TOWN OF HOPEDALE
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT November 29, 2016
in the Dennett Auditorium of the Junior/Senior High School

Worcester SS: To the Constables in the Town of Hopedale in the County of Worcester. Greetings: In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Hopedale qualified to vote in Town affairs to meet in the Dennett Auditorium of the Junior/Senior High School at 25 Adin Street in said Hopedale on Tuesday November 29, 2016, at 7:00 o'clock in the evening then and there to act on the following articles

Article 1: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum of money to pay prior year bills (pre-7/1/16), or take any other action related thereto.

To Account	Amount	From Account	Amount
Sentinel Benefits	$ 973.81	Fringe Benefits Employees	$ 973.81
Susan Brouwer	$1250.00	Health Insurance Buy Back	$1250.00
Plan. Bd. Adv.	$ 484.64	Plan. Bd. Other Expenses	$ 484.64
Zone. Bd. Adv.	$ 242.32	Zone. Bd. Other Expenses	$ 242.32

Submitted by: Board of Selectmen
Commentary: This article will authorize payment of bills for services incurred during the previous fiscal year while the actual billing was received after July 1, 2016, the start of the new fiscal year. Since the account for the prior fiscal year has been closed out, it is necessary to pay the amounts, if approved, from currently available funds. ***Approval of this article requires a 9/10 vote.*** *If the vote is not unanimous, a counted vote will be required.*

Article 2: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds, including but not limited to Free Cash and Enterprise Fund Retained Earnings, such sums as may be required for various capital purposes, or take any other action related thereto.

Submitted by: Finance Committee
Commentary: It is anticipated this article will transfer from Free Cash and Retained Earnings, various sums for capital items. Free Cash and Retained Earnings has been traditionally used to fund capital items of a nonrecurring nature. ***This article will require a majority vote.***

Article 3: To see if the Town will vote a sum of money to be authorized to augment the Ambulance Department Budget by offset receipts, or take any other action related thereto.

Submitted by: Board of Selectmen
Commentary: Together with the votes taken at previous Town Meetings, this article will fund the operations of the Ambulance completely from offset receipts. ***Approval of this article requires a majority vote.***

Article 4: To see if the Town will vote a sum of money to be authorized to augment the Sewer Department Budget by offset receipts, specifically for payment of debt service, or take any other action related thereto. **Submitted by: Water and Sewer Commissioners**
Commentary: This Article is intended correct and adjust the amount of funds necessary to fund the Sewer Department debt voted at the 2016 Annual Town Meeting, to be funded completely out of Sewer Department offset receipts. ***Approval of this article requires a majority vote.***

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Hopedale Zoning By-laws by rezoning certain parcels of land along both sides of South Main Street (Route 140) as General Business –A, in particular the parcels shown on Assessors Map 17 as 17-46-242 to 17-49-229, Assessors Map 21 as 21-12-12 to 21-96-285 and Assessors Map 24 as 24-58-332, 24-1-332 to 24-56-357, and in connection therewith, to make any necessary and related by-law changes, all as set forth in a document on file with the Planning Board and the Town Clerk and in connection therewith to amend the Zoning Map to incorporate such changes, or take any other action related thereto.

Submitted by: Planning Board
Commentary: This article proposes an amendment to the Zoning By-Law to rezone specific parcels as General Business – A, and to make any necessary and related by-law changes and also to update the Zoning Map, all of which can be reviewed in the Office of the Planning Board or Town Clerk. The Planning Board held a Public Hearing on Wednesday, November 2, 2016 and voted 3-0 to approve this amendment. ***Approval of this article requires a 2/3rds vote.***

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a Donation Agreement with Rockwell Automation, Inc., and acquire, by gift, a certain parcel of land, containing 28.31 acres, more or less, located at 161 Freedom Street, described in a deed recorded with the Worcester South District Registry of Deeds in Book 49166, Page 250, being Tax Map 9, Sheet 5, which property is and shall be subject to a Notice of Activity and Use Limitation, recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 54877, Page 39, approved by the Department of Environmental Protection, said property being acquired for the purpose of active recreational use and related uses, said conveyance subject to an easement reserved by Rockwell Automation, Inc. for access to the property for the purpose of environmental monitoring and conducting such other activities reasonably necessary for compliance with the Notice of Activity and Use Limitation, and subject to such other restrictions and/or covenants consistent with the Notice of Activity and Use Limitation, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to take such actions and execute such documents as are deemed necessary to implement the Donation Agreement and to acquire said property, upon such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen deems appropriate, or take any other action related thereto.

Submitted by: The Board of Selectmen
Commentary: This article is the first step for the Town to accept by donation the land known as the Freedom Street landfill, which has successfully been capped and approved by Mass DEP for limited use as set forth in the agreement between Rockwell Automation and the Town of Hopedale.
Approval of this article requires a majority vote.

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Article 7 of the November 19, 2015 Special Town Meeting (which article appropriated Water Department Retained Earnings in connection with construction of a raw water storage tank at the Water Treatment Plant, (which project will not proceed) a sum of money for DEP mandated improvements related to UV updates to the water system, and for all incidental and related expenses, or take any other action related thereto.

Submitted by: The Water and Sewer Commissioners
Commentary: DEP has mandated that the Town take certain actions in connection with the Town water system related to UV updates. Retained earnings previously appropriated in connection with the construction of the raw water tank project will be transferred to fund the required water system work. The raw water tank construction project will not be moving forward, as the project as originally proposed cam in significantly over budget. ***Approval of this article requires a majority vote.***

Given under our hands this 7th day of November 2016.

HOPEDALE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Louis Arcudi III	Robert P. Burns	Thomas A. Wesley

A True Copy, ATTEST:
Posted in the Town Hall, Police Station, and Post Office Lobby.

Constable — Date: 11-14-2016

RECEIVED
2016 NOV 14 A 9:38
HOPEDALE TOWN CLERK