

Department of Public Works

The NYS DOT reports for CitiBus Transit Asset Management has been completed and submitted to the DOT.

Regarding the Downtown parking signage, Planning is doing a quick sketch for us and the signs will be made/altered/installed over the next two weeks.

The drainage issue at Mrs. Hoffman's house on Thompson Boulevard should be resolved over the next two weeks.

Engineering Department

Flower Avenue East

Maintenance bond and monument maps have been received.

Cooper Street Outfall Sewer

Staff is making final adjustments to Drawings and Specifications.

Fairgrounds Grandstand Improvements Project

Hyde Stone has completed their work on the HVAC Upgrades to the Red & Black Locker Room. BCA is in the final design for New Bleachers to the existing Baseball Stadium at the Fairgrounds.

State Street Fire Driveway Project

North Country Paving has submitted a start date for the project of October 14th, 2019. The project should take about two weeks.

Hydro Plant

Excitation Replacement Project

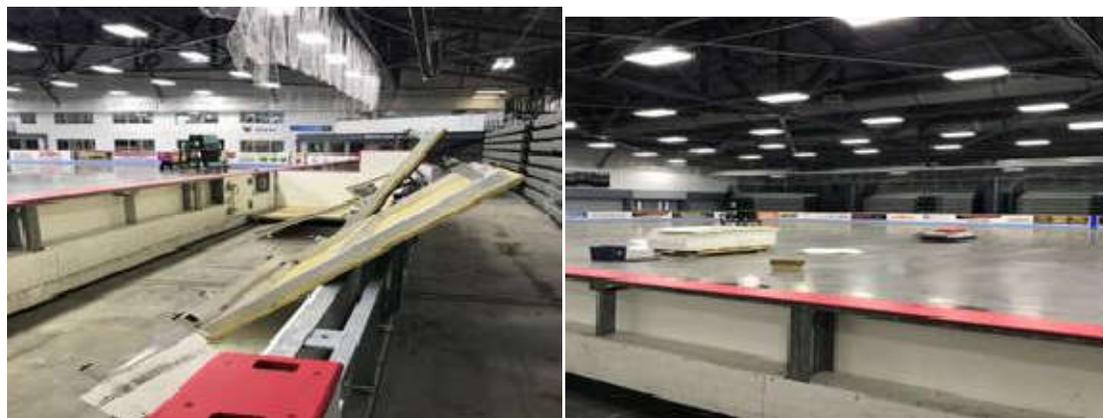
ABB has submitted Pay App No. 2 for this project. This pay app is for all the drawings and the delivery of the Excitation and Transformer units.

Parks and Recreation

The Italian American BRAVO Festival took place this past weekend at the Municipal Arena. Once again, the festival was an amazing success filled with delicious Italian food, drinks, Mass, music and comedy!



The Parks and Recreation Department has started to transform the municipal arena into an ice arena. Parks and Recreation Crews from the Fairgrounds and Thompson Park work together to make this process successful. The first day of ice is scheduled for September 16th, 2019.



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The Municipal Arena hosted “Foreigner” as part of the DPAO Summer Concert Series. Foreigner put on an outstanding performance!



MEMORIAL TO THE FALLEN MEMORIAL RUN SEP 14 2019

TO THE TOP

9:00 AM
ENTRY \$25
11 MILES
REGISTER AT EVENTBRITE.COM

10:00 AM
ENTRY \$15
5K
REGISTER AT WATERTOWNYMCA.ORG

10:00 AM
PARTY
FAMILY FUN

11:00 AM
ENTRY \$15
AGES 14 AND UNDER
COURSE
NINJA OBSTACLE COURSE
REGISTER AT WATERTOWNYMCA.ORG

Open to all Soldiers, Family members, and the surrounding community. No bicycles, backpacks, large bags, glass bottles, or other "hazard" Service animals only on the 5K and 11 Mile course. Optional bag check at start point for 11 Mile Run.

Show your race bib to the day of and receive 1/2 price New York Thruway Park Zoo entry for you and your immediate family.

www.drum.armymwr.com

Logos: MWR, ONE, PBC, Samaritan, First Community, Y, etc.

Parks and Recreation, MWR and the YMCA have been working together on a daily basis to ensure the M2M Run is a success. This year the YMCA is sponsoring Ninja Warrior Course for children.

Planning Department

Sewall's Island Remediation Project

Work is continuing on the Sewall's Island Remediation Project. The contractor hired by the NYS DEC for the project, The Environmental Service Group NY Inc., has completed the installation of stone rip-rap in areas on the site where there are steeper slopes, has placed all of the site cover material and has nearly completed the topsoil installation. Seeding and other miscellaneous site restoration work will begin next week with the project expected to be substantially complete by mid-September.

Sewall's Island/FSP Redevelopment Plan

The interviews for potential consultants to conduct the Redevelopment Study for Sewall's Island and Factory Square Park have been completed. Staff anticipates making a consultant recommendation for City Council consideration within the next few weeks, with hopes of getting the project started shortly thereafter once contracts are in place. The timeline for project completion is approximately 6-9 months. The study will provide the City with a plan for potential community and economic development in the Factory Square area as well as on Sewall's Island.



Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER)

On August 30, 2019, Staff finalized the draft CDBG CAPER, which is an annual report of the City's CDBG related activities. The report covers work completed from July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019. There is a 15-day public comment period that begins on September 1 and a public hearing has been scheduled by the City Council for 7:30 p.m. on September 16 to hear public comments on the report. A copy of the report can be found on the City's website, at the Flower Memorial Library, the Watertown Housing Authority office and in the Planning Department on the 3rd floor of City Hall.

After the conclusion of the public comment period and the public hearing, Staff will incorporate any public comments that are received into the final version of the report and submit it to HUD by September 27, 2019.

Vacant Property Task Force

The Task Force finalized a flyer that has been shared with the public; letting them know how they can report vacant homes they see in their neighborhood. There's also information about agencies that can help those individuals facing foreclosure or in need of financial counseling. Task Force members also met to discuss options for other forms of advertising to get the message out to City residents.

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CITY OF WATERTOWN, NEW YORK
Municipal Building
245 Washington Street
Watertown, New York 13601

2019-08-06

City of Watertown Vacant & Abandoned Houses Task Force

As part of the **City's Vacant Home Initiative**, the City is taking a multi-prong approach to **tackle distressed properties**. The City was awarded a grant by New York State to help identify, track, and address property maintenance code violations at Vacant Residential Houses.

The City is combating blight and property maintenance code violations through:

1. Increased Code Enforcement Capacity and increased technology
2. Creation of a Task Force Committee to develop a strategy to increase public awareness, provide a reporting process, and connect foreclosure "at-risk" home owners with resources to keep their home.
3. Working with financial institutions to self report vacant homes to the City.

What you can do to HELP:

1. Report suspected vacant homes:
 - Email City of Watertown at CodeEnforcement@watertown-ny.gov or
 - Call 315-785-7735 or visit the Code Enforcement Department
2. What to include:
 - Your contact information
 - Address of suspect vacant home, and color/description of house.
 - Provide a brief description of the property and reasons it may be vacant.



ARE YOU AT RISK OF FORECLOSURE AND LOSING YOUR HOME?

1. Speak with your bank and/or mortgage company
 - Discuss payment plan options and see if a loan restructure would benefit your situation
 - See if they offer budgeting assistance
2. Seek assistance from state and local agencies
 - HomeSmartNY
www.hcr.ny.gov/foreclosure-prevention
 - Home Headquarters Syracuse & Central NY
<https://www.homehq.org/>
(315) 474-1939
 - Foreclosure Counseling
 - Home Buyers Education
 - Neighbors of Watertown
<https://www.neighborsofwatertown.com>
(315) 782-8497
3. Speak with a legal representative
 - Legal Aid Society of Mid NY
www.lasmy.org (315) 955-6700