

HOPKINTON TOWN COUNCIL MEETING – September 5, 2017  
BUSINESS AGENDA

Town Hall, 1 Town House Road, Hopkinton, RI 02833

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

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Approve Town Council Meeting Minutes of August 21, 2017;  
Workshop Notes of July 31, 2017; Approve refunds as a result of  
overpayments on motor vehicle taxes submitted by the Tax Collector.

**MOTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA**

**PUBLIC FORUM**

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT REPORT**

- B2B Gateway Open House

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Decision re: Taxes on Renewable Energy Ordinance:

Render a decision on a proposed ordinance in amendment of Chapter 19 Taxation of the Hopkinton Code of Ordinances, as amended, entitled: Tax on Renewable Energy introduced & sponsored by Councilor Thompson, heard on August 21, 2017.

1. In accordance with RIGL sec. 44-5-3[c], the Town of Hopkinton hereby authorizes its assessor to levy a tax on renewable energy tangible property as defined in RIGL sec. 39-26-5 in accordance with the rules and regulations promulgated and executed thereunder by the Rhode Island Officer of Energy Resources.
2. In accordance with RIGL sec. 44-3-21 the Town of Hopkinton hereby exempts from taxation commercial net-metered renewable energy systems whose sole purpose is to offset electricity bills and not to sell power back to the electric distribution system.
3. Property owners installing renewable energy systems are required to provide a copy of the interconnection application between the renewable energy developer and the electric distribution company as well as a copy of any documentation of program enrollment, to the Town of Hopkinton tax assessor indicating if the renewable energy system is net-metered or if the system is selling a portion of all the energy produced back to National Grid under the Renewable Energy Growth Program. Copies of the final interconnection service agreement executed between the renewable energy developer and the electric distribution company shall be provided to the Town of Hopkinton tax assessor and to the Hopkinton building official prior to construction of any renewable energy system.

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon passage.

Council deliberations.

Discuss, consider and vote on a motion to consider adoption of the ordinance.

2. Update on Proposed Solar System - 95 High Street

3. Update on Proposed Wind Energy System Ordinance

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Discuss, consider and possibly vote on the following Resolutions:

- Resolution in support of H6204, an Act relating to maintenance of Town Roads and urging passage by the General Assembly (Restoration of Roadways Utility Lines). See attached.
- Resolution in Opposition to H5475 and S0481, an Act relating to Cities & Towns, Subdivision of Land. See attached.

**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 31, 2017

**TOWN OF HOPKINTON, RHODE ISLAND**

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL**

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF H6204 AN ACT RELATING TO MAINTENANCE OF  
TOWN ROADS AND URGING PASSAGE BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
(RESTORATION OF ROADWAYS UTILITY LINES)**

*WHEREAS*, due to the work performed by the utility companies, our local roadways are continuously being dug up and left in either a state of disrepair for significant periods of time, or repaired in a substandard, unworkmanship-like manner leaving the Town to contend with damaged roadways; and

*WHEREAS*, the poor road conditions left behind adversely impact the public and residents, creating hazardous driving conditions, increasing the risks of accidents and damage to personal property; and

*WHEREAS*, the situation has generated numerous concerns and complaints from local residents who turn to the Town to repair the situation left by the utilities on the roadways imposing an unnecessary and unplanned economic burden on local municipalities; and

*WHEREAS*, any altered roadway must be restored to the same or better condition that existed prior to the alteration, immediately after the completion of the alteration, including interim measures as needed on an ongoing basis.

*NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED*, that the Hopkinton Town Council urges the Rhode Island General Assembly to support H6204 and urges passage.

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED*, that the Town Clerk is hereby directed to forward a copy of the Resolution to all Cities and Towns in Rhode Island seeking their consideration and support, to the members of the Rhode Island House of Representatives, the members of the Rhode Island State Senate, and the Governor of Rhode Island.

This resolution shall take effect upon passage.

Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Elizabeth J. Cook-Martin  
Town Clerk

**TOWN OF HOPKINTON, RHODE ISLAND  
RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL**

**RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO H5475 AND S0481, AN ACT RELATING TO  
CITIES AND TOWNS – SUBDIVISION OF LAND**

WHEREAS, House Bill 5475, an Act Relating to Towns and Cities Subdivision of Land, and companion Senate Bill 0481 have been introduced in the Rhode Island General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, this Act proposes to reduce the state mandated time period for review of major land development and subdivision applications, to reduce the time period for recording land use decisions, and to impose a penalty on municipalities equivalent to 50% of the application fee if the time period is not met; and

WHEREAS, the practical effects of this legislation for our town and others will be to put unreasonable time pressures on the Town Planner and Planning Board as applied to the largest and most complex types of developments and subdivisions; and

WHEREAS, these major applications represent projects with the greatest potential to adversely impact the community, including infrastructure impacts and other technical concerns requiring sufficient time for staff and board review, and testimony of technical experts; and

WHEREAS, such review often results in the need for the applicant to revise and resubmit plans and other documents, which require additional review; and

WHEREAS, shortened time frames could force the Board to act on applications before all technical issues are resolved, resulting in a greater likelihood of applications being denied, or approved with restrictive conditions, which would not serve the best interests of the applicant; and

WHEREAS, the proposed changes are significant and were proposed without input from the municipalities.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Hopkinton Town Council respectfully requests that all State Senators, Representatives, and the Governor oppose House bill 5475 and companion Senate Bill 0481; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk shall submit a copy of this resolution to the Town of Hopkinton's State Senator and Representatives, the Senate President, the Speaker of the House, the Executive Director of the Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns, all 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.

Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Elizabeth J. Cook-Martin  
Town Clerk