



TOWN OF HOPEDALE

78 Hopedale Street - P.O. Box 7
Hopedale, Massachusetts 01747
Tel: 508-634-2203 x 302 Fax: 508-634-2200
Email: parks@hopedale-ma.gov

**Park
Commission**
Don Howes, Chair
Michael Ledone
David Sprowl

Hopedale Park Commission July 30, 2020 Meeting Agenda 7:00 pm Remote Meeting via Zoom

This meeting was live and recorded.

Call to Order by Chairman Don Howes at 7:05 PM.

Attendance

Park Commission: Don Howes, Michael Ledone, David Sprowl

Park Clerk: Mary Arcudi

Town Administrator: Diana Schindler

Guests: Via zoom - Kristen Ledone, Suzanne McNeil

It was moved by David Sprowl, seconded by Don Howes, to approve the regular meeting minutes of June 11, 2020. All members that were present were in favor.

Special joint meeting minutes with Conservation Commission on July 7, 2020 were moved for approval by Michael Ledone, seconded by Don Howes. All members that were present were in favor.

Announcements, correspondences and requests

- The Park Commission received a request from the library director for a park reading summer program. The library will partner with the summer park supervisor, Jennie Holland to create an afternoon summer reading program in the park. This program has the approval from the Board of Health.
- Sports Training request from Brad Booth to be held at Phillips Field starting 8/6/20 for 7 weeks is incomplete. Insurance binder and approval from the Board of Health is outstanding. Also the board needs information regarding whether this is a for-profit organization and if so, there is a need to set a standard if such groups will be allowed to use the Parks.
- HPC received a request for a wedding to be held on October 10th at the Rustic Bridge. Don Howes has coordinated details with the family. Attendance will be only 5 people and will be held from 11:45 - 12:45. The Board of Health will be contacted to obtain their approval as well.
- Jim Fitch from HYSA requested assistance with field improvements at Phillips Field. Don Howes reported that the Highway/Park employees have already spent over 45 hours at Phillips Field and additional time and funds are limited.
- Camping at the Park was requested via email and no details were provided after requesting additional information. Therefore, the request was denied.
- CDM Smith notified the HPC and Conservation of planned installation of monitoring wells at Draper landfill site. Mr. VanDoren was contacted and this installation was requested by DEP for additional wells.
- The Milford/Hopedale Field Hockey league is ready for the fall program to start August 25th. They will be responsible for field lining at Town Park and will forward their roster for HPC records and invoicing. This program has been approved by the Board of Health.

Public Comment - Short Items (non-discussion)

None

Review previous action items

- There are no changes during the Governor's Phase III of reopening Parks and Recreational activities at this time.
- Don Howes will contact the Englund family regarding pine tree issue as their property abuts the Parklands.
- The HPC has not received updated information regarding the Larry Olsen 10K for September 26, 2020. The board will contact them for a follow up.
- Many quotes have been received regarding the playground tree restoration/safety project. This continues to be on hold due to the FY21 budget and upcoming ballot vote on the override.
- Fencing repairs have been started at the Park and should have been completed by now. Don Howes will follow up with the fence company on the status of completion.

New Business

- FY21 Budget and override was approved at the Town Meeting on July 21. Override now moves to a ballot vote in September.
- The Grafton/Upton Railroad has a pending purchase and sale for forest land at 363-364 West Street and proposed options for the Town of Hopedale. Previous to the Park meeting, the Board of Selectmen met to give residents additional information regarding the 120 days right of first refusal. Additional information is certainly needed and a committee will be formed with affected departments including Parks, Board of Selectmen, Highway, Conservation, Planning, and Water and Sewer.

David Sprowl made a motion to send a formal letter to the Board of Selectmen from the HPC to utilize all time allowed within the 120 days holding off on any vote until all questions and definitive details are in hand and to be included in any future correspondences with the GURR. Motion seconded by Michael Ledone, all were in favor.

Bills and Invoices - An additional member of the HPC needs to be an authorized signatory for invoices and payroll. David Sprowl made a motion to add Michael Ledone as an authorized signatory for payroll and invoices, seconded by Don Howes. All were in favor.

Public Comment - lengthy items

Residents who abutt the property at 363-364 West Street voiced their concerns regarding the railroad purchasing this land and the concern surrounding the possible use.

Report of board members

Don Howes reported on research he has been putting together regarding improvements at the playground. Quotes have been received and revised for minimal parts to make the units safe and usable in the amount of \$14,000. Also a quote was received to replace the slide at a cost of \$4700 plus \$660 to install. All such projects are on hold until the override is settled and the HPC is hoping for donations and volunteers.

Adjourn at 8:37 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Arcudi
HPC Clerk

Don Howes, Chairman

Michael Ledone

David Sprowl