

EAST WATERTOWN BETTERMENT ASSOCIATION

160 ARLINGTON STREET • WATERTOWN, MASSACHUSETTS 02172

EAST WATERTOWN BETTERMENT ASSOCIATION MEETING

The Annual meeting of the East Watertown Betterment Association will be held on Tuesday, September 28, 1993 at 7:30 P. M. Previous to the convening of the regular meeting, a special meeting will be held for the sole purpose of accepting or rejecting the proposed changes in the by-laws. The meeting will then be adjourned and the regular meeting will be called.

One of the most important functions of this meeting will be the election of officers who have been nominated under the rules as set forth in the revised by-laws. All members have received a copy of the proposed revisions, that explained the nominating process and the rights of members who also would like to be included on the ballot.

We were fortunate to receive the services of the recently appointed Town Manager, Michael Driscoll as the principal speaker of the evening. In view of the recent chaos in town affairs, we felt that it would be an opportune time for him to officially meet a large portion of the electorate and to have him acquaint them with his aims, the problems facing the town, and possible solutions that are being considered. It is our hope that many of the townspeople will attend to give their views on the general needs of the town rather than trying to get an instant resolution to minor problems that can be best handled at a lower level.

Also on the agenda, and of equal urgency, will be Health Director Joseph DiVico who will address the meeting on a matter of grave concern to the town, the threat of rabid animals that seems to be growing concern to the town.

WE URGE ALL CONCERNED CITIZENS TO ATTEND THIS MEETING!

Newsletter #4 Dec '93 - Jan '94 2.

**East Watertown Betterment Association
160 Arlington Street-Watertown, MA 02172**

A publication for the membership of East Watertown Betterment Association.

Sec. Bartley Reporting.....

Minutes of the Special Meeting held Tuesday, September 28, 1993 in the upper hall, Watertown Lodge of Elks, 268 Arlington Street.

Approximately 90 members (new and old) were in attendance when the special meeting was called to order by President Rudy D'Alanno at 7:35 p.m. After a few opening remarks, the President explained that the purpose of the Special Meeting was to make amendments to the original By-laws. The Secretary had notified the membership of this meeting by mail, enclosing a copy of the proposed changes.

The President turned the meeting over to Al DeVito who read each By-law section and explained the proposed amendments, inserting the changes in their respective sections and sub-sections.

Lucy Mercurio offered a motion, seconded by Emil Monti, that the By-laws, as amended, be approved and become effective as of September 28, 1993. So voted unanimously.

Since the Chairman of the Nominating Committee, Dominic Guzzetti, had to leave the meeting early, the President received the report of the Nominating Committee. Mr. Guzzetti described, in detail, the process by which the slate of officers were selected by the committee which included Peter Diliberto and Rose Mamishian.

The Officers nominated were:

Alfred M. DeVito, President---Rudy D'Alanno, Vice President

John Bartley, Secretary-Treasurer

Cordinators: Emil Monti, Edward Andrews, Ugo Collela, Jo Warner. Upon motion of Al DeVito, seconded by John Bartley, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

ANNUAL MEETING OF E-W-B-A, Tuesday, September 28, 1993

This meeting was called to order by President Rudy D'Alanno at 8:00 p.m. The Roll Call of officers for 1993 indicated that all were present, except Ernest Papazian who had resigned in May. The next order of business was the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting, and the Treasurer's Report by John Bartley. Both were accepted as read.

Jack McCarthy moved that the minutes of the special meeting just completed be included in the minutes of the Annual Meeting. Motion was seconded and passed as presented.

Past President Rudy D'Alanno made several comments about the Association, his long, enjoyable affiliation and spoke glowingly about the assistance he had received over the years from officers and community leaders, especially Tom McDermott, whose printing

J.

2

company has been especially generous in performing services for the organization.

Peter Diliberto, acting for the Nominating Committee, reported that the committee had not received any further nominations for officers, and therefore, it was in order to request that the Secretary cast one ballot for the election of the following nominees to serve for a term of one year:

Alfred DeVito, President--Rudy D'Alanno, Vice President--John Bartley, Secretary-Treasurer--Ugo Collela, Coordinator of Public Safety and Public Works--Emil Monti, Coordinator of Community Development and Planning--Jo Warner, Coordinator of Health and recreation--Edward Andrews, Coordinator of Education.

A sentimental Rudy then turned the meeting over to the new president, Al DeVito. Al's first act was to present Rudy with an inscribed gavel, a symbol of authority, as a token of the Association's respect and appreciation for his 23 years as president. Al also paid a tribute to Rudy's wife, Carmella, whose understanding and love made Rudy's time and contributions possible.

The Director of Health, Joseph DiVico, was introduced to the audience which had grown to 115. Mr. DiVico gave a detailed explanation of the rabies disease, its origin and migration to the Northeast, how it can be contracted, and what to do around the house to prevent coming in contact with animals that spread the disease. He also urged pet owners to comply with all pet regulations requiring vaccination. A printed handout, germane to his talk, was distributed to all, containing data we all should be familiar with and keep as a ready reference. Knowledge of this disease is the best prevention.

Our second speaker, introduced by Rudy D'Alanno, was our new Town Manager, Michael Driscoll, who outlined his goals with respect to his new position:

1. Health cost containment-The cost of health care for Town employees is ballooning out of sight, and must be controlled. It has doubled in the past four years.

2. Purchasing-Buying as efficiently as possible, based on a five-year capital budget method.

3. Clean streets-Getting the Town clean again overall, with emphasis on our main streets and squares.

4. Management by goals-Each department head must have objectives for his organization and must try to make every effort to implement them.

Discussion of the East End issues centered around his intention to board up the incinerator for safety and appearance; have the toilet at Filipello Park back in service, and clear the park of debris now being dumped in low-lying areas. He also mentioned the possibility of arranging for a regional animal control officer and to enforce the existing pooper-scooper ordinance. He answered several questions from the audience, who expressed appreciation of the tone of his remarks.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
J. J. Bartley, Secretary

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Since the meeting:

Your President attended a meeting of the environmental affairs sub-committee of the Arsenal Re-use Committee to hear a dissertation organized by Beverly Lawrence, Director of the Army Corps of Engineers, located in Waltham. ABB Environmental Services, Inc. conducted a study under the Corps of Engineers. Their assessments were confined to the Arsenal property purchased by the Town in the sixties (F U D S), the GSA land generally in the area of Greenough Boulevard and Grove Street, and some ten sites within ½ mile of the formerly used defense site, (F U D S). We learned that the standard levels of measurement have changed since the above mentioned area had passed several radiological surveys and testing. There is perhaps no other area of law as complex and fraught with overlapping rules than those found in environmental law. Complicating the matter is the fact that the rules, laws, and Commissions are constantly changing. We do not always understand the many factors involved. Accordingly, under the Corps supervision and funding, testing will continue during 1994. In answer to a question by Mr. John Airasian, Beverly Lawrence stated that funds are available to perform the remedial work, if necessary, in the year 1995. (Synopsis of 1 hour and 50 minute meeting, November 15, 1993)

A public expression of gratitude goes out to the Town Manager, the Planning Director and the Arsenal Mall Marketplace for the installation of the "Welcome to Watertown" sign and the beautification of the island that surrounds the familiar "REMEMBRANCE" statue in front of McVey Monuments. Cooler heads prevailed and the result was the enhancement of the approach into Watertown along Arsenal Street from the Boston side.

Parishioners, friends, State, and Town Officials attended the Testimonial Dinner celebrating the 40 year reign as Pastor of the Greek Taxiarchae of Watertown by the Rev. Emmanuel Metaxas. The multitude in attendance at the affair, held on November 20, 1993 in the Hellenic Cultural Center, was a tremendous tribute to our friend, Father Metaxas.

Upon petition of W C E S, a Watertown organization, A T S D R, the agency for toxic substances and disease registry located in Atlanta, Georgia, will begin to conduct Public Health assessments in Watertown as a precautionary measure. Their primary focus is the Arsenal Property, but have concerns for other possible toxic contamination sites throughout the Town. A public meeting with A T S D R is planned for sometime in January, 1994 where citizens can bring forward informaton on past industrial activities in the Town and furnish the Federal Team of possible effects to one's personal health. The date and place of the meeting will be well-publicized in the media.

5.

4

The light in the second floor corner office located in the Administration Building burns late into the evening hours as the Town Manager expends every effort to fulfill his commitment to serve the citizens of Watertown faithfully, honestly and impartially. Mr. Driscoll's performance to date seems to have reduced the clamor for a need to change our present form of government. His temporary appointment of Louis Andrews augers well. Unfortunately it is due to expire, The Town has been the beneficiary of some 25 years of governmental experience from a devoted son of Watertown, the Town where he was born, raised, educated, worked, and loves. We are grateful for Lou's contributions as a public servant.

The Manager's efforts to maintain services are commendable, but we still need to restore some services that were of benefit for the common good. This will be possible if the governing bodies consider that every dollar of appropriations must be targetted to serve the greatest number of people in the community.

With fiscal constraints, street cleaning will not be as frequent. Please try to sweep the front of your own property in between public sweepings.

The Membership year begins on October 1, 1993, and ends September 30, 1994. If you are one of the few who has not paid your dues, please forward your payment of \$3.00 to:
John Bartley, 51 Langdon Avenue, Watertown MA 02172.