

City Manager's Status and Information Update

July 25, 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:

✓ Assistant City Engineer	✓ Refuse/Recycle MEO
✓ Transit Operator	✓ Motor Equip Operator
✓ Laborer I	✓ Municipal Worker I
✓ Facilities Maintenance Worker	✓ Information Technology Specialist
✓ Librarian III	✓ Motor Equip Mechanic

For more opportunities, click the QR Code here:



Civil Service

WE'RE HIRING!

The City of Watertown has several openings...

- ASSISTANT CITY ENGINEER
- FACILITY MAINTENANCE WORKER
- IT SPECIALIST
- POLICE OFFICER
- MOTOR EQUIPMENT MECHANIC
- MOTOR EQUIPMENT OPERATOR
- LABORER
- LIBRARIAN III
- TRANSIT OPERATOR

See the full list of openings in our
Employment portal!



APPLY NOW

Visit: watertown-ny.gov
Email: civilservice@watertown-ny.gov



Boards and Commissions

YOU CAN PARTICIPATE IN YOUR COMMUNITY!

Board and Commission members provide input on a variety of issues affecting the City. Appointments to the Boards and Commissions are made by the Council, the Mayor, or the City Manager. Residents are encouraged to participate in this important process. Anyone interested in volunteering for one of the City's Boards and Commissions should send an email to afay@watertown-ny.gov with a letter of interest, including their background and experience.

Presently, the City of Watertown has vacancies on these Boards:

- Board of Assessment Review
- Transportation Commission

Further information on any of the Boards and Commissions can be found on the City's website at the following link: <https://www.watertown-ny.gov/BoardsCommissionsInfo>

Use the links on the side menu to visit the webpage of each Board and Commission for a description, meeting schedule, and list of the members.

New Hires

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

- Vincenzo Rutigliano – Refuse/ Recycling Motor Equipment Operator

City Council Meetings



Stay updated with the meeting minutes from the July 21, 2025, City Council Meeting:

[07-21-2025 Meeting Minutes](#)

Reminder:

The City Council meets on 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 on 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. The 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 Council Meetings for August are **Monday, August 4**, and **Monday, August 18, 2025**. The August City Council Work Session is on **Monday, August 11**.

Purchasing Department

Bid #2025-16 Watertown Pedestrian Signal Improvement Project PIN: 70PS.02 D036015 – Deadline 8/14/25

The City of Watertown is seeking sealed bids from qualified bidders for the work which includes providing all labor, materials, machinery, tools, equipment, and other means of construction necessary and incidental to the completion of curb ramp and pedestrian signal upgrades at eight signalized intersections shown on the plans and described in the specifications. Please use the link below for additional information or visit our website at [City of Watertown - Purchasing Department](https://prod3.evo.cloud/watertownny/portal/bids/462/).

<https://prod3.evo.cloud/watertownny/portal/bids/462/>

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.

Fire Department

Structure fires:

Time: July 22, 2025 at 2131 Hrs.

Location: 235 N. Rutland St

Companies Responding: Initial response was Engine 2, Engine 1, Engine 3, Truck 1, Rescue 1, Chief 3

Additional units that responded to the scene were Engine 5, Squad 1, Squad 2, BRFD 6-8-1, Fort Drum Engine 1 and Chief 4

Situation Found: Upon arrival Engine 2 confirmed a working structure fire in a 2 story multiple dwelling apartment building. They found heavy fire in a rear stairwell entrance to an upstairs apartment. The fire had worked its way into the attic space and spread. Access to the attic was difficult resulting in the fire progressing to a condition that the operation had to go defensive. The fire resulted in major damage to the structure. There was some heat damage to the neighboring home's siding.

Cause: Under investigation by Watertown FD Investigators

Remarks: Fort Drum FD, Black River FD, GEMS, City PD, National Grid, City Codes all assisted at the scene, Town of Watertown FD and Northpole FD assisted by standing by and covering the city. Jefferson County Dispatched assisted with numerous calls to other agencies.

Date/Time: July 19, 2025 at 0159 Hours

Location: 1149 Temple Street

Responding Units: Engines 1, 2, and 3; Truck 1; Rescue; Chief 3

Incident Summary:

At 0159 hours, the Watertown Fire Department was dispatched to a reported structure fire at 1149 Temple Street. While en route, Jefferson County Dispatch advised that multiple 911 calls were being received reporting the fire. First-arriving Watertown Police Department officers confirmed a working structure fire with downed power lines in the street.

Engine 2 arrived shortly thereafter and confirmed heavy fire conditions involving all areas of the home. All occupants were confirmed to have safely exited the residence prior to fire department arrival.

Due to the advanced fire conditions and extent of structural damage, firefighters conducted a defensive exterior attack. There were no reported civilian or firefighter injuries; however, some household pets remain unaccounted for.

The fire was contained to the structure involved, and no damage occurred to adjacent buildings.

Upcoming Fire Recruit Academy:

Starting on Monday August 11, 2025, the Watertown Fire Department will begin a New Fire Recruit Academy. The department recently interviewed potential candidates, and Watertown FD will be placing 4 recruits in the academy. They will be joined by candidates from Fulton and Victor. We look forward to another successful academy.

Police Department



Police Academy:

The Black River/St. Lawrence Valley Police Academy Class of **2025-2026** is in its sixth week of training.

WPD Training Sergeant Robert Sines is pictured conducting physical fitness training with the current police academy recruits. Physical fitness tests are held at least three times during the academy.



WPD Detective Sergeant Joshua O'Hearn is pictured below instructing the police academy recruits on "Evidence Concepts" at Jefferson Community College.



Therapy Dog:

Luna is back from vacation and is well-rested and ready to get back to work!

Luna caught up with Officers Lyndsey Maitland and Brighton Bernard at the Public Safety Building. She loves having a chance to brighten an officer's day!



Congratulations on your Retirement!

Elizabeth Lewis has worked for the Watertown Police Department for 17 years! Thank you for your hard work and dedication Beth!

**Recruiting:**

The City of Watertown is hosting the “Police Officer” exam on Saturday, September 20, 2025. The deadline for applications is Sunday, August 17, 2025. Applications may be made online at <https://watertown-portal.mycivilservice.com/jobopps>. Scroll down to the “Scheduled Exams” section and select “Police Officer” for the application and instructions. The exam fee is \$25.00.

Public Works Department

Roads Crew

Crews are out working on patching potholes and water/sewer ditches. There is no shortage of streets to fix.



Buildings and Grounds

Trash around the city never stops and the building and grounds crew does their very best to keep it picked up. Any volunteer cleanups would be greatly appreciated to keep the city clean! Crews are also well underway setting up for block parties in public square. There is a lot of work that goes into this. Crews set it all up and take it down safely!



Electrical

DPW crews have been working on utility locates, special events like the Jefferson County fair and Farmers Market, keeping the city-owned traffic lights/street lighting all functional. For a crew of 3, they sure do a fine job.



Storm Culverts

DPW crews repaired another couple sanitary services. Whether it is broken, clogged, or full of roots, the crew does their best to keep everything maintained. The crews have also been busy cleaning and CCTV as much as they can to keep up on maintenance.



Maintenance Garage

Mechanics are hard at work prepping for winter, maintaining buses, and keeping the several hundred city-owned units on the road. There is no shortage of work in this department.



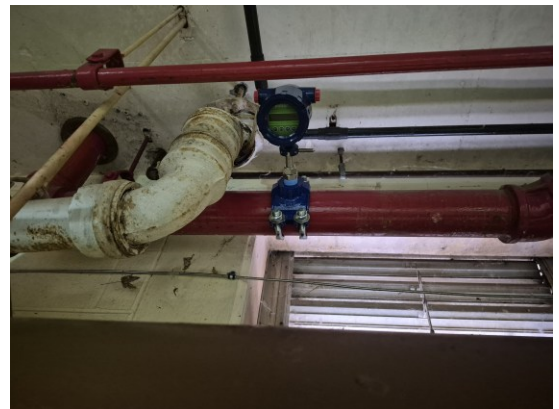
Forestry

Tree City Watertown requires a lot of maintenance, and the crews are doing very well keeping up.



Water Department

The City of Watertown Pollution Control Facility uses biogas (a byproduct of organic material stabilization) to heat process tanks, operate pumps, and warm buildings. As part of regulatory requirements, the facility must track both the volume of biogas produced and how it is used. To improve accuracy, staff recently installed a new gas meter to monitor the biogas consumption for one of the tanks.





Every summer for the past four years, New York Water Environment Association (NYWEA) has supported the *Work in Water* program, giving high school students the opportunity to earn a summer paycheck while learning about their local water systems and the critical role water infrastructure plays in our communities. This year, the Watertown Pollution Control Facility received enough funding to welcome four high school students into the program. During their time with us, the students gain hands-on experience at both the wastewater treatment plant and the water filtration plant—learning about plant operations, solids handling, lab work, data collection and analysis, and even basic maintenance tasks.

For the second year in a row, the Watertown Pollution Control Facility partnered with DEC Region 6 to host an in-depth tour for summer interns working in the water division. The tour gave future regulators a firsthand look at the full treatment process—from wastewater intake to final discharge—while highlighting key areas like lab work, solids handling, and equipment maintenance. It also provided a valuable opportunity for interns to connect with plant operators, offering real-world insight into the challenges and responsibilities of running a wastewater facility—insight they'll carry into their future roles in environmental protection.



Staff at the Pollution Control Facility recently repaired the fill line for Ferric Chloride, a key chemical used to remove phosphorus during wastewater treatment. Phosphorus removal is essential to preventing nutrient pollution in local waterways. The quick repair helped maintain smooth operations and environmental compliance.

Even during good weather, equipment at the Pollution Control Facility can sometimes become clogged. The grit removal system helps prevent this by removing debris that could damage downstream equipment. Our staff work diligently to keep all equipment running smoothly and efficiently.

Planning

Pro-Housing Community Recertification – Staff has applied and received recertification from the New York State Division of Housing and Community Renewal. It was received on July 14th. The certification allows the City of Watertown to apply for funds from the \$650 million in the State’s discretionary funding programs that are available exclusively to Pro-Housing Communities. This will help the City of Watertown fund future projects and make the city even better for its citizenry.



Stewart’s Redevelopment– Staff recently reviewed a redevelopment proposal from Stewart’s Shops Corp. to demolish and reconstruct its Fuel/Convenience Station at the corner of Coffeen Street and Massey Street North. The redeveloped location will feature an expanded footprint, including a larger store and an additional fuel island. The project required a Subdivision, Site Plan Approval, Special Use Permit and two Area Variances. Staff worked closely with Stewart’s throughout the process, from a pre-application meeting through Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals approvals.

Parks and Recreation Department

The 208th Jefferson County Fair wrapped up on Sunday, July 20. Since then, Parks & Recreation crews have been hard at work restoring the fields and preparing them for play once again!



The Thousand Islands Challenge Softball Tournament took place July 18–20, drawing more than 75 teams to the area for this annual event. Parks & Recreation crews worked hard to keep the fields in top condition throughout the weekend. Thank you to everyone who helped make the tournament a success!



JOIN US FOR A FREE MOVIE NIGHT THIS SATURDAY, JULY 26TH – AND BRING YOUR FRIENDS!



The Summer Rec Playground Program is in full swing! Stop by one or all of our sites to join the fun. New crafts and activities are featured every day!



PARKS & RECREATION
CITY OF WATERTOWN
NY

Summer Playground Program

July 7 thru August 15, 2025
Monday thru Friday 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Playground Program Locations:
Thompson Park (by the Splash Pad)
North Hamilton playground,
Emerson Place Playground,
Flynn Pool (Monday, Wednesday, Friday)
North Elementary Playground (Tuesday, Thursday)

Drop-in only. No preregistration required!

Check our Facebook page
[Facebook.com/Watertownparksandrecreation](https://www.facebook.com/Watertownparksandrecreation)
for weekly activities!



Pickle Ball: JOIN US FOR A BEGINNER & INTERMEDIATE PICKLEBALL CLINIC!

We're hosting a pickleball clinic at the Fairgrounds Arena on AUGUST 6TH & 7TH FROM 6:00–7:30 PM. Whether you're brand new to the game or looking to improve your skills, this clinic is a great opportunity to learn and grow.

Our experienced instructors provide guidance tailored to all skill levels—so no matter where you're starting from, you'll get the support you need to improve. Come check it out and elevate your game!



PICKLEBALL
**Clinic for beginners
 & intermediate
 players**

Tuesday & Wednesday August 5 th & 6 th 2025	Clinic is Free	Fairgrounds Municipal Arena
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600 William T. Field Drive, Watertown, NY 13601

 **Register early - space is limited**

Registration opens Monday, July 14th
<https://secure.recl.com/NY/watertown-ny/catalog>

Call 315-785-7775 if you need assistance



Swim Lessons:

There are still two more weeks of swim lessons available this summer at Flynn Pool. Register today!

Keep calm and swim on!

SWIM LESSONS 2025

Session 1: Thompson Park Pool
-10:45-11:30-
Week 1 - July 7-11
Week 2 - July 14-18
Week 3 - July 21-25

Session 2: Flynn Pool
-10:15-11:00-
Week 1 - July 28-August 1
Week 2 - August 4-8

Level Descriptions:

Level 1A (Introductory)

- no previous experience
- introduction to water skills

Level 1B (Beginner)

- minimal experience
- learning fundamental skills

Level 2 (Intermediate)

- skills performed with assistance
- building on and improving learned skills

Level 3 (Experienced)

- skills performed unassisted
- increasing proficiency of learned skills

\$25*
City Resident

Program Rates:
City Resident & Military : \$25
Non-City Resident : \$45







To register scan QR code or go to
<https://secure.rec1.com/NY/watertown-ny/catalog>

For Assistance call (315) 785-7775

PARKS & RECREATION
CITY OF WATERTOWN
NY

Watertown Rapids Baseball:

Playoffs begin this Friday, July 25th with a road game against the Sherrill Silversmiths!

We'd like to wish the Rapids good luck in the playoffs!

For more information and the full season schedule, visit:

🔗 <https://watertownrapids.baseballshift.com>

Watertown Red & Black Football:

The Watertown Red & Black play their next home game on
Saturday, August 2nd at 7:00 PM!

The Watertown Red and Black is the oldest semi-pro football team in the United States,
having been established in 1896.

For more information and the full season schedule, visit:

🔗 <https://www.watertownredandblack.com/>

Roswell P. Flower Memorial Library

Starting August 1st, Flower Memorial Library will be having its Fifth Annual Drop Your Drawers Campaign!

Drop off packages of new underwear for children (sizes 4-16) or packages of diapers from August 1-29 at the Circulation Desk on the Main Floor. Donations will help replenish Watertown elementary schools' supplies of emergency underpants and provide diapers for the Healthy Families program of the North Country Prenatal/Perinatal Council.

Captain Underpants wants to remind you to

***DROP YOUR
DRAWERS...***

at the library

*August
1-29*



Teen Snack & Craft: DIY Potions

Ages 12-17 welcome
July 30th in the Teen Space at 6:00pm

Let's get crafty! Create your own magical potion in a jar! Potions and jars are customizable! *Potions are for decoration only.

All supplies and snacks will be provided!

Limit of 10 participants. First come, first served.



Roswell P. Flower
Memorial Library

Questions? Contact Ashley M: 315.785.7714



Food Budget Hacks with Cornell Cooperative Extension

Saturday, July 26th @ 11am
in the Community Room all ages welcome



Join Taylor Rollins, SNAP-Ed Nutrition Educator, as we put fruits and vegetables to the test! You will learn:

- ways to eat healthy on a budget
- how to cook and prepare different seasonal vegetables
- the reasons behind picky eating in children and discover some ways to combat this and more!

Don't forget, at the end of the workshop we'll make our own apple slaw, a delicious and refreshing summer treat!



Cornell Cooperative Extension is an employer and educator recognized for providing equal program and employment opportunities in accordance with applicable laws.

Cornell Cooperative Extension
Jefferson County

Facilitated by Ashley P.
315.785.7714
Event held at Flower Library.



Roswell P. Flower
Memorial Library



