

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF HOPKINTON  
IN SUPPORT OF MAINTAINING THE WATER LEVEL OF THE  
PAWCATUCK RIVER**

WHEREAS, the Town of Westerly has taken ownership of the Potter Hill Mill Site, including the Potter Hill Dam; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Westerly and its partners, including engineers, scientists, and community members, are evaluating various options for the Potter Hill Dam that may impact the upstream water levels including removal or lowering of the dam; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Hopkinton has heard from many concerned homeowners and residents of the Town of Hopkinton regarding the negative impacts that could be caused by a drop in the water level upstream from the dam; and

WHEREAS, the Pawcatuck River, in its current state, is a valuable economic and recreational resource that provides substantial benefits to the people of Hopkinton and the owners of riverfront property; and

WHEREAS, lowering the river level could negatively impact the drinking water wells for between 60-100 Hopkinton residents and homeowners; and

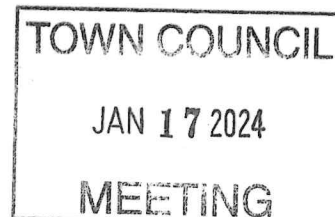
WHEREAS, removing or lowering the dam would substantially decrease the width and depth of the river which would increase the size of mudflats, generate foul odor, and decrease the property values of riverfront properties located in Hopkinton; and

WHEREAS, two upstream dam replacements (Bradford and Kenyon) were implemented without any change to the river water levels;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Hopkinton Town Council is opposed to any and all proposals for the Potter Hill Dam that would result in lowered water levels; and

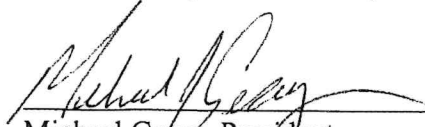
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Hopkinton Town Council respectfully requests that the Town of Westerly decline to pursue any options for the dam that could result in lower water levels; and

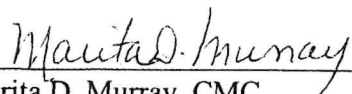
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect upon passage; and



BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution shall be sent to the Westerly Town Council, to the Clerks of all other cities and towns in Washington County, Rhode Island, and to Hopkinton's members of the RI General Assembly, the Speaker of the RI House of Representatives, President of the RI Senate and the Governor of the State of RI.

Passed as a Resolution of the Hopkinton Town Council this 4<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2023.

  
Michael Geary, President  
Hopkinton Town Council

ATTEST:   
Marita D. Murray, CMC  
Town Clerk

