



# 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, DECEMBER 12, 2017 AT 6:30 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 6:30 p.m. in the Richard E. Mastrangelo Chamber, Administration Building. Those present were Councilors Aaron P. Dushku, Susan G. Falkoff, Lisa J. Feltner, Angeline B. Kounelis, Vice President Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland, and Council President Mark S. Sideris. Councilor Anthony Palomba arrived at 6:35 p.m.; Councilor Michael F. Dattoli arrived at 6:59 p.m. Also present were Michael Driscoll, Town Manager, Mark Reich, Town Attorney, and Marilyn W. Pronovost, Council Clerk.

### 2. EXECUTIVE SESSION – 6:30 P.M.

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 Woodland 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

Jocelyn Tager – Robbins Road – Thanked Councilors Falkoff and Dushku for their efforts on behalf of the community.

John Portz – Robbins Road – On behalf of the Schools, he thanked both councilors for their support of the schools. He personally wished them well on their future endeavors.

6. EXAMINATION OF RECORDS OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

[Minutes of the November 28, 2017](#) Town Council Meeting

Councilor Piccirilli moved to adopt the minutes as amended; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

7. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Update and Consideration of Action on Proposed Disposition of Former East Branch Library Property

President Sideris stated that the Town Counsel has negotiated the purchase and sale agreement for the East Branch Library with St. James Armenian Church after discussions regarding concerns about the development and use of the property. He requested a motion to authorize the execution of the agreement.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to authorize the Town Manager to execute the Purchase and Sale Agreement incorporating the dimensional and use restrictions addressing the Town Counsel's expressed concerns for the former East Branch Library; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a roll call vote.

He also stated that a motion was passed at a School Committee meeting for both the School Committee and the Town to discuss the current state of fields for the 2018-2019 academic year and thereafter. Both the Superintendent of Schools and the Town Manager will be working on a way to create a process and then report back to both bodies for review and votes.

11. MOTIONS, ORDINANCES, ORDER, AND RESOLUTIONS

A. Resolution Authorizing Acceptance and Expenditure of a Gift of Funds in the Amount of \$2,000 from Watertown Savings Bank to Fund the Purchase of a [Memorial Sign for Firefighter Joseph A. Toscano](#) at the Corner of Merrifield Avenue and Bigelow Avenue; and Refreshments for the Dedication Ceremony to be Held Sometime In or Around March 2018.

Councilor Piccirilli made a motion to move up the Item 11 A; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Mr. Driscoll provided background on the gift from the Watertown Savings Bank relating to the memorial for Firefighter Toscano at Merrifield and Bigelow Avenues. He requested the Council's favorable consideration of the motion.

Councilor Piccirilli made a motion to approve the acceptance and expenditure of the gift of funds; Councilor Kounelis seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Acting Fire Chief Quinn thanked the Council for their favorable consideration.

#### 10. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A. Public Hearing and Vote on a Proposed Order Authorizing the Town Treasurer With the Approval of the Town Manager to Borrow and/or Expend Monies in the Amount of \$1,378,599 under Chapter 44, Section 7(7) of the General Laws, or Pursuant to any Other Enabling Authority to [Pay Costs of Designer Services for the Design, Construction, Addition to and/or Renovation of Three Elementary Schools](#), Including the Payment of Costs Incidental or Related Thereto. Any Premium Received upon the Sale of any Bonds or Notes Approved by This Vote, Less Any Such Premium Applied to the Payment of the Costs of Issuance of Such Bonds or Notes, May be Applied to the Payment of Costs Approved by This Vote in Accordance With Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws, Thereby Reducing the Amount Authorized to be Borrowed to Pay Such Costs by a Like Amount.

Councilor Piccirilli made a motion to move up the Item 10 A; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

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

Mr. Driscoll provided some background on the need for the Order – the funding of designer services for the alterations to be made to the Town’s three elementary schools.

Mary De Lai, Assistant Superintendent of Schools for Finance and Operations, stated that a Request For Proposal was requested for services to evaluate potential solutions and to assist the schools with the schematic design process. The Designer Selection Committee considered two bids and selected AI3 of Wayland, MA; references were checked; and a fee proposal was requested. The amount of \$1,378, 599 consists of \$1,210,000 for the consultations and an additional expense of \$168,599 for other services.

Mr. Driscoll requested the Council’s favorable consideration.

President Sideris opened the Public Hearing; there being no speakers, the Hearing was closed.

Councilor Piccirilli made a motion to approve the loan order of \$1,378,599; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. During a discussion, Assistant

Superintendent De Lai clarified that the Owner's Project Manager (OPM) acts as the Owner's agent throughout the process. She further explained that the Schematic Design time is the first phase of the project that will provide a sense of the work to be completed, the cost of the project, and what the project will entail. The contract permits the Schools to extend the contract with the OPM and the Designer or to seek other resources if desired. This phase is projected to be completed by the summer of 2018. At that time, there would another request for appropriation to fund the work of the project.

The motion was adopted unanimously on a roll call vote.

John Portz, Chair of the School Committee, Superintendent Galdston, and Scott Dunlap from AI3 thanked the Council for their support and stated that there would an initial meeting on Monday to discuss timelines and project expectations.

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

A. Acceptance of the Proclamation for [Raya Stern Day](#) on December 5, 2017

B. Proclamation Honoring the Work of [Councilor Aaron P. Dushku](#)

C. Proclamation Honoring the Work of [Councilor Susan G. Falkoff](#)

Councilor Piccirilli made a motion to move Item 8 to the end of the agenda; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

The minutes for this item appear below.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM PRIOR MEETINGS

Committee on Personnel and Town Organization Report Regarding the Review of the [Salary of the Town Auditor](#) – Susan G. Falkoff, Chair

ACTION ITEMS:

That the Town Council Approve the Town Auditor Receive a 2.25% COLA and 1.5% Performance Increase for FY17, Bringing the Base Salary of \$103,963 to \$107,862 and the Total Salary to \$126,862 That Includes a \$15,000 Stipend for Being the Assistant Town Manager and a \$4,000 Stipend for Sitting on the Retirement Board

President Sideris stated that this item would be taken up with Item 10B. It was part of a report read on November 28, 2017.

10. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Public Hearing and Vote on a Proposed Order Authorizing the Town Treasurer With the Approval of the Town Manager to Borrow and/or

Expend Monies in the Amount of \$1,378,599 under Chapter 44, Section 7(7) of the General Laws, or Pursuant to any Other Enabling Authority to [Pay Costs of Designer Services for the Design, Construction, Addition to and/or Renovation of Three Elementary Schools](#), Including the Payment of Costs Incidental or Related Thereto. Any Premium Received upon the Sale of any Bonds or Notes Approved by This Vote, Less Any Such Premium Applied to the Payment of the Costs of Issuance of Such Bonds or Notes, May be Applied to the Payment of Costs Approved by This Vote in Accordance With Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws, Thereby Reducing the Amount Authorized to be Borrowed to Pay Such Costs by a Like Amount.

The minutes for this item appear above.

- B. Public Hearing and Vote on a Proposed Ordinance Adjusting the Town Auditor's Salary So That the Town Auditor Will Receive a 2.25% COLA and 1.5% Performance Increase for FY17, Bringing the Base Salary of \$103,963 to \$107,862 and the Total Salary to \$126,862 That Includes a \$15,000 Stipend for Being the Assistant Town Manager and a \$4,000 Stipend for Sitting on the Retirement Board

President Sideris opened up the Public Hearing. There being no speakers, the Public Hearing was closed.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to approve the ordinance adjusting the town auditor's salary so that the Town Auditor will receive a 2.25% COLA and 1.5% performance increase for FY17, bringing the base salary of \$103,963 to \$107,862 and the total salary to \$126,862 that includes a \$15,000 stipend for being the Assistant Town Manager and a \$4,000 stipend for sitting on the Retirement Board; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a roll call vote.

#### 11. MOTIONS, ORDINANCES, ORDER, AND RESOLUTIONS

- A. Resolution Authorizing Acceptance and Expenditure of a Gift of Funds in the Amount of \$2,000 from Watertown Savings Bank to Fund the Purchase of a [Memorial Sign for Firefighter Joseph A. Toscano](#) at the Corner of Merrifield Avenue and Bigelow Avenue; and Refreshments for the Dedication Ceremony to be Held Sometime In or Around March 2018.

The minutes for this item may be found above.

- B. An Order to Supplement Prior Borrowing Votes to [Permit the Application of Bond Sale Premium to Pay Project Cost](#)

Mr. Driscoll provided background that under the Municipal Modernization Act, the Town may apply bond premiums to pay project costs. The order would affect all future premiums on existing authorizations.

Councilor Piccirilli made a motion to move the Order that the Town votes to supplement each prior order of this Council that authorizes the borrowing of money to pay cost of capital projects to provide that, in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws, the premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes thereunder, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to pay project costs and the amount authorized to be borrowed for each such project shall be reduced by the amount of any such premium so applied; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

## 12. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

- A. Committee on Economic Development and Planning Report Regarding [Blighted Properties; Extension of LEED Certifiability; Solar Requirements for New Buildings; and Staging Areas](#) – Susan G. Falkoff, Chair

ACTION ITEM: That the Town Council Proceed with an Amendment to the Watertown Zoning Ordinance to Changing Paragraph 9.03(c)7 Per the Draft Language Provided.

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

Councilor Piccirilli moved that the Town Council proceed with an amendment to the Watertown Zoning Ordinance to changing Paragraph 9.03(c)7 per the draft language provided; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

- B. Committee on Education and School System Matters Report Regarding a Reappointment to the Cable Access TV Board of Directors – Michael F. Dattoli, Chair

ACTION ITEM: That the Full Town Council Recommend the Town Manager to [Nominate Two Additional Candidates](#) for the WCA-TV Board of Directors to the Committee on Education and School System Matters for Confirmation Interviews

Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the report subject to the correction of two typos; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Councilor Dushku made a motion to recommend to the Town Council that the Town Manager nominate two additional candidates for the WCA-TV Board of Directors to the Committee on Education and School System Matters for confirmation interviews; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion.

Councilor Piccirilli requested that the motion be withdrawn. President Sideris stated that under the Town Charter (9-6 Item 4), when there is no action taken within 30 days of the notice, the appointment is considered approved. Councilor Feltner stated that she felt this report should have been tabled.

During the discussion, it was asked that if a candidate fails to show up for the interview, are they then automatically appointed. Attorney Reich stated that due to the lack of clarity of the Charter provision, this is possible. He further clarified that it is the Town Council and not the Committee that must act within 30 days. President Sideris stated that this is a matter that will need to be worked on by the Town Charter Revision Committee.

Councilor Dushku withdrew his motion and Councilor Dattoli withdrew his seconding of the motion regarding the Action Item.

Councilor Falkoff moved to reconsider the withdrawal of the Committee Report; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. The motion was adopted on a roll call vote of 6-3. Councilors Falkoff, Feltner, Kounelis, Piccirilli, Woodland, and President Sideris voted in the affirmative; Councilors Dattoli, Dushku, and Palomba voted in the negative.

Councilor Falkoff moved to accept the minutes with the stated hope that the motion failed; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. The motion was not adopted on a roll call vote of 3 – 6. Councilors Dattoli, Dushku, and Palomba voted in the affirmative; Councilors Falkoff, Feltner, Kounelis, Piccirilli, Woodland, and President Sideris voted in the negative.

Councilor Piccirilli made a motion to have the Town Manager contact John Airasian so that he contact the Town Council Clerk to schedule a meeting with the Education and School System Committee; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. Councilor Dushku moved to amend the motion so that the contact was made within 60 days. The motion as amended was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

C. Committee on Human Services Report Regarding [Youth Shoveling Program](#) – Anthony Palomba, Chair

ACTION ITEM:

1. That the Recreation Director Review the Materials and Report Back to the Committee with a Plan to Organize a Youth Snow Removal Program

2. That the Town Council Refer to the Committee the Discussion of a Volunteer Leaf-Raking Program

Councilor Palomba read the Committee Report. Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the report subject to the insertion of the attachment listed in the report; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

President Sideris stated that Action Item 1 would not be taken up because it was not a request that required Town Council action.

Councilor Piccirilli moved that the Town Council refer to the Committee the discussion of a Volunteer Leaf-Raking Program; Councilor Palomba seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

D. Joint Meeting of the Committees on Human Services and Rules and Ordinances Report Regarding [Noise Regulations](#) – Anthony Palomba, Chair, Human Services and Kenneth M. Woodland, Chair, Rules and Ordinances

ACTION ITEM: That the Town Council Request the Town Manager to Instruct the Health Department, Code Enforcement, and Other Relevant Departments in Cooperation with the Town Attorney to Update and Make Comprehensive Changes to the Watertown Code of Ordinances Chapter 95: Noise Regulations and Report Back to the Committees

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

Councilor Piccirilli made a motion to request the Town Manager to instruct the Health Department, Code Enforcement, and other relevant Departments in cooperation with the Town Attorney to update and make comprehensive changes to the Watertown Code of Ordinances Chapter 95: Noise Regulations and report back to the Committees; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

E. Committee on Public Works Report Regarding [Ridgelawn Cemetery, Work-Order Tracking, Water Meters, and Mount Auburn Street Project](#) – Aaron P. Dushku, Chair

Councilor Dushku read the Committee Report. Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the report; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted 8-1 on a voice vote. All Councilors voted in the affirmative except for Councilor Kounelis who voted in the negative.

### 13. NEW BUSINESS

There were no new business items.

### 14. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER

Request for Confirmation of Appointments and Reappointments to the Historic District Commission.

Mr. Driscoll requested the appointment of three members and the reappointment of two members to the Historical Commission. The appointees are

- \* Lauren Soelch – Residential Property Owner
- \* Elizabeth Hayes – Realtor Appointee
- \* Jonathan Merin – AIA Appointee

The reappointees are

- \* Harvey Steiner – Residential Property Owner
- \* Linda Sternberg – Residential Property Owner

These appointments are referred to the Committee on Economic Development and Planning.

He also stated that this week is the beginning of the new recycling schedule.

Mr. Driscoll stated that the Administration Building would be closed at noon on December 22, 2017, December 25, 2017, and January 1, 2018 in observance of the holidays.

### 15. REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION /REVIEW OF LIST OF PENDING MATTERS

Councilor Kounelis requested follow up on her request of October 20, 2017 regarding athenahealth and the reduction of employees.

Councilor Feltner requested that the Council be updated on plans for the end of Phillips Street and sidewalk and what should be anticipated with regards to the Greystar Project.

### 16. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Dushku announced that at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 14, 2017, there was a meeting regarding the Complete Streets Priorities for Watertown. He also stated that the Joint Meeting of the Committees on Personnel and Town Organization and Transportation scheduled for December 19, 2017 was cancelled as a Traffic Planner had been hired.

President Sideris announced that the inauguration of Officers would be held on January 2, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at the Arsenal Center for the Arts. The public is welcome to join.

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

A. Acceptance of the Proclamation for Raya Stern Day on December 5, 2017

Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the proclamation for Raya Stern Day on December 5, 2017; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

B. Proclamation Honoring the Work of Councilor Aaron P. Dushku

President Sideris read the Proclamation regarding Councilor Dushku's service and made a few remarks regarding his service. Councilor Dushku thanked all with whom he worked.

C. Proclamation Honoring the Work of Councilor Susan G. Falkoff

President Sideris read the Proclamation regarding Councilor Falkoff's service and made a few remarks regarding her service. Councilor Falkoff thanked all with whom she worked.

Councilors Woodland and Kounelis and Mr. Driscoll commended both Councilors Dushku and Falkoff for their work on the Town Council.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the Proclamations; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

17. PUBLIC FORUM

Jocelyn Tager – Robbins Road – Thanked Councilors Falkoff and Dushku for specific efforts.

18. RECESS OR ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Piccirilli made a motion to adjourn; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 9:27 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 January 9, 2018.

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Mark S. Sideris, Council President  
s:/MWP

**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2017 AT 7:15 P.M.  
RICHARD E. MASTRANGELO COUNCIL CHAMBER  
LIST OF DOCUMENTS**

1. Minutes of the November 28, 2017 Town Council Meeting – Item 6
2. Proclamation for Raya Stern Day – December 5, 2017 – Item 8A
3. Proclamation for Councilor Aaron P. Dushku – Item 8B
4. Proclamation for Councilor Susan G. Falkoff – Item 8C
5. Town Council Committee on Personnel and Town Organization Report on the Salary of the Town Auditor – October 19, 2017 – Items 9 and 10B
6. Additional Information – Proposed Loan Order Regarding for Designer Services for the Three Elementary Schools – Item 10A
7. Agenda Item – An Order to Supplement Prior Borrowing Votes to Permit the Application of Bond Sale Premium to Pay Project Cost – Item 11B
8. Committee on Economic Development and Planning Report Regarding Blighted Properties, LEED Silver Certifiability in All Commercial Districts, Solar on New Buildings, and DPW Staging Areas – November 29, 2017 – Item 12A
9. Committee on Education and School Systems Matters Report Regarding Appointment to the CATV Board of Directors – Item 12B
10. Committee on Human Services Report Regarding a Youth Snow Removal Program – October 25, 2017 – Item 12C
11. Joint Report of the Committees on Human Services and Rules and Ordinances Regarding Noise Regulations – October 25, 2017 – Item 12D
12. Committee on Public Works Report Regarding Ridgelawn Cemetery, DPW Website and Work Tracking, Water Meter Replacement, and Mount Auburn Street Project – November 20, 2017 – Item 12E
13. Request for Confirmation – Appointments and Reappointments to the Historic District Commission – Michael Driscoll, Town Manager to Town Council – December 7, 2017 – Item 14