



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, MAY 10, 2016 AT 6:15 P.M.
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 6:15 p.m. in the Richard E. Mastrangelo Chamber, Administration Building. Those present were Councilors Michael F. Dattoli, Aaron P. Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Lisa J. Feltner, Vice President Vincent Piccirilli, Jr., and Council President Mark S. Sideris. Councilor Anthony Palomba arrived at 6:17 p.m.; Councilor Angeline B. Kounelis arrived at 6:18 p.m.; and Councilor Kenneth M. Woodland arrived at 7:47 p.m. Also present were Michael J. Driscoll, Town Manager, Joseph Fair, Town Attorney, and Marilyn W. Pronovost, Town Council Clerk.

2. EXECUTIVE SESSION

To consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real estate – 10 Winter Street and former east and north branch libraries; if the chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to go into executive session for the above stated purpose; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was accepted unanimously on a roll call vote.

3. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

5. PUBLIC FORUM

Russ Arrico – spoke about the March 28th meeting regarding his concerns that the Senior Center not be made into a multi-generational center.

Ron Bieringer – raised concerns regarding the amount of building being completed in Town and the street conditions.

Pat Gold – Reviewed the report regarding the Senior Center.

6. EXAMINATION OF THE MINUTES

Minutes of the April 12, 2016 Regular Town Council Meeting

Councilor Piccirilli moved to adopt the minutes with the following amendments:

- Change the current wording of Paragraph 3 in Item 11.B to read as follows:
Councilor Piccirilli moved that the options for committee members who choose not to take their own minutes be referred back to the Personnel and Town Organization Committee for discussion.
Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion.
- Change in Paragraph 3 of Item 14 the words from “Davenport Circle” to “Davenport Delta”
- Change in Paragraph 4 of Item 15 the words from “April 22” to “April 26”.

Councilor Feltner seconded the motion.

Councilor Kounelis wanted to confirm that this was the wording referred to in Councilor Piccirilli’s May 6, 2016 email. Councilor Piccirilli confirmed that statement.

President Sideris pointed out that some statements reflected the speaker’s statement and not the proper citation. Councilor Falkoff stated that the usage of sic should be noted.

Attorney Fair stated that the minutes should reflect what was said; statements should not be altered to reflect intent but should reflect statement and by whom. However, if the meaning could be misleading, the parenthetical could be used, but it should be in rare circumstances.

The minutes were adopted with the use of sic to reflect the statements. The motion was adopted unanimously on voice vote.

Minutes of the April 26, 2016 Regular Town Council Meeting

Councilor Piccirilli moved to approve the minutes; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

7. PRESIDENT’S REPORT

A. Request for Letter to [MassDOT Re: 2017-2021 CIP Needs](#)

President Sideris stated that due to time sensitivities, he would like to see the Department of Planning and Community Development (DCPD) draft the letters. Councilor Piccirilli moved to instruct DCPD to draft a letter to be written as presented in the document; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

B. Request for Letter to Senator Brownsberger for Support of [Watertown TMA State Budget Item](#)

President Sideris presented a request for DCPD to draft a letter regarding the \$50,000 grant for the 128 Business Council to plan and develop a Transportation and Management Association (TMA) for the Arsenal and Pleasant Streets corridors.

Councilor Piccirilli moved that a letter be written as presented in the proposed draft motion; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. Councilor Dushku reminded everyone that the deadline for this letter is Friday. The motion then was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

President Sideris then requested a motion to refer to the Ad Hoc Committee on Transportation for a discussion of recommendations regarding the organization and operation of the Transportation and Management Association – TMA. The referral will discuss the parameters of a proposal set up for this purpose. Councilor Piccirilli moved to adopt the motion as stated; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion then was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

President Sideris announced the Council's schedule for the next few weeks. Beginning May 17, there will be a series of budget hearings. Councilors have received the detailed backup material.

On May 24, there will be a first reading for a loan order for the Middle School windows.

On June 7, there will be a special meeting of the Town Council to vote on the FY '17 budget, as well as the vote on the Middle School windows loan order and the Reusable Bag Ordinance.

On June 14, at the Town Council meeting, there will be a discussion of council salaries that was presented by the Personnel and Town Organization Committee. The Council will also discuss zoning amendments that were previously referred to the Planning Board. These were approved and will be referred back to the Town Council for consideration.

On June 28, the Water and Sewer rates will be presented. There will also be a discussion of the Commercial Snow Ordinance.

8. MOTIONS, ORDINANCES, ORDER, AND RESOLUTIONS

- A. First Reading 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 \$2,500,000 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](#).

Mr. Driscoll stated that this is a request for a \$2.5 million loan order to improve streets and sidewalks during the summer of 2016. The public hearing and vote on the loan order will be completed at the May 24, 2016 Town Council meeting.

- B. Resolution Approving the [Acceptance and Expenditure of Gifts of Funds](#) in the amount of \$250.00 to offset expenses related to the “2016 Memorial Day Parade”

Mr. Driscoll explained that a donation was made by the Watertown Savings Bank to offset Memorial Day Parade celebrations and requested the council’s approval to accept the donation. Councilor Piccirilli so moved; Councilor Falkoff seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

9. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

- A. Committee on Health and Human Services Report on the Continuing Discussion of [Policies Regulating Dog Parks and Related Matters](#) – Anthony Palomba, Chair

Councilor Palomba read the Committee Report. Councilor Dattoli moved to accept the report as read; Councilor Piccirilli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

President Sideris stated that based on discussions with the Town Attorney, the action items being suggested by the reports should be on the agenda so the Town is in compliance with the Open Meeting Law.

Attorney Fair stated the Open Meeting Law requires that items that are reasonably anticipated for discussion need to be on the agenda so that the public has sufficient notice. It was suggested that the current action items be placed on the agenda of a future meeting. It was decided that all action items for any report presented at the meeting would be deferred until the May 24th meeting.

- B. Committee on Health and Human Services Report on Gathering Community Input on [What the Community Is Seeking in the Next Director of Senior Services](#) – Anthony Palomba, Chair

Councilor Palomba read the report, noting that Peter Centola’s name was misspelt in the minutes. Councilor Dattoli moved that the report be accepted; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

- C. Committee on Public Works Report Regarding [DPW’s Presentation of Updated Plans for Lower Common Street](#) – Aaron P. Dushku, Chair

Councilor Dushku read the Committee Report. Councilor Woodland moved to accept the report; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

D. Committee on Public Works Report Regarding the Discussion of [Recommendations for How Dog Park](#) – Aaron P. Dushku, Chair

Councilor Dushku read the Committee Report. Councilor Woodland moved to accept the report; Councilor Palomba seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote

10. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER

Mr. Driscoll announced that he was referring the name of Janet Buck to serve on the Planning Board for a term that will end on February 15, 2017 to the Economic Development and Planning Committee.

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

Councilor Dushku believed that the fence around the Greenough Blvd. area was going to be removed. He would like a status on the fence.

He also would like to see the Police Department produce a report on Opioid Abuse for 2016, similar to the one they completed for 2015.

Councilor Kounelis asked for a disclosure of the assessment increase for East End properties from Francis Golden, the Town Assessor,

She also wanted to know the status of a rodent control request from an Elm St. resident.

Councilor Palomba wanted clarification if Ms. Buck could serve on two committees. Mr. Driscoll stated that she would resign the Stormwater Advisory Committee after her appointment to the Planning Board.

Councilor Falkoff asked for a status of the O'Neil Charitable Fund.

12. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Kounelis stated that she and Mr. Magoon participated as stakeholders in a [Mt. Auburn St. Transportation Study](#) on May 5. On June 1, there will be meeting for community discussion at Shady Hill School, Coolidge Avenue, Cambridge. She asked that this be made a part of the record.

Councilor Dattoli stated that he would hold office hours on Saturday, May 14, from 10:00 am – 11:30 am at the Watertown Public Library.

Councilor Dushku stated that the Transportation Committee hearing scheduled for May 17 was rescheduled to June 6 at the Third Floor conference room.

He also stated that the Buildings and Grounds Committee of the School Committee would be meeting to discuss the school buildings on Monday, May 16 at the Watertown High School Library.

He stated that there would be a Forum on Transportation Planning on June 16 at the Library.

Councilor Falkoff announced there would be Developer Community Meeting regarding the Transportation issues in the Athena Master Plan on Monday, May 16 at 6:30 p.m. at the Coolidge School.

She also stated that there would be three meetings regarding Arsenal St. at the Arsenal Project:

- 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, May 18
- 7:00 p.m., Thursday, May 26
- 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, June 1

13. PUBLIC FORUM

Burt Greenberg – Spoke on condominiums

Pat Gold – The Senior Center Shuttle Bus is being repaired. She would like to know what the status is.

14. RECESS OR ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Piccirilli moved to adjourn the meeting; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

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 a voice vote of 9 for, 0 against, 0 present on 05/24/2016.

Mark S. Sideris, Council President
s/MWP