



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, MARCH 12, 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 and Mark Reich, Town Attorney.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. PUBLIC FORUM

President Sideris opened the Public Forum; there being no speakers, he closed the closed the Public Forum

4. EXAMINATION OF RECORDS OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

[Minutes of the February 26, 2019 Town Council Meeting](#)

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

5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

There were no items to report.

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

Acceptance of Proclamation Regarding [Watertown Free Public Library's 150th Anniversary](#)

President Sideris read the Proclamation and said that it would be presented to the Library on April 6, 2019.

Leone Cole, Director of the Library, stated that the library opened on March 1, 1869 and has been providing services ever since to the community: local art will be displayed in the Library in the month of April; there will be a celebration gala on April 6, 2019 from 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.; and there are new lamppost banners outside the Library presented by the Watertown Savings Bank.

7. MOTIONS, ORDINANCES, ORDER, AND RESOLUTIONS

A. Resolution [Approving Excess Expenditures for Snow and Ice Removal](#)
Pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 31D, Massachusetts General Laws

Mr. Driscoll stated that the DPW budget for this year will be exhausted and that additional funds will be needed. There have been 20 snow/ice events this winter with an accumulation of 33 inches (the average being 42 inches). Many of the events have been low accumulation ones of long duration such as on February 16, there was a 3½ inch accumulation that lasted 32 hours and February 6, there was a sleet and freezing rain event lasting more than nine hours. The purpose of the resolution is to permit the Town to incur liabilities in excess of the budgeted funds.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to approve the resolution for excess expenditures for snow and ice removal; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion.

During the discussion, it was stated that

- ~ Salt is used instead of sand because it is less intrusive; sand silts up on the borders and catch basins
- ~ Although it may have seemed like a mild winter, the number and duration of events often occurred on the weekends and holidays, increasing the cost of the clearing
- ~ The computer calibrations for sanders are in need of an upgrade. As new trucks are added to the fleet, the computer components will also be upgraded
- ~ In order to be able to take advantage of section 31D, state law requires that the Town must appropriate at least the same amount as it budgeted for the previous year.

The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

B. First Reading on a proposed Ordinance to [Modify Hours of Operation of the Administration Building](#).

Mr. Driscoll stated that the Public Hearing would be on March 26 and that the item would be publicized. He mentioned that the hour changes have

been in effect for 14 years and that this would be the second year for the Senior Center and would begin on May 21, 2019 and continue for 15 weeks.

8. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

A. Committee of the Budget and Fiscal Oversight [Report Regarding the CIP](#) – Vincent Piccirilli, Chair

ACTION ITEMS:

1. For the Town Council to Adopt the 29 Conceptual Recommendations.
2. For the Town Council to Recommend that the Town Manager Maintain the FY2020 Capital Spending so that it Does Not Exceed 8% of the Submitted FY2020 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 focusing on the recommendations of the hearings. Councilor Woodland made a motion to accept the report; Councilor Bays seconded the motion. After discussion, the motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Councilor Piccirilli made a motion for the Town Council to adopt the 29 conceptual recommendations; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Councilor Piccirilli made a motion for the Town Council to recommend that the Town Manager maintain the FY2020 capital spending so that it does not exceed 8% of the submitted FY2020 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.

B. Committee on Federal, State, and Regional Government Report Regarding [Airplane Noise Abatement](#) – Angeline Kounelis, Chair

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

9. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business brought before the Town Council.

10. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER

Request for Confirmation of Appointment to the Board of Election Commissioners

Mr. Driscoll asked for the confirmation of the appointment of Adam Brewster to the Board of Election Commissioners for a term that expires on April 1, 2023. Mr. Brewster would be replacing Ms. Baranowski who has served the Town diligently since 2008.

The matter was referred to the Committee on Federal, State, and Regional Government for confirmation.

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

Councilor Kounelis read into the record a request for information on [utilities poles marked for rotting prevention treatment or removal](#). She asked why notification was not provided by the Town or the vendor, what products were being used, and what are the implications of these products on residents and the environment.

Councilor Feltner requested information regarding the payment in lieu of taxes for the Oakley Country Club plus the historical payment information. She also raised a concern that the [Library's website is not compatible with Civic Plus](#). As a result, the ability to communicate with the community has decreased instead of increasing as promised by Civic Plus.

Councilor Palomba asked when the Town was going to [reply to the communication from Boylston Properties](#), which he felt was rude and threatening.

12. ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Sideris announced that Everbridge was not able to make a presentation in March, but will be available for the first Town Council meeting in April.

Councilor Palomba announced that on March 13, 2019, the Human Services Committee would meet at 7:00 p.m. to discuss potential recommendations regarding Affordable Housing.

Councilor Bays announced that on March 20, 2019 from 6:00 – 8:30 p.m., Well Being of Watertown Youth would have a skit presentation from the Improbable Players and then have a discussion on matters of importance to youth.

She also announced that on March 22, 2019 from 5:30 – 9:30 p.m., Friends of Watertown Music would hold its 8th Annual Music Festival fundraiser at the Middle School.

Councilor Feltner announced that on Saturday, March 23, 2019, from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Chris Hayward and Ed Lewis would be holding a symposium that is open to the public at the Watertown Free Public Library in the Watertown Savings Bank Room to discuss climate change.

Councilor Kounelis announced that on March 19, 2019 at 6:30 p.m., Boylston Properties would be holding its second meeting regarding Building G at the Marriott Residence Inn.

13. PUBLIC FORUM

There were no speakers for the public forum.

14. 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 8:30 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 26, 2019.

Mark S. Sideris, Council President
s:/MWP

**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 2019 AT 7:15 P.M.
RICHARD E. MASTRANGELO COUNCIL CHAMBER
LIST OF DOCUMENTS**

1. Minutes of the February 26, 2019 Town Council Meeting – Item 4
2. Proclamation Regarding the Watertown Free Public Library’s 150th Anniversary – Item 6
3. Resolution Approving Excess Expenditures for Snow and Ice Removal Pursuant to Chapter 44 Section 31D, Massachusetts General Laws
4. Proposed Ordinance to Modify Administration Building Hours – Steven Magoon, Acting Town Manager, to the Town Council – March 7, 2019 – Item 7B
5. Committee of the Budget and Fiscal Oversight Report Regarding Watertown’s FY 2020 - FY 2024 Capital Improvement Program Recommendations – Vincent Piccirilli, Chair – February 4, 11, and 19, 2019 – Item 8A
 - ~ Town Manager’s Handout Regarding Capital Spending as a percentage of the Revised Revenue/Expenditure Forecast and Remaining Proposed Loan Orders from FY 2016 – FY 2019 – February 4, 2019
 - ~ School Department CIP Request Spreadsheet – February 11, 2019
 - ~ School Department/Public Buildings CIP Presentation - February 11, 2019
 - ~ School Department CIP Supporting Document – February 11, 2019
 - ~ Department of Public Buildings Vehicle Listing – February 12, 2019
 - ~ List of FY 2016 – FY 2019 Loan Orders – February 19, 2019
 - ~ Department of Public Works FY 2019 and FY 2020 Capital Request Summary – February 19, 2019
 - ~ Capital Fund Balances as of February 12, 2019
 - ~ School Tax Revenue, Bond Revenue changes February 19, 2019
6. Committee on State, Federal, and Regional Government Regarding Airplane Noise Abatement – Angeline Kounelis, Chair – February 25, 2019 – Item 8B
7. Request for Confirmation – Appointment of Adam Brewster to the Board of Election Commissioners – Michael Driscoll, Town Manager, to Town Council – February 28, 2019 – Item 10
8. Request for Information Regarding the Treatment of Utility Poles to Prevent Rotting – Councilor Angeline Kounelis – Item 11
9. Request for Information Regarding the Library’s Website Compatibility with the Town’s Civic Plus Site – Councilor Lisa Feltner – Item 11
10. Request for Information Regarding a Response to a Letter from Boylston Properties – Councilor Anthony Palomba – Item 11