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 &
District C Councilor

Caroline Bays
Councilor At Large

Michael F. Dattoli,
Councilor At Large

Anthony J. Donato,
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 23, 2018 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 Caroline Bays, Michael F. Dattoli, Anthony J. Donato, 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, Council Clerk.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. PUBLIC FORUM

James Mello – 5 Mount Auburn Street – Asked why the trash bins for businesses are not pro-rated if they will not be used for the entire year.

David Cain – Pleasant Street – Expressed his concern that the footbridge to California Street is not in place.

4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

There were no items for presentation at this meeting.

5. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATIONS
Community Conversations

Janet Penn, Ora Grodsky, and Larry Raskin presented information regarding Watertown Community Conversations. The goal of Watertown Community Conversations is to bring together people with varying views to have thoughtful

dialogue about difficult matters that encourage all to listen to each other and to develop solutions that can be widely supported.

Some techniques used to aid discussion include facilitated meetings, meetings in homes, provision of background material, neighborhood walks followed by discussions, and listening sessions in supermarket lots (going places where people are). Other communities are using these methods locally and nationally and are having success.

On March 14, 2018 at 6:00 p.m., there will be a meeting at the Public Library regarding "How to Talk About What Matters" and there will be a demonstration of facilitated dialogues. People will be solicited for training as facilitators with training beginning in May.

6. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES
Committee on Personnel and Town Organization Regarding the Appointment of Earl L. Smith as Chair, to the Board of Assessors to Complete the Remainder of the Term which Expires on May 15, 2020.
ACTION ITEM: That the Town Council Confirm the Appointment of Mr. Earl Smith as Chair to the Board of Assessors for the Remainder of the Term Expiring May 15, 2020

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

Councilor Bays made a motion to confirm the appointment of Mr. Earl Smith as Chair to the Board of Assessors for the remainder of the term expiring May 15, 2020; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

7. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business from the Town Council.

8. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER
Submission of the Proposed Fiscal Year 2019-2023 Capital Improvement Program.

Mr. Driscoll provided background on the proposed FY 2019-2023 Capital Improvement Program (CIP). The highlights of the presentation include:

* The total request for FY 2019-2023 is $448,736,300
* This is an increase of $80,393,200 from the FY 2018-2022 CIP
* The bonding needed for FY2019-2023 is $184,839,300
* Proposed Water and Sewer Enterprise Funds are $24,500,000
* Expected costs of renovating the Elementary Schools and the High School are $283,700,000

* Proposed School improvements over the next five years is $25,853,500; this does not include the funds needed to renovate the schools
* Improvements for Streets and Sidewalks for FY 2019-2023 total $16,400,000

He also stated that on January 17, 2018, Standard and Poor's affirmed the Town's AAA rating. On January 18, 2018, the Town received bids for a 14-year general obligation bond with the interest rates averaging 1.896%.

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

There were no requests for information.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Piccirilli announced that on February 2, 2018 from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., the Recycling Center will collect styrofoam, shredded paper, and tires; however, styrofoam peanuts and tire rims are excluded.

Councilor Kounelis announced that on January 30, 2018 from 4 – 7 p.m. at the Coolidge Apartments, there would be an Open House regarding the Mount Auburn Street Project focusing on the changes to Coolidge Square. Staff will be available to answer questions.

Councilor Dattoli stated that on Sunday, January 28, 2018, a Spelling Bee would be held at the Middle School. He also announced that on Monday, January 29, 2018, at 7:00 p.m., there would be a meeting in Council Chamber to discuss the option of using the Lowell School as the site for the Watertown High School.

11. PUBLIC FORUM

David Cain – Asked Councilors to use microphones to accommodate the hard of hearing.

12. RECESS OR ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Piccirilli moved to adjourn the meeting; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 7:59 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 13, 2018.

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Mark S. Sideris, Council President
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TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2018 AT 7:15 P.M.
RICHARD E. MASTRANGELO COUNCIL CHAMBER
LIST OF DOCUMENTS

1. Watertown Community Conversations – Item 5

2. Committee on Personnel and Town Organization Report Regarding the Appointment of Earl L. Smith, as Chair of the Board of Assessors – January 16, 2018 – Item 6

3. Fiscal Year 2019-2023 Capital Improvement Program – Michael Driscoll, Town Manager, to Town Council – Item 8