



HOPEDALE FIRE DEPARTMENT

40 Dutcher Street - Hopedale MA. 01747

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

www.hopedale-ma.gov/fire-department

Thomas M. Daige – Fire Chief

David J. McMorrow – Deputy Chief



Hopedale Select Board
78 Hopedale Street
Hopedale MA 01747

September 26, 2023

Re: Life Saving Recognition

Madam Chair,

I wanted to make you and the board aware of two life-saving events that took place over the past ten days where the on-duty firefighters had been called to a scene where they needed to be absolutely perfect with every decision they made and treatment they delivered in order to have a successful patient outcome. The first was for a patient weak and passing out, the fire department members arrived within five (5) minutes and found that the patient had a heart rate in the 20's and, as confirmed by the Emergency Room Physician, death was imminent. The members performed their job to perfection, the patient's condition was stabilized, and they were then transported to a hospital in Worcester. The patient was kept at the Hospital for only a few days before being discharged. The second occurred when a middle-aged male was found unresponsive, not breathing and without a pulse. Again, the two on-duty members were on scene within three (3) minutes and performed flawlessly and were able to restore the patient's pulse and breathing prior to leaving the scene. The patient regained consciousness in the emergency room and was discharged to his home two days later.

I write this as a Chief proud of the work his members do daily, but also to shine light on the job we perform and the positive outcome that is possible when members are in the building to respond quickly, trained to the highest level of care and not overworked, tired and unable to make sound decisions quickly and decisively. Every time the two on-duty firefighters go out on a call, I hold my breath hoping that calls like the ones mentioned above don't come in where the response and care are delayed by having to wait for off-duty and call members or a mutual aid ambulance to respond.

I am planning on recognizing these members officially for their performance later, in which your board will be invited to participate if they so choose.

Respectfully,

Thomas Daige
Fire Chief

**Hopedale Board of Selectman
Special Meeting Minutes
March 24, 2022, 6:00 PM**

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

Chair Keyes called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Chair Keyes began the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chris Hodgens, Jr., Chair of the Finance Committee called the Finance Committee meeting to order at 6:04PM. Present from the Finance Committee Colleen Strapponi, Elizabeth Callahan, Ken Wilson, Ian Michaelson, Chris Hodgens, Jr.

Ed Burt, Chair of the Water & Sewer Commission called the Water & Sewer Commission meeting to order at 6:05PM. Present from the Water & Sewer Commission Jim Morin, Donald Cooper, and Chair Ed Burt. Also present, Tim Watson, Water/Sewer Manager and David Butler.

Becca Solomon, Chair of the Conservation Commission called the Conservation Commission meeting to order at 6:06PM. Present from the Conservation Commission David Guglielmi, Marcia Matthews, and Chair Becca Solomon.

Chair Keyes stated that the nature of this meeting is to have a collaborative workshop pertaining to topics related to specifically the settlement agreement and how the agreement is part of Article 8 and Article 9.

Attorney Durning shared a presentation with the Boards regarding the special town meeting info session. Atty Durning gave a brief overview of the project for those who were not familiar with it. The land has been certified under Chapter 61 as Forest. He also explained what a "Yes" vote and a "No" vote would each mean.

Factors that influenced the negotiated resolution were the following and the opportunity to exert some control over development activity:

1. Litigation risk
2. Cost
3. With involvement of Land Court, STB, and eminent domain actions before MassDEP, strong likelihood of appeals.
4. Land is zoned industrial, and the Town has not taken any measures to secure or control the land.

Principles for Negotiated Solution:

1. Protecting Mill River watershed
2. Securing opportunities for exploration and development for new public water supply sources
3. Owning, controlling and preservation in conservation that largest amount of forest land possible
4. Obtaining concessions from GURR

Chair Keyes reminded the public that what was presented was the Towns side and there is a citizen lawsuit representing the other side.

Chair Solomon asked how many acres this is, and Atty Durning stated it was 64 including 44 that are in Chapter 61. 20 acres are considered Wetlands.

Presentations were then made by Both Chair Solomon of the ConComm and Chair Burt of the Water and Sewer Commission. Both presentations supported what Atty Durning explained during his overview. (For reference, all presentations can be viewed at [Stream Video - Town Hall Streams](#))

Chair Keyes expressed frustration that two boards had already voted down the plan before even getting to the Town Meeting. Chair Solomon expressed frustration that the boards in town had not seen a definitive plan and that viewing it for the first time at town meeting would not be valuable. Discussion of misinterpretation as to the nature of the evenings meeting took place as boards were under the impression that this meeting was an informational meeting for the residents not a meeting to debate small details again.

Chair Hodgens entertained a motion to adjourn at 8:52p with all members in favor.

Chair Solomon entertained a motion to adjourn at 8:54p with all members in favor.

Chair Keyes entertained a motion to adjourn at 8:55p with all members in favor.

The meeting dissolved at 8:55p.

Respectfully Submitted 10/10/2023.

Kelly Grant
Executive Assistant

Approved: _____

The following terms were agreed to between the Treasurer/Collector and the Select Board on September 25, 2023:

Section IV: Salary

- A. Subject to annual appropriation by Town Meeting, the Town agrees to pay the Treasurer/Collector for services rendered under this Agreement, an annual base salary of ~~\$84,000~~\$92,000, subject to applicable withholdings and deductions, prorated for the portion of the year worked through June 30, ~~2022~~ 2024, payable in installments at the same time as other employees of the Town are paid. This annual salary shall be paid retroactive to July 1, 2023.
- B. Subject to annual appropriation by Town Meeting, the Town agrees to pay the Treasurer/Collector for services rendered under this Agreement, an annual base salary of ~~\$85,680~~\$94,760 subject to applicable withholdings and deductions effective July 1, ~~2022~~ 2024, and continuing through June 30, ~~2023~~ 2025, payable in installments at the same time as other employees of the Town are paid.
- C. Subject to annual appropriation by Town Meeting, the Town agrees to pay the Treasurer/Collector for services rendered under this Agreement, an annual base salary of ~~\$87,394~~ \$97,602 subject to applicable withholdings and deductions effective July 1, ~~2023~~ 2025, and continuing through June 30, ~~2024~~ 2026, payable in installments at the same time as other employees of the Town are paid.
- D. Annually, upon recertification, the Town agrees to pay the Treasurer/Collector a stipend in the amount of \$1,000 for Treasurer Certification and \$1,000 for Collector Certification from the Massachusetts Treasurers/Collectors Association.
- E. If the Treasurer/Collector continues in office after the expiration of this Agreement, and there is no successor Agreement, she shall continue to receive the latest salary under this Section and the same benefits under this Agreement, until such time as her salary and benefits shall otherwise be provided for by the Town or she ceases to be employed by the Town. This subsection shall survive the termination of this Agreement.

From: Roberta Lamothe <rlusa@netzero.com>
Date: September 28, 2023 at 9:13:41 AM EDT
To: Chief Giovanella <ChiefGiovanella@hopedale-ma.gov>
Cc: rlusa@netzero.net
Subject: Dispatch

Hi Chief,

Please accept my resignation from the part time dispatch position. I do not have the time to commit to the shifts there since I kept my MECC job, in order to keep all my certifications current.

I did appreciate my time there and I truly thank you for the opportunity.

Thank you,

 | **Roberta Lamothe**



HOPEDALE POLICE DEPARTMENT

70 Hopedale Street Hopedale, MA 01747
Tel: (508) 634-2227 Fax: (508) 634-2228



www.hopedalepolice.com

Chief of Police
Mark A. Giovanella

October 3, 2023

Board of Selectman
Town of Hopedale
Hopedale, MA 01747

Dear Board Members,

I would like to recommend that the board appoints, as Part-time Public Safety Dispatcher Riccilyn MacNeil of [redacted], MA [redacted]. Effective date will be October 10, 2023.

Ms. MacNeil is currently a Full Time Dispatcher at the Bellingham Police Department and has been working there for two years.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Giovanella
Chief of Police



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

Select Board

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

Town Administrator

Mitchell Ruscitti

September 20, 2023

TO: Select Board
FROM: Martha White, Executive Assistant
COPY TO: Mitch Ruscitti, Town Administrator
REGARDING: Request for Toys for Tots Roadside Collection Event

Chair Hazard received the following email along with a request that this be included for discussion at an upcoming Board meeting:

My name is Thomas J Beder, and I am a United States Marine. I am also a long-time Hopedale resident, and actively involved, as the Chairperson (Toy Boss), with the US Marines Toys for Tots Program in this area.

I would like to put in a request to hold a (3rd Annual) Toys for Tots Roadside Collection event on November 25, 2023 at the corners of Rt. 16 and Hopedale Street from approximately 10:30am-2pm, rain or shine.

All Volunteers will be over the age of 18, and we will not be standing in the roadway, just standing curbside. It is possible that Hopedale Scouting may help some, but they will be severely limited in what they do at the event, keeping safety and Scouting Regulations firmly in mind. I will also notify the area businesses of our intent (they typically appreciate our efforts).

I will coordinate, and be on site for the entire event, to ensure safety and proper protocol in dealing with the public.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to help kids who need to know they are loved and not forgotten during this critical time of year. The United States Marines, Detachment 144 in Worcester, and I thank you for your time and dedication to Hopedale and the kids of our community.

Thomas J Beder, USMC

I have notified the Police, Fire and Highway Departments of this request and none have reported any concerns or requirements.

FY22	A-1		A-2		OTHER		TOTAL		HOPEDALE		BLS		ALS		CALLS COLLECTED	\$\$ COLLECTED	\$\$ BILLED	\$\$ ADJUSTED	ALS FEES	RECALL COST	NET REVENUE
	268	264	532	11	9	13	22	173	266	248	514	57	72	106							
3RD QUARTER	268	11	9	288	173	156	4	4	9	266	22	57	106	144	\$ 79,692,144	\$ 246,572,000	\$ 122,649,800	\$ 2,400,000	\$ 3,159,850	\$ 74,331,230	
4TH QUARTER	264	9	13	286	180	161	1	11	7	248	38	72	109	116	\$ 86,932,090	\$ 229,880,000	\$ 91,005,288	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 3,127,888	\$ 62,504,210	
FY22 TOTAL	532	20	22	574	353	317	5	15	16	514	60	139	215	260	\$ 146,624,234	\$ 476,452,000	\$ 213,654,788	\$ 3,400,000	\$ 6,287,738	\$ 136,835,500	
FY23	A-1		A-2		OTHER		TOTAL		HOPEDALE		BLS		ALS		CALLS COLLECTED	\$\$ COLLECTED	\$\$ BILLED	\$\$ ADJUSTED	ALS FEES	RECALL COST	NET REVENUE
1ST QUARTER	268	8	11	287	186	166	1	13	6	243	44	55	131	154							
2ND QUARTER	300	10	15	325	214	186	9	12	7	282	43	61	158	189	\$ 136,908,510	\$ 309,418,000	\$ 249,892,950	\$ 200,000	\$ 4,613,115	\$ 132,095,938	
FY23 TOTAL	568	18	26	612	400	352	10	25	13	525	87	116	284	337	\$ 225,769,880	\$ 595,199,000	\$ 480,206,550	\$ 1,600,000	\$ 9,672,559	\$ 214,497,868	

Call Detail
UNCOLLECTIBLE REVIEW

Hopedale Fire Department

Call No	Lg Rk Pat No	Patient Account Name	Call Date	Current Payor	Charges	Credits	Balance
HD220000045			01/10/2022	PATIENT / GUARANT	1110.00	0.00	1110.00
HD220000625			05/06/2022	PATIENT / GUARANT	1904.00	0.00	1904.00
HD220000881			07/05/2022	PATIENT / GUARANT	1714.00	0.00	1714.00
Total Call Count For							
CARINR	CARI REVIEW FOR ABATEMENT			3	4728.00	0.00	4728.00
HD220000175			01/29/2022	PATIENT / GUARANT	1119.00	895.20	223.80
HD220000226			02/06/2022	PATIENT / GUARANT	1110.00	982.40	127.60
HD220000315			02/24/2022	PATIENT / GUARANT	1113.00	783.00	350.00
HD220000569			04/23/2022	PATIENT / GUARANT	1922.00	1572.00	350.00
HD220000614			05/04/2022	PATIENT / GUARANT	1961.00	1764.90	196.10
HD220000741			06/04/2022	PATIENT / GUARANT	1118.00	841.00	275.00
HD220000814			06/22/2022	PATIENT / GUARANT	1891.00	1790.35	100.65
HD220000921			07/13/2022	PATIENT / GUARANT	1997.00	1672.00	325.00
HD220000946			07/19/2022	PATIENT / GUARANT	1916.00	1566.00	350.00
HD220001050			08/08/2022	PATIENT / GUARANT	1854.00	1594.00	260.00
HD220001090			08/17/2022	PATIENT / GUARANT	1125.00	775.00	350.00
HD220001189			09/12/2022	PATIENT / GUARANT	1083.00	974.70	108.30
HD220001376			10/20/2022	PATIENT / GUARANT	1916.00	1566.00	350.00
Total Call Count For							
COPAYNR	COPAY NO RESPONSE			13	20123.00	16756.55	3366.45
HD210001111			09/20/2021	PATIENT / GUARANT	1137.00	1054.99	82.01
HD220000989			07/25/2022	PATIENT / GUARANT	1852.00	1627.00	225.00
Total Call Count For							
DEAD	DEAD PT DECEASED NO FUNDS			2	2989.00	2681.99	307.01
HD210001436			12/07/2021	PATIENT / GUARANT	1901.00	901.00	1000.00
HD210001507			12/23/2021	PATIENT / GUARANT	1969.00	563.40	1405.60
HD220000145			01/26/2022	PATIENT / GUARANT	1119.00	495.20	623.80
HD220000295			02/21/2022	PATIENT / GUARANT	1858.00	277.32	1580.68
HD220000380			03/17/2022	PATIENT / GUARANT	1083.00	0.00	1083.00
HD220000513			04/14/2022	PATIENT / GUARANT	1107.00	0.00	1107.00
HDME221175			05/06/2022	PATIENT / GUARANT	1928.00	1915.00	13.00
HDME22769			06/11/2022	PATIENT / GUARANT	1708.00	1212.01	495.99
HD220000825			06/25/2022	PATIENT / GUARANT	1254.00	754.20	499.80
HD220000930			07/16/2022	PATIENT / GUARANT	1895.00	586.64	1308.36
HD220001169			09/06/2022	PATIENT / GUARANT	1888.00	0.00	1888.00
Total Call Count For							
DEDUNR	DEDU REVIEW FOR ABATE OR COLL			11	17710.00	6704.77	11005.23
HD170000887			08/27/2017	PATIENT / GUARANT	1933.00	168.16	1764.84
HD210000935			08/11/2021	PATIENT / GUARANT	1236.00	0.00	1236.00
HD210001464			12/13/2021	PATIENT / GUARANT	1149.00	0.00	1149.00
HD220001013			07/30/2022	PATIENT / GUARANT	1710.00	0.00	1710.00

Call Detail

UNCOLLECTIBLE REVIEW

Total Page : 2 of 6
 Page : 2 of 4
 Date : 05/16/2023
 Time : 16:28:31
 History ID : 17173425

Hopedale Fire Department

Call No	Lg Rk Pat No	Patient Account Name	Call Date	Current Payor	Charges	Credits	Balance
Total Call Count For							
DENINR	DENI REVIEW FOR ABATE OR COLL			4	6028.00	168.16	5859.84
HD210001182			10/11/2021	PATIENT / GUARANT	1704.00	0.00	1704.00
HD220001167			09/06/2022	PATIENT / GUARANT	1786.00	0.00	1786.00
Total Call Count For							
MVAANR	MVAA REVIEW FOR ABATEMENT			2	3490.00	0.00	3490.00
HD220000250			02/11/2022	PATIENT / GUARANT	1695.00	542.66	1152.34
HD220001078			08/15/2022	PATIENT / GUARANT	1683.00	800.45	882.55
Total Call Count For							
NONPARNR	NONPAR REVIEW FOR ABAT OR COLL			2	3378.00	1343.11	2034.89
HD210000950001			08/16/2021	PATIENT / GUARANT	1104.00	0.00	1104.00
HD220000180			01/29/2022	PATIENT / GUARANT	1858.00	0.00	1858.00
HD220000230			02/07/2022	PATIENT / GUARANT	1918.00	0.00	1918.00
HD220000292			02/20/2022	PATIENT / GUARANT	2428.00	0.00	2428.00
HD220001072			08/14/2022	PATIENT / GUARANT	1230.00	0.00	1230.00
HD220001185			09/11/2022	PATIENT / GUARANT	1104.00	0.00	1104.00
1442			09/22/2022	PATIENT / GUARANT	2131.00	0.00	2131.00
Total Call Count For							
PRIVNR	PRIV REVIEW FOR ABATE OR COLL			7	11773.00	0.00	11773.00
HD203001719			03/07/2020	PATIENT / GUARANT	1943.00	1458.04	484.96
HD203001863			07/05/2020	PATIENT / GUARANT	1940.00	1455.04	484.96
HD200001305			10/22/2020	PATIENT / GUARANT	1143.00	0.00	1143.00
HD210000021			01/04/2021	PATIENT / GUARANT	1946.00	0.00	1946.00
HD210000095			01/18/2021	PATIENT / GUARANT	1143.00	0.00	1143.00
HD210000287			03/09/2021	PATIENT / GUARANT	1146.00	0.00	1146.00
HD210000357			03/28/2021	PATIENT / GUARANT	1943.00	0.00	1943.00
HD210000436			04/19/2021	PATIENT / GUARANT	1143.00	0.00	1143.00
HD210000512			05/03/2021	PATIENT / GUARANT	1943.00	0.00	1943.00
HD210000591			07/28/2021	PATIENT / GUARANT	2015.00	1530.04	484.96
HD210000939			08/12/2021	PATIENT / GUARANT	1110.00	706.83	403.17
HD210001089			09/13/2021	PATIENT / GUARANT	1140.00	0.00	1140.00
HD210001095			09/14/2021	PATIENT / GUARANT	1152.00	0.00	1152.00
HD210001100			09/15/2021	PATIENT / GUARANT	1140.00	0.00	1140.00
HD210001233			10/20/2021	PATIENT / GUARANT	1897.00	1704.67	192.33
HD210001489			12/20/2021	PATIENT / GUARANT	2015.00	0.00	2015.00
HD220000162			01/28/2022	PATIENT / GUARANT	1810.00	0.00	1810.00
HD220000860			05/19/2022	PATIENT / GUARANT	1330.00	0.00	1330.00
HD220000874			07/22/2022	PATIENT / GUARANT	1804.00	1302.33	501.67
Total Call Count For							
PTPDNR	PTPD REVIEW FOR COLL OR ABAT			19	29703.00	8156.95	21546.05
HD201000501			07/03/2020	PATIENT / GUARANT	1110.00	150.00	960.00
HDME21225			02/16/2021	PATIENT / GUARANT	1949.00	773.22	1175.78

Call Detail

UNCOLLECTIBLE REVIEW

Hopedale Fire Department

<u>Call No</u>	<u>Lg Rk Pat No</u>	<u>Patient Account Name</u>	<u>Call Date</u>	<u>Current Payor</u>	<u>Charges</u>	<u>Credits</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Total Call Count For							
TIMENR	TIME PAY NO RESPONSE			2	3059.00	923.22	2135.78
HD220000747			06/06/2022	PATIENT / GUARANT	1113.00	888.00	225.00
HD220001203			09/15/2022	PATIENT / GUARANT	1116.00	0.00	1116.00
Total Call Count For							
TOWN	BAD ADDRESS SEND REV COLL/ABAT			2	2229.00	888.00	1341.00
Total Call Count For							
Hopedale Fire Department				67	105210.00	37622.75	67587.25



HOPEDALE FIRE DEPARTMENT

40 Dutcher Street - Hopedale MA. 01747

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

www.hopedale-ma.gov/fire-department

Thomas M. Daige – Fire Chief

David J. McMorrow – Deputy Chief



Select Board
78 Hopedale Street
Town Hall Office
Hopedale MA 01747

September 26, 2023

Re: Hiring three (3) additional Firefighter/Paramedics

Madam Chair,

I am asking that the Select Board place an article on the November Special Town Meeting warrant asking the town to vote to allocate \$180,000.00 to be used to pay for the salary, overtime, and expenses of three (3) additional Full-Time Firefighters for the remainder of FY24 from January through June. The additional personnel would be used to supplement the current staff of eight (8) full-time Firefighters staff by placing two (2) of the new hires on a 12-hour 4-on / 4-off rotating schedule and the third new hire on a 5-day, Monday through Friday schedule. The additional staff would provide four (4) full-time firefighters on shift for our busiest time which is weekday's between 7am and 7pm. For the past six (6) months (January through June) alone this additional staff would save an estimated \$34,000.00 in overtime by not having to fill open day shifts, reduce the loss of ambulance revenue by \$18,000.00, as well as reduce the recall cost by up to \$15,000.00, therefore, by adding just three (3) firefighters the combined savings and added ambulance revenue would equal \$67,000.00 and net ask of \$113,000.00.

Finally, and most importantly, the additional staff will mean relief, both physically as well as mentally, for the members of the department who have been working at drastically understaffed levels since the late 90's when the fire department began providing ambulance service to the residents. Within the past few years, members frequently have been forced to work up to 72-hours straight to ensure the ambulance is staffed for the residents.

Respectfully,

Thomas Daige
Fire Chief



TOWN OF HOPEDALE
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT

November 7, 2023
7:00 pm

Dennett Auditorium
Junior-Senior High School
25 Adin Street

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 located at 25 Adin Street, Hopedale, MA 01747, on November 7, 2023, at 7:00 pm, 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 for design, engineering and all other costs associated with repairs and/or replacement of the heating and air conditioning systems at the Bancroft Memorial Library, or take any other action related thereto.

ARTICLE 2
PRIOR YEAR BILLS

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to M.G.L. c.44, §64 to transfer from available funds such sums of money necessary for the purpose of paying outstanding bills from prior fiscal year(s), or take any other action related thereto. *Include retro pay for firefighters*

ARTICLE 3
SUPPLEMENT FY 2024 BUDGETS

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds such sums of money necessary for the purpose of supplementing the following FY 2024 Operating Budgets:

- Town Clerk Salaries & Wages – “Assistant” line item – to bring the Assistant Town Clerk’s salary into compliance with the Classification and Compensation

Plan adopted under Article 27 of the 2023 Annual Town Meeting, retroactive to July 1, 2023.

- Fire Department Salaries & Wages – “Permanent” line item – to fund salary increases negotiated with the Fire Chief and Deputy Fire Chief, retroactive to July 1, 2023
- Treasurer/Collector Salaries & Wages – “Permanent” line item to fund a salary increase negotiated with the Treasurer/Collector, retroactive to July 1, 2023

or take any other action related thereto.

ARTICLE 4 RESCIND BORROWING AUTHORIZATION

To see if the Town will vote to rescind the authorization for unissued debt that has been determined is no longer needed for the completion of the various projects or purchases, or take any other action related thereto.

ARTICLE 5

To see if the Town will vote to pay off debt, including bond anticipation notes, specifically the amounts remaining after the purposes for which the funds were authorized have been fulfilled, or take any other action related thereto.

ARTICLE 6

To see if the Town will vote to release funds previously appropriated by Town Meeting, specifically the amounts remaining after the purposes for which the funds were appropriated have been fulfilled, or take any other action related thereto.

ARTICLE 7

To see if the Town will vote to amend the FY24 Water Department budget to properly identify the intended appropriations for the Wages and Expenses line items; the total Water Department appropriation of \$1,417,281 was correct but the Wages and Expenses line items were incorrect, as shown below, or take any other action related thereto.

	Appropriation <u>As voted 5/16/23</u>	Corrected <u>Appropriation</u>
Wages	\$379,902	\$370,902
Expenses	\$666,550	\$566,550
Reserves	\$100,000	\$100,000

DRAFT

DRAFT

DRAFT

Capital	\$ 44,000	\$ 44,000
Debt/Interest	<u>\$335,829</u>	<u>\$335,829</u>
Actual Sum	\$1,526,281	\$1,417,281
Amount Voted 5/16/23	\$1,417,281	

ARTICLE 8

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds the sum of \$21,064.94 to supplement the FY24 Highway Department budget for the purpose of paying an invoice for emergency repairs to a backhoe, or take any other action related thereto.

ARTICLE 9

Submitted by: Hopedale Water Department

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to acquire, by gift, purchase or eminent domain, an access easement, containing 229 square feet, more or less, as shown on a plan entitled "Easement Plan of Land 3 Crockett Circle Hopedale, Mass.," dated September 26, 2023, prepared by Guerriere & Halnon, Inc., on file with the Town Clerk; and to authorize the Select Board to take such actions and execute such documents as are deemed necessary to acquire said easement, upon such terms and conditions as the Select Board deems appropriate, or take any other action related thereto.

ARTICLE 10

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum of money to *purchase a demo fire truck*, or take any other action related thereto.

ARTICLE 11

To see if the Town will vote to *BVT Stabilization Fund*, or take any other action related thereto.

ARTICLE 12

Retained earnings spending on technological upgrades for W&S Department.

ARTICLE 13

Supplement FY24 Fire Department budget to fund Call Firefighter retro pay

NOVEMBER 7, 2023 SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

You are hereby directed to serve this Warrant by posting attested copies thereof at three public places in different parts of the Town not less than fourteen (14) days before the holding of said meeting. Here of fail not to make the due return of the meeting aforesaid.

Given our hands this _____ day of _____, 2023.

HOPEDALE SELECT BOARD

Glenda A. Hazard, Chair

Bernard J. Stock

Scott M. Savage

A True Copy, ATTEST

Lisa M. Pedroli, Town Clerk

Posted in the Town Hall, Police Station and Post Office Lobby

Constable

Date

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 10th day of October, 2023.

TOWN OF HOPEDALE
SELECT BOARD

Glenda A. Hazard, Chair

Scott M. Savage

Bernard J. Stock

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
COUNTY OF WORCESTER

On this 11th day of October, 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:

CORRESPONDENCE



TOWN OF HOPEDALE

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

Tel: 508-634-2203 X213 Fax: 508-634-2200
www.hopedale-ma.gov

Mitch F. Ruscitti, MPA
Town Administrator

Mark Nelson
Fire Chief
Town of Milford
52 Main Street
Milford, MA 01757

Chief Nelson

On behalf of the Town of Hopedale Selectboard and the Office of Town Administrator, I would like to offer my sincere condolences to your entire Department for the passing of John "Ted" DePaulo Jr. As you know, our town public safety offices often collaborate on important issues in the region including firefighting efforts, training, and with important cross-community initiatives. I am blessed to have excellent public safety officials and employees, many of whom have spoken fondly about Ted since the news reached our community.

The bond that exists between members of our public safety employees creates an atmosphere of family in many cases, which can make these losses more keenly felt.

In the past year, I had personally gotten to know Ted a bit while he was running for Planning Board. To me, this exemplified the type of man I thought Ted to be – someone who constantly wanted to give back to his community in *any way* that he could. Truly, his loss will be felt throughout the region far and wide.

If I can be of any assistance to you or your Department, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

Mitch F. Ruscitti, MPA
Town Administrator
Town of Hopedale, MA

Cc: Paul Mazzuchelli

Martha White

From: BOWMAN, PETER T <peter.bowman@eversource.com>
Sent: Friday, September 29, 2023 1:51 PM
To: BOWMAN, PETER T
Subject: Energy costs expected to increase in January

Dear municipal official:

The cost of electricity (as well as natural gas for home use) is expected to once again increase when we transition from summer to winter rates on January 1, as a result of limited natural gas supply caused by global events and high demand.

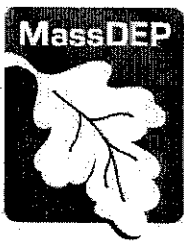
We don't yet have specific winter energy supply rates but are reaching out to all our stakeholders to make them aware of the likely increase and encourage them to take action and help make their residents and constituents aware of the ways they can manage their energy usage. We'll file proposed rates with the state Department of Public Utilities (DPU) in mid-November, and the approved new rates will take effect January 1, 2024.

We recognize the financial burden that high energy prices place on our customers, especially as the costs of other goods and services have increased. Here are some of the programs and services that we're letting customers know are available to help:

- Visit [Eversource.com/manage-cost](https://www.eversource.com/manage-cost) to learn more about the programs available to help you pay or manage your bill this winter.
- Eversource, a Sponsor of Mass Save, is proud to bring our electric and natural gas customers energy-saving programs and offers.
- Residential customers are encouraged to visit [eversource.com/home-savings](https://www.eversource.com/home-savings) for information including seasonal tips and offers plus access to programs and rebates to help you reduce your energy use leading up to and during this winter. (Some programs have a lead time for appointments, so we encourage customers to act now.)
- Enroll in Budget Billing to set up predictable monthly payments and even out bill spikes during heating and cooling seasons.
- Learn about special assistance programs and payment plans to lower your monthly payments, forgive past due balances, or enable you to pay over time. We encourage any customer who's having trouble paying their bill to contact us so we can connect them with the programs or assistance that's best suited for them.

Changes in our supply rate do not affect customers who obtain energy from other suppliers or participate in municipal aggregation programs. However, current rates for many aggregation programs are scheduled to expire late this year, and due to current market conditions, those customers will likely be exposed to higher rates than in previous years. We've notified community officials that we plan to send a general communication to these customers, recommending that they compare available rates and be aware of their options.

As you know, Eversource does not produce electricity, but purchases energy to meet customers' electric needs throughout the year. Eversource does not earn a profit on the cost of energy and charges customers only what the company pays in the energy market.



Department of Environmental Protection

100 Cambridge Street Suite 900 Boston, MA 02114 • 617-292-5500

Maura T. Healey
Governor

Kimberley Driscoll
Lieutenant Governor

Rebecca L. Tepper
Secretary

Bonnie Heiple
Commissioner

TOWN HALL
PO BOX 7
HOPEDALE, MA 01747-0007

Attention fleet owners, businesses, government agencies, municipalities, brokers, etc. – this is a regulatory requirement of MassDEP that requires your attention.

Follow the instructions below to determine if you must submit a report by March 1, 2024.

September 1, 2023

To Whom It May Concern,

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) adopted a new regulation 310 CMR 7.41: *Large Entity Reporting Requirement* that became effective on September 1, 2023, which requires large entities (fleet owners, businesses, government agencies, municipalities, brokers, etc.) to submit a one-time report on medium- and heavy-duty (MHD) vehicles greater than 8,500 lbs. operated or dispatched in Massachusetts. Specific information that must be reported includes vehicle type and usage characteristics. This report will help MassDEP assess the best way to develop electric vehicle charging infrastructure and programs to support and accelerate the MHD zero emission vehicle market in Massachusetts.

Entities must submit the report to MassDEP through the Massachusetts Large Entity Reporting portal by **Friday, March 1, 2024**. Please follow the instructions below to determine whether your entity is subject to the requirement and, if so, to submit your report:

- 1) **Go to:** <https://www.mass.gov/how-to/large-entity-reporting-requirement>
- 2) **Click the “Reporting Form” button**
- 3) **Answer the Form questions to determine if you must report**
- 4) **If you must report, use the Form to upload the reporting spreadsheet**

If you have questions or need more information, please go to the Large Entity Reporting webpage at <https://www.mass.gov/how-to/large-entity-reporting-requirement> or contact Matt Gentry of MassDEP’s Bureau of Air and Waste, at matthew.r.gentry@mass.gov.

Sincerely,

Glenn Keith
Director, Air and Climate Programs

Sent to Highway,
Water/Sewer & Schools

9/28/23