



TOWN OF HOPEDALE

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

Town Administrator
Mitchell Ruscitti

**Select Board
Meeting Agenda
REVISED
HYBRID MEETING
Draper Room
September 25, 2023
6:30 p.m.**

REVISED
12:56 pm, Sep 22, 2023

This meeting will be held via HYBRID means¹ and will also be streamed live, click here:
https://townhallstreams.com/towns/hopedale_ma

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87145575031?pwd=eHBzbWFwODhSWUtUandGZmIrWDZqQT09>

Meeting ID: 871 4557 5031

Passcode: 189825

One tap mobile +16469313860,,87145575031#,,,,*189825# US

Public Comments – The Hopedale Select Board encourages citizens to attend its meetings and welcomes their views on pertinent subjects. Anyone may comment for up to three minutes during the Public Comment portion of the agenda regarding an issue that is not on the agenda. However, given that no public notice of the topic has been provided, the Select Board will not engage in discussion. The Select Board will give your issue appropriate consideration. Anyone may also comment during any agenda item for up to three minutes.

Call to order: 6:30 p.m.

A. Consent Items

- a. Review/Approve meeting minutes of February 27, 2023
- b. Accept \$56,500.00 donation from anonymous donor to fund legal fees associated with West Street litigation

B. Appointments & Resignations

- a. Discussion/Possible Appointment of Alternate to Central Mass. Regional Planning Commission
- b. Accept Resignation – Call Firefighter Juan Ruelas effective September 18, 2023
- c. Appointment – Tyler Alt as Call Firefighter effective October 1, 2023

C. New Business

- a. Announce \$444,870 FEMA grant award for Increased Flood Resiliency for Hopedale Pond; accept grant
- b. Open Warrant for November 7, 2023 Special Town Meeting
- c. Review preliminary draft Special Town Meeting warrant
- d. Council on Aging request for \$2,500 in ARPA funds for Dance/Movement and Literature classes
- e. Open Space and Recreation Plan – Letter of Support
- f. Vote to sign Contracts re: Fire Chief and Deputy Fire Chief **
- g. Emergency Repair at Hopedale Jr. Sr. High School – ARPA request**

D. Old Business

E. Executive Session:

- a. Move that the Board enter into executive session pursuant to Purpose 3, G.L. c. 30A, §21(a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to ongoing litigation as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigation position of the Town, and the Chair so declares, in matters captioned Town of Hopedale v. Jon Delli Priscoli, Reilly v. Town of Hopedale, and Grafton & Upton Railroad v. Town of Hopedale.
- b. Move that the Board enter into executive session pursuant to Purpose 2, G.L. c. 30A, §21(a)(2) to conduct contract negotiations with non-union personnel: Treasurer/Collector. (To return to open session for purposes of voting any agreed-upon contract amendment(s)).

F. Administrator Updates

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

H. Requests for Future Agenda Items

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

Please note the Select Board agenda may be subject to change and items not anticipated may be discussed and all listed agenda items may be subject to a vote.

¹ On July 16, 2022, Lt. Governor Polito, as Acting Governor, signed into law An Act Extending Certain COVID-19 Measures Adopted During the State of Emergency. Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023 authorized a further extension – until March 31, 2025 – of the remote meeting provisions established by the initial March 12, 2020 Executive Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law. Section (1) of the executive order allowing public access through adequate, alternative means is independent from Section (2), which allows members of the public body to participate remotely. The public body may conduct its proceedings under the relief provided in section (1) or (2) or both.