



# TOWN OF HOPEDALE

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**Park  
Commission**  
Don Howes, Chair  
Jim Abbruzzese  
David Sprowl

## Hopedale Park Commission Meeting Minutes 5:00 pm Draper Room, Town Hall January 8, 2020

Chairman Don Howes called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

### Attendance

Park Commission: Don Howes, Jim Abbruzzese

Absent: David Sprowl

Park Clerk: Mary Arcudi

Pass over approving December 19, 2019 minutes until January 16, 2020 meeting.

### Correspondences and requests

The board reviewed the sign usage request for the boy scouts for their annual Christmas tree pickup project and verbally approved this request.

### Bills and invoices

Invoice for contractor Steve Gallagher was signed as previously approved expense from the revolving account for concrete pads for new benches in the Pine Hill area across from the pond. Cost was \$1,000.

### Budget Review

- 2020/2021 Budget review

The board reviewed the expenses from FY18/19 and compared these to expenses to date.

There is a serious concern surrounding the trees that are in the playground area that needs addressing for the safety of the children that play in this area. In September of 2019 Harrison McPhee Inc. assessed the trees in this area and there are a multitude of trees that need safety pruning, tree preservation and storm damage protection. The estimate at that time was close to \$30,000 and additional costs would be incurred for police detail for two days and debris removal.

The board agreed that this is an imminent need that should be addressed and would be over and above the annual budget allocated each year. Don Howes will attend the finance committee budget review meeting and discuss how the board moves forward on this request as it is a safety concern in the high use areas of the park.

- Co-sponsoring Capital Expense with School Department for Tennis Court Restoration

At this point, the HPC has not been updated on the status of the renovations to the tennis courts.

Adjourn at 6:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

*Mary Arcudi*  
Mary Arcudi, HPC Clerk

*Don Howes*  
Don Howes, Chairman

*Jim Abbruzzese*  
Jim Abbruzzese