



Watertown Town Council

Administration Building
149 Main Street
Watertown, MA 02472
Phone: 617-972-6470

ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Mark S. Sideris,
Council President

Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr.,
Vice President

Michael F. Dattoli,
Councilor At Large

Aaron P. Dushku,
Councilor At Large

Susan G. Falkoff,
Councilor At Large

Anthony Palomba,
Councilor At Large

Angeline B. Kounelis,
District A Councilor

Lisa J. Feltner,
District B Councilor

Kenneth M. Woodland,
District D Councilor

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2016 AT 7:15 P.M. RICHARD E. MASTRANGELO COUNCIL CHAMBER MINUTES

1. ROLL CALL

Council President Sideris called to order a regular meeting of the Town Council at 7:15 p.m. in the Richard E. Mastrangelo Chamber, Administration Building. Those present were Councilors Michael F. Dattoli, Aaron P. Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Lisa J. Feltner, Angeline B. Kounelis, Anthony Palomba, Vice President Vincent Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland, and Council President Mark S. Sideris. Also present were Michael J. Driscoll, Town Manager, Mark Reich, Town Attorney, and Marilyn W. Pronovost, Town Council Clerk.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. PUBLIC FORUM

John DiMascio – 18 Copeland St. – Raised concerns about possible ethics violations. A [statement](#) was provided for the record.

John Labadini – 499 Main St. – Stated that Concerned Watertown Home Owners Association is against the Community Preservation Act (CPA) at this time because school needs are more important.

Russ Arico – 49 Fayette St. – Stated that he is concerned about officials who use their title to advance their agenda and that CPA should be voted against now because the schools' needs come first.

4. EXAMINATION OF RECORDS OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

[Minutes of the October 11, 2016](#) Town Council Meeting

Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the minutes of October 11, 2016 as written; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A. Confirmatory Vote on the [Lights On Afterschool Day](#) Proclamation

Councilor Piccirilli moved to adopt the proclamation regarding Lights On Afterschool Day; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

B. Referral to Committee Regarding Fees for the Newly Created 15 Additional Liquor Licenses

President Sideris requested a motion to refer to the Committee on Economic Development and Planning for discussion the matter of fees for the newly created 15 additional liquor licenses. Councilor Piccirilli so moved to refer the topic to the Committee on Economic Development and Planning; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

7. MOTIONS, ORDINANCES, ORDER, AND RESOLUTIONS

Councilor Piccirilli made a motion to move up items 7A and 7B in the agenda; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

A. Resolution to [Acquire Property Known as 10 Winter Street](#) by Eminent Domain

Mr. Driscoll provided background on the Resolution. Mr. Magoon, Director of Community Planning and Development and Assistant Town Manager, discussed the goals and objectives of the long range planning as it relates to the Open Space and Recreation Plan and the Comprehensive Plan. Attorney Reich provided an overview of the resolution and the Order of Taking of 10 Winter Street authorizing the acquisition, financing, and taking of the property. Mr. Driscoll provided information regarding the financing of the Taking.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to approve the Resolution to acquire the property known as 10 Winter Street by eminent domain; Councilor Dushku seconded the motion.

Councilors Dushku, Falkoff, Feltner, Piccirilli, and President Sideris made statements in favor of the Resolution; Councilors Dattoli and Kounelis made statements against the resolution.

The motion was adopted on a roll call vote of 7 for and 2 against. Councilors Dushku, Falkoff, Feltner, Palomba, Piccirilli, Jr., Woodland, and President Sideris voted in the affirmative; Councilors Dattoli and Kounelis voted in the negative.

B. [Order of Taking – 10 Winter Street](#)

Councilor Piccirilli moved to Order the Taking of the property known as 10 Winter Street; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. The motion passed on

a roll call vote of 7 for, 1 against, and 1 present. Councilors Dushku, Falkoff, Feltner, Palomba, Piccirilli, Jr., Woodland, and President Sideris voted in the affirmative; Councilor Kounelis voted in the negative; and Councilor Dattoli voted present.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Public Hearing and Action on a [Proposed Amendment to the Fiscal Year 2017 Budget](#)

Mr. Driscoll provided information regarding the changes in the FY 17 Budget. Councilor Piccirilli moved to approve the Budget Amendment of \$816, 916; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted on a roll call vote of 7 for and 2 against. Councilors Dushku, Falkoff, Feltner, Palomba, Piccirilli, Jr., Woodland, and President Sideris voted in the affirmative; Councilors Dattoli and Kounelis voted in the negative.

7. MOTIONS, ORDINANCES, ORDER, AND RESOLUTIONS

A. Resolution to [Acquire Property Known as 10 Winter Street](#) by Eminent Domain

See previous minutes regarding this issue.

B. [Order of Taking – 10 Winter Street](#)

See previous minutes regarding this issue.

C. First Reading on a Proposed Order Allocating the [Property Tax Levy Among or Between Property Classes](#) for Fiscal Year 2017

Mr. Driscoll provided a brief overview of the matter. Mr. Tracy, Town Auditor and Assistant Town Manager for Financial Affairs, provided information regarding the Tax Classification shift.

D. First Reading on a Proposed Order Setting [Optional Tax Exemptions](#) for Fiscal Year 2017

Mr. Driscoll provided a brief overview of the matter.

E. Resolution Adopting a [Higher Maximum Qualifying Gross Receipts Amount](#) for Tax Deferred Applicants – for Consideration at the November 9, 2016 Town Council Meeting

Mr. Driscoll provided a brief overview of the matter. Although it is not subject to a first reading, it is related to Items 7C and 7D.

F. Resolution Approving the Acceptance of Gift of Tangible Personal Property of [Used Exercise Equipment](#) from Tufts Health Plan

Mr. Driscoll provided a brief overview of the matter. Councilor Piccirilli moved to approve the acceptance of a gift of Tangible Personal Property;

Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

8. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

- A. Ad Hoc Committee on Technology Report on [Improvements to CivicPlus](#) – Kenneth M. Woodland, Chair

Councilor Woodland read the Committee report. Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the report; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

- B. Ad Hoc Committee on Technology Report on [CivicPlus](#) – Kenneth M. Woodland, Chair

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Pursuant to Watertown's 2017 Budget Priority Guideline to "Redesign the Town's Web Site and Social Media Presence to Better Communicate with Residents. Assess the Resources Needed to Manage Communications, Including Online, Email, And Print," the Committee Recommends the Full Town Council Approve the Proposed Renovation And/Or Redesign of the Town Website, Including On-Site Consulting Content, Subsequent Year Webmaster Services, CivicSend, and CivicMobile, as Presented by CivicPlus
2. The Committee also Recommends the Town Council Request the Town Manager to Identify the Funding Source for the Renovation and Further to Identify the Resources Necessary for Implementation of the Upgrade.

Councilor Woodland read the Committee report. Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the report; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to adopt the above listed Action Item 1; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. After a discussion regarding the operation of the website, the cost, implementation, and training, President Sideris suggested that an informational presentation should be made to the Town Council.

The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Councilor Falkoff moved that the Town Manager work with Mr. Mahoney, Director of IT, to implement any near term fixes in the interim; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to adopt Action Item 2; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

- C. Ad Hoc Committee on [Transportation Report](#) on Transportation Demand Management (TDM), the Shuttle Bus, and Transportation Management Association (TMA) – Aaron P. Dushku, Chair

Councilor Dushku read the Committee Report. Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the report; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

9. NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business presented.

10. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER

Mr. Driscoll stated that on Thursday, October 27, 2016, from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at the Watertown Free Public Library, Attorney General Maura Healy's office would make a presentation regarding the Open Meeting Law.

11. REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION /REVIEW OF LIST OF PENDING MATTERS

Councilor Falkoff requested that the Town Attorney provide an opinion on whether members of boards and commissions are allowed to endorse ballot questions publicly.

Councilor Kounelis requested follow up to some existing issues:

- ~ Calvin Rd – there is no improvement
- ~ Sampson St. – there is a maintenance issue
- ~ Planting Island on Mt. Auburn between Arlington St. and Templeton Parkway – this is a maintenance issue
- ~ Review of Planting Strips for Prentiss, Merrifield, and Keenan Sts. – a status update
- ~ Atrium School – a status of the pilot program

12. ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Sideris stated that Early Voting is underway and that more than 800 residents had already participated. He also requested that a sandwich board listing the location of Early Voting be placed on Main St.

Councilor Dattoli announced that on Wednesday, October 26, 2016 from 6:00 p.m. – 9:00p.m., there would be an Open House at the Watertown CATV. He also announced that a meeting regarding the School buildings would be held on November 1, 2016. A location has yet to be determined.

Councilor Dushku announced that on Thursday, October 27, 2016, there would be a meeting of the Committee on Public Works to discuss ongoing issues as well as the 2017 Roads Program.

Councilor Falkoff announced that because the second Tuesday of November is election day, the next Town Council Meeting will be on Wednesday, November 9, 2016.

Councilor Feltner invited families to participate in the Safe Route to School Program, part of the Watertown Walks Day on Wednesday morning on October, 26, 2016. For further information, please call 339-368-1761.

President Sideris also announced that the School Committee met earlier and voted to hire an Interim Superintendent of Schools and that the matter is pending negotiations.

13. PUBLIC FORUM

There were no speakers at the forum.

14. RECESS OR ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Palomba moved to adjourn the meeting; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

[ADDENDUM](#)

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

Mark S. Sideris, Council President
s/MWP

**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2016 AT 7:15 P.M.
RICHARD E. MASTRANGELO COUNCIL CHAMBER
LIST OF DOCUMENTS**

1. Public Forum – Statement provided by John DiMascio (Item 3)
2. President’s Report – Proclamation regarding Lights on Afterschool Day (Item 5A)
3. Public Hearing - Proposed Amendment to the Fiscal Year 2017 Budget
From Town Manager to Town Council 10/6/2016 (Item 6)
4. Resolution – Resolution to Acquire Property Known as 10 Winter Street by Eminent
Domain – Order of Taking – 10 Winter Street
From Town Manager to Town Council 10/6/2016 (Items 7A & 7B)
5. First Reading – Fiscal Year 2017 Tax Classification Hearing – November 9, 2016
Handout of pages 2, 12, and 13 of the above listed document from Tom Tracy, Town
Auditor (Item 7C)
6. First Reading – Fiscal Note – Exemptions
From Town Manager to Town Council 10/20/2016 (Item 7D)
7. Resolution – Resolution Adopting a Higher Maximum Qualifying Gross Receipts Amount
for Tax Deferral Applicants
From Town Manager to Town Council 10/20/2016 (Item 7E)
8. Resolution – Agenda Item – Acceptance of Gift of Tangible Personal Property
From Town Manager to Town Council 10/20/2016 (Item 7F)
9. Committee Report – Ad Hoc Committee on Technology Report – 6/29/2016 (Item 8A)
10. Committee Report – Ad Hoc Committee on Technology Report – 7/07/2016 (Item 8B)
11. Committee Report – Ad Hoc Committee on Transportation Report – 9/29/2016 (Item 8C)