



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

Kenneth M. Woodland,
District D Councilor

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING TUESDAY, February 28, 2012 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. Present for the meeting were Councilors John A. Donohue, Susan G. Falkoff, Angeline B. Kounelis, 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. Councilor Lenk was absent.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **EXAMINATION OF MINUTES:** [February 14th](#). Councilor Piccirilli moved the minutes, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors John A. Donohue, Susan G. Falkoff, Angeline B. Kounelis, 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.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to Suspend the Rules in order to bring forward agenda item 8C, seconded by Vice President Corbett and adopted by voice vote with Councilors John A. Donohue, Susan G. Falkoff, Angeline B. Kounelis, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland, Vice President Stephen P. Corbett and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

8C [Resolution](#) approving the Acceptance of Gift of Personal Property from Tufts Health Plan for two (2) solar powered LED pedestrian cross walk signs, controls, hardware and installation. Police Chief Deveau provided a brief overview of the Gift and thanked Tufts Health Plan for being a good partner. He noted that the LED pedestrian crossing signs will make crossing this area safer for pedestrians. Councilor Piccirilli moved the resolution, seconded by Councilor Kounelis and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors John A. Donohue, Susan G. Falkoff, Angeline B. Kounelis, Vincent J.

Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland, Vice President Stephen P. Corbett and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

The Chair thanked Mr. Ronald Reppucci, who was in the audience to representing Tufts Health Plan, for the generous gift.

5. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS FROM TOWN OFFICERS/ EMPLOYEES:

- a) Informational Presentation and [Youth Coalition Update](#) on Current Initiatives – Laura Kurman, Program Director, Wayside Multi-Service Center.

Ms. Kurman, Director and Ms. Sunderland-Ramsey, Program Coordinator provided an update on current initiatives including the Youth Coalition which is a community group of youth and adults actively working on issues along-side parents, school personnel, police and town government addressing risky behavior such as alcohol use. High school students, Tessa Colameta and Michelle Gallego elaborated on their work with fellow students regarding risky behaviors and positive messages such as respect, interest and encouragement that helps promote good behavior.

The Chair thanked Ms. Kurman, Ms. Sunderland-Ramsay, Ms. Colameta and Ms. Gallego for the presentation.

- b) [Informational Presentation](#) on the [proposed Parks renovations/improvements at 552 Main Street and Casey Park](#) – Peter Centola, Recreation Director and Glenn Howard, CDM Smith. Mr. Howard provided a presentation on 552 Main Street and Casey Park renovations and improvements. The 552 Main Street project includes new children’s play area; spray park; picnic gazebo; multi-purpose practice court; tables, benches and bike racks; landscaping; ADA access; and drainage improvements. The Casey Park project includes renovated tennis courts; multi-purpose court-ice skating; new lighting; landscaping; benches; flagpole and bike racks; access parking; fencing and drainage improvements.

Vice President Corbett asked what level baseball is being proposed for 552 Main Street. Mr. Centola indicated; tee ball.

Vice President Corbett asked what the cost would be for the ice rink at Case Park.

Mr. Centola noted that once it is built, the cost is minimal as it only needs to be flooded for free skating.

The Chair asked what security is being proposed, if any, for the ice surface; noting his concern with “after hour” skaters.

Mr. Centola stated that he was not overly concerned over the safety aspects and that no security, other than the fence, is being proposed.

The Chair asked the Manager where the funds will come from for this project.

The Manager indicated that the 552 Main Street project and Casey Park project will come from existing cash and loan authorization bonds in the amount of \$550,000.00.

Councilor Palomba asked about handicap access to Casey Park and 552 Main Street.

Mr. Howard stated that Casey Park is very level and therefore won't need any kind of ramp for access. With respect to 552 Main Street; he noted that there is handicap parking at the police station and there will be further discussions on parking along Acton Street.

6. PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

The Chair indicated that 26 applications have been received for the Superintendent's position with the screening process beginning tonight.

7. ACCEPTANCE OF PROCLAMATIONS: Recognizing [March as Youth Art Month](#). The Chair read the proclamation. Vice President Corbett moved acceptance, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors John A. Donohue, Susan G. Falkoff, Angeline B. Kounelis, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland, Vice President Stephen P. Corbett and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

8. MOTIONS, ORDERS AND RESOLUTIONS:

- a. [Resolution](#) authorizing a transfer of funds in the amount of \$9,390 from the Fiscal Year 2012 Town Council Reserve Account to the Fiscal Year 2012 Transfer to Other Funds Account to fund a local matching grant required for the Assistance to Firefighters Program. The Manager provided an overview of the transfer. Councilor Kounelis moved the resolution, seconded by Councilor Falkoff and adopted by unanimous roll call vote with Councilors John A. Donohue, Susan G. Falkoff, Angeline B. Kounelis, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland, Vice President Stephen P. Corbett and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.
- b. [Resolution](#) authorizing a transfer of funds in the amount of \$32,000 from the Fiscal Year 2012 Town Council Reserve Account to the Fiscal Year Veterans Benefits Account. The Manager provided an overview of the transfer noting that 75% of the monies will be reimbursed by the State. Councilor Piccirilli moved the resolution, seconded by Councilor Donohue and adopted by unanimous roll call vote with Councilors John A. Donohue, Susan G. Falkoff, Angeline B. Kounelis, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland, Vice President Stephen P. Corbett and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- a) Public Works subcommittee [report](#) on Road Plans for Waverley Avenue and Road Management Study – Cecilia Lenk, Chair. Vice President Corbett read the

report. Councilor Donohue moved to accept the report, seconded by Councilor Piccirilli.

Councilor Palomba asked that the loss of parking spaces and the bicycle study be included in the report.

The Chair Tabled the report stating that the chair of the Public Works committee is absent.

Councilor Falkoff added that the PSR System sounds strange and irrational.

b) Human Services subcommittee [report](#) and action on a [re-appointment](#) to Board of Health – Anthony Palomba, Chair. Councilor Woodland read the report. Vice President Corbett moved to accept the report, seconded by Councilor Palomba and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors John A. Donohue, Susan G. Falkoff, Angeline B. Kounelis, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland, Vice President Stephen P. Corbett and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

Councilor Palomba moved the re-appointment of Dr. Barbara Beck, seconded by Councilor Donohue and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors John A. Donohue, Susan G. Falkoff, Angeline B. Kounelis, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland, Vice President Stephen P. Corbett and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

10. NEW BUSINESS

The Chair stated that the Auditor and Council Clerk's evaluation tool will be forwarded to Councilors with a return deadline of March 27th.

11. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER:

a) [Request for Confirmation](#) of reappointment to the Board of Election Commissioners. Referred to State, Federal and Regional Government subcommittee.

b) [Request for Confirmation](#) of appointment and reappointments to the Environmental and Energy Efficiency Committee. Referred to Public Works subcommittee.

12. REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

Councilor Kounelis noted for the record a [voice mail message](#) to the Manager regarding rights, liabilities and interpretation of "right of entry" and "certificate of donation" regarding the Trapelo Road project.

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Councilor Falkoff announced that the Davenport Delta will not be changed.

Councilor Kounelis announced that the Traffic Commission will meet on February 29th at 1:30 pm to finalize plans regarding the Trapelo Road project.

Councilor Palomba noted his appreciation to Deb Peterson regarding a letter with respect to road improvements.

The Chair announced that he will submit a team for Trivia Night on March 28th for the Education Foundation.

Councilor Falkoff asked that the Deb Peterson's letter be attached to the minutes.

14. PUBLIC FORUM

Ms. Maria Saizes, member of the Bicycle/Pedestrian committee asked that the Bicycle master plan be incorporated into the roads study.

15. PUBLIC FORUM:

1. Virginia Rice, 148 Acton Street – stated that she has questions and concerns about the revised plan regarding the basketball court and tee ball park. She spoke in support of preserving the open space for unconstructed play.
2. Candy Aullenback, 33 Puritan Road - stated that there is a lot of neighborhood disagreement regarding the proposed plans for 552 Main Street and that their input was not accepted. She asked if the basketball court and tee ball park are really necessary and even desired.
3. Genevieve Johnson – stated that she does not want the basketball court but that a tot lot is appropriate.

The Chair stated that these concerns are being noted by Councilor Woodland and town officials present; but that no immediate response can be made tonight.

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- a) To discuss strategy with respect to litigation
- b) To consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real estate.

There being no further business to come before the Town Council, Vice President Corbett moved to go into executive session for the above stated purposes and not to return to open session following the adjournment of the executive session. It was further noted having the discussion in open session would be detrimental to negotiations. It was seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous vote with Councilors John A. Donohue, Susan G. Falkoff, Angeline B. Kounelis, 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 minutes were adopted by unanimous voice vote on March 13, 2012.

Mark S. Sideris, Council President