

City Manager's Status and Information Update

September 12, 2025

Check out
our Website!

[City of Watertown, New
York – City Manager
\(watertown-ny.gov\)](https://www.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
✓ Civil Engineer I	✓ Motor Equip Mechanic
✓ Laborer I	✓ Municipal Worker I
✓ Facilities Maintenance Worker	✓ Librarian II

For a complete list of all the opportunities available, visit our website:

<https://watertown-portal.mycivilservice.com/jobopps>

Civil Service

CIVIL SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Civil Service Exams:

- Police Captain
- Police Lieutenant
- Water Distribution System Supervisor
- Water Distribution System Operator

Open Position:

- Assistant City Engineer
- Civil Engineer
- Facility Maintenance Worker
- Laborer I
- Laborer II
- Librarian II
- Motor Equipment Mechanic
- Municipal Worker
- Motor Equipment Operator
- P&R Attendant
- Refuse/Recycle MEO
- School Crossing Guard
- Stock Attendant
- Transit Operator

Apply through our portal:
<https://watertown-portal.mycivilservice.com/jobopps>





New Hires

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

- Dylan Escudero – Municipal Worker I
- John Jamieson – Police Officer
- Taylor Green – Motor Equipment Operator

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 afowler@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.

City Council Meetings



Stay updated with the meeting minutes from the September 2, 2025, City Council Meeting:

[09-02-2025 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 October are on **Monday, October 6**, and **Monday, October 20, 2025**. The October City Council Work Session is **Tuesday, October 14**.

Assessment Department

The assessment office will be conducting fieldwork throughout the City on Tuesdays or Wednesdays (weather permitting) each week until further notice.

Our office has officially started taking exemptions for the 2026 roll year.

Just a reminder, tax bills are due three times a year. City tax bills were mailed in July, school tax bills will be mailed in October and county bills are mailed in January.

City Clerk's Office

September is the New June?

Traditionally, June is the month for weddings. However, this year, September has started off with a rush of marriage licenses and weddings in the City Clerk's Office.

In the first five business days of September, the City Clerk's Office has issued 33 marriage licenses and performed 18 weddings! For comparison, during the same time period last year, we had issued only 13 licenses and performed 12 weddings.



If you have an upcoming marriage and would like to obtain your marriage license from the City Clerk's Office, you can find the requirements and fees here:

<https://www.watertown-ny.gov/departments/clerk/MarriageLicense>



And if you've been looking for an economical and convenient venue in which to be married, our wedding ceremonies cost \$75, and if you obtained your marriage license from our office, you will receive your Marriage Certificate the day of your wedding. We conduct wedding ceremonies within our office or in the City's gazebo between City Hall and the Library. More information regarding having your ceremony performed by our office can be found here:

<https://www.watertown-ny.gov/departments/clerk/WeddingCeremonies>

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 #2025-19 Demolition Project – Various Properties – Deadline 9/17/25

The City of Watertown is seeking sealed bids from qualified bidders for the work which consists of abating and demolishing the existing structures on project site(s) located within the City of Watertown. The successful contractor will be required to provide all labor, materials, machinery, tools, equipment, and other means of construction necessary and incidental to the completion of the work 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/467/>

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](#)

Fire Department

Water Rescue Training:

The department has been doing its annual in-service training for swift water rescue. Our crews have been practicing rescues, shallow water crossings, boat righting, and shore-based rescues. The training will continue in the coming weeks.



Recruit Academy:

The recruit academy spent several days this week at the Fort Drum Fire Department's training facility. While training, they got their first exposure to heat and smoke. The recruits practiced hose line advancement, ventilation, and search tactics.





Police Department

9/11 Ceremony at JCC:

Recruits from both the Watertown Police and the Watertown Fire Academies participated in the annual 9/11 Ceremony, put on by Jefferson Community College.



Police Academy:

The Black River/St. Lawrence Valley Police Academy Class of 2025-2026 is in its thirteenth week of training. For the past few weeks, they have been training in topics such as physical fitness, crime control techniques, defensive tactics, officer wellness, stop/question/frisk, search & seizure, accusatory instruments, elder abuse, report writing, and aerosol subject restraint (OC/pepper spray).

Recruit officers participated in OC (pepper spray) training, which included spraying each other!



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>

Code Enforcement



497 NEWELL STREET – Half Pints International Brewhaus has successfully completed its final inspection by Code Enforcement and has been issued a Certificate of Occupancy. The new Brewhaus will officially open for business on SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2025. Guests can look forward to a variety of amenities, including a shuffleboard table, pool table, darts, and air hockey.



Code Enforcement continues to respond to complaints and conduct inspections related to Property Maintenance Issues, including trash accumulation, tall grass, overgrown weeds, and brush removal.

From January 1, 2025, to the present, the Code Enforcement Department has issued the following:

- 531 Permits
- 765 Trash & Debris violation letters
- 160 Property Maintenance violation letters
- 368 Tall Grass violation letters
- 142 Properties were referred to the City's 3rd party contractor for Tall Grass violations, **97** were removed by the City's 3rd-party contractor
- 145 Properties were referred to the City's 3rd party contractor for Trash & Debris violations, **74** were removed by the City's 3rd-party contractor

ONGOING PROJECTS THAT HAVE BEEN PERMITTED/ PROJECT COST:

- 328 Walker Avenue/ Meadowbrook Apartments: new roofs on all buildings. \$1,875,000
- 981 Waterman Drive- Sackets Harbor Brewing Additions. \$650,000
- 160 Main Avenue -63 New Apartments. \$20,340,971

- 136 Court Street- 5 new apartments, 2nd and 3rd floor-\$300,000
- 447 Flower Avenue West, new single-family home \$500,000
- 231 Commerce Drive -DePaul Apartments 123 units 4-story building-\$37,800,000

COMPLETED PROJECTS:

- 700 William T. Field new women's locker room and generator relocation-\$538,500
- 302 Court Street- Renovation for 11 New Apartments on the second floor-\$1,700,000
- 497 Newell Street- Half Pints Brewery-\$6,000

UPCOMING PROJECT:

- 1316 Washington Street-Samaritan Medical Pharmacy Build to be located in the former Key Bank location.
- 1068 Arsenal Street-7 Brew Drive Thru Coffee House



PROGRESS CONTINUES AT THE MILL AND MAIN PROJECT. The façade is steadily taking shape, as shown above.

302 Court Street Project:



The original GLOBE lettering was preserved and reapplied, with the "O" redesigned to incorporate the BOCES logo.

Buildings & Grounds:

The Buildings and Grounds Crew continues to maintain City Hall, the Farmers Market, and the Flower Memorial Library. One of their most recent projects took place in the Children's Room at the Flower Memorial Library, where the tile floor was stripped, waxed, and now shines beautifully!



Public Works Department

Roads Crew:

Crews are out working on street construction throughout the city. We are working on a system that is worst to first.



Buildings and Grounds:

Regular scheduled maintenance was performed on the public square fountain. Cleaning entailed the removal of graffiti, dirt, leaves, and any other debris.

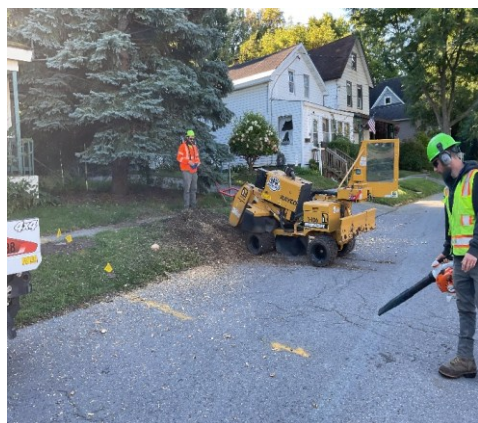
**Electrical:**

DPW crews have been working on replacing and updating traffic signals.



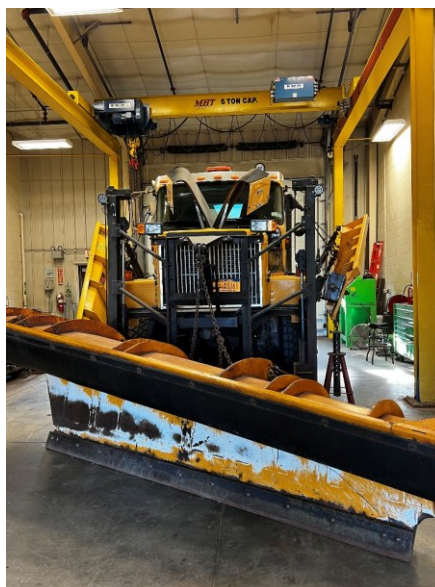
Forestry:

DPW crews are busy grinding out stumps left from previously removed trees. Meanwhile, the City's new forester is evaluating our extensive tree inventory and identifying trees that need attention or removal to keep our urban forest healthy.



Fleet Maintenance

Mechanics are servicing the fleet and preparing for another winter.



Water Distribution Department

Lead Service Replacements:

Three lead service investigations have been conducted, and two services have been replaced in recent weeks.

Service Repair:



City crews have completed multiple service repairs in recent weeks, including ball valve replacements, curb box resets, and frozen meter replacements. In addition, department staff installed a new 6-inch valve on a fire service

Main Break/Leak Investigation:



One main repair occurred on Highland Avenue since the last update. Over 6-feet of 6-inch main was replaced.

Additional Work:



Distribution staff are assisting the contractor with street reconstruction on Burlington Street. The final tie-ins are now complete and the new water main is in service. Crews will finish capping the old

main on September 9, 2025, with the last cap at Burlington and East Main.

Annual hydrant painting is underway, and to date, 149 hydrants have been touched up.

Staff also assisted with contracted work at 231 Commerce Park, where two new private hydrants have been installed and the fire service has been activated.

As part of cold-weather preparations, staff have begun checking and pumping out hydrants. Approximately 880 hydrants will need to be inspected and dewatered before winter.

Water Filtration Department

The Water Filtration Plant Maintenance team has been upgrading sump pump control boxes. Over time, the old boxes had deteriorated, and many were located in the sump pits. The team has installed new watertight boxes, and any boxes that were in the pits have been relocated to safer positions. This improvement makes working on the pumps much safer—without it, staff would have to enter pits with standing water.



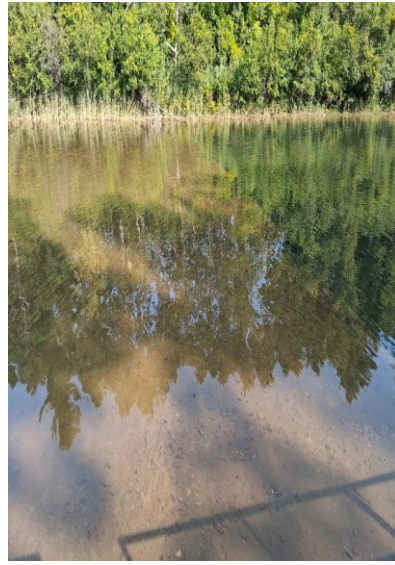


These upgrades have also given us the ability to integrate the controls into SCADA, which gives the team the ability to monitor the pits for issues.



The Water Filtration Plant's Operations team has been conducting dredging operations. The team started in May. They have removed all the reachable sludge between the DOSE station and the Baffle. This week, the team worked on moving the dredge over the baffles to start dredging on the Coagulation side. This task takes a lot of careful planning and hard work. The team had to build a new landing zone for the flat bottom boat that is used to move the dredge. Clear cut along the basins water edge, run a new cross cable. Operations will run for the next month and a half, weather depending.





Parks and Recreation Department

Ice Arena:



Parks & Recreation crews have been hard at work preparing the ice surface for the upcoming season. This process requires both time and expertise, and the ice looks great! The Arena will officially open this weekend, hosting a JCC hockey tournament.

For an updated ice schedule please visit: [Watertown Municipal Arena](#) or our [Facebook Page](#)



Golf Course:

The Thompson Park Golf Course has enjoyed a nice summer season and is looking forward to a great fall. So far, September is off to a solid start with 557 rounds played. Be sure to stop up and get in a few more rounds while the good weather lasts!

City Pools:

The pool season has officially come to an end. Both Flynn Pool and Thompson Park Pool have been winterized for the year. While the season began and ended with cooler than normal weather, patrons were able to enjoy a warm and dry summer overall.

Thank you for a great season—we look forward to seeing you next summer!

**Splashpads will remain open while the weather permits.*



2025 Harvest Festival – September 26-28:



Mark your calendars! This year's Harvest Festival comes with a new look and a new location. Join us at the Fairgrounds for carnival rides, a Volksmarch, live entertainment, vendors, food, and drinks. **Check out the newly released entertainment schedule!**

Harvest Festival Volksmarch:



VOLKSMARCH: SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH! This free event, presented in partnership with the North Country German American Club, kicks off at the Fairgrounds. Enjoy a scenic fall family walk along the beautiful Black River and through the JCC walking trails before returning to the Fairgrounds. Bratwurst and beverages will be available upon your return. This walk is open to all ages—just register using the link below!

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PARKS & RECREATION
CITY OF WATERTOWN, NY

Harvest FESTIVAL

SEPT 26 • 27 • 28

Carnival ~ Vendors ~ Live Music
Volksmarch ~ Biergarten

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 26 • 4PM~9PM
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 27 • 12PM~9PM
SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 28 • 12PM~4PM

VENDOR SIGN-UP
We are seeking vendors and crafters to participate in our annual harvest festival. Please use the QR codes to register!

SATURDAY SUNDAY BOTH DAYS

www.watertown-ny.gov/HarvestFest2025-1

Roswell P. Flower Memorial Library

July 2024-June 2025 at

FLOWER MEMORIAL LIBRARY

TAKE A LOOK AT A YEAR IN THE LIFE OF YOUR LIBRARY 

New Library Cards Issued 1,810	Item Checkouts 93,122	Computer Sessions 6,502
Library Visitors 84,882	E-media Checkouts 18,878	WiFi Sessions 237,307
Genealogy Visitors 162	Meeting Room Reservations 925	Proctored Exams 34
	Reference Questions 1,891	



Above: the library during the fall of 2024.

Below: our lions were named via a contest during the summer of 2024.



Library Events Offered for:

Kids	Teen	Adults
261	99	205

Library Event Participation:

Kids	Teen	Adults
11,302	1,242	2,859

Updates Made to Library Services:

Implemented modern patron notices using *LX Starter*

Installed a time management system on public computers called *Envisionware*

Began accepting new forms of payment using an updated cash register



229 Washington Street
Watertown, NY 13601

315-785-7705

flowerlibrary.org

A Message From Our Director:

Dear Community Members,

As we reflect on the past year, I am filled with pride and gratitude for everything we have accomplished together at Flower Memorial Library. Our library continues to grow, innovate, and serve as a cornerstone of learning, connection, and inspiration in our community.

Over the past year, we've reached several important milestones:

Expanded Collections

We added thousands of new books, audiobooks, and digital resources, ensuring our collection reflects diverse voices and meets the evolving interests and needs of our patrons.

Technology Access and Innovation

We upgraded our public computers and added laptops for public use, helping bridge the digital divide. Our tech workshops—from computer basics to video game design—have been a big hit.

Programs for All Ages

We offered more programs than ever this year, including early literacy story times, tween sewing classes, teen gaming, adult craft nights, and local history workshops. Our summer and winter reading programs saw record participation, fostering a love of reading across generations.

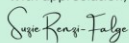
Community Partnerships

We deepened collaborations with local schools, nonprofits, and city departments. These partnerships have allowed us to offer free educational workshops, antipoverty initiatives, and cultural events that enrich our entire community.

All of this is made possible because of you—our patrons, partners, staff, and supporters. Your enthusiasm, feedback, and advocacy help shape our vision for the future.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to innovation, equity, and community-centered service. Thank you for making this library a place where everyone belongs.

With appreciation,



Executive Director



Flower Library celebrated 120 years of service on January 4th, 2025 with a large party!



LEGO club with Jack Falge

Join us one Thursday a month in the South Reading Room from 4 pm-5:30 pm for LEGO CLUB! All ages are welcome to attend. All the Legos will be provided for you. Theme builds will be announced during each program.

September 18 * October 16 *
November 20



FAMILY MOVIE & CRAFT AFTERNOON



Join us one Saturday a month in the South Reading Room for a family friendly movie, a simple craft, and a tasty treat! Free for all ages and abilities.

September 20
Snow White (2025, G)
2 pm - 3:45 pm



October 11
Hocus Pocus (1993, PG)
2 pm - 3:45 pm



November 1
Lilo & Stitch (2025, PG)
2 pm - 3:45 pm



Movie Screening provided by the Friends of the Flower Memorial Library from Swarth Motion Pictures.

Between the Covers: Romance Book Club

Join us to chat about all things books and romance!
No book club experience needed. All meetings begin at 6:30pm.



Wednesday,
September 17th



Wednesday,
October 15th



Wednesday,
November 19th

Any adult welcome! Meetings are free and held on Zoom.
Visit our Calendar of Events to get the link.



Call Ashley P. for event questions at 315-785-7714.

www.FlowerLibrary.org



@FlowerMemorialLibrary

@flowermemlib

