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
THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 2017 AT 6:15 P.M.
RICHARD E. MASTRANGELO COUNCIL CHAMBER
MINUTES

1. ROLL CALL
   Council President Sideris called to order a regular meeting of the Town Council rescheduled to March 16, 2017 at 6:15 p.m. in the Richard E. Mastrangelo Chamber, Administration Building. Those present were Councilors Michael F. Dattoli, Aaron P. Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Lisa J. Feltner, Angeline B. Kounelis, Anthony Palomba, Vice President Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., and Council President Mark S. Sideris. Councilor Kenneth M. Woodland was absent. Also present were Michael J. Driscoll, Town Manager, Mark Reich, Town Attorney, and Marilyn W. Pronovost, Town Council Clerk.

2. EXECUTIVE SESSION – 6:15 P.M.
   A. To Discuss Strategy with Respect to Collective Bargaining with the DPW Union, Town Hall Associates Union, Library Union, Fire Union, Police Patrol Union, Police Supervisors Union, as an Open Meeting may have a Detrimental Effect on the Town's Bargaining Position

   B. To Consider the Purchase, Exchange, Lease or Value of Real Estate – Former East Branch Library; If the Chair Declares That an Open Meeting May Have a Detrimental Effect on the Negotiating Position of the Public Body

   Councilor Piccirilli moved to enter into executive session; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a roll call vote.

3. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION – 7:15 P.M.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

5. PUBLIC FORUM

Rob Mannix – Watertown Fire Department – President of Watertown Firefighters Union – Thanked all those involved in the Union contract negotiations

Russ Arico – 49 Fayette St. – Urged that no taxpayer money be used for the Shuttle Bus

Tom Mc Manus – Deputy Chief, Watertown Fire Department – Wanted to thank those involved with the Union negotiations and how well it was handled.

Ilana Mainelli – Announced that there will be an information night regarding Minuteman Vocational Technical High School on March 21, 2017 from 7:00 – 8:00 pm at the Watertown Middle School Auditorium.

6. EXAMINATION OF RECORDS OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS
Minutes of the February 28, 2017 Town Council Meeting

Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the minutes of February 28, 2017 as written; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

9. MOTIONS, ORDINANCES, ORDER, AND RESOLUTIONS

C. Resolution Authorizing a Transfer of Funds in order to Fund an Agreement with the Watertown Firefighters, IAFF Local 1347 Covering the Period of July 1, 2016 Through June 30, 2019

Councilor Piccirilli made a motion to move up Item 9C in the discussion; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Mr. Driscoll provided a brief overview of the proposed agreement:

~ Base Wage Increases
Effective 7/1/2016 – 2.5%
Effective 7/1/2017 – 2%
Effective 7/1/2018 – 2%
~ Random Drug Testing effective 7/1/2017
~ Bi-weekly pay schedule
~ Adding a 10 year step to the wage scale – 2.25% Increase – effective 7/1/2017
~ Increasing the night and staff differential – effective 7/1/2017
~ The addition of an ALS Paramedic Supervisor with an annual stipend of $2,500

Mr. Driscoll requested the transfer of $278,150 from various accounts to satisfy the terms of the agreement. Councilor Piccirilli moved to approve the transfer of funds of $278,150; Councilor Kounelis seconded the motion.

After several comments from Council members thanking the negotiators and personnel for achieving the agreement, the motion was adopted unanimously on a roll call vote.

7. PRESIDENT'S REPORT
Consideration and Action on the Fiscal Year 2018 Budget Submission Date

President Sideris requested that the budget submission date be moved from the first meeting in April to the second meeting in April. Councilor Piccirilli so moved; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

President Sideris also announced that the School Committee had selected Dr. Dede Galdston, Assistant Superintendent of Schools in Billerica, as the new Superintendent of Schools for Watertown pending contract negotiations.

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS
Public Hearing and Vote on a Proposed Loan Order Authorizing the Town Treasurer, With the Approval of the Town Manager, to Borrow and/or Expend Monies in the Amount of $2,800,000 Under Chapter 44, Section 7(6) of the General Laws or Any Other Enabling Authority for the Costs of Construction and Reconstruction of Streets and Sidewalks, Including Underground Duct/Conduit Improvements

Mr. Driscoll provided background on the issue and stated that the loan is payable in 5 years starting in FY 2018 and ending FY 2022; Mr. Mee, Superintendent of the Public Works provided his support for the loan order. Councilor Piccirilli moved to approve the loan order of $2,800,000; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. After a brief discussion, the motion was adopted unanimously on a roll call vote.

9. MOTIONS, ORDINANCES, ORDER, AND RESOLUTIONS
A. First Reading on a Proposed Ordinance to Modify Hours of Operation of the Administration Building

Mr. Driscoll provided a brief background on the material and stated that a public hearing would be held on March 28, 2017.

B. First Reading on a Proposed Transportation Demand Management Ordinance (TDM) that Will Require Certain Projects to Take Steps in order to Reduce Single Occupant Vehicle Trips Resulting From the Project.

Mr. Magoon gave a brief background on the Ordinance. A public hearing will be scheduled for a later date.

C. Resolution Authorizing a Transfer of Funds in order to Fund an Agreement with the Watertown Firefighters, IAFF Local 1347 Covering the Period of July 1, 2016 Through June 30, 2019.

See previous notes on this topic.

10. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

A. Committee of the Budget and Fiscal Oversight Report on Watertown's FY 2018 – 2022 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) – Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Chair

ACTION ITEMS:

1. That the Town Council Adopt the Committee of the Budget and Fiscal Oversight's Twenty-Five Conceptual Recommendations
2. That the Town Manager Adjust the FY 2018 Capital Spending So That It Does Not Exceed 8% of the Submitted FY 2018 Operating Budget In Order To Meet the Town Council's Budget Policy Guideline that the Town Should Seek to Make Capital Expenditures (Including Debt and Exclusive of Enterprise Funds) Equal to at Least 7.5-8% of the Operating Budget

Councilor Piccirilli read the recommendations from the three Committee meetings. Councilor Falkoff moved to accept the report; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Councilor Piccirilli moved that the Town Council adopt the Committee of the Budget and Fiscal Oversight's twenty-five conceptual recommendations; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Councilor Piccirilli moved that the Town Manager adjust the FY 2018 capital spending so that it does not exceed 8% of the submitted FY 2018 operating budget in order to meet the Town Council's budget policy guideline that the town should seek to make capital expenditures (including debt and exclusive of enterprise funds) equal to at least 7.5-8% of the operating budget; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

B. Committee on Economic Development and Planning Report on the Review of the Application for Alternative Therapies Group (ATG) for a Registered Marijuana Dispensary and Reuse of the Former Police Station – Susan G. Falkoff, Chair

ACTION ITEM: That the Application for a Medical Marijuana Treatment Center at 36 Arlington Street by Alternative Therapies Group be referred back to the Town Council **f**or a vote for a letter of support or non-opposition**.**

Councilors Falkoff and Piccirilli read the Committee report. Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the report; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. After a brief discussion, the motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Councilor Palomba moved that the application for a Medical Marijuana Treatment Center at 36 Arlington Street by Alternative Therapies Group be referred back to the Town Council **f**or a vote for a letter of support or non-opposition; Councilor Falkoff seconded the motion. After a brief discussion, the motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

C. Committee on Education and School System Matters Report on the Appointment and Reappointment of Members to the Cable Access Corporation Board of Directors – Michael F. Dattoli, Chair
ACTION ITEMS:
1. That the Town Council Approve the Appointment of Michael Shepard to the Cable Access Corporation Board of Directors for a Term Ending September 15, 2017
2. That the Town Council Approve the Reappointment of George Skuse to the Cable Access Corporation Board of Directors for a Term Ending September 15, 2019

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

Councilor Piccirilli moved that the Town Council approve the appointment of Michael Shepard to the Cable Access Corporation Board of Directors for a term ending September 15, 2017; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Councilor Piccirilli moved that the Town Council approve the reappointment of George Skuse to the Cable Access Corporation Board of Directors for a term ending September 15, 2019; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

President Sideris mentioned that a School Committee member is named to the Board of Directors. He requested that Eileen Hsu-Balzer be confirmed for the position. Councilor Piccirilli moved to appoint Ms. Hsu-Balzer to the Board of Directors; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

President Sideris stated that a confirmatory vote would be taken up at the next meeting because this matter was not placed on the meeting's agenda.

D. Ad Hoc Committee on Transportation Report on Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Ordinance and TDM Regulations and the Mass DOT Draft 2018-2022 Capital Investment Plan – Aaron P. Dushku, Chair
ACTION ITEM: That the Town Council Send a Letter Authored by the Ad Hoc Committee on Transportation to MassDOT Regarding its 2018-2022 Capital Investment Plan Regarding the Matters Discussed at the Meeting

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

Councilor Dushku moved that the Town Council send a letter authored by the Ad Hoc Committee on Transportation to MassDOT regarding its 2018-2022 Capital Investment Plan regarding the matters discussed at the meeting.

Mr. Magoon stated that many TMA's within Massachusetts have received $50,000 funding from the State and suggested that this be addressed for Watertown in the letter. Councilor Dushku moved to amend the motion by including this matter; he further moved that Mr. Magoon and Superintendent of Public Works Mee review and approve the letter. Councilor Feltner seconded the amended motion. The motion to amend the letter by including mention of the $50,000 was adopted unanimously on a voice vote. The motion to the amended letter was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

11. NEW BUSINESS
There was no new business brought before the Council.

12. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER
A. Request for Confirmation of Reappointment to the Board of Election Commissioners

Mr. Driscoll requested that Ms. Katherine Button be confirmed for reappointment to the Board of Election Commissioners for a term to expire on April 1, 2021. Under the Town Council Rules, the matter is being referred to the Committee on State, Federal, and Regional Government for their review and report back to the Town Council.

B. Request for Confirmation of Reappointment to the Licensing Board

Mr. Driscoll requested that Steven Aylward be confirmed for reappointment to the Licensing Board for a term to expire on February 15, 2020. Under the Town Council Rules, the matter is being referred to the Committee on Personnel and Town Organization for their review and report back to the Town Council.

C. Request for Confirmation of Appointment to the Planning Board

Mr. Driscoll requested that Payson R. Whitney, III, be confirmed for reappointment to the Planning Board for a term to expire on February 15, 2020. Under the Council Rules, the matter is being referred to the Committee on Economic Planning and Development for their review and report back to the Town Council.

D. Request for Confirmation of reappointments to the Zoning Board of Appeals

Mr. Driscoll requested that John Gannon, be confirmed for reappointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals as a Full Member for a five-year term to expire on February 15, 2022 and that Jason D. Cohen be reappointed as an Alternate Member for a two-year term to expire on February 15, 2019. Under the Council Rules, the matter is being referred to the Committee on Economic Planning and Development for their review and report back to the Town Council.

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

Councilor Feltner stated that when abutters letters are sent out that a copy be provided to the Councilors. She suggested that a community meeting be held regarding this matter.

Councilor Falkoff requested an update on the revamping of the Town's website.

14. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Dattoli announced that

* The Minuteman Technical High School would be holding an information night at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, March 21, 2017 at the Watertown Middle School
* The 6th Annual Music Fest, a fundraiser by the Friends of Watertown Music, would be held on Friday, March 31, 2017 at the Watertown Middle School.
* The Watertown Educational Fund is hosting a Dancing with the Stars event at 6:00 pm on May 5, 2017 at the Hellenic Cultural Center and that President Sideris would be participating

Councilor Feltner announced that Palaver Strings, sponsored by the Watertown Cultural Commission would be performing at 8:00 pm on Saturday, March 18, 2017 at the First Parish Church.

President Sideris announced that the Town Council would be taking up a Statement of Interest from the School Department and the letter of support or non-opposition to the medical marijuana facility on Elm St.

He also wished a happy birthday to Patty Jackson, who has lived in the Watertown since 1941 and was a former Public Health nurse, a happy 100th birthday.

15. PUBLIC FORUM
    Wilfred J. Clifford – 93 Riverside – spoke about
    1. Ridge Lawn Cemetery is overcrowded and a crematorium may need to be considered
    2. The winter parking ban should not be rescinded
    3. As Attorney General Sessions is against marijuana, it should be considered with the RMD request
    4. The request for Grant money – could that please be published
    5. The rapid, efficient and effective service he experienced with the DPW

16. RECESS OR ADJOURNMENT
    Councilor Piccirilli moved to adjourn the meeting; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:38 pm.

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 March 28, 2017.

_____

Mark S. Sideris, Council President
s/MWP

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 2017 AT 6:15 P.M.
RICHARD E. MASTRANGELO COUNCIL CHAMBER
LIST OF DOCUMENTS

1. Agenda Item – Executive Session Request regarding Collective Bargaining – Item 2A

2. Agenda Item – Executive Session Request regarding Real Estate purchase, exchange, lease or value – Item 2B

3. Minutes of the February 28, 2017 Town Council Meeting - Item 6

4. Statement from Town Council President Mark S. Sideris dated March 9, 2017 regarding Fiscal Year 2018 Budget Submission Date – Item 7

5. Additional Information – Proposed Loan Order for $2,8000,000 relating to the Construction and Reconstruction of Street and Sidewalks including related Underground Duct/Conduit Improvements – Michael J. Driscoll, Town Manager – March 9, 2017 – Item 8

6. Proposed Ordinance to Modify Administration Building Hours – Michael J. Driscoll, Town Manager – March 7, 2017 – Item 9A

7. An Ordinance Amending the Town General Ordinances – Chapter 72 – Transport Demand Management Programs – Item 9B

8. Agenda Item – Transfer of Funds – Watertown Firefighters, IAFF Local 1347 – Michael J. Driscoll, Town Manager – March 9, 2017 – Item 9C

9. Committee of the Budget and Fiscal Oversight Reports of February 22, 2017, March 1, 2017, and March 6, 2017 Meetings Relating to the Capita Improvement Project for FY – 2018 -2022 – Item 10A
    A. Link to Fiscal Year 2018-2022 Capital Improvement Program – Michael Driscoll, Town Manager – January 24, 2017
    B. Attachment A – NPSTC T-Band Update Report dated May 31, 2016
    C. Attachment B – Police Department's Outstanding FY 16 Loan Orders dated January 30, 2017
    D. Attachment C – Capital Spending as a Percentage of the Revised Revenue/Expenditure Forecast dated February 22, 2017
    E. Attachment D – Proposed Loan Orders from FY 13, FY 14, FY 15, FY 16, and FY 17 dated January 24, 2017
    F. Attachment E – Fiscal Year 2018 -2022 CIP Comparison to Last Year's Fiscal Year 2017 – 2021 CIP, with Variances dated March 1, 2017
    G. Attachment F – School Department CIP Presentation dated March 1, 2017
    H. Attachment G – Public Works Vehicles and Equipment CIP Memo dated February 28, 2017

I. Attachment H – Public Works Vehicle Listing dated March 1, 2017
J. Attachment I – Capital Fund Balances as of February 28, 2017
K. Attachment J – Remaining FY 15, FY 16, and FY 17 Loan Orders dated March 6, 2017

10. Committee on Economic Development and Planning Report of March 2, 2017 relating to the Review of the Application for Alternative Therapies Group (ATG) for a Registered Marijuana Dispensary and Reuse of the Former Police Station – Item 10B
    A. Committee on Economic Development and Planning Meeting Notice for March 2, 2017
    B. Sign In Sheet for Meeting
    C. Attachment A – Host Community Agreement between Town of Watertown and Alternative Therapies Group, Inc.
    D. Attachment B – Series of emails regarding the Old Policy Station Report Review – February 24, 2017
    E. Letter from Alternative Therapies Group and related Supplemental Material regarding ATG – February 13, 2017

11. Committee on Education and School System Matters Report of February 13, 2017 regarding the appointment of Michael Shepard and reappointment of George Skuse to the Board of Directors of the Cable Access Corporation – Item 10 C

12. Ad Hoc Committee on Transportation Report on February 16, 2017 regarding Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Ordinance and TDM Regulations and the Mass DOT Draft 2018-2022 Capital Investment Plan (TDM) Ordinance – Item 10D
    A. Link to massDOT 2018-2022 Capital Investment Plan
    B. Attachment A – Letter sent from Watertown Town Council to the Massachusetts Department of Transportation – May 25, 2016
    C. Attachment B – Schedule of Unfunded Projects pertinent to Watertown

13. Request for Confirmation – Appointment to the Board of Election Commissioners – Michael J. Driscoll, Town Manager – March 7, 2017 – Item 12A

14. Request for Confirmation – Reappointment to the Licensing Board – Michael J. Driscoll, Town Manager – March 7, 2017 – Item 12B

15. Request for Confirmation – Appointment to the Planning Board – Michael J. Driscoll, Town Manager – March 7, 2017 – Item 12C

16. Request for Confirmation – Reappointments to the Zoning Board of Appeals – Michael J. Driscoll, Town Manager – March 7, 2017 – Item 12D