



## 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

Kenneth M. Woodland  
District D Councilor

## TOWN COUNCIL MEETING TUESDAY, JUNE 26, 2012 AT 6:45 PM RICHARD E. MASTRANGELO COUNCIL CHAMBER ADMINISTRATION BUILDING MINUTES

1. **ROLL CALL:** A regular meeting of the Town Council was called to order at 6:45 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., Kenneth M. Woodland, 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.
2. **EXECUTIVE SESSION – 6:45 PM:** To consider the purchase, lease or value of real estate – 76 Stanley Avenue. Vice President Corbett moved to go into executive session in order to consider the above stated matter noting that discussing this in public would have a detrimental effect on the subject matter, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted roll call vote with Councilors John A. Donohue, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Cecilia Lenk, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland, Vice President Stephen P. Corbett, and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.
3. **RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION: 7:15 PM**
4. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
5. **EXAMINATION OF MINUTES: [June 12<sup>th</sup>](#).** Councilor Piccirilli 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., Kenneth M. Woodland, Vice President Stephen P. Corbett, and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.
6. **PUBLIC FORUM:**

Charles Benson, 76 Partridge Street – spoke in concern with the 64 gallon toter for trash noting that the new program does not address trash overage issues and will constrain what residents will be able to get rid of.

Freddie Sartarian, Prentiss Street – concurred with Mr. Benson and also asked for clarification on whether multifamily homes with get multiple toters.

7. COMMUNICATION FROM TOWN OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES:

- a) Informational Presentation from State Senator William Brownsberger – delayed.
- b) [Informational Presentation](#) on the proposed relocation of the Recycling Center to a 14,220 square foot parcel located at 76 Stanley Avenue –Steven Magoon, Director of Community Development and Planning & Gerald S. Mee, Jr., Superintendent of Public Works. Mr. Magoon and Mr. Mee provided a brief power-point presentation on the relocation of the Recycling Center, which is currently located near the basketball courts at Filippello Park. Mr. Mee noted that recycling will become much more effective and efficient once its moved.

The Chair stated that he will be calling a Special Town Council meeting for July 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:15 pm to discuss and take action on this issue.

8. PRESIDENT’S REPORT:

The Chair stated that four additional contracts were taken up by the School Committee and highlight prior contracts with Town employees. Two more bargaining units remain.

The Chair stated that [correspondence](#) was sent to the attention of the Town Council regarding free financial service. The Chair recognized the Manager who indicated that Watertown has been placed on a waiting list for free financial services by the Department Of Revenue’s Division of Local Services. The Chair asked for a motion to put the request in a formal letter to the DOR to be placed on their waiting list. So moved by Councilor Piccirilli, seconded by Vice President Corbett and adopted by voice vote with Councilors John A. Donohue, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Cecilia Lenk, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland, Vice President Stephen P. Corbett, and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

Councilor Kounelis asked if the Town Auditor has been involved in this discussion and if he knows what it entails. Mr. Tracy stated no.

9. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND VOTES:

- a) Public Hearing and vote on proposed [Ordinance](#) establishing compensation for the Council Clerk. The Chair recognized Vice President Corbett who read the Ordinance establishing the compensation for the Council Clerk. The Chair opened up the hearing to the public. There being no comments, the hearing was closed. Vice President Corbett moved the Ordinance, seconded by Councilor Donohue and adopted by a roll call vote of 8 for, 0 against and 1 present with Councilors John A.

Donohue, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Cecilia Lenk, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland, Vice President Stephen P. Corbett, and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative and Councilor Kounelis voting Present.

b) Public Hearing and vote on a proposed [Ordinance](#) establishing compensation for the Town Auditor. Vice President Corbett read the Ordinance establishing compensation for the Town Auditor. The Chair opened up the hearing to the public. There being no comments, the hearing was closed. Vice President Corbett moved the Ordinance, seconded by Councilor Donohue and adopted by a roll call vote of 8 for, 0 against and 0 present with Councilors John A. Donohue, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Cecilia Lenk, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland, Vice President Stephen P. Corbett, and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

The Chair asked for a motion to Suspend the Rules for a late agenda item transfer. Councilor Donohue moved the matter, seconded by Councilor Woodland 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., Kenneth M. Woodland, Vice President Stephen P. Corbett, and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

The Manager provided a brief overview of the transfer to fund the compensation for the Town Auditor noting that no transfer will be needed to fund the Clerk's compensation.

Councilor Piccirilli moved the transfer, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous roll call vote with Councilors John A. Donohue, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Cecilia Lenk, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland, Vice President Stephen P. Corbett, and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

c) Public Hearing and vote on a proposed [Order](#) establishing Water and Sewer Rates and Charges for Fiscal Year 2013. The Chair recognized Town Auditor Thomas Tracy who reviewed the Order. The Chair opened up the hearing to the public. There being no comments, the hearing was closed.

Vice President Corbett noted the 5% increase in water and sewer charges but stated that this is over a two year period as last year's rates remained unchanged.

Councilor Piccirilli moved the Order, seconded by Vice President Corbett and adopted by unanimous roll call vote with Councilors John A. Donohue, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Cecilia Lenk, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland, Vice President Stephen P. Corbett, and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

10. MOTIONS, ORDERS AND RESOLUTIONS:

- a) [Resolution](#) authorizing a transfer of \$5,860 from the Fiscal Year 2012 Town Council Reserve Account to the Fiscal Year 2012 Community Development & Planning - Contracted Services Account in order to move forward with an evaluation of wireless coverage in the Town. The Manager provided a brief overview of the transfer. Councilor Piccirilli moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Councilor Lenk.

Councilor Kounelis asked if WiFi will be included in the evaluation. Community Planning Director Steve Magoon stated that it would not.

Councilor Falkoff stated that she will be voting Present on the transfer as she is not comfortable seeking more locations for wireless towers.

Adopted by a roll call vote of 8 for, 0 against and 1 Present with Councilors John A. Donohue, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Cecilia Lenk, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland, Vice President Stephen P. Corbett, and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative and Councilor Falkoff voting Present.

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- a) Committee on Budget & Fiscal Oversight [report](#) regarding a social service coordinator position – Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Chair. Councilor Piccirilli read the Committee report. Councilor Lenk moved to accept the report, seconded by Councilor Woodland.

Councilor Kounelis asked for clarification and stated that it was her impression that Councilor Palomba had deleted the request that the Town fund the position.

Councilor Piccirilli stated that during the BFO Committee discussions Councilor Palomba stated that he would be willing to consider just two years of funding by the Town.

Councilor Palomba concurred with Councilor Piccirilli and stated that he repeated that during discussions several times.

Councilor Donohue stated that during the Human Services Committee it was stated that it would be a long term position partially funded by the Town.

The Chair stated that the proposal has been revised.

Councilor Piccirilli stated that as a procedural matter, no decisions were made in Committee except to ask the Manager to gather more information on the position.

Councilor Falkoff moved to amend the Committee report, seconded by Councilor Palomba.

Regarding discussion on amending the report, Councilor Kounelis stated that the report should be amended to note that during the meeting the proposal was amended.

Councilor Lenk stated that what was reflected in the report was a summary of a lengthy meeting. The presentation was for a two year contract, a test for the service and would be an ongoing position if it proved to be warranted.

Councilor Palomba indicated that the proposal was subsequently assigned to the BFO Committee for further discussion and review after the Human Services Committee held discussion on the matter. He noted that both reports are correct as far as he is concerned and it may even be sent back to Human Services at some point in time.

Councilor Falkoff withdrew her motion. Councilor Palomba withdrew his second.

The BFO 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., Kenneth M. Woodland, Vice President Stephen P. Corbett, and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

The Chair called for a five minute recess noting that after the recess Mr. Brownsberger will be ready to take the podium for his presentation.

- d) [Informational Presentation](#) by State Senator William Brownsberger: The Chair recognized Senator Brownsberger who provided a brief presentation on “Fixing a Local Aid Glitch; Discretionary Decisions in the Implementation of 2006 Education Reform Act”. Senator Brownsberger indicated that he would seek the elimination of Down Payment Aid while continuing efforts to reduce disproportionately disadvantaged communities that have above targeted RLC and were most disadvantaged by pre-reform aid model and seek an attractive solution to place a ceiling on the gap between target contribution and required local contribution; so increasing aid for those furthest below target level at all wealth levels and improve future equity.

Senator Brownsberger also indicated that another one of his top priorities is for the Daily Field Project so that Brighton High School has a playing field with Representative Lawn requesting that Watertown have access to Daily Field as well. Another issue raised by the Senator was making a contribution to the Waterfront effort in Watertown noting that it was a worthy project.

Vice President Corbett thanked Senator Brownsberger for his support for the Waterfront effort.

Councilor Kounelis thanked Senator Brownsberger for his efforts on the Greenough Blvd intersection improvements. She spoke in support of the bike path efforts and stated that the sooner the bike path is underway the better for East Watertown.

Councilor Lenk thanked Senator Brownsberger for the Daily Field project, efforts to support the Waterfront project and working on a local aid solution.

The Manager concurred with comments regarding local aid and stated that it is an issue of fairness.

12. NEW BUSINESS: None noted.

13. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER:

The Manager reviewed a report on [General Obligation Bond Sale](#) of \$3,722,000

The Manager announced the start of Summer Concerts beginning this Thursday. The Manager spoke to the issue of automated trash and asked that Superintendent Mee provide a brief overview.

The Chair recognized Mr. Mee who provided a brief overview of the new automated trash collection program set to begin on August 6<sup>th</sup>. He indicated that unwanted recycling bins and trash cans can be dropped off at the public works yard. New 64 gallon totes are set to be delivered to residents during the last two weeks of July. Each household will receive a 64 gallon trash toter and a 64 gallon recycling toter to be placed at the end of residents' driveways on trash day. Bulk items will be limited once the program begins.

Councilor Palomba requested an additional demonstration to be held on a weekend date prior to the August 6<sup>th</sup> commencement of the new program.

Councilor Kounelis asked about recycling items being placed in plastic bags. Mr. Mee stated that recyclables should be placed freely in the toter as no plastic bags will be accepted.

Vice President Corbett asked how the town will respond to residents needing additional trash totes; for larger families with greater trash needs. Mr. Mee stated that the 64 gallon toter is the universal size and if families are recycling; they should not need additional trash totes.

Councilor Lenk concurred with Vice President Corbett's concerns about the large households who have more trash needs. She also inquired about additional recycling totes. Mr. Mee stated that they can address recycling needs on a case by case basis.

Councilor Kounelis asked how the town will handle residents who cannot bring the totes to the street due to numerous steps. Mr. Mee stated that there has been a longstanding law regarding placing trash in containers; he noted that nothing has changed in the laws and that the onerous is on the residents to bring out the totes.

#### 14. REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION:

Regarding LED lights for Coolidge Square, Councilor Kounelis stated that the Manager has indicated that he will contact her regarding the matter this week.

Councilor Falkoff read a list of [Requests for Information](#).

#### 15. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Kounelis thanked resident Dennis Duff for his efforts in planting the garden area of Coolidge Square between Templeton Parkway and Kimball Road.

Councilor Woodland thanked Mr. Mee, Mr. Centola and Town Councilors for their assistance with Relay for Life which had another successful year.

The Chair announced [Free Fun Fridays](#) by the Highland Foundation.

#### 16. PUBLIC FORUM

Freddie Sartarian asked what to do with old barrels for those who cannot take them to the Public Works Yard. Mr. Mee stated that they should be used for yard waste.

17. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Town Council, Councilor Woodland moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 pm, seconded by Councilor Falkoff 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., Kenneth M. Woodland, Vice President Stephen P. Corbett, and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

#### [Addendum](#)

I hereby certify that at a regular meeting of the Town Council for which a quorum was present, the above Minutes were adopted on July 17, 2012 as written; by unanimous voice vote.

Mark S. Sideris, Council President

