



Watertown Town Council

Administration Building 149 Main Street
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TOWN COUNCIL MEETING TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015 @ 7:15 PM RICHARD E. MASTRANGELO COUNCIL CHAMBER ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

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 Aaron Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Angeline B. Kounelis, Cecilia Lenk, Anthony Palomba, 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 Reich and Council Clerk Valerie Papas.
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. EXAMINATION OF THE MINUTES: [October 27th](#). Councilor Piccirilli moved the minutes, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Angeline B. Kounelis, 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.
4. PUBLIC FORUM – none noted.
5. PRESIDENTS REPORT: [Letter](#) to Department of Conservation and Recreation. Vice President Corbett moved to approve sending the letter to DCR, seconded by Councilor Lenk and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Angeline B. Kounelis, 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 announced Veterans' Day on Monday with several scheduled events throughout the day to honor and remember our Veterans.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to Suspend the Rules, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Angeline B. Kounelis, 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; to bring forward agenda item 6 c, d, and e as follows:

c) [Public Hearing](#) and vote on a petition by National Grid to install and maintain approximately 1200 +/- feet of 16 inch and 12 inch gas mains in Main Street from the proposed regulator station at Bacon Street, easterly to the existing 4 inch gas main at French Street, the existing 10 inch gas main at Waverley Avenue and the existing 12 inch gas main in Myrtle Street. All of which to replace and abandon the 10 inch and 16 inch gas mains in Main Street and the existing regulator station in Myrtle Street. [Maps](#),

The Chair recognized Representative Dennis Regan who read the petition. The Chair opened up the hearing to the public.

Cliff Cook, French Street – inquired about a start and end date. Mr. Mee provided informational data.

There being no further questions or comments, the Chair closed the hearing.

Councilor Piccirilli moved the petition, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Angeline B. Kounelis, 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.

d) [Public Hearing](#) and vote on a petition by Eversource Energy to install 5 feet of conduit in Bacon Street. This work is necessary in order to provide new under-ground service to 45 Bacon Street.

The Chair recognized representative Sheila Gillis who read the petition. The Chair opened up the hearing to the public. There being no comments, the hearing was closed.

Councilor Piccirilli moved the petition, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Angeline B. Kounelis, 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.

e) [Public Hearing](#) and vote on a petition by Eversource Energy to install 3 feet of conduit in Arsenal Street. The work is necessary in order to provide electric service to a new four story apartment building located at 202-204 Arsenal Street.

The Chair recognized representative Sheila Gillis who read the petition. The Chair opened up the hearing to the public. There being no comments, the hearing was closed.

Councilor Piccirilli moved the petition, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Angeline B. Kounelis, 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 HEARINGS AND VOTES:

a) [Public Hearing](#) and Action on a resolution to discontinue maintenance for vehicular traffic for a portion of Beacon Park. The Chair recognized Mr. Steve Magoon who provided background to the resolution. The Chair opened up the public hearing. Brian Menton, Beacon Park – spoke in support of the resolution.

Dan Clark, Beacon Park – spoke in support of the resolution.

Jean Wilson, Beacon Park – spoke in support of the resolution.

The Chair recognized Town Attorney Mark Reich who read the findings numbered 1-3.

Councilor Piccirilli moved the resolution, seconded by Councilor Lenk. Attorney Reich asked that the vote be amended to include the findings that he read. Councilor Piccirilli amended his motion to include the findings as read by Attorney Reich, seconded by Councilor Lenk and adopted by unanimous roll call vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Angeline B. Kounelis, 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 Action on a proposed Amendment to the Fiscal Year 2016 Budget. The Manager provided a brief overview of the amendment and asked that the Council hold off on action until the next meeting.

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

Councilor Piccirilli moved to continue action on the amendment to the next meeting, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Angeline B. Kounelis, 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.

7. MOTIONS, ORDERS AND RESOLUTIONS:

a) First Reading on a proposed Order allocating the property tax levy among or between property classes for Fiscal Year 2016. The Chair read the Order and recognized the Manager who provided a brief overview of the matter which will have a public hearing and vote at the next meeting.

b) [First Reading](#) on a proposed Order setting optional tax exemptions for Fiscal Year 2016. The Chair read the Order and recognized the Manager who provided a brief overview of the matter which will have a public hearing and vote at the next meeting.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to Suspend the Rules in order to bring forward agenda item 8A, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Angeline B. Kounelis, 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) Committee on Budget Fiscal Oversight [report](#) and action on MSBA Middle School Windows – Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Chair. Councilor Piccirilli read the report. Councilor Woodland moved to accept the report, seconded by Councilor Lenk and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Angeline B. Kounelis, 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.

Vice President Corbett spoke against the proposal and stated that the revised proposal is shocking and is 9 times the cost of the previous proposal.

Councilor Kounelis stated that she is disappointed by the break-down in communication but will support the project.

Councilor Lenk concurred by the comments and stated that this is a little bit of a black hole here.

Councilor Piccirilli noted that he is not comfortable with how fuzzy this is but that the town must play by the MSBA rules in order to get the 48% reimbursement.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to endorse the concept as outlined in the committee report, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Angeline B. Kounelis, Anthony Palomba, Cecilia Lenk, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland, and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative and Vice President Stephen P. Corbett voting against.

c) [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 \$224,400 under and pursuant to Chapter 44 of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, for the purpose of paying costs of conducting a schematic design study for a potential partial window/door replacement project at the Watertown Middle School, located at 68 Waverly Avenue, Watertown, Massachusetts, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto (the "Project"), which proposed repair project would materially extend the useful life of the school and preserve an asset that otherwise is capable of supporting the required educational program, and for which the Town has applied for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority ("MSBA"), said amount to be expended under the direction of the School Committee. The Town acknowledges that the MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and if the MSBA's Board of Directors votes to invite the Town to collaborate with the MSBA on this proposed repair project, any project costs the Town incurs in excess of any grant that may be approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the Town; and that, if invited to collaborate with the MSBA on the proposed repair project, the amount of borrowing authorized pursuant to this vote shall be reduced by any grant amount set forth in the Project Funding Agreement that

may be executed between the Town and the MSBA. The Chair read the Loan Order and recognized the Manager who provided a brief overview of the matter which will have a public hearing and vote at the next meeting.

The Chair read the Order and recognized the Manager who provided a brief overview of the matter which will have a public hearing and vote at the next meeting.

d) [Resolution](#) Endorsing an “Age-Friendly Watertown” Grant Application. The Chair recognized David Siegel who provided background information on the matter. Vice President Corbett moved the matter, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Angeline B. Kounelis, 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.

e) [An Order](#) Releasing a Sewer Easement on Property Located at 182 Pleasant Street and Authorizing the Town Manager to Execute a Release of Easement Rights. The Chair recognized Mr. Steve Magoon who provided background information on the matter. Councilor Piccirilli moved the Order, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Angeline B. Kounelis, 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. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a) Committee on Budget Fiscal Oversight [report](#) and action on MSBA Middle School Windows – Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Chair.

b) Joint Committees of Public Works and Budget Fiscal Oversight [report](#) on developing policy guidelines on Snow Ordinance – Cecilia Lenk and Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Chair. Councilor Lenk read the Committees report. Councilor Woodland moved the report, seconded by Councilor Lenk and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Angeline B. Kounelis, 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 action item as outlined in the report, seconded by Councilor Palomba and amended to insert December 1st report-back date. The amendment was adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Angeline B. Kounelis, 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.

On the main motion and upon a voice vote it was adopted by unanimously with Councilors Aaron Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Angeline B. Kounelis, 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. NEW BUSINESS – none noted.

10. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER – none noted.

11. REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION:

Councilor Dushku asked for a breakdown of different properties qualifying for a commercial/small business tax exemption.

Councilor Falkoff asked for an update on the development of Inspectional Services.

12. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Community Forum – Middle School, November 12th Preserving our Neighborhoods.

Relay for Life Kickoff – November 12th 4-8 pm.

BFO meetings for Budget Guidelines – November 16th and 30th 7pm.

Athena Health Master Plan - November 19th, 6:30 pm; Police Station.

Age Friendly Community, November 17th; Library.

RMUD Special Meeting of Town Council – December 1st – 6:30 pm.

Executive Session and First Reading for compensation for the Manager at December 8th Town Council meeting.

13. PUBLIC FORUM – none noted.

14. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the council, Councilor Woodland moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 pm, seconded by Councilor Lenk and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Angeline B. Kounelis, 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 Order was adopted by a vote 9 for 0 against, and 0 present on August 9, 2016.

Mark S. Sideris, Council President
s/MWP