
2. Seeks the support of all Town Councils and Legislators that comprise the regional school districts regarding this matter of mutual interest to the schools and taxpayers of our regional districts.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Governor of the State of Rhode Island, the Rhode Island General Assembly, the Charlestown Town Council, the Richmond Town Council, the Chariho Regional District School Committee, and the Chariho Regional District Superintendent.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be sent as well to the Town Councils, Schools, and Legislators of the regional districts of Bristol-Warren, Exeter-West Greenwich and Foster-Glocester.

The **RESOLUTION** shall take effect upon passage.