

Well Informed Voter Calendar for Hingham – September 2017 through December 2018
League of Women Voters of Hingham

| DATE/EVENT | LOCATION/TIME | OTHER DETAILS |
|---|--|---|
| September 2017 | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In September, the Hingham Advisory Committee begins its review of Warrant articles for 2018 Town meeting. (The Advisory Committee functions as the finance committee for the town.) | Town Hall/Tuesday evenings as posted: All Advisory Committee meetings are open public meetings. The Committee meets with increasing (weekly) frequency from December through Town Meeting. | Agenda/Minutes of Advisory Committee Meetings posted at www.Hingham-ma.gov . The Advisory Committee consists of 15 Town residents, appointed by Town Moderator to staggered terms of 3 years each. Each member serves no more than 2 terms. |
| October 2017 | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anytime: Consider joining the League of Women Voters of Hingham ahead of a busy 2018 election year | More information about the LWV-Hingham and how to join at https://my.lwv.org/massachusetts/hingham | Associate membership in LWV-Hingham is available to those under age 18. The LWV-Hingham offers many ways for members to stay informed about elections, & learn about local and state government. |
| December 2017 | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> By 12/1: Proposed 2018 Town warrant articles seeking a change in zoning code must be submitted first to Hingham Planning Board | The Hingham Planning Board meets at Town Hall, generally 3-4 times/month. Meeting dates are posted at Hingham-ma.com | Planning Board review of such warrant articles is a statutory requirement: MA General Law Part 1 Title VII Chapter 40A Section 5. |
| January 2018 | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hingham Planning Board holds public hearings on proposed warrant articles seeking changes in zoning code | The Hingham Planning Board meets at Town Hall, generally 3-4 times/month. Meeting dates are posted at Hingham-ma.com | Establishment of municipal planning boards is authorized by Massachusetts General Law, chapter 41, section 81A. Planning Board forms and documents, as well as meeting agendas and minutes, are available at Planning Board tab under “General Administration” menu at www.Hingham-ma.gov . |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nomination papers available for those seeking to run for a Town Elected Office | Nomination papers available at Town Clerk’s Office during normal business hours | 50 signatures of Hingham residents required. Papers must be returned 49 days prior to the April 28 th Town election |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1/20: Cut-off for submission of Town Warrant articles | Contact the Hingham Assistant Town Administrator for questions and to submit Warrant Articles. Also, see the Town Meeting page on the Hingham Town website. | A guide to “How to Submit a Citizen Petition for Town Meeting” can be found on the LWV-Hingham website. https://my.lwv.org/massachusetts/hingham |

Well Informed Voter Calendar for Hingham – September 2017 through December 2018
League of Women Voters of Hingham

| DATE/EVENT | LOCATION/TIME | MORE DETAILS |
|---|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respond to the annual Town Census (mailed to all households in early-mid January) | You will receive a request to update your household data | Town census data helps the Town Clerk’s office keep voting roles up-to-date; it is used by the School Committee for planning; and more. |
| February | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2/28: Warrant Review | Town Hall/ 7 to 9 PM | Open to Public; Sponsored by LWV-Hingham; Warrant Review is recorded by Harbor Media (also known as HCAM) and posted on the Town Meeting page of the LWV-Hingham website. https://my.lwv.org/massachusetts/hingham |
| March | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> REGISTER TO VOTE ahead of April Town Meeting and Town Election | The Hingham Town Clerk’s Office accepts voter registration over-the-counter, by mail, or electronically. | Unregistered, new to town or need to update your registration? Deadline is 20 days prior to Town Meeting. To register online, go to: www.registertovotema.com |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply for Absentee Ballot (no later than noon 4-27) if you will be away on April 28th | You can apply for AND cast your absentee ballot in person at Town Clerk’s Office at Town Hall during normal business hours. Deadline is noon the day before the election. | Secretary of the Commonwealth maintains a web page with instructions, forms and deadlines to submit an absentee ballot: www.sec.state.ma.us Click on: “Elections and Voting” |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anytime: Volunteer to be an election officer for this year’s elections | Call Town Clerk at 781-741-1410 | Each year the Town is looking for new people to serve at polling places as Election Officers. Training is provided by the Town Clerk’s office. |
| April | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4/4: Candidates Night-Meet the Candidates | Town Hall/ 7 – 9 PM | Open to the Public: Useful one-stop preparation for April Town Election; Sponsored by LWV-Hingham; Will be recorded by Harbor Media (also known as HCAM) and posted on the Candidates Night page of the LWV-Hingham website. https://my.lwv.org/massachusetts/hingham |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply for Absentee Ballot if you will be away on April 28th | You can apply for AND cast your absentee ballot in person at Town Clerk’s Office at Town Hall | Secretary of the Commonwealth maintains a web page with instructions, forms and deadlines to submit an absentee ballot. www.sec.state.ma.us Click on: “Elections and Voting” |

Well Informed Voter Calendar for Hingham – September 2017 through December 2018
League of Women Voters of Hingham

| DATE/EVENT | LOCATION/TIME | MORE DETAILS |
|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4/23: Fill Out Talent Bank Application Form to Volunteer to Serve on a Town Committee | Pick up an application at Town Meeting or apply anytime online using Talent Bank Application on-line form available at www.hingham-ma.gov . | For a list of the many town committees staffed by citizen volunteers go to www.hingham-ma.gov and click on Government tab |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4/28: Town Election | Precinct 1-4: High School; Precinct 5-6: Middle School; Precinct 5A: Oakleaf Clubhouse, Linden Ponds/ 7 AM to 9 PM | For Town Elections, there is no Early Voting Period. If unsure of your election precinct, follow link under “Precincts & Voting Locations” on web page of Town Clerk at https://www.hingham-ma.gov/ |
| June | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Register to vote ahead of September Primary | The Town Clerk’s Office in Hingham Town Hall accepts voter registration over-the-counter, by mail, or electronically. | Deadline to register is 20 days ahead of election. To register online, go to: www.sec.state.ma.us (or follow link on Town Clerk page at www.Hingham-ma.gov) |
| July | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4/4: Independence Day Parade | Main Street/Downtown Hingham | Celebrate Our Republic!! (Yes—we are a republic. In the US we generally elect representatives, and decide policy on an indirect basis, consistent with a republic. Hingham Town meeting is an exception.) |
| August | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [TBD]: LWV-MA Primary Voters’ Guide, “VOTE411” | The LWV-Hingham will post link to guide when it is available | The LWV-MA “VOTE411” Guide to candidates in all party primary elections will feature candidate responses to a LWV questionnaire |
| September | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9/4: State Primary Election <i>Note: Sec of State has asked legislature to fund a 5-day early voting period for primary.</i> | Precinct 1-4: High School; Precinct 5-6: Middle School; Precinct 5A: Oakleaf Clubhouse, Linden Ponds/ 7 AM to 9 PM | If unsure of your election precinct, follow link under “Precincts & Voting Locations” on web page of Hingham Town Clerk at www.hingham-ma.gov |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [9/28] National Voter Registration Day— Encourage any new neighbors to update their voter registration. | Online: www.sec.state.ma.us or in person at Town Clerk’s office. Deadline is 20 days prior to election. | In MA, 16 and 17-year old’s can now pre-register, so they will be on the voting rolls and ready-to-vote at 18. |

Well Informed Voter Calendar for Hingham – September 2017 through December 2018
League of Women Voters of Hingham

| DATE/EVENT | LOCATION/TIME | MORE DETAILS |
|--|---|--|
| October | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get familiar with the candidates for the many positions on the November ballot | <p>To learn more about who is running, sources include: www.sec.state.ma.us and www.ballotpedia.org</p> | LWV-MA expects to again produce Watch for LWV-Hingham “Op Ed” series in the Hingham Journal, designed to help prepare voters for the November election |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the referendum questions that will be on the November ballot. Questions are often complex, but are important, as they can create new law. | <p>One non-party affiliated website that can inform you about ballot measures is: www.ballotpedia.org</p> | In 2016, an Election Ballot Debate Series focused on the then 4 ballot questions, organized by WBUR/UMass/Boston Globe was helpful. This may be done again for 2018. Stay tuned! |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10/22: Early Voting Hours begin for the November election | <p>Town Hall during normal business hours (NOTE: some extended hours may be added) M-W-Th 8:30 am - 4:30 pm Tues 8:30 am - 7 pm Fri 8:30 am - 1 pm</p> | Early Voting for State and National Elections was initiated in MA in 2016, based on a comprehensive election reform package supported by the LWV-MA and passed by the legislature in 2014. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider joining the LWV-Hingham | <p>More information is on the LWV-Hingham website.</p> | Associate membership in LWV-Hingham is available to those under age 18 |
| November | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11/8: ELECTION DAY | <p>Precinct 1-4: High School; Precinct 5-6: Middle School; Precinct 5A: Oakleaf Clubhouse, Linden Ponds/ 7 AM to 9 PM. If unsure of your election precinct, follow link under “Precincts & Voting Locations” on web page of Town Clerk at www.hingham-ma.gov</p> | In 2018, MA voters will vote for one of our US Senators; US Representatives; Governor/Lt. Governor; Sec of Commonwealth; Atty General; Treasurer; Auditor; Governor’s Council; State Senator; State Representative; 1 or 2 County Commissioners; District Atty; Register of Deeds; Clerk of Courts. There also will be at least 2, likely more, Ballot Questions for voters to evaluate. |
| December | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12/1: Deadline to submit zoning articles (for 2019 Town Meeting) to Planning Board | <p>This preliminary step is required for all zoning articles ahead of the January 20 cut off</p> | Statutory requirement: MA General Law Part 1 Title VII Chapter 40A Section 5 |