

City Manager's Status and Information Update

January 27, 2025

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:

✓ Crew Chief DPW	✓ Senior Engineering Technician
✓ Civil Engineer I	✓ Motor Equipment Mechanic
✓ Planner	✓ MEO (Light)
✓ Information Technology Specialist	✓ Secretary

For more opportunities click the QR Code here:



Civil Service

JOIN OUR TEAM



Current Vacancies:

- Crew Chief (DPW)
- Facility Maintenance Worker (WHA)
- IT Specialist
- Laborer I & II
- Maintenance Worker (WHA)
- Motor Equipment Mechanic
- Motor Equipment Operator Light
- Municipal Worker I
- Parks & Recreation Attendant
- Planner
- Police Officer Transfer
- Refuse/Recycle MEO
- School Crossing Guard
- Secretary
- Senior Engineering Technician
- Transit Operator (FT / PT)

Apply through our online portal:
www.watertown-ny.gov
Select Employment Opportunities





JOIN OUR TEAM



Current Exam Opportunities

- Accountant
- Building Systems Supervisor
- Civil Engineer I
- Human Resources Benefits Specialist
- Maintenance Mechanic
- Modernization Coordinator
- Police Officer
- School Safety Officer
- Senior Public Housing Specialist

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New Hires

We are pleased to welcome the newest member of the City of Watertown team and are excited to have him on board!!

- Trevor Alguire – PT Laborer II (DPW)

Rising Star: Celebrating Academic Excellence and Dedication

Congratulations to our own Janet Chapman-Rafferty, Real Property Appraiser in the Assessment Department for earning a spot on the Jefferson Community College Fall 2024 President's List! Her hard work and dedication to pursuing a Business Administration degree while balancing her responsibilities are truly inspiring.

City Manager's Annual Report

The City Manager recently released his 2024 City of Watertown Annual Report. Click the link below to check it out:

[City of Watertown, New York - City Manager Annual Report](#)

Purchasing Department

The City of Watertown's Purchasing Department is responsible for acquiring goods, services and construction projects on behalf of the City. The department ensures that procurement processes are fair, transparent and competitive through a formal bidding process.

The following Bid opportunities are available:

Bid #2025-01 Blower Replacement – Pollution Control Facility (PCF) – Due 1/30/25

The City of Watertown is seeking sealed bids from qualified bidders for the purchase and delivery of a Blower – Hoffman or equivalent, per departmental specifications for use by the City's Pollution Control Facility.

<https://prod3.evo.cloud/watertownny/portal/bids/416/>

If you are not already in our Evobid system, you will have to create a log in to our website system to download the specifications. Once you submit your information, you will be notified of any changes on the Bid or RFP. You will also automatically be invited to view any other project related to your company

and have access to our EvoBids platform to view any bids/RFPs currently open by the City of Watertown. Thank you.

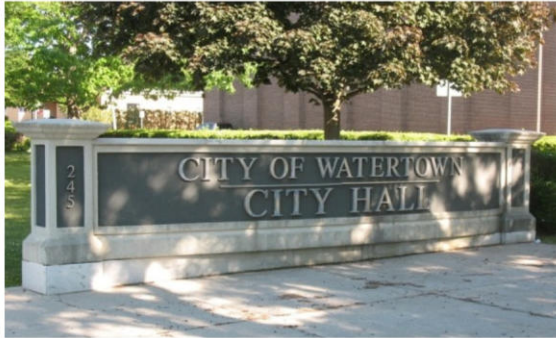
For additional information, feel free to reach out to the Purchasing Department at 315-785-7749 or visit our website at [City of Watertown - Purchasing Department](#)

Auction #41070 – City of Watertown – Close date 2/6/2025

The City of Watertown Fire Department has various surplus equipment and miscellaneous items for sale on Auctions International. Further information is available at:

<https://www.auctionsinternational.com/auction/city-of-watertown-ny-41070-41070/bidgallery/>

City Council Meetings



Stay updated with the meeting minutes from the January 6, 2025, 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.

The City has recently transitioned to Rumble as the new platform for broadcasting City Council meetings. Residents can view live broadcasts of City Council meetings at [Rumble Livestreams](#). Archived meeting videos can be accessed at [Rumble Channels](#), and those links, organized by meeting, available through the City's website on the [Meeting Dashboard](#) have been updated through 2020.

The City Council Meetings for February are **Monday, February 3rd**, and **Tuesday, February 18th**, due to Presidents' Day. The February City Council Work Session is on **Monday, February 10th**.

Police Department

Kidnapping Arrest:

On 01/06/2025, members of our uniformed patrol division investigated a missing person report in the City of Watertown, NY. Our officers developed information that the missing 13-year-old female had been kidnapped by an unknown male. The case was further investigated by our criminal investigation division. It was determined that the juvenile female was picked up by Keller Singleton from Rome, GA. It was determined that Keller, through the use of social media, assisted the female in running away and planned to take her back to his home in Rome, GA for sexual purposes. The female was located in Marion, VA where Keller had left her. Keller was located by the Virginia State Police nearby in Chilhowie, VA where he was taken into custody.

Keller Jack Singleton, an 18-year-old male, who resides at 145 Shadow Lane SW in Rome, GA was placed under arrest and held on an arrest warrant signed by the Honorable Judge David Renzi of Jefferson County Court for **Kidnapping in the first degree, a Class A Felony**. He was extradited to Watertown, NY and appeared in Jefferson County CAP Court on 01/22/2025 where he was remanded to the Jefferson County Correctional Facility. Additional charges are possible pending Grand Jury action.

We strongly encourage parents to monitor their children's online activity and social media usage for the potential harm that can be caused by people the children may encounter on the internet with harmful intent.

Police Academy:

The Black River/St. Lawrence Police Academy Class of 2024-2025 is now in the twentieth week of classes. Over the past few weeks, the recruits have been training in topics such as: DWI detection and standardized field testing, defensive tactics, report writing, physical fitness & wellness, appearance tickets, extreme risk protection orders (ERPOs), standardized response plans for unusual events, and reality-based training.

During the police academy DWI detection and standardized field-testing training, recruit officers practiced administering the HGN (Horizontal Gaze Nystagmus) test.



Community:

Officer Virginia Sherrill and Officer Mike McAdoo dropped the puck at the Watertown Wolves game on 01/11/25 (Law Enforcement Appreciation Night)



Officer Shane Ryan was on hand at the game to sing the National Anthem!



Lake Effect Snow:

A WPD officer assisted a motorist whose vehicle was stuck in the snow and partially obstructing the roadway in the 1100 block of Arsenal Street.



Officers **will** ticket 2am-6am parking violators. They will also tow cars that are obstructing DPW snow plowing efforts. This is a photo of an officer ticketing a vehicle on lower State Street during the recent heavy lake effect snow.

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



Training:

Recently, fire department personnel have been busy with hazardous materials in-service training. This training is essential for maintaining the readiness and expertise of our team, enhancing our ability to respond swiftly and effectively to incidents involving hazardous substances, helping ensure the safety of residents in the City of Watertown, Jefferson County, and Lewis County. By staying up to date on the latest techniques, equipment, and protocols, we

can better mitigate risks, protect the environment, and safeguard lives and property in our communities.



Hydrants:

During winter, keeping fire hydrants shoveled out can save precious time in an emergency. Clear access allows firefighters to quickly connect hoses, which could make all the difference in protecting lives and property. Snow-covered or buried hydrants are hard to locate and delay response times, putting your neighborhood at greater risk. Please take a few minutes to clear

a 3-foot radius around hydrants—it's a simple way to help us keep you and your neighbors safe!

Engineering

Fire Station Exterior Doors Replacement:

The new doors have been delivered, and the contractor plans to install them in the last week of January.

Lift Station Generator Project:

The bid package for this project is in process and is now under review. Once approved, this project will be put out to bid.

Department of Public Works



Holiday Season Ends:

DPW Crews work to take down various holiday decorations throughout downtown and safely store for next season.

Electrical:



DPW crews repairing LED traffic signal light on Coffeen Street. Use caution when passing crews, safety is everyone's duty.

Right-Of-Way (ROW) Maintenance:

DPW crews took advantage of some clear weather conditions to ditch out areas along Olmsted Drive. It is important to maintain these areas even in cold weather to manage conditions come spring time.



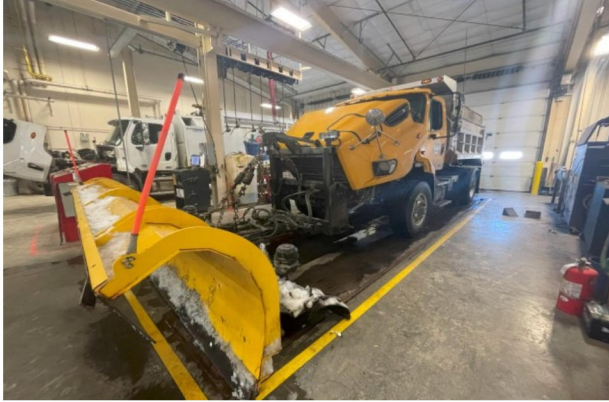
Snow Town USA:



DPW crews worked with Parks and Recreation to close Park Circle and areas surrounding Thompson Park Entrance for the annual Snow Town USA event. This almost month long event showcases Watertown's historic weather conditions, with many events, vendors, and community spirit the entire family can enjoy.

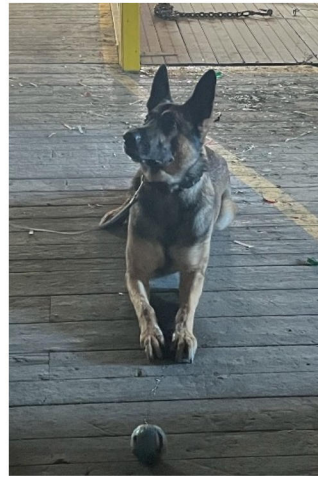
Central Garage Maintenance:

DPW crews work around the clock to keep plows and winter equipment running smoothly. Equipment is always rotating through the garage with various issues, and our crews are dedicated to keeping these machines on our roads running safely.

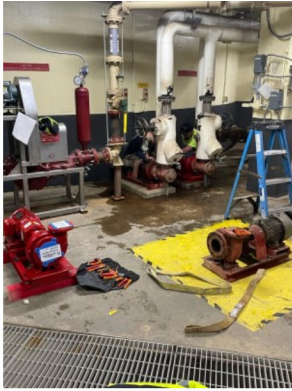


Special Visitors:

Local law enforcement was able to escape the recent below zero temperatures and train their K-9 units on the DPW campus. These highly trained canines showed off their skills with exercises throughout our various floors and extensive layout. Of course, with a reward of a toy at the end. Good Dog Alert!

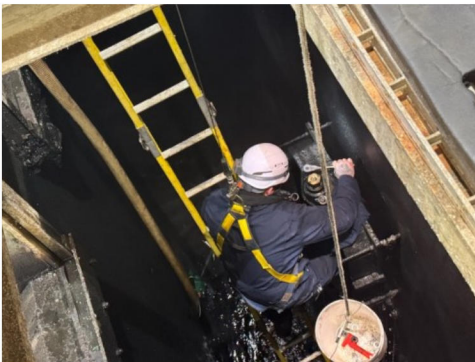


Water Department



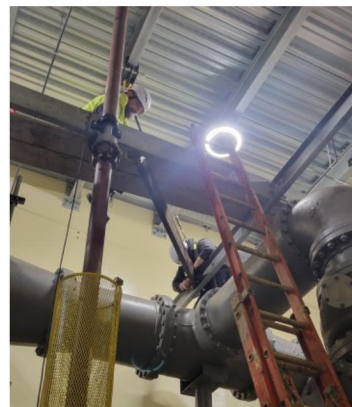
Operators at the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) replaced the hot water pumps for Primary Digester #2's heat exchanger. The digesters play a crucial role in stabilizing biosolids, making them suitable for beneficial reuse. Experienced staff used this maintenance project as an excellent training opportunity for junior team members.

WWTP staff replaced the variable frequency drive (VFD) for the primary tank blower. The VFD enables speed adjustments for the blower, improving energy efficiency. The blower serves the primary grit chamber, which removes solid abrasive materials that could damage downstream equipment.



WWTP staff replaced the bearing for Trickling Filter Gate 2 and removed the shaft due to excessive wear, which will be replaced with a new stainless-steel shaft. Gate 2 enables the alternating of trickling filters between lead and lag positions. Alternating the filters enhances biological water treatment by maintaining a more even distribution of biological growth across the filters.

The carrier bearing on Raw Sewage Pump 1 was braced with additional supports by operators and maintenance staff at the WWTP. This reinforcement reduces shaft deflection, extending the lifespan of the pump's components. The Wastewater Treatment Plant operates five raw sewage pumps: three are electrically driven, and two are dual gas engines with direct drives. The dual gas engines can run on methane or natural gas. Methane is naturally produced during the stabilization of biosolids, helping to decrease the plant's energy consumption.



Parks and Recreation Department



Snow Town USA kicked off this year's events with the opening of the Park Circle ice rink. The Snow Town committee was joined by Mayor Sarah Compo Pierce and members of City Council. The ice rink will remain open through Sunday, February 2nd, weather permitting. For a full list of this year's Snow Town activities please visit www.snowtownusa.org.

Thank you to all of the city staff who helped with the Park Circle freeze.



Snow Town Closing Ceremony:**Upcoming Watertown Wolves Games:**

Saturday, February 1st
 Sunday, February 2nd

For a full schedule visit www.watertownwolves.net

Roswell P. Flower Memorial Library

Intro to AI

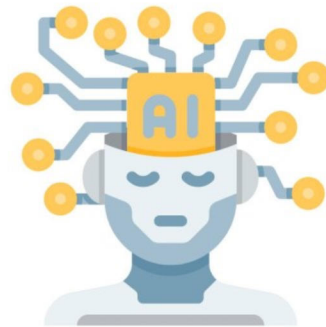
A SENIOR PLANET Lecture
FROM AARP

Wednesday, January 29th @ 6:30pm
 in the South Reading Room

Curious about AI? Want to know more about Chat GPT? This lecture will introduce some of the basic ideas around artificial intelligence. We'll talk about how AI is being used today, what its current limitations are, and how it will shape the future!

Although the curriculum is designed for ages 55+, all ages welcome to attend.

Contact Ashley at 315.785.7714.



Roswell P. Flower
 Memorial Library

