



Town of Hopkinton

Office of Select Board

330 Main Street, Hopkinton, NH 03229-2627 - (603) 746-3170 – www.hopkinton-nh.gov

**SELECT BOARD
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
Hopkinton Town Hall – 330 Main Street
Monday, May 22, 2023
Approved**

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Dunlap called this Public Meeting of the Select Board to order at 5:32 p.m. on Monday, May 22, 2023, and introduced the members of the Board.

Select Board

Members Present: Sabrina Dunlap; Ken Traum; Steven Whitley; Thomas Lipoma; and Jeff Donohoe (via phone)

Staff Present: Cara Johnson, Administrative/Assessing Assistant

Public Present: Representing National Grid and Twin States Clean Energy Link: Sean Downey, Jess Farrell, Orlando Martinez, and Corey Schutzman; Hopkinton Waste Reduction Committee Co-chairs Bonnie Christie and Pat LaPree; Andrea Folsom; Bob LaPree; Jesse Morrill; and Katherine Mitchell

A motion was made by Chair Dunlap, and seconded by Mr. Traum, to allow Mr. Donohoe to join the meeting remotely, via phone.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Sabrina Dunlap	Yes
Ken Traum	Yes
Steven Whitley	Yes
Thomas Lipoma	Yes

MOTION PASSED 4-0.

II. POINTS OF PRIDE:

Mr. Traum and Chair Dunlap noted that Library Director Donna Dunlop is retiring, thanked her for all of her great work, through some especially challenging times, and added that she will be missed.

III. ADMINISTRATIVE:

- A. The Board reviewed documents for signature, and approved (5-0) the Consent Agenda of May 22, 2023, taking the following action on a motion made by Mr. Traum and seconded by Mr. Whitley:

TOWN OF HOPKINTON - SELECT BOARD			
CONSENT AGENDA			
MAY 22, 2023			
ITEM	DATE	ACTION	COMMENT
AP MANIFEST			
AP MANIFEST DATED 5/22/2023	5/22/2023	APPROVE	\$61,724.11
PAYROLL			
EMPLOYEE PAYROLL	5/22/2023	APPROVE	\$94,918.67
DIRECT DEPOSIT: \$90,910.90			
CHECKS: \$4,007.77			
TAX COLLECTOR'S WARRANT			
PROPERTY TAX LEVY - 2023 PERIOD 1 OF 2	5/22/2023	APPROVE	\$12,997,699.00
YIELD TAX			
211-020-000 - COUNTRY CLUB RD - OP #22-227-01-T - FOFI LLC/HALL	5/22/2023	APPROVE	\$1,157.59
APPLICATIONS FOR VETERANS' CREDITS			
221-096-000 - 205 SPRING ST - CAREY	5/22/2023	APPROVE	\$4,000.00
221-096-000 - 205 SPRING ST - CAREY	5/22/2023	APPROVE	\$500.00
222-022-005 - 61 SNOWSHOE TR - RIENDEAU	5/22/2023	APPROVE	\$500.00
RIGHTS TO BURY			
1205 - BLACKWATER - C/11/2 - CARNEY	5/22/2023	APPROVE	
1206 - CONTOOCCOOK - F/277/3 - WALLACE	5/22/2023	APPROVE	
1207 - OLD HOPKINTON - F/72/3 AND 4 - THOMSON	5/22/2023	APPROVE	
OTHER			
APPOINTMENT TO OFFICE - CONSERVATION COMMISSION ALTERNATE - HARDENBERGH (FROM 5/8)	5/22/2023	APPROVE	
SERVICE APPRECIATION LETTER - WASTE REDUCTION COMMITTEE - CUMMINGS	5/22/2023	APPROVE	

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Sabrina Dunlap	Yes
Ken Traum	Yes
Steven Whitley	Yes
Thomas Lipoma	Yes
Jeff Donohoe	Yes

MOTION PASSED 5-0.

- B. The Board reviewed the Select Board Public Meeting Minutes of Monday, May 8, 2023. Mr. Traum made a motion, seconded by Mr. Whitley, to approve the Select Board Public Meeting Minutes of Monday, May 8, 2023.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Sabrina Dunlap	Yes
Ken Traum	Yes
Steven Whitley	Yes
Thomas Lipoma	Yes
Jeff Donohoe	Yes

MOTION PASSED 5-0.

- C. The Board reviewed the Select Board Nonpublic Session I Meeting Minutes of Monday, May 8, 2023. Mr. Traum made a motion, seconded by Mr. Whitley, to approve the Select Board Nonpublic Session I Meeting Minutes of Monday, May 8, 2023; Chair Dunlap noted the minutes are sealed.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Sabrina Dunlap	Yes
Ken Traum	Yes
Steven Whitley	Yes
Thomas Lipoma	Yes
Jeff Donohoe	Yes

MOTION PASSED 5-0.

- D. The Board reviewed the Select Board Nonpublic Session II Meeting Minutes of Monday, May 8, 2023. Mr. Traum made a motion, seconded by Mr. Whitley, to approve the Select Board Nonpublic Session II Meeting Minutes of Monday, May 8, 2023; Chair Dunlap noted the minutes are not sealed.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Sabrina Dunlap	Yes
Ken Traum	Yes
Steven Whitley	Yes
Thomas Lipoma	Yes
Jeff Donohoe	Yes

MOTION PASSED 5-0.

IV. PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS:

- A. Sean Downey, Orlando Martinez, Corey Schutzman, and Jess Farrell, regarding the National Grid/Twin States Clean Energy Link project – The team presented a PowerPoint and an overview of the project’s goals, how it differs from past proposed projects, and benefits to Hopkinton and New England. Discussion ensued, and the team noted that:

- The project involves a new power transmission line of about 1,200 megawatts from and to Quebec, aimed at providing power to back up wind and solar in New England, in place of fossil fuel generation; this is enough energy to power approximately 1.2 million homes

- Would be constructed within existing rights of way, either underground or via existing overhead lines that would have tower height extensions or tower replacement
 - Lines would follow along the Connecticut River in Vermont and enter New Hampshire in the town of Monroe, passing through multiple towns, before reaching the 5.41 miles of line that run through Hopkinton
 - Project would involve extensive permitting at all levels, and the Town would be notified throughout the process; if approved, the goal is to have all permits in place by mid-late 2026 and the project completed by 2030
 - As opposed to previous project proposals, the representatives said this proposed project has strong support from other New Hampshire municipalities, since it requires very little tree clearing, minimal new rights of way, and should result in minimal visual impact
 - Current projection is that, if approved and completed, this could potentially result in property tax revenues of approximately \$300 Thousand to Hopkinton annually
 - If the project is approved but does not receive Department of Energy funding, it will still move forward, but not at the same pace
 - Predominantly hydro power from Quebec, but there may be wind powered resources becoming available, as well
 - Their information is due to the DOE on July 5; DOE will select two to four groups, out of eight submissions, for funding
 - When asked if they were looking for anything from Hopkinton, it was pointed out that:
 - They would like to be informed of any sensitive areas
 - They are working with indigenous groups
 - They would like to be informed of any particular people or groups with whom they should speak
 - They would like a statement of support from the Town
- B. Before sharing the Waste Reduction Committee’s recommendations for improving the Pay-by-Bag program, Bonnie Christie, Co-chair of the WRC, presented a PowerPoint to help put the Pay-by-Bag program discussion in perspective in the larger context of how waste is managed now and throughout history, nationally and locally. Regarding the Pay-by-Bag program, the Committee recommended and noted that:
- Since only Hopkinton has a Pay-by-Bag program, our Select Board should be in charge of the program; if Webster should begin using a bag program, both Webster and Hopkinton Select Boards should be in charge
 - Ensure that only Hopkinton and Webster residents are using the Transfer Station
 - Resident windshield stickers for Transfer Station should be redesigned to make them easier for Transfer Station staff to see
 - Decision must be made regarding who will oversee compliance; WRC estimates the population requiring assistance with compliance would be minimal
 - There are new sign designs to help guide those using the recycling area
 - Brian Patnoe from the Northeast Resource Recovery Association will be coming to Hopkinton soon to complete a full cost accounting

Discussion ensued among Board members, Ms. Christie, Andrea Folsom, Bob LaPree, and Katherine Mitchell, regarding the necessity of getting Webster involved; history of compliance

with the Pay-by-Bag program; support for bolder windshield stickers; and composting. It was emphasized that:

- The Select Board needs to engage with the Webster Select Board
- Meeting with Brian Patnoe of the NRRA will be beneficial
- Engaging with school children could be helpful, as many programs and activities at schools result in action from parents and other adults
- Need to revisit whether there is funding available for signage at the Transfer Station
- More information should be obtained on bringing composting to the Transfer Station; WRC will send composting information they already have to the Select Board

V. OLD BUSINESS:

Naming Criteria Policy – Vote on Adoption – After reviewing the amended policy from the previous Board meeting and a brief discussion of definitions, Mr. Traum made a motion, seconded by Mr. Whitley, to approve the Town Facility Naming/Dedication and Memorial Policy, Policy #43, as revised.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Sabrina Dunlap	Yes
Ken Traum	Yes
Steven Whitley	Yes
Thomas Lipoma	Yes
Jeff Donohoe	Yes

MOTION PASSED 5-0.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Traum noted that Mr. Cass provided the information regarding revenues, expenses, and debt service through April, and other than a few small questions, everything seems to be going well.

VII. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES:

There were no Town Administrator updates.

VIII. PUBLIC FORUM:

There were no comments for Public Forum.

IX. OTHER:

Mr. Whitley shared that Mr. Cass notified him that that the crosswalks near the gazebo will be repainted soon.

X. NONPUBLIC SESSIONS:

There were no nonpublic sessions.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Lipoma made a motion, seconded by Mr. Donohoe, to adjourn the meeting of Monday, May 22, 2023.

Select Board Meeting – May 22, 2023

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Sabrina Dunlap	Yes
Ken Traum	Yes
Steven Whitley	Yes
Thomas Lipoma	Yes
Jeff Donohoe	Yes

MOTION PASSED 5-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cara Johnson
Administrative/Assessing Assistant