



TOWN OF WATERTOWN
Town Council

Administration Building
149 Main Street
Watertown, MA 02472
Phone: 617-972-6470
Fax: 617-972-6485
www.watertown-ma.gov

Elected Officials:
Clyde L. Younger, Council President
Mark S. Sideris, Vice President

Stephen P. Corbett
Marilyn M. Petitto Devaney
Susan G. Falkoff
Jonathan Hecht
Angeline B. Kounelis
John J. Lawn, Jr.
Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr.

**MINUTES
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 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 Council Chamber. 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: October 27th & November 10th.**

Councilor Devaney moved to accept both sets of minutes with amendments, seconded by Councilor Sideris and adopted by voice vote.

Councilor Sideris moved to Suspend the Rules in order to bring forward the President's Report, seconded by Councilor Lawn and adopted by voice vote.

Captain Steven Igoe presented Councilor Devaney with an encased firefighters' ax. He read the inscription declaring the Councilor an "Honorary Watertown Firefighter." He also presented a bouquet of roses.

The Chair recognized Nancy Scott who presented Councilor Devaney with a gift from the Town Hall Associates.

The Chair spoke of his past friendship with Councilor Devaney and her accomplishments over the years and presented her with a gift from the Confidential Secretaries.

Former Firefighter and Retirement Board member, Duke Arone – thanked Councilor Devaney for her support for retirees over the years.

Councilor Devaney noting imminent retirement from the Council and her nearly thirty years of service thanked everyone for this special recognition including her husband, now deceased, and four children for their support and stated that she will continue to meet with and serve her constituents as Governor's Councilor.

4. PUBLIC FORUM:

Doris Donovan, Waltham resident - thanked Councilor Devaney for her many years of service.

Margaret Cassidy, Prentis Street – thanked Councilor Devaney for her years of service.

Debbie Munger – spoke in support of the originally proposed ordinance by Councilor Devaney prohibiting the erection of mausoleums at Ridgelawn Cemetery.

5. HEARING AND VOTE:

a) 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 \$881,000 under Chapter 44 of the General Laws or any other enabling authority, for the purpose of purchasing departmental equipment for the Fire Department, Police Department and the Department of Public Works. The Town Manager provided a brief overview of the loan order. Fire Chief Orangio, Police Chief Deveau and DPW Superintendent provided a brief presentation on the items contained in the loan order including a pumper truck for the fire department, a mobile data system for the police department and front end loader for public works. The Manager reviewed the financing component of the loan order.

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

Councilor Devaney moved the loan order, seconded by Councilor Sideris and adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

6. COMMITTEE REPORT:

a) Committee on Rules and Ordinances report and first reading on a proposed Ordinance: Re Mausoleums sited at Ridgelawn Cemetery – Angeline B. Kounelis, Chair. Councilor Kounelis provided a brief summary of the proposed report and read specific excerpts. Attorney Reich reviewed the ordinance noting that the original ordinance was broad and intended to prohibit above ground structures, be it cremated or otherwise. Following subsequent discussion at the Committee level, the ordinance language was narrowed to prohibit only casketed

remains as opposed to cremated remains. Both ordinances are consistent with Mass General Laws, Attorney Reich noted.

Councilor Kounelis reviewed the original ordinance, committee discussion on the matter and the revised ordinance narrowing the language.

Councilor Devaney moved to advertise for public hearing the original ordinance prohibiting above ground structures for all types of remains, seconded by Councilor Lawn.

Councilor Hecht clarified that the Council is merely putting out language for publication and that what is ultimately voted in December may differ.

Councilor Devaney provided a history of past discussions on mausoleums. She noted a letter from Mayor McCarthy opposing mausoleums along with a petition from Waltham residents (attached). She spoke against a watered down version of the ordinance.

Councilor Piccirilli indicated that the town will run out of cemetery space in ten year. He stated that the Committee along with DPW Superintendent Mee wanted to explore and look at all options and involve the public in the process. He noted that mausoleums were never recommended by the Committee and that their proposed recommendation was unlikely. He noted that the lack of cemetery space is a community issue and that the town is obligated to find a solution for future generations. He stated that small column type niches for cremated remains would not have the same negative aspects that neighbors expressed concerns with and spoke in support of a narrower ordinance which would allow for columns/niches for cremated remains for high density usage.

Councilor Kounelis stated that she is comfortable supporting the original ordinance and noted that the ordinance can be amended by future councils.

Councilor Corbett stated that he is concerned with both versions. He spoke in support of a more technical/objective study, analysis and planning of this issue. He indicated that this is premature and has not been based on objective data.

Councilor Lawn indicated that he is in support of the original ordinance due to the residential nature of the area abutting Ridgelawn cemetery.

Councilor Devaney stated that you don't have to research something when it is wrong and residents don't want it.

Councilor Falkoff commented that no one is complaining about above ground memorials. She agrees with the neighbors' concerns about smells and maintenance and especially height but she would have trouble supporting an ordinance that forbids bench-

height walls for cremated remains since they would allow more burials and they could be a desirable addition to a park-like setting.

Councilor Hecht stated that neither versions fully address all of the concerns raised tonight and stated that this step is preliminary for publication and it will come back to the Council for more discussion and perhaps will result in a better ordinance.

Upon a roll call vote on publishing the original ordinance, it was adopted 7-2 with Councilors Piccirilli and Falkoff voting against.

Councilor Sideris moved to Suspend the Rules to allow for a committee report on Budget Guidelines, seconded by Councilor Piccirilli and adopted by voice vote.

Councilor Sideris read the Budget and Fiscal Oversight report on the Fiscal Year 2011 Budget Guidelines and pension funding (attached).

Councilor Sideris asked that Councilors submit their proposals/comments using last year's document as a guideline to be submitted by their next meeting, November 30th.

Councilor Sideris moved to accept the report, seconded by Councilor Lawn and adopted by voice vote.

7. MOTIONS, ORDERS AND RESOLUTIONS:

a) Vote on the enactment of section 2a of the Local Option Meals Excise Tax and Local Option Room Occupancy Tax in accordance with Mass General Law, Chapter 64L.

The Chair stated that he will not be participating in the discussion or voting on the Meals Tax option as he is the owner of a restaurant.

The Manager provided an overview of the two local options and spoke in support of their approval.

Councilor Falkoff moved the meals tax option, seconded by Councilor Corbett and adopted by a roll call vote of 7-1-0 with Councilor Devaney voting no and the Chair abstaining from the vote.

Councilor Falkoff moved the room occupancy option, seconded by Councilor Lawn and adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM PRIOR MEETINGS:

a) Discussion and action on disposition of former branch libraries. Attorney Reich provided a brief primer on disposition of town property. He reviewed Chapter 30B, Section 16 of the procurement act, which dictates how a

town can dispose of town owned property valued over \$25,000. Mr. Reich provided a thumb nail sketch of the RFP process which includes publication in a local paper of general circulation along with notice in the Central Register. Unlike an acquisition, the town cannot simply sell the property without going through this process, he indicated.

Councilor Sideris reviewed procedures which were followed in the lease of the Brigham House, formerly the East Junior. He suggested a Reuse Committee to study the branch libraries which would consist of the District A and C councilors who would co-chair the committee along with five other members appointed by the Manager.

The Manager also noted the RFP process used for Mitchell Properties, formerly the Coolidge School.

Councilor Devaney suggested that the Council vote tonight whether we lease or sell. She indicated that she would never vote to sell the properties.

Councilor Devaney requested that the Council President insure that her following statement be placed in the minutes as follows: Councilor Devaney stated the manner in which the branch libraries were closed without notice and without a plan was unconscionable. She stated that at the last council meeting Council President Younger, Councilor Kounelis and she voted against going into executive session that was requested by the Manager regarding branch libraries. There was discussion that it should be in public. She stated that during executive session. She asked to be recorded in the executive minutes stating that everything discussed in executive session could have been discussed in open session- that it is a violation of open meeting law. She further stated the discussion did not fit the open meeting law criteria to meet in executive session. She further noted that after discussion in executive session, Councilors decided to bring this to the next council meeting. She said the Town Manager wanting to know what to do with a letter from St James' pastor offering to buy the East library, was no criteria for executive session. She further noted this pastor's interest has been public with letters from 2006. She noted that in executive session the attorney explained 30 B procurement procedures, public information, also discussion included; should we lease or sell. She further said what was discussed at this council meeting was discussed in executive session.

Councilor Devaney moved to lease the east branch library. The Chair seconded the motion for discussion purposes.

Councilor Lawn noted the prior sentiment to keep the buildings and keep them as community buildings, however, noting the current economic down turn. Councilor Lawn inquired of Attorney Reich if the town can put out a sale and lease RFP simultaneously.

Attorney Reich stated that there is nothing in the law that would preclude that, noting that you must have separate advertisements. He indicated however, that generally you make the decision to sell or lease ahead of time.

The Chair indicated that he is opposed to that idea.

Councilor Lawn indicated that he is in favor of selling the east branch library in order to fix up the north branch library to be used as a community building.

Councilor Corbett concurred with Councilor Sideris in establishing a building committee.

The Chair indicated that we should use the Planning staff.

Councilor Corbett continued by stating that management should be a part of that analysis; but we have not analyzed town usage as of yet.

The Manager indicated that the Planning Department would not be part of the policy decision. The Manager also cleared up the misinformation and noted that there is no restriction on the deed regarding any sale or lease of the North Branch library as was previously indicated to the contrary in the local press.

Councilor Kounelis concurred with Councilor Sideris on the stated mechanism. She noted her support to continue with members formerly serving with the Community Foundation committee which initially studied the matter. She supported forming an active working committee.

Councilor Piccirilli stated that his concern is that the buildings have sat vacant for years and he would like to see them returned to use. He noted that he would hate to sell town property and it would be beneficial to find a lease agreement with someone else renovating the properties. He stated, however, that that may not be possible. He spoke in support of a committee to study the matter and indicated that the Council will not decide this issue tonight.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to form a Branch Library reuse committee as suggested by Councilor Sideris to establish an RFP; the committee will begin after the new council is seated, seconded by Councilor Kounelis.

Councilor Hecht suggested setting the date for the committee to report back to the Council.

Councilor Devaney stated that the Council violated the Open Meeting law when it voted to go into executive session last meeting to discuss this issue.

Attorney Reich indicated that no violation occurred and that according to the Mass General Law the Council can go into executive session in order to discuss the value, lease or purchase of real property if such discussion would have a detrimental effect on the governmental body. A proper decision was made under the Open Meeting law, he stated.

The Chair took up the first motion made by Councilor Devaney to lease the two branches. Councilor Falkoff offered a friendly amendment that leasing the buildings be a non binding "preference" of the Council. The amendment was accepted by Councilor Devaney.

Upon a roll call vote the motion was adopted by a vote of 6 in favor and 3 against with Councilors Hecht, Sideris and Lawn voting no.

The Chair took up the second motion to set up a committee after January 1, 2010 with a deadline to report back to the council by April 30th the committee consisting of the two district councilors as co-chair, with the Planning Director as a non voting member, and 5 other members appointed by the Manager and confirmed by the Council; to generate a RFP.

Councilor Hecht stated for the record that his preference is to see the buildings leased rather than sold.

Upon a roll call vote, the motion was adopted unanimously.

b) Watertown Cable Access Corporation Policy.

Attorney Reich noted that his charge was to draft a policy for the Council to consider making as a recommendation to the Cable Committee (attached). The Chair suggested adding that a two week notice be given to candidates if any political forums were to be broadcast on any cable program.

Councilor Corbett stated that it is his opinion that this is not the role of the Council to mandate policy to the board.

Councilor Devaney noted the fairness issue of not inviting all candidates.

Councilor Hecht indicated that he is fine with providing information to the cable board but not sending any recommendation one way or another.

Councilor Piccirilli cited FCC laws and public access; noting that the Council cannot legally tell them what to do. He concurred with Councilor Hecht in forwarding the information without any recommendation.

The Chair asked for consideration of the "due notice" provision.

Councilor Falkoff concurred with Councilor Piccirilli and Hecht.

Councilor Devaney moved to ask the cable commission to set up a policy for fairness, seconded by Councilor Falkoff.

On the motion to send the policy for information purposes only, adopted by voice vote.

9. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT – previously presented.**
10. **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER**

Last Yard waste pickup – Friday, December 4th.
Parking Ban begins – November 29th.

The Manager reviewed communication from Governor Patrick regarding a program by the State to fund fire department staffing.

The Manager announced that a new Recreation Director, Peter Centola has been hired.

The Manger noted and thanked former Recreation Director, Thomas Sullivan for his more than thirty six years of service to our youth. A retirement party is in the planning.

11. **REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION**

Councilor Kounelis noted past pending items and noted the peeling paint in the administration building, in particular, the town council office.

12. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councilor Hecht announced that high school student Kevin Fu is among the 10 finalist being considered by President Obama for a video contest, "I Am What I Learn".

Councilor Devaney announced that the Watertown Girls Field Hockey team won the state championship.

13. PUBLIC FORUM – none noted.

There being no further business to come before the Town Council, Councilor Sideris moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilor Lawn and adopted by unanimous vote.

At a regular meeting of the Town Council for which a quorum was presented, the above minutes were adopted as amended and with attachments on December 15, 2009.

Clyde L. Younger, Council President

Papas, Valerie

Statement attached

[REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, December 10, 2009 2:48 PM
To: Papas, Valerie
Subject: Fwd: Your retirement

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: [REDACTED]
To: "Marilyn P Devaney" <Marilyn.P.Devaney@state.ma.us>
Sent: Tuesday, November 24, 2009 3:59:03 PM GMT -05:00 US/Canada Eastern
Subject: Your retirement

My name is Doris Donovan of Waltham. I am involved in all kinds of community issues. I am also the President of the Waltham Council of Neighborhood Associations, (known as WCONA) We are the people who have impact with our City Council regarding the growth of the City of Waltham. I also serve on various City Committees. My husband Jim Donovan was from Watertown.

I have known Marilyn Devaney for a long time and we are somewhat alike in that we tend to be feisty when we get involved with an issue that affects the public. That issue had to do with an attempt to privatize 8 bus routes that affected several local communities including Waltham and Watertown. Marilyn was tireless in her efforts to justify why this action should go forward and because of her efforts of hiring your famous Hibernian Hall and inviting the T administrators, T Union members and the public from Waltham, Newton and Watertown etc. the action did not forward. I think the State will sorely miss the dedication of Marilyn and I wish her success in her future ventures.

Papas, Valerie

From: Devaney, Marilyn
Sent: Monday, December 07, 2009 4:20 PM
To: Papas, Valerie
Subject: statement of MMPDevaney November 24 2009 Council IMeeting-attachment to miinutes

Statement of Marilyn M. Petitto Devaney -Councillor-at-large - Town Council Meeting
November 24, 2009

I never expected this. I cannot thank the firefighters enough for this honor. You know where my heart is. I love you. Thank you President Steve Igoe for your kind words and thank you to all the firefighters. I will treasure this beautiful Firefighter's Ax. I am so honored to be named "Honorary Watertown Firefighter"- and the roses are so beautiful. Thank you. This is overwhelming.

I pray for our firefighters because I know their numbers have never been this low and the same applies to our Police. I wish I could have helped more. We have the best people working in our Fire and Police Departments. There are no words as well to thank you Nancy for your kind words with the Town Hall Associates. Thank you for the lovely flowers. It means so much. I love you all.

I thank the police officers who called me. They are not here tonight and I know why. I understand why they can't come here.

We have wonderful people working in all our departments from DPW to our schools-teachers, principals. It has been my honor to work with you and thank you for all your consideration. Thank you to all the great people working in this Town Hall, who I drove crazy, always assisting and helping me in my job. Thank you for the framed drawing of the Town Hall.

I was elected to Town Council coming up thirty years in May. I still have the same enthusiasm today as I did when I walked in that first day.

I am not going away. I will still be here for you. I want to thank all who have come tonight. Thank you from my heart.

Mr. President than you for your kind words and for this time to address the people. As I have said, I was first elected 30 years ago this coming May as your councilor -at large - representing every district in Watertown. The greatest reward that I have received is when I get a call and the person will say:" I don't know you but someone said if anyone would help you Marilyn will."

To all my friends I have been honored to serve you. Please know that I will continue to serve you as your Governor's Councillor welcoming your calls, acting on your concerns, continuing to seek solutions to your problems, continuing regular office hours to meet with you. This has been my career -to serve the people of Watertown and I have served always with my heart. I am always aware of my responsibility to you. I have been absent only three regular Town Council meetings in my nearly 30 years.

I always strived to be your voice – I always felt I represented you as I am one of you-knowing what it is trying to make ends meet and bringing up a family.

I would not be here if it were not for the support and love of my husband Jack. He supported me in every way –including financially as my campaigns over thirty years were supported by bank loans not by fundraising. Jack supported my dream of teaching in the Watertown Schools While raising four children I started from my freshmen year in college to earning my masters degree I regret that my dream and my family's sacrifice, was not realized. I could not get hired to be a teacher in the Watertown schools.

I want to recognize some special councillors who I have served with in the past and hope I won't leave someone out – Fred Pugliese, Fred forgive me, as he pronounced "Pugliese" so beautifully in Italian, Vic Palladino, God rest his soul as well, John Diliberto, Gus Bailey, Tom Stevens, and John Timperio. When we were sometimes on opposite sides of issues, we fought like heck for our points –but never with slander –never with personal attacks. When it was over we kept our mutual respect for each other constant.

As a very young woman, my first involvement in politics was the planning to build a Boys & Girls Club. There was much controversy about using park land- Saltonstall Park. There was no other town land available. We actively supported the project. I attended town meeting for the very first time. I was impressed with the open government of town meeting. –Every Watertown resident would receive a warrant at their door informing them of all the articles that would be taken up for a vote at these public meeting. The article to take park land passed. We then went door to door to fundraise to build it. I can place the blame or credit on the Boys & Girls Club for being here.

When the need for an addition to the Cunniff School came up -that encouraged me to run for Town Meeting Member. I didn't know many people from the precinct as I lived my whole life across the river on Watertown Street. I remember saying to my husband Jack, how embarrassed I would be if I only got two votes. Jack replied – "if you only get one vote Marilyn – they'll be a divorce"-and to my surprise; I got elected as one of the youngest town meeting members. I was elected well over a decade until this city form of government was adopted. I learned so much from my fellow Town Meeting members, my fellow residents, with their diversity of expertise and respect for everyone's differing opinions... Now I realize how much we really lost - a tradition of democracy when we abolished town meeting. This is when citizen's involvement and participation prevailed -when the "people" were the legislative body. Every resident was knowledgeable of every issue being presented before the town.

I started right out of the gate in my first term on the Town Council being the "tuxedo with brown shoes." A few months into my first term, I learned that an attempt was being made to abolish our Fire Department Ambulance, our valued "Rescue" with a 4 minute response time.

The plan was to replace it with a private company. Despite the attempt to rule me out of order- I brought the issue before the public. The public supported me. The public spoke- The rescue stayed.

I voted "**No**" as the only councilor voting against establishing an autonomous board WADC with complete authority to market, sell or lease the Arsenal land. I believed this was the responsibility of elected councilors to be held accountable. So I did not have a vote on this valuable parcel of land.-which I believe was sold at **a loss of many millions of dollars**. If I could have voted I would not have sold the land –I would have voted for a ground lease and would have chosen Cabot, Cabot and Forbes, the developer who offered a commercial development with a convention-type **hotel** that Watertown sorely needs which would have brought in millions of tax dollars plus room taxes per year.

When I have voted "**no**" I believe it was a positive- a yes for the people i.e. 20 year NESWC trash contract requiring a guaranteed tonnage of Watertown's' trash to be delivered to the N.H. border into an incinerator-anti environment anti recycling. This contract cost the Watertown taxpayers approximately **\$70 million** -paying double and some years triple the State average per ton disposal fee. For 20 years, despite my "no" vote- I attended nearly every NESWC meeting held in various communities.

I am pleased for whatever I have done in some small way –whether it was the Cafeteria Health care plan for employees or homeowner abatements. I tried and hope I have helped along the way in your life and for the quality of life for your family.

On the other hand, I am saddened by what we have lost - our beloved neighborhood branch **libraries** –voted without making the public aware -not even the councillors knew; the aborted plan to have a **theatre** at the MBTA carbarn with an indoor waiting room for commuters.

After publicly speaking out **on record** for 20 years for the need of a new **police station** –I am very concerned for East Watertown residents that the police station, no matter how beautiful it might be, is located on the Waltham line, the loss of the **historic Brown School** building by demolition, and loss of the Atrium School **leasing monies**.

I have fond memories of knowing some wonderful people including the late Lucy Nargoian and Stella Frimmel, the unsung heroes who accompanied me before the school committee to ask a vote of the committee to allow us to have a Senior Center located in their school building. So many good people through the years have gone unrecognized for their efforts and I will not forget them. There are too many to name but I thank all the dedicated men and women in our school and in all our town departments.

I want to mention an unsung hero- my husband Jack. I learned of his so many acts of kindnesses after he died. There are so many I know - but I will just relate one. Jack came home one morning after fighting a house fire all night in freezing weather, "an ice on the fire helmet' night. He found a pick and quickly went out the door. When he came back after

about six hours, I asked him where he went. He told me that at the house that had the fire- there were photos under the ice that would have been lost forever. He picked through ice for all those hours retrieving photographs of children, family photos, wedding pictures, and old photos of grandparents. He dropped them off at the Fire Station. Those fire victims will never know how these photos were retrieved, the time it took or who retrieved them. That was the kind of person he was- and I know these firefighters here tonight perform many acts of kindnesses as well.

I leave the Town Council with so many memories – like being called on Thanksgiving Day when someone would think of calling me first before making a call to DPW when a pipe broke in from of their home- I am touched by the trust people have in me.

I have some personal memories too- An elderly woman would call me when she needed a plumber, or electrician. There was an elderly woman who would always call on Election Day and I knew when Jack went out to pick her up he wouldn't be back for four hours. He would take her to vote, take her to the bank, and take her food shopping. These are some of the fond memories I hold dear. These are the people I represent.

I want to thank each individual person for their kind words – those who have called, sent a card, or note, to those who have stopped me at the store, on the street Thank you to those kind expressions from friends at the Armenian and Greek churches and those from the group of friends, who traveled with me from town to city requesting to withdraw from the ADL because of its Armenian Genocide denial. I want to thank everyone in this audience. I never asked for any of this and I love you and thank you from my heart. I am forever grateful.

Please know I am not going away. I will continue to be here for you.
Thank you again for the privilege of allowing me to serve as your Town Councillor.



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AGENDA
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2009 AT 7:15 PM
RICHARD E. MASTRANGELO CHAMBER
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

1. ROLL CALL
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES: October 27th & November 10th.
4. PUBLIC FORUM
5. PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE:

a) 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 \$881,000 under Chapter 44 of the General Laws or any other enabling authority, for the purpose of purchasing departmental equipment for the Fire Department, Police Department and the Department of Public Works.

6. COMMITTEE REPORT:

a) Committee on Rules and Ordinances report and first reading on a proposed Ordinance: Re Mausoleums sited at Ridgelawn Cemetery – Angeline B. Kounelis, Chair.

7. MOTIONS, ORDERS AND RESOLUTIONS:

a) Vote on the enactment of section 2a of the Local Option Meals Excise Tax and Local Option Room Occupancy Tax in accordance with Mass General Law, Chapter 64L.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM PRIOR MEETINGS:

- a) Discussion and action on disposition of former branch libraries.
- b) Watertown Cable Access Corporation Policy.

9. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

10. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER

11. REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

12. ANNOUNCEMENTS

13. PUBLIC FORUM

14. ADJOURNMENT

RECEIVED BY
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
WATERTOWN, MASS.
2009 NOV 20 P 12:32



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Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr.

Order# 70

0-2009- 70

Be It Ordered: that the sum of \$881,000 is appropriated for the purchase of a Fire Pumper Truck, Police Department Computers for Vehicles, and a Front End Loader for the Department of Public Works; and to raise this appropriation the Town Treasurer with the approval of the Town Manager, is authorized to borrow \$881,000 under Chapter 44 of the General Laws, as amended, or any other enabling authority.

Be It Further Ordered that a copy of said Order is forwarded to Town Treasurer and Town Auditor.

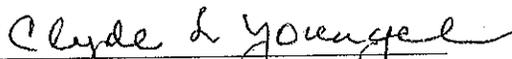


Council Member

I hereby certify that at a regular meeting of the Town Council for which a quorum was present, the above Order was adopted by unanimous roll call vote on November 24, 2009.



Valerie Papas, Council Clerk



Clyde L. Younger, Council President



TOWN OF WATERTOWN

Town Council RECEIVED BY
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WATERTOWN, MASS.

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NOV 30 P 1:18

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Resolution# 69 R-2009- 69

Resolution on Local Meals Excise.

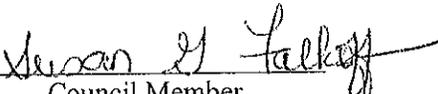
WHEREAS: the condition of the national economy has placed a considerable strain on the finances of the state and the Town of Watertown; and

WHEREAS: the General Court has recognized that reductions in local aid and other financial assistance from the state has negatively impacted municipal budgets; and

WHEREAS: the General Court has enacted G.L. c.64L, which, subject to local acceptance, authorizes the imposition of a local excise in the statutory amount of .75% on the sale of restaurant meals originating within the Town of Watertown; and

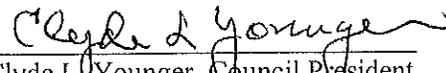
WHEREAS: revenues realized from the imposition of such tax will contribute to the ability of the Town of Watertown to provide needed services to residents;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: it is hereby moved that the Town Council of the City known as the Town of Watertown accept the provisions of G.L. c.64L, § 2(a) authorizing the imposition of a local excise in the statutory amount of .75% on the sale of restaurant meals originating within the Town of Watertown.


Council Member

I hereby certify that at a regular meeting of the Town Council for which a quorum was present, the above resolution was adopted by a vote of 7 for, 1 against and 0 present on November 24, 2009.


Valerie Papas, Council Clerk


Clyde L. Younger, Council President



TOWN OF WATERTOWN
Town Council

Administration Building
149 Main Street
Watertown, MA 02472
Phone: 617-972-6470
Fax: 617-972-6485
www.watertown-ma.gov

Elected Officials:
Clyde L. Younger, Council President
Mark S. Sideris, Vice President

Stephen P. Corbett
Marilyn M. Petitto Devaney
Susan G. Falkoff
Jonathan Hecht
Angeline B. Kounelis
John J. Lawn, Jr.
Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr.

Resolution# 68 R-2009- 68

Resolution on Local Room Excise.

WHEREAS: the condition of the national economy has placed a considerable strain on the finances of the state and the Town of Watertown; and

WHEREAS: the General Court has recognized that reductions in local aid and other financial assistance from the state has negatively impacted municipal budgets; and

WHEREAS: the General Court has amended G.L. c.64G, § 3A to allow imposition of a local excise of a rate of up to 6% on the rental of rooms in hotels, motels, lodging houses and bed and breakfast establishments within the Town of Watertown; and

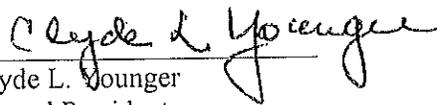
WHEREAS: revenues realized from an increase in the amount of such tax will contribute to the ability of the Town of Watertown to provide needed services to residents;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: it is hereby moved that the Town Council of the City known as the Town of Watertown amend the amount of the local excise imposed under G.L. c.64G, §3A on the rental of rooms in hotels, motels, lodging houses and bed and breakfast establishments within the Town of Watertown from 4% to 6%.


Council Member

I hereby certify that at a regular meeting of the Town Council for which a quorum was present, the above resolution was adopted by a vote of 9 for, 0 against and 0 present on November 24, 2009.


Valerie Papas
Council Clerk


Clyde L. Younger
Council President

Watertown Community Access Television Proposed Regulations:

Election/Campaign Programming

1. Watertown Community Access Television (WCATV) provides to all Watertown residents, including those residents running for local, state or national public office or those supporting a ballot issue, equal opportunities for access to training, equipment resources and cable channel programming time, on a first-come, first-served, non-discriminatory basis. Any candidate for public office for whom Watertown residents may vote shall be afforded the same rights as a resident of Watertown with regard to access to WCATV facilities and channel time.

2. In order to ensure equal opportunities for programming time on WCATV channels, the following rules apply.

a. WCATV maintains the right to limit length and frequency of programming. Such limits when imposed shall apply to all programs on the channel and to all program producers.

b. WCATV retains the right to preempt programming at any time in order to provide timely local programming, such as live or taped special municipal events, important local debates/forums, election-related programming, satellite downlinking, etc.

c. A sufficient block of time will be reserved during each political season to enable a wide selection of political programs to be cablecast.



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Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr.

ORDINANCE #

0-2009-

**AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING THE ERECTION AND USE OF
MAUSOLEUMS AT RIDGELAWN CEMETERY**

WHEREAS: Ridgelawn Cemetery is a place of great historical and cultural significance in the City known as the Town of Watertown; And,

WHEREAS: there is a recognized need for burial space within Watertown; And,

WHEREAS: Ridgelawn Cemetery is under great pressure to provide additional burial space; And,

WHEREAS: the overuse of Ridgelawn Cemetery will be detrimental to the cemetery as well as to the community; And,

WHEREAS, there is a recognized interest in preserving and protecting Ridgelawn Cemetery.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the Town Council of the City known as the Town of Watertown that the erection and use of mausoleums, defined for the purposes of this ordinance as above-ground burial chambers for the housing of one or more burial chambers, shall henceforth be prohibited within the grounds of Ridgelawn Cemetery.

Council Member

I hereby certify that a regular meeting of the Town Council for which a quorum was present, after public notice and public hearing, the above Ordinance was adopted by a vote of ___ for, and ___ against on _____, 2009.

Valarie Papas
Council Clerk

Clyde L. Younger
Council President

TO: MARILYN DEVANER
 @ 617-972-6485

FROM: ANGIE KOUNELIS
 @ 617-926-2352

To: Councilor Angeline Kounelis
 From: Mark Reich, Town Attorney
 Re: Proposed Ridgelawn Cemetery Mausoleum Ordinance
 Date: November 16, 2009

As we have discussed, the intent of the proposed ordinance entitled, "AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING THE ERECTION AND USE OF MAUSOLEUMS AT RIDGELAWN CEMETERY" is to prohibit the future erection of above-ground burial chambers at Ridgelawn cemetery. Thus, in my opinion, should this ordinance be enacted, above-ground burial chambers, or mausoleums, could no longer be erected at Ridgelawn Cemetery. In reviewing the ordinance further, and considering the current use of mausoleums at the cemetery, I recommend that the words "and use" as found in the title and the final substantive paragraph of the ordinance be deleted so as to not interfere with the continued use of mausoleums currently in place at Ridgelawn Cemetery.

Please note that nothing in the Watertown Home Rule Charter prohibits the Town Council from repealing an ordinance after its enactment. Certain local acceptance statutes contain provisions that dictate the time-period after which acceptance of such statutes may be revoked. In my opinion, there is no similar time period for a locally enacted ordinance such as the ordinance in question. Therefore, in my opinion, should the Council determine that the provisions of the ordinance as enacted are not in the best interest of the Town, the ordinance may be revised and amended or revoked in the same manner as its original passage.

Please note that towns are statutorily obligated provide burial places. The provisions of G.L. c. 114, § 10 state, "Each town shall provide one or more suitable places for the interment of persons dying within its limits." (emphasis added). Towns have the ability to take land for burial places and towns may make appropriations for the enclosing or improving public cemeteries. (G.L. c. 114, §§ 11 and 15) Case law has interpreted "burial place" as being "a tract of land definable and readily identifiable as a burying ground" Sudbury v. Department of Public Utilities 351 Mass 214 (1966).

Please contact me if you have any further questions regarding this matter.



City of Waltham

Jeannette A. McCarthy
Mayor

November 23, 2009

Clyde Younger
Town Council President
Town of Watertown
149 Main Street
Watertown, MA 02472

RE: Mausoleums at Ridgelawn Cemetery

Dear Council President Younger:

Several constituents came to me regarding the proposed building of mausoleums at Ridgelawn Cemetery and asked me to write to you expressing their opposition. As you are aware from my prior communications, these residents have experienced problems in the past with the cemetery, and are strongly opposed to the building and use of mausoleums at Ridgelawn. Please see the enclosed signed petition.

In addition, the residents also strongly support the filing of a proposed ordinance prohibiting the erection and use of mausoleums at Ridgelawn Cemetery.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jeannette A. McCarthy
JAM/ns
Enclosure

**TOWN OF WATERTOWN
TOWN COUNCIL COMMITTEE OF THE BUDGET AND FISCAL OVERSIGHT
REPORT TO THE TOWN COUNCIL NOVEMBER 24, 2009**

The Committee met on November 23, 2009 at 6:00 PM for the purpose of discussing the Fiscal Year 2011 Budget Policy Guidelines.

Present were Mark Sideris, chair; Angie Kounelis, vice chair; Vincent Piccirilli, secretary; Jon Hecht, member; Town Manager Michael Driscoll; and Town Auditor Tom Tracy.

1. The FY2010 Policy Guidelines (attached) were discussed with potential changes to make for FY2011. It became clear that with the uncertainty surrounding the projected deficit from October's preliminary budget overview, there will be no opportunity for program enhancements. Rather, the focus of the budget guidelines for FY2011 should be on cost saving and increasing revenue. The following key points were made:
 - a. We need to actively pursue regionalization of services. Councilor/Representative Hecht summarized a meeting held at the State House with representatives from Belmont and Arlington to discuss opportunities.
 - b. Departments should be asked to submit "reduction budgets" to close the preliminary \$2.5M budget gap that is projected even with "level dollar" departmental budgets.
 - c. We should seek cost savings by combining administrative functions between the town and schools. Mr. Hecht provided an MMA article (attached) describing this. School officials will be invited to the next meeting to discuss these opportunities.
 - d. Pension funding continues to be a significant budget issue, and the Retirement Board has committed to working with the Manager address this issue.
 - e. We need input from the Director of Community Development & Planning to discuss economic development revenues and related fees (Guidelines III.C, D, E).
2. Councilors will need to submit their requests for the FY2011 Budget Policy Guidelines by November 30, 2009. The Committee will then discuss and produce draft guidelines to be presented at the December 15 Town Council meeting for approval.
3. Mr. Tracy requested that the Audit Committee present the preliminary results of the FY2008 audit to this Committee for review and recommendation before the end of the calendar year. The Committee agreed to schedule this at the next meeting.
4. The Chair noted the Joint Public Works/Budget and Fiscal Oversight meeting to discuss snow removal practices was postponed, and needs to be re-scheduled in December.

The following dates were agreed for the next meetings:

November 30 at 5:00PM: Meet with school officials, the Director of Community Development & Planning, and begin review of Councilor comments. Also review the FY08 audit.

December 1 at 6:30: Joint meeting with Public Works Committee (which is meeting at 5:00) to discuss snow removal practices.

December 7 at 4:30PM: Finalize the FY2011 Budget Policy Guideline recommendations.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55.

Prepared by Vincent Piccirilli

✓

~~DRAFT~~ Final 12-9-08

Town Council FY10 Budget Policy Guidelines

The Town council is adopting these budget policy guidelines pursuant to Section 5-1 of the Watertown Home Rule Charter. Based on these guidelines, the Town manager will develop budgetary goals and the Town budget for FY10.

I. FINANCIAL POLICIES

- A. Unreserved fund balance: In order to respond to emergencies and other unanticipated needs, preserve financial flexibility, and maintain favorable bond ratings, the Town should seek to maintain an unreserved fund balance (including stabilization funds) equal to 7-10% of the annual operating budget. The Council and the Town Manager will work to develop a formal multi-year policy on the unreserved fund balance, including the use of free cash if the unreserved fund balance is above the 7-10% target.

- B. Capital Expenditures: In order to maintain and improve its infrastructure, facilities, and equipment, the Town should seek to make annual capital expenditures (exclusive of enterprise funds) equal to at least 7.5-8% of the operating budget.

- C. Other Post-employment benefits: In order to achieve long-term financial stability and meet the Town's obligations to its employees and retirees, the Council and Town manager will work to address the Town's unfunded pension liability and other post-employment benefits (OPEB). The Council and the Town Manager will continue to look for opportunities to make additional transfers to the OPEB stabilization fund.

II. ONGOING BUDGET PRACTICES

In preparing the budget for FY10 and future years, the Town manager should continue to utilize the following budget practices.

- A. Strengthen the Town's efforts (including use of new Planning Department staff and other personnel) to obtain grant funding from federal, state, and other sources.
- B. Continue to analyze the Town's charges for licenses, permits, penalties, and fees to determine whether they should be increased or new ones instituted, while adhering to the principal that fees should not exceed the cost of services provided.
- C. Analyze the possibilities and cost implications of contracted services vs. staffing in various departments.
- D. Analyze the possibilities and cost implications of providing more services on a regional basis.
- E. All department heads should seek to identify line-items within their existing budgets where costs can be controlled and not increased by 2.5%. Look at other possible scenarios including spending freezes and level dollar budgets.
- F. Continue to enhance the Town's website as a cost effective means of delivering information and services, increasing public awareness, and encouraging public feedback.

III. COST-SAVINGS/REVENUES

The Town Council believes that identification of cost savings and new revenues should be a precondition to additional expenditures. To this end, in developing the FY10 budget, the Town should:

- A. Complete an energy use baseline inventory for municipal buildings, vehicles, and street and traffic lighting and create a plan to reduce energy use by 20% in 5 years.

B. Public safety: Police, Fire and dispatch together represent the Town's biggest expenditure (after education). Examine how to best deliver the level of service citizen's want, more efficiently.

C. Institute a formal Economic Development Program for the newly rezoned Pleasant Street Corridor District, with a long- term goal to increase town revenue. The Program should include a marketing plan to prospective developers as well as the use of state and federal grants and redevelopment programs.

D. Explore the establishment of a standardized system of impact fees for projects subject to site plan review. Consider mitigation monies for larger scale projects.

E. Continue to analyze whether adding Building Department inspectional staff would generate sufficient revenue to cover or exceed the incremental cost.

IV. PROGRAM ENHANCEMENTS/EXPENDITURES

To the extent that resources allow, in light of the financial policies stated above and the principle of first identifying cost-savings and new revenue, the following program enhancements and, if necessary, new expenditures should receive priority in the FY 10 budget. Education program enhancements and expenditures should be considered subsequently in light of the recommendations of the School committee.

A. Repair and improve the Town's streets and sidewalks and enhances its trees and planting strips. Consideration should be given to funding such repairs, improvements, and enhancements from a variety of sources, including tax revenues, debt and a betterment program. Strengthen capacity (including staffing) and carry out routine maintenance of the street trees and other trees on public land and, through the joint efforts of the Tree Warden

and Department of Public Works develop a comprehensive Tree Program.

- B. Strengthen the Town's capacity to address facilities management, through regular staffing or contract services. The Council and Town Manager will continue discussions on reorganizing the staffing structure of the Public Works Department to include a facilities manager/engineer.
- C. Explore the need and possible funding for a social worker/community health outreach worker, including reaching out to the private sector for funding.
- D. Explore the budget implications of the re-use of the former branch libraries
- E. Determine the need for, and how to fund future sewer and storm water infrastructure improvements.

V. BUDGET AND FINANCIAL MONITORING

A: In order to improve its ability to monitor the implementation of the Town budget, the Town Council will receive quarterly reports on the revenues and expenditures during the fiscal year. In addition, the Council will receive monthly reports on the use and balance of monies in the Council reserve and other Council personnel and expense line items. An early warning system will be established to alert the Council if revenues fall below projections.

B: The Town Council will receive quarterly updates on progress in addressing the recommendations in the annual audit report.

11-23-09

Benefits of merging school and town functions touted



October 26, 2009

Merging town and school operations in areas such as facilities management, human resources and information technology can save towns money, according to speakers at the Oct. 22 meeting of the Massachusetts Municipal Management Association in Hopkinton.

Danvers has decades of experience managing town and school facilities through a single department, which has led to, among other benefits, a comprehensive town-wide preventive maintenance program, according to Town Manager Wayne Marquis.

With the facilities staff in charge of maintenance, he said, "Educators are able to focus on the students."

In Lexington, a consolidated Public Facilities Department, created in 2007, has enabled the town to incorporate maintenance needs into the design of new buildings, according to Town Manager Carl Valente.

"We have found no end of examples in the past when we have made short-sighted decisions on our buildings," Valente said.

One problem involved accounting for unanticipated costs related to special education. In the past, when such costs arose, the school department might have diverted money that had been intended for maintenance, according to Valente. To address this problem, the town created a stabilization fund, now totaling more than \$600,000, that is used only for unanticipated special education costs.

Through savings on its energy supply budget, Valente said, Lexington also has been able to pursue a "very aggressive capital program" to pay for more efficient heating and ventilation systems.

Brookline Deputy Town Administrator Sean Cronin and Chief Information Officer Kevin Stokes described the process, begun about a decade ago, to consolidate town and school information technology functions.

"We basically took IT from a back-office, low-profile department, and brought it to a senior level," said Cronin, who described the savings realized through a more coordinated procurement process as "incalculable."

Savings also have come through personnel reductions, according to Stokes, who oversees the consolidated department.

"We're down about \$100,000 from where we were three years ago," Stokes said.

Further savings, he added, have been realized by reducing IT-related energy costs.

Human resources is another area in which some municipalities have consolidated services. Andover Human Resources Director Candace Hall said such an arrangement does not guarantee lower operating costs, but it does lessen legal liability, as a result of more comprehensive monitoring and training.

Another panelist, Mark Milne, described the difficult task he faced when he came on board in the late 1990s as Barnstable's finance director.

Town officials, he said, had lost faith in the school district's ability to provide accurate financial information and were pursuing what he described as a "hostile takeover" of the schools' finance-related functions. Eventually, he said, school and town leaders agreed on a more amicable approach to consolidating finance operations. A plan to merge human resource functions was developed as well.

The support from elected officials and administrators on both sides was crucial, according to Milne.

"One critically placed person could have derailed this whole process," he said.

Written by MMA Associate Editor Mitch Evich



Michael J. Driscoll
Town Manager

TOWN OF WATERTOWN
Office of the Town Manager

Administration Building
149 Main Street
Watertown, MA 02472
Phone: 617-972-6465
Fax: 617-972-6404
www.watertown-ma.gov
townmgr@watertown-ma.gov

To: Honorable Town Council
From: Michael J. Driscoll, Town Manager
Date: November 5, 2009
RE: Agenda Item - Proposed Loan Order

As you recall, I stated during the Fiscal Year 2011 Preliminary Budget Overview Presentation at the October 27, 2009 Town Council Meeting that it was my intention to bring forward a proposed loan order for some of the items contained in the Fiscal Year 2009 Capital Improvement Program (see attached excerpt from the Fiscal Year 2010 Budget Message).

The acquisition of the proposed items is consistent with one of the Town's priorities of not deferring maintenance and/or recognition of costs of capital equipment, facilities and infrastructure to future years. The proposed loan order totals \$881,000 and the following is a list of the items for your review and consideration.

Fire Department Equipment **\$525,000**

Pumper Truck \$525,000

Enclosed please find correspondence from Mario A. Orangio, Fire Chief that provides additional information on the Pumper Truck. The Pumper Truck will replace a 1994 E-One Sentry 1250 Model.

Police Department Equipment **\$186,000**

Mobile Data System \$186,000

Enclosed please find correspondence from Edward P. Deveau, Police Chief, outlining the need for a new Mobile Data System.

Public Works Equipment

\$170,000

Front End Loader

\$170,000

Enclosed please find correspondence from Gerald S. Mee, Jr., Superintendent of Public Works, outlining the need for the replacement of a Fire Alarm Bucket Truck and Highway Division Front End Loader. As indicated in Mr. Mee's correspondence, the Fire Alarm Bucket Truck will be purchased utilizing available monies from existing Public Works Capital Project accounts.

Therefore, I respectfully request the attached Proposed Loan Order be placed on the November 10, 2009 Town Council Agenda as a First Reading.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

cc: Mario A. Orangio, Fire Chief
Edward P. Deveau, Police Chief
Gerald S. Mee, Jr., Superintendent of Public Works
Phyllis L. Marshall, Town Treasurer/Collector
Thomas J. Tracy, Town Auditor

Excerpt from the Fiscal Year 2010 Budget Message, April 28, 2009

Fiscal Year 2009 Loan Orders

As your recall, the Fiscal Year 2009 Budget Message dated April 22, 2008 stated Proposed Loan Orders would be brought forward for various Capital items contained in the Fiscal Year 2009 CIP during Fiscal Year 2009. The acquisition of the proposed items is consistent with one of the Honorable Town Council's priorities of not deferring maintenance and/or recognition of costs of capital equipment, facilities and infrastructure to future years. The items that were to be included in the Proposed Loan Orders are as follows:

• Victory Field Artificial Turf	\$1,250,000
• School Building Improvements	\$ 600,000
• Fire Department Equipment	\$ 445,000
• Public Works Equipment	\$ 383,000
• Victory & Phillipello Park Lighting	\$ 360,000
• Fire Alarm Duct	\$ 300,000
• Administration Building Improvements	\$ 200,000
• Police Equipment	\$ 186,000
• Coolidge Square Design	\$ 185,000
• Information Technology	\$ 159,000
• Fire Buildings Improvements	\$ 150,000
• Skating Arena Improvements	\$ 125,000
• Cunniff School Field	<u>\$ 120,000</u>
TOTAL	\$4,463,000

Given the fiscal constraints facing the Town, the list above has been revised with some items being moved out at least one fiscal year or in the case of one of the proposed Information Technology Improvements being completed utilizing previously appropriated monies. Subsequent to the Honorable Town Council's adoption of conceptual recommendations on the Fiscal Year 2010-2014 Capital Improvement Program, the following is the revised list of items contained in the Fiscal Year 2009 CIP. Proposed Loan Orders will be brought forward in the coming months.

• Fire Department Equipment	\$445,000
• Public Works Equipment	\$280,000
• Victory Field Improvements Design	\$100,000 ¹
• Police Equipment	\$186,000
• Coolidge Square Design	\$185,000
• Information Technology	<u>\$ 60,000</u>
TOTAL	\$1,256,000

¹ Design costs only. Project cost is \$4M with \$2M from fundraising/grants

PROPOSED LOAN ORDER

Ordered: that the sum of \$881,000 is appropriated for the purchase of a Fire Pumper Truck, Police Department Computers for Vehicles, and a Front End Loader for the Department of Public Works; and to raise this appropriation the Town Treasurer with the approval of the Town Manager, is authorized to borrow \$881,000 under Chapter 44 of the General Laws, as amended, or any other enabling authority.

Roger P. Vacco
617.239.0401
fax 617.316.8227
rvacco@capdlaw.com

November 5, 2009

Peter B. Frazier, Senior V.P.
First Southwest Company
Municipal Advisory Group
54 Canal Street, Suite 320
Boston, Massachusetts 02114

Dear Peter: (Watertown Bonds – 2009)

As requested I suggest the following form of loan order:

Ordered: that the following amounts are appropriated for the following purposes:

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
\$525,000	Purchase of Fire Pumper Truck
\$186,000	Purchase of Police Equipment – Computers for Vehicles
\$170,000	Purchase of Front End Loader for Department of Public Works

and that to meet these appropriations the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Town Manager, is authorized to borrow \$881,000 under Chapter 44 of the General Laws or any other enabling authority.

The order must be published at least 5 days prior to the holding of a public hearing with respect to the order and its final passage and requires at least a two-thirds vote, as in the case of any other loan order for bonds.

November 5, 2009
Page 2

Please call me if you have any questions about the suggested proceedings.

Yours faithfully,

Roger P. Vacco

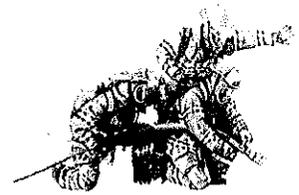
RPV/mjc

cc: Phyllis Marshall

BOS111 12431761.1



WATERTOWN FIRE DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF CHIEF OF DEPARTMENT
Fire Department Headquarters, 99 Main Street
Watertown, Massachusetts 02472-4410
Tel. (617) 972-6512 • Fax (617) 972-6575
www.watertown-ma.gov



MARIO A. ORANGIO
Chief of Department

Memorandum

TO: Michael J. Driscoll, Town Manager
FROM: Chief Mario A. Orangio *MAO*
DATE: November 5, 2009
SUBJECT: Replacement Pumper Truck

Replacement of 1250 GPM Pumper Truck

1. **HISTORY** – This 1994 E-One Sentry 1250 GPM Pumper Truck was purchased from Greenwood Fire Apparatus by the Town of Watertown and put in front line service as a new vehicle in 1995. It was put into service as a front-line apparatus with the intention of providing personnel with the tools and equipment necessary to provide a multitude of services, including initial fire attack, EMS and Hazardous Materials Response to name a few. This vehicle has served the Town of Watertown well for the past fifteen (15) years and age is taking its toll. This apparatus was recommended for replacement in the FY 2009 Capital Improvement Plan.



2. **RESEARCH** – Estimated cost for the total refurbishment of the pumper is in the \$275,000-\$300,000. However, the caveat is the reconditioned pumper will only meet the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standards in existence in 1994 and not the upgrades and changes found in the present NFPA 1901 Standard for Automotive Fire Apparatus. Additionally, the cost of the refurbishment on such an old truck is not recovered in a subsequent sale of the unit. The common lifespan for a frontline pumper is 15 years, 20 if extensively refurbished, followed by service in a reserve role for five to ten more years with retirement from service at twenty-four years of total service.

3. **PURPOSE OF THE VEHICLE** – This vehicle responds to structure fires, alarms of fire, motor vehicle crashes, heavy rescue, medical calls and various other calls. Examples:
 - a. Use of initial attack and backup hose lines.
 - b. Operating master stream devices.
 - c. Booster tank for immediate water supply (limited).
 - d. Tactical use of protective systems.
 - e. Rescue.
 - f. Overhaul.

4. **REPLACEMENT VEHICLE** – The recommendation from our staff is for a 1250 gpm custom chassis pumper. The pumper should have:
 - a. 1,250 gallon per minute Hale or Waterous single stage pump.
 - b. 750 gallon booster tank for immediate hose deployment pending secured water supply.
 - c. Stainless steel plumbing.
 - d. Fast attack monitor.

5. **SPECIFICATIONS** – Attached is a sample specification for a 1250 gpm custom chassis pumper truck. This shows the specifications and pictures of the vehicle to be considered.

6. **COST** – As we have discussed both at Capital Improvement Planning meetings and before the Town Council's Committee on Budget and Fiscal Oversight, initial vendor quotes put the cost of a replacement vehicle at \$445,000. This was the figure we used in preparing the FY 2009 CIP. The variable that was of concern at the time was that rising costs associated with construction, such as the price of steel, might drive up the cost of the unit. We have researched several manufacturers for this type of vehicle and the price ranged up to \$500,000.00. Unfortunately, these costs have increased and now the low end of the researched quotes is in the \$500,000 range with a high end of \$550,000. In order to make this acquisition feasible, the amount of this capital purchase should be adjusted upward to a minimum of \$525,000 to ensure proper funding. The list of manufacturers includes:
 - a. Emergency-One
 - b. Pierce
 - c. Seagrave

7. **TIMING** – This type of vehicle may take as long as twelve (12) months to order and receive delivery. Our situation is the need to replace the existing vehicle as soon as possible. The FY 2009 Capital Improvement Plan does have the pumper replacement in the schedule, but combined with the ordering, it puts the replacement off for up to two years.

8. **CURRENT COMPLEMENT TOWN OF WATERTOWN** - There are eight (8) vehicles in the fleet servicing the Town of Watertown. All five (5) front-line and one (1) reserve fire apparatus are manufactured by Emergency-One, Ocala, Florida:
 - a. One (1) 2007 aerial ladder
 - b. One (1) 2005 95' aerial platform
 - c. Four (4) pumpers, (three frontline-2003,1994, one reserve)
 - d. Two (2) rescues (one frontline-2008, one reserve-2003)

9. **CONCLUSIONS:**
 - a. Do not refurbish the vehicle. The refurbished pumper will not meet current *NFPA Standard 1901* for a front-line pumper truck.
 - b. Purchase new vehicle which will meet *NFPA Standard 1901*, enhance firefighter safety and effectiveness and increase public safety.