

JULY 31, 2026



CITY OF WATERTOWN CITY MANAGER UPDATE

OPPORTUNITIES WITH WATERTOWN

The City of Watertown is more than a workplace; it is a place where your work makes a real difference every day. From maintaining essential services to supporting our active community, our employees play a vital role in shaping the quality of life for residents and visitors alike. If you are looking for meaningful work, professional growth, and the chance to serve your community, we invite you to explore the opportunities currently available with the City of Watertown.

WE'RE HIRING!

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

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

THE CITY OF WATERTOWN IS HIRING!



Open Positions:

- Facility Maintenance Worker (Watertown Housing Authority)
- Lineworker I (Full Time)
- Motor Equipment Operator (Full Time)
- Municipal Worker
- Refuse/Recycle MEO (Full Time)
- School Crossing Guard (Seasonal)
- Senior Engineering Technician

Exam Opportunities:

- Police Officer
 - Application Deadline: 9/6/2026
 - Exam Date: 10/17/2026

Apply through our portal:

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



Questions?: Reach out to the Civil Service Office for more information.

PLEASE JOIN US IN WELCOMING OUR NEWEST HIRES TO THE CITY OF WATERTOWN!

- Robert Simpson – Firefighter
- Derek Wiley – Firefighter
- Cameron Derouin – Firefighter
- Bryan Eldridge – Firefighter
- Graden Lamoreaux – Firefighter
- James Carkhuff – Firefighter
- Ryan Bleidorn – Firefighter
- Zachary Intorcchia – Firefighter
- Julian Taylor – Municipal Worker DPW



CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Stay updated with the meeting minutes from the July 20, 2026, City Council Meeting:

[City Council Meeting Minutes](#)

Upcoming City Council Meetings – 7 pm in Council Chambers at City Hall

- Monday, August 3, 2026
- Monday, August 17, 2026

Upcoming City Council Work Sessions – 7 pm in Council Chambers at City Hall

- Monday, August 10, 2026



Upcoming Public Hearing at 7:15 pm on Monday, August 3, 2026.

- Designating the Zoning Classification of a VL-3 Waterman Drive, Parcel Number 9-43-114.000 as Industrial
- Amending City Municipal Code § 310, Zoning

Appointment of New Police Chief – Cristin Lyon



The City is pleased to announce the appointment of Captain Cristin Lyon as the next Chief of Police, effective July 31, 2026. Chief Lyon brings more than 20 years of dedicated service to the Watertown Police Department, having served in a variety of leadership roles including Patrol Officer, Detective, Sergeant, Lieutenant, and most recently, Captain. Throughout her career, she has demonstrated a strong commitment to professional excellence, community engagement, officer training, and accreditation. The City looks forward to Chief Lyon's continued leadership and congratulates her on this well-deserved appointment.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE CITY

WATERTOWN Farm AND Craft Market EST 1977

CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OF JEFFERSON COUNTY

Every Wednesday from May 27 through October 7, 2026.



41st ANNUAL BRAVO! Italian Festival

Fri., Sept. 11th Opens at 4pm
Sat., Sept. 12th Opens at 10am

ITALIAN FOOD
MISS ITALIAN PAGEANT
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

FRIED DOUGH
SAUSAGE SANDWICHES
PIZZA
VENDORS

CELEBRATING 41 YEARS

Celebrate When
TRADITION MEETS TOMORROW



2026 TRINITY SUMMER CONCERT SERIES PRESENTS
SUMMER CONCERTS
6 PM THURSDAYS

FREE ADMISSION & CONCESSIONS
(donations gratefully accepted)

JUNE 18 FALL CREEK BRASS BAND
JUNE 25 THE STRAND JAZZ COLLECTIVE
JULY 2 ARRHYTHMIAS
JULY 9 GARLAND CITY FIDDLERS
JULY 16 SKIP STARR AND THE RENDITIONS
JULY 23 BAD HUSBANDS CLUB
JULY 30 REV THEATRE: JACK AND THE TURNIP ROOT*
AUG 6 10TH MOUNTAIN DIVISION BAND
AUG 13 ATKINSON FAMILY BLUEGRASS BAND
AUG 20 OCEAN'S BELOW

*CHILDREN'S THEATRE ONLY. NO MUSIC AT THE JULY 30 EVENT.

TRINITY CHURCH SOUTH LAWN
227 SHERMAN STREET, WATERTOWN

BRING LAWN CHAIRS AND BLANKETS
CITY LOT PARKING AVAILABLE OFF STONE AND CLINTON STREETS
CONCERTS ARE MOVED INDOORS FOR INCLEMENT WEATHER

TRINITYCONCERTS.ORG



Downtown BLOCK PARTY Series
WATERTOWN · NY

Friday, July 31

ASSESSMENT DEPARTMENT

The Assessor's Office continues to make steady progress on annual assessment activities, including updating property records, entering recent property sales, processing exemptions, and reviewing building permits to ensure assessment data remains current and accurate.

Staff also recently completed a week of professional training focused on updates to RPSV4, the assessment software used throughout New York State. The training covered new software features, updated policies and procedures, and enhanced techniques for working with both Microsoft Excel and RPSV4 to improve efficiency and data management.

The Assessor's Office would also like to remind residents that the deadline to file property tax exemption applications is **December 1, 2026**. Property owners who believe they may qualify for an exemption are encouraged to contact the Assessor's Office for additional information and application assistance before the deadline.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Central Garage

The City of Watertown took ownership of a new ladder truck. This newest addition will serve well for many years to come, with the complexity and versatility of fire calls this will only aid in giving the community a safe and reliable service.

Electrical

Our electrical team complete work on State street to replace damage cable lines within the traffic light infrastructure.



Roads

Crews continue to pave Water Street which is one of the largest stretches of road to be paved in past years.

Crews will also be setting up for the second Block Party held in Public Square on July 31st. This event is a huge coordination between city departments to close the North side of Public Square and provide all the supporting tasks.



Refuse & Recycling

Our Refuse team was recently highlighted on Channel 7 News with a ride-long and promotional article.

Check it out! - <https://www.wnnytv.com/2026/07/29/watertown-invests-new-garbage-trucks-streamlined-routes/>

Watertown invests in new garbage trucks, streamlined routes

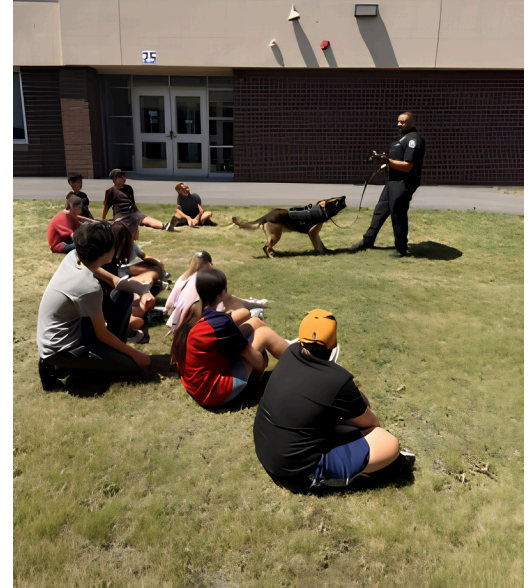
City keeps trash pickup service after budget debate, upgrades equipment and adjusts collection zones



The city's Department of Public Works is operating with two new garbage trucks and a revised set of collection routes.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Det. Scott Freeman and Luna attended Officer Shane Ryan's retirement ceremony at City Hall on July 17, 2026. On the same day Officer Workman and K9 Bach conducted a K9 demonstration for students at Carthage Middle School.



The Black River/St. Lawrence Valley Police Academy recruits are hard at work, learning Standardized Field Sobriety Testing and proper collection and processing of evidence.



CHIEF DONOGHUE RETIREMENT

The City of Watertown proudly recognized Police Chief Charles Donoghue for 33 years of dedicated service to our community. Senator Mark Walczyk, Assemblyman Scott Gray, Mayor Sarah V.C. Pierce, and City Manager Eric Wagenaar joined in recognizing his leadership, accomplishments, and commitment to the City. Congratulations on your retirement, Chief Donoghue! We wish you all the best! 🎉



== Cheers to ==
RETIREMENT!

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.

Bid #2026-13 Huntington Street Watermain Replacement – Deadline 8/25/26

The City of Watertown is seeking sealed bids from qualified bidders for the Huntington Street Watermain Replacement. The work of the project generally consist of furnishing all the labor, tools, materials, and equipment to construct +/- 11,150 linear feet (LF) of 8", 10" and 16" watermain, including curb stops, gate valves, hydrants, bypass and other associated work. Please use the link for additional information: <https://prod3.evo.cloud/watertownny/portal/bids/544/>

Please visit our website at [City of Watertown – Purchasing Department](#) for all Bid/RFP opportunities. 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.

CITIBUS



Transportation Planner Available to Help

If you've seen someone riding the buses, talking with passengers, or out in the community lately, you've probably met Jessica Raymond, the City's Transportation Planner.

Jessica is available to help with transportation questions and can assist with:

- Learning how to ride CitiBus (travel training)
- Finding transportation options that fit your needs
- Identifying transportation barriers
- Connecting you with the right transportation provider or community resource

Jessica works with all types of transportation, not just CitiBus. If your question involves Jefferson County Public Transit (JCPT), she can help point you in the right direction and connect you with the appropriate staff.

Interested in Serving on the Transit Committee?

The committee brings together passengers, community organizations, human service agencies, businesses, and residents to share ideas and provide input on public transportation in our community.

If you're interested in serving on the Transit Committee, please send both a letter of interest and a resume to:

Jessica Raymond, Planning Department, 245 Washington Street, Watertown, NY 13601

CARRY-ON ITEMS POLICY

For the safety and accessibility of all passengers.

✓ ALLOWED



Carts within
size limits



Items completely
contained within
carts or bags



Personal belongings
kept under the
passenger's control



Wheelchair
securement areas
available when needed

MAXIMUM CART SIZE:
30" H x 18" W x 18" D
(excluding wheels and handles)

- All items must remain under the passenger's control at all times.
- Passengers are limited to items that can be boarded in a **single trip**.

✗ NOT ALLOWED



Oversized carts
exceeding:
30" H x 18" W x 18" D
(excluding wheels
and handles)



Items protruding
from, hanging from,
or attached to the
outside of **carts**
and walkers.



Items blocking
aisles, doorways,
emergency exits,
or walkways



Personal
belongings
occupying
additional
passenger seats



Multiple
boarding trips
to load
belongings



Items creating
a safety hazard
or interfering with
passenger
movement



- Wheelchair securement areas must be vacated when needed for passengers using mobility devices.



- Aisles, doorways, emergency exits, and walkways must remain clear at all times.



- Strollers must not block aisles, doorways, emergency exits, or passenger movement.



- CitiBus personnel will determine whether items can be safely transported.

FAILURE TO COMPLY MAY RESULT IN:



**DENIAL OF
BOARDING**



**REMOVAL FROM
THE VEHICLE**



**SUSPENSION
OF SERVICE**



**REFERRAL TO
LAW ENFORCEMENT**

*Thank you for helping keep CitiBus safe,
accessible, and reliable for everyone.*



Questions or concerns?
Call Watertown CitiBus:
315-785-7772

PASSENGER CODE OF CONDUCT

Thank you for helping us keep CitiBus safe, respectful and accessible for all.



FARES & PAYMENT

- Pay the correct fare before taking a seat.
- Reduced fare passengers must show valid ID when requested.
- Operators do not make change.
- Use passes and transfers in accordance with CitiBus policies.



PASSENGER CONDUCT

PLEASE:

- ✓ Follow instructions from CitiBus personnel.
- ✓ Be respectful of others and our employees.
- ✓ Keep the bus clean.
- ✓ Keep hands, feet and belongings to yourself.

PLEASE DO NOT:

- ⊘ Use abusive, threatening or discriminatory language.
- ⊘ Fight, threaten or harass others.
- ⊘ Play music or audio without headphones.
- ⊘ Smoke, vape, use tobacco, alcohol or illegal drugs.
- ⊘ Litter, vandalize or damage property.
- ⊘ Distract the operator while the bus is in motion.



PRIORITY SEATING

Priority seating is for seniors and individuals with disabilities.

Please move when requested.

Wheelchair securement areas must remain available.

CARRY-ON ITEMS, CARTS & STROLLERS

For everyone's safety, items must be controlled by the passenger and may not block aisles, doorways, emergency exits or wheelchair securement areas.



Items must fit on your lap, under your seat, or between your feet without blocking the aisle.



Carts may not exceed 30" H x 18" W x 18" D (excluding wheels and handles).



All items must fit completely inside. Nothing may protrude, hang from or be attached outside.



Do not block aisles, doorways, emergency exits or vehicle walkways.



Fold strollers when practical. Do not block aisles or doorways.



Do not use additional seats for bags or packages.



Mobility aids (wheelchairs, walkers, canes, etc.) are permitted in accordance with the ADA. When practical and not needed for immediate use, items should be folded or positioned to minimize obstruction.



SERVICE ANIMALS

Service animals are welcome in accordance with the ADA.



FOR YOUR SAFETY

- Stay seated while the bus is in motion.
- Keep aisles and steps clear.
- Do not extend body parts or belongings out of windows.
- Do not interfere with emergency equipment.



CITIBUS AUTHORITY

CitiBus personnel determine what is safe and appropriate. You must follow their instructions.



VIOLATIONS OF THIS CODE OF CONDUCT MAY RESULT IN:

- Being asked to correct the issue
- Removal from the bus or facility
- Denial of future service
- Suspension from service

Criminal activity will be reported to law enforcement.

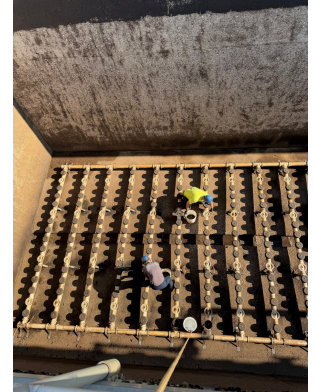
Your cooperation helps keep CitiBus safe and reliable for our entire community.

Questions or concerns? Contact Watertown CitiBus: **315-785-7772** | www.watertown-ny.gov/citibus

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) staff have been taking advantage of the lower wastewater flows experienced during the summer months to complete several important maintenance and operational improvement projects throughout the facility.

With reduced influent flows, plant operators adjusted treatment operations by directing a greater portion of wastewater through the trickling filter process (Effluent A) while temporarily taking one of the four aeration tanks in the activated sludge process (Effluent B) out of service. Draining the tank allowed maintenance staff to thoroughly clean, inspect, and evaluate the condition of the aeration tank diffusers and associated piping. This proactive maintenance helps ensure the long-term reliability and efficiency of the treatment process.



Plant staff also coordinated the beneficial reuse of approximately 300 tons of Class B biosolids. After being processed and dewatered at the treatment plant, the biosolids were transported by a trucking contractor to a nearby farm where they will be land-applied as fertilizer in accordance with all applicable environmental regulations. This beneficial reuse program supports sustainable waste management while providing nutrients for local agricultural operations.



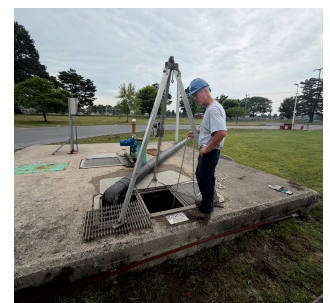
Following recent rain events, staff completed inspections and maintenance on several key components of the plant's grit removal system. The grit classifier, which separates heavy inorganic materials such as sand, gravel, and rocks from the wastewater stream, was inspected to ensure proper operation. By removing these abrasive materials before they reach downstream equipment, the grit removal system helps reduce wear on pumps and treatment equipment while maintaining efficient plant performance.



Maintenance staff also disassembled a grit removal pump after heavy rainfall to inspect its condition and remove accumulated rocks and debris. During the maintenance process, the pump's wear plate and impeller were replaced to restore reliable operation and ensure the continued effectiveness of the grit removal system.



In coordination with the Department of Public Works (DPW), WWTP staff also removed accumulated rocks and debris from sewer lines leading to the treatment facility. To safely complete the work, wastewater flow was temporarily isolated at an upstream manhole and bypass pumped directly to the plant headworks. Heavy rain events can carry rocks and other debris through the collection system, where they accumulate over time and require periodic removal to maintain proper flow and protect critical treatment equipment.



PARKS AND RECREATION



POOL HOURS



Thompson Park Pool:

- Open daily from 12:00–7:00pm.

Flynn Pool:

- Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday – 1:00–6:00pm
- Tuesday and Thursday – CLOSED



Around the City

The Parks & Recreation team has been busy this Summer doing a little of everything. We were able to clean up and trim around the JB Wise parking lot.

We also had the T.I Challenge Softball tournament from July 17th to the 19th. 74 teams were in the tournament. Our staff was able to make sure the fields were taken care of for the entire tournament despite the challenges with the weather.

Thompson Park Golf Course

The 2026 Watertown Men's City Golf Tournament was held at the Thompson Park Golf Course with 76 participants competing for the title. The week-long event began with individual 18-hole stroke play on Saturday July 11th. On Sunday July 12th, the field was reduced to 64 with 32 players competing in a full week of match play in the Championship Flight and First Flight respectively. The tournament concluded on Sunday July 19th. TJ Penn was crowned City Champion winning the tournament on the 1st hole of sudden death over Matt Barton. Brian Sheley won the First Flight, defeating Hayden Freeman.

Thompson Park Golf Course hosted a three-day Golf Camp from July 20–22, with participants attending from 9:00–12:00p.m. each day. Campers learned the fundamentals of golf through instruction in putting, chipping, and full swing, rotating through three skill-building stations led by staff. To wrap up the experience, participants had the opportunity to take their new skills onto the course and play a few holes. The camp was a great success, providing a fun and engaging introduction to the game while helping young golfers build confidence and sportsmanship. It was a fantastic three days enjoyed by all involved.



50 & OVER PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT



DATE: Saturday, August 8th

TIME: 9:00 AM Start

LOCATION: Watertown Municipal Arena

FEE: \$40 Per Team

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8TH
9:00AM START TIME

WOMEN'S

MEN'S

**MIXED
DOUBLES**



Registration Details: June 1st - August 5th
<https://secure.recl.com/NY/watertown-ny/catalog>
Call 315-785-7775 if you need assistance



SANDLOT BASEBALL

PICKUP GAMES & RANDOM TEAMS
VOLUNTEER COACHES NEEDED!

- FAIRGROUNDS FIELDS**
- DAY: FRIDAYS**
- SEPT 11 - OCT 18TH**
- TIME: 6-7:30PM**

REGISTRATION BEGINS
MONDAY JULY 20TH

— FOR AGES 12 AND UNDER —
AS OF MAY 1, 2026

PRICES:

- CITY RESIDENTS/MILITARY \$20**
- NON-RESIDENTS \$40**

**SCAN TO
REGISTER!**



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

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CITY OF WATERTOWN



CLUB VORTEX

YOUTH RUNNING PROGRAM

We 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.

PROGRAM DATES
MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS
SEPTEMBER 21 -
OCTOBER 21

NO CLASS ON
COLUMBUS DAY
(OCTOBER 12)

LOCATION
THOMPSON PARK
STONE PAVILION



REGISTRATION
AUGUST 17 -
SEPTEMBER 18

COST:

\$25 City Residents & Military | **\$45** Non-City Residents

Call 315-785-7775
with any questions.

Visit watertown-ny.gov/parks-rec
for more information & to register!



\$25

*city residents

Program Rates

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

Level Overview

- 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

SWIM LESSONS 2026

Session 1: Thompson Park Pool

10:45-11:30

Week 1 - July 6-10

Week 2 - July 13-17

Week 3 - July 20-24

Session 2: Flynn Pool

10:45-11:30

Week 1 - July 27-31

Week 2 - August 3-7

To register scan QR code or
go to

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

For Assistance call
(315) 785-7775



FLOWER MEMORIAL LIBRARY

The Great Dino Escape: Teen & Adult Escape Room



August 8th
from 10:00am-3:00pm
in the Community Room
For ages 12 and up

Try your hand at our Dinosaur Themed Escape Room!

Oh no! A T-Rex is on the loose, and you need to find the key to the library to escape! You'll have 45 minutes to solve puzzles and find clues to escape the T-Rex!

Registration preferred, walk-ins welcome if a time slot is available! Limit of 5 per group.

Call 315-785-7714 to register!



Roswell P. Flower
Memorial Library

Questions? Contact Ashley M: 315.785.7714

GOLDEN GIRLS AND CHEESECAKE

Come join us for two episodes of The Golden Girls and a slice of cheesecake. Tea and/or coffee will also be available

Saturday August 1st at 3:00 pm | Flower Memorial Library
Event Location: Library Community Room

No registration everyone 18+ is welcome!

Questions? Contact Olivia at 315-785-7715



Roswell P. Flower
Memorial Library



Roswell P. Flower
Memorial Library

Fossils, Gems & Minerals

Presented by local business Rising Aurora

Discover the fascinating world of fossils, gems, and minerals! Join us for an interactive presentation where kids can explore natural treasures and take home a free sample.



July 29 | August 12 | August 26
at 3:00 PM

For ages 3+ in the Children's Room



Roswell P. Flower
Memorial Library

Questions? Contact Jamie: 315-785-7709

KEEP WATERTOWN CLEAN & GREEN!

CITY OF WATERTOWN NY REFUSE SERVICE

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS



WEEKLY REFUSE PICKUP



WEEKLY RECYCLING INCLUDED



**CONVENIENT OPTIONS
FOR EVERY HOUSEHOLD**



SCAN HERE



315-785-7842

WWW.WATERTOWN-NY.GOV/REFUSERECYCLING