

**TOWN OF HOPKINTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Meeting Date: June 19, 2007
MINUTES**

Board of Selectmen members present: Muriel E. Kramer, Chairwoman; Mary Pratt, Vice-Chairwoman; Michael Shepard; Brian Herr; Matt Zetek

Others Present: Michael Torosian, HCAM; Richard Conn, MetroWest News; Robert Falcione, HopNews; Timothy Kilduff; Bernadette Markey; Joseph Markey; Leonard Holden; Dr. John Duffy; Brian Morrison; Ronald Eldridge; Patrick Whalen; Kathy Whalen; Jane Moran; Chris Barry; Steven Zieff; Roy MacDowell; Fire Chief Daugherty, Acting Town Manager; Geri Holland, Executive Assistant

Public Meeting Opened/Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Zetek stepped off the Board being an abutter to the Weston Nurseries property.

7:00 p.m. Mrs. Kramer, Chairwoman, opened the public meeting and read the following public hearing notice:

Notice is hereby given pursuant to M. G. L. c. 61A, § 14 and c. 39, § 23B that the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Hopkinton, Massachusetts will meet and hold a public hearing at 7:00 P.M., Eastern Daylight Saving Time, on Tuesday, June 19, 2007 in the Hopkinton Middle School Auditorium, 88 Hayden Rowe St., Hopkinton, MA, upon the proposed exercise or assignment of the first refusal option under M. G. L. c. 61A § 14 concerning approximately 705 acres of land known as Weston Nurseries located in Hopkinton, MA.

Copies of: (1) the Purchase and Sales Agreement between Weston Nurseries, Inc., Mezitt Agricultural Corporation, Roger Mezitt, Merylyn Mezitt, Wayne Mezitt, Elizabeth Mezitt, Peter Mezitt, and Karen Mezitt (as Seller) and Hopkinton Farms, LLC (as Purchaser), dated December 20, 2006,

(2) the Sellers' Notice Pursuant to M. G. L. c. 61A, § 14 of Intention to Sell Land Taxed as Agricultural Land for Residential and Other Non Agricultural Uses, and

(3) the terms of the proposed assignment of c. 61A Rights to Trust for Public Land, a qualified non-profit (when completed),

are available for inspection at the offices of Hopkinton Board of Selectmen, Town Hall, 18 Main St., Hopkinton, MA, 01748.

To insure an orderly and expeditious hearing any person who wishes to make a statement at the hearing with regard to the proposed exercise or assignment of M. G. L. c. 61A rights is requested to make known to the Selectmen in advance of the hearing his or her name, the name of the organization or group which he or she represents and the estimated length of his or her statement. Long statements must be summarized and brought within reasonable compass for oral presentation at the hearing.

Written statements or memoranda should, if possible, be filed in the office of the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Hopkinton, Town Hall, 18 Main St., Hopkinton, MA, 01748, prior to the hearing. It is requested that six copies be submitted.

Mrs. Kramer asked if there were any abutters present. There were abutters present including Patrick and Kathy Whalen; and Jane Moran.

Mrs. Kramer said that the Board would open the hearing with comments from the public first and then from members of the Board of Selectmen; she added that the public hearing would close with a vote. Mrs. Kramer stated the purpose of tonight's meeting is to address the Town's 61A rights concerning approximately 705 acres of land known as Weston Nurseries located in Hopkinton, MA.. She reviewed the process that the Town followed during the last few months pertaining to the sale of the Weston Nurseries property and the Town's first right's to purchase the property. Public Comments were heard from various residents. Members of the Board then made their comments.

Vote: Mrs. Kramer entertained a motion to close the public hearing. **So moved Mr. Shepard. Second Mrs. Pratt. Unanimously voted.**

Vote: Mrs. Kramer entertained a motion that the Board of Selectmen not exercise the Right of First Refusal, under M. G. L. c. 61A § 14 concerning approximately 705 acres of land known as Weston Nurseries located in Hopkinton, MA. **So moved Mr. Shepard. Second Mrs. Pratt. The votes follow: Mrs. Kramer: yes; Mrs. Pratt: yes; Mr. Shepard: yes; Mr. Herr: yes; Unanimously voted.**

Mr. Zettek stepped back on the Board.

Meeting Adjourned:

7:30 p.m. Vote: Mrs. Kramer entertained a motion to adjourn this portion of the public meeting and move into executive session at 8:30 p.m. at the Town Hall in Room 211 for the purpose to re-convene the executive session from the previous evening, June 18, 2007, to consider the discipline of a public officer; and then move back into public session for the sole purpose to adjourn the meeting. **So moved Mr. Shepard. Second Mr. Herr. The Roll call votes follow: Mrs. Kramer: yes; Mrs. Pratt: yes; Mr. Shepard: yes; Mr. Herr: yes; Mr. Zettek: yes; Unanimously voted.**

Public Meeting Adjourned:

12:35 a.m. Vote: Mrs. Kramer entertained a motion to adjourn the public meeting. **So moved Mr. Zettek. Second Mr. Herr. Unanimously voted.**

Respectfully submitted,

Geri Holland
Executive Assistant
Date approved: 7/24/07