



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

John A. Donohue
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

John J. Lawn, Jr.
District D Councilor

Town Council Meeting
Tuesday, September 28, 2010 at 7:15 pm
Richard E. Mastrangelo 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 Chamber. Present for the meeting were Councilors John A. Donohue, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Cecilia Lenk, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., John J. Lawn, Jr., 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. **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:** [September 15, 2010.](#)
Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Councilor Falkoff and adopted by voice vote with Councilors John A. Donohue, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Cecilia Lenk, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., John J. Lawn, Jr., Vice President Stephen P. Corbett, and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in favor.
4. **PUBLIC FORUM** – Thomas Thibaut, Firefighter – thanked all those who supported the Breast Cancer Awareness fundraiser at Faire on the Square. He announced that on Sunday, October 3rd from 10-4pm, the Fire Department will host an open house.
5. **MOTIONS, ORDERS AND RESOLUTIONS:**
 - a) [Resolution](#) regarding the Fiscal Year 2012 budget process. The Chair recognized the Manager who reviewed the Fiscal Year 2012 budget process. The Chair noted that a letter would be sent to invite the School Committee, Library Board of Trustees and State elected officials Jonathan Hecht, Steven Tolman and Peter Koutoujian to the October 26th Town Council meeting where a preliminary 2012 budget will be presented. Councilor Piccirilli moved to adopt the resolution outlining the Fiscal Year 2012 budget process, seconded by Councilor Kounelis and adopted by

voice vote with Councilors John A. Donohue, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Cecilia Lenk, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., John J. Lawn, Jr., Vice President Stephen P. Corbett, and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in favor.

6. **NEW BUSINESS:** The Chair recognized Vice President Corbett who provided an initial verbal report of the Economic Development and Planning Subcommittee which he noted met earlier this evening to discuss the Stretch Energy Code and its proposed adoption, which is part and parcel of the Town qualifying as a Green Community. He indicated that buildings would be approximately 20% more energy efficient due to the code. The Committee discussed the pros and cons he stated, with the Committee deciding that an additional meeting was needed in order to answer questions that arose. A tentative schedule includes the introduction of the matter formally on October 12th followed by its advertisement and a public hearing by the Town Council. Vice President Corbett moved to accept the verbal report, subject to a report being written and submitted, seconded by Councilor Donohue and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors John A. Donohue, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Cecilia Lenk, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., John J. Lawn, Jr., Vice President Stephen P. Corbett, and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in favor.

The Chair stated that he would like to entertain a motion to refer the disposition of the former police station building and the municipal parking lot to the subcommittee of Economic Development and Planning so that they may begin discussions on its use. Vice President Corbett moved the matter, seconded by Councilor Palomba. Councilor Palomba stated that parking should be left as is, until the subcommittee has determined what to do with the former police station.

Councilor Kounelis stated that a memo to the Manager from Library Director Leone Cole regarding parking at the municipal lot was forwarded to councilors this evening. She concurred with Councilor Palomba that the parking situation should be left as is until a recommendation is reached by the Committee and an RFP has gone out.

The Manager stated that tomorrow during his staff meeting, he would like to request employees to refrain from parking along the sides of the town hall building; refrain from using metered parking spaces and park as far away from the library as possible in order to free up metered parking spaces for library patrons .

Councilor Falkoff asked if designated sites are available for the fire department. The Manager stated that there are designated employee parking spots.

Councilor Kounelis stated that she feels strongly that a designated area be made for the fire department. She asked that the areas formerly designated for the police be re-designated for the fire department.

The Manager stated that it is not in the best interest of the town to designate any spaces to any particular employees.

The Chair suggested that the police station driveway be used for town employees during this interim period.

Councilor Palomba asked that the designated number of spots formerly used by the police be used and shared by the fire department and town employees in this interim.

Councilor Lawn asked that a report back from the Manager be provided at the next meeting regarding this matter.

The Chair stated that knowing how many town employee parking permits have been issued would be helpful in determining what is needed for parking.

Thomas Thibaut, firefighter – stated that firefighters should be allowed to park at spots formerly assigned to the police department in the interim.

Councilor Piccirilli concurred with the Manager in that the policy decision should be to provide the maximum number of metered parking spaces for library patrons. He also pointed to past discussions by the subcommittee on the need for structured parking in order to relieve the parking problem in the square area. He noted that the subcommittee decided to hold off on more discussion until the police station was moved. Councilor Piccirilli stated that it is hard to make any decisions without specifics and indicated that there is a lot of opportunity for parking and that the matter should be looked at in terms of a technical standpoint to come up with a long term solution.

Councilor Kounelis stated that she assumes that town employees may go ahead and start parking in the area formerly used by the police department; on a first come first serve basis.

7. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The Chair stated that the Faire on the Square was very well attended and thanked those who helped out.

The Chair asked for a motion to refer the Draft FY 09 Town Audit to the subcommittee of Budget and Fiscal Oversight. Vice President Corbett moved the matter, seconded by Councilor Piccirilli and adopted by voice vote with Councilors John A. Donohue, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Cecilia Lenk, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., John J. Lawn, Jr., Vice President Stephen P. Corbett, and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in favor.

8. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER:

a) [Update on tree stump removal.](#)

The Town Manager reviewed correspondence regarding the list of tree stump removals and the process which will be undertaken by the Town. It was noted that the Tree Warden will prepare his list along with the Public Works department; with the Town moving forward with bids due on October 19th and the work being done following that date and continuing for the next 8 weeks.

9. REQUEST FOR INFORMATION – none.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Lawn announced that the police station dedication will be postponed due to inclement weather forecasts. The new date is October 7th at 5:15 pm.

Councilor Kounelis announced that as part of an outreach effort, she spoke at a recent Rotary Club meeting summarizing the Charter Commission's efforts to review the Charter these past months.

Vice President Corbett announced that the Planning Department is hosting a work shop at the high school regarding Ongoing Economic and Planning Study Efforts, this Thursday night at 6:30 pm.

Councilor Falkoff announced that on Wednesday, October 6th at 6:00 pm at the high school, details of the new solar system will be unveiled.

Councilor Palomba announced the showing of a film tomorrow night at 7:00pm, “Scarred Lands and Wounded Lives, the Environmental Footprint of War” – at the Library.

Councilor Piccirilli announced that the MBTA has received Stimulus Monies to improve bus service along 15 routes; included in the routes are Watertown’s Buses 71 and 73 which will receive a number of improvements.

The Chair announced that the State is estimating a loss of revenue if Question 3 passes; of particular concern is a loss of one million dollars to Watertown. The Chair indicated that on October 12th a resolution will be presented for discussion.

The Manager announced that the School Department will be providing a presentation on Capital Improvement Projects at the October 12th Town Council meeting.

11. PUBLIC FORUM

Pat Gold, Council on Aging – reminded citizens of upcoming flu-shot clinics.

Karl Neugebauer – Bromfield Street – stated that with respect to the Faire on the Square pie baking contest; 12 bakers submitted pies – with three winners: 1st place Amanda Frazer, 2nd place Amy Rossi and 3rd place Bob Edmonston. Mr. Neugebauer thanked all the volunteer pie slicers.

Councilor Lenk asked residents to log onto the town’s website for complete list of flu shot clinics.

12. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Town Council, Vice President Corbett moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm, seconded by Councilor Lawn and adopted by voice vote with Councilors John A. Donohue, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Cecilia Lenk, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., John J. Lawn, Jr., Vice President Stephen P. Corbett, and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in favor.

I hereby certify that at a regular meeting of the Town Council for which a quorum was present, the above minutes were adopted on October 12, 2010 by voice vote and as written.

Mark S. Sideris, Council President