



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, April 26, 2011 at 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 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.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:** [April 13th](#). Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the minutes as amended, seconded by Vice President Corbett 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 the affirmative.
4. **PUBLIC FORUM:**
 1. Susan Kinnear – read an excerpt from her 5th grade daughter’s essay which spoke in favor of an increase in the length of a school day and requested the Town Council consider adding more funds to the school budget.
 2. Ally McCreary – stated that she is part of a group of parents on a quest to convince the town to work with the schools all year long.
 3. Kate Cyone – asked the Town Council to prioritize education.
 4. Clyde Younger, Acton Street – provided photographs of illegal dumping at the Grove Street recycling center and asked that the Town Council tour the schools at the beginning of every year.
 5. Matt McDonald, Hardy Avenue – stated that future participation from the public can be improved by placing financial information online and providing the public with instant access to important data.

6. Ruth Thomasian, Trees for Watertown – announced their annual meeting on Thursday, May 19th Free Public Library at 7pm.
5. PRESIDENT’S REPORT: The Chair read a statement at the request of Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) as follows:

“In accordance with the provisions of 301CMR 51.00 the Town Council informs the public that the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, acting through its Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) has under consideration the acquisition of approximately 2.5 acres of land, or other property interest, in the Town of Watertown. The property was used as a railway corridor. If acquired by the Commonwealth, the land shall be incorporated into the state system of parks, reservations and forests as an urban greenway and a multi-use trail.”

6. PRESENTATIONS OF PETITIONS, PROCLAMATIONS AND OTHER SIMILAR MATTERS:

- a) Public hearing and vote on a [petition](#) by NSTAR requesting permission to install 8 feet of conduit from pole# 57/12 on Garfield Street to allow for service to be placed underground. The Chair read the petition and recognized Ms. Sheila Gillis, NSTAR representative who provided a brief overview of the matter.

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

Councilor Piccirilli moved to adopt the petition, seconded by Vice President Corbett 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 the affirmative.

7. PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE

- a) Public hearing and vote on a proposed [Ordinance](#) to Temporarily Modify Hours of Operation of the Administration Building. The Chair recognized the Manager who read the proposed temporary hours of operation.

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

Councilor Falkoff moved the Ordinance, seconded by Councilor Lenk 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 the affirmative.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM PRIOR MEETINGS:

- a) Acceptance of a [revised report](#) by the Committee on Public Works – Susan G. Falkoff, Chair. The Chair recognized Councilor Falkoff who moved to accept the revised report, 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 the affirmative.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- b) Committee on Economic Development and Planning [report](#) on the former police station/municipal lot; shared parking; cell towers; and a comprehensive plan – Stephen P. Corbett, Chair. The Chair recognized Vice President Corbett who read the Committee report. Councilor Donohue moved to accept the report, seconded by Councilor Falkoff and adopted by voice vote 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 the affirmative.

Councilor Donohue moved that the Town Council direct the administration to develop an RFP for a communication tower on town owned land with the main objective being that we improve the town's emergency communication systems, generate new revenue for the town, and we assist in improving cellular coverage for our residents, seconded by Vice President Corbett.

Councilor Falkoff stated that this is an issue that is of great interest to the public and therefore should have a full hearing. Councilors Lenk, Palomba and Kounelis concurred with the need for additional dialogue on the subject matter. Councilor Kounelis stated that she cannot see herself supporting antennas near neighborhoods if there is a way to avoid it.

Councilor Piccirilli stated that a cell tower is now located on a two family house, a first of its kind. He indicated that neighbors were adamant against it and had instead voiced support for its placement on the roof of the North Fire Station.

Councilor Donohue withdrew his motion and suggested that it be referred back to Committee.

The Chair asked for a motion to refer the matter jointly to Economic Development and Planning and Public Works.

Councilor Donohue moved the joint referral, seconded by Vice President Corbett 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 the affirmative.

Councilor Palomba asked whether the Council will be voting to refer the outlined recommendations to the Traffic Commission.

Vice President Corbett stated that the Committee did not want to bypass the Traffic Commission and depending on the feedback from the Traffic Commission, it will then come back to the Town Council for a vote.

Councilor Falkoff indicated that it was her recollection that the Committee's intent was to ask the Council to support sending the issues to the Traffic Commission and moved said motion, seconded by Councilor Donohue 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 the affirmative.

Committee on Public Works [report](#) on snow clearing issues – Susan G. Falkoff, Chair. The Chair recognized Councilor Falkoff who read and moved the Committee report, 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 the affirmative.

Committee on State, Federal & Regional Government [report](#) and action on a [re-appointment](#) to the Board of Election Commissioners – Angeline B. Kounelis, Chair. The Chair recognized Councilor Kounelis who read the Committee report. It was noted that the report will be typed and submitted for the record at a later date. Councilor Falkoff moved to accept the report, seconded by Vice President Corbett 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 the affirmative.

Councilor Kounelis moved the re-appointment of Ms. B. Bonnie Baranowski to a four year term to the Board of Election Commissioners to expire on April 1, 2015, 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 the affirmative.

Committee on Personnel & Town Organization [report](#) and action on a [re-appointment](#) to the Licensing Board – John J. Lawn, Jr., Chair. The Chair recognized Councilor Lawn who read the Committee report. Councilor Donohue moved to accept the report, 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 the affirmative.

Councilor Lawn moved to re-appoint Mr. Robert J. Whitney for a three year term to the Licensing Board to expire on February 15, 2014, seconded by Vice President Corbett and adopted by voice vote with Councilors 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 the affirmative and Councilor Donohue abstaining.

10. NEW BUSINESS: None noted.

The Chair called a five minute recess.

11. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER:
- a) Submission of the Fiscal Year 2012 Budget. The Town Manager read the Fiscal Year 2012 Budget Message.
 - c) The Manager congratulated Fire Chief Mario Orangio for receiving accreditation from Massachusetts Fire Service Commission for demonstrating fire service experience, education and certificates.

The Chair read a list of dates for the upcoming Fiscal Year 2012 budget hearings as follows: May 18th, 21st, 24th, 31st, June 7th with a final vote on the budget on June 14th. The meeting dates will be advertised in accordance with the rules.

12. REQUEST FOR INFORMATION – none noted.
13. ANNOUNCEMENTS – none noted.
14. PUBLIC FORUM – none noted.

15. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Council, Councilor Donohue moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 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 the affirmative.

[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 voice vote on May 11, 2011.

Mark S. Sideris, Council President