



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, FEBRUARY 26, 2019 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 J. Driscoll, Town Manager, Mark Reich, Town Attorney, and Marilyn W. Pronovost, Council Clerk.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. PUBLIC FORUM

Richard Kalish – 270 Pleasant Street – He requested the Council to appoint members who could vote on the [International Energy Conservation Code \(IECC\)](#), a method to upgrade the base energy code. It permits four members per entity, a town board, commission or department, to vote on the code for a membership fee of \$135 per entity. He felt this would be a great way to help mitigate climate change in construction.

Barbara Palmer – Owner 75-77 Templeton Parkway – Spoke regarding the demolition of 71 Salisbury Street. She raised a concern about the integrity and stability of the retaining wall behind the property. She stated Mr. Magoon agreed to ask the contractor to hire a structural engineer to assess the retaining wall's integrity. She wanted to know if anyone has been hired, when the review will be completed, and will she receive a written report.

4. EXAMINATION OF RECORDS OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

[Minutes of the February 14, 2019 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.

5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Sideris thanked Mr. Magoon and his staff for working with the property owner of 73-75 Morse Street and the neighbors to provide a positive outcome for all.

6. MOTIONS, ORDINANCES, ORDER, AND RESOLUTIONS

- A. Consideration and Action on a Proposed Intermunicipal Agreement with Twenty-Two Communities for [Regional Emergency Planning Services](#) with the Mystic Regional Emergency Planning Committee

Mr. Driscoll stated Fire Chief Quinn requested that Watertown enter into the agreement with the goal being to share resources and develop regulations to use tax revenues efficiently.

Fire Chief Quinn stated the Planning Committee would help the Town to focus on hazardous materials and emergencies. This aid affects homeland security and meteorological and public health issues relating to Watertown. The group can provide more educational seminars and training sessions to help the Town be better prepared. There is money from MEMA for regional educational resources. The annual membership fee is \$300/year, and the Department of Public Works, and the Board of Health may also participate. Watertown does collaborate with a similar group, NEMLAC; however, the Mystic Regional group focuses on emergency services.

Councilor Piccirilli made a motion to authorize the Town Manager to enter into an agreement with twenty-two communities for regional emergency planning services with the Mystic Regional Emergency Planning Committee; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

- B. A Resolution Authorizing the Lease-Purchase of [Two Multi-Function Student Activity Buses](#) by the Watertown School Department

Mr. Driscoll stated that the purchase requires a two thirds majority vote of the Town Council under General Laws Chapter 44, Section 21C.

Dr. Galdston, Superintendent of Schools, stated currently a full bus is used for small group activities, which proves to be both expensive and wasteful. Such trips require a driver with a CDL license, and often a driver with these

qualifications is difficult to locate. The Schools have a 22 passenger bus that is underutilized because it is difficult to find a CDL driver. The plans for this bus is to either trade it in or repurpose it for other town activities.

The newly purchased buses will be 14 passenger vehicles that may be driven by volunteers. Parents will be asked to sign off acknowledging they are aware a volunteer will be driving; drivers also will need to fill out a form allowing the school to check their driving record.

Councilor Piccirilli made a motion to approve the resolution authorizing the lease purchase of two multi-function student activity buses by the Watertown School Department; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a roll call vote.

7. NEW BUSINESS

Councilor Falkoff requested a referral to Rules and Ordinance regarding the regulations regarding digging such as that on Salisbury Road. President Sideris stated that the Councilor would need to check with the Department before making the request. Councilor Falkoff agreed to contact the Department.

8. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER

Mr. Driscoll stated that the Community Preservation Committee held its first meeting on February 21, 2019 where John Flynn, the Town Clerk, swore members in. The Committee will meet again on March 20, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber. The Executive Director of the Community Preservation Coalition will provide training on such topics as:

- Duties of the Community Preservation Committee and related first year activities
- How the Community Preservation Act (CPA) Trust Funds works
- Budgeting of the CPA Funds
- Allowed uses of the CPA Funds
- Basics concepts of the CPA
- Application and Plans for the CPA Funds
- Methods of reporting to the State of the use of CPA Funds.

Similar training will be provided at 3 p.m. of that day to administrative staff regarding the provisions of the act.

Mr. Driscoll wanted to honor the memory of former Fire Chief Paul McCaffrey who died on February 24, 2019 at the age of 79. A Watertown native, Chief Mccaffrey served in the USAF as a military firefighter. He joined the Watertown Fire Department on December 24, 1964 and served for 38.5 years, of which the last sixteen were as Fire Chief. Mr. Driscoll stated he was a man respected by all; a man with strength of character; and a person devoted to his family and friends. His services contributed to the well-being of Watertown.

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

Councilor Falkoff stated that she was requesting updates on previously asked questions and added a request on [how to disable the option to add a personal picture to the website](#).

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Palomba announced that

- ~ Monday, March 4, 2019, the Watertown Transportation Task Force and Senator Brownsberger would be hosting the Medical Academic and Scientific Community Organization (MASCO) regarding the Community Program at the Longwood Medical Area at the Library at 7:00 p.m.
- ~ Monday, March 4, 2019, the MBTA would hold its community meeting affecting service to Watertown, especially the fee increase and the Better Bus Program, at the Community Room at the Police Station from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
- ~ Tuesday, March 5, 2019, there would be a showing of the documentary “Addiction” by NOVA, co-sponsored by the Family Wayside Youth and Family Support Network, with discussion following at the Mosesian Art Center on 321 Arsenal Street from 6:00 – 8:30 p.m.
- ~ Thursday, March 7, 2019, the Media and Public Outreach Committee would be meeting with the focus being on strategies for community engagement at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

Councilor Donato announced that the Pennies for Patients program would be held in March at the Middle School. Last year, the school collected more than \$32,000 and in their 15 years of participation, more than \$400,000 has been donated. Contributions may be brought to the school, or, as an alternative, people may provide prizes and gift certificates for the raffle. Mr. Allegro may be contacted at 617-926-7783.

He also announced that on May 10, 2019, the Rotary Club would be sponsoring Dancing with the Stars at the Hellenic Center. The emcee would be President Sideris and Councilor Lisa Feltner would be competing. Tickets are available at www.eventbrite.com.

Councilor Palomba announced there is a brochure entitled “Welcome to Watertown” written in six languages (English, Russian, Armenian, Chinese, Portuguese, and Spanish) and updated by the Project Literacy at the Public Library, the Parent Home Child program, and the Watertown Police Department. The document lists major community locations and offered community services.

11. PUBLIC FORUM

There were no speakers for the second Public Forum.

12. RECESS OR ADJOURNMENT

President Sideris asked for a Moment of Silence for former Fire Chief Paul McCaffrey, and Tom McDermott, who served as the last Chair of the Watertown Board of Selectmen.

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 8:07 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 March 12, 2019.

Mark S. Sideris, Council President
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**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2019 AT 7:15 P.M.
RICHARD E. MASTRANGELO COUNCIL CHAMBER
LIST OF DOCUMENTS**

1. Public Forum Statement Re: International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) – Richard Kalish – Item 3
2. Minutes of the February 14, 2019 Town Council Meeting – Item 4
3. Agenda Item – Proposed Intermunicipal Agreement with Twenty-Two Communities for regional Emergency Planning Services with the Mystic Regional Emergency Planning Committee – Michael Driscoll, Town Manager, to Town Council – February 21, 2019 – Item 6A
4. Agenda Item – A Resolution Authorizing the Lease-Purchase of Two Multi-function Student Activity Buses by the Watertown School Department – Michael Driscoll, Town Manager, to Town Council – February 21, 2019 - Item 6B
5. Request for Information – Outstanding Items from Previous Requests and the Method for Dismantling an Option on the Town’s Website – Councilor Susan Falkoff – Item 11