



# 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, OCTOBER 11, 2016 AT 7:15 P.M. RICHARD E. MASTRANGELO COUNCIL CHAMBER 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, Lisa J. Feltner, Angeline B. Kounelis, Anthony Palomba, Vice President Vincent Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland, and Council President Mark S. Sideris. Also present were Michael J. Driscoll, Town Manager, Joseph Fair, Town Attorney, and Marilyn W. Pronovost, Town Council Clerk.

### 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

### 3. PUBLIC FORUM

There were no speakers for the public forum.

### 4. EXAMINATION OF RECORDS OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

[Minutes of the September 27, 2016](#) Town Council Meeting

Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the minutes of September 27, 2016 as written; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

### 5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Sideris stated that he would read a proclamation for an event that would occur prior to the next meeting. Because the item did not appear on the agenda, the proclamation would be taken up at the October 25, 2016 meeting for a confirmatory vote.

President Sideris read the Lights on Afterschool Day Proclamation regarding afterschool programs. Councilor Piccirilli moved to adopt the Proclamation; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

### 6. MOTIONS, ORDINANCES, ORDER, AND RESOLUTIONS

- A. Resolution to [Acquire Property Known as 10 Winter Street](#) by Eminent Domain – For Consideration at the October 25, 2016 Town Council Meeting

Mr. Driscoll provided background on this matter and stated that it would be taken up at the October 25, 2016 Town Council Meeting.

- B. [Order of Taking – 10 Winter Street](#) – For Consideration at the October 25, 2016 Town Council Meeting

Mr. Driscoll provided background on this matter and stated that it would be taken up at the October 25, 2016 Town Council Meeting.

- C. First Reading on a [Proposed Amendment to the Fiscal Year 2017 Budget](#)

Mr. Driscoll provided background on this matter and stated that it would be taken up at the October 25, 2016 Town Council Meeting.

7. NEW BUSINESS

President Sideris requested a referral to the Economic Development and Planning Committee to review the issue of establishing medical marijuana facilities in Watertown. Councilor Piccirilli moved to refer the issue of medical marijuana facilities in Watertown to the Economic Development and Planning Committee; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

8. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER

[Preliminary Budget Overview](#) for Fiscal Year 2018

Mr. Driscoll presented the preliminary budget overview of the Town Budget and a forecast for Fiscal Year 2018. On November 22, 2016, there will be a presentation of the budget goals. Financial officers are working on the Taxpayers Assistance Program (TAP), which will serve as the basis of a presentation of the tax classification plan. The first reading will be on October 25, 2016.

Revenue for the town consists of

- ~ Property Taxes – 74.60% of the Budget
- ~ State Aid – 9.53%
- ~ Local Receipts – 9.41%
- ~ Other Revenue Sources – 6.46%

There was a surplus of \$2,847,447; it represents 2.33% of the total budget.

Capital Projects expenditures were 7.77% of the budget, which is within Council guidelines of 7.5% - 8% of the budget. Actual Expenditures decreased by \$1,781,905, or 1.46% in FY '16.

The unreserved fund balance represents 8.90%, a healthy reserve for the lenders.

Debt is \$35,967,291. Expenditures for both the water and sewer funds were less than the revenues.

Mr. Driscoll provided a budget forecast. Some expenditure assumptions included

- ~ 2.5% increase in departmental expenditures
- ~ 5% increase in Education
- ~ 3% increase in waste disposal
- ~ 2.5% increase of state assessments excluding the MBTA
- ~ 2.75% increase in the MBTA assessment
- ~ Pension costs will increase for FY's 18 and 19 and decrease in FY '20
- ~ 6% increase in health insurance
- ~ 5% increase for street and sidewalk improvements

He also stated that the projected deficit has been reduced from \$2,077,619 to \$1,831,310.

The budget policy guidelines will be completed within the next six weeks.

#### 9. REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION /REVIEW OF LIST OF PENDING MATTERS

Councilor Dattoli requested a status update on the hiring of a Senior Transportation Planner.

Councilor Feltner requested

- ~ Information as to whether the community is ready to meet the new requirements for public records.
- ~ Information on the reasons of the lack of lighting along Arsenal Street.

#### 10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Piccirilli announced that the next step for the budget process is to develop Budget Guidelines. Meetings will be held on the weeks of October 31, 2016, November 7, 2016, and November 14, 2016 with a presentation made to the Town Council on November 22, 2016. Councilor Piccirilli requested Council members to submit their suggestions to him by October 25, 2016.

Councilor Palomba announced that the Watertown Task Force on Substance Abuse Disorder is teaming up with the Library and presenting a movie on October 17, 2016 called "Heroin: Cape Cod USA". People from various organizations will be available for discussion and to provide resource information.

He also announced that on Thursday, November 17, 2016 from 7:30 – 9:00 pm at the Middle School WATERTOWN is sponsoring a program entitled Erase the Stigma, Together We Can. Congresswoman Katherine Clark will be the featured speaker.

Councilor Dushku announced that

- ~ On Thursday, October 13, 2016, the Planning Board will discuss the Athena Health Campus Master Plan.
- ~ The Committee on Public Works meeting regarding Roads for 2017 has been rescheduled to October 27, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.

- ~ The agenda for the Ad Hoc Committee on Transportation's meeting on October 18, 2016 has changed. The Transportation Demand Management will be discussed rather than the Transportation Management Association.
- ~ On October 24, 2016, early voting for the election will begin.

Councilor Feltner announced that she would be attending the North East Law Enforcement Showcase in Wilmington on October 12, 2016 from 9:30 am – 12:00 pm.

President Sideris announced that the last day to register to vote is October 19, 2016.

He also announced that on October 27, 2016 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m., the Attorney General's Office would be providing Open Meeting Law Training at the Watertown Free Public Library.

#### 11. PUBLIC FORUM

There were no speakers for this forum.

#### 12. RECESS OR ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Palomba moved to adjourn the meeting; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:54 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 October 25, 2016

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Mark S. Sideris, Council President  
s/MWP