



## 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

Aaron Dushku,  
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, MARCH 25, 2014 AT 6:00 PM RICHARD E. MASTRANGELO COUNCIL CHAMBER ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

### MINUTES

1. **ROLL CALL:** A regular meeting of the Town Council was called to order at 6:00pm in the Richard E. Mastrangelo Council Chamber, Administration Building. Present for the meeting were Councilors Aaron Dushku, 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. Also present were Town Manager Michael J. Driscoll, Town Attorney Joe Fair and Council Clerk Valerie Papas. Councilor Kounelis arrived after the call of the roll.

2. **EXECUTIVE SESSION – 6:00 pm:** Vice President Corbett moved to go into executive session for the below state purpose, seconded by Council Falkoff and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, 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.

a) To discuss strategy with respect to litigation Merullo v Watertown.

b) To discuss strategy with respect to Collective Bargaining with the DPW Union, Town Hall Associates Union, Library Union, Fire Union, Police Patrol Union, Police Supervisors Union, as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the Town's bargaining position.

3. **RETURN TO OPEN SESSION – 7:15 PM.**

4. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

5. **EXAMINATION OF MINUTES:** [March 11<sup>th</sup>](#). Councilor Piccirilli move the minutes as amended, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, 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:**

1. Candace Miller – spoke regarding Watertown Strong Schools' [working document](#) and the need for full funding of Watertown schools.

2. Ed Shinebard – spoke in support of a synchronized light with turning arrow at Church Street and Main Street.

Ken Hagopian – spoke in concern about the resident voter registration list not being printed for 2013 at the Town Clerk’s Office.

7. PRESIDENT’S REPORT

- a) The Council President and Fire Chief Mario Orangio honored fourteen year old, Anthony Bedrosian with a [proclamation](#) and plaque for his exemplary character.
- b) July meeting date set for July 15<sup>th</sup>. Adopted unanimously.

8. MOTIONS, ORDERS AND RESOLUTIONS:

a) Resolution authorizing transfers in order to fund an Agreement with the Department of Public Works, Teamsters, Local Union No. 25 covering the period of July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2016. The Town Manager provided a brief overview of the two transfers.

Councilor Piccirilli moved the transfer of \$31,286.00, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous roll call vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, 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 Piccirilli moved the transfer of \$22,801.00, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous roll call vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, 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.

b) Resolution authorizing a transfer to fund salary adjustments for three non-union confidential employees covering the period of July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014. The Town Manager provided a brief overview of the transfer.

Vice President Corbett recused himself from discussion and the vote by leaving the chamber.

Councilor Piccirilli moved the transfer, seconded by Councilor Lenk and adopted by unanimous roll call vote of 8 for 0 against and 0 present with Councilors Aaron Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Cecilia Lenk, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland, and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

Vice President Corbett returned to his seat following the vote.

c) [Resolution](#) authorizing a transfer of funds to the Fiscal Year 2014 Fire Department Overtime Account. The Town Manager provided a brief overview of the transfer.

Councilor Piccirilli moved the transfer, seconded by Councilor Lenk and adopted by a roll call vote of 8 for, 0 against and 1 present with Councilors Aaron Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Cecilia Lenk, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland, and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative and Vice President Corbett voting present.

#### 9. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a) Committee on State, Federal and Regional Government [report](#) and action on a re-appointment to the Board of Election Commissioners – Angeline B. Kounelis, Chair. Councilor Kounelis read the committee report. Councilor Woodland moved to accept the report, seconded by Councilor Piccirilli and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, 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 moved the reappointment of Deborah Dugan, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, 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.

b) Committee on Human Services [report](#) and action on re-appointments to the Board of Health and Watertown Housing Authority and on Opiate Abuse – Anthony Palomba, Chair. Anthony Palomba read the committee report. Councilor Woodland moved to accept the report, seconded by Councilor Kounelis and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, 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 Palomba moved the reappointment of Dr. Straus, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, 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 Palomba moved the reappointment of Mr. Dalla Costa to the Watertown Housing Authority, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, 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) Committee on Rules and Ordinances [report](#) and action on a proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinances; proposed revisions to Council Rules; and the processes for choosing legal services - Kenneth M. Woodland, Chair. Councilor Woodland read the

committee report. Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the report, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, 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 Woodland moved the zoning ordinance as read, seconded by Councilor Dushku and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, 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 Dushku moved the proposed changes to the Council Rules, seconded by Councilor Woodland.

Councilor Kounelis spoke against the proposed amendment to 7.7-3 and moved “to not delete the last sentence as proposed” noting that some councilors may not have the ability to scan items to be sent to the clerk in electronic form, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by voice vote with Councilors 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 and Councilor Dushku voting no.

On the main motion to adopt the Council Rules changes, it was adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, 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.

d) Committee on Education and School System Matters [report](#) on financial and administrative vehicles for private partnerships and a progress report on the School Department’s budget development – Aaron Dushku, Chair. Councilor Dushku read the committee report. Councilor Woodland moved to accept the report, seconded by Councilor Palomba.

Councilor Lenk stated that what was originally referred to the ESSM committee at the February 11<sup>th</sup> Town Council meeting and what was subsequently discussed by the committee were not the same. She stated that she is unclear how these issues came to be discussed by the committee without being referred by the Council.

Councilor Woodland explained that the ESSM committee held a preliminary meeting in order to lead into topics that were referred to the committee on February 11<sup>th</sup>.

Councilor Dushku stated that the School Committee Chair forwarded a letter which was read and that the ESSM committee tried not to overstep its boundaries.

Councilor Lenk stated that the council has always been very careful to stick to what is actually referred to committee by the Council.

The Chair stated that, as the newest councilor, this was Councilor Dushku's first attempt at calling his committee members together for a meeting and that more careful attention will be given to postings in the future.

Councilor Piccirilli pointed out that as stated in Mass General Laws, Chapter 71, Section 34 that the town appropriating body may only make nonbinding monetary recommendations to the School Committee as they been elected to construct their own budget.

Councilor Palomba stated that the committee recognized its limits and that the meeting was enjoyable and educational with no recommendations or votes taken.

Councilor Kounelis stated that in her opinion and in her nine years on the Council, she has found that it is not the position of subcommittees to be fact finding in its role.

The report was adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, 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 Palomba moved that the ESSM committee continue to discuss these issues as presented in their report at their scheduled April 1<sup>st</sup> meeting, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, 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. NEW BUSINESS – none noted.

11. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER:

Dogs/Cats vaccination clinic – April 5<sup>th</sup> at the town hall.

12. REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION – none noted.

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Councilor Palomba announced:

Not Your Average Joe's for dinner tonight to help support Watertown Youth Coalition.

Watertown Family Network fundraiser – Donohue's Bar and Grill; Wednesday @ 7:30 pm.

Friends of Watertown Music Fest – Friday 6-10 pm.

Councilor Dushku announced:

Road Race April 19<sup>th</sup> Finish Strong – 10am; Tufts Health Plan 705 Mt. Auburn Street.

April 1<sup>st</sup> ESSM subcommittee meeting location changed to Richard E. Mastrangelo Council Chamber.

Councilor Kounelis announced:

Greenough Blvd open public process – thru Monday March 31<sup>st</sup> – comment online. Department of Conservation and Recreation website or Lawrence and Lillian Solomon Foundation website.

14. PUBLIC FORUM:

Joslyn Tager– [read a petition](#) regarding re-opening the bid process for choosing Solarize Watertown vendor.

15. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Town Council, Councilor Woodland moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm, seconded by Councilor Lenk and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, 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 April 8, 2014 by unanimous voice vote.

Mark S. Sideris, Council President