

TOWN OF HOPEDALE  
BOARD, COMMISSION OR COMMITTEE  
TALENT BANK FORM

Local Government needs citizens to give of their time and talents serving the Town of Hopedale. A Talent Bank has been established to compile a list of interested citizens, willing to serve on a voluntary basis on boards, commissions and committees. Some groups meet often, others require less time, and still others are busy only at specific times of the year. Occasionally, there are requirements for ad hoc committees or sub-committees appointed to work on specific projects. Experience indicates that the two most appropriate qualities for successful service are an open mind and exercise of common sense.

If you are interested in serving, please list the position(s) you wish to be considered for:

Board, Commission or Committee applying for:

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR SEARCH COMMITTEE

Please return completed forms to:

Town Administrator's Office - Hopedale Town Hall 78 Hopedale Street, Hopedale, MA 01747

The Town Hall mailing address is: P.O. Box 7, Hopedale MA, 01747

Please Note:

- > The Board of Selectmen may fill vacancies until next election.
- > It is recommended that you attend a few meetings of the committee or board you are contemplating joining to help determine your interest.
- > The board/committee will be asked for their recommendation on each applicant's appointment.

Name: CAROL MORELLO

Are you a registered voter?  Yes  No

Address: 80 MAIN STREET

How long have you lived in Hopedale? 6 1/2 years

Home Phone: 508-473-9336 Cell Phone: 617-515-2817 Email: morello.c@comcast.net

How would you like to be contacted? 508-473-9336 (HOME PHONE)

Occupation: NURSE MANAGER (RETIRED)

Please list any potential conflicts of interest, e.g. membership in an organization or your

business: None

Education and Experience: 1988 MSN BOSTON COLLEGE, 1985 BSN PARENTS COLLEGE, NEW YORK  
1977 BS PSYCHOLOGY FINCHAMUEL COLLEGE, 1968 DIPLOMA CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL SCHOOL OF NURSING, BOSTON

How many times during the last year have you attended a meeting of the Board/Committee to which you are requesting appointment? 0

Experience: NURSE MANAGER POSITIONS AT MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL HOSPITAL, UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS MEDICAL CENTER, ASSISTANT NURSE MANAGER POSITION AT CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL, BOSTON, CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST POSITION AT MASS GENERAL HOSPITAL AND DULLES MEDICAL CENTER, NURSE, MEDICAL DEPARTMENT BOSTON RED SOX

Have you ever had business matters and interests/commitments to which you are requesting an appointment?

Yes  No If yes what type of business? \_\_\_\_\_

Special interests and skills: SELECTING TALENT THAT BEST FITS REQUIREMENTS OF THE

ORGANIZATION. STRONG PEOPLE SKILLS. STRONG DETAIL ORIENTATION

Activities, e.g. Government/Civic & Community/Charitable & Business: HOPKINS COUNCIL ON AGING

MEMBER, LONG STANDING CHAIR OF HOPKINS COUNCIL ON AGING MEMBER OF MULTIPLE  
PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Reasons for wanting to serve: TO ASSIST IN SELECTING AND HIRING THE BEST CANDIDATE

FOR THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR POSITION.

The completion of this form in no way assures appointment. Citizens deemed most qualified to serve in a particular capacity will fill all board, commission or committee vacancies.

Applicant's Signature *Chris Harsci*

Date January 11, 2023

TOWN OF HOPE DALE  
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If you are interested in serving, please list the position(s) you wish to be considered for:

Board, Commission or Committee applying for:

Town Administrator Search Committee

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It is recommended that you attend a few meetings of the committee or board you are contemplating joining to help determine your interest.

The board/committee will be asked for their recommendation on each applicant appointment.

Name: Len Guertin Are you a registered voter?  Yes  No

Address: 14 Anthony Rd. How long have you lived in Hopedale? 47 years

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: len.guertin@gmail.com  
508-428-3033

How would you like to be contacted? email

Occupation: Systems Analyst.

Have you ever been convicted of a felony?  Yes  No

Please list any potential conflicts of interest, e.g. membership in an organization or your business:

Can't sit on a board or committee that has voting authority over town financials  
Education and Experience: \_\_\_\_\_

How many times during the last year have you attended a meeting of the Board/Committee to which you are

requesting appointment? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever had business before the Board/Committee to which you are requesting an appointment?

Yes No If yes what type of business? \_\_\_\_\_

Special interests and skills: \_\_\_\_\_

Activities e.g. Government Civic & Community Charitable & Educational: \_\_\_\_\_

Reasons for wanting to serve: \_\_\_\_\_

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Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



11/7/23

## Letter of Resignation

Chief Giovanella,

It is with regret that I am submitting my formal resignation from the position of dispatcher from the Hopedale Police Department effective immediately. As you know I have accepted a full time position as a police officer with the Hopkinton Police Department

I can not express enough how grateful I am for the experience I gained during my time with your department. I also wanted to extend my sincere gratitude for all of your assistance while I was in the academy. Wish you and the department continued success and safety.

Respectfully Submitted,

Officer Walker #15  
Hopkinton Police Department

## Selectboard Meeting January 23, 2023

### Summary of Highway Department Update

1. Update of where we are so far this winter as far as equipment, employees, and snow budget.
2. Update on New Fuel System
3. Update on Route 16 Intersection
4. Update on the 2022 Leaf Season with new Leaf Vac Truck
5. Talk about new Ford F-550
6. Upcoming Possible Grants (Complete Streets & Mass Works)
7. Stormwater Update

**Select Board  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
May 9, 2022, 7:00 PM**

Present: Chair Keyes, Selectman Arcudi, Selectwoman Hazard, Town Administrator Schindler

Chair Keyes called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Chair Keyes began the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Legislative Citations from Senate and House of Representatives presented to Louis J. Arcudi, III, in Recognition of His 31 years of Service to the Town of Hopedale, presented by Representative Brian W. Murray**

Chair Keyes thanked Selectman Arcudi for his long tenure with the Town of Hopedale. Representative Murray read the citation dedicated to Selectman Arcudi. Chair Keyes thanked Selectman Arcudi for all the years he has devoted to Hopedale and how it was an honor to work with him. Selectman Arcudi thanked everyone that works with the Town and the residents of Hopedale, stating that it was an honor to serve the Town of Hopedale. Selectwoman Hazard thanked Selectman Arcudi for his dedication to the Town of Hopedale.

**Consent Items**

**Approval of April 25, 2022 Regular Minutes**

Selectman Arcudi moved to approve the April 25, 2022 Regular Minutes. Selectwoman Hazard seconded the motion.

Selectman Arcudi – Aye, Selectwoman Hazard – Aye, Chair Keyes – Aye

**Accept Donation from Seven Hills Foundation of \$5,000**

Selectwoman Hazard moved to accept the donation from Seven Hills Foundation of \$5,000. Selectman Arcudi seconded the motion.

Chair Keyes stated that the Seven Hills Foundation has supported and made many generous donations to the Town of Hopedale for years and thanks the foundation for their contributions.

Selectman Arcudi – Aye, Selectwoman Hazard – Aye, Chair Keyes – Aye

**Appointments & Resignations**

Appointment of George Leurini as a Full-Time Police Officer to the Hopedale Police Department, effective June 6, 2022.

Selectman Arcudi moved to appoint George Leurini as a Full-Time Police Officer to the Hopedale Police Department, effective June 6, 2022. Selectwoman Hazard seconded the motion.

Chief Giovanella stated that Mr. Leurini is an excellent addition to the Hopedale Police Department as he has many years of experience and ample knowledge of the job.

Selectman Arcudi – Aye, Selectwoman Hazard – Aye, Chair Keyes – Aye

**Resignation of Reserve Officer Joseph Houde from the Hopedale Police Department, effective April 30, 2022**

Selectman Arcudi moved to accept the resignation of Reserve Officer Joseph Houde from the Hopedale Police Department, effective April 30, 2022, after 15 years of service. Selectwoman Hazard seconded the motion.

Chair Keyes read the letter of resignation from Officer Joseph Houde that is provided in the packet. Chair Keyes and the Select Board thanked Officer Houde for his dedication and service to the Town of Hopedale.

Selectman Arcudi – Aye, Selectwoman Hazard – Aye, Chair Keyes – Aye

**New Business**

**Address Open Meeting Law Complaint Received from Elizabeth Reilly**

Town Administrator Schindler provided the response from Town Counsel pertaining to the open meeting law complaint received from Elizabeth Reilly. Town Administrator Schindler stated that the complaint addresses some concerns pertaining to executive sessions the Board has held, Schindler stated the detailed complaint was in the meeting packet if the public wishes to review it. Town Counsel responded to the Attorney General's Office stating that the Town does not have a violation and the Town has a right to enter executive session to discuss litigation strategy.

**Hopedale Boosters Club 12th Annual Hopedale Blue Raider 5K Run/Walk – Saturday, May 14, 2022 at the Hopedale – Jr-Sr High School (Vote to Approve)**

Selectwoman Hazard moved to approve the Hopedale Boosters Club 12th Annual Hopedale Blue Raider 5K Run/Walk – Saturday, May 14, 2022 at the Hopedale Jr-Sr High School. Selectman Arcudi seconded the motion.

Selectman Arcudi – Aye, Selectwoman Hazard – Aye, Chair Keyes – Aye

**Juneteenth Holiday, June 19, 2022. Town Hall will be closed on Monday, June 20, 2022.**

A vote is not required for this item. Chair Keyes asked that the Town Administrator's Office give the public ample notice that the Town Hall will be closed on Monday, June 20, 2022.

**Review Draft Annual Town Meeting warrant**

Town Administrator Schindler stated that this is the first view of the annual warrant, with articles added for Water/Sewer and CPA; the draft warrant is included in the meeting packet. Town Administrator Schindler stated that there will be no vote taken at tonight's meeting; the final warrant will be voted on at next week's meeting. Schindler stated that next week the Select Board will be signing the final warrant and wanted to provide the Select Board with a draft prior to then. Schindler stated that this is a standard Town Meeting warrant, there are no petitions articles thus far. Schindler stated that in the draft she has included an article for capital costs, if the Select Board wishes to go that route.

**Old Business**

**Address GU RR Industrial Rail Access Program (IRAP) Grant Request for 364 West Street, Michael Milanowski, President, GU RR**

**The IRAP Grant:** Chair Keyes stated that this is the second IRAP grant request, the first was approved and then reapproved, and then asked the Board if they had questions. Selectwoman Hazard apologized, as she had not read it. Milanowski stated that this is the identical IRAP application that was submitted in September of 2021 and which the Board had tabled until the litigation had been resolved. The litigation has since been resolved and the Board asked that the GU RR grant request go back on the agenda for approval. The only thing that changed in the application is the dates. Selectwoman Hazard pointed out typos related to Upton; there appeared to be an inadvertent "copy and paste" which has been corrected. This request is for the same scope of work and the same timing.

**Application:** According to Mr. Milanowski, all the work will occur in the existing right of way the railroad has owned since 1890. They will be putting in two sidetracks adjacent to the main - one on each side – allowing the RR to properly store railcars and avoid occasionally having to store those behind residential houses in Hopedale as has been done in the past. This will also allow for future expansion, which is needed for the operational growth of the railroad.



**Approval Request:** Mr. Milanowski further stated that the state wants to ensure that the Board is aware of what is going on, and to have the Board's concurrence with the railroad for this application. This is consistent with the settlement agreement that the Board has approved. Chair Keyes stated that the Board is not authorizing the grant action itself; to Mr. Malinowski's point, it is literally just local oversight in regard to the application. Selectman Arcudi stated that he had questions; Selectman Arcudi made a motion to approve the letter of support regarding the IRAP grant request for 364 West Street for the purpose of allowing further discussion.

**Voting Reservations:** Selectwoman Hazard stated that she would appreciate not voting tonight until she had a chance to review the application. Chair Keyes seconded the motion to put it up for discussion and asked Selectwoman Hazard to clarify her objection to talking about it. Selectwoman Hazard clarified her position that the Board can talk about it, but she was objecting to voting on it.

**Chapter 61:** Selectman Arcudi reiterated that the addition of the sideline for the two rails is on land that has been owned by the railroad since 1890, not including any land that was acquired through Chapter 61. Selectman Arcudi asked of Mr. Milanowski if Chapter 61 had not happened would they still be requiring this land to do the expansion? Mr. Milanowski responded yes, given the growth that has occurred, the railroad needs additional railcar capacity to switch the railcars in and out and have the engine go from the front to the back of the railroad. Chair Keyes questioned if, even if the Town and the railroad weren't in any litigation or dispute, would they still be coming in front of the Board asking for this and, if so, there would be no reason to deny the Town's support as it is an expansion on railroad land and not any land that is in dispute. Mr. Milanowski stated that this was an accurate summary of the circumstances.

**Delay:** Selectman Arcudi asked why the Select Board delayed this in the first place. The stated reason was because of the litigation, but was it also because we did not want to conflate the two issues yet it now seems that one has nothing to do with the other? Mr. Milanowski responded that that was a decision of the Board, that it was a surprise to the GURR when the Board previously decided to take no action because, again, all of the work that is going to occur is in the existing right of way.

**Future Expansion:** Mr. Milanowski indicated that at some point once this work has been completed the RR can expand in the future, but that's not what is now being proposed. He suggested that it was the Board's decision to see how the litigation was going to play out. That was the only thing that was brought to the GURR's attention as to why it was delayed, but now the litigation is over. The settlement agreement speaks to the Board supporting federal and state grants that create jobs and bring revenue into the state of MA and the Town of Hopedale. Chair Keyes suggested to Mr. Milanowski that playing with the hypothetical that the Board is going to raise a new motion and lawsuit disputing the settlement agreement is completely separate from this discussion. Mr. Milanowski reiterated that the railroad needs additional capacity no matter what.

**Voting on the Issue:** Chairman Keyes stated that he believed the litigation had been held up long enough and if a future Board would be victorious in litigation that has no impact on the matter before the Board at this time Selectman Arcudi asked if there were any other questions. Selectman Hazard stated that it is hard for her to have questions when she hasn't had the chance to read the revised version. Selectman Arcudi stated he is fine with voting as he has read the edition previously presented and this one, and the only edit was to correct the typos. He continued by suggesting that if members take into consideration what Chair Keyes has stated that if the Board votes on this it does not hinder a future Board's opportunity to consider future litigation if it is warranted; the Board should have already voted on this.

**Grant Specifics:** Carol Mullen, Director of the Council on Aging, asked how much the grant is for and the location of the installation of these additional rails. Selectman Arcudi stated that the application is in the on-line meeting packet. Mr. Milanowski responded that the total grant is \$837,000; the railroad will spend \$337,000 and the state matches 60% which is \$500,000. The length of the track is roughly 3,700 feet. This will take place in land within the Town of Hopedale, within the right-of-way owned by the railroad. Ms. Mullen further asked about the specific location. Mr. Milanowski responded that it is next to the existing track, up around the 18 acres West Street property in north Hopedale.

**Changing Board:** Mr. Fahey noted that the Board is making a lot of decisions at the end of Mr. Arcudi's term. He does not think the Board should vote when the Board membership is going to be changing tomorrow. Chair Keyes noted that Selectman Arcudi is still an active member on the Board; if a future Board wants to file a lawsuit, they may do that, but it will not affect the IRAP grant; the grant is for track expansion on land that is not in dispute.

**Warehouse Information:** Mr. Fahey noted that there are warehouses on either side of this track expansion and asked if further warehouses are going to be on the 364 West Street land or other land owned by the railroad. Mr. Milanowski indicated that they do not build warehouses on railroad right of way. Mr. Fahey then pointed out that the development plan in the IRAP grant application depicts warehouses adjacent to the rail expansions. Mr. Milanowski replied that they were outside of the right of way in the 360 West Street Property.

Mr. Milanowski stated that this has been in front of the Board since September of last year. The railroad is expanding every year and those railcars must go somewhere - to avoid leaving them on the mainline behind people's houses the railroad needs additional track capacity. He further noted that at some point in the future the railroad is going to develop buildings at 364 West Street and those will have additional track connecting from the main line and these sidetracks to those buildings. But that is not part of the grant application in front of the Board today. Selectman Arcudi then asked for confirmation that what the railroad is asking for in the grant has nothing to do with those warehouses. That is, the Board is not voting on any future expansion. Mr. Milanowski stated that this is correct.

Mr. Milanowski reiterated that they are not asking for approval of the warehouses, rather, they have depicted the later phases when additional track is built off of the main tracks; the sketch is one scenario - a future phase that is still under design. That is not what the railroad is asking the Board's approval for as part of this IRAP application. Mr. Milanowski confirmed that they will follow the settlement agreement to the letter of the law as agreed to and that does contemplate warehouse development but is separate and distinct from the IRAP.

**IRAP Requirements:** Town Administrator Schindler noted that the grant application requires that a professional engineering company must complete the plans, but the plans that have been presented are not engineered plans. Mr. Milanowski indicated that in the railroad industry, the turnouts are depicted on engineered plans; the areas of concern are the layout and switch patterns. Mr. Milanowski further noted that this is their fourth or fifth IRAP application, so they are familiar with the requirements. Town Administrator Schindler stated that she wants to make sure that whatever permitting is required has been completed.

**Permits:** Mr. Milanowski stated that there is no permitting required. Mr. Burt asked if the project received environmental approvals, specifically has this proposal been sent to the Conservation Commission or anyone else for their approval or consideration? Mr. Milanowski responded by stating to Mr. Burt that he is aware that no approvals are required within the existing right-of-way for the railroad to expand.

**Verification:** Following extensive discussion between Mr. Burt, Mr. Milanowski and Board members as to whether the Town had verified that Mr. Milanowski's statements regarding permitting requirements and whether these applications are being properly vetted, Chairman Keyes noted that there is no litigation pending therefore the settlement agreement is the default setting and among its terms is a stipulation that the Board will not withhold grant request for unreasonable reasons.

**Vote:** Selectman Arcudi moved to provide a letter of support for the GURR IRAP Grant Request for 364 West Street. Chair Keyes seconded the motion.

Selectman Arcudi – Aye, Selectwoman Hazard – No, Chair Keyes – Aye Motion Passed 2-1.

**Request for Rezoning Change Petition of 150-156 Hartford Avenue, Constant Poholek**

Chair Keyes stated that this is the third location request, the current location is zoned General Business-A (GB-A). Poholek stated that the owner of 150-156 Hartford Ave, Antonio Pinto, had no objection to the zoning change for Charlesview but thought that the rezoning would include his property. Chair Keyes stated that he wants to have Poholek's business in town however, the location he is proposing is right next to other cannabis stores and does not feel that this is a good location for another cannabis store. The Select Board feels that Poholek should bring this to the Hopedale Planning Board.

**Review FY23 Budget:** Town Hall Administrator Schindler stated that she had sent the Select Board the most current budget draft that the Finance Committee had reviewed. She stated some reductions and increases were brought forward during the Finance Committee meeting. As of the Finance Committee's May 5th meeting, without budget reductions, there is still an override needed, even with using \$290,000 from free cash. To balance the budget, approximately \$300,000 in reductions would be necessary. A joint meeting will take place with the Finance Committee and Select Board on Monday. Resident Lou Costanza stated that the stipends for Boards/Commissions should be reinstated and that he will organize a citizen's petition so this item can be on the warrant. This would increase the amount the budget needs to be balanced.

**Correspondence and Selectmen Informational Items (votes will not be taken)**

A/P Warrant #22-23, \$343,749.49, 5/5/2022

P/R Warrant #22-23, \$731,392.30, 5/5/2022

**Executive Session**

Motion: To move into Executive Session, pursuant to M.G.L. c.30A, § 21(a) for item # (3): To discuss strategy with respect to litigation that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigation position of the public body and the chair so declares. Roll Call Vote

Purpose: Litigation strategy re: Town v. Jon Delli Priscoli, Trustee of the One Hundred Forty Realty Trust, et als, Attorney Peter Durning present.

Motion: To move into Executive Session, pursuant to M.G.L. c.30A, § 21(a) for item # (3): To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining and litigation that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining and litigation position of the public body and the chair so declares, which he does. (Collective Bargaining; All Units)

Chair Keyes read the executive session purposes above.

Selectman Arcudi moved to enter executive session per the purposes read by Chair Keyes, not to reconvene to open session. Selectwoman Hazard seconded the motion.

Selectman Arcudi – Aye, Selectwoman Hazard – Aye, Chair Keyes – Aye

Chair Keyes dissolved the open meeting at 9:03PM

Submitted by: Lindsay Peterman

Select Board Approval: \_\_\_\_\_

**Select Board  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
March 14, 2022, 7:00 PM**

**Present: Chair Keyes, Selectman Arcudi, Selectwoman Hazard, Town Administrator Schindler**

**Chair Keyes called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Chair Keyes began the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.**

**Request for Approval of a Special, One-Day Beer/Wine License for Saturday, March 26, 2022, 11 am to 11 pm at the FMC Ice Sports located at 121 Plain Street in Hopedale, MA for Bay State Games Curling Competition: Ellen Argo, Member, Board of Director, Blackstone Valley Curling Club.**

**Chair Keyes confirmed that the one-day license application was included in the packet and complete. Ellen Argo, the applicant, spoke about the nature of the games and the history of the Bay State Games Curling Competition.**

**Selectman Arcudi motioned to approve the one a Special, One-Day Beer/Wine License for Saturday, March 26, 2022, 11 am to 11 pm at the FMC Ice Sports located at 121 Plain Street in Hopedale, MA for Bay State Games Curling Competition. Selectwoman Hazard seconded the motion.**

**Chair Keyes – Aye, Selectman Arcudi – Aye, Selectwoman Hazard – Aye**

**Consent Items**

**Approval of February 28, 2022, Regular Minutes**

**Approval of March 4, 2022, Regular Minutes**

**Selectwoman Hazard moved to approve the February 28, 2022, and March 4, 2022, regular minutes. Selectman Arcudi seconded the motion to approve the February 28, 2022, regular minutes, noting that he was not in attendance for the meeting on March 4, 2022. Chair Keyes seconded the motion to approve the March 4, 2022, regular minutes.**

**Selectman Arcudi stated that regarding the February 28, 2022 meeting minutes, the time that Selectwoman Hazard left the meeting needs to be clarified and corrected, he believes it should be prior to the code of conduct vote.**

**Approval of the February 28, 2022 regular minutes**

**Selectman Arcudi – Aye, Selectwoman Hazard – Aye, Chair Keyes – Aye**

**Approval of the March 4, 2022 regular minutes**

**Selectwoman Hazard – Aye, Chair Keyes – Aye**

**Appointments and Resignations**

**Appointment of Call Firefighter Jennifer Richard to Permanent Firefighter/EMT, effective December 6, 2021**

**Fire Chief Daige stated that Jennifer Richard has been with the Hopedale Fire Department since December 6, 2021, and for the record wanted to clarify that she is moving from provisional career firefighter to permanent firefighter. Chair Keyes read the letter from Fire Chief Daige that was provided in the meeting packet.**

**Selectman Arcudi motioned to Appointment of Call Firefighter Jennifer Richard from Provisional Career Firefighter/EMT to Permanent Firefighter/EMT, effective December 6, 2021 and Selectwoman Hazard seconded this.**

**Chair Keyes – Aye, Selectman Arcudi – Aye, Selectwoman Hazard – Aye**

**Appointment of Call Firefighter-Candidate Katherine D'Alessandro to Call Firefighter, effective March 1, 2022.**

**Chair Keyes read the letter provided in the packet regarding the appointments of Katherine D'Alessandro, Gavin Martin, Casey Sweet. Chair Keyes stated that these appointments will be motioned and voted on individually.**

**Selectwoman Hazard motioned to appoint Call Firefighter-Candidate Katherine D'Alessandro to Call Firefighter, effective March 1, 2022.**

Chair Keyes – Aye, Selectman Arcudi – Aye, Selectman Hazard – Aye

Appointment of Call Firefighter-Candidate Gavin Martin to Call Firefighter, effective March 1, 2022  
Selectman Arcudi motioned to appoint Call Firefighter-Candidate Gavin Martin to Call Firefighter, effective March 1, 2022, which Selectwoman Hazard seconded.

Chair Keyes – Aye, Selectman Arcudi – Aye, Selectwoman Hazard – Aye

Appointment of Call Firefighter-Candidate Casey Sweet to Call Firefighter, effective March 1, 2022  
Selectwoman Hazard motioned to appoint Call Firefighter-Candidate Casey Sweet to Call Firefighter, effective March 1, 2022, which Selectman Arcudi seconded.

Chair Keyes – Aye, Selectman Arcudi – Aye, Selectwoman Hazard – Aye

Resignation of Linda McEwan from the Hopedale Cultural Council, effective March 14, 2022  
Chair Keyes thanked Linda McEwan for her service while being on the Hopedale Cultural Council.  
Selectwoman Hazard motioned to accept the Resignation of Linda McEwan from the Hopedale Cultural Council, effective March 14, 2022, which Selectman Arcudi seconded.

Chair Keyes – Aye, Selectman Arcudi – Aye, Selectwoman Hazard – Aye

Appointment of Gail Brown to the Hopedale Cultural Council, effective March 14, 2022, for a 3-Year Term.  
Selectman Arcudi motioned to appoint Gail Brown to the Hopedale Cultural Council, effective March 14, 2022, for a 3-Year Term. Selectwoman Hazard seconded the motion.

Chair Keyes – Aye, Selectman Arcudi – Aye, Selectwoman Hazard – Aye

Resignation of Saken Khokhar from the Economic Development Committee, effective March 8, 2022  
Selectman Arcudi motioned to accept the Resignation of Saken Khokhar from the Economic Development Committee, effective March 8, 2022, which Selectwoman Hazard seconded.

Chair Keyes – Aye, Selectman Arcudi – Aye, Selectwoman Hazard – Aye

Accept Elizabeth Callahan's Notice of Disclosure

Town Administrator Schindler stated that this is a disclosure regarding Elizabeth Callahan who is on the Finance Committee, the disclosure document is in tonight's meeting packet. Schindler stated that this disclosure is regarding Callahan's relation to Don Keaveney, who is the legal representative of the Grafton Upton Railroad. The Finance Committee will be making a recommendation on the Town Meeting warrant article related to the Railroad. Callahan was advised to provide this disclosure by the State Ethics Commission. Chair Keyes and Selectwoman Hazard expressed their appreciation for Callahan having provided a disclosure.

Selectwoman Hazard moved to accept Elizabeth Callahan's Notice of Disclosure which was seconded by Selectman Arcudi.

Chair Keyes – Aye, Selectman Arcudi – Aye, Selectwoman Hazard – Aye

New Business

Request for Permission to Perform Volunteer Service Project, Clean Up Around Spindleville Pond; Justin Paulson, Den Leader, Hopedale Cub Scouts.

Paulson stated that there is not a set date currently. Town Administrator Schindler stated that once they have decided on a date, he can come back to the Select Board to notify the Town. Schindler also stated that each volunteer will need to fill out a volunteer release form. The updated volunteer release form will be discussed at tonight's meeting as well. Selectman

Arcudi suggested that Paulson reach out to the Hopedale Highway Department for assistance with this project.

Selectwoman Hazard moved to grant Permission to Perform Volunteer Service Project, Clean Up Around Spindleville Pond; Justin Paulson, Den Leader, Hopedale Cub Scouts, which Selectman Arcudi seconded.

Chair Keyes – Aye, Selectman Arcudi – Aye, Selectwoman Hazard – Aye

Update from Hopedale Schools re: COVID, Budget, and Related Matters - Superintendent Karen Crebase  
Crebase shared a presentation with the Select Board. The schools will return to in-person learning with masks optional. The schools have increased in-person and home COVID testing along with additional sanitation of the schools. The schools will continue to provide support to students, mental health issues, and grade level appropriate instruction. The schools received \$50,000 grants for additional hybrid counseling, identification of areas where learning has fallen behind and development of an afterschool tutoring program, which has begun. The schools provided social and emotional screeners and support groups. Teacher training has been implemented, the schools have completed the first assessment of training and are currently working on their second assessment. Memorial Elementary School has provided Spanish classes to grades 5 and 6 and computer science classes from grades K-6. Crebase stated that the goal of these additional programs is to bolster anything lost during the pandemic. Crebase also stated that the schools took action regarding food insecurity measures and provided lunch and dinners to families during the pandemic. Crebase highlighted some of the Town and School collaborations, thanking Town departments for aiding the schools. Crebase stated that the school's budget is posted to their website. Crebase stated that Hopedale ranks 276<sup>th</sup> in the Per Pupil Expenditure, which is the bottom third. Crebase stated that the schools have received over \$400,000 in grant funding which aiding in the schools improving their programs; this funding helped the schools achieve student test scores in the top third state-wide. Chair Keyes, Selectman Arcudi and Selectwoman Hazard thanked Superintendent Crebase for the detailed presentation and the excellent work with the Hopedale Schools.

Update from Hopedale Water/Sewer Departments; Tim Watson, Water/Sewer Superintendent  
Watson began the update with a list of items the Water/Sewer department has been maintaining. Starting with the wastewater plant, he stated that the facility is almost 40 years old. The Water/Sewer department is trying to maintain and keep up with DEP and EPA mandates, discharge permits, a collections system that in some portions of Town is over 100 years old. The Water/Sewer department, over recent years, has completed 6 million dollars of upgrades. Watson stated the Water/Sewer department's goal is to invest at least \$100,000-\$200,000 a year into the collection system and the wastewater plant for upkeep and modernization, while maintaining mid-range water and sewer rates and tie-in fees. Watson stated that they do not receive complaints regarding the rates and the concerns are regarding the high cost of assessments. The assessments are based on debt, the water department has \$3 million of debt, and the sewer department has \$6 million of debt. The assessment is based on all users paying this equally. Watson stated that he does not feel the departments will ever be debt-free due to DEP and EPA regulations constantly changing. Watson did say that the Water/Sewer Department is looking at the timing of the next set of projects with the timing of the debt dropping off before borrowing more money. Watson stated that there was a study done on the wastewater plant regarding its operations and needs. There is a 3-phase \$12 million project, and phase 1 is complete. Watson stated that with the Board's approval, the Water/Sewer Department plans on going forward with \$120,000 further upgrades; these funds are within the budget so the Town will not need to borrow.

Watson next discussed the PFAS (polyfluoroalkyl substances) issue, stating that \$3.2 million is needed for corrective treatment. The Town filed litigation in this matter which could result in the Town being awarded money. Regarding water exploration, the water/sewer department has spent close to \$350,000 in their efforts to identify water sources but, to date, no new sources have been found. Watson stressed the importance of finding a water source close to the infrastructure and water treatment plant so the Town would not need to build a new facility. Watson also provided an update regarding a new water tank for the Town, stating that this water tank would be a 900,000-gallon water tank. Watson continued that the land for the new tank has been secured and there is a commitment from a developer to contribute a major portion of the engineering costs. Further, the Water/Sewer department has received a \$2 million grant for construction of the water tank. Watson stated that this water tank will be very beneficial to the Town by doubling the water storage capacity and increasing fire protection considerably. Chair Keyes brought up the condition of the fire hydrants in Town and asked Watson to have the Water/Sewer Department meet with the Fire Chief regarding any out of service fire hydrants and to discuss testing. Watson clarified that there are 291 fire hydrants in Town and around 8-9 of those hydrants are out of

service and will be repaired. Watson stated that the water/sewer department does not service hydrants or water mains that are located on private highways. Chair Keyes stated that any hydrants on private ways should be ordered to be repaired.

**Execute & Sign Memorandum Of Agreement (MOA) for Clerical Unit through June 30, 2022 (vote)**

Town Administrator Schindler stated that the MOA is in the meeting packet. Schindler stated that she is looking for a vote from the Select Board at tonight's meeting so the MOA can be signed and be placed on the Special Town Meeting warrant. Schindler walked the Board through the MOA, stating that the terms of this MOA are similar to those of the Dispatch and Public Works Department MOAs. This is a one-year agreement which provides for the addition of the holiday of Juneteenth (June 19, 2022), a 0% raise for 2021, a 4% raise in 2022, and a cellphone stipend to offset members' costs due to use of cellphones for Town business. Schindler shared this MOA with the Finance Committee. Selectwoman Hazard expressed her support for this MOA, Hazard said this is similar to the terms of contracts for the other unions. Selectman Arcudi stated that he does not support a one-year contract and feels that the MOAs should provide for three-year contracts, and further he does not support a phone stipend. Chair Hazard stated that one-year contracts will not be the norm, multi-year contracts will be made going forward.

Selectman Arcudi moved to accept the MOA for Clerical Unit through June 30, 2022. Selectwoman Hazard seconded the motion.

Chair Keyes – Aye, Selectman Arcudi – Nay, Selectwoman Hazard – Aye

**Review Counsel Opinion re: 187 Freedom Street as Location of Water Tank; Execute & Sign Confirmatory Deed (vote to approve conservation commissions vote)**

Town Administrator Schindler stated that documentation on this item is provided in the packet. She explained that this is necessary due to an incorrect reference in the original deed; the Board needs to accept and vote on this confirmatory deed after the Conservation Commission votes. Both the Select Board and Conservation Commission need to sign because this land is considered open space. Schindler stated that this item will be on the next agenda for a vote after the Conservation Commission has voted to approve.

**Schedule Pre-Special Town Meeting Information Session Regarding the Town/GU RR Settlement Agreement**

Selectman Arcudi stated that there is a Town Meeting coming up and he would like to schedule a joint meeting of the Select Board, Water Commission, Finance Committee and Conservation Committee prior to the Town Meeting. This would be a public forum to provide an opportunity for Attorney Durning to discuss the settlement agreement and for attendees to ask questions. This will be in-person and over Zoom. Selectman Arcudi stated that no changes can be made to the settlement agreement as a result of this meeting; it is an information session.

**Old Business**

**Review and Approve Hopedale Volunteer Release Form, Revised by Berry Insurance (vote)**

Schindler stated that there were some items that Berry Insurance had revised. Chair Keyes asked to add a parental consent form for anyone under 18 years of age so if anyone under the age of 18 wishes to volunteer they have the option. Schindler stated that this item will be added to the next agenda to get voted on once the parental consent form has been created.

**Request to Review Host Community Agreement (HCA) and Change of Address for Green River Cannabis, Constant Poholek, Owner**

Poholek stated that the host agreement the Select Board has is for 5 Condon Way. Poholek filed for a special permit with the Zoning Board. Poholek stated that this location is zoned for a retail cannabis business and has the requisite amount of parking spaces, but the Zoning Board felt there were not enough parking spaces and was not the right location for this type of facility. Poholek stated that he held a community outreach meeting at which Gavin & Associates were the only attendees; Poholek stated he has an agreement with Gavin & Associates to lease an additional 6-10 parking spaces in their parking lot across the street but the Zoning Board still felt that this was not acceptable. The Zoning Board indicated that if Green River Cannabis continued to go forward, it would result in a negative vote. Poholek stated that he did not want to be in a position where he needed to appeal this case or file legal action. He withdrew the application without prejudice and will try to work with the Town to find another location. Poholek feels that the Select Board, the Zoning Board and the

Planning Board are not on the same page because the area is zoned for a retail cannabis business, but he keeps getting stopped by the Zoning Board. Poholek stated that he has come to the Select Board tonight to work with the Board to find a location for his business. Poholek proposed two locations, 150-156 Hartford Avenue and 8 Charlesview. 150-156 Hartford Avenue has ample parking, but it is not zoned for retail cannabis; rezoning requires a 2/3rds majority vote at Town Meeting. Poholek stated that the 8 Charlesview location allows retail cannabis, although he feels that 150-156 Hartford Avenue would be viewed more favorably by the Zoning Board but, again, this site requires rezoning. Selectman Arcudi suggested that Poholek speak with the Planning Board regarding the location of 150-156 Hartford Avenue to discuss a zoning change with them, then return to the Select Board to add this proposal to the Town Meeting warrant if that's the direction he wants to go in.

Public and Board Member Comments (votes will not be taken)

Selectman Arcudi asked Town Administrator Schindler and Selectwoman Hazard for an update regarding the Finance Committee and whether there is going to be an override proposed. Schindler stated that the Finance Committee was concerned about some department budgets. Selectwoman Hazard stated that she was not present at the last Finance Committee meeting. Schindler stated that the Finance Committee is beginning to hold department head meetings regarding the upcoming budget. Schindler stated that an override is a possibility, but they are just in the first round of budget discussions. As of now, there is roughly a \$500,000 overage. Schindler will provide the Board with updates regarding budget discussions with the Finance Committee.

Correspondence and Selectmen Informational Items (votes will not be taken)

A/P Warrant #22-18, \$819,840.06, 2/24/2022

P/R Warrant #22-18, \$922,274.19, 2/24/2022

A/P Warrant #22-19, \$705,007.69, 3/10/2022

P/R Warrant #22-19, \$787,848.38, 3/10/2022

Xfinity – Changes to Xfinity TV Services: 1. On April 26, 2022 HSN2 will move from expanded Basic, Entertainment, Xfinity TV Starter and Xfinity TV Economy Plus to Limited Basic, 2. Effective May 12, 2022, FS1 will no longer be offered as part of Digital Economy, but will continue to be available in the Sports & News and Expanded Basic tiers  
Town's Chapter 90 Apportionment for Fiscal Year 2023 is \$173,447

Requests for Future Agenda Items:

Freedom Street Dam Alternatives Analysis, Presentation by Tighe & Bond

Selectman Arcudi requested to have a joint meeting with the Finance Committee to discuss the Town Budget prior to the Annual Town Meeting.

Administrator Updates (In Packet)

Town Administrator Schindler stated that the Select Board should pass over the executive session tonight because she has some items she needs to follow up on prior to a discussion.

Executive Session

In accordance with G.L. c. 30A, §21(a)(3) (Purpose #3), to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining and litigation that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining and litigation position of the public body and the chair so declares, which he does. (Collective Bargaining; Hopedale Call Fire/EMS.)

Selectwoman Hazard moved to adjourn the regular meeting. Selectman Arcudi seconded the motion.

Selectwoman Hazard – Aye, Selectman Arcudi – Aye, Chair Keyes – Aye

Chair Keyes dissolved the regular meeting at 9:50PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Lindsay Peterman

Select Board approval: \_\_\_\_\_



**ORDER OF TAKING**

WHEREAS, the Town of Hopedale, a municipal corporation, *acting by and through its Select Board*, with an address of 78 Hopedale Street, Hopedale, Massachusetts 01747 (the "Town") hereby certifies that the Town did vote to acquire by purchase, eminent domain or otherwise, the fee interest in the land known as a portion of 364 West Street, Hopedale, Worcester County, Massachusetts, containing 130.18 acres, more or less, which is classified as Forest Land under Chapter 61 of the General Laws, and shown on the plan attached hereto as Exhibit A (the "Plan") as "Map 2, Block 5, One Hundred Forty Realty Trust, Chapter 61 Forest Land Parcel-130.18 Acres" (the "Property"), which Property excludes the areas shown on the Plan as "Railroad Right of Way" and "Map 2, Block 5, One Hundred Forty Realty Trust, Excluded Wetlands – 25.06 Acres";

WHEREAS, the Select Board has deemed that public necessity and convenience require that it should take charge of and take by eminent domain a fee interest in the Property to maintain and preserve the Property and the forest, water, air, and other natural resources thereon for the use of the public and for conservation and recreation purposes to be managed under the control of the Hopedale Parks Commission;

WHEREAS, the taking was authorized by a two-thirds vote at the 2022 Special Town Meeting held on July 11, 2022, pursuant to Article 1, a certified copy of which vote is recorded herewith; and

WHEREAS, the Property is currently owned by Michael R. Milanoski and Jon Delli Priscoli, Trustees of the One Hundred Forty Realty Trust, u/d/t dated September 16, 1981 and recorded in the Worcester South County Registry of Deeds (the "Registry") in Book 7322, Page 177, by virtue of a deed recorded with the Registry on June 11, 2021 in Book 65363, Page 65.

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the undersigned Select Board of the Town of Hopedale, acting herein under the authority conferred on us by Chapters 40 and 79 of the General Laws, do hereby adopt this Order of Taking to take, on behalf of the Town, a fee simple interest in all of the Property.

Property: 364 West Street, Hopedale, MA

AND FURTHER ORDERED that included in this taking and without limiting the provisions of the foregoing, said taking includes all trees, bushes, vegetation, roadway improvements and all structures located thereon, including but not limited to structures for the collection of storm drainage and sewerage, but not including wires, cables, poles, towers, pipes, conduits and other appurtenances for the conveyance of gas, electricity, cable television or telephone communication located in or upon the Property, and not including railroad tracks or appurtenant loading structures currently in place on the Property.

AND FURTHER ORDERED that no betterments are to be assessed under this Taking.

AND FURTHER ORDERED that in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 79, as amended, an award of Four Million Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$4,400,000.00) is made.

AND FURTHER ORDERED that a representative of the Town shall record this Order of Taking in the Registry within thirty (30) days from its final passage, shall notify the Treasurer and Collector of Taxes in the Town of Hopedale of this taking in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 79, and shall cause notice of the taking to be given to all persons entitled thereto and do all things necessary for the validity of this Order of Taking.

[Signatures to appear on next page.]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we, the Select Board, have executed this Order of Taking this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of January, 2023.

TOWN OF HOPEDALE  
SELECT BOARD

\_\_\_\_\_  
Glenda A. Hazard, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Brian R. Keyes

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bernard J. Stock

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
COUNTY OF WORCESTER

On this 24<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2023, before me, the undersigned Notary Public, personally appeared \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ members of the Select Board for the Town of Hopedale, proved to me through satisfactory evidence of identification, which was personal knowledge, to be the persons whose names are signed on the preceding or attached document and acknowledged to me that they signed it voluntarily for its stated purpose.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public  
My Commission Expires:

**Exhibit A**

**(attached)**

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

Kristi Brytowski – Acting Chair  
Alysia Butler  
Kaitlin Federico  
Kate Guertin  
Jennifer McKeon

**ADMINISTRATION**

Karen Crebase, Superintendent  
Derek Atherton, Principal  
Timothy Johnson, Assistant Principal  
Stephanie Ridolfi, Athletic Director  
Karen Cosgrove, Pupil Personnel Director

**CLASS ADVISORS**

Debra Hodgens  
Marie Urmston

**HOPEDALE HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC**

Anthony Beaudry, Band Director  
Christopher Chatham, Choral Director

**CLASS OFFICERS**

President..... Jason Reed  
Vice President..... Sophia Garzoli  
Secretary..... Nora Hodgens  
Treasurer..... Caroline Hurley

**CLASS FLOWER:** Blue and white carnation

**CLASS SONG:** *We're All in This Together* from High School Musical

**CLASS QUOTE:** *"Chase your dreams, but always know the road that'll lead you home again." ~ Tim McGraw*

**JUNIOR CLASS MARSHALS**

Brendan Kracinovich  
Lauren Montville

*One Hundred Thirty Sixth  
Hopedale Junior-Senior High School  
Graduation Ceremony*

*Class of 2022*

*Hopedale Community House  
South Portico*

*Saturday Afternoon  
The Fourth of June  
Two Thousand and Twenty Two  
Two O'Clock*



Processional

*Pomp and Circumstance*

**Class of 2022**

Class President's Welcome Address

Jason Reed

Avery Ronald Aldrich  
Chloe Sophia Athanasopoulos  
Emily Kristin Babinski

Joshua Michael Atchue  
Ryan Joseph Anger  
Gabriel Francis Bean  
Kaylyn Rose Boldy

National Anthem

Senior A Cappella Group

\* Joel Andre Bernardes  
\* Ashleigh Jenna Bourgeois

Catherine Delina Brytowski  
Ana Lucia Caguana Gonzalez  
Lillah Catherine Casey

Pledge of Allegiance

Sophia Garzoli  
Nora Hodgens  
Caroline Hurley

\* Maria Petrona Caguana Pinguil  
\* Lillian Emma Chan  
Devin Spencer D'Aniello

Irene Devine Erickson  
Zachary Thomas Frohn  
\* Sage Giovanna Garvin  
\* Elena Loretta Gaus

James Thomas Dressler  
Harrison John Franks  
Brianna Sandra Frongillo  
\* Sophia Isabelle Garzoli

Salutatorian Address

Nathaniel Hall

\* Caroline Hannah Gosselin  
\* Jaclyn Marie Greenwood  
Emily Rose Hagan

\* Oliver McClellan Gingras  
\* Zophie Aida Greenwald  
Angel Orozco Guerrero

Presentation of Class Gift

Nora Hodgens  
Caroline Hurley

\* Nora Bridget Hodgens  
Emma Alicia Jackman  
Brayden Sean Kelleher

\* Nathaniel Carter Hall  
Katharine Anne Hevey  
\* Caroline Elizabeth Hurley  
Muhammad Kamara

Valedictorian Address

Lillian Chan

\* Emma Bridget Hodgens  
Emma Alicia Jackman  
Brayden Sean Kelleher  
Emma Katherine Komara  
Anthony James Larouco  
Angelina Amy Lombardi

\* Kelly Lynn Knowlton  
Angelina Eleni Kotopoulos  
Jack Powell Liberatore  
Michael Lideo Luzi

Presentation of Scholarships

Derek Atherton

Angelina Amy Lombardi  
Ashley Grace MacDonald  
\* Michael William McLain  
\* Joshua Harrison Miller

Steven Robert Marchionni  
Nathanael Mark Merchant  
\* Jared Thomas Morris  
\* Frederick Kenneth Newman  
\* Eva Sofia Obrador

Superintendent's Address

Karen Crebase

\* Liam Kenneth Murphy  
Noah James Newman  
Dylan Orchard  
Kiarra Alyssa Ortila

\* Nathanael Mark Merchant  
\* Jared Thomas Morris  
\* Frederick Kenneth Newman  
\* Eva Sofia Obrador

Presentation of Diplomas

Karen Crebase  
Derek Atherton  
Timothy Johnson  
Kristi Brytowski

\* William Walter Parker  
Halle Christine Pelletier  
Sage Paris Plouffe  
\* Oliver James Radcliffe  
Jacob Robert Russell

\* Francis Joseph Orcutt III  
Samantha Jean Pannenberg  
Gage William Pavia  
Melissa Calixto Perry

Presentation of Graduates

Jason Reed

\* Charlotte Elizabeth Sheldrake  
\* Kara Rose Stewardson  
Samuel Dyer Szymanski  
Denoid Keith Tucker, Jr.  
Gina Gabriella Wilke  
Nicole Zhang

\* Jason Barbosa Reed  
Olivia Christine Shaw  
\* Keyin Matthew Small  
Brenna Katherine Summers

Recessional

*We're All in This Together ~*  
High School Musical

\* Jason Barbosa Reed  
Olivia Christine Shaw  
\* Keyin Matthew Small  
Brenna Katherine Summers  
Camdon Matthew Travis-Sawyer  
Jason David Watkins, Jr.  
Kevin Gerald Wilson

\* National Honor Society

***Institutions Accepting Hopedale Applicants***

***Class Night Scholarships***

**Hopedale Drama Club**

Avery Aldrich  
Gabriel Bean  
Delina Brytowski  
Emily Hagan  
Angelina Kotopoulos  
Jack Liberator  
Steven Marchionni  
Dylan Orchard  
William Parker  
Gage Pavia  
Kara Stewardson  
Brenna Summers  
Denoid Tucker, Jr.

**Hopedale Firefighters**

Local 2225  
Chase Coyle  
Caroline Gosselin

**Hopedale Police Union**

Emma Komara

**Edward M. Horton**

Charitable Foundation  
Sophia Garzoli  
Lilah Casey

**Living with the Ribbon**

Caroline Gosselin

**Memorial School Play**

Ashley MacDonald  
Denoid Tucker

**Milford Federal Bank**

Avery Aldrich

**David A. Perry Memorial**

Katharine Hevey

**Personal Achievement Awards**

**Chloe Athanasopoulos**

Joshua Atchue  
Ryan Auger  
Emily Babinski  
Emily Hagan  
Jack Liberator  
Michael Luzi  
Dylan Orchard  
Francis Orcutt  
Gage Pavia  
Halle Pelletier  
Kevin Small

**Charles J. Tasker Memorial**

Jacob Russell

**Frank Washburn Scholarship**

for Business Studies  
Eva Obrador

University of Alabama

Arizona State University

\* University of Arizona

\* Assumption University

Ball State University

Bentley University

\* Boston College

Boston University

\* Bridgewater State University

\* Bryant University

\* Bryn Mawr College

\* California Polytechnic State Univ.

California State University

University of California

Charleston Southern University

College of Charleston

\* Clark University

\* Clemson University

\* Coastal Carolina University

University of Colorado

\* University of Connecticut

\* University of Delaware

University of Denver

East Carolina University

\* Elon University

Emmanuel College

\* Endicott College

\* Fairfield University

\* Fitchburg State University

Florida Atlantic University

Florida Institute of Technology

\* Framingham State University

\* Franklin Pierce University

Hampshire College

High Point University

Hofstra University

\* Indiana University

James Madison University

\* Johnson & Wales University

Le Moyne College

\* LIM College

University of Maryland

\* UMass ~ Amherst

UMass ~ Boston

UMass ~ Dartmouth

\* UMass ~ Lowell

\* Massachusetts Bay C. C.

\* Mass. Academy of Real Estate

\* Merrimack College

\* Michigan State University

\* ***Institutions students will attend***

## ***Institutions Accepting Hopedale Applicants***

Middlebury College  
Mount Holyoke College  
\* New England Institute of Technology  
University of New England  
\* University of New Hampshire  
\* New York University  
University of North Carolina  
North Carolina State University  
\* Northeastern University  
\* Pennsylvania State University  
\* Pepperdine University  
University of Pittsburgh  
Plymouth State University  
Providence College  
\* Quinsigamond Community College  
\* Regis College  
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute  
\* University of Rhode Island  
Roger Williams University  
Rollins College  
Russell Sage College  
Rutgers University  
Sacred Heart University  
Saint Joseph's College of Maine  
\* San Diego State University  
Seton Hall University

Smith College  
Southern Connecticut State Univ.  
University of Southern Maine  
St. John's University  
St. Lawrence University  
Stetson University  
Stonehill College  
Stony Brook University  
Suffolk University  
Syracuse University  
University of Tampa  
\* Tarrant County College District  
\* Temple University  
\* University of Tennessee  
\* U. S. Marine Corps  
\* U. S. Military Academy  
University of Vermont  
Virginia Polytechnic Institute  
\* Wentworth Institute of Technology  
Western Washington University  
Westfield State University  
Wheaton College  
University of Wisconsin  
\* Worcester Polytechnic Institute  
\* Worcester State University  
Xavier University

## ***Senior Sports Awards***

Vincent Theodore  
Consigni Sports  
Brianna Frongillo

Hopedale Boosters Club  
Ashleigh Bourgeois  
Elena Gaus  
Frederick Newman  
Noah Newman  
Jason Reed  
Gina Wilke

Daniel Hollis Memorial  
Lilah Casey  
William Parker

Hopedale Girls  
Softball League  
Elena Gaus  
Lilah Casey  
Kiara Orta

Hopedale Youth Baseball  
Chris Murphy Memorial  
William Parker

Milford/Hopedale  
Youth Soccer Award  
Lilah Casey  
Jason Reed

Milford/Hopedale Youth  
Field Hockey League  
Sophia Garzoli  
Nora Hodgens

## ***Class Night Scholarships***

Allegrine-Guez Reid  
Music Award  
Emily Hagan

D & M Auto Parts  
Emily Babinski  
Liam Murphy

Friends of the Hopedale Library  
Lillian Chan

Gladys Beaudet Memorial  
Maria Caguana  
Chase Coyle  
Everett Hava  
Steven Marchionni  
Michael McLain

Hopedale Cable Access  
Emily Hagan  
Brenna Summers

Hopedale Cultural Council  
Brenna Summers

Hopedale Friends of Music  
Gabriel Bean  
Emily Hagan

\* ***Institutions students will attend***



**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
*Worcester Regional Retirement System*

• Kevin P. Blanchette • Chairman

Board Members: Rebecca L. Tuttle • Pauline M. Lajoie • Michael J. Donoghue • Eugene J. Durgin, Jr.

Michael Sacco, Esquire • Chief Executive Officer

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Member Unit Boards of Selectmen

FROM: Kevin P. Blanchette, Chairman  
Rebecca Tuttle, Member  
Michael Donoghue, Elected Member  
Pauline Lajoie, Elected Member  
Eugene Durgin, Member

DATE: January 6, 2023

RE: Chapter 269 of the Acts of 2022 - Cost-of-Living Adjustment

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At its meeting on December 20, 2022, the Worcester Regional Retirement Board voted to approve the additional 2% cost-of-living adjustment as authorized by Chapter 269 of the Acts of 2022, which Governor Baker signed into law on November 16, 2022.

Chapter 269 further requires the approval of 2/3 of the Chief Executive authorities of our member towns. It is our hope that your Board will consider approval of the COLA as soon as possible, however the votes must be held before June 30, 2023. Should 34 of our towns approve, the additional 2% COLA will be applied retroactive to July 1, 2022. The Board stands ready to assist you in any way as you consider this matter. Our Chief Executive Officer, Michael Sacco will be available to attend any meetings should you deem it appropriate.

As a reminder, any COLA granted is based only on the first \$16,000 paid to our retirees, and the WRRB previously voted to grant a 3% COLA to the WRRS' retirees and survivor beneficiaries effective July 1, 2022.

The WRRB will be conducting its annual meeting with the WRRS member unit Treasurers and Collectors on January 19, 2023 at the Auburn Elks, 754 Southbridge Street, Auburn at 8:30 a.m. The WRRB's Actuary, Linda Bournival from KMS Actuaries, will be present to not only discuss the annual member unit assessments, but also to discuss the cost the member units will incur if the additional 2% COLA is approved and how it will be allocated in future assessments. Please note, as Linda will discuss in more detail, approval of the COLA will not impact your FY 24 or FY 25 assessment.

Should you have any questions please contact the WRRS's Chief Executive Officer, Michael Sacco, who will be able to assist you.

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** All Retirement Boards

**FROM:** John W. Parsons, Esq., Executive Director

**RE:** 5% Local COLA option

**DATE:** November 18, 2022

On November 16, 2022, the Governor signed Chapter 269 of the Acts of 2022 into law. This act provides the local retirement systems with a local option to increase the Cost of Living Adjustment ("COLA") for Fiscal Year 2023 to up to 5 percent on the base amount specified pursuant to G.L. c. 32, § 103. The approval of the increase can occur at any time during the fiscal year and will take effect as of July 1, 2022.

The local approval mechanism is different than traditional COLA increases and COLA base increases. In order for a system to adopt a COLA increase pursuant to this act, **the retirement board must vote for the increased amount and then it must also receive local approval.**

For purposes of this act, local approval means:

- In a city, the mayor must recommend the increase to the city council and the council must vote in favor.
- In a city having a Plan D or Plan E charter, the city manager must recommend the increase to the city council and the council must vote in favor.
- In a town, the chief executive officer<sup>1</sup> - the select board in nearly all cases - must vote in favor to accept the increase rather than the town meeting as is the case for COLA base increases.
- In a district, or other political subdivision, the governing board, commission or committee must vote in favor to accept the COLA increase.

<sup>1</sup> As defined in G.L. c. 4, § 7, "chief executive officer", when used in connection with the operation of municipal governments shall include the mayor in a city and the select board in a town unless some other municipal office is designated to be the chief executive officer under the provisions of a local charter.



**MEMORANDUM - Page Two**

**TO:** All Retirement Boards  
**FROM:** John W. Parsons, Esq., Executive Director  
**RE:** 5% Local COLA option  
**DATE:** November 18, 2022

- In a regional system, two-thirds of the cities and towns within the system must approve the increase. This is done in the same fashion as stated above for municipalities: in a city, by the city council upon recommendation by the mayor or, in a city with a Plan D or Plan E charter, the city manager; or, in a town, by approval of the chief executive officer (likely the select board) as defined by G.L. c. 4, § 7.
- In a county, the county commissioners, who normally do not have a role in COLAs nor COLA base increases, must vote to accept and two-thirds of the cities and towns within the system must approve the increase in the same manner as stated above for regional systems.

Though many local systems are comprised of multiple units such as housing authorities and districts, the two-thirds language only applies to regional and county systems as the approval specified in the statute only refers to cities and towns as voting political subdivisions.

Section 2 of the act provides that a COLA increase pursuant to this act is retroactive to July 1, 2022. Any COLA increase, in addition to any COLA previously adopted for FY 23, will become part of the fixed amount of a retirees' retirement allowance in the same manner as all COLAs granted pursuant to section 103.

PERAC has already received questions about estimating the cost of the enhanced COLA. PERAC Actuary John Boorack has provided the following formula for a conservative full-cost estimate, not a one-year estimate, to assist boards in their planning:

$$(0.2) \times (\text{COLA base}) \times (\# \text{ of retirees/beneficiaries})$$

If you have any questions about this memo, please contact PERAC's General Counsel, Judith Corrigan, at (617) 591-8904 or at [judith.a.corrigan@mass.gov](mailto:judith.a.corrigan@mass.gov).

# AN ACT RELATIVE TO COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENTS FOR RETIREES

*Whereas*, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to provide for increased cost-of-living adjustments for retirees, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

SECTION 1. (a) (1) Notwithstanding section 103 of chapter 32 of the General Laws or any other general or special law to the contrary, the retirement board of any system that has accepted said section 103 may elect to establish a cost-of-living adjustment increase of not less than 3 per cent and not greater than 5 per cent on the base amount provided for in said section 103 for fiscal year 2023.

(2) The sum of the dollar amount of the cost-of-living increase on the base amount, together with the amount of retirement allowance, pension or annuity to which the cost-of-living increase is applied, shall become the fixed retirement allowance, pension or annuity for all future purposes, including the application of subsequent cost-of-living adjustments in future years.

(b) A retirement board may grant a cost-of-living increase of not less than 3 per cent and not greater than 5 per cent on the base amount for fiscal year 2023 at any time during the fiscal year.

(c) This section shall take effect for the members of a retirement system by a majority vote of the board of such system and upon local acceptance: (i) of the city council upon recommendation of the mayor in a city, (ii) of the city council upon recommendation of the city manager in a city having a Plan D or Plan E charter, (iii) of the chief executive officer, as defined in section 7 of chapter 4 of the General Laws, in a town, (iv) of the county commissioners in a county and (v) by vote of the governing board, commission or committee in a district or other political subdivision of the commonwealth. For any retirement system comprising more than 1 political subdivision of the commonwealth, this section shall be effective by a majority vote of the board of such system and upon the acceptance of two-thirds of cities and towns within the system by approval of: (i) the city council upon recommendation of the mayor in a city, (ii) the city council upon recommendation of the city manager in a city having a Plan D or Plan E charter, and (iii) the chief executive officer, as defined in section 7 of chapter 4 of the General Laws, in a town.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect on July 1, 2022.

*Approved, November 16, 2022.*



## **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  
Brian R. Keyes  
Bernard J. Stock

**Town Administrator**  
Jeff Nutting  
Interim Town Administrator

January 10, 2023

Hopedale Friends of Elders, Inc.  
P.O. Box 318  
Hopedale, MA 01747  
attn.: Sally Decelles, President

Dear Ms. Decelles:

On behalf of the Hopedale Select Board and myself, please accept our sincere thanks for your generous donation to the Hopedale Council on Aging. I understand that this donation will support activity and fitness instructors at the Senior Center – programs that are essential to the well-being of our community's seniors. That the donation is annually recurring enables the Council on Aging to better plan and program such activities.

The generosity and support of organizations such as the Hopedale Friends of Elders is among the many acts that make public service so rewarding. Thank you for your community spirit!

Sincerely,

Jeff Nutting  
Interim Town Administrator

C: Select Board



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**Town Administrator**  
Jeff Nutting  
Interim Town Administrator

January 10, 2023

Frederick G. Oldfield III  
30 Freedom Street  
Hopedale, MA 01747

Dear Mr. Oldfield:

On behalf of the Hopedale Select Board and myself, please accept our sincere thanks for your recent donation to the Marjorie E. Hattersley Memorial Fund. I understand that Ms. Hattersley was your grandmother, in whose name the Bancroft Memorial Library Children's Room was dedicated in 1994. What a fitting honor after her fifty years of service to the Library, forty years having been in the capacity of Children's Librarian. Her service and dedication to the Bancroft Library and Town of Hopedale live on through the Memorial Fund.

The generosity of residents such as yourself is among the many acts that make public service so rewarding. Thank you for your community spirit!

Sincerely,

  
Jeff Nutting  
Interim Town Administrator

C: Select Board



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**Town Administrator**  
Jeff Nutting  
Interim Town Administrator

January 10, 2023

Tricia Perry, Library Director  
Bancroft Memorial Library  
50 Hopedale Street  
Hopedale, MA 01747

Dear Tricia:

On behalf of the Hopedale Select Board and myself, please accept our hearty congratulations for your great success in being awarded full grant funding through the Association for Rural and Small Libraries. The award of \$10,000 will go a long way in developing programs to help our community's young English language-learners and our older residents living with memory loss – two groups that are often marginalized.

Thank you so much for your thoughtful approach to service to the Town of Hopedale.

Sincerely,

  
Jeff Nutting  
Interim Town Administrator

C: Select Board