



TOWN OF HOPEDALE

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Select Board
Glenda A. Hazard, Chair
Brian R. Keyes
Bernard J. Stock

Town Administrator
Diana M. Schindler

Select Board Regular Meeting Minutes August 1, 2022

Present: Chair Hazard, Selectman Keyes, Selectman Stock, Town Administrator Diana Schindler

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Selectman Keyes moved that the Board enter into Executive Session Pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 30, Sec 21, Paragraph #2: To conduct contract negotiations with nonunion personnel, Principal Assessor, and further that the Board will return to Open Session at the conclusion of the Executive Session; seconded by Selectman Stock.

Hazard – Aye, Keyes – Aye, Stock – Aye

Open Session resumed at 6:41 PM

Consent Items

1. Accept Meeting Minutes for May 9, 2022, May 16, 2022 and June 6, 2022
 - Selectman Keyes felt that the Meeting Minutes for May 9th were cherry picked in terms of content; Chair Hazard asked if he had any suggestions and he stated that he wanted more details of the discussion and requested another draft be submitted for the Board's review.
 - Chair Hazard suggested clarification in the description of the engagement of Anderson and Kreiger as Special Counsel.

Selectman Stock moved to accept the minutes for May 16 and June 6 and to have a second draft of the minutes for May 9 before approval.

Hazard – Aye, Keyes – Aye, Stock – Aye

2. Chair Hazard motioned to Accept a \$500 Donation Pursuant to M.G.L. c.44, §53A from Hopedale Friends of Elders to be deposited for use by Council on Aging, seconded by Selectman Keyes.

Hazard – Aye, Keyes – Aye, Stock – Aye

3. Selectman Stock motioned to Accept the donation from the Hopedale Foundation in the amount of \$38,500. Selectman Keyes seconded the motion.

Hazard – Aye, Keyes – Aye, Stock – Aye

- The Board felt that it was beneficial to advance the project starting with the dredging of Hopedale Pond.
- Chair Hazard stated the town needed to come up with their funding portion before the state awarded funds.
- Town Administrator Schindler submitted the congressional directed spending for scoping, culvert assessment, and rehabilitation of the dam. In the final hour, scoping was removed as it was not available for daylighting. ARPA funds have been set aside in case that changes. Tighe & Bond is preparing an alternatives analysis to show future options and cost.

- Senator Fattman is hopeful that after scoping is done there may be funds for dredging.
 - This amount donated is the exact amount for the Alternative Analysis
4. **Police Details at Elections:** There is a new state law that states the Board must vote for a sufficient number of police officers at elections. After discussion, Selectman Keyes motioned to approve a sufficient number of police officers, but not less than 1, at the polling location at every election to preserve order and to protect the election officers and supervisors from any interference with their duties and to aid in enforcing the laws relating to elections, as required by Section 72 of MGL Chapter 54. Selectman Keyes further moved to designate the Police Chief the authority to assign specific police officers according to scheduling and availability; the Town Clerk will advise the Police Chief of the location and time the officer is needed. Selectman Stock seconded the motion.

Hazard – Aye, Keyes – Aye, Stock – Aye

5. **Early Voting Hours:** Selectman Stock motioned to approve the Early Voting Hours from August 27-September 2, 2022 in the Draper Room of Town Hall, 78 Hopedale Street from Saturday August 27th through Friday September 2nd. Selectman Keyes seconded the motion.

Hours will be as follows:

Saturday 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
Monday 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Tuesday 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Wednesday 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Thursday 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Friday 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Hazard – Aye, Keyes – Aye, Stock – Aye

Town Administrator Schindler reminded the Board that the Draper Room will not be available for meetings during these dates.

6. **Election Warrant:** Selectman Keyes motioned to Approve and Sign the Election Warrant for September 6th; seconded by Selectman Stock.

Hazard – Aye, Keyes – Aye, Stock – Aye

Appointments & Resignations

1. **Chair Hazard** moved to Appoint Cheryl Hanly as Principal Assessor effective August 13, 2022 and Execute Contract; Selectman Keyes seconded.

Hazard – Aye, Keyes – Aye, Stock – Aye

2. **Selectman Stock** moved to Accept Resignation of Call Fire Fighter/Paramedic Edgar Vigil effective July 22, 2022; Selectman Keyes seconded.

Hazard – Aye, Keyes – Aye, Stock – Aye

New Business

1. **Request for Host Community Agreement from Lifted Genetics; To Add a Tier I Cultivation for Recreational Use at 5 Condon Way, Dave and Mike Griffiths, Co-Founders.**

Lifted Genetics is proposing to open a second business, a smaller location at 5 Condon Way, across the street

from their current location of 6 Condon Way. There is a traffic report indicating no impact except for employee transit.

Selectman Keyes moved to approve the request from Lifted Genetics for a Host Community Agreement to add a Tier I Cultivation for Recreational Use at 5 Condon Way; Dave and Mike Griffiths, Co-Founders. Selectman Stock seconded.

Hazard – Aye, Keyes – Aye, Stock – Aye

2. Request for Host Community Agreement for O’Geez; To Add Manufacturing for Recreational Use at 6 Charlesview Road, Bran Noonan, CEO and Attorney Nicholas Obolensky.

- This is currently zoned for manufacturing and there is adequate parking.
- There will be no public access or signage and they will have security measures in place.
- They intend to hire 15-25 people at \$15 an hour.
- This company started as a medicinal company and went recreational and is now expanding to MA. They were started by a cancer patient who succumbed to cancer; the company is now being led by her son.
- They give back to the community focusing on cancer charities.

Selectman Keyes moved to approve the Request for Host Community Agreement for O’Geez; To Add Manufacturing for Recreational Use at 6 Charlesview Road, Bran Noonan, CEO and Attorney Nicholas Obolensky. Selectman Stock seconded.

Hazard – Aye, Keyes – Aye, Stock – Aye

3. Request for Special Outdoor Event, Anniversary Celebration for High Hopes, Saturday, August 6, from 10 am to 8 pm at 1 Menfi Way. 10am-8pm. The Police Chief did speak to them, and they will have a police detail. Selectman Keyes moved to approve this event, Selectman Stock seconded.

Hazard – Aye, Keyes – Aye, Stock – Aye

4. Request to Transfer \$35K from ARPA Funds to Forestry Account for Tree Warden to Use for Emergency Tree Removals (and as requested in FY23 budget)

Selectman Stock moved to transfer \$17,500 from ARPA Funds to Forestry Account for Tree Warden to use for emergency tree removals. Seconded by Selectman Keyes.

Hazard – Aye, Keyes – Aye, Stock – Aye

Old Business

1. West Street Court Proceedings on July 19 and Other Relevant Matters, Attorney Mina Makarious: The temporary restraining order on the wetlands was denied. The temporary restraining order on the taking was granted with respect to recording the taking, until the preliminary injunction was heard. Counsel and the court will set a schedule to brief the issues. The railroad submitted their response last Thursday and Attorney Makarious will submit the Town’s by this Thursday. This will be heard by August 10th.
2. Consider and Vote on Proposed Order of Taking for Land at 364 West Street Pursuant to Article 1 of the July 11, 2022, Special Town Meeting.
 - Attorney Mina Makarious: The Order describes the property by referencing a plan, 130.8 acres, but does not include a specific portion of the wetlands outside of the Chapter 61 land, as it was taken last year. It does not explicitly include the railroad right-of-way. The Town does not have access to the site and has been denied access. If it is voted tonight, it will not be recorded until allowed by the Court. There is a concern about ongoing

work on the property notwithstanding the wetlands order. The railroad may be able to develop plans that will increase the value, but the land is appraised at the fair market value of industrial land.

- Selectman Keyes asked if there was an update on the appraised value now that the railroad has submitted more plans. Attorney Makarious stated the \$3.9 million appraised value factored in potential railroad use. As of now, there is no donation for purchase of the property. Selectman Keyes is concerned about the ambiguous price tag.
- Selectman Keyes stated the chief justice of the court filled in for the emergency hearing and made some comments that are not optimistic in terms of the Town's position. Chair Hazard stated those comments are not indicative of the other judge, and she felt that the chief justice was neutral. Selectman Stock did not feel that the judge considered the water supply issue.
- Selectman Keyes stated he saw a low chance of winning and he is not in favor of this.
- Chair Hazard read the Order of Taking for the public's information.

Chair Hazard motioned to file the Order of Taking with the understanding it is done at the request of counsel and that it can be amended. Selectman Stock seconded this motion.

Hazard -- Aye, Keyes -- Nay, Stock -- Aye

1. Update re: Request for Driveway Access for GU RR, Bill Paille, PE, BSC

- AutoCAD plans have been developed in coordination with their engineers, dated December 2020. The plan does not show a driveway coming off Mendon Street.
- However, a 12' driveway was initiated by GU RR; BSC worked with the railroad to include it in the plans. The driveway is for maintenance access only and it will be controlled by a gate.
- There is a new challenge of creating a safe pedestrian crossing; a crossing gate is required, necessitating a field adjustment.
- There will most likely not be any DOT safety issues. There is an expectation for procedures of opening the gate to control pedestrian traffic when there is working.

2. Renew Lease for Beyond Full

Selectman Stock motioned to raise the rent to \$900, due to increased cleaning and electricity costs; seconded by Selectman Keyes.

Hazard -- Aye, Keyes -- Nay, Stock -- Aye

3. Rating Tool for Town Administrator Annual Evaluation: Town Administrator Schindler presented an evaluation form, but it was determined that she should look at other options and that the evaluation should relate to the employment contract. Selectman Keyes brought up the importance of developing a job description. This evaluation needs to be done by January to give at least six months of notice for a contract renewal.

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

- Jason Chan, a former Hopedale Resident, was recently appointed as a District court judge.

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

1. P/R Warrant #22-27, \$969,083.06, 6/30/2022
2. A/P Warrant #22-27, \$1,091,263.23, 6/30/2022
3. A/P Warrant #22-28, \$255,687.88, 6/30/2022
4. A/P Warrant #22-28B, \$2,652.63, 6/30/2022
5. P/R Warrant #23-01A, \$1,612,091.21, 7/1/2022
6. P/R Warrant #23-01, \$227,166.38, 7/14/2022
7. A/P Warrant #23-01, \$98,653.33, 7/14/2022
8. P/R Warrant #23-01B, 3,684.57, 7/14/2022
9. A/P Warrant #23-02, \$820,637.98, 7/28/2022
10. P/R Warrant #23-02, \$676,985.12, 7/28/2022

11. Notice of Right to Hearing re: KENO License for Hopedale Pizza Market
12. Hopedale Police Department, Quarter 4 Stats
13. Letter from Land Court, Stipulation of Dismissal for High Hopes vs. Hopedale ZBA
14. Mosquito Control Spraying Dates, August 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29
15. Letter to Planning Board re: Overdale Parkway

Requests for Future Agenda Items

- Joint Meeting with Planning Board, August 3, 7 pm
- Joint Meeting with Finance Committee
- Review and prioritize re ARPA Requests
- Review Capital Requests in Preparation for Fall Special Town Meeting
- Town Planner Position Implementation
- Legal fee recovery update

Administrator Updates (In Packet)

- Update re: Bocci Court at Adin Ballou Memorial Park
- Submitted Request to Representative Murray for Legislative Earmark for Hopedale Pond Dam Repairs in the amount of \$575,000, this funding is not secured yet, but has been requested
- Site Walk at Town Park with Commission Chair and Engineer to Secure Park Master Plan

Meeting Adjourned at 9:29 PM.

Submitted by:

Sara Refundini, Temporary Executive Assistant

Adopted: _____

Select Board
Regular Meeting Minutes
September 26, 2022, 6:30PM

Present: Chair Hazard, Selectman Keyes, Selectman Stock, Town Administrator Schindler

Chair Hazard called the meeting to order at 6:30PM

Consent Items

Accept Meeting Minutes for August 3, 2022

Selectman Stock motioned to accept the meeting minutes from August 3, 2022; seconded by Selectman Keyes.

Selectman Stock – Aye, Selectman Keyes – Aye, Chair Hazard – Aye

Approve Early Voting Hours presented by Town Clerk

Chair Hazard stated the early voting hours would take place in the Town Hall Draper Room from Saturday October 22, 2022 through November 4, 2022. The hours will be as follows:

Saturday, October 22: 9AM-1PM

Monday, October 24 through Thursday, October 27: 9AM-3PM

Friday, October 28: 9AM-12PM

Saturday, October 29: 9AM-1PM

Monday, October 31, through Thursday, November 3: 9AM-3PM

Friday, November 4: 9AM-12PM

Selectman Stock motioned to approve the early voting hours presented by the Town Clerk. Selectman Keyes seconded the motion.

Selectman Stock – Aye, Selectman Keyes – Aye, Chair Hazard – Aye

Benefit for Toys for Tots. Sponsored by the US Marines: Saturday, November 26th, 2022, 10:00 am to 1:00 pm: Roadside Collection for Spare Change. Mendon Street and Hopedale Street intersection and the Cumberland Farms Store.

Chair Hazard noted that there is a letter from the organizer, Tom Beder, in the meeting packet.

Selectman Stock motioned to approve the Benefit for Toys for Tots, Sponsored by the US Marines; Saturday, November 26th, 2022, 10:00 am to 1:00 pm; Roadside Collection for Spare Change, intersection of Mendon Street and Hopedale Street and the Cumberland Farms Store. Selectman Keyes seconded the motion.

Selectman Stock – Aye, Selectman Keyes – Aye, Chair Hazard – Aye

Appointments & Resignations

Accept Resignation of Reserve Police Officer Russell Poissant, effective 9/12/22

Selectman Stock motioned to accept the resignation of Reserve Police Officer Russell Poissant, effective September 12, 2022. Selectman Keyes seconded the motion.

Selectman Stock – Aye, Selectman Keyes – Aye, Chair Hazard – Aye

New Business

Review and Approve Town's Hazardous Mitigation Plan Update for Submittal to FEMA, Danielle Marini, Principal Planner, Central MA Regional Planning Commission

Marini outlined the plan highlights for the Select Board and residents and thanked those who worked on the plan. Marini stated that the purpose of a hazard mitigation plan is to understand the risks from natural hazards and to develop long-term strategies to reduce the impacts of such events on people, property, and the environment. Hazard mitigation is best accomplished by developing a comprehensive, long-term plan before a disaster strikes. Marini stated that communities with up-to-date hazard mitigation plans become eligible to apply for FEMA funding. Marini listed the hazards that the Core Team identified, as follows:

- Flooding: average annual rain is 49 inches – areas of concern Green St, Rockridge Rd, Adin St, Cemetery St, Hoped St, Centennial St, Fitzgerald Dr, Cutler St, Mellen St, Airport and Industrial Park, Dana Park and the Downtown Area.
- Culverts (undersized/poor condition): areas of concern Cook St, Dutcher St, Mendon St, Route 16
- Bridges: areas of concern Freedom St, Mill St, Mellen St
- Severe Snowstorms, Ice Storms & Nor'easters: average annual snow is 45 inches – areas of concern for icing Green St, Rockridge Rd, Adin St, Cemetery St, Hope S. Areas of concern for snow drift Fitzgerald Dr, Hope St, Freedom St. Major concerns with snowstorms are ice, downed trees, and loss of access. There have been 66 high impact snowstorms in the Northeast Urban Corridor since 1956.
- Hurricanes: within the last century, 77 hurricanes have occurred within 100 nautical miles of Hopedale. During the 2011 hurricane, neighborhoods in Hopedale were without power for 3-4 days. This past year, Mill St was without power for several days due to damage from a storm. Areas of concern are related to vulnerable trees – Adin St, Dutcher St, Freedom St.
- Severe Thunderstorms, Wind & Tornadoes: this is a Town-wide issue with vulnerable street trees, specific areas of concern are Adin St, Dutcher St, Freedom St. There have been 4 occurrences in the region since 1953. The tornado index is as follows: Hopedale – 102.92, Massachusetts – 87.60, United States – 136.45.
- Dam Failure: There are 4 dams in Hopedale, 1 is Town owned and 3 are privately owned. 3 dams have been identified as a significant hazard (Hopedale Pond Dam, Mill Pond Dam and Spindleville Pond Dam), this means that if the dams were to fail there would be significant damage to people and property downstream of the dam. There are concerns about dams outside of and upstream of Hopedale (Hopkinton, Milford, etc). It was agreed that there should be collaboration with the other Towns.

- **Extreme Temperatures (Extreme Heat):**
- **Drought:** Worcester County has reported droughts in varying severity every year for the past decade. Hopedale's public water supply is a ground well water system – no reservoirs – so rainfall is not stored. It is predicted that the number of consecutive dry days will increase in the summer and fall months, increasing concern for wildfires and brushfires.
- **Wildfires, Brushfires:** areas of concern – areas outside of the public water supply zone, the parklands (overgrowth and leaf litter), forest lands (about 64% of Hopedale), and shrub/grassland (over 16% of Hopedale).
- **Earthquakes:** Earthquake index is as follows: Hopedale - .029, Massachusetts – 0.70, United States – 1.81. Areas of concern – older buildings constructed prior to the first edition of the Massachusetts State Building Code (1979), this is roughly 67% of Hopedale's housing units.

Marini continued the presentation by providing the meeting participants with a list of critical infrastructure and vulnerable populations, created by the core team. The first category is emergency response facilities. The core team identified these facilities as the Police Station/Emergency Operations Center, Fire Station, Communication Facilities, Highway Department, Emergency Shelters, and primary and secondary evacuation routes. The second category is non-emergency response facilities including the water supply (roughly 90% of the Town), Sewer, Town Hall, Utilities (National Grid, Gas Pipelines, Railways). The third category is dams. The last category is facilities/populations to protect, such as special need's population, elderly housing/assisted living, public buildings/public meeting areas, schools/daycares, historic buildings/sites, large employers. Marini noted that about 17% of Hopedale's population is 65 years of age or older, 16% identify as disabled, for 5% their primary language is not English, and 5% are at the poverty level; these groups are at greater risk in the event of natural disaster due to lack of resources.

Marini shared the mitigation strategy, including:

- address current stormwater drainage issues
- address roadway erosion and maintenance issues
- ensure adequate availability of water for fire suppression
- maintain readiness and response capabilities of Hopedale's emergency services
- protect water quality

The Town now needs to submit the first draft of the plan to MEMA/FEMA; they may suggest revisions. There will be a second presentation to the Select Board in late November/early December of 2022 at which time it is expected that the Board will approve the plan and the Town can begin implementation.

Selectman Stock motioned to approve the Town of Hopedale's Hazard Mitigation Plan for submittal to FEMA as been prepared by the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission. Selectman Keyes seconded the motion.

Stock – Aye, Keyes – Aye, Hazard – Aye

Council on Aging Activities & Programs. Carole Mullen, Council on Aging Director

- 51st Birthday Celebration Oct. 1, 2022
- Veterans Day Ceremony Nov. 10, 2022
- Nurse Outreach Pilot Program pending rollout.

Carole Mullen, COA Director introduced the COA Board members in attendance. Mullen highlighted some of the services the Council on Aging provides to the Town of Hopedale including fuel assistance, food pantry, medical/errand transportation, senior services and more, noting that during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic (March 2020 – May 2021), COA outreach services increased by 50%. Mullen recognized the 40+ volunteers that assist the Council on Aging. Mullen informed the Board of upcoming events for the COA, such as the 51st birthday celebration, the Veteran's Day ceremony and the Nurse Outreach Pilot Program. Mullen stated that the COA is in the process of creating a door-to-door wellness program.

Formal Introduction: Bancroft Memorial Library Activities & Programs. Tricia Perry, Library Director

Perry noted that the Library just completed their summer reading program; participation increased from 55 participants last year to 130 participants this year. The Library has been developing initiatives to best engage the student population.

Fire/EMS Updates. Tom Daige, Chief, Fire/EMS

- Budget Review
- Ambulance Receipts
- Additional Staffing Needed
- Civil Service Discussion
- Civil Service Selective Form

Chief Daige provided the Select Board with the Civil Service Selective Certification Form which the Select Board needs to sign so the Chief can request an EMT list of available candidates. The Chief noted that the Fire Department and Emergency Services are incredibly short staffed, there are 4 members working 96 hours to provide services to the Town which he characterized as a huge liability issue. Daige noted that, as he has previously brought to the Board's attention, the Town needs to address this personnel issue. The Fire Department has filed a SAFER grant with FEMA; if successful the department would be able to hire additional firefighters, giving the department 3 members per shift, somewhat alleviating overtime work. Town Administrator Schindler and Board members discussed using ARPA funding for the understaffing issue. Daige cited another obstacle the Fire Department is facing – the Civil Service hiring process – and suggested that the Town should pursue removing the Fire Department from Civil Service. This would require Town Meeting and Legislative action.

Old Business

Request to Finance Committee for Town Planner Position and Transfer of Reserve Funds

Chair Hazard noted that Town Administrator Schindler, Planning Board Chair Steve Chaplin, and herself met with the person that was suggested by Selectman Stock. They discussed what the

position would be responsible for, what the benefit of a Town Planner would be for the Town of Hopedale and what the Town would like to see from a Town Planner. Chair Hazard submitted a draft job description to the Administrator to be reviewed by the Select Board. Administrator Schindler stated that currently there is no funding for a Town Planner; she suggested having a Special Town Meeting to vote on the funding. Schindler stated that beginning the hiring process ahead of the Special Town Meeting would be beneficial. Chair Hazard feels that it would not be beneficial to hire someone as an Interim Town Planning only shortly to replace them with the full-time candidate; Selectman Stock feels that it would be better to fill the position with an Interim rather than have no one and that having someone working 25 hours a week would be incredibly helpful to the Town. The Select Board agreed to advertise the Town Planner position once the Planning Board has reviewed the job description that Chair Hazard has composed.

Road Commissioners Request for Clarification of Opinion re Overdale Parkway Subdivision

Town Administrator Schindler stated that the Town received this opinion this morning. Schindler stated that there is nothing to vote on regarding this item.

Review and Sign Host Community Agreement from Lifted Genetics: Tier I Cultivation for Recreational Use at 5 Condon Way

Town Administrator Schindler introduced Nicole Costanzo of KP Law; Attorney Costanzo will be reviewing and making recommendations regarding Host Community Agreements submitted to the Town. Attorney Costanzo stated that this HCA has expired, therefore a new HCA needs to be negotiated. She suggested that the Town require that applicants cover the Town's legal costs associated with review of HCAs, and that payment be required in advance. Administrator Schindler was tasked with how best to administer this process. Attorney Costanzo noted that there have been changes to the marijuana legislation going into effect in November 2022 and these changes will impact how the Town negotiates these agreements.

The Select Board instructed Attorney Costanzo to speak with counsel for the applicant to determine if they would prefer one HCA for both facilities or separate HCAs for each.

Selectman Keyes motioned to temporarily pass over this agenda item, seconded by Selectman Stock.

Stock – Aye, Keyes – Aye, Hazard – Aye

Discuss GU RR Driveway Opening at Mendon/Hopedale Street Intersection: Remainder of Intersection Project & Next Steps

Town Administrator Schindler noted that the project has been put on hold while the driveway opening issue is settled. Unfortunately, it appears that the plan that GU RR submitted to DPU is an earlier plan that does not include the driveway opening; Schindler stated that the Town needs to advise DPU of this problem as the plan does not reflect actual conditions.

Schindler stated that she was informed that the bases for the signal gates have already been installed and, according to the engineer, the distance between the signaling gates and the rail is more than generally allowed. Selectman Stock stated that he is opposed to the driveway because 18-wheelers would block traffic. Chair Hazard stated that there is a handicap-accessible cross walk near the driveway. Town Administrator Schindler noted that the driveway is on property owned by the Railroad; the issue is where the driveway meets the road, further noting that the sidewalk is the Town's. Schindler expressed concern that the DPU appears to be "rubber stamping" this project and has not been particularly helpful to the Town, so the Town needs to help themselves. Selectman Keyes stated that if the original premise was that they would get a 12' curb cut then that is what they should get. Schindler stated that what she ascertained from the meeting with the Railroad, they want to have the option to have 18-wheeler access.

Selectman Stock motioned to approve the 12' driveway curb cut for the GU RR. Selectman Keyes seconded the motion.

Stock – Aye, Keyes – Aye, Hazard – Aye

Correspondence and Select Board Informational Items (votes will not be taken)

- Council on Aging 51st Birthday Celebration, October 1, 10 am-3 pm
- Flu Shot Clinics, Oct 13 and Oct 27, 4-6 pm, Hopedale High School
- Veterans Day Ceremony Nov. 10, 2022
- Note from Mary A. Phillips re Phillips Field
- A/P Warrant #23-06, \$464,689.49, 9/22/2022
- P/R Warrant #23-06, \$1,002,362.75, 9/22/2022
- Rosenfeld Concrete Corp v. Town of Hopedale, Complaint and Prayer for Declaratory Judgment, M.G.L. c240, §14A*
- Correspondence from DPW Union re Wage Reopener*
- FOIA Request from GU RR*

Requests for Future Agenda Items

- ARPA Priorities, carried over from 9/12/22, tentative 10/11
- Open Special Town Meeting Warrant, Review First Draft, 10/11/22*
- Review Master Planning Materials, Draft Chapters, Land Use, Housing, Economic Development, Historic/Cultural Resources, & Draft Open Space Plan, 10/24/22*
- OPEB Presentation with Parker Elmore, TBD*
- Police Department Accreditation, Chief Giovanella, TBD

Executive Session:

Motion: To enter into Executive session, pursuant to G.L. c.30A, §21(a)(3), for the purpose of discussing strategy with respect to litigation regarding the action entitled Rosenfeld Concrete Corp. v. Town of Hopedale, which concerns the property at 75 Plain Street. The Chair has determined that a discussion of this matter in an open session will have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the Town. Attorney Jonathan Silverstein present.

Chair Hazard read the executive session purpose above.

Selectman Stock motioned to enter into executive session per the purpose read by Chair Hazard, not to return to open session; seconded by Selectman Keyes.

Stock – Aye, Keyes – Aye, Hazard – Aye

Chair Hazard dissolved the regular meeting at 9:58PM.

Submitted by:
Lindsay Peterman

Board Adopted:

**Select Board
Regular Meeting Minutes
January 23, 2023, 6:30p.m.**

Present: Chair Hazard, Selectman Keyes, Selectman Stock, Interim Town Administrator Nutting

Chair Hazard called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Consent Items

Review/Approve Select Board meeting minutes – May 9, 2022, March 14, 2022

Selectman Keyes stated he has read both meeting minutes and has no changes. Chair Hazard stated that Selectman Stock is not able to vote on these minutes because he was not at either meeting.

Selectman Keyes motioned to approve Select Board minutes from May 9, 2023 and March 14, 2023. Chair Hazard seconded the motion.

Keyes – Aye, Hazard – Aye

Appointments & Resignations

Appointments to Town Administrator Search Committee

- **Cheryl Moreci – Citizen-at-Large applicant**
- **Len Guertin - Citizen-at-Large applicant**
- **Mark Giovanella – Chief of Police**
- **Karen Crebase – Superintendent of Schools**
- **Lisa Pedrolì – Town Clerk**
- **Jayne Solomon-Zissu – Personnel Board representative**
- **To be determined – Finance Committee representative**

Town Administrator Nutting stated that the Finance Committee will have a representative shortly. Chair Hazard stated that she is comfortable with the list. Selectman Stock stated he is ready to approve the list to get the Administrator Search Committee started. Selectman Keyes wanted it to be on record that regarding the resident applicants, these were the only two applicants.

Selectman Stock motioned to approve the Town Administrator Search Committee as listed and to approve the Finance Committee Representative at a later date. Selectman Keyes seconded the motion.

Stock – Aye, Keyes – Aye, Hazard – Aye

Accept resignation of part-time dispatcher Nicholas Walker

Chair Hazard read the resignation letter provided by Nicholas Walker. The Select Board thanked Nicholas for his time serving the Town of Hopedale and wished him well on his next endeavor.

Selectman Stock motioned to accept the resignation of part-time dispatcher Nicholas Walker. Selectman Keyes seconded the motion.

Stock – Aye, Keyes – Aye, Hazard – Aye

New Business

Highway Department Update - Chris Nadeau, Highway Superintendent

Chair Hazard informed the meeting participants that this item will be moved to a future agenda. The Highway Superintendent is not able to make tonight's meeting due to weather conditions.

Old Business

Consider and Vote on Proposed Order of Taking for Land at 364 West Street Pursuant to Article 1 of the July 11, 2022 Special Town Meeting

Chair Hazard reminded the meeting participants that this vote will need to be taken monthly until the Town hears from the Judge.

Selectman Stock motioned to approve the Proposed Order of Taking for Land at 364 West Street Pursuant to Article 1 of the July 11, 2022 Special Town Meeting. Selectman Keyes seconded the motion.

Stock – Aye, Keyes – Nay, Hazard – Aye

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

Chair Hazard stated that there will be an update regarding the Town Administrator Search Committee on a future agenda. This will cover the next steps the Search Committee will need to complete.

Correspondence and Select Board Informational Items (votes will not be taken)

- Hopedale Junior-Senior High School Graduation Ceremony Program and Program Insert
- Request from Worcester Regional Retirement System to consider additional 2% Cost of Living Increase for retirees, applied retroactively to July 1, 2022.
- Thank you letter from Jeff Nutting to Hopedale Friends of Elders, Inc. for their donation to the Hopedale Council on Aging
- Thank you letter from Jeff Nutting to Frederick G. Oldfield III for his donation to the Marjorie E. Hattersley Memorial Fund
- Congratulations letter from Jeff Nutting to Tricia Perry, Director of the Bancroft Memorial Library, for \$10,000 grant award from the Association for Rural and Small Libraries

Requests for Future Agenda Items

Administrator Updates

Financial Summit tentatively scheduled for February 16, 2023 in the Junior-Senior High School Auditorium

Executive Session(s):

- a. Purpose 3, G.L. c. 30A, §21(a)(3) to discuss litigation strategy if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body (Berger v. Town of Hopedale)
- b. Purpose 3, G.L. c.30A, §21(a)(3), to discuss litigation strategy if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body (High Hopes, LLC v. Town of Hopedale, Milford District Court, C.A. No. 2266CV162).
- c. Purpose 3, G.L. c. 30A, §21(a)(3) (Purpose #3), to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body (Collective Bargaining; Local 272 – Hopedale Highway, Water and Sewer and Local 272 - Clerical)

Chair Hazard read the executive session purposes above. Hazard stated the persons that will be present during the executive session are the members of the Select Board, Interim Town Administrator Nutting, Attorney Tim Zessin and Attorney Brian Riley.

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

Stock – Aye, Keyes – Aye, Hazard – Aye

Chair Hazard dissolved the meeting at 7:01p.m.

Submitted by:
Lindsay Peterman

Board Approved: _____