

## Department of Public Works:

### Electrical Repairs from Wind Damage:

DPW has been making needed repairs to span wires on several different traffic lights throughout the city due to damage from wind storms. The recent wind has been troublesome but crews have been diligent to make our infrastructure safe for the traveling public. Remember to give them space and control speed around men working in bucket trucks.



### Access to Sewer Right-of-Way:

DPW crews have been out with good weather working on projects like gaining access to certain sewer Right-Of-Ways. Access roads like these give us much more flexibility in getting to our sewer structures/mains and keeping them in working condition. Although this is a ROW, this access road does border private property which the public should be reminded that is not access for them to enter these at will.



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March 8, 2024



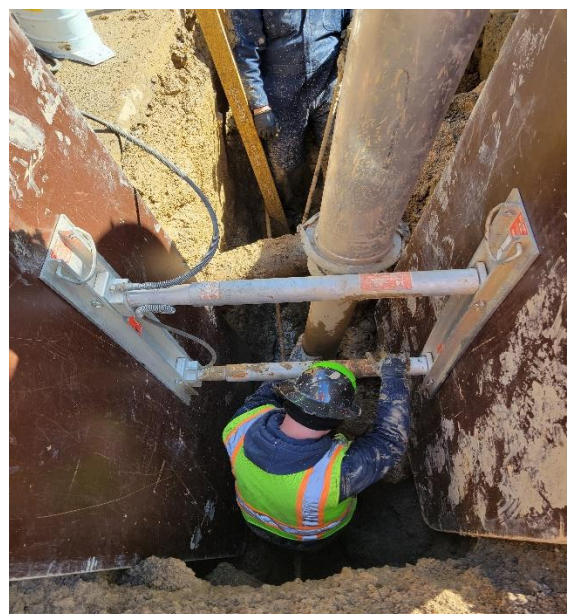
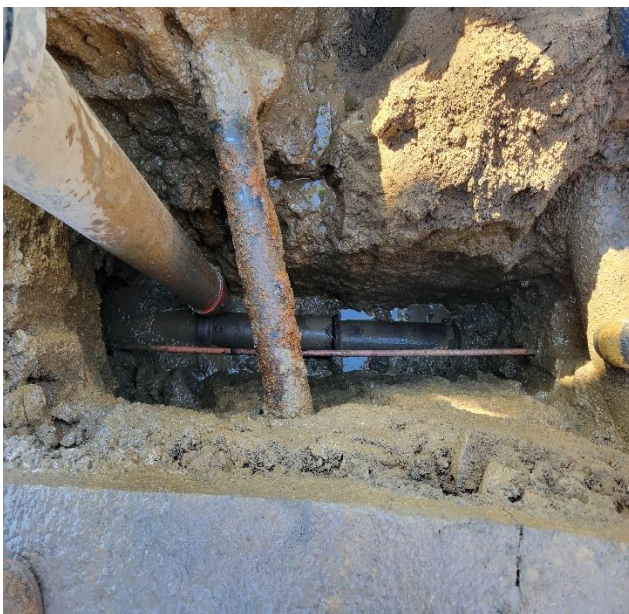
**Cleaning Storm Inlets:**

DPW has been working nights cleaning and maintaining the cities storm system. General maintenance is required in order to keep the streets in as best shape as they can be by diverting surface water to a collection point.



**Repairs to Service Lateral:**

DPW made another sewer lateral repair. This happens because of failure of old clay pipe most likely by freeze/thaw or just from pipe being aged out. Repairs are made but not without struggles with existing active and de-active utilities in the way. This operation is dirty and messy. The crew does an excellent job completing each and every one.





## Police Department:

### Stabbing/Weapon Possession:

At about 5:45 pm on February 22nd, WPD patrols responded to 600 block of Pine Street in reference to a report of a stabbing. Patrols arrived at the scene and found the victim laying on the ground with a male holding a towel to an apparent stab wound to the victim's back, patrols took over applying pressure to the wound until they were relieved by WFD firefighters. Patrols conducted an investigation and collected evidence at the scene, including witness statements and a video recording of the incident. The suspect was identified, and patrols began searching for him without success. Patrols and detectives continued the investigation for several days and were able to locate the suspect at about 3:30 pm on February 28th at 500 W. Main Street. **Cleo E. Vaughns** (29, of Watertown) was arrested on a warrant and charged with assault in the 2nd degree and criminal possession of a weapon in the 3rd degree (both class D felonies). He was additionally charged with resisting arrest (class A misdemeanor). He was arraigned and remanded to the Jefferson County Jail without bail.

### Stolen Vehicle:

At about 12:20 pm on March 5th, WPD patrols were notified of a stolen vehicle from the parking lot of the Urban Mission at 247 Factory Street. Shortly after that, a report of a motor vehicle accident at the intersection of Arsenal Street and Sherman Street was called in. The operator of the vehicle fled the scene on foot and entered the North Country Family Health Center at 283 Arsenal Street. Patrols confirmed that the vehicle involved in the accident was the stolen vehicle from the Urban Mission. Patrols located the suspect in the health center, and he was identified by a witness and arrested. **Dillon A. Williams** (30, homeless) was charged with grand larceny in the third and fourth degrees (class D felony and class E felony, respectively), driving while impaired by drugs (unclassified misdemeanor), leaving the scene of a personal injury accident (class B misdemeanor) and a traffic ticket for running a red light (traffic infraction). Williams was also held on a Bench Warrant out of Town of Brownville Court.

### Police lateral Transfers :

The Watertown Police Department is still looking for **police officer transfers**. NY State certified police officers may apply by visiting the City of Watertown Civil Service website at:  
<https://watertown-portal.mycivilservice.com/jobopps>

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**Police Academy:**

The 2023-2024 session of the Black River/St. Lawrence Valley Police Academy “Basic Course for Police Officers” class is now in its 26th week of training. During the past two weeks, recruits have been training in fundamentals of crisis intervention for law enforcement, defensive tactics (practical testing), NY Penal Law, physical fitness and wellness, building searches, sex crimes, crash investigations, nature & control of civil disorder, civil liability & risk management and excited delirium. There is only one week of classes left before the police recruits begin working on the road during the 14-week Field Training Program.

Recruits participated in “crisis intervention” training, with role players.

**Engineering Department:**

**City Hall Court Renovation:**

The Engineering Department, Code Department, and GYMO Engineering met on 03-06-2024 to review the 60% design plans GYMO created.

**Ohio Street Water Main Replacement Project:**

The Engineering Department has received EDGE Civil Corporation’s submittals for this project, and a Notice to Proceed is being created. A pre-construction meeting for this project has been scheduled for 03-11-2024.

**Police Shooting Range Upgrades:**

The thermostat has been installed, and the contractor has performed their tests for the generator, and a final walkthrough for this project was held on 03-05-2023.



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**Water Treatment Plant COAG Generator Replacement:**

The new generator was inspected, and it was discovered that the damaged panel did not impact any of the electrical work inside. The new generator has been installed along with the new ATS Electric Back Panel. The contractor is now waiting for National Grid to perform the final hookup to the new generator.



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

Blackstone Electric has completed installing the new ceiling lights and exit signs, and a Change Order for grounding for the Splash Pad was approved by the City Council at their 03-04-2024 meeting. Con Tech Building Systems has completed installing all but two of the new doors, and the glass for the doors will be installed soon. The new handicapped door operators are being installed, and most of the new tiles have been installed in the locker rooms. Con Tech Building Systems is now preparing and grading the remaining pool deck area for concrete and the Splash Pad.

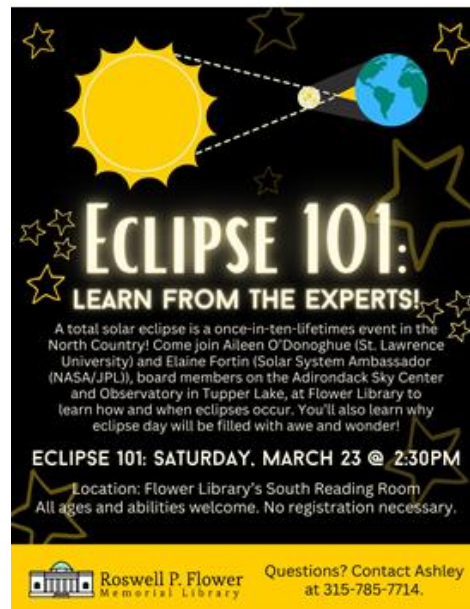


**Winslow Street Water Main Replacement Project:**

The Engineering Department has received EDGE Civil Corporation's submittals for this project, and a Notice to Proceed is being created. A pre-construction meeting for this project has been scheduled for 03-11-2024.

**Flower Memorial Library:**

**Eclipse Day is April 8, 2024:**



## HERE'S THE SCOOP ON SOLAR ECLIPSE GLASSES:

*Glasses will be given out starting April 1 at 9 am.*

The library will be distributing eclipse glasses on the lawn outside the Library.

Patrons will be limited to 5 per family. First come, first served with no reservations.

Organizations will not receive extra sets of glasses.

We will also be at the park on April 8 to distribute glasses there as part of the Total Eclipse in the Park celebration.



Want to avoid the gamble of missing out on a pair? Scan the QR code to find a list of approved eclipse glasses vendors.



## Fire Department:

### Jefferson Leadership Institute (JLI) Visit:

On March 1<sup>st</sup>, the Jefferson Leadership Institute enjoyed a lunch, public safety panel discussion and a tour of the firehouse. In addition, the fire department conducted hands-on demonstrations of our forcible entry simulator and our ice rescue equipment.



### Ice Rescue Training:

During February, the department conducted refresher training that consisted of reviewing our equipment and procedures along with actual ice rescue evolutions. With all the winter activities in our area and the fluctuating weather conditions, incidents related to ice emergencies are all too common.



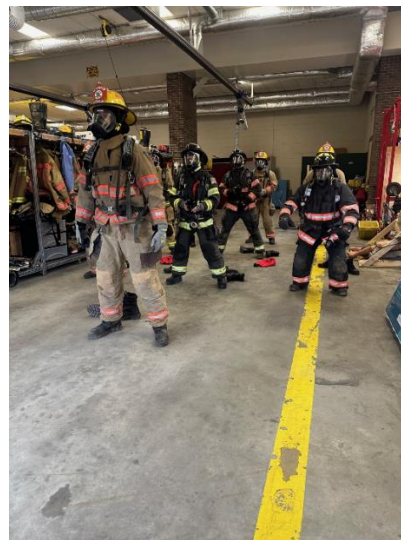
# City Manager's Status and Information Update

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## Recruit Academy:

The recruit academy has completed its 6<sup>th</sup> week. EMT class has been completed and the recruits have shifted into the fire portion of the academy. All 10 recruits, 4 from Watertown and 6 from Ogdensburg are progressing well.



## Water Department:

### Water Distribution

Distribution and WFP staff worked together to drain the East Reservoir over the weekend. Distribution is cleaning and making repairs to the interior of the concrete reservoir and will pressure test pipes entering/exiting the reservoir.





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## Wastewater Treatment:

The communication and level controls for the lift station at the industrial park have been successfully installed and completed. This marks the completion of the second out of five lift stations scheduled for upgrades within this budget year.



The chlorine contact tanks underwent draining and cleaning. Subsequently, the chlorine analyzers were reinstalled. These analyzers play a crucial role in ensuring adequate disinfectant levels to eliminate pathogens while preventing any violations of discharge permits due to excessive chlorine residual.

## Planning Department: Public Square Fountain Restoration:

The City was awarded funding from the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) to restore the fountain in the center of Public Square. A condition assessment was completed on the fountain by a historic preservation specialist in 2023. The assessment revealed that the levels of corrosion and related repair suggest that a specialized company should be undertaking the repairs. This level of repair and restoration may involve removal or at the very least partial disassembly to complete the work. Bid specifications were put together using this condition assessment to ensure that the fountain is thoroughly repaired and restored before it is repainted. The bid was published on March 6, 2024, with bids due back on April 4, 2024. Work is expected to begin on the project early this summer.



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**Thompson Park Bandstand Roof Project:**

The City is working with the Friends of Thompson Park to construct and install a roof on the bandstand located at Thompson Park. GYMO has been hired to create the bid specs and the final design drawings for the project. The City will be paying for part of this project with Capital Budget funds and the rest of the funds have been raised through Community Fundraising. Additionally, the bid for the project will be posted on March 11<sup>th</sup> with a submission deadline of April 2<sup>nd</sup> after which a recommendation will be forwarded to the City Council.



**Employee Recognition:**

**Welcome to the Team!**

**Chet Valentine new hire: Wastewater Treatment Plant**

**Thomas Compo new hire: City Engineer**

**Erica LeClerc new hire: Human Resources Manager**