



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 22, 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 Steve Magoon, Assistant Town Manager, Attorney Mark Reich, and Marilyn W. Pronovost, Town Council Clerk.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. PUBLIC FORUM

Elodia Thomas – 67 Marion Road – Stated that some of the money from the potential surplus should be used to hire consultants from the Collins Center for Public Management to assist members of the Charter Review Committee who could assist with an objective analysis of the Town Government and provide best practices information.

Pete Airasian – Co-Founder of Watertown Overcoming Addiction – Had concerns with AJ NSO Holdings, Inc. requesting a use for recreational marijuana. The medical business has not opened yet and now they are being fast-tracked for recreational sales. There is no business track-record or experience with traffic concerns.

4. EXAMINATION OF RECORDS OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

A. Minutes of the September 24, 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.

B. Minutes of the October 8, 2019 Town Council Meeting

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

5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Sideris stated that the School Committee held its meeting at the Lowell School the previous evening, which was well attended. There will be other meetings at the other schools as well in the future.

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

Acceptance of [Proclamation Honoring Thelma Carter on Her 100th Birthday](#)

Councilor Piccirilli read the proclamation. He then moved to accept the proclamation; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS

C. Public Hearing and Vote on a Grant of Location Petition from NSTAR ELECTRIC COMPANY d/b/a as EVERSOURCE ENERGY to Install 9 Feet $\pm$ of Conduit Northwesterly from Pole 16/46 Approximately 220 Feet Southwest of Waltham Street to [Provide Underground Electric Service to 385 Pleasant Street](#)

Councilor Piccirilli made a motion to move up Item C in the hearing; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Mr. Mee, Superintendent of Public Works, stated that he would like to withdraw his approval for this grant of location as the developer has installed a conduit without a permit and without Town Council approval prior to the Grant of Location. He stated that he would like the developer to address the situation and then Eversource can address the matter as well with the developer. He expected that Eversource would return at another date for the grant of location.

Based on Mr. Mee's comments, the request was granted and no public hearing was held.

President Sideris then returned to the normal order of business.

A. Public Hearing and Vote on a [Proposed Amendment to the Fiscal Year 2020 Budget](#)

Mr. Tracy, Town Auditor, stated that revenue had increased by \$2,091,194:
New Growth - \$1,356,653
State Aid (Cherry Sheets) - \$113,041
Transfer from the Collective Bargaining Stabilization Fund - \$621,500

Expenditures included:

A decrease in funding for School Choice – (\$28,073)
Charter School - \$1,548
Transfer to the Capital Project Stabilization Fund - \$500,000
Town Council Reserve Increase - \$1,617,719

Mr. Tracy stated that the projected growth for Watertown was \$4,856,653, an increase of \$1,356,653 over the anticipated growth of \$3,500,000. He also suggested that because the Town has not yet received certification from the Department of Revenue regarding state aid, the vote on this matter should be delayed until the next Town Council meeting on November 12, 2019.

President Sideris opened the Public Hearing

Elodia Thomas – 67 Marion St. – Stated that an appropriation of \$50,000 would help guide the Charter Review Committee.

There being no other speakers, the Public Hearing was closed.

President Sideris stated that he was unaware of the delay request. Due to a miscommunication, it was decided that the vote would be delayed until the next meeting. Mr. Tracy stated that the Department of Revenue takes longer to certify the projected growth during a reevaluation year. Councilor Piccirilli moved to table the vote until the next Town Council meeting; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

B. Public Hearing and Vote on an [Ordinance Amending the Town Auditor's Salary](#)

President Sideris stated the Council evaluation of the Town Auditor ranged from very good to excellent. In addition, Mr. Tracy has added more responsibility to his role by assisting the Community Preservation Committee with their budget and the School Building Committee with theirs.

Because a municipal employee can only receive an increase for the previous year, the Council would like to provide Mr. Tracy with a performance bonus and a 3.5% COLA and merit increase for FY 2019. The amounts derived for the pay raise were based on both internal and external comparisons of similar positions.

President Sideris opened the Public Hearing.

Elodia Thomas – 67 Marion Street – As chair of the Community Preservation Committee, she stated Mr. Tracy has been very helpful to them with budget matters, and she is appreciative of his efforts.

President Sideris closed the Public Hearing. Councilor Piccirilli moved to adopt the ordinance regarding the Town Auditor's salary to make no salary change for FY 2018, but to increase the salary by 3.5% for FY 2019 along with a merit increase; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a roll call vote.

- C. Public Hearing and Vote on a Grant of Location Petition from NSTAR ELECTRIC COMPANY d/b/a as EVERSOURCE ENERGY to Install 9 Feet $\pm$ of Conduit Northwesterly from Pole 16/46 Approximately 220 Feet Southwest of Waltham Street to [Provide Underground Electric Service to 385 Pleasant Street](#)

Please see previous minutes for this item located before Item 7A.

8. MOTIONS, ORDINANCES, ORDER, AND RESOLUTIONS

- A. First Reading and Re-Referral to the Planning Board for Public Hearing a Request to Amend the Zoning Map of Watertown by Removing the Parcels of Land Located at 70, 78, 84-86, and 88 Galen Street [from the Limited Business District and Into the I-2 \(Industrial-2\) Zoning District](#) in Keeping with Abutting Properties

Mr. Magoon stated that this had been previously referred but not advertised within the required time; therefore, the matter needed to be referred again. Councilor Piccirilli moved refer the matter to the Planning Board for a Public Hearing; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

- B. Resolution Authorizing a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$80,000 from the Fiscal Year 2020 Debt Retirement – Short Term Interest Account to the Fiscal Year 2020 Transfer to Capital Projects – School Department Account in order to Move Forward with the [Replacement of the Middle School Classroom Laminate Floors](#)

Mr. Magoon provided background on the request. Ms. Kabel, Director of Public Buildings, stated that the floating floor is separating and that this is

a safety issue in the schools due to the gaps. This project would complete the flooring in the first floor classrooms.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to authorizing a transfer of funds in the amount of \$80,000 from the Fiscal Year 2020 Debt Retirement – Short Term Interest Account to the Fiscal Year 2020 Transfer to Capital Projects – School Department Account in order to move forward with the replacement of the Middle School classroom laminate floors; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a roll call vote.

9. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

- A. Committee on Economic Development and Planning Report Regarding the [NS AJO Holdings, Inc. Operating as an Adult Use Marijuana Establishment](#) at 23 Elm St. – Kenneth Woodland, Chair

ACTION ITEM:

That the Town Council Authorize the Town Manager to Execute the Host Community Agreement, as presented, for NS AJO Holdings, Inc. to Operate a Recreational Marijuana Retail Establishment at 23 Elm Street

Councilor Woodland read the Committee Report. Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the report; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. Attorney Reich clarified that the report indicates the Host Community Agreement (HCA) can be renegotiated in five years; however, it is the Host Community Fee that is subject to renegotiation. The HCA remains in effect for the life of the business. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Councilor Piccirilli moved that the Town Council authorize the Town Manager to execute the Host Community Agreement, as presented, for NS AJO Holdings, Inc. to operate a recreational marijuana retail establishment at 23 Elm Street; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted on an 8-1 roll call vote. All Councilors voted in the affirmative except for Councilor Kounelis who voted in the negative.

- B. Committee on Economic Development and Planning Report Regarding Proposed Adjustments to the Town's [Transportation Demand Management \(TDM\) Regulations](#)

ACTION ITEM:

That the Town Council Endorse the Revised Regulations as Presented, with Table 1-1, Bullet 7 Revised to Match Section 6.2.1

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

Councilor Piccirilli moved that the Town Council endorse the revised regulations as presented, with Table 1-1, Bullet 7 revised to match Section 6.2.1; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

C. Committee on Public Works Report Regarding a Policy for [Naming Squares or Intersections for Non-Veterans](#) – Vincent Piccirilli, Chair

ACTION ITEM:

That the Town Council Adopt the “Naming Policy for Squares or Intersections for Non-Veterans as Presented

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

Councilor Piccirilli moved that the Town Council adopt the “Naming Policy for Squares or Intersections for Non-Veterans” as attached to the report; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

10. NEW BUSINESS

There were no requests for new business.

11. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER

There were no items from the Town Manager.

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

There were no requests for information.

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Falkoff encouraged everyone to vote in the Town Election on November 5, 2019.

Councilor Palomba announced that on Sunday, November 3, 2019 from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m., there would be a presentation on Composting in the Watertown Savings Bank Room in the Library.

Councilor Feltner announced that on Wednesday, October 23, 2019 at 7:00 at the Watertown Middle School, the Media and Public Outreach Committee would be presenting its findings from the Watertown Kitchen Table Conversations.

She also mentioned that on Saturday, October 26, 2019, there would be a craft fair and bake sale at the Shutt Detachment.

Councilor Bays announced the Public Art Forum on Wednesday, October 30, 2019 from 6:00 – 8:30 p.m. at the Watertown Middle School.

Councilor Palomba reminded people that residents of Watertown could receive a free ticket to a play presented by the New Repertory Theater. People should call the Box Office to take advantage of the offer.

Councilor Feltner announced that on Wednesday, October 30, 2019 at 7:30 p.m., on the third floor of 85 Walnut Street (former Doble Engineering site), there would be a community meeting regarding the development of that location.

Mr. Magoon announced that on Saturday, October 26, 2019, the Lil Monster Mash would be held at the Commander's Mansion from 5:30 – 8:00 p.m.

14. PUBLIC FORUM

There were no speakers for the Public Forum.

15. RECESS OR ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Palomba moved to adjourn the meeting; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:06 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 12, 2019.

Mark S. Sideris, Council President
s:/MWP

**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2019 AT 7:15 P.M.
RICHARD E. MASTRANGELO COUNCIL CHAMBER
LIST OF DOCUMENTS**

1. Minutes of the September 24, 2019 Town Council Meeting – Item 4A
2. Minutes of the October 8, 2019 Town Council Meeting – Item 4B
3. Proclamation Honoring Thelma Carter on Her 100th Birthday – October 8, 2019 – Item 6
4. Proposed Amendment to the Fiscal Year 2020 Budget – Michael Driscoll, Town Manager, to Town Council – October 3, 2019 – Item 7A
5. Ordinance Amending the Town Auditor’s Salary – Item 7B
6. Notice of a Public Hearing – NSTAR – 385 Pleasant Street WO #2319310 – Item 7C
7. Proposed Zoning Amendment Regarding 70,78, 84-86, and 88 Galen Street Changing the Zoning District from Limited Business District to I-2 (Industrial -2) – Boston Development Group to Mark Sideris, President, Town Council – august 5, 2019 – Item 8A
8. Agenda Item – Transfer of Funds Request Regarding the Replacement of the Middle School Classroom Laminate Floors – Michael Driscoll, Town Manager, to Town Council – October 17, 2019 – Item 8B
9. Committee on Economic Development and Planning Report Regarding the Request from NS AJO Holdings Inc. to Operate an Adult Use Marijuana Establishment – October 7, 2019 – Item 9A
 - * Sign-In Sheet
 - * Town of Watertown and NS AJO Holdings Host Community Agreement
10. Committee on Economic Development and Planning Report Regarding Proposed Adjustments to the Town’s Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Regulations – September 25, 2019 – Item 9B
 - * Town of Watertown Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Regulations Revised September 20, 2019
 - * Town of Watertown Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Regulations Revised September 18, 2019 Redlined
 - * TDM Measures for Mode Shift – Comparision of Existing Points to Proposed Points – September 25, 2019

11. Committee on Public Works Report Regarding A Policy for Naming Squares or Intersections for Non-Veterans

- * Town of Belmont Board of Selectmen Naming Policy – Town Assets
- * City of Boston Policy for the Naming and Renaming of Public Ways and Private Ways, and the Dedication of Squares, in the City of Boston
- * City of Newton – Board of Aldermen – Programs and Services Committee Naming Ordinance Subcommittee Report
- * Waltham – Sidewalks, Public Ways, Public Places, Etc. §17-22
- * Wellesley Policy Statement RE Naming of Public Assets (ref. Town Bylaws, Article 5.5)
- * Town of Watertown Naming Policy for Squares or Intersections for Non-Veterans Draft for Committee Discussion – September 25, 2019
- * Proposed Resolution Naming Policy for Squares or Intersections for Non-Veterans