

# City Manager's Status and Information Update

September 13, 2024

Check out  
our Website!

[City of Watertown, New  
York – City Manager  
\(watertown-ny.gov\)](http://City of Watertown, New York – City Manager (watertown-ny.gov))



## Opportunities with Watertown

There are several exciting job opportunities open with the City of Watertown, including:

✓ City Assessor	✓ Civil Engineer I
✓ Municipal Worker	✓ Laborer
✓ GIS Technician	✓ MEO (Light)
✓ Facility Maintenance Worker	✓ Parks & Rec Attendant

*For more opportunities click the QR Code here:*



## THE CITY OF WATERTOWN IS LOOKING FOR YOU!

Come see us at the upcoming Job Fairs in our area



- **September 24<sup>th</sup>**-  
Syracuse University 3pm-7pm
- **September 25<sup>th</sup>**-  
Hilton Garden Inn,  
Watertown 1pm-4pm
- **October 2<sup>nd</sup>** - SUNY Canton
- **October 3<sup>rd</sup>** - SUNY Canton
- **October 8<sup>th</sup>** - SUNY Oswego  
4pm-7pm

**BRING YOUR RESUME, ASK YOUR QUESTIONS...  
WE CAN'T WAIT TO TELL YOU ALL ABOUT THE BENEFITS OF  
WORKING FOR THE CITY OF WATERTOWN!**

## Street Closures and Construction

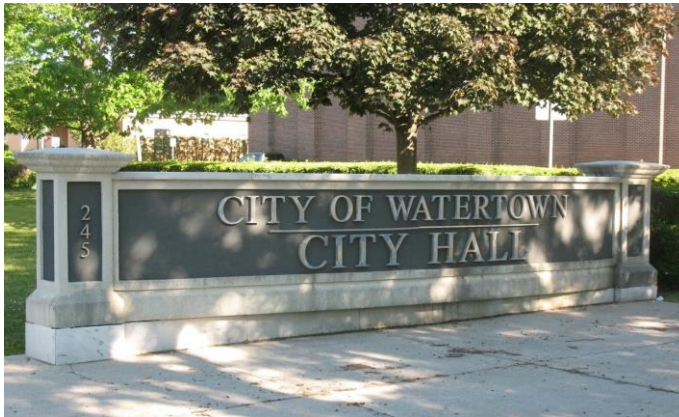
2024 Construction season is wrapping up with the following projects to be completed within the next month:

- ✓ Olmsted Drive
- ✓ Gotham Street
- ✓ Parker Street

There is ongoing construction by our DPW Department at the Massey Street Fire Department Parking Lot and various ADA ramp, and sidewalk replacements being done.

## City Council Meetings

Stay updated with the most recent meeting minutes from the September 3, 2024 City Council Meeting:



[Click Photo for Meeting Minutes](#)

### **Reminder:**

The City Council meets the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month at 7 PM in the Council Chambers, 3rd Floor, 245 Washington St, Watertown NY. The 2nd Monday of each month is held for Work Sessions, which are open discussions of topics requested by the Mayor and City Council. If there is a holiday on Monday, the Council Meeting or Work Session will take place on the following day, Tuesday. Public is welcome to attend all meetings. City Council Minutes & Agendas are available online and the Meetings and Work Sessions are captured on video by Steve Weed Productions.

## Police Department

### Police Academy:

The Black River/St. Lawrence Police Academy Class of 2024-2025 commenced on Monday, September 9, 2024, at Jefferson Community College. The academy class includes five officers from the Watertown Police Department and officers/deputies from the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, the Lewis County Sheriff's Office, the Fulton Police Department and the Manlius Police Department. The new officers will attend classes and practical exercises during a six- month academy. They will then transition to the "Field Training" portion of the academy before graduating and going out on the road on their own in the Summer of 2025. Good luck to the new recruits!



Watertown City Clerk, Ann Saunders, swears-in the five new members of the Watertown Police Department on September 6, 2024, at City Council Chambers.



Watertown Police Department Detective Matthew Freedom watches as a police recruit applies a tourniquet to another recruit on day 3 of the Black River/St. Lawrence Valley Police Academy at Jefferson Community College.



Police academy recruits are pictured participating in physical fitness training on 09/11/24.

### Promotion:



Lt. Cristin Lyon was promoted to the rank of Police Captain, effective August 17, 2024, taking the place of retiring Captain Mike LaBarge.



Captain LaBarge presented Lt. Lyon with one of his Captain's bars at his retirement ceremony for good luck!

### Police Lateral Transfers:

The Watertown Police Department is continuing to look 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>

## Fire Department

### Station Upgrades and Grant Projects:

The Watertown Fire Department has several station upgrades and grant projects that are in motion. The DPW and Electrical departments are working on rebuilding our front apron and lighting at the Massey St Fire Station. Simultaneously the LED, fire prevention sign project is underway. The sign is funded by the Fire Prevention portion of







the federal assistance to firefighter's grant. Soon, the delapidated exterior entry doors at all three stations will be replaced, aided by funds through a DASNY grant.

### **9/11 Ceremony at Jefferson Community College:**

The Watertown Fire Academy recruits participated as the color guard for the 9/11 ceremony at Jefferson Community College on September 11, 2024. There were several service organizations represented at the event, and it turned out to be an educational, honorable and humbling experience for the recruit class.



### **Department Training:**

The Watertown Fire Department has been participating in training related to the replacement of our current records management system. The new system provides a more technologically advanced and user-friendly method to deal with day-to-day record keeping along with required fire and EMS reporting.



### **Recruit Training:**



The Watertown Fire Department recruit class has completed another week of the fire training. Part of this week's training involved use of ground ladders.

## Planning Department

### **Thompson Park Bandstand Roof ReBid:**



The City has been working with the Thompson Park Bandstand Roof Committee to construct and install a roof on the bandstand located at Thompson Park. Capital Construction & Development Corp. has been selected as the contractor for this project. The project will include the installation of an approximately 1,550 square

foot wood frame roof over the existing bandstand, and the potential for additional upgrades.

Fencing around the site has been installed, and tree protection will be going up this week. The work on the project is expected to start the week of September 16<sup>th</sup> and be completed by the end of October. The extended construction time is due to the current wait time for materials. During the extent of the project, parts of the sidewalk surrounding the site may be closed due to equipment and materials. The funds for this project have been raised by the Thompson Park Bandstand Committee, along with some funds that were committed by the City Council.

### **Public Square Fountain Restoration:**

Robinson Iron, Inc. has been continuing to progress on the restoration and repainting of the Public Square Fountain. The restoration and repainting is nearly complete with the reinstallation of the fountain expected to occur during the week of September 16, 2024.

### **Thompson Park West Sector Trail Project:**

Work will be starting the week of September 16<sup>th</sup> on this project that includes the construction of a new walking trail starting at the North Outlook (located along the Franklin St. Entrance) across the bottom of the North Down (Kite Hill) and along a portion of the west entrance drive adjacent to the golf course, connecting to the Rotary Fitness Trail. The City's contractor for the project, Barrett Paving, expects the project to be substantially complete by the end of October.



### Huntington Island Police Training Facility Storm Clean Up:

Eighteen (18) trees were removed at the City Police Department training facility on Huntington Island. The affected trees were blown down or structurally compromised due to intense storms earlier this year. The City Contracted B&R Tree Experts to remove trees and large woody debris that came down across the smaller training range, and/or threatened the primary range and classroom structure. The project has opened up the secondary range to allow for improved training opportunities.

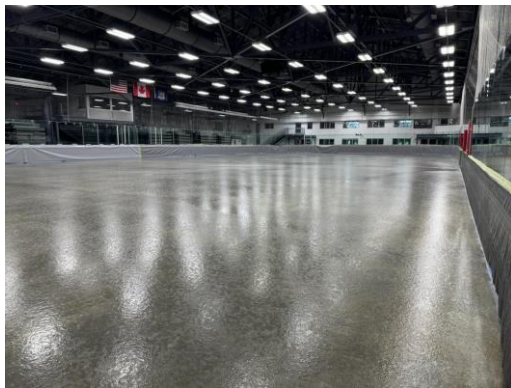


## Parks and Recreation Department

**ICE SEASON!** The Parks & Recreation Department has been working to install the ice rink at the Watertown Municipal Arena. Ice season officially begins on Saturday, September 14<sup>th</sup> with a new collegiant hockey tournament, hosted by Jefferson Community College. Other notable upcoming events include:

- Monday, September 16<sup>th</sup> – Regular ice schedule begins.
- Public skate is offered Monday thru Friday from 12:00pm – 2:30pm.
- Friday, September 20<sup>th</sup> – Public Skate: 8:00pm.
- Saturday, September 21<sup>st</sup>
  - Public Skate: 2:20pm & 7:00pm
  - Skate & Shoot: 9:10pm
- Sunday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>
  - Public Skate: 1:15pm
  - Adult Skate: 8:00pm
  - Skate & Shoot: 9:30pm
- Friday, October 11<sup>th</sup> – First Watertown Wolves Game at 7:30pm.

## First Layer of Ice:






CHECK OUT OUR UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND EVENTS:








# CITY OF WATERTOWN

# CLUB VORTEX

## YOUTH RUNNING PROGRAM

Get kids moving with fun running exercises to build strength, speed & endurance. This program is designed to encourage proper & safe running habits. Games and activities will help improve strength and coordination.


### Register Aug. 19 - Sept. 23



**Mondays & Wednesdays, September 23 - October 25**  
**3:45pm-4:45pm, @ the Thompson Park Stone Pavilion**  
(We will not meet on Columbus Day, Oct. 14)

**Cost: \$20 City Residents | \$40 Non-City Residents**  
Call 315-785-7775 with any questions.

<https://secure.rec1.com/NY/watertown-ny/catalog?filter=c2VhcmNoPTI2NTQ0MDI=>



**CITY OF WATERTOWN**



# *Slip, Slide, & Skate* *...Learn to Skate!*

**Registration:** October 7th - November 4th

## **Program Dates:**

Tuesdays: November 5, 12, 19, 26  
December 3, 10

**Class time:** 7:40-8:40pm for Ages 6+

***Helmets Recommended for all ages***

Basic Instruction Provided

All Classes will be held as scheduled, unless notified

**Class & Skate Rentals**  
\$35 - City Resident  
\$70 - Non City Resident

**Class Only (no skate rentals)**  
\$25 - City Resident  
\$50 - Non City Resident

Register online:

<https://secure.rec1.com/NY/watertown-ny/catalog>

If you need assistance please call:

315-785-7775

**Class & Skate Rental**



**Class Only**







# SANDLOT BASEBALL

Pickup Games & Random  
Teams

Volunteer Coaches Needed!  
**FAIRGROUNDS BASEBALL**

**FIELDS FRIDAYS**

**SEPT 13 - OCT 18TH @6PM**

**(SEPTEMBER 20TH WILL BE AT  
NORTH FIELD 1)**



Registration Begins Monday August 19th for Ages 12 and  
under as of May 1, 2024

**Prices:**

City Residents/Military: \$15

Non-Residents \$30

Visit: <https://secure.rec1.com/NY/watertown-ny/catalog>







On Friday, September 20<sup>th</sup> DPAO will hold their final outdoor concert of the season, featuring Casting Crowns. Gates open at 5:00 pm and the concert begins at 7:00 pm. For tickets, contact DPAO. [Events/Buy Tickets - Disabled Persons Action Organization \(dpaconcerts.com\)](https://dpaconcerts.com)



Friday, September 20



Location: Outdoors at the Watertown Fairgrounds

[659 William T Field Dr, Watertown, NY 13601](https://www.google.com/maps/place/659+William+T+Field+Dr,+Watertown,+NY+13601)



Doors Open at 5pm



Show at 7pm

## Department of Public Works

### Electrical updates:



DPW electricians have been out replacing old inefficient parking lot lights with new LED. These new LED's are not only better on electric usage, they also provide more lighting coverage. Electricians are also out maintaining City infrastructure that have been damaged.



### **Storm Damage:**

DPW has been out during the past few weeks repairing damage done from the recent storm events we have had. Although the city did not see as much damage as our surrounding communities, it still took a toll on our infrastructure pointing out flaws that need to be corrected soon.





### Fire Department Infrastructure Reconstruction:



DPW crews started a new project at South Massey FD to replace the old deteriorated parking lot and concrete. Project will take a couple months but the end result will result in better drainage and better access for the Fire Department.



### Winter Prep:

DPW has started winter preparations:



Zambonis being serviced for another year of ice.



Plow trucks are being serviced and general repairs are underway.

The central garage starts preparing for winter during summer which is quite normal and is expected to be completely ready for the first snowfall!



### Street Construction:



DPW is working on wrapping up the 2024 construction season with the various street/site projects we had going. A lot of hard work has been done and with the weather the way it was, the schedule tightened up as added work from storms needed to be completed too.

**Hats off to all that made it happen!**





## Water Department

### Water Treatment:

A stakeholder meeting is scheduled for September 12<sup>th</sup>, to discuss design and progress of the DBP Project. Town of Watertown, Town of Pamelaia, DANC, NYSDOH, Army at Fort Drum, South Side Water, & GHD (engineering firm), generally attend these meetings.

The Department learned that the DBP Project was not selected for a DCIP (Defense Community Infrastructure Program) grant. It is unclear if we will be able to reapply in 2025.

Also, for the DBP Project, the city is applying for a \$3 million NBRC (Northern Border Regional Commission) grant.

### Wastewater Treatment:

### CONGRATULATIONS

to **J.R. Lacey** for passing his 4A and **Dacota Goodwill** for passing his 3A Wastewater License Exam on their first attempt. The 3A and 4A license represents higher level certification in New York State, with a current pass rate of only 34-35%.






# Roswell P. Flower Memorial Library



**NEW LIBRARY CARDS**



**1,845**

3.8% increase

**LIBRARY VISITORS**



**97,762**

**LIBRARY EVENTS**

 <b>ITEM CHECKOUTS</b> 98,788	 <b>GENEALOGY</b> 363
 <b>EMEDIA CHECKOUTS</b> 16,856	 <b>MEETING SPACES</b> 926
 <b>TEST PROCTORING</b> 35	 <b>COMPUTER SESSIONS</b> 3,991*
 <b>REFERENCE QUESTIONS</b> 1,795	 <b>WIFI SESSIONS</b> 133,787

\*partial data due to software upgrade

	TOTAL EVENTS	EVENT ATTENDANCE
➤ <b>CHILDREN</b>	285	10,377
➤ <b>TEEN</b>	96	1,138
➤ <b>ADULT</b>	204	4,166

**NEW to the library**

- Circulating Atlas Collection
- Homeschool Curriculum Collection
- Microfilm Machine
- Patron Copier with added capabilities

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTOR:

For 120 years, our library has persisted in playing a pivotal role in upholding the public's essential right to access information, services, and resources that are vital for personal development and growth. Our commitment to dismantling barriers, enriching lives, and bridging societal gaps is evident in the indispensable resources we provide to individuals and families who rely on us. I would like to express my gratitude for the opportunity the library has played a crucial role of unlocking a myriad of possibilities for our patrons and contributing to a future where knowledge knows no bounds.

As another remarkable year begins, we are taking a moment to reflect on the past year and all of our accomplishments. We look forward to seeing you in soon!

*Suzie Renay Falge*



## Human Resources and Civil Service



### Civil Service Opportunities

**The City of Watertown has several employment opportunities:**

- |                                    |                                           |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| ♦ City Assessor                    | ♦ Parks & Rec Attendant                   |
| ♦ Civil Engineer I                 | ♦ Police Officer Transfer                 |
| ♦ Facility Maintenance Worker      | ♦ Public Housing Specialist (WHA)         |
| ♦ GIS Technician                   | ♦ Refuse/Recycle Motor Equipment Operator |
| ♦ Laborer                          | ♦ School Crossing Guard                   |
| ♦ Motor Equipment Operator (Light) | ♦ Superintendent of Water                 |
| ♦ Municipal Worker                 | ♦ Transit Operator                        |

**The Civil Service Commission is accepting applications for the following exams:**

- |                             |                                 |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| * <i>Police Lieutenant</i>  | * <i>Chief WWTP Operator</i>    |
| * <i>Chief WTP Operator</i> | * <i>WWTP Process Worker II</i> |

Apply through the online portal or reach out to  
[civilservice@watertown-ny.gov](mailto:civilservice@watertown-ny.gov)

