



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, APRIL 9, 2013 @ 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, 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 Riech and Council Clerk Valerie Papas. Councilors Kounelis, Palomba and Falkoff arrived after the call of the roll.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **EXAMINATION OF MINUTES:** [March 26, 2013](#). Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the minutes, seconded by Vice President Corbett and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors John A. Donohue, 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:**

Ara Barsoumian, 22 Bellevue Road – spoke concerning a [water bill](#) which he is disputing.
5. **PRESIDENT’S REPORT:** The Chair stated that the School Committee met last night and voted a budget 4.97% higher than last year’s budget.
6. **MOTIONS, ORDERS AND RESOLUTIONS:**
 - a) [First Reading](#) on a proposed loan order that \$1,500,000 is appropriated to pay costs of water main replacement, including all costs incidental or related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Town Manager, is authorized to borrow \$1,500,000 under Chapter 44 of the General Laws or any other enabling authority, that the Treasurer with the approval of the Town Manager is authorized to borrow all or a portion of such amount from the

Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (the “Authority”) and in connection therewith to enter into loan agreements and financial assistance agreements with the Authority with respect to such loans; that the Town Manager, Treasurer and the Superintendent of Public Works are authorized to contract for and expend any federal, state or other aid available for the projects, including any grants related to such projects from the Authority; and that the Town Manager, Treasurer and the Superintendent of Public Works are authorized to take any further action necessary to carry out this project, provided that the amount of the borrowing authorized by this Order shall be reduced by the amount of such aid received for the associated project prior to the issuance of bonds or notes under this order.

The Chair provided a first reading. The Manager provided a brief overview. The Order was advertised and will have a public hearing and vote on April 23rd.

7. b) [Resolution](#) authorizing a transfer of \$233,980 to the Fiscal Year 2013 Snow and Ice Rental of Equipment Account in order to fund the Snow and Ice Removal Deficit. The Manager provided an overview of the transfer. Councilor Piccirilli moved the resolution, seconded by Councilor Lenk 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.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a) Joint Public Works and Economic Development and Planning [report](#) on Wireless Coverage – Cecilia Lenk & Stephen P. Corbett, Chairs. Vice President Corbett read the joint committee report. Councilor Donohue moved to accept the report, 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.

MOTION: Vice President Corbett moved to authorize the Administration to prepare an RFP with suggested language, seconded Councilor Lenk.

Councilor Palomba asked what “safety concerns” mean. Councilor Lenk explained that the committee asked for draft language to educate themselves on restrictions.

Councilor Kounelis asked if the RFP which be specific to the Public Works facility soft spot.

Councilor Lenk indicated that the area identified in the study was the area of Victory Field and no other areas.

Councilor Kounelis asked that the RFP specify the Victory Field area.

Attorney Reich clarified that any use would require approval of the Town Council and that the Town Council can restrict it to municipal property and that any lease would be reviewed by the Town Council.

Vice President Corbett stated that the Public Works facility is the main focus.

Councilor Palomba asked why an outline is needed.

Councilor Falkoff stated that her understanding of the request is to offer the council suggestions on the type of restriction we might want to consider.

Councilor Piccirilli stated that examples of RFPs from other communities were provided already and that the committee is now asking for specific language concerning Watertown.

Councilor Donohue stated that there is a strong soft spot and that carriers are knocking on residents' doors. He noted that he does not want to see multiple antennas on homes disguised as faux chimneys and that rather, he would prefer one location in the Victory Field area with the added revenue stream going to the town.

The Chair stated that there will be another opportunity to weigh in on this and that this is a good exercise.

VOTE: Upon a voice vote, the motion was adopted 8 for 1 against 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 no.

b) Committee on Economic Development and Planning [report](#) and action on appointments/re-appointments to the Zoning Board of Appeals and Planning Board – Stephen P. Corbett, Chair. Vice President Corbett read the report. Councilor Woodland moved to accept the report, 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., Kenneth M. Woodland, Vice President Stephen P. Corbett and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

MOTION AND VOTE: Vice President Corbett moved the reappointment of Mr. Neal Corbett to the Planning Board, 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., Kenneth M. Woodland, Vice President Stephen P. Corbett and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

MOTION AND VOTE: Vice President Corbett moved the reappointment of Mr. Suneeth John to the Zoning Board of Appeals, 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., Kenneth M. Woodland, Vice President Stephen P. Corbett and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

MOTION AND VOTE: Councilor Falkoff moved to refer to Economic Development and Planning subcommittee the matter of special permit process which currently bypasses the ZBA, 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., Kenneth M. Woodland, Vice President Stephen P. Corbett and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

9. NEW BUSINESS – none noted.

10. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER:

a) [Request for Confirmation](#) of re-appointment to the Traffic Commission. Councilor Piccirilli indicated that Ms. Gallagher was just recently interviewed to fill the expired term and moved another interview is not needed she be reappointed, seconded by Councilor Kounelis and adopted by voice vote 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 no.

b) [Sale of Railroad Property](#) in Cambridge & Watertown. The Manager reviewed the subject matter and asked for a motion regarding the response sheet with a return deadline of April 22nd.

MOTION: Councilor Piccirilli moved to authorize the Town Manager to return the response sheet for the notice of offered railroad property file number 13C-1, with a Statement of No Interest as follows:

The Town of Watertown has no interest in and does not recommend purchase under MGL Ch 161C sec 7b, but would offer the following comments:

The Town of Watertown supports the DCR's purchase of this remaining section of the Watertown Branch Line to allow MassDOT to construct Phase 2 of the Watertown Greenway multi-use path between the Minuteman Path at Fresh Pond and the Dr. Paul Dudley White Path along the Charles River. The completion of this link is a major goal of Watertown's Open Space Plan.

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

The Manager announced that the bids for Casey Park came in higher than anticipated and asked that it be referred to the committee of Budget and Fiscal Affairs. Councilors Piccirilli 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.

10. REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION: Councilor Falkoff read a [list of RFIs](#) for the Manager's attention.

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Vice President Corbett announced that the President of Perkins School for the Blind, Steve Rothstein received a letter from the Department of Conservation and Recreation – DCR - committing 250,000 to the Riverfront Improvement Project which, he noted, is a real milestone in the project.

Councilor Donohue announced that the Watertown Education Foundation raised \$5,000 and thanked Council President Sideris for sponsoring a team in the event.

Councilor Palomba announced that Not Your Average Joe's will give a percentage of patrons food bill every Tuesday to the Watertown Youth Coalition.

Councilor Palomba announced the Annual Watertown Special Education Advisory Committee awards, April 10th at 6pm at the Hosmer School.

The Chair announced that the Police Department will host with the Red Cross a Blood Drive on Saturday at the Police Station.

The Chair announced Mini Riverfront grants available from the Watertown Community Foundation, info at 617-926-1500.

12. PUBLIC FORUM

Katy Coyne, Worcester Street – spoke against cellular towers in Watertown and asked if the soft spot is considered a significant gap under federal law.

Michael DeToli, Carol Street – asked why need for a cell tower; is it for revenue stream or at the request of the Public Works department.

13. ADJOURNMENT: there being no further business to come before the Town Council, Councilor Woodland moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 pm, seconded by Councilor Piccirilli 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 as amended, by unanimous voice vote, on April 24, 2013.

Mark S. Sideris, Council President