



## TOWN OF HOPEDALE

78 Hopedale Street - P.O. Box 7  
Hopedale, Massachusetts 01747

Tel: 508-634-2203 Fax: 508-634-2200  
[www.hopedale-ma.gov](http://www.hopedale-ma.gov)

### Select Board

Glenda A. Hazard, Chair  
Bernard J. Stock  
Scott M. Savage

### Town Administrator

Mitchell Ruscitti

January 2, 2024

TO: Select Board  
FROM: Martha White, Executive Assistant  
REGARDING: Petition for Joint or Identical Pole Locations  
COPY TO: Mitch Ruscitti, Town Administrator

The Board has received a petition from National Grid and Verizon New England, Inc. requesting authorization to install an anchor at Pole 4, Charlesview Road. The Board is required to hold a hearing on this matter; a legal advertisement of such hearing is not required, but abutters must be notified (letters were sent on December 27).

Al Galvin of National Grid will attend the hearing via Zoom to explain the proposal and answer any questions Board members or abutters may have.

In the event that the Board wishes to approve this proposal, the following motion would be in order:

Move that the Select Board approve the Petition for Joint or Identical Pole Locations (No. 30793365), filed by National Grid and Verizon New England, Inc., specifically to authorize the installation of an anchor at Pole 4, Charlesview Road, Hopedale, and associated required work as specified in said Petition.



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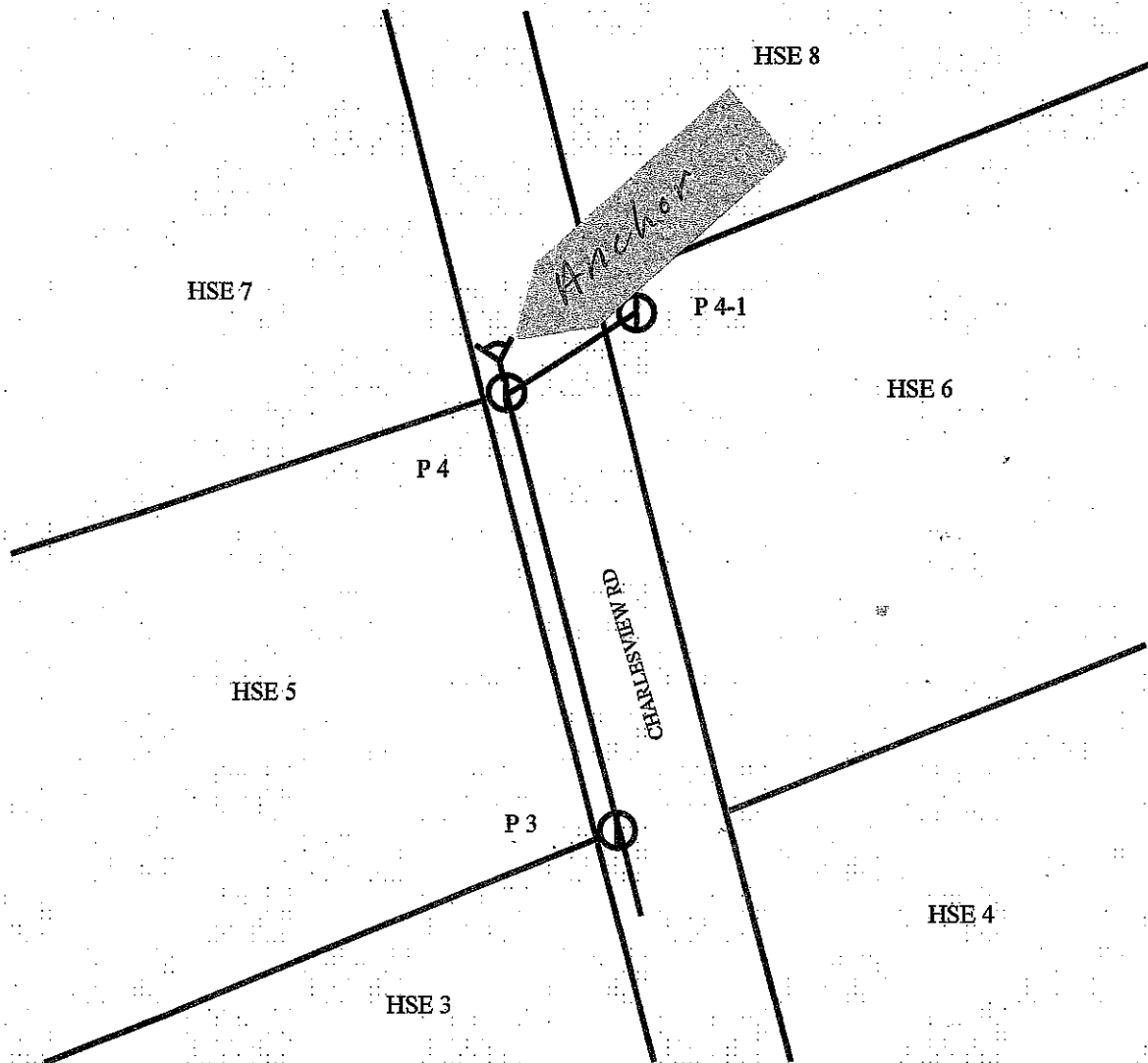
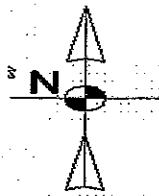
### Hopedale Select Board Public Hearing Notice

December 28, 2023

In conformity with the requirements of Section 22, Chapter 166 of the General Laws you are hereby notified that the Hopedale Select Board will hold a public hearing on Monday, January 8, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. in the Draper Room of Hopedale Town Hall, 78 Hopedale Street, Hopedale, MA upon the petition of National Grid to install an anchor at Pole 4, approximately at the property line between #5 and #7 Charlesview Road, as depicted on the attached plan.




Anyone wishing to be heard in this matter may participate in person or remotely through Zoom. Log-in instructions for Zoom will be published on the January 8, 2024 Select Board agenda; this agenda will be available on the Town's website no later than Thursday afternoon, January 4.

Glenda A. Hazard, Chair  
Hopedale Select Board



# ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION PETITION

**Legend:**

- New Install Anchor 
- Existing Poles 
- Existing OH Wire 

**nationalgrid**

Address: 7 Charlesview Rd  
Hopedale, MA 01747

**SKETCH TO ACCOMPANY PETITION**  
**FOR:** WR# 30794465

DATE: 07/19/2023

Drawn By: Felix Aben

DRAWING NOT TO SCALE. DISTANCES ARE APPROXIMATE.

William Krauss

December 23, 2023

Chief Daige  
Hopedale Fire Department  
40 Dutcher Street  
Hopedale, MA 01747

I'm writing to confirm with you of my decision to resign from my duties as the Call Captain and Call Training Officer of the Hopedale Fire Department. My last day will be December 31, 2023.

It's been a pleasure working for you and the Hopedale Fire Department. I am grateful for the opportunities and experiences over the past 15 years the department has provided me.

Thank you for your support and understanding regarding my decision. I look forward to working with you and the Hopedale Fire Department through our mutual aid agreements in the fire service.

Sincerely,



William Krauss



# HOPEDALE FIRE DEPARTMENT

40 Dutcher Street - Hopedale MA, 01747

Tel. (508) 473-1050 Fax: (508) 902-0076

[www.hopedale-ma.gov/fire-department](http://www.hopedale-ma.gov/fire-department)

*Thomas M. Daige - Fire Chief*

*David J. McMorrow - Deputy Chief*



Select Board  
Town Hall Office  
78 Hopedale Street  
Hopedale MA 01747

December 28, 2023

Re: Resignation of Call Captain William Krauss

Madam Chair,

Please see the attached letter of resignation of Call Fire Captain William Krauss effective December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023. Captain Krauss was a member of our department for 15 years. Captain Krauss was extremely instrumental in the operations of our department. Captain Krauss ran the training program for more than 10 years and is directly responsible for the skill level of the members of the department. Members, both past and present owe Captain Krauss a debt of gratitude for providing them with the skills and knowledge of the job of firefighting. Captain Krauss' absence will leave a large hole within our department and will be felt for the foreseeable future.

Respectfully,

Thomas Daige  
Fire Chief



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*Thomas M. Daige - Fire Chief*

*David J. McMorrow - Deputy Chief*



Hopedale Select Board  
Town Hall Office  
78 Hopedale Street  
Hopedale MA 01747

December 12, 2023

Re: Promotion of Call Firefighter Adam Kaminski-Miller

Madam Chair,

With the departure of Call Firefighter / Acting Call Lieutenant Patrick Rahill on December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023, I would like to put forth the name of Call Firefighter Adam Kaminski-Miller to be promoted to the rank of Acting Call Lieutenant effective January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Call FF Kaminski-Miller is an extremely dedicated member of the department and has evolved as a firefighter and person since his appointment to our department, fresh out of high school, in 2020. I feel that FF Kaminski-Miller will excel in this position and lead the younger call members well.

Respectfully,

Thomas Daige  
Fire Chief



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*Thomas M. Daige – Fire Chief*

*David J. McMorrow – Deputy Chief*



Select Board  
Town Hall Office  
78 Hopedale Street  
Hopedale MA 01747

January 3, 2024

Re: Promotion of Call Lieutenant Burns to the position of Call Captain

Madam Chair,

With the recent resignation of Call Captain William Krauss and the need to maintain the span of control within the Call department ranks, I am recommending that the Board promote Call Lieutenant Craig Burns to the position of Call Captain effective January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

Lt. Burns has been a member of the Hopedale Fire Department since 2013, he has an impeccable record, exemplary attendance percentage and strong leadership characteristics. His rapport with not only his fellow Call members, but also the Career members makes inter-departmental communication seamless.

Respectfully,

Thomas Daige  
Fire Chief



# Memo

**To:** Hopedale Select Board  
**From:** Mitch F. Ruscitti, Town Administrator  
**Date:** 12/27/23  
**Re:** BVT Position Paper

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On Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, the Hopedale Select Board met with the intent of cementing positions on Blackstone Valley Technical Regional Vocational Technical High School (BVT). This comes on the heels of a regional summit, hosted by the Hopedale Select Board at the Community House on October 26<sup>th</sup> to discuss regionwide concerns. Additionally, this dovetails with Statewide efforts to create a more equitable environment among regional vocational schools throughout the Commonwealth. The conversation focused on 7 key areas, and the Board agreed on the following positions:

1. The Town of Hopedale encourages BVT to adopt policies that lead to their student body mirroring the communities they serve; specifically, the student body should be representative of the socioeconomic diversity found throughout the 13-town catchment area;
2. Student attendance from contributing communities should be capped at 15% of any given student body cohort;
3. BVT should present a detailed capital plan and establish a stabilization fund to pay for and plan for capital improvements; while the Administration has indicated that they are in the process of moving forward with this, it has yet to be communicated to member towns. Additionally, the school should put forth a detailed multi-year capital plan that will help member communities plan for necessary repairs and improvements. As the regional school is an asset that benefits the region, it is paramount that towns can strategically plan for investments in the facility;
4. The annual school budget should be presented to member communities as a singular group, rather than at individual town meetings. The current budget cycle is disadvantageous for communities that hold their Annual Town Meetings later in the Spring, as votes for the budget have already been secured;
5. The annual school budget should be capped at the mean budgetary increase (or decrease) of respective individual municipal high schools, excluding the singular lowest and highest outlier values;



6. All information pertaining to capital improvements at the BVT facility that trigger procurement regulations should be shared with all member communities to provide transparency;
7. The Town of Hopedale advocates for a change in the Charter that would require 75% of member communities to vote for material changes vs. the current unanimous structure.

The above positions will lead to a stronger vocational region and experience for member communities, while providing increased opportunities for students, both vocational and non-vocational.

On behalf of the Select Board, I humbly present these positions to the regional community for the purposes of continuing the regionwide discussion held on October 26<sup>th</sup>, and to help advocate for the town's interests, which I believe are in alignment with area communities.



Maura Healey, Governor  
Kimberley Driscoll, Lieutenant Governor  
Monica Tibbitts-Nutt, Secretary & CEO

# massDOT

Massachusetts Department of Transportation

December 11, 2023

Mitchell Ruscitti  
Select Board Chair  
78 Hopedale St.  
P.O. Box 7  
Hopedale, MA 01747-0007

Dear Mitchell Ruscitti,

We are pleased to announce that under the new administration of Governor Maura Healey and Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll, a total of \$100 million for Fiscal Year 2024 has been allotted from the Fair Share Amendment to support local infrastructure across the Commonwealth's 351 cities and towns.

Passed by voters in 2022, the Fair Share Amendment requires that revenue raised by the 4% surtax on taxable income over \$1 million be spent on public education and transportation. This apportionment continues to demonstrate the Administration's support in strengthening municipal partnerships and providing financial resources that support transportation improvements at the local level.

**This letter certifies that your community's Fair Share apportionment for Fiscal Year 2024 is \$90,071.00.\***

The Fair Share Amendment funds will be distributed to communities using two formulas. The first \$50 million will be distributed using the traditional Chapter 90 formula based on local road mileage (58.33%), population (20.83%), and employment (20.83%). The other \$50 million will be distributed using a formula based on each municipality's share of road mileage.

This apportionment will automatically be incorporated into your existing Chapter 90 contract with MassDOT with no further action by the municipality. Apportionments for all communities are available online at [www.mass.gov/chapter-90-program](http://www.mass.gov/chapter-90-program). Please note that the bill enacting these funds has been signed; the funds are now available for municipal use.

We look forward to working with you in the coming year to continue the success of our municipal partnerships.

Sincerely,

Maura Healey  
Governor

\* Supplement to Chapter 90 Funds

Kim Driscoll  
Lieutenant Governor

# KP | LAW

*The Leader in Public Sector Law*

101 Arch Street, Boston, MA 02110  
Tel: 617.556.0007 | Fax: 617.654.1735  
[www.k-plaw.com](http://www.k-plaw.com)

December 29, 2023

**Lauren F. Goldberg**  
lgoldberg@k-plaw.com

Mr. Mitch Ruscitti  
Town Administrator  
Hopedale Town Hall  
78 Hopedale Street  
Hopedale, MA 01747

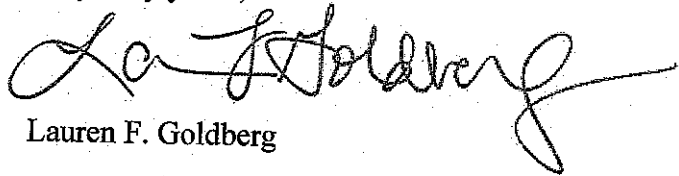
Re: Notice of Rate Increase for FY25

Dear Mr. Ruscitti:

Happy New Year! As we head into budget season, I am writing on behalf of the Firm's Management Committee to notify you of a rate change for FY25. Effective July 1, 2024, the hourly rate for Town Counsel legal services will increase by \$10.00 to \$240. Please see the attached for applicable Specialty Legal Services rates. Paralegal services will be billed at one-half the quoted attorney hourly rate. We will pass through disbursements and other costs incurred by the firm on behalf of the Town and will continue to absorb all costs for in-house copying and postage.

The firm very much appreciates and values our relationship with the Town. Please call or e-mail me at your convenience with any further questions.

Very truly yours,



Lauren F. Goldberg

LFG/aem  
894248/KP/0017

# KP | LAW

*The Leader in Public Sector Law*

## **SPECIALTY LEGAL SERVICES RATES (Town Counsel/City Solicitor)**

**FY25 and FY26**

“Specialty Legal Services” rates reflect the high demand for such services and the intensity of the work required to provide such services.

- Comprehensive permit matters, including hearings, and similar matters paid for by third parties such as host community agreement negotiations and the like, and including any administrative or court appeals (\$375/hour if fees are not paid by municipality; or \$345/hour if paid by the municipality);
- Comprehensive general or zoning bylaw revision or review and comprehensive form of government charter or special act adoption or amendment services (\$330);
- Election recounts (\$330);
- Cable television licensing (\$330); and
- Bond counsel work (fees calculated based upon “standard” factors in the field).

Paralegal services are billed at one-half the quoted attorney rate. Disbursements and other costs incurred by the firm are passed through to the City or Town; however, we do not charge for in-house copying and postage.

Please contact Lauren Goldberg at [lgoldberg@k-plaw.com](mailto:lgoldberg@k-plaw.com) or at (617) 654-1759 with questions.

825625/KP/0005