



# 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 and  
District C Councilor

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, JANUARY 12, 2016 AT 7:15 PM**  
**RICHARD E. MASTRANGELO COUNCIL CHAMBER**  
**ADMINISTRATION BUILDING**  
**MINUTES**

1. **ROLL CALL:** A regular meeting was called to order at 7:15 pm, in the Richard E. Mastrangelo Council Chamber, Administration Building. Present for the meeting were Councilors Michael F. Dattoli, Aaron P. Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Lisa J. Feltner, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland and Council President Mark S. Sideris. Also present were the Town Manager Michael J. Driscoll and Town Attorney Mark Reich.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **ORGANIZATION:**
  - a) **Election of a Vice President:** The Chair welcomed new Councilors. Councilor Dattoli moved to nominate Councilor Piccirilli as Vice President, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Michael F. Dattoli, Aaron P. Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Lisa J. Feltner, Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.
  - b) **Selection of Seating Assignments.**
  - c) **Adoption of Current Rules of the Town Council as Temporary Rules of the Town Council.** Vice President Piccirilli moved to adopt current Rules dated March 25, 2014 as the temporary Rules, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Michael F. Dattoli, Aaron P. Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Lisa J. Feltner, Kenneth M. Woodland, Vice President Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.
4. **PUBLIC FORUM:**

Steve Messina, resident and businessman – spoke with respect to the Design Standards for residential areas, and on behalf of the Concerned Homeowners Association – he submitted a [petition in opposition to the proposed Design Standards](#).

John Ovoian, Carroll Street – spoke in opposition to the proposed Design Standards for residential areas noting his concern with transparency and communication – and asked are they guidelines or mandates.

Burt Greenberg, Duff Street – thanked outgoing Councilors, recognized new members, and praised the Council President and Town Manager for their hard work. He asked new members to take it slow and not try to change everything overnight.

Jimmy Mello – stated that Sustainable Watertown does not take their laminated signs down from public poles. He asked that Sustainable Watertown do their part in protecting the environment.

Pat Gold, Duff Street – stated that the Town Council is responsible for all residents – and asked that they have equality in all they do, period.

Ed Sheinbart, Main Street – spoke in concern with the light on Main and Church and asked for a synchronized light; and stated that the W House restaurant in Watertown needs a liquor license.

The Chair asked for a motion to Suspend the Rules in order to bring forward all agenda items under 6 - Public Hearings. So moved by Councilor Piccirilli, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Michael F. Dattoli, Aaron P. Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Lisa J. Feltner, Kenneth M. Woodland, Vice President Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

#### 5. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- a) Public hearing and vote on a [petition](#) by Verizon New England Inc. and NSTAR Electric d/b/a/ Eversource to relocate pole no. 3/31 on Arlington Street to the southwesterly side of Arlington Street at a point approximately 138 feet southwesterly from the centerline on Mount Auburn Street at its intersection with Arlington Street, remove existing pole no. 3/31. The Chair recognized Scott Burns, Verizon representative who provided a brief overview of the petition.

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

Vice President Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., moved the petition, seconded by Councilor Woodland.

Vice President Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., stated that the Town has been waiting six years for the PLM system and the double poles issue to be addressed throughout the town.

He asked that both Verizon and NStar remove double pole in question (3/30A) prior to running conduit.

Sheila Gillis, NStar stated that it is a Verizon set pole and that it is their responsibility to remove the double pole.

After further discussion, it was noted for the record that both NStar and Verizon representatives agreed to the condition of the removal of the double pole #30/3A prior to running conduit.

Councilor Kounelis asked how that condition will affect the CVS project.

After further discussion the Chair suggested that at the end of all the petition hearings, the Council entertain a motion to disallow further petitions from the entities until the double pole issue is addressed.

The petition was adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Michael F. Dattoli, Aaron P. Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Lisa J. Feltner, Kenneth M. Woodland, Vice President Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

- b. Public hearing and vote on a [petition](#) by NSTAR Electric d/b/a/ Eversource to install and maintain approximately 10 +/- feet of conduits and manholes with the necessary wire and cables under Warren – Westerly from pole 156/2 approximately 90 feet northwest of Waverley Avenue a distance of about 10 feet conduit. The Chair recognized Sheila Gillis. NStar representative who provided a brief overview of the petition.

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

Vice President Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., moved the approve the petition, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Michael F. Dattoli, Aaron P. Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Lisa J. Feltner, Kenneth M. Woodland, Vice President Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

- c. Public hearing and vote on a [petition](#) by Verizon New England Inc. and NSTAR Electric d/b/a/ Eversource to erect and maintain one (1) jointly owned pole no. 25-S on School Street easterly side approximately 40 feet in a southerly direction from intersection with Mount Auburn Street. Mr. Everett Bryan, Representing Verizon provided an overview of the petition.

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

Vice President Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., moved the petition, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Michael F. Dattoli, Aaron P. Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Lisa J. Feltner, Kenneth M. Woodland, Vice President Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

- d. Public hearing and vote on a [petition](#) by NSTAR Electric d/b/a/ Eversource to install and maintain approximately 7 +/- feet of conduits and manholes with the necessary wire and cables under Arlington – Southwesterly at pole 3/30A approximately 172 feet southeast of Mount Auburn Street a distance of approximately 7 feet of conduit. The Chair recognized Ms. Sheila Gillis, representing NStar who provided a brief overview of the petition.

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

Vice President Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., moved the petition, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Michael F. Dattoli, Aaron P. Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Lisa J. Feltner, Kenneth M. Woodland, Vice President Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

Councilor Falkoff moved that the Council not entertain any future petitions until the issue of the double poles are addressed to the Council's satisfaction, seconded by Councilor Dattoli.

Councilor Palomba stated that he would support a motion to get the double pole 3/30A removed as noted by Vice President Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., and requested sending a letter to Eversource and Verizon and a plan of action for the remaining double poles before any more petitions are considered and moved to amend the motion. Councilor Falkoff agreed and seconded the amendment. The motion as amended was adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Michael F. Dattoli, Aaron P. Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Lisa J. Feltner, Kenneth M. Woodland, Vice President Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

6. PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

a) Appointment of the Clerk of the Council in accordance with Section 2-7(b) of the Watertown Home Rule Charter. The Chair provided background to the hiring process. The Chair forwarded the appointment of Ms. Marilyn Pronovost for confirmation. Vice President Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., moved the appointment of Ms. Pronovost for a term of three years, seconded by Councilor Palomba and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Michael F. Dattoli, Aaron P. Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Lisa J. Feltner, Kenneth M. Woodland, Vice President Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

b) The Chair read the 2016 Subcommittee and Ad Hoc Committee Assignments. Following the reading, the following referrals were made:

Vice President Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., moved to refer to Rules and Ordinances: the Council Rules, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted unanimous voice vote with Councilors Michael F. Dattoli, Aaron P. Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Lisa J. Feltner, Kenneth M. Woodland, Vice President Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

Vice President Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., moved to refer to Personnel and Town Organization: the matter of Council Salaries, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Michael F. Dattoli, Aaron P. Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Lisa J. Feltner, Kenneth M. Woodland, Vice President Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative

Vice President Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., moved to refer to the Transportation Ad Hoc Committee: TMA update and Town-wide Transportation Issues, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors

Michael F. Dattoli, Aaron P. Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Lisa J. Feltner, Kenneth M. Woodland, Vice President Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative

Vice President Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., moved to refer to the Technology Ad Hoc Committee: the matter of Upgrading the Town's website and Communication with the General Public, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Michael F. Dattoli, Aaron P. Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Lisa J. Feltner, Kenneth M. Woodland, Vice President Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative

7. MOTIONS, ORDERS AND RESOLUTIONS:

- a) [Resolution](#) approving the Acceptance and Expenditure of Gift of Funds in the amount of \$1,000 which will be used to offset expenditures related to the "Inauguration of the Elected Officials 2016" celebration. The Manager provided a brief overview of the resolution. Vice President Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., moved the Gift of Funds, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Michael F. Dattoli, Aaron P. Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Lisa J. Feltner, Kenneth M. Woodland, Vice President Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.
- b) [Resolution](#) approving the Acceptance of Gifts of Tangible Personal Property (additional refreshments) for the "Inauguration of the Elected Officials 2016" celebration. The Manager provided an overview of the resolution. Vice President Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., moved the Gift, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous voice vote with Councilors Michael F. Dattoli, Aaron P. Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Lisa J. Feltner, Kenneth M. Woodland, Vice President Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.
- c) An [Order](#) Accepting a Sidewalk Easement at Property Located at 480 Arsenal Street and Authorizing the Town Manager to Execute the Acceptance of said Sidewalk Easement. The Manager provided an overview of the Order. Vice President Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., moved the Order, seconded by Councilor Woodland and adopted by unanimous roll call vote with Councilors Michael F. Dattoli, Aaron P. Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Lisa J. Feltner, Kenneth M. Woodland, Vice President Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., and Council President Mark S. Sideris voting in the affirmative.

8. NEW BUSINESS – none noted.

9. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER:

- a) Request for Confirmation of appointment and reappointments to the Licensing Board. Referred to subcommittee of Personnel and Town Organization.
- b) Request for Confirmation of reappointments to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Referred to subcommittee of Economic Development and Planning.

10. REQUEST FOR INFORMATION:

Councilor Falkoff requested an update on the Harvard/ O'Neil Charitable Funds.

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Councilor Dattoli recognized and thanked outgoing members Stephan Acel-Green and Ken Mirvis for their work on the Environment Energy Efficiency Committee.
- Councilor Dattoli announced a community meeting on January 14<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 pm, with Athena Health to discuss their master plan.
- Councilor Palomba announced the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Martin Luther King Unity Breakfast at the Hellenic Center on January 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Councilor Palomba announced that on January 13<sup>th</sup> and the 19<sup>th</sup> – Regional Mixed Use Development discussion – Library 6:45 pm by Sustainable Watertown.
- Councilor Woodland announced that on January 20<sup>th</sup> - a Community Meeting and discussion with the developer for the 330-350 Pleasant Street Project.
- Councilor Dushku announced a Sustainable Watertown meeting – January 25<sup>th</sup> and the RMUD meeting on January 16<sup>th</sup> at the Arsenal Mall.
- Councilor Feltner announced her Office Hours – January 20<sup>th</sup> 9-10-30am.

12. PUBLIC FORUM – none noted.

13. ADJOURNMENT: there being no further business to come before the Town Council, Councilor Woodland moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 pm, seconded by Councilor Palomba and adopted by unanimous roll call vote with Councilors Michael F. Dattoli, Aaron P. Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Lisa J. Feltner, Kenneth M. Woodland, Vice President Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., 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 Order was adopted by a vote of \_9\_ for, \_0\_ against, and \_0\_ present on August 9, 2016.

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Mark S. Sideris, Council President  
s/MWP