



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

Aaron Dushku,
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, JUNE 23, 2015 @ 6:15 PM RICHARD E. MASTRANGELO COUNCIL CHAMBER ADMINISTRATION BUILDING MINUTES

1. **ROLL CALL:** A regular meeting of the Town Council was called to order at 6:15 pm in the Richard E. Mastrangelo Council Chamber, Administration Building. Present for the meeting were Councilors Aaron Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Cecilia Lenk, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland, Vice President Stephen P. Corbett and Council President Mark S. Sideris. Councilor Kounelis arrived after the call of the roll. Also present were the Town Manager Michael J. Driscoll, Town Attorney Mark Reich and Council Clerk Valerie Papas.

2. **EXECUTIVE SESSION:** 6:15 PM – To discuss strategy with respect to Collective Bargaining with the DPW Union, Town Hall Associates Union, Library Union, Fire Union, Police Patrol Union, Police Supervisors Union, as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the Town's bargaining position.

Councilor Woodland moved to go into executive session for stated purpose as noted, seconded by Councilor Dushku and adopted by unanimous roll call vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Cecilia Lenk, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland, Vice President Stephen P. Corbett and Council President Mark S. Sideris.

3. **RETURN TO OPEN SESSION:** 7:15 PM

4. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

5. **EXAMINATION OF THE MINUTES:** [June 8th](#) and [June 9th](#).

Councilor Piccirilli moved the minutes of June 8th as written, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by voice vote with Councilors Aaron Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, 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 and Councilor Kounelis voting no.

Councilor Piccirilli moved the minutes of June 9th as written, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with 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 voting in the affirmative.

6. PUBLIC FORUM:

Alan Morash, firefighter and member of the bargaining team – stated that the bargaining team has not been treated well during negotiations and asked that the Council approve the proposal sent to the Town this morning.

Paul Lafauci, firefighter – stated that the Manager provided false statements at the last Council meeting and noted that the Manager has been absent from the bargaining table and asked that a fair contract be put on the Table.

Cameron MacDonald – 9 year old son of a firefighter; stated that the contract is also important to the children of firefighters.

Kevin MacDonald, firefighter – stated that it feels like we have an unelected mayor. He noted that the Town Council in 2008 gave the manager an 11% raise. He stated that the Town Council is out of touch and noted that it is time for a change.

Marilyn Devaney, 98 Westminster Avenue – stated that firefighters have been humiliated which is despicable and asked that the Council be fair.

7. PRESIDENTS REPORT: the Chair thanked Watertown Cable Access for installing new television monitors and microphones.

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND VOTES:

a) [Public hearing](#) and vote on a petition by Eversource formerly known as NSTAR to install and maintain approximately 1-3 inch PVC conduit from pole #114/2 on Pearl Street in a northeasterly direction approximately 30 feet within the sidewalk to service a newly created lot B or lot 1. The Chair recognized Eversource Representative, Maureen Carroll who provided an overview of 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, Cecilia Lenk, Anthony Palomba, 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 vote on a proposed Order establishing Water and Sewer Rates and Charges for Fiscal Year 2016. The Chair recognized the Manger and the Town Auditor/Assistant Finance Director, who provided overviews of the 2016 rates noting that the proposed water and sewer rates are increasing.

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

Councilor Piccirilli moved the 2016 water and sewer rates as presented, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with 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 voting in the affirmative.

c) [Public hearing](#) and vote 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 \$1,659,000 under Chapter 44, Sections 7(9), 7(28) and 7(29) of the General Laws or any other enabling authority, for the costs of the following items of departmental equipment, as more fully described in the Town's Fiscal Years 2013 through 2015 Capital Improvement Plan: [Additional Information](#)

<u>Department</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Public Works	Various Vehicles	\$1,088,000
Fire	Emergency Ambulance	\$ 235,000
Water Enterprise	Box Truck	\$ 160,000
Police	Microwave Radio Link and Computers	\$ 111,000
Library	Radio Frequency ID System	\$ 65,000
	Total	\$1,659,000

The Chair recognized the department heads of public works, fire, police and library to provide an overview of the departmental equipment. The manager provided a summary of the financing of the loan authorization.

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

Councilor Piccirilli moved the Loan Order, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous roll call vote with 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 voting in the affirmative.

d) [Public hearing](#) and vote 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 \$2,800,000 under Chapter 44, Section 7(6) of the General Laws or any other enabling authority for the costs of construction and reconstruction of streets and sidewalks, including underground duct/conduit improvements. [Additional Information](#)

The Chair opened up the hearing to the public and recognized:

Ms. Libby Shaw who asked that the town think about the trees when undertaking a project such as this; asking that they be protected; have better soil and in general plan better with trees in mind.

The Chair recognized Mr. Gerald S. Mee, Superintendent of Public Works stated that he will be working closely with the Tree Agent and noted the work on Fifield Street as a great example of how trees can be planned for when undertaking a street/sidewalk project.

There being no further comments, the hearing was closed.

Councilor Piccirilli moved the Loan Order, seconded by Councilor Lenk and adopted by unanimous roll call vote with 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 voting in the affirmative.

9. MOTIONS, ORDERS AND RESOLUTIONS:

a) [Vote](#) on the adoption of the Comprehensive Plan. The Chair recognized Mr. Steve Magoon, Planning Director and Assistant to the Manager who provided an overview of nearly three year process for the Comprehensive Plan noting the hundreds of attendees and participants.

Councilor Piccirilli moved the Comprehensive Plan, seconded by Councilor Lenk.

Councilor Dushku stated that he supports the Plan and noted this occasion as monumental; noting that most of what he wanted to see in the Plan was incorporated.

Councilor Kounelis stated that the Plan is an excellent document as a guideline but stated that she cannot support it because of its specificity noting that sometime we get into specifics that comes back to haunt us later.

Councilor Lenk thanked everyone who has participated in the process noting that the town had huge turnouts for the public hearing process. She noted that there are people who will disagree with some parts of the Plan but that the document sets down something that can be used as a bench mark to vet projects against.

Vice President Corbett stated that he supports the document noting the tremendous amount of work that deals with the entire town and a lot of work went into it and indicated the importance of coming up with a way to have periodic reviews of the Plan.

Councilor Piccirilli noted that this is a big step with an unprecedented amount of public input. He noted that not everyone will agree with the Plan but it is a consensus document on where we want to go and that it will make Watertown better.

Councilor Palomba stated that it is important to keep at the document and use it on a regular basis and refer to it often. He asked that the Council consider a yearly review of the Plan.

Councilor Falkoff thanked everyone who participated in the process and noted that she sees the Plan as a living document; to look at and modify and make work.

The Chair stated that this is a good document that was put together by a community and is another tool in the tool box. He agreed with comments on having follow up to the document.

The Comprehensive Plan was adopted by a roll call vote of 8 for and 1 against with Councilors Aaron Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Cecilia Lenk, Anthony Palomba, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland, Vice President Stephen P. Corbett and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative and Councilor Kounelis voting no.

b) [Resolution](#) authorizing a transfer of \$52,500 from the Fiscal Year 2015 Town Council Reserve Account to the Fiscal Year 2015 Third Party Review of the School Department Account in order to move forward with a Third Party Review of the School Department. The Manager and Town Auditor provided an overview of the resolution. Councilor Piccirilli moved the transfer, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous roll call vote with 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 voting in the affirmative.

c) [Resolution](#) authorizing a transfer of \$1,200,000 from various Fiscal Year 2015 accounts to the Fiscal Year 2015 Transfer to Collective Bargaining Stabilization Fund Account. The Manager provided an overview of the resolution. Councilor Piccirilli moved the transfer, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous roll call vote with 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 voting in the affirmative.

d) [Resolution](#) authorizing a transfer of 500,000 from the Fiscal Year 2015 Debt Retirement – Interest on Short Term Debt Account to the Fiscal Year 2015 Transfer to Capital Projects Stabilization Fund Account. The Manager provided an overview of the resolution. Councilor Piccirilli moved the transfer, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous roll call vote with 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 voting in the affirmative.

e) [An Order](#) Relative to a License Agreement for Parking at Property Located at 631 Mount Auburn Street and Authorizing the Town Manager to Execute an Amendment to the License Agreement and an Authorization Letter to Citizens Bank, N.A. Councilor Piccirilli moved the Order, seconded by Councilor Kounelis.

Councilor Falkoff asked if the town can have discussions with Citizens Bank and get them to agree to share the parking spaces with the town after banking hours.

Attorney Reich stated that those sentiments have been expressed to Citizens Bank during negotiations and have been rebuffed.

The Order was adopted by unanimous roll call vote with 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 voting in the affirmative.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a) Joint subcommittees of Budget Fiscal Oversight and Public Works [report](#) and action on burying utility wires on Arsenal Street – Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., and Cecilia Lenk, Chairs. Councilor Lenk read the report. Vice President Corbett moved to accept the report, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with

with 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 voting in the affirmative.

Councilor Lenk read and moved all three recommendations, seconded by Councilor Kounelis and adopted by unanimous voice vote with 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 voting in the affirmative.

b) Budget Fiscal Oversight subcommittee [report](#) and action on adoption of local options as requested by the Watertown Contributory Retirement Board - Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Chair. Councilor Piccirilli read the report. Councilor Woodland moved to accept the report, seconded by Councilor Kounelis and adopted by unanimous voice vote with 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 voting in the affirmative.

VOTES ON ACTION ITEMS:

1. Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept COLA base increase from \$12,000.00 to \$13,000.00, seconded by Councilor Kounelis and adopted by unanimous voice vote with 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 voting in the affirmative.

2. Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept Section 101 Survivor Allowance increase from \$9,000.00 to \$12,000.00, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with 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 voting in the affirmative.

3. Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept Option D Minimum Monthly Allowance increase from \$250.00 to \$500.00 – Sections 29 and 30 of Chapter 176 of the Acts of 2011, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with 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 voting in the affirmative.

4. Councilor Piccirilli moved Not to accept Minimum Retirement Allowance of \$15,000.00 for 25 years of service, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with 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 voting in the affirmative.

5. Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept Board Member compensation increase from \$3,000.00 to \$4,000.00, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with 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 voting in the affirmative.

11. NEW BUSINESS- none noted.

12. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER:

The Manager announced the start of the 7 Summer Concert schedule. Announced the closing of the Administration Building on July 3rd; as part of the 4th of July holiday.

13. REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION – none noted.

14. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Chair announced that a Special Town Council meeting will be held on June 30th regarding the Design Guidelines.

15. PUBLIC FORUM:

Libby Shaw stated that she is excited about the proposed project for Arsenal Street and the proper planning and planting of street trees.

16. ADJOURNMENT – There being no further business to come before the Town Council, Councilor Lenk moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 pm, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with 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 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 July 14, 2015.

Mark S. Sideris, Council President