



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

John G. Gannon,
Councilor At Large

Anthony Palomba,
Councilor At Large

Angeline B. Kounelis,
District A Councilor

Lisa J. Feltner,
District B Councilor

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 2021 AT 7:00 P.M. MEETING WILL ONLY HAVE REMOTE OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARTICIPATION WITH PUBLIC ACCESS MINUTES

The Town Council of the City known as the Town of Watertown held a public meeting on Tuesday, April 13, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in accordance with the Governor's Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G. L. c. 30A, §20, relating to the 2020 COVID-19 emergency and to avoid group congregation, this meeting had only remote opportunities for participation with public access provided as follows:

ACCESS INFORMATION:

- A. The meeting was televised through WCATV (Watertown Cable Access Television): <https://imd0mxanj2.execute-api.us-west-2.amazonaws.com/ssr/live/60195e83b9696d00075a2e67>
- B. The Public was able to join the virtual meeting online: <https://watertown-ma.zoom.us/j/92991331344>
- C. Public was able to join the virtual meeting audio only by phone: (877) 853-5257 or (888) 475-4499 (Toll Free) and enter Webinar ID: 929 9133 1344 #
- D. Public was able to comment through email: vpiccirilli@watertown-ma.gov

1. ROLL CALL

Council President Sideris called to order a regular meeting of the Town Council at 7:00 p.m. in accordance with the Governor's Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G. L. c. 30A, §20, relating to the 2020 COVID-19 emergency and to avoid group congregation, through remote opportunities for participation with public access. Those present were Councilors Caroline Bays, Anthony J. Donato, John G. Gannon, Lisa J. Feltner, Angeline B. Kounelis, Anthony Palomba, Vice President Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., and Council President Mark S. Sideris. Also present were Michael Driscoll, Town Manager, Steve Magoon, Director of Community Development/Assistant Town Manager, Thomas Tracy, Town Auditor/Assistant Manager for Finance, Mark Reich, Town Attorney, and Marilyn W. Pronovost, Town Council Clerk

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. PUBLIC FORUM

Council President Sideris opened the public hearing; there being no speakers, the public hearing was closed.

4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Council President Sideris notified the public that Councilor Woodland had resigned as he was now employed by the Commonwealth and was not permitted to continue as a Councilor during his employment. He thanked Mr. Woodland for his many years of service to the community. Council President Sideris stated that the Council would determine how would proceed in this matter at the next Town Council session.

Noise Ordinance Referral – Council President Sideris stated that he would hold off on making the referral of the Noise Ordinance until there has been a decision as to how to proceed with Mr. Woodland's resignation.

Council President Sideris stated that he was making a statement on his own regarding a sticker posted at Victory Field displaying a Native-American with a thin blue line. He stated that the Council had made a statement supportive of fighting racism and hopes the Town could move forward without other such incidents occurring. The Sticker has been removed and the park is being monitored.

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

A. Proclamation Celebrating [April as Fair Housing Month](#)

Councilor President Sideris read the Proclamation. Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the Proclamation; Councilor Gannon seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a roll call vote.

B. Proclamation Celebrating [Public Works Week](#)

Councilor President Sideris read the Proclamation. Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the Proclamation; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a roll call vote.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A. Public Hearing and Vote on a Petition for a Grant of Location from NTSAR ELECTRIC COMPANY d/b/a EVERSOURCE ENERGY to Install Installation in Irving Street, Northerly from Pole 78114A, a Distance of Approximately 18+/- Feet. The Reason for the Proposed Work is to Provide [Permanent Electrical Service to 101 North Beacon Street Development](#). Upon Completion of the Department of Public Work's Review, Said Work Is Subject to the Recommendations and Conditions

Listed in the Attached Document and Are Being Submitted for Consideration by the Town Council Should the Grant of Location be Approved for This Application

Councilor Piccirilli moved to approve a Grant of Location from NSTSAR ELECTRIC COMPANY d/b/a EVERSOURCE ENERGY to install installation in Irving Street, northerly from Pole 78114A, a distance of approximately 18+/- feet. the reason for the proposed work is to provide permanent electrical service to 101 North Beacon Street Development. Upon completion of the Department of Public Work's review, said work is subject to the recommendations and conditions listed in the attached document and are being submitted for consideration by the Town Council should the grant of location be approved for this application; Councilor Bays seconded the motion.

The meeting was halted from 7:15 p.m. – 7:22 p.m. due to lack of connectivity. Councilor Palomba made a motion to recess the meeting until panelists were reconnected; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a roll call vote. All members voted except for Council President Sideris who lost connectivity. Councilor Piccirilli moved to reopen the session at 7:22 P.M.; Councilor Gannon seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a roll call vote.

Council President Sideris opened the Public Hearing; there being no speakers, the Public Hearing was closed.

A concern was raised about adding a pole because all utilities were to be buried. Several [area residents indicated their opposition](#) to the additional pole. There was a desire for the justification of adding a pole so close to two other poles. Mr. Duffy, DPW Project Engineer, stated the utility service will be underground. The pole that was originally to be used to accommodate the riser would affect infrastructure that is critical to Verizon. As a result, Eversource cannot use the existing pole. The added pole will allow the riser to come down to the sidewalk and go subsurface to provide underground utility service. The new pole would be within 20 ft of the existing pole.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to table the motion for this item and for Item 6B; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. Attorney Reich stated that each item should be tabled so that no new notice would be required. Councilor Piccirilli revised his motion to table this item; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a roll call vote.

- B. Public Hearing and Vote on a Petition for a Grant of Location from Verizon for the Installation of One (1) JO Pole, P.14A, on the Westerly Side of Irving Street at a Point Approximately 20-feet Southerly from Existing Pole, P.14 and Said Point Also Approximately 108-feet Northerly from Existing Pole, P.15. The Reason for the Proposed Work is [to Provide Utility Services to 101 North Beacon Street](#). Upon Completion of the Department of Public Works Review, Said Work Is Subject to the Recommendations and Conditions Listed in the Attached Document and Are Being Submitted for Consideration by the Town Council Should the Grant of Location be Approved for This Application

Council President Sideris opened the Public Hearing; there were no speakers. Upon advice from Attorney Reich, Councilor Piccirilli moved to reopen the meeting when these matters are heard; Councilor Palomba seconded the motion.

During the roll call of the motion, the meeting was halted from 7:35 p.m. – 7:38 p.m. due to lack of connectivity. Councilor Kounelis made a motion to recess until panelists were reconnected to the meeting; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a roll call vote. All members voted except for Council President Sideris who lost connectivity. Councilor Kounelis moved to reopen the session at 7:22 P.M.; Councilor Piccirilli seconded the motion. The motion to resume the session was adopted unanimously on a roll call vote.

The roll call for the motion to table Item 6B was completed and was adopted unanimously on a roll call vote.

- C. Public Hearing and Vote on an [Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance](#), Section 5.01 (Table of Use Regulations) to Allow Light Industry, Non-nuisance Manufacturing, Laboratories/Research, and Renewable Research in the CB District and Add a Note (17) to Section 5.03 to Allow Such Uses in Structures that Existed Prior to the 1937 Adoption of the Watertown Zoning Ordinance, by Right up to 4,000 Square Feet and With Site Plan Review if Greater Than 4,000 S.F.

Mr. Magoon stated this was a request from Berkley Investments to amend the zoning ordinance allowing light industrial laboratories in the CB District under certain circumstances. The Planning Board after its review recommended the change. The amendment has been structured to so that it is usable in older structures.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to approve an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance, Section 5.01 (Table of Use Regulations) to allow light industry, non-nuisance manufacturing, laboratories/research, and renewable research in the CB District and to add a note (17) to section 5.03 to allow such uses

in structures that existed prior to the 1937 adoption of the Watertown Zoning Ordinance, by right up to 4,000 square feet and with site plan review if greater than 4,000 square feet; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion.

Council President Sideris opened the Public Hearing; there being no speakers, he closed the Public Hearing.

The following was considered in the discussion:

- How many buildings would this affect and where are they located in the CB (Central Business) District? When first considered, it appeared that 59 parcels would meet the standard, but there have been sufficient changes to some buildings that the number has decreased. The uses could affect either the buildings like Sasaki that could be converted to a lab use or those that could be used for light manufacturing such as a bakery or brewery. Most sites are scattered on Main Street, most of Pleasant Street, and a few along Mount Auburn Street.
- If the building were to require substantial change, the by right status would be lost.
- If the lot were greater than 4,000 square feet, a site plan review by the Planning Board would be required
- Did the Planning Board seek an opinion of counsel or zoning as to what types of businesses would be allowed in the District? The original request was narrower than the proposed change; it was more specific to site. Staff suggested implementing something in keeping with the Comprehensive Plan to set a district wide standard to ensure that these buildings would remain relevant and viable. The current marketplace is open to lab space.
- Is it legally binding for the Town to determine by ordinance what a preexisting non-conforming use is or is it just the status that would dictate what a preexisting non-conforming use is? It is unusual to have a preexisting non-conforming use listed in an ordinance but that is not being done here. The intent of the amendment is not to address a preexisting non-conforming use, it is intended to create a way to use buildings existing prior to the zoning ordinance in 1937, the focus is on the use of the building.
- Could the purpose of the amendment have been completed by creating an overlay district? It could have, but this change was made to answer a narrow issue. An overlay district is used to grant or restrict rights for a purpose to a geographic area. This change is for an adaptive use of an historic building. An overlay district for this use would create more issues as to boundaries, purpose, and inclusion and exclusion of use; therefore, the amendment was used.
- As relates to 5.03, Note 17, could a portion be used by right for conversion and then another space be converted? To address this concern, the word “cumulative” should be inserted to clarify that such changes would be subject to the site review process.

- The change does not have to be referred back to the Planning Board because it is clarifying language
- The purpose of this change is to continue the use of a historic building to a 21st century use such as a bio tech lab, a use that is prevented under the current zoning ordinance; there is no physical change to the building.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to insert the word “cumulative” into Note 17; Councilor Kounelis seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a roll call vote.

The motion to adopt the zoning amendment as amended was adopted unanimously on a roll call vote.

7. MOTIONS, ORDINANCES, ORDER, AND RESOLUTIONS

A. Resolution to Establish a [Public Arts and Culture Committee](#)

Council President Sideris stated that this matter would be taken up after the reading of Committee Report regarding the Public Arts and Culture Commission.

See notes regarding the Public Arts and Culture Committee in Item 8A.

B. Resolution Authorizing a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$101,000 from the Fiscal Year 2021 Debt Retirement – Planned Debt Account to the Fiscal Year 2021 Transfer to Capital Projects – School Account in Order to Move Forward with the Middle School Design of [Second Floor Air-Conditioning](#)

The Town Manager provided background information on this request. Mr. Lewis, the interim Director of Public Buildings, stated that this request is part of a four phased project. The first phase to air condition the cafeteria and kitchen has gone out to bid and the design and engineering plans are done. Phase 2, the project being discussed, would provide air conditioning to the top floor classrooms because these are the warmest classes in the school. It is anticipated that there would be a 5–6-month engineering and design plan; then bidding; and finally, a completion in the summer of 2022. The work could be completed quickly as most of the work will be done on the roofs. The remaining phases would air condition the first floor and then the ground floor; these will be completed in the following two years. It is possible that these two latter projects could be combined as they are smaller and could be completed earlier. The equipment is state of the air refrigerant flow, energy efficient, and environment friendly.

Mr. Driscoll stated that this was to be a loan order originally; however, there is money available in the debt retirement account and it can be used for this project. He asked for the Town Council’s favorable consideration.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to authorize a transfer of funds in the amount of \$101,000 from the Fiscal Year 2021 Debt Retirement – Planned Debt Account to the Fiscal Year 2021 Transfer to Capital Projects – School Account in order to move forward with the Middle School design for second floor air-conditioning; Councilor Gannon seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a roll call vote.

- C. Resolution Authorizing a Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$559,100 from the Fiscal Year 2021 Debt Retirement – Planned Debt Account to the Fiscal Year 2021 Transfer to Capital Projects – IT Department Account in Order to Move Forward with Four (4) [Information Technology Items](#) Listed in Conceptual Recommendation #17 on the Fiscal Year 2022-2026 Capital Improvement Program

Mr. Driscoll stated that \$575,100 would be used to provide a GIS system for \$50,000; replace the phone system for \$175,000; replace and upgrade technology for \$270,000; and provide a document management system for \$80,000.

Mr. McClure, CIO, stated the changes would be built properly in line with the vision for technology and make sense within the operating budget and the capacity within IT to complete successful changes. The IT Infrastructure would upgrade network switching, town fire walls, and install a secure wi-fi network to support the phone upgrade and improve security and reliability. This change will solve the stand alone ad hoc wi-fi that has inadequate coverage and will allow the software to be expanded to all Town buildings.

The phone upgrade will be coordinated with the schools, the public safety departments, and the library to improve the quality and longevity of the phone system. It will refresh the current phones and bring in other departments, such as the police, with a 5-digit system.

The Geographic Information System (GIS) allows for a common system to be used by the Community Development and Planning, Public Works, and Public Safety Departments. Currently there is no central GIS database; the program is not user friendly; it contains outdated and incomplete data; and it is not useful for residents, businesses, and staff. The system would integrate, update, and publish the master address table, parcel data, and aerial ortho and oblique photos. It would integrate permits, documents, and other sources to create a central map and property resource.

The document management would be in keeping with the Town's goal of getting a better handle of the amount of paper in Town Hall. The

information would be in a cloud hosted permanent depository. The documents can be made public or confidential.

Mr. Driscoll stated the funds would be derived from the Debt Retirement Account as a result of not funding some items already approved.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to authorize a transfer of funds in the amount of \$559,100 from the Fiscal Year 2021 Debt Retirement – Planned Debt Account to the Fiscal Year 2021 Transfer to Capital Projects – IT Department Account in order to move forward with four (4) information technology items listed in Conceptual Recommendation #17 on the Fiscal Year 2022-2026 Capital Improvement Programs; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously on a roll call vote.

- D. Resolution Authorizing a Transfer of \$6,000 from the Fiscal Year 2021 Town Council Reserve Account to the Fiscal Year 2021 [Charter Review Assistance](#) Account

Mr. Driscoll stated this request would provide additional funds for assistance with the Charter Review and cover their meetings in April, May, and June.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to authorize a transfer of \$6,000 from the Fiscal Year 2021 Town Council Reserve Account to the Fiscal Year 2021 Charter Review Assistance Account; Councilor Gannon seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a roll call vote.

8. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

- A. Committee on Economic Development and Planning Report Regarding the [Wayfinding Grant and the Creation of the Public Arts and Culture Committee \(PACC\)](#) - Kenneth M. Woodland, Chair

ACTION ITEMS:

1. That the Town Council Endorse Moving Forward with the Revised Wayfinding Design in the Blue Tone, with “Established 1630” Added
2. That the Town Council Adopt the Resolution for the Creation of a Public Arts and Culture Committee, as Edited by the Committee

Councilor Feltner read the Committee Report. Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the report; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. Councilor Donato stated that the votes should be changed from 2-0 to 2-1. These were typos and will be corrected. The motion was adopted unanimously on a roll call vote.

Councilor Piccirilli moved that the Town Council endorse moving forward with the revised Wayfinding Design in the blue tone, with “Established 1630” added; Councilor Gannon seconded the motion.

A question was raised as to what the materials the signs would be made of and if they would be long lasting with low maintenance. Mr. Magoon stated there were options that could be considered for durability and maintenance.

The motion was adopted unanimously on a roll call vote.

Mr. Magoon read the resolution for the Public Arts and Culture Committee. Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the Resolution to Establish a Public Arts and Culture Committee; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion.

A question was raised that the Committee failed to vote on prohibiting a member of the board from serving on more than one committee at the same time. Another concern was mentioned that MAPC recommended term limits and it is not included in the resolution.

In the discussion, it was mentioned that it was more important to have quality membership and that it seemed arbitrary to force members to leave the committee or to remove the member’s expertise. It was also stated that some committees, such as the Community Preservation Committee, have members from other committees serving on it.

Councilor Feltner made a friendly amendment to the motion suggesting that the words “No At-Large Committee member may be appointed to or serve concurrently on more than one commission or committee established by ordinance or resolution of the Town Council at the same time.” There being no second the motion did not move forward.

The motion to adopt the resolution was adopted unanimously on a roll call vote.

10. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER

Request for Confirmation of Reappointment to the Board of Health.

Councilor Piccirilli made a motion to move up Item 10 in the agenda; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a roll call vote.

Mr. Driscoll requested the confirmation of the reappointment Dr. Barbara Beck to the Board of Health for a term to expire on February 5, 2024. Under Town Council Rules, the appointment is referred to the Committee on Human Services.

Mr. Driscoll stated that [Mr. Flynn, the Town Clerk, retired](#) at the end of February after serving the Town for 26 years; that he had served Watertown since October 2, 1995; and that he was professional. Mr. Flynn completed the many functions of his office including maintaining vital statistics and acting as the liaison between the state and federal governments. In addition, he ran the Faire in the Square for the past ten years. As the chief election officer, he completed his duties in an exemplary fashion during the pandemic. Mr. Driscoll congratulated Mr. Flynn on his retirement and called him a leader with a servant's heart. Council President Sideris added his congratulations and best wishes for a happy retirement.

Mr. Driscoll stated that on Thursday, Standard and Poors issued a AAA rating to the Town of Watertown. He thanked the Town Council and the Department Heads for their efforts in maintaining services to the community.

8. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

B. Committee on Human Services Report Regarding the [Reappointment of Dr. John Straus to the Board of Health](#) – Anthony Palomba, Chair

ACTION ITEM:

That the Town Council Vote to Reappoint Dr. John Straus to the Board of Health for a Term to Expire on February 6, 2023

Councilor Palomba read the Committee Report regarding the reappointment of Dr. Straus to the Board of Health. Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the report; Councilor Palomba seconded the motion.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to confirm the reappointment of Dr. John Straus to the Board of Health for a term to expire on February 6, 2023; Councilor Gannon seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a roll call vote.

C. Committee on Personnel and Town Organization Report Regarding the [Compensation of the Town Council Clerk and the Town Auditor](#) – Caroline Bays, Chair

ACTION ITEMS

1. That the Town Council Increase the Town Council Clerk's Salary by 2.0% Effective July 1, 2020 (the Start of the Fiscal Year 2021)
2. That the Town Council Increase the Town Auditor's Salary by 2.25% + 1.5% Effective July 1, 2019 (the Start of Fiscal Year 2020) and by an Additional 2.0% + 1.5% Effective July 1, 2020 (the Start of Fiscal Year 2021)

Before the report was read, Council President Sideris stated that the ratings for the evaluations of the Council Clerk and Town Auditor were reported incorrectly due to an error in the calculations. The Council Clerk's evaluation was reported at 3.78 when it should have been 4.75, and the Town Auditor was reported as 3.36 when it should have been 4.46.

Councilor Bays read the Committee Report. Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the report; Councilor Gannon seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a roll call vote.

Council President Sideris advised the Council that the two action items would not be taken up at the meeting as the change in salaries for these positions is done by Ordinance. The First Reading would take place at the next meeting; then, at a later meeting, there would be a public hearing on the changes in salaries voted upon at that time.

D. Committee on Rules and Ordinances Report Regarding [Special Legislation to Enable Local Control over Transitioning from Beer and Wine Licenses to All Alcohol Licenses](#) – Anthony J. Donato, Chair

ACTION ITEM:

That the Town Council Petition the General Court for Special Legislation in the Form Presented by the Rules and Ordinances Committee

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

Councilor Piccirilli moved for the Town Council to petition the General Court for Special Legislation in the form presented by the Rules and Ordinances Committee; Councilor Gannon seconded the motion.

A question was raised as to what the benefits of the legislation were. In response, it was stated that because of the state's quota system there are no liquor licenses for sale making it difficult for smaller establishments to compete against larger corporations. The affected establishments would be determine if they wished to convert to a full liquor license. The requested legislation is broader than generally seen regarding liquor licenses. The change in licenses would not have an impact on the number of marijuana establishments as the ratio is based on package stores in the community. Some Councilors commented that the Council has gone to the State Legislature for specific special liquor licenses and the value of that is coming to fruition at Arsenal Yard; therefore, it seems unwise to expend time, energy, and effort to request this change.

The motion failed on a roll call vote of 3-5. Those voting in favor of the motion were Councilors Bays, Donato, and Gannon; those voting in the negative were Councilors Feltner, Kounelis, Palomba, and Piccirilli and Council President Sideris.

9. NEW BUSINESS

Councilor Feltner asked what the process would be for filling Councilor Woodland's seat. Council President Sideris stated he was not prepared to answer that question at this meeting, but that he would place the matter on the agenda. Attorney Reich would explain the Charter options; after which, Council President Sideris would make recommendations for the Town Council to consider. Based on the Council's decision, the Council would then move forward.

10. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER

Request for Confirmation of Reappointment to the Board of Health.

Please see the minutes for this section after Item 8A.

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

Councilor Palomba stated his disappointment regarding a [sticker of a Native American](#) carrying a tomahawk and a Blue Lives Matter flag and found it to be offensive and an act that knowingly perpetuated stereotypes and fostered division among people to cause pain and hurt. He requested information as to how the Administration is working to stop such racist activity.

Councilor Feltner requested information regarding what other connection options are available to make the [connections at the 101 North Beacon Street site](#); how the changes would impact the community; and how can the issue be addressed.

12. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Kounelis stated that she wanted to express her gratitude and thanks to Mr. John Flynn for his service to the community. As a friend and neighbor, she wished him the best.

Councilor Bays stated that while she condemns the racist activity that Councilor Palomba spoke to. She would like to ask people why do people feel it is okay to do this? She added that it is necessary to discuss this and that we all need to understand how everyone feels and why they believe what they do. She is willing to discuss the matter with anyone and can be reached at 617-894-0045 and at c.bays@watertown-ma.gov.

Council President Sideris stated there would be a Neighborhood meeting on April 14, 2021 at 6:00 pm for the Moxley Playground area to discuss modular classroom space for the High School. Information is also on the website.

He explained that the blue lights on the Administration Building and on the delta were to honor April as Autism Awareness Month, which was first held in 1972. This event is to stress awareness of autism, promote acceptance of

autistic people, to celebrate differences, and to be more inclusive. As of 2020, it was found that autism affects 1 in 54 children.

Council President Sideris stated that it is permissible to begin public meetings. The Watertown Savings Bank Room at the Library is being reserved for such meetings. He would like to begin conducting meetings with the Councilors present and then expand it to 100 attendees, all socially distanced.

Councilor Gannon announced that volunteers were needed to distribute leaflets regarding the Charter Review. To participate, please contact him at 617-905-4115 or at jgannon@watertown-ma.gov.

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 roll call vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:57 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 8 for, 0 against, 0 present on April 27, 2021.

Mark S. Sideris, Council President
s:/MWP

**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 2021 AT 7:00 P.M.
MEETING HAD ONLY REMOTE OPPORTUNITIES
FOR PARTICIPATION WITH PUBLIC ACCESS
LIST OF DOCUMENTS**

1. Fair Housing Month Proclamation – Item 5A
2. Proclamation Celebrating Public Works Week – Item 5B
3. Grant of Location Request for NSTAR ELECTRIC d/b/a Eversource Energy for a Grant of Location at Irving Street – 101 North Beacon Street WO #2373752 – March 10, 2021 – Item 6A
4. Grant of Location Request for Verizon to Provide Service to 101 North Beacon Street – Project ID # 1A4SN8W – March 10, 2021 – Item 6B
5. Planning Board Report Regarding an Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance Sections 5.01 and 5.03 (notes) Central Business District – March 30, 2021 – Item 6C
6. Resolution to Establish a Public Arts and Culture Committee – Item 7A
7. Transfer of Funds Request Regarding Second Floor Air-Conditioning at the Middle School – Michael Driscoll, Town Manager, to Town Council – April 8, 2021 – Item 7B
8. Transfer of Funds Request Regarding Information Technology Improvements – Michael Driscoll, Town Manager, to Town Council – April 8, 2021 – Item 7C
9. Agenda Item – Transfer of Funds Request Regarding the Charter Review Assistance Agreement – Michael Driscoll, Town Manager, to Town Council – April 8, 2021 – Item 7D
10. Committee on Economic Development and Planning Report Regarding the Wayfinding Grant Design and the Creation of a Public Arts and Culture Committee (PACC) – Kenneth M. Woodland, Chair – March 31, 2021 – Item 8A
 - Attachment A – New Wayfinding Logos
 - Attachment B – Revised Wayfinding Sign Package
 - Attachment C – Resolution to Establish a Public Arts and Culture Committee
 - Attachment D – Edited Resolution to Establish a Public Arts and Culture Committee
11. Committee on Human Services Report Regarding the Reappointment of Dr. John Straus to the Board of Health for a Term to Expire on February 6, 2021 – Anthony Palomba, Chair – March 2, 2021 – Item 8B
12. Committee on Personnel and Town Organization Reporting Regarding the Compensation of the Town Council Clerk and the Town Auditor – Caroline Bays, Chair – April 6, 2021 – Item 8C

13. Committee on Rules and Ordinances Report Regarding Special Legislation to Enable Local Control over Transitioning from Beer and Wine Licenses to All Alcohol Licenses – Anthony J. Donato, Chair – March 15, 2021 – Item 8D
 - Special Act for Conversion of Wine and Malt Licenses to All Alcohol Draft – Redlined
 - Special Act for Conversion of Wine and Malt Licenses to All Alcohol Draft – Clean Version
14. Remarks from Town Manager Michael J. Driscoll upon the Retirement John E. Flynn, Watertown Town Clerk – April 13, 2021 – Item 10
15. Request for Information Regarding the Administration’s Actions Regarding Racist Activities – Councilor Anthony Palomba, April 13, 2021 – Item 11
16. Request for Information Regarding Utility Options for 101 North Beacon Street – Councilor Lisa J. Feltner – April 13, 2021 – Item 11