



**Watertown Town Council**  
Administration Building  
149 Main Street  
Watertown, MA 02472  
Phone: 617-972-6470

ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Mark S. Sideris  
Council President

Stephen P. Corbett  
Vice President

John A. Donohue  
Councilor At Large

Susan G. Falkoff  
Councilor At Large

Anthony Palomba  
Councilor At Large

Angeline B. Kounelis  
District A Councilor

Cecilia Lenk  
District B Councilor

Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr.  
District C Councilor

John J. Lawn, Jr.  
District D Councilor

Town Council Meeting  
Tuesday, March 8, 2011 at 7:15 pm  
Richard E. Mastrangelo Council Chamber  
Administration Building

## MINUTES

1. **ROLL CALL:** A regular meeting of the Town Council was called to order at 7:15 pm, in the Richard E. Mastrangelo Council Chamber, Administration Building. Present for the meeting were Councilors John A. Donohue, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Cecilia Lenk, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Vice President Stephen P. Corbett, and Council President Mark S. Sideris. Also present were the Town Manager Michael J. Driscoll, Town Attorney Mark Reich and Council Clerk Valerie Papas. Councilor Lawn was absent.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:** [February 22, 2011](#). Vice President Corbett moved to amend the minutes in section 7 New Business to remove the word “business districts” and replace with “throughout town”, seconded by Councilor Palomba and adopted by voice vote with Councilors John A. Donohue, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Cecilia Lenk, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Vice President Stephen P. Corbett, and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative. Councilor Palomba moved the minutes as amended, seconded by Vice President Corbett and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors John A. Donohue, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Cecilia Lenk, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Vice President Stephen P. Corbett and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.
4. **PUBLIC FORUM:** The opened up the Public Forum and recognized:
  1. Clyde Younger, Acton Street – stated that new Rule 8.7 was a radical departure from past councils and asked that the matter be referred back to committee.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- a) Committee on Budget and Fiscal Oversight [report](#) on the Fiscal Year 2012-2016 Capital Improvement Program and Watertown's Telecommunication needs assessment [report](#) – Vincent J. Piccirilli, Chair. Councilor Piccirilli read the Committee report. He thanked members of the Budget and Fiscal Oversight Committee for their hard work in providing well reasoned and thought out comments for recommendations over the four meetings.

The Chair noted that the document will be available on the Town's website and thanked the Committee members for all their hard work. The Chair indicated that the Town now has solid recommendations for the Fiscal Year 2012-2016 Capital Improvement Program along with comprehensive materials.

Councilor Kounelis moved to accept the report, seconded by Vice President Corbett.

Vice President Corbett questioned the \$11 million under the Public Works budget, Capital Fund balances item 7 asking where the monies came from.

Councilor Piccirilli read and explained each of the line items under the Public Works department accounts which resulted in the \$11 million in various bonded and non-bonded funds.

Vice President Corbett also questioned the surplus of \$358,000 in the School Department budget and asked if it was a result of unspent monies from prior years.

Councilor Piccirilli stated that going back to Fiscal Year 2007, there were appropriations for Capital Improvements that the School Department either was not able to complete the work or completed the work under budget.

Vice President Corbett asked if the Town undertakes this type of reconciliation each year.

Town Auditor, Thomas Tracy stated that this was the first year a reconciliation of monies was completed to this extent.

To follow up on the School Department budget items, Councilor Lenk indicated that for example security items for the School Department were not done due to a need for a policy to be put in place prior to the work being undertaken. She noted that it is very important that a complete reconciliation be done each year.

Councilor Falkoff requested a full presentation of the Telecommunication System and noted her concern on whether external users were also considered. She further concurred with Councilors Corbett and Lenk and requested the Town implement a systematic process of reconciliation.

Town Treasurer/Collector Phyllis Marshall stated that the consultant did consider both the external users and the internal users in the recommendations and indicated that a comprehensive presentation can be provided to the Council.

Councilor Palomba asked how much the Town has borrowed to date in this fiscal year as well as debt interest. The Manager stated that the Town has not borrowed any additional monies since last June and that the numbers can be found in the Blue Budget Book under CIP debt schedule.

To follow up, Councilor Piccirilli indicated that you have to look over a number of fiscal years for it to make any sense.

Councilor Donohue asked what the timeframe is for pothole repairs. Mr. Gerald S. Mee, Jr., Superintendent of Public Works stated that they will see where the need is and go out to bid. In the meantime, the department is temporarily filling pothole until permanent work can be done.

There being no further questions or comments, the Committee report was adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors John A. Donohue, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Cecilia Lenk, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Vice President Stephen P. Corbett, and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

Councilor Falkoff moved to accept the Committee's Recommendations for the Fiscal Year 2012-2016 Capital Improvement Program as outlined in the report, seconded by Councilor Lenk and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors John A. Donohue, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Cecilia Lenk, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Vice President Stephen P. Corbett, and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

Committee on Public Works [report](#) on Summer Street parking and the Traffic Commission – Susan G. Falkoff, Chair. Councilors Falkoff and Piccirilli read the Committee report. There being no questions or comments, Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the report, seconded by Councilor Lenk and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors John A. Donohue, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Cecilia Lenk, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Vice President Stephen P. Corbett, and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to refer to the Rules and Ordinances subcommittee proposed changes to Ordinance 0-2001-15 Sections 2 & 6 as outlined in the report, seconded by Councilor Donohue and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilor John A. Donohue, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Cecilia Lenk, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Vice President Stephen P. Corbett, and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

- b) The President’s Technology Ad Hoc Committee [report](#) on technology – John A. Donohue and Cecilia Lenk, co-chairs. Councilor Lenk read the Committee report. Councilor Palomba noted that some of the larger documents need to be printed. Councilor Lenk agreed that it is important to have those options to print some documents and that the Technology Committee is trying to achieve a balance.

The Chair stated that he would like the Town Attorney to look into language regarding emails before any emails are issued and to look into the matter regarding Face book.

Councilor Donohue moved to accept the report, seconded by Councilor Falkoff and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilor John A. Donohue, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Cecilia Lenk, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Vice President Stephen P. Corbett, and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

6. MOTIONS, ORDERS AND RESOLUTIONS:

- a) [First Reading](#) on a proposed loan order: that the sum of \$3,000,000 is appropriated to pay costs of designing, constructing and equipping a synthetic turf outdoor athletic field, including the payment of costs of making lighting, drainage and related seating improvements and for the payment of all other costs incidental or related thereto; and that to raise this appropriation the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Town Manager, is authorized to borrow \$3,000,000 under Chapter 44 of the General Laws or any other enabling authority; that the Town Manager is authorized to contract for, accept and expend any federal or state aid, grants, gifts and donations available for the project, provided

that the amount of the authorized borrowing shall be reduced by the amount of such aid, grants, gifts and donations received prior to the issuance of bonds or notes under this order; and that the Town Manager is authorized to take any other action necessary or convenient to carry out this project.

The Chair provided a first reading of the loan order. The Manager provided a brief overview and noted that the loan order will be advertised in the local paper with a full presentation, public hearing and vote scheduled for the next scheduled Town Council meeting on March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

Councilor Palomba read a [letter](#) regarding Integrated Public Health Network. Vice President Corbett moved to approve sending the letter signed by the Council President, seconded by Councilor Kounelis and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors John A. Donohue, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Cecilia Lenk, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Vice President Stephen P. Corbett, and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

Vice President Corbett requested that the issue of the Town leasing Town owned space to various Wireless Telecommunication companies as a source of revenue be referred to the subcommittee of Economic Development and Planning, seconded by Councilor Donohue and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors John A. Donohue, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Cecilia Lenk, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Vice President Stephen P. Corbett, and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

8. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

1. The Chair noted that Band-o-Rama will take place Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup>.
2. The Chair announced that a seminar on Bullying Behavior on Cyber Space will be held on March 14<sup>th</sup> at the Free Public Library.
3. Watertown High School Robotics team will compete on March 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup> at the Agganis Arena from 9am-4pm.
4. The Chair requested a [referral](#) to the subcommittee of Public Works regarding the restructure of fire service water fee. The matter was moved by Councilor Piccirilli, seconded by Councilor Kounelis and adopted by unanimous voice vote.

5. The Chair read a list of open seats on various boards and commissions noting the opportunity for residents to serve.

9. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER:

a) [Request for Confirmation](#) – Reappointment to the Licensing Board referred to Personnel and Town Organization subcommittee.

b) [Request for Confirmation](#) – Appointments to the Board of Appeals – referred to Economic Development and Planning subcommittee.

The Manager indicated that the previously announced 24 hour parking ban has been removed.

The Town Manager announced that the previous Snow and Ice Deficit in the amount of \$494,000 two weeks ago, has reached \$662,000. He noted that he will address matter at the next Town Council meeting in order to avoid raising the debt deficit in Fiscal Year 2012.

10. REQUEST FOR INFORMATION:

Councilor Falkoff requested an update on the status of a Public Safety study.

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS: none noted.

12. PUBLIC FORUM:

Mr. Clyde Younger noted that the Council is in a constant state of Legislative Mode during meetings. He asked who was in attendance at the Technology meeting.

Pat Gold, Duff Street – stated that the Budget and Fiscal Oversight report on the 2012-2016 Capital Improvement Program was one of the most comprehensive presentations on the subject she has seen. She thanked the subcommittee members.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION: To discuss strategy with respect to litigation and collective bargaining. Vice President Corbett moved to go into executive session at 8:30 pm in order to discuss the above stated matters; noting that discussing the matters in open session would be detrimental to the Town. He further stated that the Town Council will not return to open session following the adjournment of the executive session, seconded by Councilor Donohue and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors John A. Donohue, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Cecilia Lenk, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Vice President Stephen P. Corbett, and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

I hereby certify that at a regular meeting of the Town Council for which a quorum was present, the above minutes were adopted on March 22, 2011 by unanimous voice vote.

Mark S. Sideris, Council President