TOWN OF HOPKINTON

Resolution Requesting the Rhode Island Governor and General Assembly to Restore General Revenue Sharing to Rhode Island Cities and Towns

WHEREAS, all thirty-nine (39) Cities and Towns across Rhode Island have been struggling with the recent inflationary environment; and

WHEREAS, in the FY2010 budget, the Rhode Island Governor and General Assembly eliminated General Revenue Sharing due to declining state revenues from the collapsing state and national economy; and

WHEREAS, the removal of the General Revenue Sharing forced many Cities and Towns to increase property taxes to make up for this loss in revenue; and

WHEREAS, property taxes currently represent approximately two-thirds (2/3) of revenue for municipal budgets statewide, and Rhode Island has the eighth highest property tax burden in the nation; and

WHEREAS, the State of Rhode Island has seen a very good rebound from the economic crisis brought on by the COVID-19 Pandemic; and

WHEREAS, in the past three (3) years the State of Rhode Island has benefitted from an economic rebound and finished their fiscal year budgets with significant surpluses; and

WHEREAS, Rhode Island's municipalities are an important piece of Rhode Island's economic success and need additional revenue from the State of Rhode Island in order to alleviate the property tax burden on its residents.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF HOPKINTON AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The Hopkinton Town Council and the Town Manager respectfully requests the Rhode Island General Assembly and the Governor to reinstate General Revenue Sharing for all thirty-nine (39) Cities and Towns to help reduce the impact of inflation and help minimize the property tax burden on its residents.

Section 2. That the Town Clerk is hereby directed to forward an electronic copy of this Resolution to all Representatives and Senators representing the Town of Hopkinton, the Honorable Speaker of the Rhode Island House of Representatives, the Honorable President of the Rhode Island Senate, and the Honorable Governor of the State of Rhode Island.

Section 3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage by the Town Council.

Adopted: April 7 .2025

Michael James Geary, President Hopkinton Town Council

ATTEST:

Marita D. Murray, CMC

Council/Town Clerk