



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 THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 2018 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 Caroline Bays, 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. Councilor Michael F. Dattoli arrived at 6:39 p.m. Those also present were Steven Magoon, Assistant Town Manager, and Mark Reich, Town Attorney.

2. EXECUTIVE SESSION – 6:30 P.M.

Executive Session Pursuant to G.L. c. 30A §21 - To Conduct Strategy Sessions in Preparation for Negotiations with Nonunion Personnel or to Conduct Collective Bargaining Sessions or Contract Negotiations with Nonunion Personnel; To Discuss Strategy with Respect to Collective Bargaining or Litigation if an Open Meeting May Have a Detrimental Effect on the Bargaining or Litigating Position of the Public Body and the Chair so Declares; To Consider the Purchase, Exchange, Lease or Value of Real Property if the Chair Declares that an Open Meeting May Have a Detrimental Effect on the Negotiating Position of the Public Body; and/or to Comply With, or Act Under the Authority of, Any General or Special Law or Federal Grant-In-Aid Requirements.

Executive Session Pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, §21(a)3 - To Discuss Strategy With Respect to Litigation if an Open Meeting May Have a Detrimental Effect on the Litigating Position of the Town Council and the Chair so Declares – Proposed Opioid Litigation

Councilor Piccirilli made a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss the above listed items; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a roll call vote.

3. RETURN TO SESSION – 7:15 P.M.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

5. PUBLIC FORUM

Burt Greenberg – 14 Duff Street – Although he was unsure as to what Item 10C entailed, he did not want the Town Council to interfere with a person's need for medication.

6. EXAMINATION OF RECORDS OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

A. Minutes of the February 13, 2018 Town Council Meeting.

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

B. Minutes of the February 27, 2018 Town Council Meeting.

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

9. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Public Hearing and Vote on a Petition for a Grant of Location for NATIONALGRID to Install and Maintain Approximately 584 Feet More or Less of 8-Inch Gas Main in Lexington Street to Replace and Abandon Existing 6-Inch and 8-Inch Gas Mains in Lexington Street – [WO #1127966](#).

Councilor Piccirilli made a motion to move up Item 9A; 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 Hearing.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to approve the National Grid petition for a gas line on Lexington Street; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

7. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A. Consideration and Action on the [Fiscal Year 2019 Budget Submission Date](#).

President Sideris requested that the Town Manager be allotted an additional two weeks to complete the budget; that it be presented at a Special Town Council meeting on May 1; and that there be formal action on the budget on June 5.

Councilor Piccirilli made a motion to move the Budget Submission Date to May 1, 2018 and the date for formal action be moved to June 5; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

B. Consideration and Action on Filling the Vacancy Created by Resignation of a Town Councilor Pursuant to the Provisions of Town Charter Section 2-9(a).

Councilor Dattoli recused himself from the discussion.

President Sideris read the relevant Charter Provision regarding resignation of a Councilor. Attorney Reich provided an explanation of the process permitted under the Charter. There was a discussion on the ramifications of a special election. President Sideris spoke about concerns relating to an election:

- ✓ Cost of Election - \$12,000 - \$15,000
- ✓ Delay of election until September – The lack of representation for five months
- ✓ Impact on large projects – Mount Auburn Street, I Cubed, School Renovations
- ✓ Impact on Community Needs – Approval for an Override for possible Watertown High School renovations.

He then offered an alternative of former Councilor Falkoff being appointed for the remainder of the term with an agreement not to run in the November 2019 election. Because Councilor Falkoff has consistently been a top vote getter, there would be community confidence in her appointment and there would be no learning curve as she only left the position in December.

There was an extended discussion on the merits of the proposed solution. Councilor Piccirilli moved to appoint Susan Falkoff to fill the vacancy resulting from Town Councilor – At – Large Dattoli’s resignation effective for the period of May 1, 2018 to December 31, 2019; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a roll call vote of 8-0.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM PRIOR MEETINGS

Action Item for the Committee on Rules and Ordinances Report Regarding [Town Council Rules and G.L. Chapter 59 Section 5K](#) – Anthony J. Donato, Chair

ACTION ITEM:

That the Town Council Adopt the Revised Town Council Rules in Accordance with the Recommendations Outlined by the Committee.

Councilor Piccirilli moved that the Town Council adopt the revised Town Council Rules in accordance with the recommendations outlined by the Committee; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion.

After an extended discussion on the effect of the proposed rules, Councilor Palomba moved to eliminate the proposed changes made to current rule 7.4 and to keep it intact; Councilor Kounelis seconded the motion. The motion was adopted on a roll call vote of 5-4. Councilors Bays, Dattoli, Feltner, Kounelis, and Palomba voted in the affirmative; Councilors Donato, Piccirilli, Woodland, and President Sideris voted in the negative.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to amend the language in 8.10 by deleting the word “sponsored” and inserting in its place, the word “submitted”; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Councilor Palomba made a motion to eliminate in Rule 11.8 the following language:

“without first having communicated the essence of said referral(s) to the appropriate Department Head(s) or equivalent and received a response from said Department Head(s) or equivalent, regarding said referral.”
and “without first asserting to the to the Town Council Clerk that the aforementioned communication took place.”;

Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. After extended discussion on the merits of the change, the motion was not adopted on a roll call vote of 2-7. Councilors Dattoli and Palomba voted in the affirmative; Councilors Bay, Donato, Feltner, Kounelis Piccirilli, Woodland, and President Sideris voted in the negative.

Councilor Palomba moved to adopt the Council Rules as amended; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a roll call vote.

9. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A. Public Hearing and Vote on a Petition for a Grant of Location for NATIONALGRID to Install and Maintain Approximately 584 Feet More or Less of 8-Inch Gas Main in Lexington Street to Replace and Abandon Existing 6-Inch and 8-Inch Gas Mains in Lexington Street – [WO #1127966](#).

The minutes for this item can be found after Item 6B in this document.

- B. Public Hearing and Vote on a Proposed Ordinance to [Modify Hours of Operation of the Administration Building](#).

Mr. Driscoll provided background regarding the modified hours. President Sideris opened the public hearing; there being no speakers, he closed the

hearing. Councilor Piccirilli moved to approve the ordinance to modify hours of operation for the Administration Building and the Senior Center; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

10. MOTIONS, ORDINANCES, ORDER, AND RESOLUTIONS

- A. Resolution approving the [Acceptance and Expenditure of a Gift of Funds](#) in an amount not to exceed \$5,000 which will be used to purchase two mountain bicycles and name tags for each officer of the Watertown Police Department.

Mr. Driscoll provided background on the gift and requested the Council's favorable consideration. Councilor Piccirilli moved that the Town Council approved the resolution of the acceptance and the expenditure of the gift of funds; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

- B. Resolution approving [excess expenditures for Snow and Ice Removal](#) pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 31D, Massachusetts General Laws.

Mr. Driscoll provided background and requested the Council to authorize by resolution the provisions of Chapter 44 Section 31D allowing the Town to incur liabilities in excess of expenditures for snow and ice for the remainder of the Fiscal Year. Councilor Piccirilli moved to approve the excess expenditures for snow and ice removal; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a roll call vote.

- C. Consideration and Action on Participation in National Litigation Against Manufacturers and Distributors of Opioids

Attorney Reich stated that the litigation would hold accountable the manufacturers and distributors for their actions in promoting and distributing excess amounts of opioids resulting in the current crisis. The purpose of the litigation is to recoup the costs the Town incurred due to the improper distribution and sale of opioids.

President Sideris stated that the Town Council had voted unanimously in executive session to authorize Watertown to participate in the litigation.

- D. Referral Request to Public Works Committee - [Complete Streets Prioritization Plan](#).

Councilor Piccirilli provided background on the need for this referral. He made a motion to refer the recommendations of the Complete Streets Priority Plan to the Committee on Public Works; Councilor Woodland

seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

11. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

- A. [Committee on Public Works](#) Report Regarding Reappointment and Appointment to the Stormwater Advisory Committee and the Environment and Energy Efficiency Committee – Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Chair

ACTION ITEMS:

- 1) That the Town Council Confirm Janet Buck for Reappointment to the Stormwater Advisory Committee for a Term that Expires on July 15, 2019.
- 2) That the Town Council Confirm Matthew Riegert for Appointment to the Environment and Energy Efficiency Committee for a Term that Expires on July 15, 2020.

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

Councilor Piccirilli moved that the Town Council confirm Janet Buck for reappointment to the Stormwater Advisory Committee for a term that expires on July 15, 2019; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Councilor Piccirilli moved that the Town Council confirm Matthew Riegert for appointment to the Environment and Energy Efficiency Committee for a term that expires on July 15, 2020; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

- B. [Committee on Economic Development and Planning](#) Report Regarding Reappointments to the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals – Kenneth M. Woodland, Chair

ACTION ITEMS:

- 1) That the Town Council Confirm Jeffery Brown for Reappointment to the Planning Board for a Term that Expires on February 15, 2021.
- 2) That the Town Council Confirm Christopher Heep for Reappointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a Term that Expires on February 15, 2023.

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

Councilor Piccirilli made a motion that the Town Council confirm Jeffery Brown for reappointment to the Planning Board for a term that expires on February 15, 2021; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Councilor Piccirilli made a motion that the Town Council confirm Christopher Heep for reappointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term that expires on February 15, 2023

- C. [Committee of the Budget and Fiscal Oversight](#) Report on Watertown's Fiscal Year 2019 – 2023 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-Seven Conceptual Recommendations.
- 2) That the Town Manager Maintain the FY 2019 Capital Spending So That It Does Not Exceed 8% of the Submitted FY 2019 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 the School Building for the Future Initiative Funding and Enterprise Funds) Equal to at Least 7.5-8% of the Operating Budget.

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

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

Councilor Piccirilli made a motion that the Town Manager maintain the FY 2019 capital spending so that it does not exceed 8% of the submitted FY 2019 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 the School Building for the Future Initiative Funding and Enterprise Funds) equal to at least 7.5-8% of the operating budget; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

12. NEW BUSINESS

President Sideris cited the recent downing of utilities on Arsenal Street and requested a referral to the Committee on Media and Outreach to develop a communication plan with the Town Manager for times of crises or emergency so that Councilors can respond to their constituents. Councilor Piccirilli moved to refer the matter to the Committee; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

He also stated that the Watertown Housing Partnership is seeking to increase affordable housing to 20% and that Social Services Resource Specialists state

that housing is their top need. Based on this, he requested a referral to Human Services to gather data on the present affordable housing stock, and to gather opinions from residents, advocates, and developers regarding potential opportunity to increase affordable housing stock in Watertown. Councilor Piccirilli moved to refer the matter to the Human Services Committee; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote

13. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER

Mr. Driscoll stated that people with low to moderate low income could be exempted from paying the Community Preservation Act Tax if they fill out a form available at the Board of Assessors by April 2, 2018.

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

President Sideris requested an update regarding the Town's new Website.

15. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Kounelis announced that on Saturday, March 17, 2018 at 10:00 a.m., there would be a dedication ceremony placing a plaque at Merrifield Avenue and Bigelow Avenue in honor of Firefighter Toscano. The plaque and reception will be provided by Watertown Savings Bank.

Councilor Dattoli announced that on

- ~ Saturday, March 17, 2018 at 6:00 p.m., there would be a Skate-a-Thon fund raiser at Ryan Arena
- ~ Monday, March 19, 2018 at 2:45 p.m., there would be a meeting of the School Garden Advisory Group at the Hosmer School
- ~ Wednesday, April 18, 2018 at 6:00 p.m., the 2018 Annual Meeting on the Wellbeing of Watertown Youth, sponsored by Watertown Youth Coalition and Wayside, will be held at the Watertown Free Public Library.

Councilor Donato announced that

- ~ The Watertown Middle School is participating in the 2018 Pennies for Patients fundraiser that supports the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. In its 15 years of participation, the school has raised more than \$300,000, and is a top fundraiser both statewide and nationally
- ~ On Saturday, March 17, 2018, the Watertown High School Boys Basketball team would be facing Easthampton High School in the State Championship at Springfield College at 3:30 p.m.
- ~ The High School production of Pippin would be at 7:00 p.m. Thursday – Saturday.

Councilor Feltner announced that the Watertown Fire Department would be hosting an American Red Cross Blood Drive on Saturday, March 17, 2018 from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

She also announced that on Wednesday, April 4, 2018 at 7:00 p.m, the School Superintendent was organizing a Public Safety Forum with the Critical Incident Team at the Middle School.

Councilor Palomba announced that on Wednesday, March 21, 2018 at 6:00 p.m., there would be a joint meeting of the Rules and Ordinances Committee and the Human Services Committee regarding a Noise Ordinance.

He also stated that on March 28, 2018, the time for the first meeting of the Committee on Media and Public Outreach was changed from 6:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

16. PUBLIC FORUM

Burt Greenberg – Cautioned about the validity of certain advocates positions

Pat Gold – Thanked Councilor Dattoli for his commitment and service to Watertown and that he will be missed

Burt Greenberg – Stated Councilor Dattoli will be missed.

17. 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 9:25 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 May 1, 2018.

Mark S. Sideris, Council President
s:/MWP

**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 2018 AT 6:30 P.M.
RICHARD E. MASTRANGELO COUNCIL CHAMBER
LIST OF DOCUMENTS**

1. Minutes of February 13, 2018 Town Council Meeting – Item 6A
2. Minutes of February 27, 2018 Town Council Meeting – Item 6B
3. Fiscal Year 2019 Budget Submission – Mark S. Sideris, Council President to Town Council – March 8, 2018 – Item 7A
4. Rules and Ordinance Committee Report Regarding G.L. Chapter 59, Section 5K and Town Council Rules – January 31, 2018 – Item 8
 - A. Sign – In Sheet
 - B. Copy of General Law Chapter 59 Section 5K
 - C. Copy of Requested Town Council Rule Changes and Status
 - D. Copy of Proposed Town Council Rule Changes
 - E. Red Lined Copy of Proposed Town Council Rule Changes
5. NGRID Petition WO #1127966 – Lexington Street, Gas Lines – Gerald S. Mee, Superintendent of Public Works to Steve Magoon, Director, Department of Community Development and Planning – January 20, 2018 – Item 9A
6. Proposed Ordinance to Modify Administration Building Hours – Michael Driscoll, Town Manager to Town Council – February 22, 2018 – Item 9B
7. Agenda Item – Acceptance of Gift of Funds and Expenditure (Funds for Mountain Bikes) – Michael Driscoll, Town Manger to Town Council – March 8, 2018 – Item 10A
8. Agenda Item – Resolution Approving Excess Expenditures for Snow and Ice Removal Pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 31D, Massachusetts General Laws – Michael Driscoll, Town Manager, to Town Council – March 8, 2018 – Item 10B
9. Email Request for Complete Streets Priority Plan Referral to Public Works – Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr. – March 5, 2018 – Item 10D
10. Committee on Public Works Report Regarding Appointments to the Stormwater Advisory Committee and the Environment and Energy Efficiency Committee – March 5, 2018 – Item 11A
11. Committee on Economic Development and Planning Report Regarding Appointments to the Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals – March 5, 2018 – Item 11B
12. Committee of the Budget and Fiscal Oversight Report Regarding capital improvements for FY 2019-2023 – Item 11C

- A. Attachment A – Expenditure Forecast – Debt and Interest
- B. Attachment B – Balances as of February 12, 2018
- C. Attachment C – Remaining FY15, FY16, FY 17 & FY18 Loan Order Items
- D. Attachment D – FY18 & 19 Capital Request Summary – Dennis Sheehan, Director of Administration and Finance – DPW – February 9, 2019
- E. Attachment E – Listing of All DPW Vehicles
- F. Attachment F – Watertown Public Schools – FY2019-FY2023 Capital Improvement Plan
- G. Attachment G – Watertown Public Schools – Capital Plan FY19-FY23 Power Point Presentation
- H. Attachment H – FY17 and FY18 School CIP Balances as of March 6, 2018