

City Manager's  
Status and Information Update  
April 12, 2024



## City Manager's Office:



The City continues to seek outside funding to help with the cost of building the new disinfectant byproduct plant. The facility is at 35% design and should be ready for construction to start in this fall. The estimated expenditure for this facility is now over \$60 million dollars. Thanks to Senator Schumer, the city's cost for this important project was just reduced by \$1 million dollars.

"After fighting tooth and nail in Washington for the City of Watertown all year long, I am proud to deliver this \$1 million injection of federal funding that will flow straight into critical repairs at the City of Watertown Water Treatment Plant, which is the backbone for water service that over 50,000 users in the City of Watertown, Fort Drum, and the surrounding municipalities rely on every day," said Senator Schumer. "This funding will help preserve and improve the city's drinking water quality and promote overall water conservation, so that our soldiers, families, and businesses across the community have access to the clean, safe, and reliable drinking water they deserve".

## Water Department:

### Latest City News



The City is receiving \$1 Million dollars to support the construction of a new water treatment Disinfectant By-product (DBP) Facility that is currently being designed. The DBP facility will enhance the City's ability to continue to provide safe water. Construction should start this fall for this facility.

"I want to thank our congressional delegation for their continued commitment to the City of Watertown," said City Manager Eric Wagenaar. "This funding wouldn't have been possible without the steadfast support of Senator Schumer, Congresswoman Tenney and Congresswoman Stefanik."

City Manager's  
Status and Information Update  
April 12, 2024



**Water Distribution:**

Staffing Update: As of 4/10/2024 there are 3 vacant positions within the Distribution Department (Senior Engineer, Water Maintenance Mechanic, and an MEO Light). On April 19<sup>th</sup> another MEO light position will be vacated as a member of the Department will be moving on to pursue other work.

Service Repair: Multiple service repairs have been conducted work performed ranged from ball valve replacement to curb box resets.



Service Replacements: On 3/28 Staff renewed a ¾ inch service from the curb stop to the meter of a property on Cooper Street.

Main Break Investigation: Leak Studies are being performed by staff to investigate for main breaks or leaks on in the Distribution System. A main break was repaired in the 200 Block of Washington Street. The source of the leak was identified as a 6-inch hydrant branch.



City Manager's  
Status and Information Update  
April 12, 2024



**Wastewater :**

The Department of Public Works aided the Pollution Control facility by clearing the underground drain line from the secondary digester. This was necessary due to the accumulation of Struvite within the piping during the process of extracting water from the settled biosolids.



Experienced and junior personnel at the pollution control facility collaborate and undergo training together as they clear Struvite deposits from valves and piping.



City Manager's  
Status and Information Update  
April 12, 2024



The team at the Pollution Control Facility reinstalled one of the return sludge pumps after our operators installed a new mechanical seal. These pumps play a crucial role in transferring settled microorganisms from the final settling tank to the aeration tank. This process is essential for preserving a healthy balance of organic matter to organism ratio within the aeration tank.



Lift stations (pumps) are strategically located across the city in areas where the natural gravity flow of sewer water is impractical. These stations tend to accumulate grease and wipes, items that shouldn't be disposed of in the system. DPW and Pollution Control Facility operators collaborate to clean Ives I Lift Station.



City Manager's  
Status and Information Update  
April 12, 2024



National Grid, contractors, and Pollution Control Facility personnel coordinate efforts to replace an electric pole at the Cedar St lift station. The Pollution Control Facility's portable generator was present on-site to guarantee uninterrupted power supply to the station.



## Civil Service Department:

A job fair poster with a purple and yellow color scheme. At the top, there is a grid of small photos of diverse people. Below this, a large yellow hexagon contains the words "JOB FAIR" in bold, black letters. To the left of the hexagon, the text "CITY OF WATERTOWN", "WATERTOWN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT", and "WATERTOWN HOUSING AUTHORITY" is listed. Below the hexagon, the text "JOB OPPORTUNITIES" is followed by a list of job categories: Engineering, Custodial and Maintenance, Foodservice, Teaching, Law Enforcement, Firefighting, Public Works, Finance, Wastewater Treatment, Water Filtration and Distribution, Parks and Recreation, Information Technology and School Paraprofessionals. A yellow banner below this lists the date and time: "WED. APRIL 17TH" and "11:30 AM - 3:30 PM". Below the banner, a yellow location pin icon is next to the address: "WATERTOWN ICE ARENA", "600 WILLIAM T FIELD DRIVE,", "WATERTOWN NY". A section titled "Benefits of Public Sector Employment:" lists: Job Security, Competitive Starting Wages, Annual Wage Increases, NYS Pension, Generous Health Benefits, and Generous Paid Sick & Vacation Leave. At the bottom, a yellow banner contains the text: "FOR MORE INFORMATION ON VACANCIES OR FOR QUESTIONS PLEASE VISIT: WWW.WATERTOWN-NY.GOV OR (315)785-7733 WWW.WATERTOWNCSD.ORG OR (315)785-3720 WWW.WHANY.ORG OR (315) 782-1251".

**JOB FAIR**

CITY OF WATERTOWN  
WATERTOWN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
WATERTOWN HOUSING AUTHORITY

**JOB OPPORTUNITIES**  
Engineering, Custodial and Maintenance, Foodservice, Teaching, Law Enforcement, Firefighting, Public Works, Finance, Wastewater Treatment, Water Filtration and Distribution, Parks and Recreation, Information Technology and School Paraprofessionals.

**WED. APRIL 17TH** **11:30 AM - 3:30 PM**

**WATERTOWN ICE ARENA**  
600 WILLIAM T FIELD DRIVE,  
WATERTOWN NY

**Benefits of Public Sector Employment:**  
Job Security  
Competitive Starting Wages  
Annual Wage Increases  
NYS Pension  
Generous Health Benefits  
Generous Paid Sick & Vacation Leave

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON VACANCIES OR FOR QUESTIONS PLEASE VISIT:  
WWW.WATERTOWN-NY.GOV OR (315)785-7733 WWW.WATERTOWNCSD.ORG  
OR (315)785-3720 WWW.WHANY.ORG OR (315) 782-1251

City Manager's  
Status and Information Update  
April 12, 2024



## Department of Public Works:

### Spring Trash Clean-Up:

DPW has been out picking trash in various parts of the City trying to keep the City clean and nice looking. Recent winds have made it harder than usual but so has just general trash being thrown from passing motorists. Please help keep our City looking the best it can.



### Sewer Lateral Repairs:

DPW crews have been out replacing sewer laterals damaged by freeze/thaw, blockages, or just from failures from pipe exceeding its lifespan. The process replacing these are hard at times with ground structures in the way or buried utilities right on top of them. It is a dirty messy job. Also, if you see the crews out completing another one, please give them space when driving around them.



# City Manager's Status and Information Update April 12, 2024



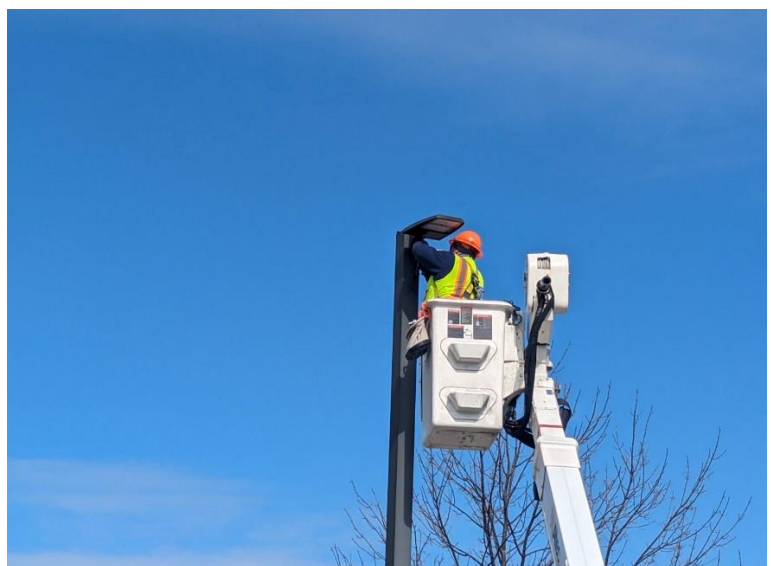
## **Equipment Maintenance:**

Spring is here and so is another year of construction season. The DPW garage is hard at work maintaining over 500 vehicles, large equipment, and small equipment throughout the city. Breakdowns occur regularly and the staff does all they can do to put each piece back into service as soon as possible.



## **Electrical Updates:**

City electric has been out updating street lights, pedestrian crossing lights, and many more. Every month DPW does a light inspection throughout the whole City. DPW will repair city owned lights and also notify Niagara Mohawk when their network of lights are out. The department does an excellent job keeping the lights on all while updating city electric assets.



## Police Department:

### Machete Assault:

At about 3:30 pm on 03/26/24, WPD patrols responded to the area of Little Ceasar's restaurant (420 State Street) due to a physical altercation, including a possible stabbing. The investigation revealed that two people had been assaulted with a machete, which resulted in one victim being transported to SMC ER and the other victim being flown to Upstate Medical in Syracuse with serious injuries. The suspect, 18-year-old Shayquan J. Bullocks, was arrested and charged with one count of Assault in the First Degree (a class 'B' felony), Assault in the Second Degree (a class 'D' felony), and two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Fourth Degree (a class 'A' misdemeanor). Bullocks was processed, arraigned, and held without bail in Jefferson County Jail.

### Eclipse Detail:

The Watertown Police Department participated in an all-day solar eclipse detail, in and around Thompson Park on Monday, April 8th. Our recruit officers assisted veteran officers at stationary posts and on roving patrols around the park. We also staffed the command post and the Jefferson County Emergency Operations Center. Although there were some clouds throughout the day, the eclipse was still an amazing event. Fortunately, there were no major issues during the event, and regular police patrols were able to respond to all calls during the day.



WPD Sgt. Jake Bull, Lt. Cristin O'Brien, and Sgt. Chris Kamide at the Eclipse Command Post at the golf course clubhouse on the morning of the eclipse.



WPD Officer Sydney Hunter is pictured showing off her patrol car to a young citizen.

City Manager's  
Status and Information Update  
April 12, 2024



Officers standing guard at a closed entrance to Thompson Park



**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>

**Police Academy:**

The police recruits are now in their fourth week of the field training program. They are now responding to calls, but always have a field training officer (FTO) with them. The FTO is not only the direct supervisor of the recruit officer, but they also help the recruit officer apply what they have learned in the classroom to actual call response on the street. The recruits are gradually given more and more responsibility during the program, until they are handling calls without any direct assistance from the FTO. We expect the recruit officers to complete their FTO program by the end of June.

## **Engineering Department:**

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

A pre-construction meeting for this project was held 03-22-2024. Elevattitt is expecting to begin construction on this project in early-July, 2024.

### **Fairgrounds Grandstand Tile Replacement:**

Powis Contracting has installed all of the new tile for this project, and is nearly done applying the new grout.



City Manager's  
Status and Information Update  
April 12, 2024



**Flower Memorial Library Rear Window and Lighting Replacement:**

The contractor has installed all of the new windows on the rear side of the library, and is currently installing the new windows on the Library's sides.



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

Con Tech Building Systems has installed the handicapped door operators, and the new keyes for the doors have arrived. The new pool pump and its controls have been installed, and a bouyancy test was done on the pool after it was filled with water. The pool shell passed the test, and the site is being prepared for the new fence installation. Hyde Stone has begun installing the new shower fixtures, and Blackstone Electric has begun the grounding wire installation for the Splash Pad.



City Manager's  
Status and Information Update  
April 12, 2024



## Fire Department:

### CPR Training:

The department provided another CPR training class to employees from the DPW and Water departments. We would like to put out a challenge to all city departments to participate in our CPR and/or "Stop the Bleed" classes.



### Structure Fire Responses:

On April 8, 2024, at 3:08 am, City of Watertown Fire Department crews responded mutual aid to Ft. Drum Fire Department for a working structure fire. There were no injuries reported,

On April 10, 2024, at 3:07 am, City of Watertown Fire Department crews responded mutual aid to North Pole Fire Department for a working structure fire. There were no injuries reported.

### Propane Training:

4/10/2024 – The department, along with the recruit class, worked with instructors from The Haz Mat Guys to learn more about our gas flaring kits. Crews practiced with both size kits to vent and burn propane once containers are compromised. E&V Energy/Patriot Tank Lines provided us with the tanks and product for training as well as a tour of their facility. Thank you to [The Haz Mat Guys](#) and E&V Energy for supporting our mission. While providing this training we were able to include recruits completing training in our RFFT program from our own department as well as those enrolled in our program from [Ogdensburg Professional Firefighters Local 1799](#). All shifts as well as our recruit class have now completed this great hands-on training to help us protect the communities we serve.



City Manager's  
Status and Information Update  
April 12, 2024



**Solar Eclipse Event in the Park:**

The City of Watertown Fire Department along with all city staff worked tirelessly to prepare for the Solar Eclipse Celestial Event, the "Total Eclipse of the Park", and the added potential influx to our community. While our estimates were in the 12,000-20,000 range for attendance to the park (due to ticket sales of almost 12,000 alone), we were authorized for up to 30,000 attendees should unregistered attendees move to our cities event as they chased open skies and good weather. Additional resources were also allocated throughout the city to ensure we were able to respond through congested streets to any emergency that would arise. Attendees praised the coordination of the event in the park and were extremely happy with choosing our city as their location to visit. All city staff and partnering agencies did an excellent job in coordinating such an event. A special thanks to New York State Police, Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, Jefferson County Probation, Gold Star Security, Guilfoyle Ambulance Services, Volunteer Transportation Center, Zoo NY, Hale Transportation, as well as Burrville Power Equipment, Cazenovia Equipment Company, Waite Motorsports, Logan's Equipment, and FX Caprara Harley-Davidson for their assistance.



City Manager's  
Status and Information Update  
April 12, 2024



## **Planning Department:**

### **Spring Tree Planting Program:**

#### **Arbor Day 2024**

- Friday, April 26, 2024 (Time TBA)
- Bicentennial Park - Located at the Alex T. Duffy Fairgrounds, adjacent to the Red and Black practice field.

Join members of Tree Watertown, staff, Council, and area partners, as Mayor Sarah V.C. Pierce leads the tree planting ceremony through the reading of the 2024 Arbor Day Proclamation, highlighting the City's commitment to improving local water quality utilizing tree planting and maintenance as a key component of Watertown's strategy for minimizing the impacts on the Black River, the City's municipal sewer treatment infrastructure, and the greater environment. Jefferson County Soil and Water Conservation District staff will present on the way that tree can help protect water quality. Additionally, the City will honor Charlie Nevin for his invaluable contributions to Watertown's green initiatives, beginning in the mid-1990's. Residents and community members are invited to participate in this special occasion, marking another step forward in our commitment to fostering a greener, more sustainable Watertown.

#### **Annual Spring Volunteer Tree Planting Project**

- Saturday, April 27, 2024 at 9 am
- IHC High School – Ives Street

Join members of Watertown Noon Rotary, Tree Watertown, and other area partners as we plant at total of 50 new shade trees to improve campus aesthetics and minimize future stormwater issues.

#### **DPW Annual Spring Tree Planting Project**

- April 29 – May 3, 2024

79 trees will be planted to replace ash trees removed from neighborhood street. Additionally, a memorial tree will be replanted at White Water Park on Newell Street, honoring the memory of former DPW employee Daniel Finnegan, who passed away on February 2, 2021.



## Department of Parks and Recreation:

### Thompson Park Golf Course:

Weather permitting, the Thompson Park Golf Course will open for the season on April 15<sup>th</sup>. Season passes are available, as are leagues and daily greens fees. For additional information please visit [www.watertown-ny.gov/golf](http://www.watertown-ny.gov/golf) or call 315-221-4381. New website coming soon!



### *2024 Season Rates*

| Season Pass            | Resident / Military | Non-Resident |
|------------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| 18 & under             | \$125               | \$150        |
| 22 & under             | \$275               | \$325        |
| Adult                  | \$750               | \$825        |
| Senior (62)            | \$600               | \$675        |
| Senior Couple (62)     | \$850               | \$925        |
| Family (2 Adults)      | \$950               | \$1,050      |
| Per additional student | \$70                | \$80         |

| Greens Fees | Resident / Military | Non-Resident |
|-------------|---------------------|--------------|
| 9-Holes     | \$18                | \$20         |
| 18-Holes    | \$25                | \$28         |

| Cart Rental | Resident / Military | Non-Resident |
|-------------|---------------------|--------------|
| 9-Holes     | \$10                | \$11         |
| 18-Holes    | \$15                | \$16         |

| Tournament Fees | Resident / Military | Non-Resident |
|-----------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Per Entry       | \$40                | \$40         |

| Driving Range | Resident / Military | Non-Resident |
|---------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Small         | \$7                 | \$7          |
| Large         | \$10                | \$10         |

| Club Rentals | Resident / Military | Non-Resident |
|--------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Per Outing   | \$5                 | \$10         |

City Manager's  
Status and Information Update  
April 12, 2024



**Athletic Field Preparations:**

Parks & Recreation crews have been preparing ball fields for the season, as teams are eager to begin play. Pictured below is the main baseball field at the Fairgrounds.



The Parks & Recreation Department is now hiring for seasonal employment. Many positions are available. To apply please visit <https://watertown-portal.mycivilservice.com/jobopps>




City Manager's  
Status and Information Update  
April 12, 2024



**Play Ball!!!:**

Play ball! Registration for 10U & 13U baseball will held Monday April 15<sup>th</sup> - May 31<sup>st</sup>. The season will run from June 24<sup>th</sup> to July 31<sup>st</sup>. For additional information and to register, please visit <https://secure.rec1.com/NY/watertown-ny/catalog> or call 315-785-7775.

**City of Watertown** 

**10U YOUTH BASEBALL**

League Runs  
**JUNE 24  
TO  
JULY 31**


**Mon/Wed  
Game Days**


**REGISTRATION PERIOD:  
APRIL 15 - MAY 31**

**COACHES MEETING  
WEDNESDAY JUNE 5TH**

Registration open to ages 8-10 as of April 15, 2024  
City Residents/Military: \$15 Non-City Residents: \$30  
**Volunteer coaches are needed!**

Accepting all individual players, as well as teams from local Little League Affiliations! Teams must submit Roster Forms.  
Scan to register or register online using the link below:  
<https://secure.rec1.com/NY/watertown-ny/catalog>  
Call 315-785-7775 for more information



**City of Watertown** 

**13U YOUTH BASEBALL**

League Runs  
**June 25 to  
August 1**


**Tues/Thurs  
Game Days**

**Registration Period:  
April 15 - May 31**

**COACHES MEETING  
WEDNESDAY JUNE 5TH**

Registration open to ages 10-13 as of April 15, 2024  
City Residents/Military: \$15 Non-City Residents: \$30  
**Volunteer coaches are needed!**

Scan to register or register online using the link below:  
<https://secure.rec1.com/NY/watertown-ny/catalog>  
If you need assistance please call 315-785-7775



## **A note from City Manager Eric Wagenaar:**

Thanks to all that supported the City for the eclipse. The Mayor and City Council Members received numerous positive compliments, to include many from visitors to the City. A few examples are below:

\*Mayor Pierce, I would like to commend you, your team, and the people of Watertown for a wonderful event yesterday! We made the 5 1/2-hour trip up from Westchester County, NY. We had a great time! I was concerned when we saw there was no onsite parking but had no trouble finding street parking and using the efficient shuttle bus service. We enjoyed the music and the vibe, and some fried dough and "Totality" lemonade, yum! Overall, we left with a very positive impression of your city and hope to return in the near future to further explore the Thousand Island region.

\*Wanted to send a quick note to thank you for the amazing event. Our family came up from the Philadelphia area and were so impressed with everything from the shuttles to the band to the food trucks and the amazing park. The fact that you were able to put this event on at no cost to residents/visitors and create such amazing memories for all is so impressive. We were happy to support the vendors and local businesses and hope to make it back again soon!

\*It was amazing! Your city put its best foot forward! Everyone was so welcoming to all of us invaders!! We LOVED it! Thompson Park is a gem!! Great job to you and your entire team!!

\*My 2 teen boys and I attended from northeast PA. It was a 3hr drive for us and our first time in Watertown. Everyone was absolutely wonderful. The event ran perfectly. No issues at all with food vendors. Lots of porta-potty access. The shuttle buses were huge, comfy and super accommodating. Tons of off-street parking. As people who were not from the area, it was refreshing to run into zero problems. Top notch experience!!!

## **Employee Recognition:**

### **Welcome to the Team!**

**Drew Cronk new hire: Department of Public Works**