



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, OCTOBER 23, 2012 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., 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 Joe Fair and Council Clerk Valerie Papas.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **EXAMINATION OF MINUTES:** [October 9th](#). Councilor Piccirilli moved the minutes, seconded by Councilor Woodland 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.
4. **PUBLIC FORUM** – none noted.
5. **COMMUNICATION AND REPORTS FROM TOWN OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES:**
 - a) [Informational Presentation](#) on the Health and Wellness Report for Watertown – Steven Magoon, Director of Community Development and Planning and Michelle Moon, Planning Intern. Ms. Michelle Moon provided a power point presentation regarding a study of Health and Wellness for Watertown. The study included document review for Planning, Health and Youth related issues.

Following the presentation, the Chair opened up the meeting to questions/comments from Councilors.

Councilor Falkoff asked when a written report will be available. Mr. Magoon stated that the draft is being adjusted by the Planning and Health Departments.

Vice President Corbett asked which Ordinances were identified for review or discussion. Mr. Magoon indicated zoning and animal control ordinances to make sure they are congruent; as well as zoning with respect to front yard gardening; encouraging the public in this respect as long as the garden is kept neat.

Councilor Lenk asked if there would be any new ordinances proposed. Ms. Moon stated, no.

Councilor Falkoff asked about the role of a Wellness Committee.

Ms. Moon stated that it was a recommendation of the study. They look at what other towns are doing, including hiring full time staff or appointed representatives.

The Chair thanked Mr. Magoon and Ms. Moon for the presentation.

6. PRESIDENT'S REPORT- none noted.

7. MOTIONS, ORDERS AND RESOLUTIONS:

- a) [First Reading](#) on a proposed Amendment to the Fiscal Year 2013 Budget. The Chair provided a brief overview and indicated that the Amendment will be advertised in the local paper for a public hearing and vote on November 13th.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- 9. Committee on Public Works [report](#) and action on re-appointments to the [Storm-water Advisory Committee](#) and [Conservation Commission](#) and a report on Whitney Hill – Cecilia Lenk, Chair. Councilor Lenk read the Committee report. Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the report, 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.

Councilor Lenk noted, that with respect to Whitney Hill, a completed written report and a draft resolution will be brought forward at the November 13th meeting.

VOTE: Councilor Lenk moved the re-appointment of Ms. Ernesta Krackiewicz to the Storm-water Advisory Committee, 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.

VOTE: Councilor Lenk moved the re-appointment of Mr. Leo Martin to the Conservation Commission, seconded by Councilor Falkoff 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.

VOTE: Councilor Lenk moved the re-appointment of Ms. Marylouise Pallotta McDermott to the Conservation Commission, seconded by Councilor Falkoff and adopted by voice vote 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 Angeline B. Kounelis voting Present.

10. NEW BUSINESS – Councilor Piccirilli announced that the Committee of the Budget and Fiscal Oversight will prepare the FY2014 Budget Policy Guidelines for the Council to vote on at the December 11, 2012 meeting. Furthermore, the BFO Committee will meet on Monday, November 19, November 26, and December 3, from 7pm to 9pm. He asked that each councilor prepare additions or changes to the FY2013 policy guidelines and please include a brief explanation along with each request, so that the committee can adequately discuss them. He noted that all submitted material will be distributed to the Council and that Councilors are invited to attend a committee meeting and discuss proposed changes. He indicated that Councilors should please submit changes to the Council Clerk no later than 5pm on Wednesday November 14.

11. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER:

- a) [Preliminary Budget Overview for Fiscal Year 2014](#). The Manager provided an in-depth power point presentation.

Following the presentation, the Chair thanked Senator Brownsberger; Representatives John Lawn and Jonathan Hecht as well as department heads and school committee members for attending tonight's budget overview.

12. REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION:

Councilor Piccirilli referred to the Manager a [request from Mr. Thomas Thibaut](#) for information.

The Chair asked, out of the 2 ½ million dollars that was appropriated for street/sidewalk repairs, how many streets have been completed; noting particular concern with Union Street and Aldrich Road; which are marked up for paving.

He indicated that it is October 23rd and to begin a road and sidewalk construction project this late in the season is not going to benefit the taxpayers or give them top quality work that is expected. He indicated that a year ago there were issues with Capital & Elliot streets; work included mill and overlay, sidewalk, planting strips, and changed a number of driveway entrances to make them standard with the Towns' new policy of two 11' or one 22'. As a result, he stated that going forward it was decided that we were going to give residents advance notice and an opportunity to go before the zoning board to seek relief. On these two particular streets, there are a significant number of driveways that are going to be impacted; and if we are going to begin road construction at the end of the season and not even talk to neighbors, I don't think that's right; he stated.

The Chair asked the Manager; how many streets were completed and why are we starting new construction now, this late in the season.

Councilor Lenk concurred with the President and stated that as the Chair of the Public Works Committee, we identified the streets very early on this year and appropriated the money and except for a couple of streets, it appears that nothing has been done. She further indicated that Councilors have not had any opportunity to meet with the residents and they have had no opportunity to go in front of zoning to seek relief. She stated that she totally agrees with the President. Councilor Lenk indicated that last year there were considerable problems with Capital and Elliot Streets; with the work not being done to specs and stressed that we cannot be waiting this late in the season to start these construction projects. We are not meeting the needs of the community and we are not meeting the needs of what the money has been appropriated for.

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Councilor Kounelis read and elaborated on a [memorandum](#) entitled "Free Wireless Wi-Fi Watertown Access" for the record.

Councilor Woodland announced a free benefit concert at the Watertown High School Auditorium for the Mass General Burn Unit.

Councilor Palomba re-iterated previous announcements on an Organic Landscaping forum and a Housing Development Affordability Traffic, School and Neighbors forum. Councilor Palomba asked residents to pay particular attention to the Ballot Questions #4 and #6 for the November 6th election.

The Chair reminded Councilors, Department Heads, Boards, Committees, and Commissions of the Open Meeting Law Training Seminar on November 8th at 7:00 pm at the Middle School Auditorium.

14. PUBLIC FORUM – none noted.

15. ADJOURNMENT – There being no further business to come before the Town Council, Councilor Palomba moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 pm, seconded by Councilor Falkoff and adopted by unanimous voice vote.

Addendum

I hereby certify that at a regular meeting of the Town Council for which a quorum was present, the above minutes were adopted by unanimous voice vote on November 13, 2012.

Mark S. Sideris, Council President