



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 Woodland,
District D Councilor

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2015 @ 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 Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth Woodland, Vice President Stephen P. Corbett and Mark S. Sideris Council President. Also present were Town Manager Michael J. Driscoll and Town Attorney Mark Reich. Councilors Dushku and Lenk were absent.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **PUBLIC FORUM:**
Mr. Peter Centola, Recreation Director thanked outgoing Councilors Cecilia Lenk and Stephen Corbett for their support, leadership and commitment to the Recreation Department.

Barbara Ruskin, Spring Street – asked that the Town consider a Transportation Planner for the Regional Multi-Use District and system wide transportation plan.

Elodia Thomas, 67 Marion Road – stated that Bill McQuillan’s project will not belong in Watertown as far as size and how they look and hopes to have a community meeting to see what this means as far as the footprint, etc.

Russ Arrico, Fayette Street – thanked Councilors Corbett and Lenk for their diligence and voice of reason. He also thanked the Manager for his leadership and efforts in getting Watertown a AAA rating.

The Chair closed the public forum.

4. **PRESIDENTS REPORT:**

The Chair announced that the next Council Clerk will be in attendance at the next meeting for confirmation.

The Chair asked for a motion to continue discussion on the RMUD by referral to the Committee on Economic Development and Planning. So moved by Councilor Falkoff and seconded by Vice President Corbett.

Councilor Woodland stated that it is incumbent upon us to be prudent on how we manage our time and processes and to delay for delay sake is not what this Council should be looking to do.

Councilor Palomba stated that he is not super comfortable sending this to a three member committee but he will go along with it if that is what the Council wants to do. He asked that a large room be used, with a broad publication with a general agenda and cross discussion.

The Chair stated that he spoke to the chair of the subcommittee who will be looking for spaces and begin the process for next Tuesday evening.

The motion to refer was adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth Woodland, Vice President Stephen P. Corbett and Mark S. Sideris Council President voting in the affirmative

5. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION:

- a) [Informational Presentation](#) on a ten year Cable Television Renewal License with Comcast of Massachusetts - John M. Airasian, Chair, Watertown Cable Access Corporation, William Hewig III, Esquire, Kopelman and Paige, P.C., and Helen Chatel, Executive Director, Watertown Cable Access Corporation. The Manager provided an overview of the license renewal process.

The Chair recognized Mr. John Airasian who noted that he has received great public feedback and was able to direct the towns wants to Comcast during the renewal process.

Attorney William Hewig and Executive Director, Helen Chatel highlighted all aspects of the new contract.

The Chair thanked them for their presentation.

Vice President Corbett stated that Comcast needs to come to the table to provide closed captioning for our hearing impaired audience members.

Councilor Woodland stated his excitement at live streaming sports events from Victory Field.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND VOTES:

- a) Public Hearing and vote on an [Ordinance](#) amending the Town Manager's compensation. The Chair provided background information on the process for amending the Manager's compensation.

The Chair opened up the hearing to the public.

John Airasian spoke in support of the Manager's compensation.

Jay Hughes, 50 Longfellow Road – spoke in support of the Manager’s compensation.

Bob Johnson, Riverside Street – spoke in support of the Manager’s compensation.

Elodia Thomas, 67 Marion Road – spoke in support of the Manager’s compensation.

Pam Piantedosi, Waverley Avenue – spoke in support of the Manager’s compensation.

Councilor Piccirilli moved the ordinance, seconded by Councilor Woodland.

Councilors Piccirilli, Kounelis, Corbett, Woodland, Falkoff, and the Chair spoke in support of the compensation.

The motion was adopted by unanimous roll call vote with Councilors Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth Woodland, Vice President Stephen P. Corbett and Mark S. Sideris Council President voting in the affirmative.

Councilor Piccirilli approve the transfer of \$59,332.00 to fund the Manager’s compensation, seconded by Councilor Kounelis and adopted by unanimous roll call vote with Councilors Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth Woodland, Vice President Stephen P. Corbett and Mark S. Sideris Council President voting in the affirmative.

7. MOTIONS, ORDERS AND RESOLUTIONS:

[Resolution](#) approving the Special Act concerning increasing the number of liquor licenses in Watertown as amended by the General Court. Councilor Piccirilli announced that he is recusing himself from this matter.

The Chair recognized Mr. Magoon and State Representative Hecht who provided background on the matter.

Vice President Corbett moved the resolution, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Kenneth Woodland, Vice President Stephen P. Corbett and Mark S. Sideris Council President voting in the affirmative. Councilor Piccirilli recused himself from discussion and vote.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Committee on Budget and Fiscal Oversight [report](#) and action on the Fiscal Year 2017 Budget Priority Guidelines and Fiscal Year 2015 Audit – Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Chair. Councilor Piccirilli read the report.

Councilor Kounelis moved to accept the report, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony

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

Councilor Piccirilli stated that the [guidelines would be ranked](#) by priority by the Council. (Insertion – Councilor Piccirilli) Councilor Falkoff stated that the process of prioritizing is foolish and asked that it change in the future.

ACTION ITEM: Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the [Budget Priority Guidelines](#), seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth Woodland, Vice President Stephen P. Corbett and Mark S. Sideris Council President voting in the affirmative.

ACTION ITEM: Councilor Piccirilli moved to refer to Economic Development Planning subcommittee discussion of a possible creation of a Master Plan for the revitalization of Watertown Square, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth Woodland, Vice President Stephen P. Corbett and Mark S. Sideris Council President voting in the affirmative.

ACTION ITEM: Councilor Piccirilli moved to hire Melanson and Heath for the 2015 audit as proposed, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth Woodland, Vice President Stephen P. Corbett and Mark S. Sideris Council President voting in the affirmative.

Councilor Falkoff noted for the record that she is uncomfortable using the same audit company for so many years as there is a potential for abuse.

9. NEW BUSINESS: None noted.

10. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER:

The Manager provided background information on Mr. Joseph DiVito, the new Town Treasurer.

11. REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION:

Councilor Kounelis asked about curbside yard waste pickup noting numerous bags left out on the curbs and asked for clarification if changes were made to the schedule.

Councilor Falkoff asked for update on inspection services.

12. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Councilor Woodland announced upcoming meeting for Rules and Ordinances.

13. PUBLIC FORUM:

Mr. Magoon thanked outgoing Vice President Stephen Corbett for his fine service.

Elodia Thomas also spoke highly of Mr. Corbett.

The Chair read proclamations for [Ms. Lenk](#) and [Mr. Corbett](#) for their outstanding service.

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

Vice President Corbett stated that it has been an honor serving the town and he thanked residents for the trust they placed in him. He also thanked employees and department heads as well.

The Manager read a statement speaking very highly of Mr. Corbett and his work on the Council.

14. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Town Council, Councilor Woodland moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 pm, seconded by Councilor Palomba and adopted by unanimous voice vote with

[ADDENDUM](#)

I hereby certify that at a regular meeting of the Town Council for which a quorum was present, the above Order was adopted by a vote of 9 for, 0 against, and 0 present on August 9, 2016.

Mark S. Sideris, Council President
s/MWP