Town of Hopkinton

Office of Select Board

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

IMPORTANT LETTER FROM THE TOWN MODERATOR

July 17, 2020

To: The Registered Voters of the Town of Hopkinton

From: Bruce B. Ellsworth, Town Moderator

Subject: Change in Administrative Procedures for the 2020 Hopkinton Town Meeting

Last week, subsequent to our issuance of our proposed "Hopkinton Town Meeting COVID-19 Compatible Procedures", Governor Chris Sununu signed into law new legislation, House Bill 1129 (included in this mailing), providing for optional town meeting procedures during the COVID-19 outbreak period.

Although our procedures had been previously reviewed and accepted by the offices of the Secretary of State and the Attorney General, they are now found to be inconsistent with one section of the new legislation.

Specifically, our procedures provided for the Moderator to review any proposed amendments that were submitted by voters, and to appropriately place them on the warrant for consideration.

The new legislation, HB 1129, delegates that responsibility to the Select Board. The Select Board will hold a meeting on Thursday, July 23, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. to review the amendments and determine the final articles to be on the ballot. The methods to submit comments and recommended amendments remains the same and the deadline remains Thursday, July 23, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.

Email: moderator@hopkinton-nh.gov

Telephone: (603) 746-8256

As previously posted, the ballot will be available by 3:00 p.m. on Friday July 24, 2020 on the town website and printed copies at the Town Hall and the Slusser Center. Public comments on the amendments and all articles will take place on Friday, July 24, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. as previously posted.

Accordingly, please consider this letter as our announcement that the new procedure will be in effect for the 2020 Town Meeting, and that amendments included on the 2020 Town Warrant are the result of Select Board review.

I have asked our Town Counsel to make a short presentation of the new legislation at our Monday, July 20, 2020 Town Meeting.

Bruce B. Ellsworth Moderator