



TOWN OF HOPKINTON, NH

330 Main Street, Hopkinton, NH 03229 Phone (603) 746-3170

2007 TOWN WARRANT

**Town of Hopkinton, New Hampshire
Warrant
Annual Town Meeting
March 2007**

SS: State of New Hampshire

Merrimack County

The Polls will be open from 7:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

To the Inhabitants of the Town of Hopkinton, in the County of Merrimack, in the said State, who are qualified to vote in Town affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Hopkinton High School Gymnasium on Tuesday, March 13th, 2007 at 7:30 a.m. to act upon the following subjects:

Article 1: To choose all necessary Town Officers by ballot and major vote for the ensuing year as enumerated:

2 Selectman	3 Year Term each
1 Town Clerk/Tax Collector	3 Year Term
1 Supervisor of the Checklist	1 Year Term
3 Budget Committee	3 Year Term each
2 Library Trustee	3 Year Term each
1 Cemetery Trustee	3 Year Term
1 Trustee of Trust Funds	3 Year Term

Article 2: To see what action the Town will take with respect to the following proposed amendments to the Hopkinton Zoning Ordinance by ballot vote upon the following questions:

1. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the Planning Board (4-0) for the Town of Hopkinton Zoning Ordinance as follows:

•~~•~~To amend Section XV Board of Adjustment by inserting paragraph 15.12 Expiration of Special Exceptions and Variances. The paragraph shall specify that Special Exception or Variance would expire upon two (2) years of disuse or discontinuance. The provisions of paragraph 15.12 shall apply only to Special Exceptions or Variances granted after the effective date of this paragraph.

(Recommended by the Planning Board)

Yes___ No_____

2. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the Planning Board (4-0) for the Town of Hopkinton Zoning Ordinance as follows:

•~~•~~To amend Section II, 2.1 Definitions by inserting the definition of Designated Open Space and changing the numerical sequence of remaining definitions.

•~~•~~To amend Section II, 2.1 Definitions by inserting the definition of Open Space, Designated and changing the numerical sequence of remaining definitions.

- ~~eeeeee~~To amend Section III, 3.6 Use Regulations by omitting Table of Uses 3.6.A.4 pertaining to Conservation Subdivisions and renumber the remaining elements.

- ~~eeeeee~~To amend Section IV, 4.1 General Requirements, 4.2 Table of Dimensional Requirements, 4.3 Table of Dimensional Requirements by inserting reference to Section VIII Conservation Subdivisions for the subdivision of land for residential purposes.

- ~~eeeeee~~To repeal existing Section VIII Conservation Subdivisions and replace it with a new section entitled the same. The new section will establish standards for residential development of land in conjunction with the permanent protection of a portion of the property as undeveloped open space. The revisions will require applicants to provide detailed information on a parcel and receive input from the Planning Board and public on their preferences for the layout of the subdivision, prior to submitting a completed application. Revisions include a specific formula to determine the allowable number of dwelling units; providing incentives for conserving a greater portion of the property; providing public access, or protecting the land with a permanent conservation easement; and includes additional criteria with regards to the layout, allowed uses, and long-term management and protection of open space. The conservation subdivision approach will be the first option for all larger developments with conventional subdivisions only being permitted under specific conditions.

(Recommended by the Planning Board)

Yes ___ No _____

3. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 3 as proposed by the Planning Board (7-0) for the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows:

- ~~eeeeee~~To amend Section II, 2.1 Definitions by inserting the definition of Construction and Demolition Debris and changing the numerical sequence of remaining definitions.

(Recommended by the Planning Board)

Yes ___ No _____

Article 3: Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 40:13 (known as SB2) to allow official ballot voting on all issues before the Town of Hopkinton on the second Tuesday of March?

Submitted by Petition.

Three-fifth (3/5) Majority Vote Required

The Board of Selectmen does not recommend this article.

Yes ____ No ____

Note: By law the Meeting must open before the voting starts. Therefore, the Meeting and polls will open at 7:30 a.m. for the considerations of Articles 1, 2 and 3. At 12:00 (noon), the Meeting will recess, but the polls will remain open until 7:00 p.m. The Meeting will reconvene at the Hopkinton High School Gymnasium on Wednesday, March 14th, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. to act upon the following Articles:

Article 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,024,872** to defray the cost of General Government Operations:

<u>General Government Functions</u>	<u>\$\$ in Year 2007</u>
Executive	224,343
Election, Reg., Vital Stats. & Tax Coll.	254,643
Financial Administration	106,609
Assessing	56,515
Legal	25,000

Personnel Administration	66,600
Planning & Zoning Departments	104,029
Cemeteries	41,101
Insurance	136,032
Economic Development Committee	10,000
Total	\$1,024,872

(Majority Vote Required)

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article.

The Budget Committee recommends this article

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,312,650** to defray the cost of Public Safety Operations:

<u>Public Safety Operations</u>	<u>\$\$ in Year 2007</u>
Police Department	651,514
Animal Control	5,816
Ambulance Service	397,152
Fire Department	249,392
Emergency Management	1
Rescue Squad	8,775
Total	\$1,312,650

(Majority Vote Required)

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article.

The Budget Committee recommends this article.

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,969,438** to defray the cost of Public Works Operations:

<u>Public Works Operations</u>	<u>\$\$ in Year 2007</u>
Highway Administration	536,195
Highways & Streets	466,080
Building & Grounds (formerly Parks Dept)	230,797
Street Lighting	1,500
Transfer Station Operations	586,488
Landfill Maintenance & Monitoring	41,300
Sewer Department	107,078
Total	\$1,969,438

(Majority Vote Required)

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article.

The Budget Committee recommends this article.

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to amend the amount of funds to be placed in the Recycling Revolving Fund established at the March 2006 Town Meeting by limiting the amount of moneys received from fees, charges or other income derived from the activities or services supported by the fund to \$20,000.

(Majority Vote Required)

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article.

The Budget Committee recommends this article.

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$119,139** to defray the cost of Health and Human Services Operations:

<u>Health & Human Service Operations</u>	<u>\$\$ in Year 2007</u>
Community Action Program -- (CAP)	5,037
Human Services Administration	59,102
Human Services Vendors	55,000
Total	\$119,139

(Majority Vote Required)

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article.

The Budget Committee recommends this article.

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$126,764** to defray the cost of Recreation Operations:

<u>Recreation Operations</u>	<u>\$\$ in Year 2007</u>
Recreation Department	123,364
Patriotic Purposes	3,400
Total	\$126,764

(Majority Vote Required)

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article.

The Budget Committee recommends this article.

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$12,436** to defray the cost of the Slusser Senior Center.

(Majority Vote Required)

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article.

The Budget Committee recommends this article.

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$270,202** to defray the cost of the Hopkinton Library:

<u>Library Operations</u>	<u>\$\$ in Year 2007</u>
Hopkinton Library	270,202
Total	\$270,202

(Majority Vote Required)

The Budget Committee recommends this article.

Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,225** for Conservation:

<u>Conservation</u>	<u>\$\$ in Year 2007</u>
Conservation Commission	1,225
Total	\$1,225

(Majority Vote Required)

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article.

The Budget Committee recommends this article.

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$527,606** for the payment of Principal and Interest of long-term debt.

<u>Long-term Debt & TAN Interest</u>	<u>\$\$ in Year 2007</u>
Principal - Bonds and Notes	377,772
Interest – Bonds and Notes	149,834
Total	\$527,606

(Majority Vote Required)

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article.

The Budget Committee recommends this article.

Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following funds to be placed in previously established Capital Reserve funds as follows:

<u>Capital Reserve Accounts</u>	<u>\$\$ in Year 2007</u>
Town Hall Renovations	20,000
Computer Hardware/Software Upgrades	7,500
Legal Fund	25,000
Community Center	25,000
Fire Dept Vehicles and Equipment	82,500
Public Works Vehicles and Equipment	110,000
Transfer Station Equipment	27,500
Police Cruisers and Accessories	33,000
Recreation Shuttle Bus	5,000
Library Replacement Building System	9,000
Total	\$344,500

(Majority Vote Required)

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article.

The Budget Committee recommends this article

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following funds to be placed in previously established Expendable General Trust Funds as follows.

<u>Expendable General Trust Funds</u>	<u>\$\$ in Year 2007</u>
Hopkinton Library Technology	8,500
Town Facilities	25,000
Recreation Facilities	5,000
Library Building/Grounds	5,000
Benefits Pay	2,500
Human Services	5,000
Total	\$51,000

(Majority Vote Required)

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article.

The Budget Committee recommends this article.

Article 16: Shall we rescind the remaining debt authorization of three million seventy-three thousand two hundred fifty dollars, **\$3,073,250**, on the conservation bond that was voted in at the Town Meeting in 2003?

Submitted by Petition.

The Board of Selectmen does not support this article.

Article 17: To eliminate the recreation department, including all positions and employees and that the department's entire operating expense included in the Town's proposed budget be eliminated and that savings resulting from the elimination of operating the recreation department are to be applied to tax relief for the citizens of Hopkinton.

Submitted by Petition.

The Board of Selectmen does not recommend this article.

Article 18: To see if the Town will vote to close and sell Columbia Hall within 6 months from the date of the opening of the Slusser Senior Center.

Submitted by Petition.

The Board of Selectmen does not recommend this article.

Article 19: To see if the Town will vote to approve to limit the number of all Town employee positions, both full-time and part-time, at the number of such positions in effect as of January 1, 2007, and to direct the Selectmen not to create any new positions of whatever type, whether full or part-time, except for contracted employees who are paid under Form 1099, and, further, should the Town budget be reduced at Town meeting below the budget requested or presented by the Selectmen at the 2007 Town Meeting and positions are eliminated or reduced as a consequence of such action, such positions shall not be re-instated, with all of the foregoing being in effect for and throughout the 2007 fiscal year.

Submitted by Petition.

The Board of Selectmen does not recommend this article.

Article 20: Going henceforth, shall we request of the Board of Selectmen to retain five percent (5%) of regular general operating expenditures from the annual surplus (fund balance) with the excess to be returned to the tax payers by using said funds to offset each current year's tax rate?

Submitted by Petition.

The Board of Selectmen does not recommend this article.

Article 21: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$4,000** in the interest of public health and safety to provide winter plowing and sanding on the following roads during the winter months:

South Shore Drive	1500 feet
Ridge Lane	900 feet
Rolfe Pond Road	2000 feet
Salachar Road	500 feet
Perch Lane	700 feet
Sparrow Lane	1000 feet
Robin Lane	400 feet
Loop Road (off Spring St)	800 feet

This action shall in no way be interpreted as changing the status of these roads from "private" to "public" roads. It is the general policy of the Town that no work will be done on any private or Class VI highway.

Submitted by Petition.

*The Board of Selectmen recommends this article.
The Budget Committee recommends this article.*

Article 22: Shall we authorize the raising and appropriation of **\$400** for the purchase of audio recording equipment and materials, and require that the Town audio record all public meetings of the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee in a standard audio file format, and make all recordings available to the public via the Town website not later than 144 hours after each public meeting, and to remain available on the website for a period of six months, and thereafter make files available to the public in a standard audio file format?

Submitted by Petition.

*The Board of Selectmen recommends this article.
The Budget Committee recommends this article.*

Article 23: To see if the Town will vote to plow Tucker Drive, a private way.

Submitted by Petition.

The Board of Selectmen does not support this article.

Article 24: Shall we require the Hopkinton Budget Committee to provide a tax impact statement and budget committee vote tally on each town and school district warrant article they recommend or do not recommend?

Submitted by Petition.

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article.

Article 25: To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Police Station Capital Reserve Fund created in 1994. Said funds, presently zero (0), with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal are to be transferred to the Town's general fund.

(Majority Vote Required)

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article.

Article 26: To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Ambulance Capital Reserve Fund created in 1995. Said funds, presently \$3,580.82, with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal are to be transferred to the Town's general fund.

(Majority Vote Required)

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article.

Article 27: To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Conservation Land/Lease Capital Reserve Fund created in 2002. Said funds, presently zero (0), with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal are to be transferred to the Town's general fund.

(Majority Vote Required)

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article.

Article 28: To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Revaluation Expendable Trust Fund created in 1997. Said funds, presently zero (0), with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal are to be transferred to the Town's general fund.

(Majority Vote Required)

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article.

Article 29: To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Fire Department Tanker/Pumper Expendable Trust Fund created in 1999. Said funds, presently zero (0), with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal are to be transferred to the Town's general fund.

(Majority Vote Required)

The Board of Selectmen recommends this article.

Article 30: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Planning Board to require preliminary review of applications for subdivision of land, pursuant to RSA 674:35, I. Further, it shall be the duty of the Town Clerk to file with the Merrimack County Registry of Deeds a Certificate of Notice showing that the Planning Board has been so authorized and giving the date of such authorization.

Submitted and recommended by the Planning Board

Article 31: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Planning Board to require preliminary review of site plans for nonresidential uses or for multi-family dwelling units, pursuant to RSA 674:43, I. Further, it shall be the duty of the Town Clerk to file with the Merrimack County Registry of Deeds a Certificate of Notice showing that the Planning Board has been so authorized and giving the date of such authorization.

Submitted and recommended by the Planning Board

Article 32. We, the good citizens of Hopkinton, demand a withdrawal of New Hampshire and other United States troops from Iraq. It is our desire to bring our soldiers home now and end this unjustified war. This issue is of such urgency that silence is no longer an option.

Submitted by Petition.

Article 33: to see if the Town will go on record in support of effective actions by the President and the Congress to address the issue of climate change which is increasingly harmful to the environment and economy of New Hampshire and to the future well being of the people of Hopkinton.

These actions include:

1. Establishment of a national program requiring reductions of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions while protecting the U.S. economy.
2. Creation of a major national research initiative to foster rapid development of sustainable energy technologies thereby stimulating new jobs and investment.

In addition, the town of Hopkinton encourages New Hampshire citizens to work for emission reductions within their communities, and we ask our Selectmen to consider the appointment of a voluntary energy committee to recommend local steps to save energy and reduce emissions.

The record of the vote on this article shall be transmitted to the New Hampshire Congressional Delegation, to the President of the United States, and to declared candidates for those offices.

Submitted by Petition.

Article 34: To hear the reports of agents, officers, and committees, heretofore chosen, to pass any vote relating thereto, and to transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

Given under our hands and seal this 16th day of February, in the Year of our Lord two thousand and seven.

**Louise M. Carr, Chairman
Clarke L. Kidder
Donald K. Lane
Peter M. Russell
George A. Langwasser
Board of Selectmen
Hopkinton, N.H.**

Attest:

**Louise M. Carr, Chairman
Clarke L. Kidder
Donald K. Lane
Peter M. Russell
George A. Langwasser
Board of Selectmen
Hopkinton, N.H.**