



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

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, FEBRUARY 23, 2016 AT 7:15 PM
RICHARD E. MASTRANGELO COUNCIL CHAMBER
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
MINUTES**

1. ROLL CALL

Council President Sideris called to order a regular meeting of the Town Council at 7:15 p.m. in the Richard E. Mastrangelo Chamber, Administration Building. Those present were Councilors Michael F. Dattoli, Aaron P. Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Anthony Palomba, Angeline B. Kounelis, Lisa J. Feltner, Kenneth M. Woodland, Vice President Vincent Piccirilli, Jr., and Council President Mark S. Sideris. Others present were Michael J. Driscoll, Town Manager, Joseph Fair, Town Attorney, and Marilyn W. Pronovost, Town Council Clerk

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. EXAMINATION OF THE MINUTES

[January 26, 2016](#), [February 9, 2016](#)

Councilor Piccirilli moved to adopt the January 26, 2016 minutes; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion that was adopted unanimously by a voice vote.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to adopt the February 9, 2016 minutes; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion that was adopted unanimously by a voice vote.

4. PUBLIC FORUM

Russ Arico – Fayette St.: Mr. Arico raised concerns about the Path to Saltonstall Park as being unnecessary. The Town needs to be prudent.

John Ovoian – Carroll St.: Mr. Ovoian raised concerns about the Path because it is a nice to have and not an essential need such as the need for more classrooms and payment of the pension deficit.

5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Sideris requested a motion to refer to the Committee on Public Works the task of establishing guidelines for naming streets, squares, and other public locations in honor of a veteran or non-veteran. Councilor Piccirilli so moved; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion that was adopted unanimously by a voice vote.

President Sideris then requested a motion to refer to the Committee on Human Services to convene a meeting to gather community input as to what the Town is looking for in the next Director of Senior Services. Councilor Piccirilli so moved; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion that was adopted unanimously by a voice vote.

6. PRESENTATIONS OF PETITIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, AND SIMILAR PAPERS AND MATTERS

A. [Proclamation Honoring Ms. Caryl L. Fox](#) Upon Her Retirement – Council President Mark S. Sideris read the proclamation from the speaker’s stand. Councilor Piccirilli presented a framed copy of the Proclamation to Ms. Fox. Ms. Fox thanked the Town for this honor.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the Proclamation; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion that was accepted unanimously on a voice vote.

B. Informational Presentation regarding the Commonwealth’s Infrastructure Investment Incentive – “[I Cubed](#)” Program
Mr. Driscoll introduced Michael Crowley, Vice-President for Real Estate and Facilities at Athena Healthcare who presented an informational overview of the Infrastructure Investment Incentive, also known as I Cubed. The program would provide \$25,000,000 of State funding to improve the publicly owned infrastructure around the Athena campus. The funding is generated by job creation, which results in increased city and state taxes that are used to pay for the improvements. Athena would pay for the improvements that later are reimbursed, while the Town is responsible for the Debt Service. To alleviate financial risk to the Town, the Town would levy a special assessment against Athena to cover any shortfalls. Preliminary plan approval has been received from the Department of Administration and Finance (A & F). The next step is for the Town of Watertown to approve the final approval by a 2/3’s vote, and then obtain a final approval from A & F.

Dan Driscoll from the Department of Conservation and Recreation stated that Athena’s role is to fill in the gaps of changes already being completed.

Joe Geller of Stantec provided details of the what improvements would be completed with the funding along Arsenal St., North Beacon St, Greenough Blvd, Squibnocket Park, and Arsenal Park.

Attorney Stephen De Courcey, special Town Counsel for this project, explained that the revenue to pay the project bonds would come from employment and sales taxes generated by the jobs created. He further explained the Town’s responsibility and stated that the risk to the Town is minimal.

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Public Hearing and Vote on an Ordinance Establishing Requirements for [Stormwater Management and Erosion Control](#)

A motion was made by Councilor Piccirilli to move up item 9 B for discussion; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion that was adopted unanimously on a voice vote. Councilor Dushku, Chair of Committee on

Public Works asked Councilor Palomba, Vice-Chair, to read the Committee report. Councilor Palomba read the report. Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the report as read; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion that was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

President Sideris opened the Public Hearing to consider the Stormwater Management and Erosion Control Ordinance.

Steve Magoon, Director spoke on the need for the ordinance and provided some history of its preparation.

David Stokes, member of the Stormwater Advisory Committee, urged passage of the ordinance as written to minimize Stormwater pollution into the Charles River.

Matt Shuman, Town Engineer, explained the purpose of the ordinance, the way it will affect businesses and homeowners, and how it will help reduce pollution flowing into the Charles River.

Councilor Falkoff thanked all those who worked on the ordinance.

Councilor Dattoli asked about the fee for the permits. The proposed rules and regulations suggest a fee of either \$50 or .3 of 1¢/sq. ft., whichever is larger, in order to cover costs.

Councilor Dushku asked if there were a way for the Town Council to be notified of any regulation changes. Both Mr. Shuman and Mr. Magoon stated that changes would be sent to the Committee on Public Works and that this would be the notification but there is no formal notification process in the ordinance.

Councilor Dushku further asked if the permittee is unable to comply with all requirements, will there be formal findings on record. Both Mr. Shuman and Mr. Magoon stated that the application puts the burden on the applicant to explain why something cannot be accomplished rather than the Town issuing formal findings on the applications.

Councilor Kounelis noted the exemptions and asked if anything would trigger the need for a permit. Mr. Shuman stated that unless a homeowner were making an addition larger than 500 sq. ft. or were building a home, this should not affect most homeowners. There will also be a simplified permit process for smaller changes.

Councilor Palomba wanted to know if the standards will put the Town in good stead with the EPA when the permit is renewed. Mr. Shuman stated that it meets current standards.

Councilor Palomba further wanted an explanation of the 20-year planning period. Mr. Shuman stated that the plan relates to phosphorus control. The

plan is for a 20 year period but the first five years are for creating an implementation plan.

Councilor Feltner asked about the appeals process. Mr. Shuman stated the decision of the DPW is final and the permittee may appeal to the court of competent jurisdiction. He further stated that building would not be started for projects until the Stormwater permit was obtained.

Councilor Dushku moved to amend the ordinance by inserting in §98.03 AUTHORITY AND ADMINISTRATION, (C) Rules and Regulations, the following sentence at the end of the paragraph:
Any updates to the rules and regulations shall be presented to the Town Council for informational purposes. Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion to amend was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Councilor Dushku asked Mr. Magoon and Mr. Shuman their opinion on requiring a formal finding for each permit. Both felt that this would be burdensome and did not favor such a change.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to adopt the ordinance as previously amended by Councilor Dushku's motion; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. President Sideris called for a Roll Call. The motion was adopted unanimously on a roll call vote.

8. MOTIONS, ORDINANCES, ORDER, AND RESOLUTIONS

Order Granting an [Easement for a Subsurface Infiltration Chamber System](#) on Town-Owned Property and Authorizing the Town Manager to Execute the Easement.

Mr. Driscoll provided background on the need for the easement and requested the granting of the easement. Councilor Piccirilli moved to adopt the order for a grant of easement; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion.

Councilor Palomba requested information regarding the infiltration systems. Mr. Magoon explained that the stormwater would be filtered rather than run into a catch basin.

Councilor Dushku wondered if this would affect the Community Path plan. Mr. Magoon stated that this will affect areas touched by the plan but that the work will not conflict with the Path.

President Sideris called for a roll call. The motion was adopted unanimously on a roll call vote.

9. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

A. Committee on Public Works regarding the [Community Path](#) for the Western Section and the connection with the Eastern Section – Aaron Dushku, Chair

Councilor Dushku presented the report. Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the report; Councilor Falkoff seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

- B. Committee on Public Works Report on the [Stormwater Ordinance and the Collins Center Follow-Up](#) - Aaron Dushku, Chair
The report was moved to be heard prior to the discussion on the Stormwater Ordinance. For further information, see Agenda Item 7.

- C. Committee on Public Works Report on the [Road Program and the Complete Streets Policy](#) – Aaron Dushku, Chair
Councilor Dushku read the Committee report. Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the report; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Councilor Dushku moved the Town Council approve the list of streets to be included in the 2016 Roads Program; Councilor Falkoff seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

- D. Committee on Personnel and Town Organization Report on the [Interviewing of Appointees and Reappointees to the Licensing Board](#) – Susan Falkoff, Chair
Councilor Falkoff read the Committee report. Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the report; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Councilor Falkoff moved to reappoint Sandra Kasabian Hoffman as an Alternate Member to the Licensing Board with a term to expire on 02/15/2019; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Councilor Falkoff moved to appoint Steven Aylward to fill an unexpired Full Member term to the Licensing Board with a term to expire on 02/15/2017; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Councilor Falkoff moved to reappoint George B. Newman as a Full Member to the Licensing Board with a term to expire on 02/15/2018; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Councilor Falkoff moved to reappoint Donna Doucette as a Full Member to the Licensing Board with a term to expire on 02/15/2019; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Councilor Falkoff requested an update on the hiring of the Licensing Board Clerk. Mr. Driscoll stated that a person has been hired and will begin work on March 7, 2016.

- E. Committee on Economic Development and Planning Report regarding the [Interviews for the Candidates for Reappointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals](#) – Susan Falkoff, Chair
Councilor Falkoff read the Committee Report. Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the report; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to confirm Kelly Donato for reappointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals a Full Member for a term to expire February 15, 2021; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Councilor Falkoff moved to confirm Neeraj Chander for reappointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals an Alternative Member for a term to expire February 15, 2018; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

- F. Committee on Technology and Communications regarding a [Review of the Watertown Website](#) – Kenneth Woodland, Chair
Councilor Woodland read the Committee report. Councilor Falkoff moved to accept the report; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

- G. Committee on Rules and Ordinances regarding the [Developers Providing Information 14 Days Prior to Community Meeting](#) – Kenneth Woodland – Chair
Councilor Woodland read the Committee report. Councilor Palomba moved to accept the Committee report; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. Councilor Piccirilli moved to amend the motion so that Council Rules be amended to reflect the date of the rules as February 23, 2016 as opposed to March 25, 2015. The amended motion was adopted unanimously by a voice vote.

President Sideris stated that the three zoning changes will be placed on the next meeting's agenda for a first reading and then referred to the Planning Board.

Councilor Woodland moved to adopt the Council Rules as amended; Councilor Kounelis seconded the motion. The amendment was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Councilor Woodland moved to refer to the Committee on Rules and Ordinances the idea of remote participation; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The amendment was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

10. NEW BUSINESS

Councilor Dattoli moved to refer to the Committee on Education and School System Matters the questions of the schools current physical state and the

school enrollment projection; Councilor Dushku seconded the motion. The amendment was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Councilor Feltner moved to refer to the Committee on Public Works the question of considering potential remedies to Orchard St.; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

11. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER

Mr. Driscoll provided an update on the double poles. Currently there are 117 double poles, of these 68 poles, or more than 58% involve Eversource. No other utility has more than 10 poles that need action. Mr. Magoon has reached out to Eversource.

On March 5, 2016 from 1-4, the 11th Annual Wedding Showcase will be held at the Commander's Mansion.

12. REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION/REVIEW OF LIST OF PENDING MATTERS

Councilor Dattoli asked for an update on the data of students residing in large multi-unit developments that was previously requested by Councilor Piccirilli.

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Feltner stated that on February 26, 2016, she will be attending an MMA Legislative Breakfast in Framingham.

Councilor Dushku stated that the Arsenal Corridor Community meeting will be held on February 24, 2016 to discuss transportation concerns.

Councilor Dattoli stated that the James Russell Lowell PTO will be holding a Silent Auction from 3/1 – 3/12 to benefit the school and its activities.

Councilor Palomba stated the Recreation Department will hold a second meeting on March 16, 2016 at 7:00 in Council Chamber to discuss renovations to Filippello Park as a dog park.

14. PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. Magoon informed Council Members of the repairs made to the ceiling in the Chamber.

15. RECESS OR ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Woodland moved to adjourn at 9:42 pm; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

[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 8, 2016.

Mark S. Sideris, Council President
s/MWP