



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, NOVEMBER 12, 2013 @6:30 PM RICHARD E. MASTRANGELO COUNCIL CHAMBER ADMINISTRATION BUILDING MINUTES

1. ROLL CALL: A regular meeting of the Town Council was called to order at 6:30 pm in the Richard E. Mastrangelo Council Chamber, Administration Building. Present for the meeting were 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. Councilor Kounelis was absent due to illness. Also present were Town Manager Michael J. Driscoll, Town Attorney Mark Reich and Council Clerk Valerie Papas.

2. EXECUTIVE SESSION: 6:30 PM – to consider the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real estate – offer of railroad. Councilor Piccirilli moved to go into executive session for the above stated purposes noting that the Council will return to open session following the adjournment of the executive session, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous roll call 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.

3 RETURN TO OPEN SESSION: 7:15 PM

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

5. EXAMINATION OF MINUTES: [October 22ND](#). Councilor Piccirilli moved to adopt the minutes, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous 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.

6. PUBLIC FORUM – none noted.

7. PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

The Chair asked for a motion to allow him to sign a letter supporting a United Nations' initiative regarding the rights of persons with disabilities at the request of Steve Rothstein, President of Perkins for the Blind. So moved by Councilor Lenk, seconded by Councilor Falkoff and adopted by unanimous 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.

The Chair asked for a motion to bypass the subcommittee process in order to send out the Manager's evaluation tool to Councilors with a return deadline of December 13th at 5pm. So moved by Councilor Falkoff, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous 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.

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND VOTES:

a) [Public hearing](#) and vote on a joint petition by Verizon and NStar to install one new joint owned pole #134/2A on the southwesterly side of Summer Street and easterly property line of #20 Summer Street. And also to relocate existing joint owned pole # 134/3 on the southwesterly side of Summer Street and easterly property line of 20 Summer Street approximately 25 feet northerly to provide service to new construction and access to building. The Chair recognized Mr. Ed Davis, Verizon Representative who provided an overview of the petition. The Chair opened up the hearing to the public. There being no comments, the hearing was closed.

Councilor Falkoff moved the petition, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous 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.

b) [Public hearing](#) and vote on a petition by Verizon to place 2-4" conduit from a proposed new joint owned pole #134/2A on Summer Street in a westerly direction for approximately 5 feet to the property line of 20 Summer Street to provide service for new construction and access to building. The Chair recognized Mr. Ed Davis who provided an overview of the petition. The Chair opened up the hearing to the public. There being no comments, the hearing was closed.

Vice President Corbett moved the petition, seconded by Councilor Piccirilli and adopted by unanimous 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.

c) [Public hearing](#) and vote on a proposed Amendment to the Fiscal Year 2014 Budget. The Manager provided an overview of the matter. The Chair opened up the hearing to the public. There being no comments, the hearing was closed. The Chair asked for a motion to continue the matter to the November 26th meeting due to the certification of new growth number not being available. So moved by Councilor Piccirilli, seconded by Councilor Lenk and adopted by unanimous 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.

9. MOTIONS, ORDERS AND RESOLUTIONS:

a) [Acceptance of Proclamation](#) recognizing Soldier's Monument Day. Vice President Corbett moved to accept the proclamation, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous 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.

b) [Resolution](#) and [Presentation](#) endorsing addition of underpasses to design of three bridges and urge DCR and MASSDOT to include them in current phase of construction. The Chair recognized Mr. Jason Ledderer who provided a power-point presentation.

Following the presentation, Vice President Corbett read the resolution.

Vice President Corbett moved the resolution, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous 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.

c) First Reading on a proposed Order allocating the property tax levy among or between property classes for Fiscal Year 2014. The Manager provided a brief overview of the matter which will be advertised in the local paper and placed on the November 26th Town Council agenda for a public hearing and vote.

d) [First Reading](#) on a proposed Order setting optional tax exemptions for Fiscal Year 2014. The Manager provided a brief overview of the matter which will be advertised in the local paper and placed on the November 26th Town Council agenda for a public hearing and vote.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a) Committee on Public Works [report](#) and action on a [re-appointment](#) to the Conservation Commission – Cecilia Lenk, Chair. Councilor Lenk provided a verbal report. Vice President Corbett moved to accept the verbal report with a written report to follow, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous 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.

Councilor Lenk moved the re-appointment of Maria Rose, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous 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.

b) Joint Committee on Public Works and Personnel and Town Organization [reports](#) on Public Works Staffing and Organizational Assessment – Cecilia Lenk/Susan Falkoff Chairs.

Councilor Lenk read the first report. Councilor Woodland 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, 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 Falkoff read the second report. Vice President Corbett 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, Cecilia Lenk, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland, Vice President Stephen P. Corbett and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Councilor Lenk moved to recommend that the Town Council make a formal request to the School Committee to begin discussion of consolidating facilities maintenance and activities between the town and the school, seconded by Vice President Corbett and adopted by unanimous 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.

2. Councilor Lenk moved that the Town Council support a policy that attendance is both expected and required for all employees, seconded by Vice President Corbett and adopted by unanimous 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.

3. Councilor Lenk moved that the Town Council supports language in Article 8, Section 5 of the Teamster Collective Bargaining Agreement which states that the superintendent or his designee may require the presentation of a doctor's certificate or report in connection with any claim for sick leave, seconded by Vice President Corbett and adopted by unanimous 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.

c) Joint Committee on Public Works and Rules and Ordinances reports on [Illegal Dumping fines](#) and a [Storm-water Ordinance](#)– Cecilia Lenk/John Donohue Chairs.

Councilor Donohue read the first report on illegal dumping. Councilor Falkoff moved to approve the report, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous 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.

ACTION ITEM:

Councilor Donohue moved to ask the Town Attorney to review a proposed new ordinance with fines to be handled through non criminal disposition and to prepare a revised draft for further discussion, seconded by Councilor Lenk and adopted by unanimous 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.

Councilor Lenk read the 2nd report on Storm-water ordinance. Councilor Donohue moved to approve the report, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous 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.

ACTION ITEM:

Councilor Lenk moved to send the post construction ordinance to the Town Attorney for review and back to the Town Council, seconded by Councilor Donohue and adopted by unanimous 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.

The Chair indicated that both ordinances will then be advertised for a future public hearing and vote.

d) Committee on Rules and Ordinances [report](#) on Remote Participation – John Donohue, Chair. Councilor Donohue read the report. Vice President Corbett 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, 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 Woodland stated that he did not agree with the findings of the committee and spoke in support of Remote Participation as a useful tool and noted that it should be utilized when needed.

Councilor Donohue stated that the CEO of the community would have the final say in any case.

Councilor Palomba asked if this could be reserved for the Town Council and the School Committee only.

Attorney Reich stated that if the Remote Participation is adopted that it must be available to all boards and commissions.

Councilor Donohue moved to not adopt Remote Participation, seconded by Councilor Falkoff and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors John A. Donohue, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Cecilia Lenk, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Vice President Stephen P. Corbett and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative and Kenneth M. Woodland voting against .

11. NEW BUSINESS – none noted.

12. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER: The Manager announced the following:

a) [Bond Rating Upgrade from Standard & Poor's Rating Services](#)

13. REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION – none noted.

14. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Councilor Palomba announced the following events:

Metro West Collaborative; annual meeting and auction at Our Lady's Church -Thursday in Newton from 5:30 – 7:30 pm; Business to Business Network night on Thursday; Mt. Auburn Club from 6:30 – 8:30 pm; Watertown Open Studio; Thursday from 7-9 at the Coolidge School.

15. PUBLIC FORUM – none noted.

The Chair asked for a moment of silence for the passing of Sandra Gilbert, executive assistant to the Watertown Contributory Retirement Board.

16. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Town Council, Councilor Donohue moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous 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.

[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 November 26, 2013 by unanimous voice vote.

Mark S. Sideris, Council President