



## 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 24, 2015 @ 6:15 PM RICHARD E. MASTRANGELO COUNCIL CHAMBER ADMINISTRATION BUILDING MINUTES

1. **ROLL CALL:** A regular meeting of the Town Council was called to order at 6:15 pm, in the Richard E. Mastrangelo Council Chamber, Administration Building. Present for the meeting were Councilors Aaron Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland and Council President Mark S. Sideris. Also present were Town Manager Michael J. Driscoll, Town Attorney Mark Reich and Council Clerk Valerie Papas. Councilors Lenk and Corbett were absent.

### 2. EXECUTIVE SESSION – 6:15 PM:

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; and to discuss strategy with respect to litigation (Fire Union – MUP-15-4376; and Civil Action No. 1581CV01551 ), as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the Town’s bargaining and litigating positions.

Councilor Woodland moved to go into executive session for the above stated purpose, seconded by Councilor Palomba and adopted by unanimous roll call vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland 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 THE MINUTES: [March 10, 2015](#).

Councilor Piccirilli moved the minutes, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

### 6. PUBLIC FORUM:

Dennis Duff, Spruce Street – spoke to the issue of his concern that Citizen’s Bank is not a good neighbor with their towing practices during and even after banking hours. He

stated that recently the bank had a vehicle with handicap parking plates towed from the lot. He asked the Council to look into this and ask the bank to stop this towing practice.

Russ Arrico, Fayette Street – spoke in opposition to a proposed ban on plastic grocery bags.

#### 7. PRESIDENT’S REPORT:

a) [End of Year Report/Agreement](#). The Chair announced the End of Year Report/Agreement with the School Committee. Town Auditor, Thomas Tracy provided an overview of the report/agreement.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to authorize the Council President to sign the Agreement, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

b) [MBTA draft letter](#): The Chair read a draft letter to the MBTA. Councilor Dushku moved to send the letter as read, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

#### 8. PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE:

a) Public hearing and vote on the [Open Space and Recreation Plan 2015](#) - Steven Magoon, Community Development and Planning Director /Assistant Town Manager. The Chair recognized Mr. Magoon who briefly reviewed updates to the open space and recreation plan as proposed at the last Town Council meeting by councilors.

The Chair opened up the hearing to the public. There being no comments, the hearing was closed.

Councilor Piccirilli moved the Open Space and Recreation Plan with changes as noted, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

#### 9. MOTIONS, ORDERS AND RESOLUTIONS:

a) [Motions](#) for referrals to subcommittee – Transportation Planner and Mitigation Report – Councilor Palomba.

Councilor Palomba read and moved the first motion for a Transportation Planner, seconded by Councilor Dushku.

Councilor Piccirilli state that while he supports the ideas he noted that as a procedural matter; this can be found in the budget guidelines under 2E. Councilor Piccirilli stated that this would be better served as a request for information to the Manager. To bring forward the plans we have already instructed him to do.

Councilor Dushku noted that we need more than just a bus shuttle service; such as parking and traffic. He stated that this is a lot of work for our planning department and that a Transportation planner/consultant is needed.

Councilor Kounelis stated that while she concurs with Councilor Palomba, she also feels that there is no need to refer this to subcommittee as it has already been addressed by the Council and that it can be brought forward as a request for information.

Councilor Falkoff spoke in support of this going to subcommittee for more dialogue about transportation.

Councilor Piccirilli moved a friendly amendment – “to explore possibility” in subcommittee. Councilor Palomba accepted the amendment.

**VOTE:** Councilor Falkoff moved the matter as amended, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

On the Main motion as amended; Councilor Piccirilli moved the main motion as amended, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

Councilor Palomba read and moved the second motion for a Mitigation Report, seconded by Councilor Dushku.

Councilor Falkoff noted her concern that this would potentially set up a competitive situation.

The Chair stated that this concept is worthy of a discussion.

Councilor Palomba noted that the mitigation reports should be put in one place for everyone to see; increasing people’s access to it.

Councilor Dushku stated that this is a good idea to have it all in one place; all the time.

Councilor Piccirilli moved a friendly amendment to “explore possibility” instead of the word “shall”. Councilor Palomba accepted the friendly amendment.

Councilor Kounelis stated that it should be looked at very cautiously – how it’s worded and the impact it will have as each development is different.

The motion was adopted as amended by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to Suspend the Rules in order to bring forward agenda item 10C, seconded by Councilor Dushku and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

10C - Committee on Budget & Fiscal Oversight [report](#) and action on Capital Improvement Program recommendation for School building renovations, and on policy for the Special Education Stabilization Fund – Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Chair.

Councilor Piccirilli read the committee report. Councilor Woodland moved to accept the report, seconded by Councilor Palomba and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

The Chair noted that no action is needed at this time.

MOTION, ORDERS AND RESOLUTIONS continued:

b) [First Reading](#) on a Proposed Loan Order authorizing the Town Treasurer with the approval of the Town Manager to borrow and/or expend monies in the amount of \$770,000 under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 7(3A) of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor for the costs of flooring replacement at the Watertown Middle School (approximate cost of \$175,000), and costs of purchasing and installing unit ventilators at the Hosmer School (approximate cost of \$595,000). The Chair provided a first reading. The Manager noted that this will be advertised for a public hearing and vote at the April 14<sup>th</sup> Town Council meeting.

c) [An Order Accepting an Easement](#) for a Sidewalk from Watertown Senior Housing LLC off Summer Street and Authorizing the Town Manager to execute the acceptance of said Sidewalk Easement. The Manager reviewed the easement. Councilor Piccirilli moved the matter, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

#### 10. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a. Committee on State, Federal and Regional Government [report](#) and action on a [reappointment](#) to the Board of Election Commissioners – Angeline B. Kounelis, Chair. Councilor Kounelis read the 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, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

Councilor Kounelis moved the re-appointment of Ms. Baranowski to the Board of Election Commissioners, seconded by Councilor Falkoff and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

b. Committee on Rules and Ordinances [report](#) and update on plastic bags – Kenneth M. Woodland, Chair. Councilor Woodland read the report for February 3rd meeting and provided a verbal update to the meetings that followed on plastic bags and other matters; snow ordinance and fines. Councilor Piccirilli move to accept the written report, seconded by Councilor Falkoff and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

The Chair stated that an additional written report will be provided with respect to the verbal update provided tonight.

c. Committee on Budget & Fiscal Oversight [report](#) and action on Capital Improvement Program recommendation for School building renovations, and on policy for the Special Education Stabilization Fund – Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Chair. **Previously provided.**

d. Committee on Public Works [report](#) and action on street/road repairs 2015 construction season – Cecilia Lenk, Chair. Councilor Palomba read the report. Councilor Woodland moved to accept the report, seconded by Councilor Falkoff and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

Councilor Palomba moved to approve the streets/roads 2015 project as proposed, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

#### 11. NEW BUSINESS:

Councilor Woodland moved to refer to Public Works subcommittee for discussion – the restoration of the summer parks and grounds youth program, seconded by Falkoff and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

Councilor Woodland moved to refer to Public Safety subcommittee for discussion – the restoration of the Cops and Kids program, seconded by Councilor Dushku and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony

Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

The Manager provided a first reading to temporarily modify [Administration Building Hours](#). It was noted that the matter will be advertised for a public hearing and vote at the April 14<sup>th</sup> Town Council meeting.

#### 12. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER:

The Manager introduced the new Health Director, Debra Rosatti, who was in the audience.

#### 13. REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION:

Councilor Piccirilli asked for an update on enrollment numbers for students living in large multi-unit developments. He noted that he will provide this request [in writing](#).

Councilor Falkoff stated that she is still waiting for improvements to the town website.

Councilor Falkoff asked what the status is of the Victory Field ad hoc committee.

#### 14. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Councilor Kounelis announced a meeting on the 480 Arsenal Street project – 6:30 pm, Wednesday, April 1<sup>st</sup> at the Verizon site.

Councilor Dushku announced the last budget hearing, Monday, March 30<sup>th</sup> – WHS lecture hall, 6 pm.

Councilor Dushku announced Design Guideline meeting on March 31<sup>st</sup>.

The Chair announced a Special Town Council meeting on April 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm to discuss Hotel Signage and Pleasant Street Corridor.

#### 15. PUBLIC FORUM:

Pat Gold – asked about a shuttle bus to take residents around Watertown.

16. 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 Palomba and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

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 April 14, 2015.

Mark S. Sideris,  
Council President