



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, NOVEMBER 14, 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 Driscoll, Town Manager, Mark Reich, Town Attorney, and Marilyn W. Pronovost, Council Clerk

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. PUBLIC FORUM

Michael Hanlon – 231 Coolidge Avenue – Thanked the community for electing him to the Library Board of Trustees.

Bruce Coltin – 67 Marion Road – Raised the concern that soccer goalies playing on artificial turf have a higher level of cancer.

4. EXAMINATION OF RECORDS OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

[Minutes of the October 24, 2017](#) Town Council Meeting

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

5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Sideris stated on behalf of the Town Council, he wished to extend their condolences to the family of Fire Chief Orangio and to his extended Fire

Department family. He praised Chief Orangio for his many accomplishments that consistently bettered the Department and the Town.

Mr. Driscoll thanked the Town employees for their support and aid, especially Provisional Fire Chief Robert Quinn, Police Chief Michael Lawn, and Dennis Sheehan, DPW Director of Administration and Finance, for working on the logistics of the funeral. He also thanked the community for their support and the neighboring Fire Departments of Newton, Waltham, Cambridge, and Belmont for providing coverage from 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Driscoll stated that Mario Orangio joined the Fire Department in 1988 and was promoted to Lieutenant in 1997, Captain in 2001, and Fire Chief in 2004 and that Chief Orangio provided thirteen years of leadership and dedication to the Town and Fire Department to improve the lives of the community.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Public Hearing and Vote on a Proposed Order [Allocating the Property Tax Levy](#) Among or Between Property Classes for Fiscal Year 2018

Mr. Driscoll provided background on the tax levy and presented Francis Golden, Chair of the Board of Assessors, to provide a presentation on the tax classifications for Fiscal Year 2018. Some of the data that Mr. Golden presented were

\$101,242,711.65 – The amount of tax to be levied which includes 2.5% tax increase and new growth

\$7,193,842,933 – The value of all Real and Personal Property

\$14.08/\$1000 – The flat tax rate without the 175% tax shift to commercial properties

The tax rates with the 175% tax shift are

13.37 for Residential Properties

24.63 for Commercial, Industrial, and Personal Property (CIP)

The average residential value rose from \$547,540 (FY17) to \$587,413 (FY18).

A residential owner of an average home valued at \$587,413 and a tax credit of 22% will pay \$6,126 in taxes while the non-residential owner will pay \$7854. An average residential owner with a tax credit of 25% will pay \$6,022 for taxes, while the non-residential owner will pay \$8,030.

President Sideris opened the hearing to the public; there being no speakers, the hearing was closed.

After an extended discussion, Councilor Piccirilli moved for an allocation with the Proposition 2.5% increase, a 175% CIP shift, and a 22% residential

exemption; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. The motion was not adopted on a roll call vote of 3 – 5. Councilors Palomba, Piccirilli, and Sideris voted in the affirmative; Councilors Dattoli, Dushku, Falkoff, Feltner, Kounelis, and Woodland voted in the negative.

Councilor Piccirilli then moved for an allocation with the Proposition 2.5% increase, a 175% CIP shift, and a 23% residential exemption; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted on a roll call vote of 8 – 1. All Councilors voted in the affirmative, except for Councilor Kounelis who voted in the negative.

B. Public Hearing and Vote on a Proposed Order Setting [Optional Tax Exemptions](#) for Fiscal Year 2018

Mr. Driscoll provided background on the optional tax exemptions. Councilor Kounelis recused herself from the discussion. President Sideris opened the meeting to the public. There being no speakers, the meeting was closed.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to adopt the optional tax exemptions as presented; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Mr. Driscoll and President Sideris thanked Mr. Golden, who resign his post at the end of the week, for his work over the last eight years.

7. MOTIONS, ORDINANCES, ORDER, AND RESOLUTIONS

A. Resolution Authorizing Acceptance and Expenditure of a Gift of Funds in the Amount of \$1,250.00 to Offset Expenses Related to the [“Faire on the Square 2017.”](#)

Mr. Driscoll stated that the Residence Inn and Eastern Bank made donations amounting to \$1,250 to offset the expenses of the Faire on the Square. He asked for the Council’s favorable consideration. Councilor Piccirilli moved to approve the gift of funds; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

B. Resolution Authorizing a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$140,950 from the Fiscal Year 2018 Debt Retirement – Interest on Short Term Debt Account to the Fiscal Year 2018 Transfer to Capital Projects/Town Account in Order to Move Forward with the Installation of an [Emergency Generator](#) at the Administration Building.

Mr. Driscoll provided background on the matter and requested the Council’s favorable consideration. Councilor Piccirilli moved to approve the transfer of \$140,950 for the purchase of an emergency generator;

Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a roll call vote.

- C. Consideration and Action on a Proposed [Intermunicipal Agreement with the Town of Belmont](#) for the Loaning of Fire Apparatus and Other Firefighting Equipment on an Emergency Basis for up to Ninety-Six (96) Hours at a time by one Municipality (the “Loaning Municipality”) to the Other (the “Borrowing Municipality”)

Mr. Driscoll stated that with the municipal agreement the Town would be able to loan fire apparatus and equipment on an emergency basis for up to 96 hours at a time. He requested the Council’s favorable consideration.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to authorize the Town Manager to enter into the proposed municipal agreement with the Town of Belmont for loaning fire apparatus or other firefighting equipment; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

- D. First Reading of a Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment Related to a [Temporary Moratorium](#) on the Use of Land and Structures in the Town for Recreational Marijuana Establishments and Referral to the Planning Board for a Public Hearing

Mr. Magoon stated that the need for the moratorium was the ability to create regulations prior to the establishment of a recreational marijuana facility. Councilor Piccirilli moved to refer this matter to the Planning Board; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. After discussion about the effect of the moratorium, the motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

8. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

- A. Ad Hoc Committee on Transportation Report Regarding the [Status of the TMA and Discussion Regarding the Watertown Yard and Bus Barn](#) – Aaron P. Dushku, Chair

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

- B. Committee on Public Works Report Regarding the [2018 Roads Program](#) – Aaron P. Dushku, Chair

ACTION ITEM: That the Town Council Approve the Proposed 2018 Roads Program Which Includes Full-Depth Reconstruction of Arden Road, Edgecliff Road, Everett Avenue (from Lower End of Bartlett, Uphill to Palfrey), Malden Street, Priest Road, Westland Road and Woodleigh Road

Councilor Dushku read the Committee report. Councilor Piccirilli 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 approve the proposed 2018 Roads Program which includes the full-depth reconstruction of Arden Road, Edgecliff Road, Everett Avenue (from lower end of Bartlett, uphill to Palfrey), Malden Street, Priest Road, Westland Road, and Woodleigh Road; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

9. NEW BUSINESS

Councilor Dattoli requested a joint referral with the Athletic Subcommittee of the School Committee to discuss the Watertown High School Athletics demand for an athletic field specific to turf; Councilor Palomba seconded the motion. President Sideris stated that the subcommittee has scheduled a meeting in two weeks to discuss this topic and that it has not voted on a recommendation for another field. Based on this information, Councilor Dattoli withdrew his request.

Councilor Dushku made a motion to refer to the Committee on Public Works, the issue of lighting at Linear Park; Councilor Palomba seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

10. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER

Mr. Driscoll stated that the Town Hall would be closed on Thursday and Friday, November 23 and 24, 2017 in observance of Thanksgiving.

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

Councilor Kounelis requested a status report of her previous requests on recreational marijuana and athenahealth. She also asked for a report on the possibility of using artificial turf for Filippello Park.

Councilor Palomba requested a list of the applications made to the Department of Community Development and Planning for any new development on any sites in Watertown over the last three months.

Councilor Dushku noted that DPW has been using traffic counting devices and requested a report on what the data indicates.

12. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Dattoli announced that on Thursday, November 16, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chamber, the Recreation Department would be holding a community meeting on lighting options for Filippello Park.

Councilor Kounelis announced that the memorial for Firefighter Toscano at Bigelow Street and Merrifield Avenue will be installed in March, 2018.

She also announced that there would be a meeting at Filippello Park for those interested in changes to the park.

She announced that on Monday, November 20, 2017, there would be a meeting regarding Mount Auburn Street.

Councilor Dushku announced that Friday, November 17, 2017 would be leaf collection day. He also announced that the parking ban would start on November 27, 2017.

Councilor Feltner announced that on Tuesday November 21, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. in Council Chamber, there would be a community meeting on a new project planned for 33 Mount Auburn Street.

13. PUBLIC FORUM

There were no speakers for the public forum.

14. RECESS OR ADJOURNMENT

President Sideris asked for a moment of silence in memory of Fire Chief Mario Orangio.

Councilor Piccirilli made a motion to adjourn; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 9:41 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 _8_ for, _0_ against, _0_ present on November 28, 2017.

Mark S. Sideris, Council President
s:/MWP

**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2017 AT 7:15 P.M.
RICHARD E. MASTRANGELO COUNCIL CHAMBER
LIST OF DOCUMENTS**

1. Minutes of the October 24, 2017 Town Council Meeting – Item 4
2. Fiscal Year 2018 Tax Classification Hearing November 14, 2017 – Item 6A
3. Fiscal Note – Exemptions – Michael Driscoll , Town Manager to Town Council – October 19, 2017 – Item 6B
4. Agenda Item – Approval of Gift Expenditures: \$1,250 to Offset Expenses of Faire on the Square – Michael Driscoll, Town Manager, to Town Council – November 8, 2017 – Item 7A
5. Agenda Item – Transfer of Funds Request: \$140,950 for Purchase of Emergency Generator for Town Hall – Michael Driscoll, Town Manager, to Town Council – November 8, 2017 – Item 7B
6. Agenda Item – Proposed Intermunicipal Agreement with Town of Belmont regarding Loan of Fire Apparatus and Equipment – Michael Driscoll, Town Manager, to Town Council – November 8, 2017 – Item 7C
7. Proposed Zoning Text Amendment for A Moratorium Regarding Recreational Marijuana – Steve Magoon, Department of Community Development and Planning Director – November 8, 2017 – Item 7D
8. Ad Hoc Committee on Transportation Report Regarding the Watertown Transportation Management Association (WTMA) and Watertown Yard and Bus Barn on October 26, 2017 – Item 8A
 - A. City Council Committee on Transportation – Watertown Transportation Management Association – October 26, 2017
 - B. The Ultimate Commuter Tool – eCommuter eCommuter.org
9. Committee on Public Works Report Regarding the 2018 Roads Program on October 18, 2017 – Item 8B
 - A. Ordinance 2010-6 Governing the General Standards and Requirements for Curbs and Sidewalks
 - B. 2018 Roads Program – Public Works Subcommittee Presentation – October 18, 2017