

AUGUST 14, 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!

- Cooper Lawler - Water Dept Municipal Worker 1
- Zachary Intorcia - Firefighter



CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Stay updated with the meeting minutes from the August 3, 2026, City Council Meeting:

[City Council Meeting Minutes](#)

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

- Monday, August 17, 2026
- Tuesday, September 8, 2026

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

- Monday, September 14, 2026



The Public is welcome to attend all meetings. Please see the [Rules of Conduct for Attendees of Public Meetings](#), which City Council adopted by Resolution on July 7, 2025.

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.



ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

City Hall Court Renovation

Construction continues to progress on the City Hall Court Renovation project. The new ductwork and wiring have been connected to the air handling units, including electrical connections serving the second and third floors. Stone subbase has been placed for the new entrance ramp, with concrete placement anticipated soon. Interior work is also advancing, with the first coat of paint applied to many walls, ceiling grid installation substantially underway, and lighting installation beginning.



Burlington Street Reconstruction

Work on the Burlington Street Reconstruction project is nearing completion. Following a project walkthrough on July 24 to identify remaining items, the contractor has completed many of the punch list items and installed pavement markings along Burlington Street.



Huntington Street Water Main Replacement

The Huntington Street Water Main Replacement project has been advertised for bid. A pre-bid walkthrough was held on August 6, 2026, and bids are scheduled to be opened on August 25, 2026.

Water Treatment Plant COAG Roof Replacement

Construction of the Water Treatment Plant COAG Roof Replacement has progressed significantly. The contractor has removed the existing roofing materials and installed the new roofing system. An inspection of the completed roof is expected to take place soon.

Headwater Level System Upgrade – Phase 2

Engineering staff continues to revise the Phase 2 bid package for the Headwater Level System Upgrade based on feedback received from potential bidders. Revisions address concerns related to PLC card requirements and programming responsibilities, with the goal of improving the bid package and encouraging competitive proposals.

Fish Bypass Repair Project

Repairs to the fish bypass system are underway. The pumps that have been in service for more than 20 years have been removed for maintenance and cleaning, and debris has been cleared from the intake area. The dewatering work will also provide an opportunity to further evaluate the bypass system and determine the appropriate course of action for remaining repairs. Work is expected to begin on Monday, August 17, 2026.

Western Outfall Trunk Sewer (WOTS) – Sanitary Sewer and Stormwater Improvements

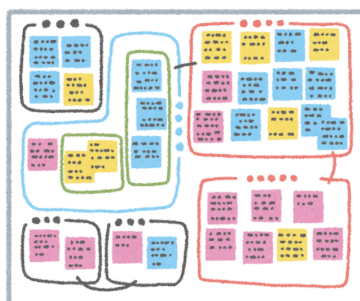
City Engineering has commenced the sanitary/storm sewer separation project on the 100 block of Elm Street. The project will modernize existing infrastructure and improve a portion of the WOTS network. Proposed improvements include approximately 500 linear feet of 12-inch HDPE storm pipe and several concrete catch basins to improve stormwater drainage. Upon completion of the design, construction will be coordinated through Public Works or an independent contractor, with efforts made to minimize disruptions and maintain access for nearby residents and businesses.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Planning Commission

The Planning Commission met on August 11, 2026, to review several development proposals throughout the City. The Commission approved a subdivision request for 272 Green Street, an amendment to the previously approved Site Plan for 11 Breen Avenue, and a Special Use Permit for a marijuana dispensary at 952 Arsenal Street.

The Planning Commission is also seeking applicants to fill a current member vacancy. Additional information is available through the [City's Boards and Commissions webpage](#).





Adopt-A-Spot Program

The Planning Department recently welcomed the Choi family as the newest participant in the City's Adopt-A-Spot program. The family has adopted Whitewater Park and will assist with litter removal, leaf cleanup, and identifying potential hazards for City staff. The Planning Department has provided trash bags and visibility vests to support their efforts. The City thanks the Choi family for volunteering their time to help maintain and beautify Whitewater Park. Additional information about participating is available on the Planning Department's [Adopt-A-Spot Program webpage](#).

New Transportation Planner

The Planning Department recently welcomed Jessica Raymond as the City's new Transportation Planner. In this role, Jessica will coordinate transportation planning efforts and work closely with CitiBus to support the City's public transportation programs and initiatives.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Electrical

Our electrical team tackles many projects and request from every department in the city, including the Municipal Areana where upgrades to lighting are taking place.



Sewer

Contracted services are used to help clean and CCTV large infrastructure lines located near the Wastewater Treatment plant. This work helps to decrease debris in infrastructure lines, as well as assess conditions within our system to help determine any issues.



Roads

Ives street project continues with the installation of new ADA compliant ramps and sidewalks. Giving universal access to pedestrians and improving quality of life.



Building & Grounds

DPW would like to thank our Urban Forestry Assistants this summer for their persistent hard work and dedication. Their duties included watering new and established trees, weeding and taking care of shrubbery throughout the city. Additionally, participating in new tree plantings and even learning the behind the scenes city grant processes. They are a vital part of our Urban Forestry Program.



Training

Crews take advantage of training on our Sewer vac truck. This large and complex piece of equipment is used daily in our department, and it is important to stay up to date with the latest operations.



WATER DISTRIBUTION REPORT



Staffing: Welcomed a new Municipal Worker I on August 10. The department currently has two full-time vacancies and one seasonal part-time vacancy.

Lead Service Replacements: Completed three lead service replacements as part of the City's ongoing effort to address potentially hazardous galvanized service lines.

Service Work: Completed three service replacements and multiple service repairs, including ball valve replacements, curb stop resets, and service line repairs.

Main Breaks & Leak Detection: Completed three water main repairs and 0.5 miles of leak study. Repairs included a 12-inch AC main on Harris Drive, an 8-inch cast main on Breen Street, and a 6-inch cast main on Leray Street.

New Equipment Training: Staff received training on the new Ford SIM Tap tapping machine, which will improve efficiency when installing new service connections and eliminates the need for a portable generator.

Support for City Paving Projects: Assisted DPW with ditch preparation, gate resets, and hydrant meter installations in support of paving projects throughout the City.

Hydrant Maintenance: Completed the annual hydrant painting program, with 88 hydrants receiving fresh paint following the June DOH flushing program.

Hydrant Replacement: Nine hydrants have been repaired or replaced to date, with five additional replacements planned over the next two months.

Water Infrastructure Improvements: Staff oversaw the installation of 320 linear feet of ductile iron water service on Clinton Street.



POLLUTION CONTROL REPORT

STEMKAMP 2026: The Chief Operator spoke with STEMKAMP 2026 campers about the connection between STEM education and careers in the water industry, highlighting how water and wastewater careers incorporate problem-solving, chemistry, biology, engineering, and innovation to support a more sustainable community.

Aeration Tank Maintenance: An aeration tank was taken offline as part of the facility's annual seasonal maintenance. The shutdown allows staff to thoroughly clean and maintain the tank's air diffusers, helping ensure efficient operation when the tank returns to service.

Internship Program: Pollution Control Facility interns have gained hands-on experience in water resource recovery and have accompanied staff on required inspections of industrial and commercial sources throughout the City. Interns also had the opportunity to visit other water and wastewater facilities, expanding their understanding of the industry.

CSO Maintenance & Inspections: Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) locations continue to receive regular inspections and maintenance to ensure proper system operation and accurate identification and reporting of overflows.

Headworks Grit Removal: A contractor removed accumulated rocks and grit from the treatment plant's headworks. Removing this long-term buildup will improve the effectiveness of debris and grit removal, particularly during rain events when flows increase.



CSO Maintenance and Inspection



Summer Internship



Grit Removal



STEMKAMP 2026

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Employee of the Quarter:

On Thursday, August 13th, Manager Wagenaar presented retired Captain Robert "Andy" Weldon with the Employee of the Quarter Award.

Earlier this year, the Fire Department faced significant challenges with its apparatus fleet. With the department's primary ladder truck already out of service for mechanical repairs, the reserve ladder truck developed an electrical problem that rendered its aerial inoperable. Captain Weldon spent the day troubleshooting the problem and ultimately repaired the truck's electrical system, returning this critical piece of apparatus to service. His skill, persistence, and willingness to take on the problem helped ensure the department maintained vital aerial capability for the community.

Manager Wagenaar also presented Captain Weldon with his retirement plaque in recognition of his more than 23 years of service to the City of Watertown. Congratulations on a well-earned award, and best wishes for a long and enjoyable retirement, Captain Weldon!

Firefighter recruit class:

The Watertown firefighter recruit class has completed their second week of the academy. The academy consists of 8 City of Watertown, 2 Town of Watertown and 1 Plattsburgh NY recruit firefighters. This past week was busy with Firefighter 1 classroom and skills training. They also received a chainsaw safety and skills class sponsored by Burrville Power. We would like to thank Scott Simmons, owner of Burrville Power, and Tim O'Brien IBEW local 1249, for giving of their time and expertise.



POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Watertown Police Department conducted foot patrol at the July Downtown Block Party (07/31/26).



The Black River/St. Lawrence Valley Police Academy recruits completed their PT final exam on 08/06/26 at JCC. They learned about Courtroom Testimony on 08/10/26 from members of the Jefferson County District Attorney's Office at the Town of Watertown Court where they practiced providing testimony during a mock trial.



We are accepting applications for our entry-level police exam to be held on October 17. The deadline to apply is September 6! Sign up today!





August 3, 2026
Police Chief Cristin Lyon
Promotion Ceremony



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.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Pickleball

The Arena has been busy this summer with pickleball! Six courts are available Monday–Friday from 9:00am–3:30pm, as well as Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5:00–8:00pm.

Day passes are available for just \$4 for City residents and \$5 for non-residents. For the first time ever, we also offered season passes, and 33 pickleball players are season passholders.

There are still a couple of weeks remaining in the pickleball season before the ice returns. Stop by the Arena, grab your paddle, and come play!



CITY OF WATERTOWN



TEAM FUN
FOR ADULTS
18+

INCLUDES:
UMPIRE FEES,
GAMES &
PRACTICES

COMPETE FOR
THE CHAMPIONSHIP!

ADULT CO-ED KICKBALL LEAGUE

REGISTRATION:
AUGUST 10TH - SEPTEMBER 4TH



TO REGISTER VISIT:

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

TEAM ROSTERS
SHOULD HAVE A
MINIMUM OF
10 PLAYERS

AND A
MAXIMUM OF
18 PLAYERS,
AGES 18+.



7
SEASON
GAMES



PLAYOFFS
INCLUDED



TUESDAY
NIGHTS



CITY OF
WATERTOWN
BALL FIELDS

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.



REGISTRATION

AUGUST 17 –
SEPTEMBER 18



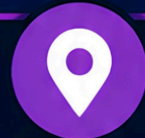
PROGRAM DATES

MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS

SEPTEMBER 21 –
OCTOBER 21



NO CLASS ON
COLUMBUS DAY
(OCTOBER 12)



LOCATION

THOMPSON PARK
STONE PAVILION



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!



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.rec1.com/NY/watertown-ny/catalog>

FLOWER MEMORIAL LIBRARY



Saturday, August 15th @ 10am

Held on Flower Library's main floor

Gather a team of up to 4 participants (ages 6+) and put your puzzle skills to the test! Compete to be the fastest team to finish a 200 piece puzzle. The 1st place team will receive a prize, and all teams will get to keep their puzzle. **Teams must contain at least 1 child ages 6 to 17 and at least 1 adult ages 18 or over.**

Registration is required! Registration is open from July 15th until full (8 spots in total). You can register by filling out an online form or by calling Ashley P at 315-785-7714. This will reserve one of eight spots for your team. When registering, please have all team member names, a phone number for at least one team member, and a team name.

Spots fill in quickly, so don't delay registering!



Save the Date

This event is free and open to all abilities.
It is held at Flower Library.



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

www.FlowerLibrary.org



Event held in partnership with Roswell P. Flower Memorial Library



JEFFERSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HISTORY and Genealogy Fair

Saturday
August 22
at 11am - 2pm

Share your stories and learn about climbing your family tree! Speak with local historians and explore the historic Paddock mansion.

FEATURING GUEST SPEAKERS:

Dr. Laurie Rush @ 11:30am: Geology and Immigration to Northern NY

Baylor Durant @ 12:30pm: Preserving Jefferson County's Past: 140 Years of the Jefferson County Historical Society

Dr. Jason White @ 1:30pm: History of Watertown, NY



Event Admission: \$5 per person

Event Location:
228 Washington Street,
Watertown NY



Contact Ashley M. or Ashley P.
at 315-785-7714.

A YEAR OF *Flower Library*



Roswell P. Flower
Memorial Library

FUNDING YEAR 2025-2026

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:
SUZIE RENZI-FALGE**



A LOOK AT THE NUMBERS

1,718 New Library Cards Issued
83,908 Library Visitors
147 Genealogy Visitors
90,496 Item Checkouts
20,072 E-media Checkouts



The dome of the library's rotunda was created by Frederick Lamb and features figures in fields such as History, Romance, Religion, and Science. Above the dome is an oculus, which forms a skylight for the building and provides access to the beautiful North Country sunlight!



Staff value community partnerships and work hard to cultivate them!

1,209 Meeting Room Reservations
1,376 Reference Questions
5,974 Computer Sessions
473,494 WiFi Sessions
22 Proctored Exams



LIBRARY EVENTS OFFERED FOR:

241 Kids Ages 0 to 11
84 Teen Ages 12 to 17
162 Adults Ages 18+

LIBRARY EVENT PARTICIPATION:

10,058 Kids Ages 0 to 11
1,337 Teen Ages 12 to 17
2,226 Adults Ages 18+



UPDATES MADE TO LIBRARY SERVICES:

Self-checkout was implemented for community use beginning in August of 2025. It is still available on the main floor near the Security Desk.

Staff earned a grant from the North Country Library System for the amount of \$1000. This grant covered an event series for adults called Budget Bites to Go and was in partnership with Cornell Cooperative Extension. Participants walked away with a variety of food skills and new knowledge as well as themed meal kits each month.

Architectural plans were created for the library's Future Makerspace and placed online by library staff. A bid was chosen for construction just before the close of the funding year. Progress is steadily moving forward! Stay tuned for updates and events as we begin to explore what it means to get hands-on with materials and learn how to create at the library.



@FlowerMemorialLibrary



@flowermemlib

229 WASHINGTON STREET, WATERTOWN NY

A NOTE FROM THE OFFICE OF *Suzie Renzi-Falge, Executive Director*

As we move through another exciting year at Roswell P. Flower Memorial Library, I want to take a moment to thank our community for your incredible support. Your enthusiasm, participation, and advocacy continue to inspire our staff and make our library a vibrant place for learning, connection, and discovery.

This year has already brought remarkable growth. We are thrilled to report that participation in our library programs has increased by more than 4,000 attendees compared to last year. From early literacy programs and family activities to educational workshops and community events, it is wonderful to see so many people of all ages making the library a part of their lives. This tremendous increase demonstrates the important role the library plays as a gathering place where our community can learn, create, and connect.

We are also excited to share progress on one of our most anticipated projects; the creation of our new Makerspace. Construction is scheduled to begin this fall, and we expect the project to be completed by the end of 2026. Once finished, the Makerspace will provide hands-on opportunities for creativity, innovation, technology, and lifelong learning. It represents an important investment in the future of our library and the community we serve, offering new experiences for children, teens, and adults alike.

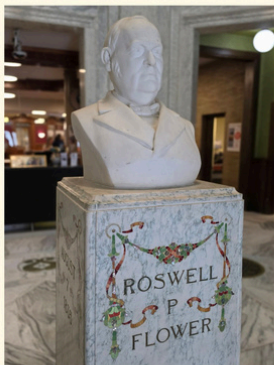
These accomplishments would not be possible without you. Whether you visit the library, attend programs, volunteer your time, support our fundraising efforts, or simply advocate for the importance of our library, your continued support makes a meaningful difference. Together, we are building a stronger library and a stronger community.

On behalf of our Board of Trustees and dedicated staff, thank you for believing in the mission of our library. We look forward to welcoming you through our doors and sharing many more exciting opportunities in the months ahead.

With gratitude,

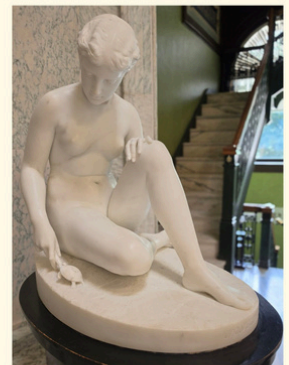
Suzie Renzi-Falge
Executive Director

See you soon!



When donating the funds to start the library in the early 1900s, Emma Flower Taylor chose to honor her father by naming the library after him. Roswell P. Flower was once Governor of New York State and was responsible for signing the Adirondack Park into law!

Launt Thompson's statue, "Unconsciousness," is located in the library's Rotunda and was created in 1881. This labor of love was made of marble, was not commissioned, and was his only nude sculpture. During rail transport to Watertown from New York City, her neck was broken.



229 WASHINGTON STREET, WATERTOWN NY

315-785-7705

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