



HOPKINTON

Rhode Island

1 Town House Road, Hopkinton, RI 02833 www.hopkintonri.gov

AMENDED HOPKINTON TOWN COUNCIL MEETING – September 8, 2026 BUSINESS AGENDA

Town Hall, 1 Town House Road, Hopkinton, RI 02833

Remote Access:

Public comment is allowed on specific agenda items at discretion of the Chair.

○ [Zoom Link](#)

○ Meeting ID: 946 0801 5361

○ Passcode: 160735 **Notes:**

Meeting cancellations will be posted on the

○ Telephone: +1-689-278-1000 Town website: www.hopkintonri.gov. For

○ [Hopkinton Youtube Stream](#) inquiries, contact the Town Clerk's Office at
(401) 377-7777 ext. 1

Public Participation:

To speak during the meeting, use the “raise hand” function in Zoom or dial *9 on your phone to notify the host. Once asked to unmute, dial *6 to unmute and speak. State name and address before speaking.

This meeting is being offered via Zoom and YouTube as an added service to our constituents. There is no legal requirement for this method of viewing the meeting. Should technological issues on the part of the Town or the viewer prevent this meeting from being seen via Zoom or YouTube, no part of the meeting will be repeated. Should you wish to participate in any part of the meeting, the most reliable way to do so is to be in person at the Town Hall.

Marita D. Murray, CMC
Council Clerk/Town Clerk

“Please remember when making comments to state your name before speaking”

7:00 P.M. Call to Order – Moment of silent meditation and a salute to the Flag.

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF AGENDA ORDER

PUBLIC COMMENT

CONSENT AGENDA

Approve Town Council Meeting Minutes of August 17, 2026; Approve Special Town Council Meeting Minutes of September 2, 2026.

MOTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

NEW BUSINESS

1. Update by RI Energy on the electric transmission project.
2. Discuss, consider and possibly vote to adopt a Resolution Authorizing the Adoption of the Interlocal Trust's Other Post-Employment Benefits Funding Program for the Police Union.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

- Finance Director position update

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

- Update on tree-clearing activity at Brushy Brook property

PUBLIC COMMENT

Recess to Executive Session under:

1. RIGL sec. 42-46-5(a)(5) – Any discussions or considerations related to the acquisition or lease of real property for public purposes, or of the disposition of publicly held property wherein advanced public information would be detrimental to the interest of the public – Discussion regarding the Hope Valley Elementary School building.

Reconvene in Open Session.

Statement by the Council President that any votes taken in executive session will not be disclosed at this time in accordance with RIGL 42-46-4(b) which states “All votes taken in closed sessions shall be

disclosed once the session is reopened; provided, however, a vote taken in a closed session need not be disclosed for the period of time during which its disclosure would jeopardize any strategy, negotiation or investigation undertaken pursuant to discussions conducted under § 42-46-5(a).”

Consider and vote on Motion to Seal the minutes of the Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

If communication assistance (readers/interpreters/captions) is needed or any other accommodation to ensure equal participation by any person, please contact the Town Clerk’s Office at 377-7777 (V) or 377-7773 (TDD) at least two (2) business days prior to the meeting.

Posting Details: Town Hall, Hopkinton Post Office, Hopkinton Website, Secretary of State Website.
Posting date: September 3, 2026

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF HOPKINTON AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF THE TRUST’S OPEB FUNDING PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Town of Hopkinton (the “Town”) desires to establish an OPEB trust fund pursuant to the relevant provisions of the General Laws of Rhode Island § 45-21-65, as amended; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 45-5-20.2 the Rhode Island Interlocal Risk Management Trust has established an OPEB Funding Program (the “Program”) designed to fund post-employment benefits for the Town’s employees as specified in the Town’s policies and/or applicable collective bargaining agreements; and

WHEREAS, the Town is eligible to participate in the Program; and

WHEREAS, it is determined to be in the best interest of the Town to adopt the Public Agencies Post-Retirement Health Care Plan Trust, a multiple employer tax-exempt trust performing an essential governmental function within the meaning of Section 115 of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended, and the relevant statutory provisions of the State of Rhode Island; and

WHEREAS, the Town’s adoption and operation of the Program has no effect on any current or former employee’s entitlement to other post-employment benefits; and

WHEREAS, the terms and conditions of post-employment benefit entitlement, if any, are governed by contracts separate from and independent of the Program; and

WHEREAS, the Town's funding of the Program does not, and is not intended to, create any new vested right to any benefit nor strengthen any existing vested right; and

WHEREAS, the Town reserves all rights to make contributions, if any, to the Program; and

WHEREAS, although state law permits public entities to establish trusts and this Program for the purposes of funding post-employment benefits, any employer participating in the Program or participant in such Program shall hold harmless the State of Rhode Island and/or its, agents, employees, and servants from any cause of action arising from the administration of or participation in the Program.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Town Council hereby approves participating in the OPEB Funding Program established by the Rhode Island Interlocal Risk Management Trust; and
2. The Town Council hereby adopts the Public Agencies Post-Retirement Health Care Plan Trust, including the Public Agencies Post-Retirement Health Care Plan, effective September 8, 2026 (the "Trust"); and
3. The Town Council hereby appoints the *Finance Director* or his/her successor or his/her designee as the Town's Plan Administrator for the Trust. The Plan Administrator shall act on behalf of the Town in all matters relating to the Town's participation in the Trust, including, but not limited to, authorizing the investment of assets in the Trust, providing directions to the Trustee and/or the Trust Administrator, and authorizing disbursements from the Town's trust assets, and the Town shall, pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws §45-15-6, indemnify said Plan Administrator; and
4. The Town Council hereby delegates the oversight of the investment management of the Town's funds placed into the Program to the Rhode Island Interlocal Risk Management Trust's Board of Trustees; and
5. The Town's Plan Administrator is hereby authorized to execute the legal and administrative documents on behalf of the Town and to take whatever additional actions are necessary to maintain the Town's participation in the Trust and to maintain compliance of any relevant regulations issued or as may be issued.
6. This Resolution shall take effect upon its adoption by the Town Council.