



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, JANUARY 24, 2017 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 J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland, and Council President Mark S. Sideris. Also present were Michael J. Driscoll, Town Manager, Mark Reich, Town Attorney, and Marilyn W. Pronovost, Town Council Clerk.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. PUBLIC FORUM

Ryan Edwards – stated his interest in working with the Ad Hoc Committee at Victory Field.

4. EXAMINATION OF RECORDS OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Minutes of the [December 13, 2016](#) and the [January 10, 2017](#) Town Council Meetings

Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the minutes of December 13, 2016 as amended by Councilor Falkoff and President Sideris; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the minutes of January 10, 2017 as amended by Councilor Falkoff; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Sideris stated that the Lieutenant Governor will be at the Watertown Town Hall on February 8, 2017 at 3:00 pm to sign a document

relating to the Community Compact. Watertown has received a grant for Complete Streets.

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

Consideration of [Two Applications for Registered Marijuana Dispensaries](#) and Requests for Letters of Support or Non-Opposition, and Referral to Committee on Economic Development and Planning:

A. [Alternative Therapies Group](#) at 36 Arlington Street

B. [NS AJO Holdings, Inc.](#) at 23 Elm Street

President Sideris stated that these items were not agenda items because the Development and Community Planning Director and his staff were working on the host agreements. He requested that these two applications be referred back to the Committee on Economic Development and Planning to discuss them.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to refer the two applications back to the Committee on Economic Development and Planning to discuss the host agreements; Councilor Woodland seconded it. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Public Hearing and Vote on a Proposed Animal Control Ordinance to be Adopted Pursuant to the Provisions of G.L. c. 140 Addressing the Keeping and Management of Dogs, Cats, and Other Animals in the Interest of Protecting Public Health and Safety as well as the Health and Safety of the Subject Animals. This Ordinance Shall Replace in its Entirety the Existing Ordinance Found as [Title IX, Chapter 91, Animals, of the Watertown Code of Ordinances](#).

Deb Rosati, Director of the Public Health Department, and Karen O'Reilly, Animal Control Officer, presented information regarding the new ordinance. The ordinance, which was last updated in 2005, will

- ~ eliminate inconsistencies with State law
- ~ allow dogs on leash to be walked in certain parks
- ~ provide enforcement methods of dog park rules
- ~ establish a fund to support the Animal Control program from licensing fees
- ~ require outdoor cats to be spayed/neutered and microchipped to identify owners
- ~ allow for a period of confinement for dangerous cats
- ~ increase fines

President Sideris opened the hearing to the public. There being no speakers, he closed the Public Hearing.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to adopt the new Chapter 91 of the Ordinances as presented; Councilor Palomba seconded the motion.

Councilor Kounelis moved that in §91.05, Item (2) that dogs be excluded from walking on the walking tracks in Filippello Park and Victory Field. Councilor Piccirilli moved to insert in §91.05 (2) after the words “552 Main St” the words “exclusive of athletic tracks and tot lot surfaces.” President Sideris requested Councilor Kounelis if she were withdrawing her friendly amendment in favor of Councilor Piccirilli’s motion; she agreed to the withdrawal. Councilor Falkoff seconded Councilor Piccirilli’s motion.

After a discussion of the Ordinance, the motion to amend the ordinance was adopted unanimously on a voice vote. The motion to accept the ordinance as amended was adopted unanimously on a roll call vote.

Councilor Dushku moved to delete the old Animal Control Ordinance; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

8. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

B. Joint Committees on Human Services and Rules and Ordinances Report on the [Draft Animal Control Ordinance](#) – Anthony Palomba and Kenneth M. Woodland, Chairs

ACTION ITEMS:

1. The Committees recommend that the Town Council request the administration to investigate and pursue the best options for updating the information systems used to track and log pet vaccinations for the purposes of licensing more Watertown pets.
2. The Committees recommend that the Health Department take the steps necessary to publicize the requirement for cat licensing.

President Sideris requested that Item 8 B be taken out of order. Councilor Piccirilli moved that Item 8B should be taken out of order; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Councilor Piccirilli moved that the Town Council request the Administration to investigate and pursue the best options for updating the information systems used to track and log pet vaccinations for the purposes of licensing more Watertown pets; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Councilor Piccirilli moved that the Health Department take the steps necessary to publicize the requirement for cat licensing; Councilor Woodland

seconded the motion. Councilor Palomba moved to amend the action item by adding the words “and microchipping” after the words “cat licensing”; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The amended motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

8. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

A. Ad Hoc Committee on [Transportation Report](#) on the Next Steps in Transportation for the Town of Watertown – Aaron P. Dushku, Chair ACTION ITEMS:

1. The Ad Hoc Committee Requests the Support of the Town Council to Pursue Discussion with MBTA Deputy Chief Planck to Discuss Transportation-Related Issues Affecting Watertown
2. The Ad Hoc Committee Requests the Support of the Town Council to Continue Discussion of Autonomous Vehicles for Mass Transit Purposes as Referenced in the Governor’s Executive Order of October 20, 2016.

Councilor Dushku read the Committee report. Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the report; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. Councilor Feltner requested that she be added to the list of attendees at the meeting. Councilor Piccirilli amended the motion to accept the report with the change to the list of attendees; Councilor Feltner seconded the amended motion. The amended motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Councilor Piccirilli moved that the Town Council pursue discussion with MBTA Deputy Chief Planck to discuss transportation-related issues affecting Watertown; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. Councilor Dushku informed the Council that Mr. Planck is no longer with the MBTA. Based on the information, Councilor Piccirilli moved to amend the motion by removing the words “with MBTA Deputy Chief Planck” and inserting “with the MBTA”; Councilor Dushku seconded the amendment. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Councilor Piccirilli moved that the Town Council continue discussion of autonomous vehicles for mass transit purposes as referenced in the Governor’s Executive Order of October 20, 2016; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

B. Joint Committees on Human Services and Rules and Ordinances Report on the [Draft Animal Control Ordinance](#) – Anthony Palomba and Kenneth M. Woodland, Chairs ACTION ITEMS:

1. The Committees recommend that the Town Council request the administration to investigate and pursue the best options for updating the information systems used to track and log pet vaccinations for the purposes of licensing more Watertown pets.

2. The Committees recommend that the Health Department take the steps necessary to publicize the requirement for cat licensing.

Please see previous notes for this item.

9. NEW BUSINESS

Councilor Falkoff moved to have the signage changed as soon as possible as to where dogs can walk; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. President Sideris asked Attorney Reich if this motion could be considered. Attorney Reich felt that the matter was not controversial and that no substantive change was requested, so it could be considered. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Councilor Falkoff noted that Boston recently passed an ordinance for BYOB licenses for a fee of \$400, while it is \$1,000 in Watertown. In light of the discrepancy, she asked that the matter be referred back to the Committee on Rules and Ordinances for review; Councilor Dushku seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

10. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER

A. Request for Confirmation of Appointment and Reappointments to Watertown Housing Authority

Mr. Driscoll requested the Council to confirm the appointment and reappointments to the Watertown Housing Authority:

- ~ Mr. Sachi Sharma, 100 Warren St., to fill the unexpired term of David Dalla Costa with a termination date of May 15, 2018 as Tenant Representative (Appointment)
- ~ Mr. Allen Gallagher, 16 Hawthorne St., to fill a term that expires on May 15, 2020 (Reappointment)
- ~ Ms. Cynthia Galligan, 14 Grandview Ave., to fill a term that expires on May 15, 2021 as Labor Representative (Reappointment)

Under Council Rules, these requests are referred to the Committee on Human Services.

B. Submission of the Proposed Fiscal Year 2018-2022 Capital Improvement Program

Mr. Driscoll presented the proposed Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) for FY 2018-2022.

- ~ The proposed request totals of \$368,343,100 is an increase of \$227,986,300 from the FY 2017-2021 CIP.
- ~ There is a request for potential renovation/reconstruction of the school facilities totaling \$204,200,000 with a funding source to be determined except for \$1million dollars for FY '18

- ~ Bonding requirement is \$56,695,300
- ~ Water and Sewer Enterprise Funds CIP request is \$24,392,000, an increase of \$2,250,000
- ~ Stormwater Infrastructure Improvements request is \$37,250,000 with a funding source yet to be determined
- ~ School improvements request is \$19,028,000
- ~ Street and sidewalk improvements request is \$106,194,200

Councilor Piccirilli moved to have these recommendations referred to the Committee of the Budget and Fiscal Oversight; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

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

Councilor Feltner asked for confirmation about the Town's Records Access Officer, in accordance with the new Public Records Law, and that information be announced, as well as easy to find, on the Town's website.

Councilor Kounelis requested an update on how the CVS parking lot planting area will be made more visual for motorists.

President Sideris requested a status report on the website update along with related technology issues.

12. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Feltner invited people to attend a community meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, January 25, 2017 at 101-103 Morse St, the site of a potential apartment conversion. The developer and architect will present information regarding the conversion.

Councilor Dushku announced that on Wednesday, February 1, 2017 at 6:30 p.m., the Committees on Transportation and Rules and Ordinances would meet to discuss the Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Ordinance. He also announced that at 7:30, the same evening, the Transportation Committee would meet to discuss the regulations for the TDM Ordinance.

He added that the Committee on Public Works would present an Adopt an Island policy for the Town Council to review.

Councilor Dattoli announced that on at 10:00 a.m. Sunday, January 28, 2017, the Elementary Parent Teacher Organization would be holding a town-wide Spelling Bee at the Watertown Middle School.

13. PUBLIC FORUM

There were no speakers at this forum.

14. RECESS OR ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Piccirilli moved to adjourn the meeting; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 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 vote of __9__ for, __0__ against, __0__ present on February 14, 2017.

Mark S. Sideris, Council President
s/MWP

**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2017 AT 7:15 P.M.
RICHARD E. MASTRANGELO COUNCIL CHAMBER
LIST OF DOCUMENTS**

1. Minutes of December 13, 2016 and the January 10, 2017 Town Council Meetings – Item 4
2. Medical Marijuana Dispensary Applications – Michael J. Driscoll, Town Manager, January 19, 2017 – Item 6
3. Statement in Support of Application for RMD Letter of Support or Non-Opposition Site located at 36 Arlington St., Watertown, MA 02472 – Item 6A
4. Letters from Prince Lobel to Steven Magoon, Community Development & Planning, Director dated January 11, 2017 and December 12, 2016; Host Community Agreement Draft, and City of Watertown Proposal Medical Marijuana Treatment Center – Item 6B
5. Proposed Animal Control Ordinance to be Adopted Pursuant to the Provisions of G.L. c. 140 Addressing the Keeping and Management of Dogs, Cats, and Other Animals in the Interest of Protecting Public Health and Safety as well as the Health and Safety of the Subject Animals – Item 7
6. Ad Hoc Committee on Transportation Report of Meeting on January 4, 2017 regarding a general discussion of transportation – related issues in Watertown – Item 8A.
7. Joint Town Council Committees on Human Services and Rules Ordinances Report of Meeting of October 5, 2016 regarding a Draft Animal Control Ordinance – Item 8B.