



# TOWN OF HOPEDALE

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**Board of Selectmen**  
Janet Orff Jacaruso  
Robert P. Burns  
Sandra Biagetti, Acting Chair

**Town Coordinator**  
Steven A. Sette

## Board of Selectmen Minutes January 5, 2015

The regular Meeting of the Board and Selectmen was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Biagetti in the Draper Room of Town Hall. A letter dated December 29, 2014 from Board of Selectmen Chair was received and reads "Dear Sandra and Bob, I am writing to inform you that I will be taking a three month medical leave due to medical reasons beginning on Tuesday, December 30, 2014." "As I will be absent from Board of Selectmen meetings during this period, I suggest you reorganize the Board naming a new Chair."

A motion was made by Selectmen Bob Burns, seconded by Sandra Biagetti to appoint Sandra Biagetti as Chair during Chair Jacaruso's absence. The vote was unanimous.

Present: Chair Sandra Biagetti, Selectman Burns, Town Coordinator Steven Sette, Executive Assistant Susan Brouwer, members of the public, and Videographer Jeffrey Ellis.

### Chair Biagetti moved to consent items on the agenda

#### **1. Approval of Regular Minutes November 3, 2014**

##### **MSDV to passover the Regular Minutes of November 3, 2014**

Selectman Burns-Aye; Chair Biagetti-Aye

#### **2. Approval of Regular Minutes November 17, 2014**

##### **MSDV to approve the Regular Minutes of November 17, 2014**

Selectman Burns-Aye; Chair Biagetti-Aye

#### **3. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of December 15, 2014**

##### **MSDV to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of December 15, 2014**

Selectman Burns-Aye; Chair Biagetti-Aye

#### **4. Withdraw of Executive Meeting Minutes of December 15, 2014**

##### **MSDV to withdraw the Executive Meeting Minutes of December 15, 2014 as meeting did not occur**

Selectman Burns-Aye; Chair Biagetti-Aye

### Chair Biagetti moved to Correspondence on the agenda

**1. Hopedale Permanent Firefighters 2015 Local 2225 Executive Officers listing effective January 1, 2015**  
Chair Biagetti read a memo dated December 9, 2014 from the Hopedale Permanent Firefighters which stated effective January 1, 2015 the following members of Local 2225 have been elected to office;

President	Brian D. Kelley
Vice President	Ryan Jenkins
Secretary/Treasurer	Richard Bennett

**Chair Biagetti moved to new business on the agenda**

**1. Blackstone Valley Ice Arena, LLC – 2015 Common Victualler License Renewal**

Coordinator Sette advised that owner Tim Yakimowsky wishes to withdraw the common victualler license application. There is a company handling the food who will be applying for the common victualler license.

**2. Hopedale Country Club – Approval of New Board of Directors**

Chair Biagetti recognized Jeffrey Germagian, the new President of the Hopedale Country Club. Mr. Germagian said the following officers were voted in at the Hopedale Country Club meeting held on November 25, 2014.

The following Officers were voted;

President Jeffrey Germagian, Vice President Chuck Mitchell, Treasurer Steve Haynes, Financial Secretary Bob Neilan and Recording Secretary Jack Hanley

The following Board of Director's were voted to a two year term;

Tom Dolliver, Todd Fritch, Marty Meyer, Todd Reed and Ralph Tiede

The following Board of Director's were voted to a one year term;

Fran Coffey, Christine Gaffney, Jim Binney, Eugene Constanza and John Laronga.

Mr. Germagian asked that the Board of Selectmen approve the new Board of Directors so a Change of Manager application can be reconsidered by the ABCC.

**MSDV to approve Hopedale Country Club Board of Directors as presented**

Selectman Burns-Aye; Chair Biagetti-Aye

**3. 2014 ABCC Annual Licensing Report – Vote to authorize Chair to sign**

**MSDV to approve and authorize Chair Biagetti to sign the 2014 ABCC Annual Licensing Report**

Selectman Burns-Aye; Chair Biagetti-Aye

**4. Resident Russell Allard – Tree Removal concern within buffer zone on S. Main Street**

The Chair requested residents that wished to be heard on this topic to come forward. Mr. Russell Allard, Mr. Charles Lee, Mr. Michael Mulry and Mr. Alan DiFonzo introduced themselves. Mr. Allard began by stating the residents were there to express their displeasure about trees that were removed along the property line which is owned by Braun's Express. The trees gave the abutting residential neighborhood a privacy and noise buffer from this commercial business. The residents asked the board to check records to see if there were any deed restrictions placed on the business property which would have required keeping a buffer along the property line (business address 10 Tandem Way), abutting the residential neighborhood. In addition, the residents shared concerns of noise coming from trucks running especially late at night, pollution from the trucks and lighting shining into abutting yards. Conservation Commission Chair Meg McElroy was also present for the discussion. Ms. McElroy advised the conservation commission has issued a citation for violation of the Wetlands Protection Act (M.G.L. Ch. 131 §40) against the owner of Braun's Express for property located on South Main Street only; the property located at 10 Tandem Way does not fall within a wetland area. Ms. McElroy stated she pulled the deed and reviewed it and could find no deed restrictions. Unfortunately, Ms. McElroy stated if it is not in the deed there isn't anything the Town can do legally to enforce "a gentleman's agreement". Mr. Allard advised that he is a long time resident and he seems to remember there being a requirement for a buffer of trees along the business owner's property. However, Conservation Chair McElroy reiterated there is nothing in the property's deed stipulating that there must be a buffer of trees and a "gentleman's agreement" is not enforceable. Coordinator Sette advised that he will research this to see if the owner was ever required to keep a buffer and will let the property owner's know if he is able to find any documents requiring this.

**3. Acceptance of \$4,000 donation to Hopedale Police Department from – HM Green Solutions, Inc. for the purpose of funding reserve officer program**

**MSDV to approve Acceptance of \$4,000 donation to Hopedale Police Department from – HM Green Solutions, Inc. for the purpose of funding reserve officer program**

Selectman Burns-Aye; Chair Biagetti-Aye

**Chair Biagetti moved to old business on the agenda**

**1. Town Mechanic Discussion with Road Commissioners**

Mr. Burns thanked the Road Commissioners for coming in to continue discussion on the mechanic position. The Road Commissioners advised that they logged the mechanic as requested but were hesitant to share the log because they do not want the Board of Selectmen to rely on the log information only in what the mechanic does. In addition to his position as mechanic, he also works as a laborer with job duties of working on leaf pick up, back hoe operator and documentation. The Road Commissioners said they are willing to take on general maintenance of all Town equipment but in order to do it, they will need a new building equipped with a proper lifts with enough room to work on multiple vehicles and proper storage area. They will also require a full time mechanic and not a mechanic/laborer. The Road Commissioners advised they are scheduled to meet on January 24, 2015 with the Finance Committee at which time they plan to put in the above requests.

**Chair Biagetti then moved to other items not reasonably anticipated**

Letter dated December 29, 2015 from Janet Jacaruso regarding medical leave.

**MSDV to approve moving this item to the beginning of the agenda**

Selectman Burns-Aye; Chair Biagetti-Aye

**Chair Biagetti then moved to Coordinator News**

1. Coordinator Sette gave a brief update on the Town Accountant hiring. Steve stated that he and Stephanie L’Etalien will be conducting additional interviews. In the meantime, the Interim Town Accountant Julie Costello is doing a fine job and has agreed to stay on for a longer period of time.
2. Steve also said he is looking for coverage in the Town Clerk’s office and is trying to get someone on board as soon as possible. Steve said the person coming in will be under a temporary contract and will be requesting a transfer of funds from the Finance Committee to cover this expense.

**Adjournment**

With no further business before them at 7:18 p.m. the board adjourned.

Chair Biagetti-Aye; Selectman Burns – Aye

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Sandra Biagetti, Chair

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Robert P. Burns

Hopedale Board of Selectmen

\*Moved, Seconded, Discussed and Voted \*\* Roll Call Vote