

## Flower Memorial Library:

Looking for a way to do something thoughtful for your community this year? Consider visiting Flower Library's 'Giving Tree!' If you find an item that catches your eye, simply remove the tag, purchase the item requested, and bring it to the Circulation Desk during your next visit. The 'Giving Tree' will be available after Thanksgiving. By choosing an item from our tree, you're helping supply future library events. Any help you can give is tremendously appreciated!

Thank you!





## Department of Public Works:

### Forestry:

Buildings and Grounds crew are working diligently on clearing trees for the water treatment plant. In total, 29 trees were cut down and moved out of the way. The work is preparatory for work projected in 2024.



### Annual Bush Grinding:

Every year DPW mulches brush, logs, and yard waste together. This year Elliot Tree Service was hired to mulch our stockpile of yard waste with the help of B&G and Roads crew working along side of them. This mulch is stockpiled and after several years of decomposition it becomes topsoil that we reuse throughout the city.





City Manager's  
Status and Information Update  
November 22, 2023



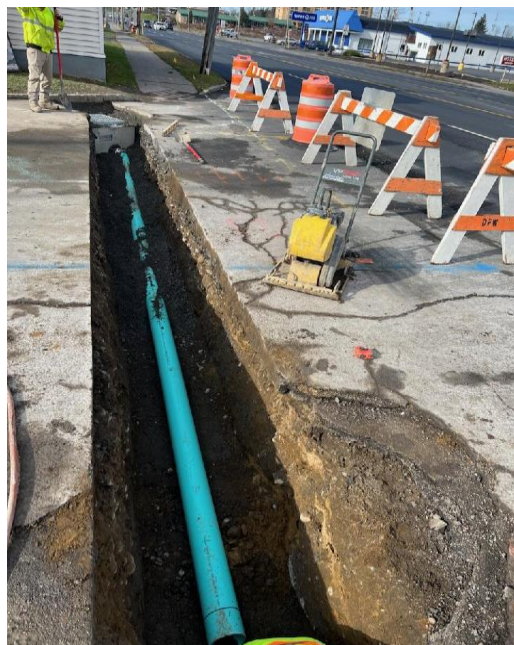
**Christmas Decorations:**

DPW has complete installation of the Christmas decoration in and around Public Square on the light poles.



**Drainage Maintenance:**

DPW continues to improve the drainage system within the City, whether it be modifying existing catch basins or installing new ones. Proper runoff reduces ponding and improves the safety of the traveling public.



## **Engineering Department:**

### **City Hall Elevator Replacement:**

The chosen bid from Elevattitt was approved by the City Council at their November 20, 2023 meeting.

### **DRI Streetscape Project:**

CCI Companies has painted the road lines on Coffeen Street, and this project has been shut down for winter.

### **Fire Station Exhaust Capture Removal System:**

A Notice of Award has been sent to the Contractor, and the Engineering Department is now waiting for the signed agreement.

### **Franklin Street ADA Ramps:**

A Resolution for this project was approved by the City Council at their November 20, 2023 meeting.

### **Hydro Plant Concrete:**

The final walkthrough for this project was held, and this project is now complete.

### **Massey St/ Coffeen St/ Court St Project:**

The contractor has completed the road painting all for this project, and a final walkthrough for this project was held November 16, 2023. All the Pedestrian Crossings are active, and the only other remaining work for this project is rehabilitation on the retaining wall.

### **Mill St Overlay/Gale St Ramps/Academy & High St Mill & Fill Project:**

This project is now complete.

### **Ohio St Water Main Replacement Project:**

Aubertine and Currier has completed their bid package for this project, and it is now out to bid.

### **Seward / Grant / Henry Streets Total Road Reconstruction:**

This project has been shut down for winter. Construction will continue in Spring 2024.

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**Vanduzee St Bridge:**

The contractor has sealed the bridge deck, and the only remaining work for this project is to paint the bridge ends and remove the temporary traffic signal.

**Wastewater Treatment Plant Blower Replacement:**

The chosen bid for this project was approved by the City Council, and a Notice of Award has been sent to the Contractor.

**William J. Flynn Pool and Bathhouse Rehabilitation:**

Con Tech Building Systems has poured approximately one-third of the concrete pool deck and has begun installing the deck drain. Once installed, the remaining deck will be poured. All the abatement work has been completed, and Con Tech has begun to demo some of the bathhouse walls. Hyde Stone has installed the exhaust fans on the roof, and the roof has been sealed.



**Winslow St Water Main Replacement Project:**

Aubertine and Currier have completed their Bid Package for this project, and it is now out to bid.



## Planning Department:

### Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation Grants:

Each year, a portion of the Community Development Block Grant funds are budgeted to help income qualified homeowners do necessary rehabilitation on their homes. The program is administered by Neighbors of Watertown. Staff worked with Neighbors of Watertown to develop an informational postcard about the CDBG program, as well as potential other owner-occupied rehabilitation programs. The postcard is being sent to 1-4 family owner-occupied homes in the City's CDBG Target Area neighborhoods, encouraging them to visit the Neighbors of Watertown website to learn more and apply for the program. The information submitted will go into a database to be used as a waiting list for the rehabilitation program. In the event that City Council receives inquiries about the mailing, please direct any questions either to Planning Department Staff or directly to Neighbors of Watertown.

### North Hamilton Playground Sidewalk Install :



**North Hamilton Playground Sidewalk Install** – City Staff sent out a Request for Quotes in mid-October to contractors for the installation of a sidewalk at the North Hamilton Playground. The City is paying for the sidewalk installation with Community Development Block Grant Funds. The playground is located in the City's Northeast CDBG Target Area. The sidewalk consists of 65 linear feet of concrete to make the play area more ADA accessible. The contractor that was hired installed the sidewalk on Tuesday, November 20, 2023. The newly installed sidewalk connects the sidewalk along Hamilton Street N. to the play area.



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**Urban Forestry:**

The Street and Park Tree Pruning Project, funded by ARPA, was completed on Saturday, November 18, 2023 by Arborcare Tree Service with the pruning of the largest tree on Public Square - a 30" diameter Norway maple. This tree represents the last of a generation that dominated the streetscape of Public Square during the mid-1900s. City DPW assisted by facilitating lane closures. The project addressed the pruning needs of 55 mature city-owned trees in various neighborhoods and parks. In collaboration with National Grid's Forestry Division, the project also targeted trees near Grid's primary power lines. The utilization of ARPA funding has extended the life of usable assets, providing citizens the opportunity to enjoy the benefits of safer, longer-lived mature.



**Fall Tree Planting Projects:**

Several tree planting projects took place between November 3 – November 10, 2023. A total of **149** trees were planted across **4** projects, funded by **3** grant sources.

**Fall Volunteer Tree Planting Projects:**

On Saturday, November 4, 2023, Tree Watertown hosted the City's **22nd Annual Fall Volunteer Tree Planting Project**. This year's project took place on the grounds of Case Middle School and Watertown High School. Tree Watertown members were joined by; students, parents, and faculty of Watertown City School District (WCSD) and Immaculate Heart Central Schools (IHC), City staff, Department of Environmental Conservation staff, interested citizens, and area partners, for the planting of **47** trees.



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Trees and other supplies for this event were funded through the *Northern NY Community Foundation's* (NNYCF) *Carolyn Whitney Tree Fund*. DPW – Buildings and Grounds assisted by organizing tools and supplies for the event, and prepared planting sites for volunteers. The trees will receive weekly watering during the 2024 growing season, and future pruning by Tree Watertown members and WCSD staff. Tree Watertown members would like to acknowledge the following project donors: *Stratton Hardware* for donating mulch for the event, *Piggly Wiggly* for donating bottled water, and *Burrville Cider Mill* for providing apple cider.

**Fall 2023 Contracted Tree Planting Projects:**

From November 6 – November 10, All Seasons Landscaping and Garden Center planted **102** trees as part of several projects funded by the American Rescue Plan Act, in addition to the Community Development Block Grant.

**Northwest Tree Planting Projects:**

Streets selected for this project were Poplar St, Anne St, Holly St, Meade St, Mohawk St, Cayuga Ave., and Railroad St. In total, Community Development Block Grant funded **39** trees.



**Barben Ave / Holcomb St / Bugbee Dr Watermain Projects:**

**23** trees were planted from (ARPA) funds. The streets selected for planting included Barben Ave and Bugbee Drive.

**Watermain Projects:**

**40** trees were planted from (ARPA) funds. The streets selected for planting included Iroquois Ave W, Butterfield Ave, Cosgrove St, Sherman St, Pratt St, Flower Ave W, and Ball Ave.