

**City Manager's
Status and Information Update
April 26, 2019**



City Clerk

150th Anniversary of the City of Watertown

The committee has been busy planning various events to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the incorporation of the City of Watertown, which was done on May 8, 1869. The committee is partnering with Watertown Daily Times, WPBS, and Garland City. The following is the list of events that have been planned.

History of Watertown Movie

Location: Roswell P. Flower Memorial Library

Date and Time: Saturday, May 4, 2019 12:30 pm and Monday, May 6, 2019 6:00 pm

Description: Showing of the WPBS-TV "Discovering Watertown" – a three part documentary series

Part 1: Settlement & Early Years

Part 2: Industrial Growth & Prosperity

Part 3: The Modern Era

Historical Displays

Location: Roswell P. Flower Memorial Library

Dates: Monday, May 6, 2019 through May 24, 2019

Description: Display boards of historical pictures, newspaper articles and maps

Tree Planting and Dedication Ceremony – Mayor's Speech

Location: City Hall Park

Date and Time: Wednesday, May 8, 2019 12:30 pm

Description: Tree planting and dedication in honor of the 150th Anniversary of Watertown. Mayor Butler will provide a speech.

Watertown History Trivia Night

Location: Garland City

Date and Time: Wednesday, May 8, 2019 7:00 pm

Description: Trivia Night Contest based on the history of Watertown.

Essay Writing Contest – What do you think the City of Watertown will be like in 150 years?

Location: Roswell P. Flower Memorial Library

Submission received by: Friday, May 31, 2019 (by email or drop off at the Library)

Winner will be chosen by: Friday, June 7, 2019

Description: Writing Contest Form will be distributed to Watertown School District and Immaculate Heart Central School District, as well as available at the Library. Participants will be asked to answer the question "What do you think the City of Watertown will be like in 150 years?" There will be two age groups: 10 – 13 years old (150-300 words) and 14-18 years old (300-500 words).

Winners of Contest:

- Contest winners will be asked to attend the June 17, 2019 Council Meeting, in which their essay will be read aloud and made part of the permanent record of Watertown's history and placed on file in the City Clerk's Office.
- Two newly planted trees in City Hall Park will be dedicated to the winner of each age group prior to the June 17 Council Meeting

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- Public recognition by the Mayor at the beginning of the festivities of Block Party to be held on June 28
- The winning essays would be published by the Watertown Daily Times.

WPBS host “Discovering Watertown” Event at the Arena

Location: Watertown Arena

Date and Time: Saturday, June 1, 2019

Description: This will be an interactive event to include the showing of the WPBS-TV “Discovering Watertown” – a three part documentary series

Part 1: Settlement & Early Years

Part 2: Industrial Growth & Prosperity

Part 3: The Modern Era

Watertown Daily Times – Historical Articles Publication

Time period: Month of May

Description: Publication of old articles on the City’s history to appear through the month of May

Department of Public Works

As part of Earth week/Arbor Day, National Grid has donated the services of their contract line clearance crews to the City for a day. Planner Mike Demarco coordinated this event and a group from Nelson Tree Service conducted trimming operations in the vicinity of the Playground and Picnic area in Thompson Park Wednesday. This was a significant investment on National Grid’s part, and the crews did a great job!



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DPW Road crews began sweeping City streets on April 05 this year as weather conditions improved. To date, crews have swept 3/4 of City roads once, logging over 270 hours. Crews will complete the first pass of the entire City in the next couple of weeks and then begin a second follow up pass.
CGOMS # 39481



DPW dispatched a crew to demolish a collapsed garage at 759 Mill Street which was a property acquired by the City over the Winter. The garage was full of trash & debris with the roof collapsed on top of the material. Crews will remove the structure and clean up the site including removal of trees. The B&G group will add this property to its maintenance inventory pending final disposition of the property.
CGOMS # 40318

DPW Building & Grounds crews have been working under the guidance of City Arborist Mike Demarco carrying out the annual tree planting program. Crews have planted 127 trees this spring in different locations throughout the City. Crews have also finished up yearly tree pruning operations and are continuing with tree & stump removals as directed by Arborist Demarco. In addition, the Department prepared holes for the annual Noon Rotary tree planting event in Thompson Park scheduled for Saturday, April 27.
CGOMS # 40250



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DPW Sewer and Road crews have started repairs to assets in advance of street paving operations on Portage Street and the 100 block of Flower Avenue West. New corner ramps have been installed on both streets in addition to the replacement of a failing sanitary sewer manhole on Portage St and drainage basins on Flower Ave West.

CGOMS #40130, 40197

Crews have also begun crack sealing roads as a preventative maintenance function. Hot mix asphalt will be available beginning the week of April 29. Crews will begin permanently repairing potholes and addressing stressed pavement sections in hopes of preventing additional holes from forming.



With the warmer weather, DPW Refuse crews have been busy collecting yard waste and brush from residences throughout the City. The Department will be implementing a requirement that yard waste be placed in paper yard waste bags or some other type of re-useable container beginning July 01, 2019. This action is intended to eliminate the volume of plastic bags collected by crews which are added to the waste stream and also to reduce the time required for collection activities. To date, crews have logged over 520 hrs collecting yard waste.

CGOMS # 37768



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Engineering Department

Iroquois Avenue West – Sherman Street Intersection Improvements

The project to install new curbing and modify the geometry at this intersection is going out for quotes next week, with construction anticipated for this spring/summer. The project is an extension of the Washington Street School Zone Safety Improvements, to reduce vehicle speeds around the corner as vehicles turn from Iroquois Avenue West onto Sherman Street.

Western Boulevard

The contractor, Black Horse Group, has been cleaning up the site and grading areas for curbing, sidewalks and trails, and pouring the remaining lightpole foundations. The anticipated finish date for the project is June 1st.

Mill and Pearl Street Bridge (north spans) Rehabilitation

Preconstruction meeting was held with the contractor, Luck Brothers, to prepare for construction which is slated to begin June 3rd. The project involves major rehab at both bridges and will be completed by the end of this year. Pearl Street Bridge will be reduced to a single for the duration of the project, using temporary traffic signals, and a temporary pedestrian bridge. Mill Street Bridge will remain open to two way traffic for a majority of the construction. Limited short duration bridge closures will be necessary at times, but will be coordinated so that one of the two bridges remains open at all times. The contractor for the Sewall's Island Remediation also attended the meeting so that both projects can be coordinated.

WWTP Chemical Building Roof Replacement Project

This project is in the Capital Budget Fiscal Year 2018-2019. Budget Cost is \$55,000. Paradigm Environmental has completed the Roof Asbestos Survey Report and results confirm no asbestos present. Specifications and Drawings are out to bid with the bid opening as Tuesday, May 7th at 2:00 p.m.

Flower Avenue East Reconstruction

The last section of sidewalk was poured this week, and all mainline sidewalk is now complete. Contractor has been pouring flow channel benches in Manholes, and placing topsoil in margins. Tree plantings and sod will be delivered next week for installation.

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Northside Flynn Pool Filter Replacement Project



J.E. Sheehan Construction has started work again at the \$77,550 Northside Flynn Pool Filter Replacement Project as the Pool Filter equipment has arrived. New Pool Filter, Piping, and Accessories are being installed today and throughout next week.

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Thompson Park Retaining Wall #7 Project



DEW Builders has continued work at the Thompson Park Retaining Wall #7 Project. Work completed this past week included installing crushed compacted stone up to grade for the new 8' blacktop walkway which will be installed as soon as the blacktop plant reopens. DEW Builders have also performed site rehabilitation with topsoil and seeding the lower lawn area.

Thompson Boulevard (Franklin Street to Park Circle)

Staff surveyed this 2,000 foot section of roadway and is preparing design plans for reconstruction of Thompson Boulevard, between Franklin and Park Circle. A cold in place pavement recycling operation is being evaluated for this road rehabilitation, whereby the existing pavement is ground up (milled), then mixed with liquid emulsion and virgin stone, and laid back down as the base/binder asphalt layer. A top course of asphalt would be laid on top of this layer. The recycling treatment provides a more durable product than a simple mill and overlay, but is significantly less expensive than a complete reconstruction, and can be completed in a matter of a couple weeks as opposed to months.



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Cooper Street Sanitary Sewer Outfall

The design of the Cooper Street Outfall is progressing. Detailed evaluation of certain sections of pipe which were not passable for televising will be completed in the next few weeks by a contractor with specialized equipment. Once results are in, the amount of 24” sewer pipe replacement will be known, and the remaining sections will received a cured in place liner, which reduces excavation costs significantly by using the existing pipe as the host for the liner.

Harrison Street Sewer Project

The Engineering Department is working with DPW to come up with the most cost effective way to rehabilitate the sewers on Harrison Street DPW cleaned and accurately located the sanitary sewer main on the 1100 block. There are mineral deposits that will have to be removed to completely inspect the sewer.

Main Street West – Phase 2 Road Diet

The design has been finalized for the Phase 2 Road Diet extension from Bradley Street to Leray Street. This project includes restriping the 4 lane section of roadway similar to what was performed in 2017 between VanDuzee Street and Bradley Street. Staff is reaching out to local businesses and homeowners who may be affected by on street parking changes, prior to presenting the project to Council at the May 13th Work Session.

Public Square and Downtown Traffic Signal Improvements

The City received notification via, the Governor’s Press Release, we were awarded \$404,000 for the traffic signal upgrades to provide wireless communication between signals. The grant application was submitted in July 2018, for funding through the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program (CMAQ). Only Counties designated as Non Attainment of Air Quality standards were eligible, so the funding is aiming at improving traffic flow, and efficiencies, thereby reducing idling and vehicle emissions to improve air quality. The next step will be entering into an agreement with NYSDOT, which may occur sometime in the next 6 months, and from there begin data collection, design, and construction in 2021 or 2022.

Parks and Recreation

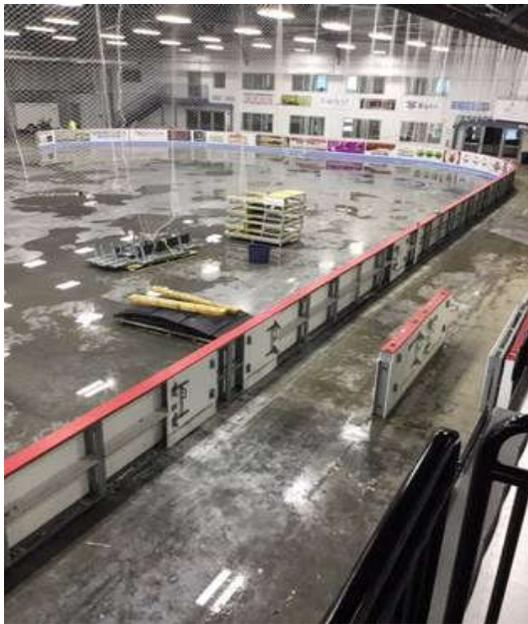


The Watertown Municipal Arena is hosting the Ultimate Yard Sale, sponsored by Community Broadcasters, on Saturday, April 27th. The yard sale opens to the public at 9:00 am and closes at 3:00 pm.

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The Parks and Recreation Department began the process to remove the ice, boards and glass on Sunday, April 21st. It was completed on Wednesday, April 24th.



Police Department

Drug Take-Back Day

On Saturday, April 27th, the Watertown Police Department will again participate in the DEA National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day at the Kinney Drugs store at 905 Coffeen Street in Watertown. Sgt. Dennis Lawlee will be at the event from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm to collect unused prescription drugs (no questions asked). Last October, Sgt. Lawlee recovered over 100 pounds of prescription drugs at the event (over 457 tons of drugs were recovered nationwide that day). The Watertown Police Department participates in the event twice a year, joining nearly 5,000 law enforcement agencies nationwide.

Planning Department

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Earth Day 2019

On Monday, April 22, 2019 - Members of Tree Watertown and City Staff unveiled the City's new Downtown Arboretum sign on the grounds of City Hall. The arboretum is made of up of a collection trees on public and private property in the 200 Block of Washington St. This ceremony also included the planting of a Dawn Redwood tree to honor the life of Brian Skinner for his commitment and efforts in urban forestry.

Arbor Day 2019

Friday, April 26, 2019 – Members of Tree Watertown, City Council, City Staff and interested citizens celebrated the City's 22nd Annual Arbor Day ceremony at Lansingdorp Park located at Katherine St. and Seymour St. This event commemorated the centennial of the City's Lansingdorp Park neighborhood and dedicated the planting of a Norway spruce to the late Daniel A. Buduson who grew up on Katherine Street.



2019 Annual Rotary Tree Planting Event

Saturday, April 27, 2019 at 9:00 a.m., all are invited to join members of Tree Watertown, Watertown Noon Rotary Club, Friends of Thompson Park, NYS DEC, City Staff, students of Watertown City School District, Immaculate Heart Centrals and others, as we plant more that 40 new trees in an effort to preserve the future tree canopy of Watertown's historic Thompson Park. Attendees are asked to meet at the Park's Pinnacle Outlook located north the water tower.



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Water Department

Water Treatment

The Sulfuric Acid feeding system was started on Wednesday to improve organic removals.

Preparations continue for the move of Water Administration staff to the Water Treatment Plant.

Distribution

Distribution crews completed replacement of two lead services last week and have prepped another location that will be replaced next week.

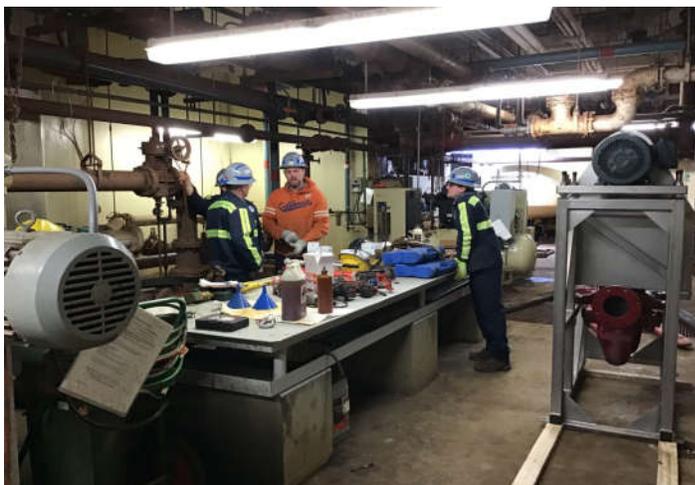
Flushing of the distribution system will begin very soon. Water main flushing is a routine operation done every year to clean and maintain the City's water system. During this activity, water is forced through underground water mains at high speed and flushed out of fire hydrants to remove accumulated sediment. This flushing is done until the water coming through the main runs clear. This is done one section at a time until each section runs clear. As part of the Water Department's mission to provide a reliable, safe drinking water supply, a flushing program is used to improve water quality, restore water pressure and protect pipe integrity. Part of the program also involves testing valves and fire hydrants to ensure they are operating properly. The Water Department maintains approximately 100 miles of distribution pipelines, 1,054 fire hydrants and 2,600 valves. To minimize impacts to water service, this maintenance is generally scheduled for overnight hours. Schedules may change if something happens in the system that requires immediate attention or repair.

Hydroelectric

There were two bids opened for the Truck Scale Project on Thursday the 18th; both exceeded the budgeted amount. As a result, both were rejected. The Truck Scale Project has been put on hold.

Staff has received three quotes for the construction of the new door at the hydro plant. Two quotes were rejected one because of price, the other for lack of space in the plant to accommodate the door gears/machinery and the existing crane. The contractor has been notified of the status of the project.

Wastewater



The plant staff has completed the install of the new Digester feed pump and Grinder in the Sludge Disposal Building. They are currently working on the replacement of the Sludge Disposal Building Scum pump and grinder.

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Henderson Brothers are onsite and the Demo of the grit system is underway. The new installation will start next week.

Operator Jordan McAvoy passed his 2A Operators exam given by NYWEA, per NYSDEC requirements.

Operators McAvoy and Satchwell attended fall protection training in Rochester and will be Subject Matter Experts (SME's) on fall protection for the facility.