

State of Rhode Island

County of Washington

In Hopkinton on the seventh day of November 2022 A.D. the said meeting was called to order by Town Council President Stephen Moffitt, Jr. at 6:30 P.M. in the Town Hall Meeting Room, 1 Town House Road, Hopkinton, RI 02833.

PRESENT: Stephen Moffitt, Jr., Sharon Davis, Robert Marvel, Scott Bill Hirst, Michael Geary; Town Solicitor Stephen Sypole; Town Manager Brian Rosso; Town Clerk Elizabeth Cook-Martin.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR MARVEL AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR DAVIS TO RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER: RIGL SEC. 42-46-5(A)(2) – COLLECTIVE BARGAINING/UNION CONTRACTS: CLERICAL/PTE UNION; LOCAL 498 IBPO.

POLL VOTE:

IN FAVOR: Moffitt, Davis, Hirst, Geary, Marvel

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR HIRST AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR MARVEL TO RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION.

IN FAVOR: Moffitt, Davis, Hirst, Geary, Marvel

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

Council President Moffitt reported that no votes were taken in Executive Session.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR DAVIS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR GEARY TO SEAL THE MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION.

IN FAVOR: Moffitt, Davis, Hirst, Geary, Marvel

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order with a moment of silent meditation and a salute to the Flag.

**ROLL CALL**

Councilors Davis, Hirst, Marvel, Moffitt and Geary announced they were present.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Joe Moreau of Old Depot Road explained that in 2020 Councilor Hirst had told him about the position of Director of Public Welfare which he ran for and was elected. He wished to thank Councilor Hirst and stated that it has been a very rewarding experience. He also wished to thank Carolyn Light, the Town Clerk, and Linda and Al DiOrio for their generous donation of gift cards which assisted several families; and, the Town Clerk's office for their help in distributing his contact information to residents who needed assistance. He thanked Brian Rosso for his support; Jeff Frenette for placing information on the town's website concerning senior services and programs available to assist residents; and, the Building and Zoning Office for their assistance. Lastly, he wished to thank Council President Moffitt for placing items on agendas so he could provide the residents with information about available programs. Mr. Moreau noted that listed on the town's website are five inactive Boards and Commissions that lack a quorum. He wished to encourage people to get involved in an attempt to improve the town and wished good luck to everyone running elections, noting that it was going to be a busy day for a lot of people.

Maryanne McNamara advised that she had received a copy of the solar ordinance and had questions. She asked how the Greene Energy bill would affect the town's ordinance and questioned contaminated sites and how much of those properties could be used for solar. Council President Moffitt and Solicitor Sypole suggested she speak with the Building and Zoning Office or possibly the Planning Department regarding her questions. Councilor Davis suggested she put a list of her questions together and submit them to the Town Clerk, who could place them in the Council's weekly packet. Ms. McNamara wished to know who she should speak with from the State concerning questions she has and Councilor Marvel suggested she contact Representative Kennedy or Senator Morgan. Ms.

McNamara asked who could she speak with at the Department of Environmental Management and Council President Moffitt noted Janet Coit.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- November 8, 2022 Local Ballot Question Announcement:  
“Shall new cannabis related licenses for businesses involved in the cultivation, manufacture, laboratory testing and for the retail sale of adult recreational use cannabis be issued in the Town?” Councilor Davis wished to report that the wording of this question was prepared by the State when they created the law. She noted that thirty-one out of the thirty-nine cities and towns have this question on the ballot and if residents say no then those towns cannot participate in having any of these businesses and will not receive three percent of the twenty percent tax that the state has imposed.
- Brushy Brook Accessible Path:  
On Sunday, October 23, 2022 the Hopkinton Land Trust held a dedication of the new Brushy Brook Accessible Path in honor of W. Edward and Linda Wood. This new trail, located in the center of Hope Valley, is a culmination of years of work and perseverance by the Land Trust and the many volunteers involved in making it a reality.  
Congratulations to the Land Trust on their efforts to create this fully accessible trail for the benefit of the people of Hopkinton.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA ORDER**

There were no concerns voiced over the agenda order.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

The Town Clerk questioned page five of the October 17, 2022 Town Council Meeting Minutes regarding the vote by the Town Council. It was determined that the vote needed to be corrected.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR HIRST AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR MARVEL TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS FOLLOWS: Approve Town Council Meeting Minutes of October 17, 2022 with corrections noted; Accept the transcript of October 3, 2022 as the record of the Thomas Byrnes Jr. Zone District Use Table Amendment hearing; Approve abatement resulting from duplicate billing on 2022 Real Property Tangible Supplemental Tax Roll submitted by the Tax Assessor; Approve ratification of

the following union and non-union employment contracts: Police IBPO Contract, Clerical and PTE Union Contracts, Non-Union Employment Contracts and MOA's; Set November 28, 2022 as possible Special Town Council Meeting to swear in newly elected officials.

IN FAVOR: Moffitt, Davis, Hirst, Geary, Marvel

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

## **VACANCIES AND APPOINTMENTS**

### **Zoning Board of Review**

Jonathan Ure has requested to be reappointed the Zoning Board of Review.

Councilor Geary reported that he had been an alternate on the Zoning Board and he could not say enough good things about Mr. Ure and the other members.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR HIRST AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR GEARY TO REAPPOINT JONATHAN URE TO THE ZONING BOARD OF REVIEW.

IN FAVOR: Moffitt, Davis, Hirst, Geary, Marvel

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

### **HEARINGS:**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR HIRST AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR MARVEL TO SIT AS A LICENSING BOARD.

IN FAVOR: Moffitt, Davis, Hirst, Geary, Marvel

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

## **LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWALS**

The Town Council opened a hearing on renewal of the following Liquor Licenses:

### **Class A:**

Hopkinton Liquor Depot, Lynn Marie Finn, President of PLW Hopkinton, Inc. – 229 Main Street, Ashaway, RI 02804. A representative was present.

Village Wine & Spirits, Venkat Doddapeneni, President of M2 Wines, LLC, - 26 Alton Bradford Road, Bradford, RI 02808. A representative was present.

**Class B:**

Brick Oven Restaurant – Pamela Grills Naccarato, President, Brick & Grills Restaurant - 209 Main Street, Ashaway, RI 02804. No one was present for this establishment. The matter will be continued to November 21, 2022.

Fenner Hill Country Club, LLC – Ronald Levesque, President, - 33 Wheeler Lane, Hope Valley, RI 02832, w/courtesy cart. Mr. Levesque was present.

Lucky House Restaurant, Inc. - Danny Zeng, President – 32 Main Street, Ashaway, RI 02804. Mr. Zeng was present.

Little Rhody Lobster, LLC, Kevin Sullivan, President – 15A Frontier Road, Ashaway, RI 02804. A representative was present.

Wood River Golf, LLC - Kathleen Thompson, President, - 78A Woodville Alton Road, Hope Valley, RI 02832, w/courtesy cart. Kate and Weston Thompson were present.

**Class B-LIMITED:**

Main Street Pizza, Christopher Hoinsky, President, CHS, LLC, 229 Main Street, Ashaway, RI 02804. Mr. Hoinsky was present.

**Class C:**

Village Place Studio, LLC, Sherri Desjardins, President & Norbert Ansay, Jr., Manager, 999 Main Street, Hope Valley, RI 02832. Sherri Desjardins and Norbert Ansay Jr. were present.

The Town Clerk reported notices had been posted and any fees not collected will be collected prior to the licenses being issued. No one spoke for, or against renewal. There was no further discussions.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR HIRST AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR MARVEL TO GRANT RENEWAL TO EACH LICENSE WITH THE EXCEPTION OF BRICK & GRILLS SUBJECT TO ALL STATE AND TOWN REGULATIONS BEING MET AND ALL TOWN TAXES CURRENT PRIOR TO ISSUE.

IN FAVOR: Moffitt, Davis, Hirst, Geary, Marvel

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

Renewal of the Brick & Grills Class B Liquor License will be scheduled for November 21, 2022.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR HIRST AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR MARVEL TO SET A LIMIT ON LIQUOR LICENSES:

Class A: 2; Class B: 5; Class B Limited: 1; Class C: 1.

IN FAVOR: Moffitt, Davis, Hirst, Geary, Marvel

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

#### **VICTUALLING LICENSE RENEWALS**

Councilor Hirst reported he was employed by the Dunkin Donuts store in North Stonington, CT, the store owner also owns the Ashaway Dunkin Donuts so he asked that the renewal of their Victualling License be voted on separately.

The Council opened a hearing on renewal of the following Victualling Licenses:

Brick & Grills Restaurant, 209 Main St., Ashaway; Fenner Hill Country Club, 33 Wheeler Ln., Hope Valley; Hop City Café, 493 Main Street, Hopkinton, RI 02833; Little Rhody Lobster, 15A Frontier Rd., Ashaway; Lucky House Restaurant, 32 Main St., Ashaway; Ma & Pa's Country Cookin, 865 Main St., Hope Valley; Ma & Pa's Country Store, 1044 Main St., Hope Valley; Main Street

Pizza, 229 Main St., Ashaway; Pete’s Grocery, 244B Ashaway Rd., Bradford; Spring Street Market, 1 Spring St., Hope Valley; West’s Bakery, 995 Main St., Hope Valley; Wood River Golf, 78A Woodville Alton Rd., Hope Valley.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR HIRST AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR MARVEL TO GRANT RENEWAL TO ALL VICTUALLING LICENSES WITH THE EXCEPTION OF DUNKIN DONUTS SUBJECT TO ALL STATE AND TOWN REGULATIONS BEING MET AND ALL TOWN TAXES CURRENT PRIOR TO ISSUE.

IN FAVOR: Moffitt, Davis, Hirst, Geary, Marvel

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR MARVEL AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR GEARY TO GRANT RENEWAL OF THE DUNKIN DONUTS VICTUALLING LICENSE SUBJECT TO ALL STATE AND TOWN REGULATIONS BEING MET AND ALL TOWN TAXES CURRENT PRIOR TO ISSUE.

IN FAVOR: Moffitt, Davis, Geary, Marvel

ABSTAIN: Hirst

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

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

IN FAVOR: Moffitt, Davis, Hirst, Geary, Marvel

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

**NEW BUSINESS**

**AWARD BID RE: TWO ONE-TON 4-WHEEL DRIVE PICK UP TRUCKS WITH SNOW PLOWS (ARPA Project)**

This matter had been scheduled to discuss, consider and possibly vote to award the bid for two One Ton 4-Wheel Drive Pick-Up Trucks with Snow Plows to

Whaling City Ford. (ARPA Project). Public Works Director David Caswell was present.

Mr. Rosso noted that they received one bid which exceeded the estimated amount on the ARPA list. In order to make that work they are hoping to receive grants on other items. Mr. Caswell wished to thank the Council for approving the expenditure and for putting those trucks on the ARPA project list; he also thanked the Town Manager for his assistance in preparing the RFPs for the purchase of the trucks. There was only one bidder, Whaling City Ford, whose proposals exceeded the original request. These trucks are two one-ton four-wheel drive pick-ups with plow, back rack and lighting package, and both have a five year warranty. One is black and the other is white. They will only need two-way radios which will be purchased later out of different funding. One truck is approximately \$1,200 more than the other due to its options and the limited availability. Mr. Caswell explained that they had reached out to numerous dealerships throughout the area but only received one bid. Mr. Rosso noted that the first one-ton pick-up was \$66,575 and the other was \$64,345 due to an engine size difference and a few different options. Mr. Rosso hoped to have an RFP for a large pick-up and a medium truck posted on Sunday. Councilor Moffitt asked if they had a delivery date for the two one-ton trucks and Mr. Caswell believed it to be two to three weeks.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR GEARY AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR MARVEL TO AWARD THE BID FOR TWO ONE TON 4-WHEEL DRIVE PICK-UP TRUCKS WITH SNOW PLOWS TO WHALING CITY FORD AS AN ARPA PROJECT.

IN FAVOR: Moffitt, Davis, Hirst, Geary, Marvel

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

**SYSTEM UPGRADE RE: VISION 2.0 TAX COLLECTOR SOFTWARE (ARPA Project)**

This matter had been scheduled to discuss, consider and possibly vote to authorize the Town Manager to enter into a contract for a System Upgrade to Vision 2.0 for the Tax Collector Software. (ARPA Project).



Mr. Rosso explained that this was another item on the ARPA list. They did not go out to bid for this project for Vision Government Solutions, Inc. is the sole source provider of the Vision Tax software, which currently is the host of our tax collection and tax assessing software. Within a year their current software will no longer be supported. Mr. Rosso explained that the upgrade would cost approximately \$76,000 and is a one-time cost.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR HIRST AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR MARVEL TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR A SYSTEM UPGRADE TO VISION 2.0 FOR THE TAX COLLECTOR SOFTWARE, WHICH IS AN ARPA PROJECT.

IN FAVOR: Moffitt, Davis, Hirst, Geary, Marvel

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

**DRUMMEY ROSANE ANDERSON ENGINEERING CONTRACT**

This matter had been scheduled to discuss, consider and possibly vote to authorize the Town Manager to sign the engineering contract with Drummey Rosane Anderson re: Town Hall Consolidation Project.

Councilor Geary questioned whether the cost of \$115,500 was to assist them with all bidding and negotiations. Mr. Rosso explained that approximately seven years ago, the contract for the expansion of the town hall had been awarded through the RFP process to Lawrence Associates, Architects/Planners, PC, but since so much time has elapsed that contract is stale. Mr. Rosso hoped to move forward with the design phase and the architect.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR GEARY AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR DAVIS TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN MANAGER TO SIGN THE ENGINEERING CONTRACT WITH DRUMMEY ROSANE ANDERSON RE: TOWN HALL CONSOLIDATION PROJECT.

IN FAVOR: Moffitt, Davis, Hirst, Geary, Marvel

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No one spoke during the second public comment period.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR HIRST AND SECONDED BY  
COUNCILOR MARVEL TO ADJOURN IN MEMORY OF RUSSELL L.

“BUTCH” PERRY.

SO VOTED

Elizabeth J. Cook-Martin

Town Clerk

Marita D. Murray

Deputy Town Clerk