



# 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

Anthony J. Donato,  
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, OCTOBER 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, Anthony J. Donato, 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 and Marilyn W. Pronovost, Council Clerk.

### 2. EXECUTIVE SESSION

This item was inadvertently included in the agenda; there was no executive session.

### 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

### 4. PUBLIC FORUM

Pat Gold – 118 Duff Street – Strongly urged residents to Vote No on Ballot Question 1 for the November 6, 2018 election as she believed it could reduce services to patients.

### 5. EXAMINATION OF RECORDS OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

[Minutes of the October 9, 2018 Town Council Meeting](#)

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

### 6. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Creation of Ad Hoc Subcommittee to Interview Initial Round of Community Preservation Committee Applicants

President Sideris stated that he would like to form an Ad Hoc Committee to interview the initial round of Community Preservation applicants and that he

would serve as Chair along with two or three other councilors. Councilor Woodland clarified that at the next review of Council Rules, a Committee should be named as the one in charge of the confirmation interviews.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to authorize the Council President to create an Ad Hoc Subcommittee to interview the initial round of Community Preservation Committee applicants; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

President Sideris asked the Councilors to let him know if they would like to be part of the interview process.

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

Acceptance of the [Proclamation Congratulating Vera Landry](#) on Her 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday

President Sideris read the Proclamation congratulating Vera Landry on her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the proclamation; Councilor Falkoff seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

9. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATIONS

Informational Presentation by Audrey Lin Regarding Her Senior Project – [Matting Change](#)

Councilor Piccirilli made a motion to move up Item 8 in the agenda.

Ms. Lin stated that her leadership project involves recycling plastic bags, which adversely affect the environment and the ecosystems, into plastic yarn that can be used to crochet plastic mats for the homeless. These mats serve as insulation that can provide a protective layer for sleeping in the cold and can help prevent cold borne diseases such as frostbite and hypothermia. Each mat uses about 600 bags; is lightweight, compact, and waterproof; and does not attract lice or bedbugs.

Her current goals are to seek community involvement and create 60 mats by May, 2019: 20 by December 2018 and 40 by May 2019. She is conducting five workshops and collecting plastic bags for yarn. She has partnered with Youth 2 Youth (Y2Y) Services in Harvard Square to distribute the mats. She may be contacted on her Facebook page Matting Change or her email – [mattingchange@gmail.com](mailto:mattingchange@gmail.com).

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Public Hearing and Vote on a [Petition for a Grant of Location for Axis Engineering Group for Zayo](#) to Place a 4-Inch PVC Conduit on Grove

Street from a MFN #02539 Near the Intersection with Arlington Street, Approximately 87 Feet Easterly to a Private Property Manhole at 705 Mount Auburn Street

Shelley Cullen, speaking on behalf of Zayo Group, stated the change would affect about 36 feet of public property and that it would be using flowable fill at the construction site. The purpose of the change is to provide Tufts with carrier diversity.

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

Councilor Piccirilli moved to approve the Petition of the grant for location for the conduit; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion.

B. Public Hearing and Vote on a [Proposed Amendment to the Fiscal Year 2019 Budget](#)

Mr. Driscoll stated the FY 2019 revenues and expenditures would increase by \$2,672,065. Of that, \$2,600,417 was due to increased growth from the Marriott hotel, the Linx building, and three research and development buildings with labs; the remainder of \$71, 648 was due to an increase in the Cherry Sheet estimates from the Commonwealth.

The increased expenditures include an adjustment of the State Assessment of \$4,285, an adjustment of the Town Manager's salary of \$23,000, and an appropriation of \$500,000 to the Capital Projects Stabilization Fund. The remainder of \$2,144,780 would be placed in the Town Council Reserve.

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

Councilor Piccirilli moved to adopt the FY 2019 Budget Amendment as presented; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a roll call vote.

9. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATIONS

Informational Presentation by Audrey Lin Regarding Her Senior Project – [Matting Change](#)

The minutes for this item may be found after Item 7 above.

10. MOTIONS, ORDINANCES, ORDER, AND RESOLUTIONS

A. First Reading 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 One Million Six-Hundred Thousand Dollars

(\$1,600,000.00) Under and Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 44, or Pursuant to Any Other Enabling Authority for the Purpose of Paying Costs of a [Feasibility Study and Schematic Design](#) With Respect to Watertown High School, Located at 50 Columbia Street, Watertown, Massachusetts, Including the Payment of All Costs Incidental or Related Thereto, and For Which Town May Be Eligible for a Grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority ("MSBA"), Said Amount to Be Expended Under the Direction of the School Building Committee. The Town Acknowledges that the MSBA's Grant Program is a Non-Entitlement, Discretionary Program Based on Need, as Determined by the MSBA, and Any Costs the Town Incurs in Excess of Any Grant Approved By and Received From the MSBA Shall Be the Sole Responsibility of the Town, and That the Amount of Borrowing Authorized Pursuant to This Vote Shall Be Reduced by Any Grant Amount Set Forth in the Feasibility Study Agreement That May Be Executed Between the Town and the MSBA. 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 M.G.L. Chapter 44, §20, Thereby Reducing the Amount Authorized to be Borrowed to Pay Such Costs by a Like Amount.

Mr. Driscoll stated there would be a public hearing at the November 13, 2018 Town Council meeting along with a presentation by Dr. Deanne Galdston, Superintendent of Schools.

- B. First Reading on a Proposed Order Allocating the Property Tax Levy Among or Between [Property Classes for Fiscal Year 2019](#).

Mr. Driscoll stated there would be public hearing at the November 13, 2018 Town Council meeting along with a presentation by Mr. Earl Smith, Town Assessor, regarding the residential exemption.

- C. First Reading on a Proposed Order Setting [Optional Tax Exemptions](#) for Fiscal Year 2019.

Mr. Driscoll stated there would be public hearing at the November 13, 2018 Town Council meeting along with a presentation by the Administration.

#### 11. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

- A. Committee on Human Services Report Regarding [Statewide and Regional Housing Organizations and Resources](#) – Anthony Palomba, Chair

Councilor Palomba read an executive summary of the report. Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the report; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

B. Committees on Public Works and Rules and Ordinances Report Regarding [Regulations to Strengthen the Protection of Trees](#) – Vincent Piccirilli, Chair, Public Works, and Anthony Donato, Chair, Rules and Ordinances

ACTION ITEM: That the Town Council Ask the Administration to Develop an Operational and Budget Priority for Improving Watertown's Public Shade Trees and Increasing the Town's Overall Tree Canopy by:

- (1) Developing a robust Data Collection Process for Public Shade Trees in Watertown;
- (2) Analyzing the Data to Determine an Action Plan and To Seek Collaboration and Partnership Opportunities with Community Groups Such as Trees for Watertown; and
- (3) Reporting Back to the Public Works Committee for Further Discussion

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

Councilor Piccirilli moved to adopt the action item of the Committee report; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

12. NEW BUSINESS

Referral to Public Works Subcommittee: Create a Policy for the Naming of Intersections or Squares for Non-Veterans

President Sideris stated that there is no policy for naming squares for a non-military individual; therefore, he requested a referral to the Committee on Public Works. Councilor Piccirilli moved to refer the matter; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

13. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER

Request for Confirmation of Appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals

Mr. Driscoll requested the confirmation of Michael Brangwynne as an Alternate Member of the Zoning Board of Appeals; the term would be for the completion of an unexpired term that would expire on February 15, 2020. According to Council Rules, the matter is referred to the Committee on Economic Development and Planning.

Mr. Driscoll stated that there were concerns raised regarding Filippello Park and that he would like to receive some policy considerations and guidelines from the Council. President Sideris stated that he would like to refer the matter to the Committees on Public Works and Human Services. Councilor Piccirilli moved to make the referral; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion.

Councilor Kounelis made a statement thanking Mr. Driscoll for informing her of his request; however, she felt this request was unnecessary as the Administration was [authorized to act through Resolutions previously passed](#).

The motion was adopted 8 – 0 – 1 on a voice vote. All Councilors voted in favor of the motion, except for Councilor Kounelis who voted present.

Mr. Driscoll stated that early voting for the November 2018 Election would be held from October 22 – November 2, 2018. The hours for voting would be 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday except for Thursday when the hours would be 8:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. In addition, there would be early voting on Saturday, October 27, 2018 from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

He also mentioned the following:

- \* On Saturday, October 27, 2018, the Commander's Mansion and the Recreation Department would be hosting the Annual Little Monster Mash at the Mansion from 5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
- \* There would be a Veterans Day Breakfast held at the Private Charles J. Shutt Detachment Marine Corps on November 11, 2018. Breakfast would begin at 10:00 a.m. and the ceremony at 11:00 a.m.
- \* The Administration Building would be closed on November 12, 2018 in honor of Veterans Day.
- \* There would be a musical tribute to veterans through the decades by the Hal McIntyre Orchestra on Wednesday, November 14, 2018 at the Watertown Middle School from 7:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.
- \* There are four remaining flu clinics; the next one being on Saturday, October 27, 2018 from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at the Watertown Free Public Library. The other dates are available on the Town's website.

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

[Councilor Falkoff requested](#) a progress report on the hiring of a Conservation Agent; an update on the status of the TMA; and a status report on the contract with Civic Plus.

Councilor Feltner requested information on the outreach that has been made to businesses and non-profits regarding the [Adopt an Island program](#) and how many proposals have been received to participate in the program. She also requested a status on any open Conservation Commission appointments.

Councilor Palomba requested an update on the [hiring of the Engineer](#) at the Department of Public Works.

## 15. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Piccirilli announced that

- ~ The School Building Committee would be holding three forums regarding the plans for each elementary school: November 7, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the Cuniff School; November 14, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the Hosmer School; and November 28, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the Lowell School. Information may also be found at [www.watertownschoolsproject.com](http://www.watertownschoolsproject.com).
- ~ The Committee of the Budget and Fiscal Oversight is requesting information from Councilors by Friday, October 26, 2018.
- ~ On Wednesday, October 30, 2018, there will be a second Public Works meeting in the Council Chamber regarding the Mount Auburn Street Project as it relates to School Street to the Cambridge Line focusing on the Coolidge Square area. There will be an Open House at 6:00 p.m. with the meeting beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Councilor Donato announced that the Watertown Police Department would be taking back unwanted prescription drugs on Saturday, October 27, 2018 from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Only pills and patches will be accepted; liquids, needles, or sharps will not be accepted.

He also announced that on November 7, 2018, the fourth Annual Candlelight Vigil sponsored by Watertown Overcoming Addiction would take place at 7:00 p.m. in Saint Patrick's lower basement.

Councilor Feltner announced

- ~ There will be an anticipated Traffic Commission meeting on October 31, 2018.
- ~ On November 4, 2018, there will be the Watertown Boys and Girls Club Annual 5K Road Race.
- ~ On November 10, 2018, the Watertown Children's Theater will be celebrating its 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with events at the Mosesian Arts Center.

Councilor Palomba announced that on Thursday, October 25, 2018, the Committee on Media and Public Outreach would be holding its fourth meeting with the purpose of discussing how to move some outreach ideas forward. He also mentioned that on Wednesday, November 7, 2018, the Human Services Committee would be holding its sixth meeting on Affordable Housing.

Councilor Bays announced that on Friday, October 26, 2018 from 7:30 p.m. – 11:30 p.m., the Cooperative Metropolitan Ministry would be holding a fundraising event at the Hibernian Hall, an evening of Gospel with a live band and refreshments. Funds support Clergy and Laity for Affordable Housing Program to renovate housing up to code so that it can remain affordable housing. Volunteers complete the work, with the funds going to materials. Tickets are \$50.00 and the event will be a tribute to Aretha Franklin and a Touch of Motown.

16. PUBLIC FORUM

There being no speakers, the Forum was closed.

17. RECESS OR ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Piccirilli moved to adjourn the meeting; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote; the meeting adjourned at 8:21 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 November 13, 2018.

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

1. Minutes of the Town Council Meeting – October 9, 2018 – Item 5
2. Proclamation Honoring Vera Landry on Her 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday – Item 7
3. Grant of Location/705 Mount Auburn Street on Grove Street – Gerald Mee, Superintendent of Public Works to Steve Magoon, Director of Community Planning and Development - September 27, 2018 – Item 8A
4. Proposed Amendment to the Fiscal Year 2019 Budget – Michael Driscoll, Town Manager, to Town Council – October 4, 2019 – Item 8B
5. Proposed Loan Order Agenda Item Regarding the Feasibility Study and Schematic Designs for the Watertown High School - Michael Driscoll, Town Manager, to Town Council – October 18, 2018 – Item 10A
6. Fiscal Year 2019 Tax Classification Hearing November 14, 2018 – Item 10B
7. Fiscal Note – Exemptions – Michael Driscoll, Town Manager, to Town Council – October 18, 2018 – Item 10C
8. Committee on Human Services Report Regarding Statewide and Regional Housing Organizations and Resources – September 6, 2018 – Item 11A  
Attachments:  
The Metro Boston Housing Crisis + Tools to Meet Need – MAPC  
Massachusetts Housing Partnership Power Point Presentation
9. Committees on Public Works and Rules and Ordinances Regarding Regulations to Strengthen the Protection of Trees – October 15, 2018 – Item 11B  
Attachments:  
Sign-In Sheet  
Report on Watertown's Urban Forest, Fall 2018  
Presentation by Libby Shaw, President, Trees for Watertown
10. Request for Confirmation – Appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals – Michael Driscoll, Town Manager, to Town Council – October 17, 2018 Item 13
11. Statement Regarding Filippello Park Neighborhood – Councilor Angeline B. Kounelis – October 23, 2018 – Item 13
12. Request For Information Regarding the Conservation Agent, the TMA, and the Contract with Civic Plus – Councilor Susan Falkoff – Item 14

13. Request for Information Regarding the Adopt An Island Program and the Conservation Commission – Councilor Lisa Feltner – Item 14
14. Request for Information Regarding Department of Public Works Engineer – Councilor Anthony Palomba – Item 14