

Are you going to capitalize on the 2017 Real Estate Market ???



LET'S GET STARTED!

And see what your home is worth? visit: WWW.HOPKINTONHOMEPRICES.COM

Peter Edwards
508.922.1053
peter@hrpre.com



"We are committed to guiding our clients through a seamless process"

TESTIMONIAL: Peter's approach was refreshing. He was clearly on our side keeping our goals in mind and gave us straight talk when assessing our position in the market. Peter is extremely professional and thorough in the short time it took to get an agreement. I would recommend Peter to anyone looking to sell their property. — Joe T.

Town Engineer Seeking Variance for Additional Parking Spaces in Downtown Area

by Michelle Sanford

The Board of Appeals held a public hearing on March 8 concerning the addition of several new parking spaces in the downtown area.

Dave Daltorio, Town Engineer and the applicant, was seeking a variance from the Board of Appeals for six public parking spaces to be located toward the front of the Police Station on Main St. The additional spaces aim to assist with the public parking shortage in the downtown area and ultimately help out businesses in the area. According to the application, the spaces will be located north of the Main St. entrance/exit along the Police Station's driveway which is located at 74 Main St.

The application also notes drainage for the additional spaces will be collected by a new deep sump catch basin and routed through an existing stormwater treatment system. It was also noted traffic was not expected to increase due to the additional parking.

When discussing the variance, the board questioned the number of handicap accessible parking spaces that would be part of the project; the application initially said one would be designated, however, during the hearing, Daltorio stated that number was not definite and it wasn't certain if any of the six would need to be handicap accessible.

"The problem I have is there is virtually no accessible public parking," said board member Michael DiMascio. The board didn't seem to question the need for the additional parking spaces, they did agree however, the particulars of the plan should be resolved first.

"I do not have concerns about the project as a whole. I just think it's important to pin down the details before moving forward," said ZBA Chairman Mark Hyman. Prior to approving the variance, the Board then agreed there would be value to the Planning Board reviewing the plan as well. As a result, the Board of Appeals agreed to continue the public hearing to a later date in March.

According to Director of Land Use and Town Operations Elaine Lazarus, after the March 8 public hearing, the handicapped code compliance was reviewed by Zoning Enforcement Officer Charles Kadlik, who determined that handicapped spacing was necessary in order for the project to move ahead. Lazarus explained this might mean one of the six spaces would be made into a handicap accessible space or possibly expand the lot for an additional space.

Neighbors respond to subdivision plan

by Jim Kleinkauf

A local group of residents recently formed the Chamberlain-Whalen Neighborhood Coalition in response to a proposed plan by developer Paul Mastroianni to build a new subdivision on 200 acres bordering Lumber, West Main and Chamberlain streets.

In a March 15 letter to town officials with the signatures of more than 80 residents, the group responded to a 'proposal by Mastroianni to build 34 new homes on a road that would connect Chamberlain Street and Whalen Road. Neighbors on these streets have formed a group focused on preserving the character of our neighborhoods."

Mastroianni, of REC Hopkinton LLC, met with the Planning Board in January for an informal discussion of his plan to build the subdivision on land off Lumber Street. Mastroianni purchased the land from the Terry family. It is also adjacent to EMC PARK, the Hopkins Elementary School, the middle school and the high school. As explained to the Planning Board at the informal meeting by Mastroianni's Controller Kathi Sherry, the proposed 34 lot subdivision would connect two dead-end streets, to create a through street between Main and Hayden Rowe streets.

During that meeting, Planning Board Chairman Ken Weismantel, said that, other than Legacy Farms, the proposed development would be the largest subdivision to come before the Planning Board in the past 10 years. Weismantel also noted that as an Open Space and Landscape Preservation Development, 50 percent of the land would have to remain as open space.

According to the letter from the neighbors: "At the outset, it is important for you to understand that we acknowledge Mr. Mastroianni's right to develop his property. Our intention is not to derail this project. Rather, our desire is to work with Mr. Mastroianni and with the appropriate town boards, committees, and departments to facilitate a successful project that takes into account the concerns of our neighborhoods."

"There are many families with young children in our two neighborhoods, and our streets were not designed to handle thru traffic. As it is, the proposed number of new homes would cause traffic on our streets to increase by more than 50 percent, even without a connection between the streets. Adding considerably more traffic from vehicles passing through our neighborhoods would present a serious safety issue and place a tremendous burden on dozens of families. "We note that, in the developer's materials, there is a design option that simply extends each of the cul-de-sacs up to the point where a major wetlands crossing would be needed. This option would preserve additional open space and eliminate the need for two wetlands crossings, while at the same time permitting Mr. Mastroianni to develop his property. This option would have the support of both the Chamberlain Street and Whalen Road neighborhoods."

"Thank you for taking the time to read this brief introduction from us. We look forward to working with all appropriate parties to reach an accommodation that respects Mr. Mastroianni's right to develop his property, while maintaining the essential character of our neighborhoods, avoiding unnecessary wetlands disturbances, and providing for public safety. Sincerely, Amanda Faucher and Don Keavany, Co-Chairmen, on behalf of our members."

Mastroianni did not respond to a request for comment.

Eversource from page 1

ruling within 10 months. The review process includes several days of hearings. If approved, any new Eversource electric rates would take effect in January 2018."

The DPU has scheduled public hearings to receive comment on the Distribution Rate Review.

There will be a local hearing in Natick on March 22 at 7 p.m. at Natick Town Hall, 13 East Central Street, in the second floor Board of Selectmen's Meeting Room.



SPRING WINE TASTING & SALE

WHERE: Hopkinton CC
204 Saddle Hill Road, Hopkinton

WHEN: Saturday, April 8th
2:00 – 6:00pm

More Than...
150 Wines & Save Up to 30% OFF!

Free Admission. Public Welcome.
Must Be 21 or Older To Participate.
Riedel Stemware Available For Purchase For \$5







RAFFLES TO BENEFIT:



DISPLAY BY PARTNER:

LONG CADILLAC





WINE, CHEESE, SPIRITS & BREW

HOPKINTON LOCATION
22 SOUTH STREET
HOPKINTON, MA 01748
WWW.THEVINBIN.COM
FOR MORE INFO:
508-435-9463