

Minutes of February 12, 2026, Hingham Town Council Meeting

February 2026 Hingham Town Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Thomas Peterson on February 12, 2026, at 7:30 pm. Present: Thomas Peterson, Sandi Peterson, Roger Haas, Jason Myers, and Dan Horinek. Also present at the meeting were patrons Ray Lipp, Lowell Strissel, Grace Bailey, and Robert Braun. The January minutes were reviewed. The treasurer's report was covered. Roger made a motion to approve both minutes and treasurer report, Jason seconded, and the motion carried.

HEARING OF PATRONS:

Lowell had questions on why the engineer never comes to talk to the town and questions on what the plans are for the lagoons. Mayor Peterson explained that what is now taking place is regulated by the government. We must adhere to all government regulations set for wastewater lagoons. Our only course of action is to continue to search for funding. Lowell also questioned that we are a town of 110 people and 40 stable incomes, how will we pay for this? Mayor Peterson explained that we have (mainly Julea at Bear Paw Development) tried every possible grant out there. We now have no choice but to take out a \$2,000,000 loan to fund this. Due to taking out the loan, we will have to raise the sewer rates significantly. Then questions were raised about why we need to build bigger lagoons with fewer people. Thomas, explain they must have a larger surface area by DEQ regulations. Sandi did place the last updated information from RPA so the members could look at it. Dan also brought up that this all started because of the ARPA money that we should have been able to receive but as Mayor Peterson explained the Federal Government stepped in and decided that funding would go to broadband for bigger cities.

OLD BUSINESS:

Lagoon Operator-tabled until wastewater/lagoon project is complete. Refuse Board-tabled. Rules and regulations are ongoing. Revisiting the town ordinances are ongoing. All curb stops need to be located and remapped. UPDATE-Digital sign, it was turned over to sheriff for grant. Water loss will continue to be monitored.

NEW BUSINESS:

Yield signs-Mayor Peterson showed the council the new stickers for the yield signs, and we will try to get it put on one. Then we will get the rest ordered. Since Lowell was at the meeting Sandi asked him if he had heard from anyone on it. He said no. Until we are set up Sandi cannot do any reporting. The setting up dates for the town hall/sewer rates are on hold until we know the rate increase for the loan.

DELINQUENCIES/NOTICE TO DISCONNECT: NA

MAYOR'S REPORT: NA

Claims for #6420-6425 were read, Dan a motion to accept the claims, Jason seconded the motion, and motion carried. Next meeting is March 12th @ 7:30 pm. Roger made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Dan seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.

Mayor

Clerk