

**MINUTES
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2009 AT 7:15 PM
RICHARD E. MASTRANGELO CHAMBER
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING**

1. **ROLL CALL:** A regular meeting of the Town Council was called to order at 7:15 pm in the Richard E. Mastrangelo Chamber, Administration Building. Present for the meeting were Councilors Stephen P. Corbett, Marilyn M. Petitto Devaney, Susan G. Falkoff, Jonathan Hecht, Angeline B. Kounelis, John J. Lawn, Jr., Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Vice President Mark S. Sideris and Council President Clyde L. Younger. Also present were the Town Manager Michael J. Driscoll, Town Attorney Mark Reich and Council Clerk Valerie Papas.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES: September 8th.** Councilor Sideris moved to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Councilor Piccirilli and adopted by voice vote.
4. **PUBLIC FORUM:** The Chair recognized President of Trees for Watertown, Ruth Thomasian who announced a Tree Pruning class on October 14th. She also reminded residents of the value of town trees and thanked a beautician from JC Studio for the flowers planted by the Bartlett pear tree along Baptist Walk.
5. **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**
 - a) Committee on Public Works and Budget & Fiscal Oversight report on Ridgelawn Cemetery and Snow Removal – Susan G. Falkoff/Mark S. Sideris, Chairs. The Chair recognized Councilor Sideris who read the joint committee report. The DPW Superintendent has identified four possible areas for cost savings: elimination of free salt program; reduction of services on flat streets; reduction of services on private ways; and less use of contracted services. It was noted by Councilor Sideris that discussion of these proposals will be continued in subcommittee.

After the joint committee discussed snow removal, the committees met to discuss Ridgelawn Cemetery. Councilor Falkoff stated that Mr. Mee presented preliminary drawings to show how mausoleums could be built in order to increase available burial space. It was noted that several residents were concerned with the proposal. The subcommittee will continue to involve the public in the planning process and have DPW research regulations and cost estimates and also gather information about whether the current fee structure for burial plots should be reviewed. Upon a request by the Chair, Councilor Falkoff read comments by funeral directors which were included as part of the report.

Councilor Devaney noted that she is opposed to mausoleums at Ridgelawn cemetery due to the cemetery abutting a residential area.

Councilor Lawn reiterated that Watertown cannot buy land in other towns for cemetery use. Mr. Mee put together options for the town which the neighborhood expressed concern over. He noted that he will be holding neighborhood meetings on the matter in the near future in order to avoid any surprises and to keep Watertown and Waltham neighbors updated.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the report, seconded by Councilor Falkoff and adopted by voice vote. The full report is attached.

6. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION FROM TOWN OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES:

- a) Informational Presentation on the status of a town wide planning for H1N1 (Swine Flu) and seasonal flu – Steven J. Ward, Director of Public Health. The Chair recognized Mr. Ward who provided an in-depth power point presentation and update on the seasonal flu; H1N1 vaccine and school based clinics. It was noted that the supply of seasonal vaccine was delayed due to H1N1 priority but that flu shot clinics have been scheduled. Ms. Allie Altman, School Business Administrator reviewed a program to provide vaccines to students in the school. Elementary students will be accompanied by a parent and older students will require a permission slip. Boston College School of Nursing will be assisting with this effort. Mr. Ward reviewed initial targeted groups to receive the H1N1 vaccine.

Councilor Lawn stated that partnering with Boston College nurses is a great idea. It was noted by Mr. Ward that Northeastern University and Regis College will also participate and assist.

Mr. Ward stated that with funds from the CDC, he will be able to purchase the manpower to administer the 11, 000 doses of vaccine he expects to receive from the State.

Councilor Hecht noted that Mr. Ward, Ms. Altman and their staff have done an outstanding job in thinking this through.

7. MOTIONS, ORDERS AND RESOLUTIONS:

- a) Resolution and referral to subcommittee regarding a Personnel Review Panel. The Chair requested a motion to Table the matter to the next meeting in order to provide more background information. Councilor Kounelis moved the request to Table, seconded by Councilor Lawn and adopted by voice vote.

8. PRESIDENT'S REPORT: none noted.

9. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER:

1. Yard Waste Pickup October 9th and 23rd.
2. Cash for Clunkers impact on excise fees will be discussed at the preliminary budget overview.
3. Vacancy of Recreation Director following the retirement of Mr. Thomas Sullivan who retires with over 35 years of service to the town and its children.
4. Faire on the Square, Saturday 10-4 pm. No rain date; no dogs; no roller blades and no skateboarding.

10. REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION none noted.

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Devaney announced that she will be gathering information on a proposal to deduct water/sewer assessment from home-owners taxes.

12. PUBLIC FORUM none noted.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION: There being no further business to come before the Town Council, Councilor Sideris moved to go into executive session at 8:20 pm in order to discuss strategy with respect to litigation and will not return to open session following its adjournment, seconded by Councilor Piccirilli and adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

At a regular meeting of the Town Council for which a quorum was present, the above minutes were adopted on October 13, 2009 as written.

Clyde L. Younger, Council President