



# Town of Hopkinton

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## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, January 3, 2024 – 6:00 P.M.  
*Hopkinton Town Hall*

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Members Present: Louise Carr, James Fredyma, Andrea Folsom, Amanda Gilman, Ian Hart, Steven Whitley

Members Absent: Alexander Pooler

Staff Present: Anna Wells, *Economic Development Director*

**CALL TO ORDER:** Ian Hart Called the meeting to order in Hopkinton Town Hall at 6:05 pm.

Andrea Folsom made a motion to allow Steven Whitely to join by Zoom, Amanda Gilman seconded.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Louise Carr	Yes
Andrea Folsom	Yes
Jim Fredyma	Yes
Amanda Gilman	Yes
Ian Hart	Yes

**MOTION PASSED 5-0.**

### APPOINTMENT

**Sam Currier, Water/Wastewater Expansion**

Sam Currier, former Water/Sewer Superintendent for the Town of Hopkinton, joined the meeting to share his expertise regarding expanding/establishing water and sewer service to Hopkinton's two TIF Districts: Exit 6 TIF and Hart's Corner. After much discussion, the Committee favored exploring a groundwater source between I-89 and US202/NH9 with the ultimate goal of establishing a water distribution system to service both TIFs and possibly along the roughly 3 miles along NH127 between the two TIF Districts. Ms. Wells will discuss with the Town Administrator the process to move forward, and the Committee will plan to bring the proposal from Emery & Garrett/GZA

to the Select Board to request the expenditure from the TIF Funds. The Committee thanks Mr. Currier for his time and expertise.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES from [December 6, 2023](#):** Ms. Folsom made a motion to approve the *Economic Development Committee* minutes of December 6, 2023. Ms. Gilman seconded. There was no discussion.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

Louise Carr	Yes
Andrea Folsom	Yes
Jim Fredyma	Yes
Amanda Gilman	Yes
Ian Hart	Yes
Steven Whitley	Yes

**MOTION PASSED 6-0.**

**DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

1. Followup from December Select Board Meeting

Chair Hart thanked those from the Committee and the public who came to the December 11 Select Board meeting and submitted written comments.

a. Potential West Hopkinton [TIF District](#)

The Committee reviewed the discussion with the Select Board regarding creating an additional TIF District/Plan in West Hopkinton. The Committee agreed it seemed like the Select Board had concerns and questions they wanted addressed before making a determination on another TIF District. Chair Hart will reach out to Chair Dunlap to determine if and when they want to hear more from EDC on this topic.

b. Request for Expressions of Interest (RFEI) for developing Town-owned land

The Committee discussed preparation of the RFEI for the Town land at Hart's Corner. Ms. Carr plans to reach out to the Hart family regarding the parcel they own adjacent to the Town-owned parcel. Ms. Gilman recommended moving forward with drafting the RFEI and adjusting as needed if anything new is learned from the Hart family.

c. Role of Economic Development Committee

The Committee revisited the conversation with the Select Board. The group discussed the opportunity to evaluate and possibly tighten the mission, vision, and goals of the Economic Development Committee. Mr. Hart suggested a working session devoted to that topic. Mr. Hart also noted he is actively working to connect with other board and committee chairs to understand how the work of the Economic Development Committee dovetails with theirs.

## UPDATES

### 1. AARP Walk Audit + Downtowns and Trails Report

Ms. Wells let the Committee know that the After-Action Report for the AARP grant has been submitted. Further, she is working to draft the Walk Audit Report based on the audits conducted in the summer and fall.

Additionally, the team from UNH Cooperative Extension is hoping to present their findings from the Downtowns and Trails Program conducted throughout last year. The committee discussed presenting both the Downtowns and Trails Report and the Walk Audit Report at an event in the beginning of April. Ms. Wells will contact the UNH team to coordinate.

### 2. CDFA Grant Writing Assistance

The group will discuss this at the meeting in February.

### 3. Business Outreach

Committee members will be reaching out individually to members of the business community to invite them to their regularly scheduled meetings. The group discussed the possibility of establishing its own Facebook page to share its work.

### 4. Other Board/Committee Updates (if applicable)

1- Housing Committee meets January 4.

2 - Planning Board plans to begin a discussion of the existing Affordable Housing Ordinance at their meeting on January 9.

## OTHER

Upcoming EDC meetings:

-*Thursday, January 25th, 5:30pm (focus on Mission, Vision, and Goals)*

-*first Wednesday of each month at 6:00pm: February 7, March 6, April 3*

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Amanda Gilman moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Andrea Folsom. There was no discussion.

### **ROLL CALL VOTE**

Louise Carr	Yes
Andrea Folsom	Yes
Jim Fredyma	Yes
Amanda Gilman	Yes
Ian Hart	Yes
Steven Whitley	Yes

### **MOTION PASSED 6-0.**

There being no other business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 7:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Anna Wells  
*Economic Development Director*