

DECEMBER 10, 2024



Watertown City Council

Administration Building
149 Main Street
Watertown, MA 02472
Phone: 617-972-6470

CITY COUNCIL MEETING TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2024, 6:15 P.M. RICHARD E. MASTRANGELO COUNCIL CHAMBER ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 149 MAIN STREET

MINUTES

ACCESS INFORMATION:

- A. This meeting will be held on December 10, 2024 at 6:15 PM in the Richard E. Mastrangelo Council Chamber
- B. The meeting will be televised through WCATV (Watertown Cable Access Television): <http://vodwcatv.org/CablecastPublicSite/?channel=3>
- C. The Public may join the virtual meeting online: <https://watertown-ma.zoom.us/j/92991331344>
- D. Public may join the virtual meeting audio only by phone: (877) 853-5257 or (888) 475-4499 (Toll Free) and enter Webinar ID: 929 9133 1344
- E. Public may comment through email: vpiccirilli@watertown-ma.gov
- F. Please Visit the City Council Website here: <https://www.watertown-ma.gov/350/City-Council>

1. ROLL CALL

Council President Sideris called to order a regular meeting of the City Council at 6:15 p.m. in the Richard E. Mastrangelo Chamber, Administration Building. Those present were Councilors John M. Airasian, Caroline Bays, Lisa J. Feltner, John G. Gannon, Nicole Gardner, Emily Izzo, Anthony Palomba, Vice President Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., and Council President Mark S. Sideris. Also present were George Proakis City Manager, Mark Reich, City Attorney, and Brendan T. McCarthy, Council Clerk.

2. EXECUTIVE SESSION – 6:15 P.M.

- A. Executive Session pursuant to G.L.c. 30A, sec. 21 (a)(6) to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real estate, if the chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body - 1 Grove Street & 138 Waltham Street
- B. Executive Session pursuant to G.L.c. 30A, sec. 21 (a)(2) to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or conduct negotiations with non-union personnel - City Manager Salary Adjustment

Councilor Piccirilli moved to enter into Executive Session and Councilor Feltner seconded.

The motion passed unanimously in a Voice Vote.

3. RETURN TO SESSION – 7:00 P.M.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

5. PUBLIC FORUM

There were no participants in Public Forum.

6. EXAMINATION OF RECORDS OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- A. Minutes from Special City Council Meeting November 19, 2024

Councilor Piccirilli moved to adopt the minutes from November 19, 2024 and Councilor Feltner Seconded.

The motion carried unanimously in a Voice Vote.

- B. Minutes from City Council Meeting November 26, 2024

Councilor Piccirilli moved to adopt the minutes from November 26, 2024 and Councilor Feltner Seconded.

The motion carried unanimously in a Voice Vote.

7. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Sideris stated that the City Council has received a petition to address the Winter Parking Ban, that those signatures were recently certified by the Clerk, that there will be a Public Hearing within the next 3 months on the petition, and that there will be proper notifications for the public in the near future.

He then addressed conversations about the type of field for Victory Field inside the oval track. The Council voted in 2019 that the field will be grass and not artificial turf, and they are not going to entertain discussion of it changing to artificial turf.

Lastly, he recognized and thanked Marilyn Petitto Devaney for her many years of service in the Watertown City Council as well as the Governor's Council.

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Public Hearing and Vote on an Order Allocating the Property Tax Levy Among or Between Property Classes for Fiscal Year 2025

City Manager Proakis stated that this item's task is to allocate the property tax levy among and between property classes for Fiscal Year 2025.

City Assessor Earl Smith presented the classification hearing presentation (attached).

Key Points included the following:

- State law allows cities and towns to classify property according to use and property type and to establish separate rates for the different classes
- Watertown allows the community to shift 175% of the tax burden onto the commercial class
- Property values in town are up: residential class is roughly valued at \$600 million and commercial class is up to roughly \$200 million
- This year's levy is \$168,575,918, which represents a 2.5% rise and new growth sum of \$6,280,874 added to last year's levy of approximately \$158 million
- New growth helps fund capital programs, and averts the need for tax overrides, which Watertown has avoided for decades
- If there was no shift, the single tax rate would be \$13.08 – the residential class would be responsible for \$120 million in taxes, and commercial would be responsible for \$48 million
- With a proposed shift of 174.5%, the residential split tax responsibility is \$84,310,419, and the commercial tax responsibility is \$84,265,500
- Watertown has historically been in the middle of the pack for tax burden compared to surrounding communities, but now is seeing a lower tax burden in the same comparison
- The second part of the classification is approving the residential exemption
- The average residential value in Watertown is \$907,035 - with a proposed exemption of 35%, the average tax rate will be 11.83% which is about a 5.9% increase which creates the average tax bill to be about \$6,975
- Amounts will vary depending on type of residential dwelling – single family, 2 family, condo
- The recommendation to the Council is to approve 174.5% tax shift with a 35% residential exemption

Councilor Piccirilli read a submitted email from former Councilor Angie Kounelis (attached).

Linda Scott – 55 Olcott Street – Voiced concern and confusion regarding the average increase of assessed value in homes. She referenced a great variance in property values from streets next to each other, and noted that some of the most affluent or valuable homes have a smaller increase than the town average. This leads to a home on one street seeing a dramatic increase in the assessed value of anywhere from 13-20% while a more valuable home the next street over sees an increase of 8%. She also mentioned that the majority of the Councilors' homes have an increased value below Watertown's average.

Mr. Smith responded by saying that this year is a reevaluation certification year for the Massachusetts Bureau of Local Assessment. This happens every five years and is conducted utilizing methodology based on generally accepted Massachusetts appraisal practices, it is supported with current market evidence, and is uniformly and equitably applied to all properties.

He then stated that the certification is an extensive review process, which differs from interim years where all properties typically move at the same rate. In a certification year, they extensively look at each different type of property down to the square footage, design, and how they are reflective on the market, which inevitably creates nonuniformity from house to house – some values go up considerably more than others, some stay the same, some may even possibly go down. He added that the lower end tiers get the biggest bump, because they are currently the most sought after and in demand properties in the market.

Joan Gumbleton – 32 Falmouth Road – Voiced confusion about inconsistencies with increased assessed values with very similar houses on the same street. She also voiced concern for elderly individuals living in single family homes that were bought many years ago who are left with limited options and are feeling significant strain.

President Sideris asked for Assessor Smith to address the concern of similar houses on the same street having significantly different increases.

Mr. Smith responded that sometimes specific properties haven't been inspected anytime recently, and they may need to catch up to the rest of the houses on the street. They try to go off the most recent data points that are available to them, but they probably only get into about 10-20% of the physical houses per evaluation year. He added that everyone has the ability to file for abatement until February 3rd.

Elodia Thomas – 67 Marion Road – Thanks Mr. Smith for his work in dealing with the process of certification assessment. She then stated that seniors who are on a fixed income have the opportunity to defer paying property taxes up until after death if they so choose. She concluded by saying that there are a lot of "fires" going on in the City in terms of new zoning, continued increase projects, and increased hiring, but implored the public to have understanding with Mr. Smith as he has the toughest job in town which is conveying the increase of taxes.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to recommend that the Council adopt the maximum shift allowed by law, which is 174.5%, from residential to commercial and Councilor Feltner seconded.

The motion carried unanimously in a Voice Vote.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the provision of Chapter 59 Section 5C, approving a residential exemption and raising that percentage excluded from taxation to the maximum amount allowed by law, which is 35%, and Councilor Bays seconded.

Councilor Feltner asked for clarification on if they could discuss the actual rate.

Mr. Smith replied that the Department of Revenue is responsible for the rate. They look at what a city is raising for the levy, what property values are along with residential exemptions, but they are the ones who actually set the rate.

Councilor Feltner remarked that the charts in the presentation typically compare Watertown to the same surrounding communities, and asked if there was benefit to look at other communities that are used in compensation studies.

Mr. Smith responded that pertinent information is truly neighboring communities – location based.

Councilor Feltner asked if increased rate is always new growth plus 2.5%.

Mr. Smith replied that the City has typically always taken the 2.5%, which is consistent in most communities, to cover the rising cost on a base level. This helps avert an override.

City Manager Proakis added that there are communities that don't tax to the 2.5% limit, but there are also towns that consistently use overrides to cover. He stated that taxing below the 2.5% limit would only bring back modest returns to residents. He continued by saying that he presents a budget proposal every year in the spring with the 2.5% increase in mind, and that the budget could and would change should the Council see fit not to raise the 2.5%, but they would lose many projects like school funding without it. If they were to not opt into 2.5%, like some communities do, and operate on a deficit relying on an override to fund capital projects, then taxes overall would consistently be greater.

Councilor Piccirilli directed attention to the 10th slide on the presentation. On that slide, he pointed out that last year was an extremely unusual year where the average tax percentage rate was -10% due to a large influx in commercial tax revenue. He pointed out that although this year has an average tax bill change of 5.9% from last year, it is actually lower than the average tax bill in 2022 and 2023.

Councilor Izzo asked why there is a tax rate of 11.63 for a 33% residential exemption and rate of 11.83 for a 35% residential exemption.

Mr. Smith replied that it is because you're excluding 35% of the average residential value, which has to be raised, and multiplied by the number of exemptions which results in a lower amount of value to tax.

President Sideris remarked that he understands that people can be frustrated by the 5 year mandatory assessment certification which leads to an increase in tax rates, but reminded the public that the same process happened 5 years ago, and the same confusion and queries on rates occurred. He then noted that the 3rd party company to facilitate the certification was different than in years past, and asked what was the cause for the switch.

Mr. Smith replied that they switched from Patriot Properties to Vision Government Solutions because Vision has a more robust income valuation component that isn't present in Patriot, and the feeling was that Vision and a new Canvas system would serve the community better for the future. He added making the switch has not come without its difficulties, but Watertown will be better off in the long run.

President Sideris reiterated that the public can file for an abatement on their tax increase, which will prompt the assessors to come to your house and do a thorough assessment. He then thanked Mr. Smith for his guidance, specifically in timing of increasing the residential exemption where other communities have misjudged. He concluded by pointing out that the Council had multiple chances to suggest reducing tax increases, but did not do so when they voted for the budget policy guidelines and approval of the budget itself.

Councilor Gannon asked for more details on the residential exemption Watertown has put in place, and how much that benefits residents.

Mr. Smith replied that the average savings for the residential exemption would be \$3,756 per property. He stated that there are about 16 or 17 communities that use the exemption, mostly found either on Cape Cod or immediate Metropolitan Boston to reduce the burden of residents as opposed to absentee owners.

The motion carried unanimously in a Voice Vote.

9. MOTIONS, ORDINANCES, ORDERS, AND RESOLUTIONS

- A. First Reading of a Proposed Loan Order that the sum of \$180,000 is appropriated to pay costs of the installation of electric vehicle charging units at (i) Nichols Ave Lot, (ii) Phillips, 20 Common Street, (iii) Skating Rink, 1 Paramount Pl, (iv) Police Headquarters, 552 Main Street and (v) such other locations as determined by the City, including all other costs incidental and related thereto; and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the City Manager, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to M.G.L. c. 44, §7(1), or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the City therefor.

City Manager Proakis stated that the FY24 and FY25 CIP accounted for \$90k each for purchase of EV chargers which accounts for the \$180K loan order to do so now.

- B. Approval and Acceptance of Gifts of Funds and Expenditures; and Gift of Personal Property for the Merry Mingle

City Manager Proakis thanked the individuals for their generous gifts to help facilitate the Merry Mingle holiday celebration.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to approve the acceptance of gift and Councilor Feltner seconded.

The motion carried unanimously in Voice Vote.

- C. Consideration and Approval of Exemptions of Interests of Existing City Employees in Contracts with the City Including Summer, Winter, Holiday, and After-School Program Employment Positions in Response to Disclosures Filed with the City Clerk by Prospective Employees and Certification by the Recreation Director that No Employee of that Department is Available to Perform those Services as part of their Regular Duties in Accordance with G.L. c. 268A, sec 20(b)

City Manager Proakis stated that this is in line with Watertown's practice to allow employees to take on an additional job within the municipality.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to approve the exemptions and Councilor Feltner seconded.

The motion carried unanimously in a Voice Vote.

- D. First Reading on a Proposed Ordinance adjusting the City Manager's Salary

President Sideris stated that that the City Manager's salary adjustment must be done by ordinance, and that a public hearing and vote on the adjustment will take place at the next City Council Meeting.

10. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

- A. Committee on Climate and Energy Report regarding its meeting on November 18, 2024 – Palomba, Chair

Councilor Palomba read the report.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the report and Councilor Feltner seconded.

The motion carried unanimously in a Voice Vote.

- B. Committee on Human Services Report regarding its meeting on August 19, 2024 – Palomba Chair

ACTION ITEM:

To recommend that the full Council vote to approve Clifford Cook for reappointment as a member of the Affordable Housing Trust for a term expiring on June 30, 2026

ACTION ITEM:

To recommend that the full Council vote to approve Helen Oliver for reappointment as a member of the Affordable Housing Trust for a term expiring on June 30, 2026

ACTION ITEM:

To recommend that the full Council vote to approve Zoe Weinrobe for reappointment as a member of the Affordable Housing Trust for a term

expiring on June 30, 2026

Councilor Bays read the report.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the report and Councilor Feltner seconded.

The motion carried unanimously in a Voice Vote.

President Sideris clarified that the reappointments were already confirmed at the previous meetings, so there is no need to vote on the action items.

- C. Committee on Human Services Report regarding its meeting on September 24, 2024 – Palomba, Chair

ACTION ITEM:

To recommend that the full Council vote to approve Shannon Lawn for reappointment as a member of the Housing Authority for a term expiring on May 15, 2029

Councilor Palomba read the report.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the report and Councilor Feltner seconded.

The motion carried unanimously in a Voice Vote.

President Sideris stated that the reappointment in this action item was also approved at the previous meeting.

- D. Committee on Human Services Report regarding its meeting on May13, 2024 – Palomba, Chair

Councilor Bays read the report.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the report and Councilor Feltner seconded.

The motion carried unanimously in a Voice Vote.

- E. Committee on Human Services Reports regarding two meetings on December 5, 2023 – Palomba, Chair

Councilor Palomba read the reports.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the reports and Councilor Feltner seconded.

The motion carried unanimously in a Voice Vote.

11. NEW BUSNIESS

- A. Referral to the Committee on Parks and Recreation for discussion on the use of lights at Victory Field and other lighted fields during the late evening

Councilor Piccirilli moved to make the referral and Councilor Feltner seconded.

The motion carried unanimously in a Voice Vote.

- B. Referral to the Committee on Human Services to work with the Affordable Housing Trust to discuss the upcoming Affordable Housing Study

President Sideris remarked that there is an opportunity for the Committee on Human Services to work with the Affordable Housing Trust on the issue which had previously just been assigned to the Trust.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to make the referral and Councilor Palomba seconded.

The motion passed unanimously in a Voice Vote.

12. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

- A. Request for Confirmation of Appointment to the Conservation Commission

City Manager Proakis made the request for confirmation of appointment for Marilyn Salvas and the reappointment of Rachel Danford.

President Sideris stated that this item gets referred to the Committee on Parks and Recreation.

- B. Request for Confirmation of Appointment to the Stormwater Advisory Committee

City Manager Proakis made the request for confirmation of appoint for Jospeh Ganno.

President Sideris stated that this item gets referred to the Committee on Public Works

- C. Health and Human Services Study

City Manager Proakis asked for a referral of the Health and Human Services Study to committee.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to refer this item to the Committee on Human Services and Councilor Feltner seconded.

The motion passed unanimously in a Voice Vote.

City Manager Proakis then announced the hiring of Thomas Brady as the new Director of Public Works. Mr. Brady is returning to Watertown after years of service in Brookline as Forestry Manager, Tree Warden, and Town Arborist. He oversaw complicated projects like

the Muddy River Restoration Project which addressed flood control, water quality improvement, conservation, and historic preservation. Furthermore, Mr. Brady has served as the Accreditation Manager for the Brookline DPW and is a country wide evaluator.

13. REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION/REVIEW OF LIST OF PENDING MATTERS

Councilor Feltner asked for a copy of the finalized zoning amendments made on November 14th.

14. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Palomba made a statement clarifying that Watertownmanews.com receives thousands of unique visitors a month, where previously he was unsure of the sites outreach.

15. PUBLIC FORUM

16. RECESS OR ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Piccirilli made a motion to adjourn and Councilor Feltner seconded.

The motion was adopted unanimously in a Roll Call Vote.

The meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

I hereby certify that at a regular meeting of the City Council for which a quorum was present, the above minutes were adopted by a vote of ___ for, ___ against, and ___ present on January 14, 2025.



Mark S. Sideris, Council President
s:/BTM

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Mark S. Sideris,
Council President

Caroline Bays,
Councilor At Large

Nicole Gardner,
District A Councilor

Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr.,
Vice President &
District C Councilor

John G. Gannon,
Councilor At Large

Lisa J. Feltner,
District B Councilor

John M. Airasian,
Councilor At Large

Anthony Palomba,
Councilor At Large

Emily Izzo,
District D Councilor

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Mark S. Sideris,
Council President

Caroline Bays,
Councilor At Large

Nicole Gardner,
District A Councilor

Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr.,
Vice President &
District C Councilor

John G. Gannon,
Councilor At Large

Lisa J. Feltner,
District B Councilor

John M. Airasian,
Councilor At Large

Anthony Palomba,
Councilor At Large

Emily Izzo,
District D Councilor

City Council Meeting
Tuesday, December 10, 2024 at 6:15 PM
Richard E. Mastrangelo Council Chamber
Administration Building, 149 Main Street

List of Documents

1. Fiscal Year 2025 Tax Classification Presentation – Item 8A
2. Electric Vehicle Charging Units Loan Order – Item 9A
3. Merry Minge Gifts – Item 9B
4. Employee Ethics Exemptions – Item 9C
5. Committee on Climate and Energy Report 11/8/24 – Item 10A
6. Committee on Human Services Report 8/19/24 – Item 10B
7. Committee on Human Services Report 9/24/24 – Item 10C
8. Committee on Human Services Report 5/13/24 – Item 10D
9. Committee on Human Services Report 12/5/23 – Item 10E
10. Request for Confirmation – Conservation Committee – Item 12A
11. Request for Confirmation – Stormwater Advisory Committee – Item 12B
12. Email from Angie Kounelis

ADDENDUM TO THE
MINUTES OF THE
DECEMBER 10, 2024 CITY
COUNCIL MEETING



City Council Meeting

Tuesday, December 10, 2024 at 6:15 PM
Richard E. Mastrangelo Council Chamber

Agenda

ACCESS INFORMATION:

- A. This meeting will be held on December 10, 2024 at 6:15 P.M. Location: Richard E. Mastrangelo Council Chamber
- B. The meeting will be televised through WCATV (Watertown Cable Access Television): <http://vodwcatv.org/CablecastPublicSite/watch-now?site=3>
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- 1. ROLL CALL
 - 2. EXECUTIVE SESSION - 6:15 P.M.
 - A. Executive Session pursuant to G.L.c. 30A, sec. 21 (a)(6) to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real estate, if the chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body - 1 Grove Street & 138 Waltham Street
 - B. Executive Session pursuant to G.L.c. 30A, sec. 21 (a)(2) to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or conduct negotiations with non-union personnel - City Manager Salary Adjustment
 - 3. RETURN TO SESSION – 7:00 P.M.
 - 4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
 - 5. PUBLIC FORUM
 - 6. EXAMINATION OF RECORDS OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS
 - A. Minutes from Special City Council Meeting November 19, 2024
 - B. Minutes from City Council Meeting November 26, 2024
 - 7. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A. Public Hearing and Vote on an Order Allocating the Property Tax Levy Among or Between Property Classes for Fiscal Year 2025

9. MOTIONS, ORDINANCES, ORDER, AND RESOLUTIONS

- A. First Reading of Proposed Loan Order that the sum of \$180,000 is appropriated to pay costs of the installation of electric vehicle charging units at (i) Nichols Ave Lot, (ii) Phillips, 30 Common Street, (iii) Skating Rink, 1 Paramount Pl, (iv) Police Headquarters, 552 Main Street and (v) such other locations as determined by the City, including all other costs incidental and related thereto; and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the City Manager, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to M.G.L. c.44, §7(1), or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the City therefor.

FURTHER ORDERED: That any premium received by the City upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this order, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this order in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount.

- B. Approval and Acceptance of Gifts of Funds and Expenditures; and Gift of Personal Property for the Merry Mingle
- C. Consideration and Approval of Exemptions of Interests of Existing City Employees in Contracts with the City Including Summer, Winter, Holiday, and After-School Program Employment Positions in Response to Disclosures Filed with the City Clerk by Prospective Employees and Certification by the Recreation Director that No Employee of that Department is Available to Perform those Services as part of their Regular Duties in Accordance with G.L. c. 268A, sec 20(b)
- D. First Reading on a Proposed Ordinance adjusting the City Manager's salary

10. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

- A. Committee on Climate and Energy Report regarding its meeting on November 18, 2024 - Palomba, Chair
- B. Committee on Human Services Report regarding its meeting on August 19, 2024 - Palomba, Chair

ACTION ITEM:

To recommend that the full Council vote to approve Clifford Cook for reappointment as a member of the Affordable Housing Trust for a term expiring on June 30, 2026

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ACTION ITEM:

To recommend that the full Council vote to approve Zoe Weinrobe for reappointment as a member of the Affordable Housing Trust for a term expiring on June 30, 2026

- C. Committee on Human Services Report regarding its meeting on September 24, 2024
- Palomba, Chair

ACTION ITEM:

To recommend that the full Council vote to approve Shannon Lawn for reappointment as a member of the Housing Authority for a term expiring on May 15, 2029

- D. Committee on Human Services Report regarding its meeting on May 13, 2024 -
Palomba, Chair
- E. Committee on Human Services Reports regarding two meetings on December 5,
2023 - Palomba, Chair

11. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Referral to the Committee on Parks and Recreation for discussion on the use of
lights at Victory Field and other lighted fields during the late evening
- B. Referral to the Committee on Human Services to work with the Affordable Housing
Trust to discuss the upcoming Affordable Housing Study

12. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

- A. Request for Confirmation of Appointment and Reappointment to the Conservation
Commission
- B. Request for Confirmation of Appointment to the Stormwater Advisory Committee
- C. Health and Human Services Study

13. REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION/REVIEW OF LIST OF PENDING MATTERS

14. ANNOUNCEMENTS

15. PUBLIC FORUM

16. RECESS OR ADJOURNMENT

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Mark S. Sideris,
Council President

Caroline Bays,
Councilor At Large

Nicole Gardner,
District A Councilor

Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr.,
Vice President &
District C Councilor

John G. Gannon,
Councilor At Large

Lisa J. Feltner,
District B Councilor

John M. Airasian,
Councilor At Large

Anthony Palomba,
Councilor At Large

Emily Izzo,
District D Councilor

CITY COUNCIL ATTENDANCE
MEETING DATE: DECEMBER 10, 2024

	YES	NO	PRESENT
JOHN M. AIRASIAN	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
CAROLINE BAYS	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
LISA J. FELTNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
JOHN G. GANNON	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NICOLE GARDNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
EMILY IZZO	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
ANTHONY PALOMBA	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
VINCENT J. PICCIRILLI JR.	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
MARK S. SIDERIS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

**CITY COUNCIL ROLL CALL VOTE
MEETING DATE: DECEMBER, 2024**

	YES	NO	PRESENT
JOHN M. AIRASIAN	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
CAROLINE BAYS	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
LISA J. FELTNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
JOHN G. GANNON	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NICOLE GARDNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
EMILY IZZO	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
ANTHONY PALOMBA	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
VINCENT J. PICCIRILLI JR.	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
MARK S. SIDERIS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Motion to enter into Executive Session

CITY COUNCIL ROLL CALL VOTE
MEETING DATE: DECEMBER, 2024

	YES	NO	PRESENT
JOHN M. AIRASIAN	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
CAROLINE BAYS	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
LISA J. FELTNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
JOHN G. GANNON	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NICOLE GARDNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
EMILY IZZO	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
ANTHONY PALOMBA	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
VINCENT J. PICCIRILLI JR.	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
MARK S. SIDERIS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Motion to adopt meeting minutes from Special City Council Meeting November 19, 2024

CITY COUNCIL ROLL CALL VOTE
MEETING DATE: DECEMBER, 2024

	YES	NO	PRESENT
JOHN M. AIRASIAN	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
CAROLINE BAYS	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
LISA J. FELTNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
JOHN G. GANNON	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NICOLE GARDNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
EMILY IZZO	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
ANTHONY PALOMBA	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
VINCENT J. PICCIRILLI JR.	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
MARK S. SIDERIS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Motion to adopt meeting minutes from City Council Meeting November 26, 2024

**CITY COUNCIL ROLL CALL VOTE
MEETING DATE: DECEMBER, 2024**

	YES	NO	PRESENT
JOHN M. AIRASIAN	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
CAROLINE BAYS	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
LISA J. FELTNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
JOHN G. GANNON	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NICOLE GARDNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
EMILY IZZO	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
ANTHONY PALOMBA	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
VINCENT J. PICCIRILLI JR.	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
MARK S. SIDERIS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Motion to adopt 174.5% shift from residential to commercial property tax

CITY COUNCIL ROLL CALL VOTE
MEETING DATE: DECEMBER, 2024

	YES	NO	PRESENT
JOHN M. AIRASIAN	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
CAROLINE BAYS	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
LISA J. FELTNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
JOHN G. GANNON	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NICOLE GARDNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
EMILY IZZO	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
ANTHONY PALOMBA	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
VINCENT J. PICCIRILLI JR.	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
MARK S. SIDERIS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Motion to accept the provision of Chapter 59 Section 5C, approving a residential exemption and raising that percentage excluded from taxation to the maximum amount allowed by law, which is 35%



Watertown City Council

Administration Building
149 Main Street
Watertown, MA 02472
Phone: 617-972-6470

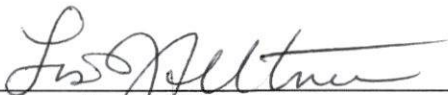
ORDER# 135

2024-O- 135

AN ORDER ALLOCATING THE PROPERTY TAX LEVY AMONG OR BETWEEN PROPERTY CLASSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025

BE IT ORDERED: That for Fiscal Year 2025 for the purposes of Section 1A of the General Laws, Chapter 58, the Watertown Board of Assessors, in allocating the tax levy shall

1. Adopt a factor of 174.5% of the flat tax rate on the portion of the total tax levy imposed on the value of the Industrial, Commercial and Personal Property classes.
2. Adopt a 35% Residential Exemption

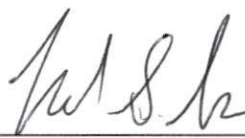


Council Member

I hereby certify that a regular meeting of the nine member City Council for which a quorum was present, the above Order was adopted by a vote of 9 for, 0 against, and 0 present on December 10, 2024.



Brendan T. McCarthy, Council Clerk



Mark S. Sideris, Council President

ELECTED OFFICIALS

**Mark S. Sideris,
Council President**

**Caroline Bays,
Councilor At Large**

**Nicole Gardner,
District A Councilor**

**Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr.,
Vice President &
District C Councilor**

**John G. Gannon,
Councilor At Large**

**Lisa J. Feltner,
District B Councilor**

**John M. Airasian,
Councilor At Large**

**Anthony Palomba,
Councilor At Large**

**Emily Izzo,
District D Councilor**

Fiscal Year 2025

Tax Classification Hearing
December 10, 2024



What is Classification?

Massachusetts Law permits cities and towns to classify property according to use or property type, and to establish separate tax rates for the different classes. More than one hundred cities and towns in the Commonwealth have chosen to split or “shift” the single rate into two rates: a residential rate and a CIP (Commercial, Industrial, Personal Property) rate*. The shift in the tax rates is intended to help alleviate residential tax rates by “shifting” more of the tax burden onto the CIP class.

Watertown has adopted Chapter 200 of the Acts of 1988 amended M.G.L. c. 58, § 1A to allow cities and towns to give Residential property taxpayers greater tax relief by adopting a shift up to 175% of the property tax burden from Residential taxpayers to the Commercial, Industrial and Personal Property taxpayers, provided certain parameters are not exceeded.

Under Chapter 200,

- Commercial/Industrial/Personal Property taxpayers cannot pay more than 175% of their full and fair cash value share of the tax levy.
- Residential taxpayers must pay the greater of:
 - 50% of their full and fair cash value share of the levy, or
 - The lowest percentage share of the tax levy they have paid since classification began.
 - Watertown’s lowest residential percentage share of the levy, since classification began, is 61.2420%.

From Fiscal Year 2004 – Fiscal Year 2021, the Council has voted to adopt a 175% shift of the tax burden from Residential taxpayers to the Commercial, Industrial and Personal Property (CIP) taxpayers. In Fiscal Year 2022, the increasing CIP percentage triggered the lowest residential percentage resulting in the maximum allowable shift of 159.1528%. CIP continued to increase in Fiscal Year 2023 and the maximum allowable shift was 150%.

The Honorable City Council passed a resolution seeking special legislation allowing Watertown to shift up to 175% provided the minimum allowable residential burden doesn't drop below 50%. In October of 2023, Chapter 58 of the Acts of 2023 passed in the Legislature and was signed by the Governor. This special legislation is in effect for Fiscal Years' 2024, 2025 and 2026.

***Nearby communities with split tax rates include Boston, Brookline, Burlington, Cambridge, Canton, Dedham, Framingham, Lexington, Lincoln, Marlborough, Medford, Needham, Newton, Norwood, Quincy, Randolph, Somerville, Waltham, Westwood, Wilmington, and Woburn.**

What is going on with property values?

WATERTOWN ASSESSMENTS/TEN YEAR LOOKBACK							
Fiscal Year	Total Value		Residential Value	Residential Percentage		Commercial Industrial Personal Property Value	Commercial Industrial Personal Property Percentage
2025	\$12,883,303,540		\$9,192,796,208	71.35%		\$3,690,507,332	28.65%
2024	\$11,931,304,624		\$8,502,470,850	71.26%		\$3,428,833,774	28.74%
2023	\$10,950,885,858		\$8,100,534,759	73.97%		\$2,850,351,099	26.03%
2022	\$10,049,624,325		\$7,602,271,296	75.65%		\$2,447,353,029	24.35%
2021	\$9,398,370,344		\$7,342,750,000	78.13%		\$2,055,620,344	21.87%
2020	\$9,098,604,508		\$7,209,091,371	79.23%		\$1,889,513,137	20.77%
2019	\$7,998,921,648		\$6,382,738,095	79.79%		\$1,616,183,553	20.21%
2018	\$7,193,842,933		\$5,808,343,439	80.74%		\$1,385,499,494	19.26%
2017	\$6,615,124,690		\$5,387,245,133	81.44%		\$1,227,879,557	18.56%
2016	\$6,272,536,699		\$5,088,998,429	81.13%		\$1,183,538,270	18.87%
2015	\$5,444,172,323		\$4,423,338,299	81.25%		\$1,020,834,024	18.75%

Levy Limit, Single Tax Rate

- First steps in setting the tax rate is determining levy limit, total value of taxable property, and then calculating a single tax rate.

Calculating the Levy Limit				Calculating a Single Tax Rate	
FY24 Levy Limit	\$158,336,628				
Plus 2.5%	\$3,958,416			Total Tax Levy	\$168,575,919
FY25 New Growth	\$6,280,875	*		÷Total Assessed Value	\$12,883,303,540
FY25 Levy Limit	\$168,575,919	6.47%		=Single Tax Rate	\$13.08
* New Growth Further Detailed Next Page		Increase over FY24			

New Growth – What is it and why is it important?

Fiscal Year 2025

	Historically:				Current:
Permits, Conversions	Actual New Growth Tax Dollars			Three Year	Actual New Growth \$
New Construction	FY22	FY23	FY24	Average	FY25
Single Family	\$29,389	\$54,166	\$78,240	\$53,932	\$78,450
Condominium	\$217,920	\$270,610	\$279,604	\$256,045	\$221,070
Two & Three Family	\$45,374	\$82,008	\$40,652	\$56,011	\$53,900
Apartment, Mixed Use	\$271,491	\$70,712	\$162,428	\$168,210	\$31,140
Commercial	\$1,076,673	\$966,561	\$1,149,340	\$1,064,191	\$388,002
Industrial	\$5,534,371	\$4,202,589	\$7,827,667	\$5,854,876	\$2,347,035
Personal Property	\$716,974	\$708,029	\$1,062,095	\$829,033	\$3,161,278
	\$7,892,192	\$6,354,675	\$10,600,026	\$8,282,298	\$6,280,875

Shift 175%? No, but close.

Shift Comparison

No Shift				Maximum Shift by Law 174.5%			
Class	Total Assessed Value	Single Tax Rate	Taxes	Class	Total Assessed Value	Split Tax Rates	Taxes
Residential	\$9,192,796,208	\$13.08	\$120,214,196 *	Residential	\$9,192,796,208	\$9.17	\$84,310,419 **
Commercial, Industrial, Personal Property	\$3,690,507,332	\$13.08	\$48,361,723	Commercial, Industrial, Personal Property	\$3,690,507,332	\$22.83	\$84,265,500
		Total	\$168,575,919			Total	\$168,575,919
*Residential Tax Rate Without Residential Exemption				**Residential Tax Rate Without Residential Exemption			

If the Council shifts the maximum allowed by law in Fiscal Year 2025, the shift will save the Residential taxpayers **\$35,903,777**.

How does Watertown compare to neighboring communities?

FISCAL YEAR 2024															
	RES	COMM	Share of Value									AVE		RES	AVE
MUNICIPALITY	TAX	TAX	RES	CIP	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	RES VALUE	RES	EXEMPT.	RES
	RATE	RATE	%	%	SHIFT	SHIFT	SHIFT	SHIFT	SHIFT	SHIFT	SHIFT	FY2024	EXEMPT.	SAVINGS	TAX
BELMONT	\$10.56	\$10.56	95.34	4.66	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	\$1,311,482	no	\$-	\$ 13,849
NEWTON	\$9.76	\$18.33	91.59	8.41	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.72	1.75	1.74	1.75	\$1,385,068	no	\$-	\$ 13,518
ARLINGTON	\$10.59	\$10.59	94.66	5.34	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	\$925,703	no	\$-	\$ 9,803
CAMBRIDGE	\$5.92	\$10.46	52.00	48.00	1.66	1.64	1.59	1.51	1.45	1.39	1.38	\$1,643,373	30%	\$2,919	\$ 6,810
BOSTON	\$10.90	\$25.27	66.67	33.33	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	\$946,404	35%	\$3,611	\$ 6,705
WATERTOWN	\$11.70	\$23.08	71.26	28.74	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.59	1.5	1.73	\$840,331	33%	\$3,245	\$ 6,587
WALTHAM	\$9.64	\$20.71	64.88	35.12	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	\$814,422	35%	\$2,748	\$ 5,103

What is the Residential Exemption?

- Residential Exemption is a reduction of a fixed assessment amount off every qualified taxpayer's assessment.
- To qualify, you must apply, and you must own and occupy your home as your primary residence (domicile) as of January 1st, 2024. Once approved, you do not need to apply every year. Recording a new deed with changes in ownership may require reapplying.
- The exemption is the same fixed amount for everyone that receives the exemption; lower assessed properties reap more of the benefit by having a larger percentage of their taxes reduced.
- The Residential Exemption is revenue neutral within the residential class. Investor-owned properties, apartment buildings, and high-end properties pay for the exemption.

Historic Shifts in Watertown, Median Bill Changes

HISTORY				RESIDENTIAL							COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL			
	Fiscal Year	tax shift	tax rate	average assmnt	average tax	exempt dscnt	exempt amount	tax bill	tax bill change	tax rate	average assmnt	tax bill	tax bill change	
	2015	1.75	15.03	\$ 451,638	\$ 6,788	20	\$ 1,358	\$ 5,430	6.25%	27.87	\$ 1,728,848	\$ 48,183	2.53%	
	2016	1.75	13.68	\$ 517,701	\$ 7,082	20	\$ 1,416	\$ 5,666	4.33%	25.40	\$ 2,048,119	\$ 52,022	7.97%	
	2017	1.75	13.89	\$ 547,540	\$ 7,605	22	\$ 1,673	\$ 5,932	4.70%	25.32	\$ 2,108,193	\$ 53,379	2.61%	
	2018	1.75	13.47	\$ 587,413	\$ 7,912	23	\$ 1,820	\$ 6,093	2.71%	24.63	\$ 2,412,502	\$ 59,420	11.32%	
	2019	1.75	12.88	\$ 643,680	\$ 8,291	23	\$ 1,907	\$ 6,384	4.78%	23.95	\$ 2,846,621	\$ 68,177	14.74%	
	2020	1.75	12.14	\$ 723,586	\$ 8,784	24	\$ 2,108	\$ 6,676	4.58%	22.53	\$ 3,259,984	\$ 73,447	7.73%	
	2021	1.75	12.25	\$ 733,688	\$ 8,988	25	\$ 2,247	\$ 6,741	0.98%	22.97	\$ 3,546,313	\$ 81,459	10.91%	
	2022	1.59	13.25	\$ 757,802	\$ 10,041	30	\$ 3,012	\$ 7,029	4.28%	21.28	\$ 4,282,020	\$ 91,121	24.06%	
	2023	1.50	13.58	\$ 802,987	\$ 10,905	33	\$ 3,598	\$ 7,307	4.0%	19.73	\$ 5,097,743	\$ 100,578	10.38%	
	2024	1.73	11.70	\$ 840,331	\$ 9,832	33	\$ 3,245	\$ 6,587	-9.8%	23.09	\$ 6,063,711	\$ 140,011	39.21%	
					Median Increase Past 10 Years				4.31%	Median Increase Past 10 Years				10.64%
Line	OPTIONS		tax rate	average assmnt	average tax	exempt dscnt	exempt amount	tax bill	tax bill change	tax rate	average assmnt	tax bill	tax bill change	
1	2025	1.74	11.63	\$ 907,035	\$ 10,549	33	\$ 3,481	\$ 7,068	7.3%	22.83	\$ 7,757,792	\$ 177,110	26.50%	
2	2025	1.74	11.73	\$ 907,035	\$ 10,640	34	\$ 3,617	\$ 7,022	6.6%					
3	2025	1.74	11.83	\$ 907,035	\$ 10,730	35	\$ 3,756	\$ 6,975	5.9%					

Actual Fiscal Year 2024 Average Assessments and Average Tax Bills

Description	FY24 Average Assessment	FY24 Tax Rate	33% Residential Exemption	Residential Exemption Amount	Avg Tax Bill With Res Ex	FY24	Last Year	Avg Tax Bill No Res. Ex.
Single Family	\$833,543	\$11.70	3,245	\$277,309	\$6,507			\$9,752
Condominium	\$578,637	\$11.70	3,245	\$277,309	\$3,525			\$6,770
Two Family	\$911,557	\$11.70	3,245	\$277,309	\$7,420			\$10,665
Three Family	\$1,036,362	\$11.70	3,245	\$277,309	\$8,880			\$12,125



Residential Exemption Scenarios For Fiscal Year 2025

No Res Ex.

Description	FY25 Average Assessment	Projected Tax Rate	33% Res Ex	Res Ex Value Amount	Avg Tax Bill With Res Ex	Dollar Difference From FY24	Tax Bill Change % From FY24	Avg Tax Bill No Res. Ex.	Dollar Difference From FY24	Tax Bill Change % From FY24
Single Family	\$919,635	\$11.63	\$3,481	\$299,322	\$7,214	\$707	10.86%	\$10,695	\$943	9.67%
Condominium	\$613,570	\$11.63	\$3,481	\$299,322	\$3,655	\$130	3.68%	\$7,136	\$366	5.40%
Two Family	\$998,455	\$11.63	\$3,481	\$299,322	\$8,131	\$711	9.58%	\$11,612	\$947	8.88%
Three Family	\$1,091,366	\$11.63	\$3,481	\$299,322	\$9,211	\$331	3.73%	\$12,693	\$567	4.68%

Description	FY25 Average Assessment	Projected Tax Rate	34% Res Ex	Res Ex Value Amount	Avg Tax Bill With Res Ex	Dollar Difference From FY24	Tax Bill Change % From FY24	Avg Tax Bill No Res. Ex.	Dollar Difference From FY24	Tax Bill Change % From FY24
Single Family	\$919,635	\$11.73	\$3,617	\$308,392	\$7,170	\$662	10.18%	\$10,787	\$1,035	10.61%
Condominium	\$613,570	\$11.73	\$3,617	\$308,392	\$3,580	\$55	1.55%	\$7,197	\$427	6.31%
Two Family	\$998,455	\$11.73	\$3,617	\$308,392	\$8,094	\$674	9.09%	\$11,712	\$1,047	9.81%
Three Family	\$1,091,366	\$11.73	\$3,617	\$308,392	\$9,184	\$304	3.42%	\$12,802	\$676	5.58%

Description	FY25 Average Assessment	Projected Tax Rate	35% Res Ex	Res Ex Value Amount	Avg Tax Bill With Res Ex	Dollar Difference From FY24	Tax Bill Change % From FY24	Avg Tax Bill No Res. Ex.	Dollar Difference From FY24	Tax Bill Change % From FY24
Single Family	\$919,635	\$11.83	\$3,756	\$317,462	\$7,124	\$616	9.47%	\$10,879	\$1,127	11.55%
Condominium	\$613,570	\$11.83	\$3,756	\$317,462	\$3,503	-\$22	-0.63%	\$7,259	\$488	7.22%
Two Family	\$998,455	\$11.83	\$3,756	\$317,462	\$8,056	\$636	8.57%	\$11,812	\$1,147	10.75%
Three Family	\$1,091,366	\$11.83	\$3,756	\$317,462	\$9,155	\$275	3.09%	\$12,911	\$785	6.48%

Board of Assessors' Thoughts on Residential Exemption

- The standing policy of the Board of Assessors policy is to review the impact change of the residential tax bills and if the average residential tax bill increases more than the previous ten-year median, the Board will consider recommending a further increase. The ten-year median increase is 4.31%. The increase without a change in the residential exemption will be 7.3%. The maximum exclusion allowed by law is 35%. Watertown is currently at 33%.

Summary

Item	FY24	FY25*
Average Residential Assessment	\$840,331	\$907,035
Residential Tax Rate	\$11.70	\$11.83**
Average Tax Bill	\$9,832	\$10,730
Residential Exemption (Tax Dollars)	-\$3,245	-\$3,755**
Average Residential Tax Bill with Residential Exemption	\$6,587	\$6,975
Total Residential Value	\$8,502,470,850	\$9,192,796,208
Total CIP Value	\$3,428,833,774	\$3,690,507,332
Total Real and Personal Property Value	\$11,931,304,624	\$12,833,303,540

*All values are pending approval with the Department of Revenue. This report could be subject to slight revisions.

**Projected Tax Rate and Residential Exemption. Contingent on Council adopting maximum shift allowed by law and increasing Residential Exemption to 35%.



Recommendations

- Council adopt the maximum shift allowed by law which is 174.5%.
- Council accepts the provisions of Chapter 59, section 5C approving a residential exemption and raising that percentage excluded from taxation to the maximum amount allowed by law, which is 35%.



George J. Proakis
City Manager

CITY OF
WATERTOWN
Office of the City Manager

Administration Building
149 Main Street
Watertown, MA 02472
Phone: 617-972-6465
www.watertown-ma.gov
citymgr@watertown-ma.gov

To: Honorable City Council

From: George J. Proakis, City Manager

Date: December 5, 2024

RE: Agenda Item – Proposed Loan Order

Please find attached correspondence from Denise Moroney, Director of Public Buildings, requesting the necessary actions be taken to authorize the Treasurer to borrow \$180,000. This amount will cover the costs associated with the installation of electric vehicle charging units at various locations, as detailed in the attached document.

I respectfully request that the proposed Loan Order be placed on the City Council Agenda for December 10, 2024, as a First Reading.

Thank you for your consideration.



28 State Street
Boston, MA 02109-1775
p: 617-345-9000 f: 617-345-9020
hinckleyallen.com

Chelsea A. Tryder
(617) 378-4209
ctryder@hinckleyallen.com

December 5, 2024

George J. Proakis
City Manager
Administration Building
149 Main Street
Watertown, Massachusetts 02472

RE: Draft Loan Order – Electric Vehicle Charging Unit Bonds

Dear George:

As requested, I suggest the following form of loan order to approve the borrowing of funds to pay costs of installing electric vehicle charging units at various locations throughout the City:

ORDERED: That the sum of \$180,000 is appropriated to pay costs of the installation of electric vehicle charging units at (i) Nichols Ave Lot, (ii) Phillips, 30 Common Street, (iii) Skating Rink, 1 Paramount Pl, (iv) Police Headquarters, 552 Main Street and (v) such other locations as determined by the City, including all other costs incidental and related thereto; and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the City Manager, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to M.G.L. c.44, §7(1), or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the City therefor.

FURTHER ORDERED: That any premium received by the City upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this order, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this order in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount.

The order must be published at least five days prior to the holding of a public hearing with respect to the order and its final passage and requires the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of all members of the City Council, as in the case of any other loan order for bonds.

Please call me if there are any questions about the suggested proceedings.

Sincerely,

/s/ Chelsea A. Tryder

Chelsea A. Tryder



CITY OF WATERTOWN
Department of Public Buildings

Denise Moroney
Director of Public Buildings
124 Watertown Street, Suite 3F - Watertown, MA - 02472
Phone: 617-686-3184
dmoroney@watertown-ma.gov

December 4, 2024

Dear Mr. Proakis,

I would like to request a loan order in the amount of \$180,000 from the \$90,000 identified during both the FY24 and FY25 annual CIP to be approved for the purchase of Electrical Vehicle charging units and associated service plans as outlined in the attached quotes from Voltrek for the following locations:

\$ 26,820 Nichols Ave Lot - 2 Dual Port Bollard Mount EV Charging Stations
\$ 26,820 Phillips 30 Common St - 2 Dual Port Bollard Mount EV Charging Stations
\$ 56,100 Skating Rink 1 Paramount Pl - 2 ABB-Terra Fast Chargers
\$ 26,820 Police Headquarters 552 Main St - 2 Dual Port Bollard Mount EV Charging Stations
\$136,560 Total Estimated Cost for 8 EV Chargers

We are awaiting additional quotes from Voltrek for additional locations throughout the City of Watertown, therefore we are requesting a loan order for the full amount of \$180,000.

Thank you,

Denise Moroney
Director of Public Buildings
City of Watertown
124 Watertown Street, Suite 3F
Watertown, MA 02472
Cell: 617-686-3184



October 31, 2022

Quote #0080

Silas Fyler
Project Manager
City of Watertown
30 Common St. Watertown MA 02472
RE: Nichols Ave Lot / 16 Nichols Ave EV Charger Project

Voltrek is pleased to provide the following pricing and information for the purchase and installation of Two (2) ChargePoint Dual Port, Bollard Mount, EV Charging Stations for the above-referenced project. This project qualifies for the MassEVIP PAC (Public Access Charging) Program and Eversource Make-Ready Program.

Quote

Name	Price	QTY	Subtotal
CT4021-GW1 - Dual Port, Bollard Mount EV Charging Station*	\$9,190.00	2	\$18,380.00
CPCLD-COMMERCIAL-1 - One Year Commercial Cloud Plan	\$345.00	4	\$1,380.00
Voltrek Customer Loyalty Discount (1st Year of Cloud Service Free)	-\$1,380.00	1	-\$1,380.00
CT4000-ASSURE5 - Five Year Prepaid Assure Warranty Plan	\$2,620.00	2	\$5,240.00
CPSUPPORT-ACTIVE - Initial Station Activation & Configuration	\$350.00	2	\$700.00
CPSUPPORT-SITEVALID - Required to Purchase Assure Plan Fee Waive w/Purchase of Assure5 Plan	\$600.00	1	\$0.00
Installation & Programming	\$1,000.00	2	\$2,000.00
Shipping *	\$250.00	2	\$500.00
Subtotal			\$26,820.00
Tax Exempt			\$0.00
Total			\$26,820.00



ESTIMATED MASSEVIP GRANT AWARD:

-\$18,880.00

Indicates MassEVIP Eligible Items (100% of \$18,880.00)

ESTIMATED NET PROJECT COST:

\$7,940.00

Note: This constitutes Voltrek's best effort to estimate the MassEVIP Grant Award. When accepting this quote, it's for the total project cost above.

Scope of Work

All Labor & Material Required to Install EV Charging Stations

- Assemble, Mount & Connect EV Charging Stations
- Activate, Program & Test EV Charging Station

Complimentary Voltrek service (no fee):

- Program & Test EV Charging Stations
- Assist with Grant Applications & Payment Request Submissions
- Client Onboarding & Software Training

Note: Make-Ready is Provided by Eversource. Painting & Signage Provided by Others.

CT4000 Commercial Cloud Network - Multi-Year Pricing (Per Port)

Network Terms	Price
CPCLD-COMMERCIAL-1 / One Year Commercial Cloud Network Plan (per port)	\$345.00
CPCLD-COMMERCIAL-2 / Two Year Commercial Cloud Network Plan (per port)	\$660.00
CPCLD-COMMERCIAL-3 / Three Year Commercial Cloud Network Plan (per port)	\$935.00
CPCLD-COMMERCIAL-4 / Four Year Commercial Cloud Network Plan (per port)	\$1,175.00
CPCLD-COMMERCIAL-5 / Five Year Commercial Cloud Network Plan (per port)	\$1,385.00

ChargePoint Assure Program

ChargePoint Assure Maintenance & Management Program Includes Proactive Monitoring - 24/7, Parts & On-Site Labor to Repair or Replace Any Manufacturing Defects. Assure Program Details are Provided Upon Request.

*** Site Validation is Required for the Purchase of Assure Program.**



Site Validation	Price
Site Validation - Required to Purchase Assure Plan	\$600.00
* Fee Waived w/Purchase of Assure5 Plan	
Assure Terms (Per Station)	
ASSURE1 - \$775 / Year	\$775.00
ASSURE2 - \$740 / Year	\$1,480.00
ASSURE3 - \$722 / Year	\$2,165.00
ASSURE4 - \$646 / Year	\$2,585.00
ASSURE5 - \$524 / Year	\$2,620.00

Communication Requirements:

ChargePoint Gateway requires cellular connection to communicate with the Chargepoint network. Verizon, T-Mobile, or AT&T 4G/LTE Signal is required for the Gateway & EV Stations to communicate & function.

Warranty:

ChargePoint EVSE comes with a standard 1-year parts only warranty. ChargePoint offers the "Assure" Extended Warranty Plan, which includes parts & labor coverage. Important- ChargePoint requires installation to be completed by a ChargePoint certified installer or all warranties are voided.

Voltrek:

Is a small business enterprise specializing in planning, installing, and servicing commercial charging station projects. We have been in business for 12 years and offer a full scope of turnkey services to meet your EV Charger needs. Voltrek has installed more than 3500+ charging stations to date. Voltrek is on the Commonwealth of Massachusetts OSD contract VEH102.



Terms

Net 30 from date of equipment shipping and balance Net 30 of completion. Quote is subject to change at anytime due to the Global Supply Chain Issues. Please contact me with any questions and thank you for considering Voltrek.

Sincerely,
Steve Giordano
Account Executive
Voltrek, LLC
978-994-3663

TO ACCEPT CONTRACT PLEASE COMPLETE BELOW AND RETURN TO VOLTREK. IF YOU WANT TO MODIFY OR ADD ITEMS PLEASE REQUEST VIA EMAIL AND AN UPDATED QUOTE WILL BE SENT.

NAME:

DATE:

SIGNATURE:



Billing Instructions Form

Are you Tax Exempt	
Is this the correct information for your billing department?	Silas Fyler Project Manager silas.fyler@watertown.k12.ma.us 617-926-7700 30 Common St. MA 02472 02472
If the billing information above was incorrect please update the billing information with the correct person/team to the right.	



ChargePoint Provisioning Form

As a proud new owner of ChargePoint hardware, we want to give you access to their web portal at chargepoint.com. This website will allow you to monitor usage of your new stations, status of the station and all administrative abilities. Please fill out the info below so we can properly set you up in chargepoint.com

Name of Organization:

This will be the "Organization" that your station(s) will be assigned to in your ChargePoint account. This cannot be changed. If you already have an "Organization" name, please provide it above.

Does this Organization Currently Exist?

Administrative Contact Name:

The name provided will be the main contact for all EV Station inquiries. This can be changed, at a later date.

Administrative Contact Email: example@example.com



November 7, 2022

Quote #00000103

Silas Fyler
Project Manager
City of Watertown
30 Common St. Watertown MA
RE: Watertown/Spring St Municipal Lot

Voltrek is pleased to provide the following pricing and information for the purchase and installation of Two (2) Dual Port, Bollard Mount ChargePoint EV Charging Stations This project qualifies for the MassEVIP PAC (Public Access Charging) Program & Eversource Make-Ready Program.

Quote

Name	Price	QTY	Subtotal
CT4021-GW1 - Dual Port, Bollard Mount EV Charging Station *	\$9,190.00	2	\$18,380.00
CPCLD-COMMERCIAL-1 - One Year Commercial Cloud Plan	\$345.00	4	\$1,380.00
Voltrek Customer Loyalty Discount	-\$1,380.00	1	-\$1,380.00
CT4000-ASSURE5 - Five Year Prepaid Assure Warranty Plan	\$2,620.00	2	\$5,240.00
CPSUPPORT-ACTIVE - Initial Station Activation & Configuration	\$350.00	2	\$700.00
CPSUPPORT-SITEVALID - Required to Purchase Assure Plan Fee Waive w/Purchase of Assure-5 Plan	\$600.00	1	\$0.00
Installation & Programming	\$1,000.00	2	\$2,000.00
Shipping *	\$250.00	2	\$500.00

Subtotal \$26,820.00

Tax Exempt \$0.00

Total \$26,820.00



\$18,880.00

ESTIMATED MASSEVIP GRANT AWARD:

*Indicates Items Eligible For MassEVIP PAC Award (100% of \$18,880.00)

\$7,940.00

ESTIMATED NET PROJECT COST:

Note: This constitutes our best estimation. When accepting this quote, it's for the total project cost above.

Scope of Work

All Labor & Material Required to Install EV Charging Stations

- Assemble, Mount & Connect EV Charging Stations
- Activate, Program & Test EV Charging Stations
- Power Run by Others

Complimentary Voltrek service (no fee):

- Program, and test stations
- Assist with grant applications and payment request submissions
- Client onboarding and software training

Note, Make-Ready Provided by Eversource. Signage & Painting provided by others.

Network Multi-Year Pricing (if alternative term selected, substitute for price in quote)

Network Terms	Price
Commercial Cloud Network Plan (per port) 1 Year - CPCLD-COMMERCIAL-1	\$345.00
Commercial Cloud Network Plan (per port) 2 Year - CPCLD-COMMERCIAL-2	\$660.00
Commercial Cloud Network Plan (per port) 3 Year - CPCLD-COMMERCIAL-3	\$935.00
Commercial Cloud Network Plan (per port) 4 Year - CPCLD-COMMERCIAL-4	\$1,175.00
Commercial Cloud Network Plan (per port) 5 Year - CPCLD-COMMERCIAL-5	\$1,385.00

ChargePoint Assure Program

ChargePoint Assure Maintenance & Management Program Includes Proactive Monitoring - 24/7, Parts & On-Site Labor to Repair or Replace Any Manufacturing Defects. Assure Program Details Provided Upon Request.

* Site Validation Required for the Purchase of Assure Program.



Site Validation	Price
Site Validation * Fee Waived w/Purchase of 5 Year Assure Plan & Voltrek Installation Services	\$600.00
Assure Terms (if alternative term selected, substitute for price in quote)	
ASSURE 1 year \$775/year/station	\$775.00
ASSURE 2 years \$740/year/station	\$1,480.00
ASSURE 3 years \$722/year/station	\$2,165.00
ASSURE 4 years \$646/year/station	\$2,585.00
ASSURE 5 years \$524/year/station	\$2,620.00

Communication Requirements:

ChargePoint Gateway requires cellular connection to communicate with the Chargepoint network. Verizon, T-Mobile, or AT&T 4G/LTE Signal is required for the Gateway & EV Stations to communicate & function.

Warranty:

ChargePoint EVSE comes with a standard 1-year parts only warranty. ChargePoint offers the "Assure" Extended Warranty Plan, which includes parts & labor coverage. Important- ChargePoint requires installation to be completed by a ChargePoint certified installer or all warranties are voided.

Voltrek:

Is a small business enterprise specializing in planning, installing, and servicing commercial charging station projects. We have been in business for 12 years and offer a full scope of turnkey services to meet your EV Charger needs. Voltrek has installed more than 3500+ charging stations to date.. Voltrek is on the Commonwealth of Massachusetts OSD contract VEH102.



Terms

Net 30 from date of completion. Quote is subject to change at anytime due to the Global Supply Chain Issues. Please contact me with any questions and thank you for considering Voltrek.

Sincerely,
Steve Giordano
Account Manager
VOLTREK
978-994-3663

TO ACCEPT CONTRACT PLEASE COMPLETE BELOW AND RETURN TO VOLTREK. IF YOU WANT TO MODIFY OR ADD ITEMS PLEASE REQUEST VIA EMAIL AND AN UPDATED QUOTE WILL BE SENT.

NAME:

DATE:

SIGNATURE:



Billing Instructions Form

Are you Tax Exempt

Is this the correct information for your billing department?

Silas Fyler
Project Manager
silas.fyler@watertown.k12.ma.us -
30 Common St.
MA 02472

If the billing information above was incorrect please update the billing information with the correct person/team to the right.



ChargePoint Provisioning Form

As a proud new owner of ChargePoint hardware, we want to give you access to their web portal at chargepoint.com. This website will allow you to monitor usage of your new stations, status of the station and all administrative abilities. Please fill out the info below so we can properly set you up in chargepoint.com

Name of Organization:

This will be the "Organization" that your station(s) will be assigned to in your ChargePoint account. This cannot be changed. If you already have an "Organization" name, please provide it above.

Does this Organization Currently Exist?

Administrative Contact Name:

The name provided will be the main contact for all EV Station inquiries. This can be changed, at a later date.

Administrative Contact Email: example@example.com



November 1, 2022

Quote #22392

Silas Fyler
Project Manager
City of Watertown
149 Main St. Watertown, MA 02472
RE: Watertown Skating Rink/1 Paramount Place

Voltrek is pleased to provide the following pricing & information for the purchase & installation of Two (2) ABB Terra 24kW WallBox DC Fast Chargers, w/ChargePoint enabled Cloud Software Plan & One (1) ChargePoint, Dual Port, Bollard Mount, EV Charging Station.

* This project qualifies for the Eversource Make-Ready Program & MasseVIP PAC (Public Access Charging) Program.

Quote

Item	List Price	Qty	Amount
ABB Hardware & Software			
ABB-DC24-WALL-3P-CCS1 * 3-phase, CCS1, ABB Terra DC Wallbox - 24 kW Wall Mounted DC Fast Charger rated up to 920 VDC, 23 foot CCS-1 Cable, 3-phase 480 volt input, RFID reader, LED Display, cellular modem, basic CCS-1 holster	\$18,475.00	2	\$36,950.00
CPCLD-COMMERCIAL-DC-1 - One Year DC Commercial Cloud Plan	\$870.00	2	\$1,740.00
ONRAMP-ABB-ANNUAL - Enables Remote Software Updates & Support	\$130.00	2	\$260.00
ONRAMP-ABB-ACTIVE - One-Time ABB Activation Fee	\$250.00	2	\$500.00
ONRAMP-ABB-NETWORKING-NA - One-time on-site networking fee to connect an ABB station to the ChargePoint DC Commercial Cloud Network	\$700.00	2	\$1,400.00
ONRAMP-ABB-SAK-NA - One-Time ChargePoint Onboarding Fee	\$180.00	2	\$360.00
ACDCWB - Activation Fee - Enables Remote Diagnostic System, Firmware Updates & Warranty Activation	\$285.00	2	\$570.00
ChargePoint Hardware & Software			
CT4021-GW1 - Dual Port, Bollard Mount, EV Charging Station *	\$9,190.00	1	\$9,190.00
CPCLD-COMMERCIAL-1 - One Year Commercial Cloud Plan (Per Port)	\$345.00	2	\$690.00



CPSUPPORT-ACTIVE - Initial Station Activation & Configuration	\$350.00	3	\$1,050.00
CT4000-ASSURE5 - Five-Year Prepaid Assure Parts & Labor Warranty	\$2,620.00	1	\$2,620.00
CPSUPPORT-SITEVALID - Required to Purchase Assure Plan	\$600.00	1	\$0.00
Installation & Shipping			
Final Installation & Programming	\$1,100.00	3	\$3,300.00
Shipping (2 @ \$650.00 & 1 @ \$250.00) *	\$1,550.00	1	\$1,550.00
Less Voltrek Customer Loyalty Discount (Waived - 1st Year Cloud Plans & All Activation Fees)	-\$4,080.00	1	-\$4,080.00
Tax Exempt	\$0.00	1	\$0.00

Total Project Cost \$56,100.00

ESTIMATED MASSEVIP GRANT AWARD:	-\$47,690.00
* Indicates Items Eligible for MassEVIP PAC Award (100% of \$47,690.00)	
ESTIMATED NET PROJECT COST:	\$8,410.00
Note: This constitutes our best estimation. When accepting this quote, it's for the total project cost above.	

Scope of Work

- Assemble, Mount & Connect EV Charging Stations.
- Program & Test EV Charging Stations.
- Activate EV Charging Stations (Broken Out Above)
- Client Onboarding & Software Training (Complimentary Voltrek Service)
- Assist with Grant Applications & Payment Request Submissions (Complimentary Voltrek Service)

Please Note: Make-Ready is Provided by Eversource. Painting & Signage Provided by Others.

CT4000 Network Multi-Year Pricing (Per Port)

Network Terms	Price
Commercial Cloud Network Plan (per port) 1 Year CPCLD-COMMERCIAL-1	\$345.00



Commercial Cloud Network Plan (per port) 2 Year CPCLD-COMMERCIAL-2	\$660.00
Commercial Cloud Network Plan (per port) 3 Year CPCLD-COMMERCIAL-3	\$935.00
Commercial Cloud Network Plan (per port) 4 Year CPCLD-COMMERCIAL-4	\$1,175.00
Commercial Cloud Network Plan (per port) 5 Year CPCLD-COMMERCIAL-5	\$1,385.00

ABB Network Multi-Year Pricing (Per Port)

Network Terms	Price
CPCLD-COMMERCIAL-DC-1	\$870.00
CPCLD-COMMERCIAL-DC-2	\$1,660.00
CPCLD-COMMERCIAL-DC-3	\$2,350.00
CPCLD-COMMERCIAL-DC-4	\$2,960.00
CPCLD-COMMERCIAL-DC-5	\$3,485.00

ChargePoint Assure Program

ASSURE is ChargePoint's extended warranty program; The Assure Program includes 24/7 monitoring, parts, and on-site labor to repair or replace any manufacturing defects. The standard one-year warranty is parts only. A site validation is required to purchase Assure.

	Price
Site Validation - Required to Purchase Assure Plan	\$600.00
Assure Terms	
ASSURE 1 year \$775/year/station	\$775.00
ASSURE 2 years \$740/year/station	\$1,480.00
ASSURE 3 years \$722/year/station	\$2,165.00
ASSURE 4 years \$646/year/station	\$2,585.00
ASSURE 5 years \$524/year/station	\$2,620.00



ChargePoint Warranty

ChargePoint EVSE comes with a standard 1-year parts only warranty; there is an option to "Validate" the installation, which allows for the purchase of their "Assure" Extended Warranty program. ***Important- ChargePoint requires installation to be completed by a ChargePoint certified installer or all warranties are voided.***

ABB Warranty

ABB EVSE comes with a standard 2-year parts-only warranty. This coverage can be extended by up to 3 years, and coverage for parts and labor can be added for up to five years. Information will be furnished upon request.

Communication Requirements

ABB and ChargePoint stations rely on a cellular connection to communicate with ABB and ChargePoint. A T-Mobile or ATT LTE/4G signal is required at the site.

Voltrek

Is a small business enterprise specializing in planning, installing, and servicing commercial charging station projects. We have been in business for 12 years and offer a full scope of turnkey services to meet your EV Charger needs. Voltrek has installed more than 3500 charging stations to date. Voltrek is on State Contract VEH102.

Terms

Hardware will be billed net 30 from date of equipment shipping. Labor will be billed net 30 from date of hardware installation. Quote is subject to change at any time, due to global supply chain issues.

Sincerely,
Steve Giordano
Voltrek, LLC
978-994-3663

TO ACCEPT CONTRACT PLEASE COMPLETE BELOW AND RETURN TO VOLTREK. IF YOU WANT TO MODIFY OR ADD ITEMS PLEASE REQUEST VIA EMAIL AND AN UPDATED QUOTE WILL BE SENT.

NAME:

DATE:

SIGNATURE:

**CITY COUNCIL ROLL CALL VOTE
MEETING DATE: DECEMBER, 2024**

	YES	NO	PRESENT
JOHN M. AIRASIAN	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
CAROLINE BAYS	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
LISA J. FELTNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
JOHN G. GANNON	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NICOLE GARDNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
EMILY IZZO	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
ANTHONY PALOMBA	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
VINCENT J. PICCIRILLI JR.	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
MARK S. SIDERIS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Motion to accept gifts of funds and expenditures and gifts of personal property for the Merry Mingle



Watertown City Council

Administration Building

149 Main Street

Watertown, MA 02472

Phone: 617-972-6470

RESOLUTION # 136

R-2024-136

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE RECEIPT AND EXPENDITURE OF DONATIONS FOR THE MERRY MINGLE EVENT

WHEREAS, the Merry Mingle event was held on December 1, 2024, providing a joyous and festive occasion for the community; and

WHEREAS, generous donations have been received from Watertown Savings Bank, Harris Plumbing & Heating of Arlington, Home Depot, Alpha Graphic, Pesce Network Dunkin, Mass Cultural Council, Mosesian Center for the Arts, Flett Construction, Taylor Rental, the Holt family, and Alexandria Real Estate Equities to offset expenditures for the Merry Mingle event, contributing to its success and reducing the financial burden on the city's budget; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53A and Section 53A½, approval from the City Manager and City Council is required for any expenditure of funds and personal property gifts.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the City Council of Watertown, hereby approves the receipt and expenditure of these donations in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53A and Section 53A½.

Council Member

I hereby certify that at a regular meeting of the City Council for which a quorum was present, the above resolution was adopted by a vote of 9 for, 0 against and 0 present December 10, 2024.

Brendan T. McCarthy, Council Clerk

Mark S. Sideris, Council President

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Mark S. Sideris,
Council President

Caroline Bays,
Councilor At Large
Nicole Gardner,
District A Councilor

Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr.,
Vice President &
District C Councilor
John G. Gannon,
Councilor At Large
Lisa J. Feltner
District B Councilor

John M. Airasian,
Councilor At Large

Anthony Palomba,
Councilor At Large
Emily Izzo,
District D Councilor



George J. Proakis
City Manager

CITY OF
WATERTOWN
Office of the City Manager

Administration Building
149 Main Street
Watertown, MA 02472
Phone: 617-972-6465
www.watertown-ma.gov
citymgr@watertown-ma.gov

To: Honorable City Council

From: George J. Proakis, City Manager

Date: December 2, 2024

RE: Agenda Item – Approval and Acceptance of Gifts of Funds and Expenditures; and
Gifts of Personal Property

I am pleased to inform you that we have received generous donations to offset expenditures for the Merry Mingle event held on December 1, 2024. In accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53A and Section 53A½, approval from the City Manager and City Council is required for any expenditure of funds and personal property gifts.

I respectfully request that the attached Resolution approving these gifts and expenditures be placed on the December 10, 2024 City Council Agenda.

Thank you for your consideration.

Resolution #

R-2024-

A Resolution to Approve the Receipt and Expenditure of Donations for the Merry Mingle Event

WHEREAS, the Merry Mingle event was held on December 1, 2024, providing a joyous and festive occasion for the community; and

WHEREAS, generous donations have been received from Watertown Savings Bank, Harris Plumbing & Heating of Arlington, Home Depot, Alpha Graphic, Pesce Network Dunkin, Mass Cultural Council, Mosesian Center for the Arts, Flett Construction, Taylor Rental, the Holt family, and Alexandria Real Estate Equities to offset expenditures for the Merry Mingle event, contributing to its success and reducing the financial burden on the city's budget; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53A and Section 53A½, approval from the City Manager and City Council is required for any expenditure of funds and personal property gifts.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the City Council of Watertown, hereby approves the receipt and expenditure of these donations in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53A and Section 53A½.

Council Member

I hereby certify that at a regular meeting of the City Council for which a quorum was present, the above resolution was adopted by a vote of ___ for, ___ against and __present on December 10, 2024.

Brendan McCarthy, Council Clerk

Mark S. Sideris, Council President

Hand, JoAnna

From: Fernandez-McKenna, Tammy
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2024 10:32 AM
To: Magoon, Steve; Langan, Megan
Cc: Osmond, Marsha; Hand, JoAnna
Subject: Merry Mingle donations

Morning -

The following organizations/companies have contributed to the Merry Mingle this weekend!

- Watertown Savings Bank - train rides \$1100.00
- Harris Plumbing & Heating of Arlington - contributed towards the light tunnel \$300.00
- Home Depot - discount towards lights \$400.00+
- Alpha Graphic - marketing \$300.00
- Pesce Network Dunks' - 300 munchkins
- Mass Cultural Council - grant for Winter Holidays Around the World room \$2500.00
- Mosesian Center for the Arts - supplies for the paper bag lantern craft \$125.00+
- Flett Construction - shuttle rides from garage to the Mansion/same as years past
- Taylor Rental of Haverhill - both tents, stage, chairs, bistro lights
- Holt family - holiday raffle basket
- ARE (Alexandria Real Estate Equities) - Winter Wonderland lights

Please let me know if you need anything further from our end for the Council - thank you.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Tammy F. McKenna

Events Manager | Commander's Mansion
and City of Watertown



617-926-7755
tmckenna@watertown-ma.gov
440 Talcott Avenue Watertown, MA
www.commandersmansion.com

Commander's Mansion: [Instagram](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Website](#)
City Events: [Instagram](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Pride](#) | [Faire](#)

**CITY COUNCIL ROLL CALL VOTE
MEETING DATE: DECEMBER, 2024**

	YES	NO	PRESENT
JOHN M. AIRASIAN	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
CAROLINE BAYS	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
LISA J. FELTNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
JOHN G. GANNON	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NICOLE GARDNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
EMILY IZZO	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
ANTHONY PALOMBA	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
VINCENT J. PICCIRILLI JR.	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
MARK S. SIDERIS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Motion to approve employee ethics exemptions – 20b

**DISCLOSURE BY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE
OF FINANCIAL INTEREST IN A MUNICIPAL CONTRACT
AS REQUIRED BY G. L. c. 268A, § 20(b)**

	MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE INFORMATION
Name of municipal employee:	MICHAEL SPILLANE
Title/ Position	MATH TEACHER
Fill in this box if it applies to you.	If you are a municipal employee because a municipal agency has contracted with your company or organization, please provide the name and address of the company or organization.
Agency/ Department	WATERTOWN HIGH SCHOOL
Agency Address	27 WESTMINSTER AVE, WATERTOWN MA. 02472
Office phone:	
Office e-mail:	
	Check one: ☐ Elected or ☒ Non-elected
Starting date as a municipal employee.	09/01/2003
BOX # 1 Select either STATEMENT #1 or STATEMENT #2. Write an X beside your financial interest.	ELECTED MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE I am an elected municipal employee . ☐ STATEMENT #1: I had one of the following financial interests in a contract made by a municipal agency before I was elected to my municipal employee position. I will continue to have this financial interest in a municipal contract. OR ☐ STATEMENT #2: I will have a new financial interest in a contract made by a municipal agency. My financial interest in a municipal contract is: ☐ I have a non-elected, compensated municipal employee position. ☐ A municipal agency has a contract with me. ☐ I have a financial benefit or obligation because of a contract that a municipal agency has with another person or an entity, such as a company or organization. ☐ I work for a company or organization that has a contract with a municipal agency, and I am a "key employee" because the contract identifies me by name or it is otherwise clear that the city or town has contracted for my services in particular.
BOX # 2 Select either STATEMENT #1 or STATEMENT #2.	NON-ELECTED, COMPENSATED MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE I am a non-elected municipal employee . ☐ STATEMENT # 1: I had one of the following financial interests in a contract made by a municipal agency before I took a position as a non-elected municipal employee. I will continue to have this financial interest in a municipal contract.

Write an X beside your financial interest.	My financial interest in a municipal contract is: ☐ A municipal agency has a contract with me, but not an employment contract. ☐ I have a financial benefit or obligation because of a contract that a municipal agency has with another person or an entity, such as a company or organization. -- OR -- ☐ STATEMENT # 2: I will have a new financial interest in a contract made by a municipal agency. My financial interest in a municipal contract is: ☐ XX I have a non-elected, compensated municipal employee position. ☐ A municipal agency has a contract with me. ☐ I have a financial benefit or obligation because of a contract that a municipal agency has with another person or an entity, such as a company or organization. ☐ I work for a company or organization that has a contract with a municipal agency, and I am a "key employee" because the contract identifies me by name or it is otherwise clear that the city or town has contracted for my services in particular.
FINANCIAL INTEREST IN A MUNICIPAL CONTRACT	
Name and address of municipal agency that made the contract	CITY OF WATERTOWN 149 MAIN STREET WATERTOWN MA. 02472
Please put in an X to confirm these facts.	"My Municipal Agency" is the municipal agency that I serve as a municipal employee. The "contracting agency" is the municipal agency that made the contract. ☐ My Municipal Agency is not the contracting agency. ☐ My Municipal Agency does not regulate the activities of the contracting agency. ☐ In my work for my Municipal Agency, I do not participate in or have official responsibility for any of the activities of the contracting agency. ☐ The contract was made after public notice or through competitive bidding.
FILL IN THIS BOX OR THE BOX BELOW	ANSWER THE QUESTION IN THIS BOX IF THE CONTRACT IS BETWEEN THE CITY OR TOWN AND YOU. - Please explain what the contract is for. RECREATION SKI STAFF
FILL IN THIS BOX OR THE BOX ABOVE	ANSWER THE QUESTIONS IN THIS BOX IF THE CONTRACT IS BETWEEN THE CITY OR TOWN AND ANOTHER PERSON OR ENTITY. - Please identify the person or entity that has the contract with the municipal agency. - What is your relationship to the person or entity? - What is the contract for?

What is your financial interest In the municipal contract?	- Please explain the financial interest and include the dollar amount if you know it. \$19/hr
Date when you acquired a financial interest	01/2018
What is the financial interest of your immediate family?	- Please explain the financial interest and include the dollar amount if you know it.
Date when your immediate family acquired a financial interest	
Write an X to confirm each statement.	FOR A CONTRACT FOR PERSONAL SERVICES – Answer the questions in this box ONLY if you will have a contract for personal services with a municipal agency (i.e., you will do work directly for the contracting agency). I will have a contract with a municipal agency to provide personal services. ___ The services will be provided outside my normal working hours as a municipal employee. ___ The services are not required as part of my regular duties as a municipal employee. ___ For these services, I will be compensated for not more than 500 hours during a calendar year.
Employee signature:	Michael Spillane
Date:	10/11/24

Attach additional pages if necessary.

NOT A PERSONAL SERVICES CONTRACT -- File disclosure with the city or town clerk.

SEE CERTIFICATION AND APPROVAL REQUIRED FOR PERSONAL SERVICES CONTRACTS, BELOW.

FOR CONTRACTS FOR PERSONAL SERVICES ONLY:

If you are disclosing a financial interest in a contract for personal services with a municipal agency, you must file the Certification below signed by the head of the contracting agency, and you must get approval of the exemption from the city council, board of aldermen, board of selectmen or town council.

CERTIFICATION BY HEAD OF CONTRACTING AGENCY

	INFORMATION ABOUT HEAD OF CONTRACTING AGENCY
Name:	
Title/ Position	
Municipal Agency:	
Agency Address:	
Office Phone:	
	CERTIFICATION
	I have received a disclosure under G.L. c. 268A, § 20(b) from a municipal employee who seeks to provide personal services to my municipal agency, identified above. I certify that no employee of my agency is available to perform the services described above as part of his or her regular duties.
Signature:	
Date:	

**APPROVAL BY CITY COUNCIL, BOARD OF ALDERMEN,
BOARD OF SELECTMEN OR TOWN COUNCIL**

	INFORMATION ABOUT APPROVING BODY
Name:	
Title/ Position	
Agency Address:	
Office Phone:	
	APPROVAL
	I have received a disclosure under G.L. c. 268A, § 20(b) from a municipal employee who seeks to provide personal services to a municipal agency, identified above. The exemption under § 20(b) is approved.
Signature:	On behalf of the Council or Board, I sign this approval.
Date:	

**Attach additional pages if necessary.
File disclosure, Certification and Approval with the city or town clerk.**

**DISCLOSURE BY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE
OF FINANCIAL INTEREST IN A MUNICIPAL CONTRACT
AS REQUIRED BY G. L. c. 268A, § 20(b)**

	MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE INFORMATION
Name of municipal employee:	Judith Smith
Title/ Position	Administrative Assistant
Fill in this box if it applies to you.	If you are a municipal employee because a municipal agency has contracted with your company or organization, please provide the name and address of the company or organization.
Agency/ Department	Watertown Public Schools - Athletics
Agency Address	30 Common Street Watertown, MA 02472
Office phone:	617-926-7700
Office e-mail:	payroll@watertown.k12.ma.us
	Check one: ☐ Elected or ☒ Non-elected
Starting date as a municipal employee.	
BOX # 1 Select either STATEMENT #1 or STATEMENT #2. Write an X beside your financial interest.	ELECTED MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE I am an elected municipal employee. ☐ STATEMENT #1: I had one of the following financial interests in a contract made by a municipal agency before I was elected to my municipal employee position. I will continue to have this financial interest in a municipal contract. OR ☐ STATEMENT #2: I will have a new financial interest in a contract made by a municipal agency. My financial interest in a municipal contract is: ☒ I have a non-elected, compensated municipal employee position. ☐ A municipal agency has a contract with me. ☐ I have a financial benefit or obligation because of a contract that a municipal agency has with another person or an entity, such as a company or organization. ☐ I work for a company or organization that has a contract with a municipal agency, and I am a "key employee" because the contract identifies me by name or it is otherwise clear that the city or town has contracted for my services in particular.
BOX # 2 Select either STATEMENT #1 or STATEMENT #2.	NON-ELECTED, COMPENSATED MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE I am a non-elected municipal employee. ☐ STATEMENT # 1: I had one of the following financial interests in a contract made by a municipal agency before I took a position as a non-elected municipal employee. I will continue to have this financial interest in a municipal contract.

Write an X beside your financial interest.	My financial interest in a municipal contract is: ☐ A municipal agency has a contract with me, but not an employment contract. ☐ I have a financial benefit or obligation because of a contract that a municipal agency has with another person or an entity, such as a company or organization. -- OR -- ☐ STATEMENT # 2: I will have a new financial interest in a contract made by a municipal agency. My financial interest in a municipal contract is: ☒ I have a non-elected, compensated municipal employee position. ☐ A municipal agency has a contract with me. ☐ I have a financial benefit or obligation because of a contract that a municipal agency has with another person or an entity, such as a company or organization. ☐ I work for a company or organization that has a contract with a municipal agency, and I am a "key employee" because the contract identifies me by name or it is otherwise clear that the city or town has contracted for my services in particular.
FINANCIAL INTEREST IN A MUNICIPAL CONTRACT	
Name and address of municipal agency that made the contract	
Please put in an X to confirm these facts.	"My Municipal Agency" is the municipal agency that I serve as a municipal employee. The "contracting agency" is the municipal agency that made the contract. ☒ My Municipal Agency is not the contracting agency. ☒ My Municipal Agency does not regulate the activities of the contracting agency. ☒ In my work for my Municipal Agency, I do not participate in or have official responsibility for any of the activities of the contracting agency. ☒ The contract was made after public notice or through competitive bidding.
FILL IN THIS BOX OR THE BOX BELOW	ANSWER THE QUESTION IN THIS BOX IF THE CONTRACT IS BETWEEN THE CITY OR TOWN AND YOU. Seasonal Employment with the Watertown Recreation Department
FILL IN THIS BOX OR THE BOX ABOVE	ANSWER THE QUESTIONS IN THIS BOX IF THE CONTRACT IS BETWEEN THE CITY OR TOWN AND ANOTHER PERSON OR ENTITY. - Please identify the person or entity that has the contract with the municipal agency. - What is your relationship to the person or entity? - What is the contract for?

What is your financial interest In the municipal contract?	- Please explain the financial interest and include the dollar amount if you know it.
Date when you acquired a financial interest	11/17/2003
What is the financial interest of your immediate family?	- Please explain the financial interest and include the dollar amount if you know it The Financial interest of my immediate family is that I work for the Watertown School Department as an Administrative Assistant. \$33 per hour.
Date when your immediate family acquired a financial interest	
Write an X to confirm each statement.	FOR A CONTRACT FOR PERSONAL SERVICES – Answer the questions in this box ONLY if you will have a contract for personal services with a municipal agency (i.e., you will do work directly for the contracting agency). I will have a contract with a municipal agency to provide personal services. <u> X </u> The services will be provided outside my normal working hours as a municipal employee. <u> X </u> The services are not required as part of my regular duties as a municipal employee. <u> X </u> For these services, I will be compensated for not more than 500 hours during a calendar year.
Employee signature:	
Date:	

Attach additional pages if necessary.

NOT A PERSONAL SERVICES CONTRACT -- File disclosure with the city or town clerk.

SEE CERTIFICATION AND APPROVAL REQUIRED FOR PERSONAL SERVICES CONTRACTS, BELOW.

FOR CONTRACTS FOR PERSONAL SERVICES ONLY:

If you are disclosing a financial interest in a contract for personal services with a municipal agency, you must file the Certification below signed by the head of the contracting agency, and you must get approval of the exemption from the city council, board of aldermen, board of selectmen or town council.

CERTIFICATION BY HEAD OF CONTRACTING AGENCY

	INFORMATION ABOUT HEAD OF CONTRACTING AGENCY
Name:	
Title/ Position	
Municipal Agency:	
Agency Address:	
Office Phone:	
	CERTIFICATION
	I have received a disclosure under G.L. c. 268A, § 20(b) from a municipal employee who seeks to provide personal services to my municipal agency, identified above. I certify that no employee of my agency is available to perform the services described above as part of his or her regular duties.
Signature:	
Date:	

**APPROVAL BY CITY COUNCIL, BOARD OF ALDERMEN,
BOARD OF SELECTMEN OR TOWN COUNCIL**

	INFORMATION ABOUT APPROVING BODY
Name:	
Title/ Position	
Agency Address:	
Office Phone:	
	APPROVAL
	I have received a disclosure under G.L. c. 268A, § 20(b) from a municipal employee who seeks to provide personal services to a municipal agency, identified above. The exemption under § 20(b) is approved.
Signature:	On behalf of the Council or Board, I sign this approval.
Date:	

**Attach additional pages if necessary.
File disclosure, Certification and Approval with the city or town clerk.**

**DISCLOSURE BY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE
OF FINANCIAL INTEREST IN A MUNICIPAL CONTRACT
AS REQUIRED BY G. L. c. 268A, § 20(b)**

	MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE INFORMATION
Name of municipal employee:	Erin McGovern
Title/ Position	Social Studies Teacher
Fill in this box if it applies to you.	If you are a municipal employee because a municipal agency has contracted with your company or organization, please provide the name and address of the company or organization.
Agency/ Department	Watertown High School
Agency Address	
Office phone:	
Office e-mail:	
	Check one: ☐ Elected or ☒ Non-elected
Starting date as a municipal employee.	
BOX # 1 Select either STATEMENT #1 or STATEMENT #2. Write an X beside your financial interest.	ELECTED MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE I am an elected municipal employee. ☐ STATEMENT #1: I had one of the following financial interests in a contract made by a municipal agency before I was elected to my municipal employee position. I will continue to have this financial interest in a municipal contract. OR ☐ STATEMENT #2: I will have a new financial interest in a contract made by a municipal agency. My financial interest in a municipal contract is: ☐ I have a non-elected, compensated municipal employee position. ☐ A municipal agency has a contract with me. ☐ I have a financial benefit or obligation because of a contract that a municipal agency has with another person or an entity, such as a company or organization. ☐ I work for a company or organization that has a contract with a municipal agency, and I am a "key employee" because the contract identifies me by name or it is otherwise clear that the city or town has contracted for my services in particular.
BOX # 2 Select either STATEMENT #1 or STATEMENT #2.	NON-ELECTED, COMPENSATED MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE I am a non-elected municipal employee. ☐ STATEMENT # 1: I had one of the following financial interests in a contract made by a municipal agency before I took a position as a non-elected municipal employee. I will continue to have this financial interest in a municipal contract. My financial interest in a municipal contract is:

financial interest in the municipal contract?	# 19.06 /hr
Date when you acquired a financial interest	10/23/24
What is the financial interest of your immediate family?	- Please explain the financial interest and include the dollar amount if you know it.
Date when your immediate family acquired a financial interest	
Write an X to confirm each statement.	FOR A CONTRACT FOR PERSONAL SERVICES -- Answer the questions in this box ONLY if you will have a contract for personal services with a municipal agency (i.e., you will do work directly for the contracting agency). I will have a contract with a municipal agency to provide personal services. ___ The services will be provided outside my normal working hours as a municipal employee. ___ The services are not required as part of my regular duties as a municipal employee. ___ For these services, I will be compensated for not more than 500 hours during a calendar year.
Employee signature:	
Date:	10/23/24

Attach additional pages if necessary.

NOT A PERSONAL SERVICES CONTRACT -- File disclosure with the city or town clerk.

SEE CERTIFICATION AND APPROVAL REQUIRED FOR PERSONAL SERVICES CONTRACTS, BELOW.

**DISCLOSURE BY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE
OF FINANCIAL INTEREST IN A MUNICIPAL CONTRACT
AS REQUIRED BY G. L. c. 268A, § 20(b)**

MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE INFORMATION	
Name of municipal employee:	Walter J Morris Jr
Title/ Position	Jr. Custodian
Fill in this box if it applies to you.	If you are a municipal employee because a municipal agency has contracted with your company or organization, please provide the name and address of the company or organization.
Agency/ Department	Watertown Middle School
Agency Address	68 Waverley Ave, Watertown, MA 02472
Office phone:	617-926-7783
Office e-mail:	
	Check one: ☐ Elected or ☒ Non-elected
Starting date as a municipal employee.	
BOX # 1 Select either STATEMENT #1 or STATEMENT #2. Write an X beside your financial interest.	ELECTED MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE I am an elected municipal employee. ☐ STATEMENT #1: I had one of the following financial interests in a contract made by a municipal agency before I was elected to my municipal employee position. I will continue to have this financial interest in a municipal contract. OR ☐ STATEMENT #2: I will have a new financial interest in a contract made by a municipal agency. My financial interest in a municipal contract is: ☒ I have a non-elected, compensated municipal employee position. ☐ A municipal agency has a contract with me. ☐ I have a financial benefit or obligation because of a contract that a municipal agency has with another person or an entity, such as a company or organization. ☐ I work for a company or organization that has a contract with a municipal agency, and I am a "key employee" because the contract identifies me by name or it is otherwise clear that the city or town has contracted for my services in particular.
BOX # 2 Select either STATEMENT #1 or STATEMENT #2.	NON-ELECTED, COMPENSATED MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE I am a non-elected municipal employee. ☒ STATEMENT #1: I had one of the following financial interests in a contract made by a municipal agency before I took a position as a non-elected municipal employee. I will continue to have this financial interest in a municipal contract.

Write an X beside your financial interest.	My financial interest in a municipal contract is: ☐ A municipal agency has a contract with me, but not an employment contract. ☐ I have a financial benefit or obligation because of a contract that a municipal agency has with another person or an entity, such as a company or organization. -- OR -- ☐ STATEMENT # 2: I will have a new financial interest in a contract made by a municipal agency. My financial interest in a municipal contract is: ☒ I have a non-elected, compensated municipal employee position. ☐ A municipal agency has a contract with me. ☐ I have a financial benefit or obligation because of a contract that a municipal agency has with another person or an entity, such as a company or organization. ☐ I work for a company or organization that has a contract with a municipal agency, and I am a "key employee" because the contract identifies me by name or it is otherwise clear that the city or town has contracted for my services in particular.
FINANCIAL INTEREST IN A MUNICIPAL CONTRACT	
Name and address of municipal agency that made the contract	Watertown Middle School City of Watertown 68 Waverley Ave Watertown MA, 02472
Please put in an X to confirm these facts.	"My Municipal Agency" is the municipal agency that I serve as a municipal employee. The "contracting agency" is the municipal agency that made the contract. ☒ My Municipal Agency is not the contracting agency. ☒ My Municipal Agency does not regulate the activities of the contracting agency. ☒ In my work for my Municipal Agency, I do not participate in or have official responsibility for any of the activities of the contracting agency. ☒ The contract was made after public notice or through competitive bidding.
FILL IN THIS BOX OR THE BOX BELOW	ANSWER THE QUESTION IN THIS BOX IF THE CONTRACT IS BETWEEN THE CITY OR TOWN AND YOU. - Please explain what the contract is for. Jr Custodian
FILL IN THIS BOX OR THE BOX ABOVE	ANSWER THE QUESTIONS IN THIS BOX IF THE CONTRACT IS BETWEEN THE CITY OR TOWN AND ANOTHER PERSON OR ENTITY. - Please identify the person or entity that has the contract with the municipal agency. - What is your relationship to the person or entity? - What is the contract for?

What is your financial interest in the municipal contract?	- Please explain the financial interest and include the dollar amount if you know it. \$28,70
Date when you acquired a financial interest	2/27/19
What is the financial interest of your immediate family?	- Please explain the financial interest and include the dollar amount if you know it. \$28,70
Date when your immediate family acquired a financial interest	
Write an X to confirm each statement.	FOR A CONTRACT FOR PERSONAL SERVICES – Answer the questions in this box ONLY if you will have a contract for personal services with a municipal agency (i.e., you will do work directly for the contracting agency). I will have a contract with a municipal agency to provide personal services. ☐ The services will be provided outside my normal working hours as a municipal employee. ☐ The services are not required as part of my regular duties as a municipal employee. ☐ For these services, I will be compensated for not more than 500 hours during a calendar year.
Employee signature:	
Date:	10/28/24

Attach additional pages if necessary.

NOT A PERSONAL SERVICES CONTRACT -- File disclosure with the city or town clerk.

SEE CERTIFICATION AND APPROVAL REQUIRED FOR PERSONAL SERVICES CONTRACTS, BELOW.

FOR CONTRACTS FOR PERSONAL SERVICES ONLY:

If you are disclosing a financial interest in a contract for personal services with a municipal agency, you must file the Certification below signed by the head of the contracting agency, and you must get approval of the exemption from the city council, board of aldermen, board of selectmen or town council.

CERTIFICATION BY HEAD OF CONTRACTING AGENCY

	INFORMATION ABOUT HEAD OF CONTRACTING AGENCY
Name:	
Title/ Position	
Municipal Agency:	
Agency Address:	
Office Phone:	
	CERTIFICATION
	I have received a disclosure under G.L. c. 268A, § 20(b) from a municipal employee who seeks to provide personal services to my municipal agency, identified above. I certify that no employee of my agency is available to perform the services described above as part of his or her regular duties.
Signature:	
Date:	

**APPROVAL BY CITY COUNCIL, BOARD OF ALDERMEN,
BOARD OF SELECTMEN OR TOWN COUNCIL**

	INFORMATION ABOUT APPROVING BODY
Name:	
Title/ Position	
Agency Address:	
Office Phone:	
	APPROVAL
	I have received a disclosure under G.L. c. 268A, § 20(b) from a municipal employee who seeks to provide personal services to a municipal agency, identified above. The exemption under § 20(b) is approved.
Signature:	On behalf of the Council or Board, I sign this approval.
Date:	

Attach additional pages if necessary.
File disclosure, Certification and Approval with the city or town clerk.

**DISCLOSURE BY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE
OF FINANCIAL INTEREST IN A MUNICIPAL CONTRACT
AS REQUIRED BY G. L. c. 268A, § 20(b)**

	MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE INFORMATION
Name of municipal employee:	Nicolas McDermott
Title/ Position	1. Special Education Teacher - Cunniff Elementary School 2. Watertown Recreation Seasonal Employee
Fill in this box if it applies to you.	If you are a municipal employee because a municipal agency has contracted with your company or organization, please provide the name and address of the company or organization.
Agency/ Department	Watertown Public Schools, Cunniff Elementary School
Agency Address	30 Common Street Watertown, MA 02472
Office phone:	617-926-7700
Office e-mail:	Samantha Martin – Assistant Director of Human Resources samantha.martin@watertown.k12.ma.us
	Check one: ☐ Elected or ☐ * Non-elected
Starting date as a municipal employee.	Watertown Recreation Department: June, 2018 Watertown Public Schools: January, 2021
BOX # 1 Select either STATEMENT #1 or STATEMENT #2. Write an X beside your financial interest.	ELECTED MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE I am an elected municipal employee . ☐ STATEMENT #1: I had one of the following financial interests in a contract made by a municipal agency before I was elected to my municipal employee position. I will continue to have this financial interest in a municipal contract. OR ☐ STATEMENT #2: I will have a new financial interest in a contract made by a municipal agency. My financial interest in a municipal contract is: ☐ I have a non-elected, compensated municipal employee position. ☐ A municipal agency has a contract with me. ☐ I have a financial benefit or obligation because of a contract that a municipal agency has with another person or an entity, such as a company or organization. ☐ I work for a company or organization that has a contract with a municipal agency, and I am a "key employee" because the contract identifies me by name or it is otherwise clear that the city or town has contracted for my services in particular.
BOX # 2	NON-ELECTED, COMPENSATED MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE I am a non-elected municipal employee .

Select either STATEMENT #1 or STATEMENT #2. Write an X beside your financial interest.	<u>NA</u> STATEMENT # 1: I had one of the following financial interests in a contract made by a municipal agency before I took a position as a non-elected municipal employee. I will continue to have this financial interest in a municipal contract. My financial interest in a municipal contract is: ☐ A municipal agency has a contract with me, but not an employment contract. ☐ I have a financial benefit or obligation because of a contract that a municipal agency has with another person or an entity, such as a company or organization. -- OR -- ☐ STATEMENT # 2: I will have a new financial interest in a contract made by a municipal agency. My financial interest in a municipal contract is: ☒ I have a non-elected, compensated municipal employee position. ☐ A municipal agency has a contract with me. ☐ I have a financial benefit or obligation because of a contract that a municipal agency has with another person or an entity, such as a company or organization. ☐ I work for a company or organization that has a contract with a municipal agency, and I am a "key employee" because the contract identifies me by name or it is otherwise clear that the city or town has contracted for my services in particular.
FINANCIAL INTEREST IN A MUNICIPAL CONTRACT	
Name and address of municipal agency that made the contract	City of Watertown Department of Recreation 149 Main Street Watertown, MA 02472
Please put in an X to confirm these facts.	"My Municipal Agency" is the municipal agency that I serve as a municipal employee. The "contracting agency" is the municipal agency that made the contract. ☒ My Municipal Agency is not the contracting agency. ☒ My Municipal Agency does not regulate the activities of the contracting agency. ☒ In my work for my Municipal Agency, I do not participate in or have official responsibility for any of the activities of the contracting agency. ☒ The contract was made after public notice or through competitive bidding.
FILL IN THIS BOX OR THE BOX BELOW	ANSWER THE QUESTION IN THIS BOX IF THE CONTRACT IS BETWEEN THE CITY OR TOWN AND YOU. - Please explain what the contract is for. Seasonal Employment with the Watertown Recreation Department

FILL IN THIS BOX OR THE BOX ABOVE	ANSWER THE QUESTIONS IN THIS BOX IF THE CONTRACT IS BETWEEN THE CITY OR TOWN AND ANOTHER PERSON OR ENTITY. - Please identify the person or entity that has the contract with the municipal agency. - What is your relationship to the person or entity? - What is the contract for?
What is your financial interest In the municipal contract?	Please explain the financial interest and include the dollar amount if you know it. In the role as a Seasonal Employee with the Watertown Recreation, I will be compensated \$18.36 an hour for no more than 500 hours during a calendar year.
Date when you acquired a financial interest	Watertown Recreation Department – June, 2018 Watertown Public Schools – January, 2021
What is the financial interest of your immediate family?	Please explain the financial interest and include the dollar amount if you know it.
Date when your immediate family acquired a financial interest	
Write an X to confirm each statement.	FOR A CONTRACT FOR PERSONAL SERVICES – Answer the questions in this box ONLY if you will have a contract for personal services with a municipal agency (i.e., you will do work directly for the contracting agency). I will have a contract with a municipal agency to provide personal services. ☐ The services will be provided outside my normal working hours as a municipal employee. ☐ The services are not required as part of my regular duties as a municipal employee. ☐ For these services, I will be compensated for not more than 500 hours during a calendar year.
Employee signature:	<i>Nicolas McDermott</i>
Date:	10/28/2024

FOR CONTRACTS FOR PERSONAL SERVICES ONLY:

If you are disclosing a financial interest in a contract for personal services with a municipal agency, you must file the Certification below signed by the head of the contracting agency, and you must get approval of the exemption from the city council, board of aldermen, board of selectmen or town council.

CERTIFICATION BY HEAD OF CONTRACTING AGENCY

	INFORMATION ABOUT HEAD OF CONTRACTING AGENCY
Name:	
Title/ Position	
Municipal Agency:	
Agency Address:	
Office Phone:	
	CERTIFICATION
	I have received a disclosure under G.L. c. 268A, § 20(b) from a municipal employee who seeks to provide personal services to my municipal agency, identified above. I certify that no employee of my agency is available to perform the services described above as part of his or her regular duties.
Signature:	
Date:	

**APPROVAL BY CITY COUNCIL, BOARD OF ALDERMEN,
BOARD OF SELECTMEN OR TOWN COUNCIL**

	INFORMATION ABOUT APPROVING BODY
Name:	
Title/ Position	
Agency Address:	
Office Phone:	
	APPROVAL
	I have received a disclosure under G.L. c. 268A, § 20(b) from a municipal employee who seeks to provide personal services to a municipal agency, identified above. The exemption under § 20(b) is approved.
Signature:	On behalf of the Council or Board, I sign this approval.

Date:	
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Attach additional pages if necessary.
File disclosure, Certification and Approval with the city or town clerk.

Form revised February, 2012

Attach additional pages if necessary.

**DISCLOSURE BY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE
OF FINANCIAL INTEREST IN A MUNICIPAL CONTRACT
AS REQUIRED BY G. L. c. 268A, § 20(b)**

	MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE INFORMATION
Name of municipal employee:	Haïden Pereira
Title/ Position	Physical Education Teacher Assistant Football Coach JV Girls Basketball Coach Assistant Lacrosse Coach
Fill in this box if it applies to you.	If you are a municipal employee because a municipal agency has contracted with your company or organization, please provide the name and address of the company or organization.
Agency/ Department	Watertown Middle School & Watertown High School
Agency Address	68 Waverley Road
Office phone:	(617) 926-7783
Office e-mail:	
	Check one: ☐ Elected or ☒ Non-elected
Starting date as a municipal employee.	
BOX # 1 Select either STATEMENT #1 or STATEMENT #2. Write an X beside your financial interest.	ELECTED MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE I am an elected municipal employee . ☐ STATEMENT #1: I had one of the following financial interests in a contract made by a municipal agency before I was elected to my municipal employee position. I will continue to have this financial interest in a municipal contract. OR ☐ STATEMENT #2: I will have a new financial interest in a contract made by a municipal agency. My financial interest in a municipal contract is: ☐ I have a non-elected, compensated municipal employee position. ☐ A municipal agency has a contract with me. ☐ I have a financial benefit or obligation because of a contract that a municipal agency has with another person or an entity, such as a company or organization. ☐ I work for a company or organization that has a contract with a municipal agency, and I am a "key employee" because the contract identifies me by name or it is otherwise clear that the city or town has contracted for my services in particular.
BOX # 2 Select either STATEMENT #1 or	NON-ELECTED, COMPENSATED MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE I am a non-elected municipal employee . ☐ STATEMENT # 1: I had one of the following financial interests in a contract made by a municipal agency before I took a position as a non-elected municipal employee. I will continue to have this financial interest in a municipal contract.

STATEMENT #2. Write an X beside your financial interest.	My financial interest in a municipal contract is: ☐ A municipal agency has a contract with me, but not an employment contract. ☐ I have a financial benefit or obligation because of a contract that a municipal agency has with another person or an entity, such as a company or organization. -- OR -- ☐ STATEMENT # 2: I will have a new financial interest in a contract made by a municipal agency. My financial interest in a municipal contract is: ☒ I have a non-elected, compensated municipal employee position. ☐ A municipal agency has a contract with me. ☐ I have a financial benefit or obligation because of a contract that a municipal agency has with another person or an entity, such as a company or organization. ☐ I work for a company or organization that has a contract with a municipal agency, and I am a "key employee" because the contract identifies me by name or it is otherwise clear that the city or town has contracted for my services in particular.
	FINANCIAL INTEREST IN A MUNICIPAL CONTRACT
Name and address of municipal agency that made the contract	City of Watertown Recreation Department 149 Main Street Watertown, Ma 02472
Please put in an X to confirm these facts.	"My Municipal Agency" is the municipal agency that I serve as a municipal employee. The "contracting agency" is the municipal agency that made the contract. ☒ My Municipal Agency is not the contracting agency. ☒ My Municipal Agency does not regulate the activities of the contracting agency. ☒ In my work for my Municipal Agency, I do not participate in or have official responsibility for any of the activities of the contracting agency. ☒ The contract was made after public notice or through competitive bidding.
FILL IN THIS BOX OR THE BOX BELOW	ANSWER THE QUESTION IN THIS BOX IF THE CONTRACT IS BETWEEN THE CITY OR TOWN AND YOU. - Please explain what the contract is for. Ski Program
FILL IN THIS BOX OR THE BOX ABOVE	ANSWER THE QUESTIONS IN THIS BOX IF THE CONTRACT IS BETWEEN THE CITY OR TOWN AND ANOTHER PERSON OR ENTITY. - Please identify the person or entity that has the contract with the municipal agency. - What is your relationship to the person or entity? - What is the contract for?

What is your financial interest In the municipal contract?	- Please explain the financial interest and include the dollar amount if you know it.
Date when you acquired a financial interest	11/1/2024
What is the financial interest of your immediate family?	- Please explain the financial interest and include the dollar amount if you know it.
Date when your immediate family acquired a financial interest	
Write an X to confirm each statement.	FOR A CONTRACT FOR PERSONAL SERVICES – Answer the questions in this box ONLY if you will have a contract for personal services with a municipal agency (i.e., you will do work directly for the contracting agency). I will have a contract with a municipal agency to provide personal services. ___ The services will be provided outside my normal working hours as a municipal employee. ___ The services are not required as part of my regular duties as a municipal employee. ___ For these services, I will be compensated for not more than 500 hours during a calendar year.
Employee signature:	Haiden Pereira
Date:	11/1/2024

Attach additional pages if necessary.

NOT A PERSONAL SERVICES CONTRACT -- File disclosure with the city or town clerk.

SEE CERTIFICATION AND APPROVAL REQUIRED FOR PERSONAL SERVICES CONTRACTS, BELOW.

FOR CONTRACTS FOR PERSONAL SERVICES ONLY:

If you are disclosing a financial interest in a contract for personal services with a municipal agency, you must file the Certification below signed by the head of the contracting agency, and you must get approval of the exemption from the city council, board of aldermen, board of selectmen or town council.

CERTIFICATION BY HEAD OF CONTRACTING AGENCY

	INFORMATION ABOUT HEAD OF CONTRACTING AGENCY
Name:	
Title/ Position	
Municipal Agency:	
Agency Address:	
Office Phone:	
	CERTIFICATION
	I have received a disclosure under G.L. c. 268A, § 20(b) from a municipal employee who seeks to provide personal services to my municipal agency, identified above. I certify that no employee of my agency is available to perform the services described above as part of his or her regular duties.
Signature:	
Date:	

**APPROVAL BY CITY COUNCIL, BOARD OF ALDERMEN,
BOARD OF SELECTMEN OR TOWN COUNCIL**

	INFORMATION ABOUT APPROVING BODY
Name:	
Title/ Position	
Agency Address:	
Office Phone:	
	APPROVAL
	I have received a disclosure under G.L. c. 268A, § 20(b) from a municipal employee who seeks to provide personal services to a municipal agency, identified above. The exemption under § 20(b) is approved.
Signature:	On behalf of the Council or Board, I sign this approval.
Date:	

**Attach additional pages if necessary.
File disclosure, Certification and Approval with the city or town clerk.**

**DISCLOSURE BY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE
OF FINANCIAL INTEREST IN A MUNICIPAL CONTRACT
AS REQUIRED BY G. L. c. 268A, § 20(b)**

	MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE INFORMATION
Name of municipal employee:	Emma McGoldrick
Title/ Position	Instructional Assistant
Fill in this box if it applies to you.	If you are a municipal employee because a municipal agency has contracted with your company or organization, please provide the name and address of the company or organization.
Agency/ Department	Hosmer Elementary School
Agency Address	1 Concord Road Watertown MA 02472
Office phone:	617 926 7740
Office e-mail:	emma.mcgoldrick@watertown.k12.ma.us
	Check one: ☐ Elected or ☒ Non-elected
Starting date as a municipal employee.	9/06/2023
BOX # 1 Select either STATEMENT #1 or STATEMENT #2. Write an X beside your financial interest.	ELECTED MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE I am an elected municipal employee. ☐ STATEMENT #1: I had one of the following financial interests in a contract made by a municipal agency before I was elected to my municipal employee position. I will continue to have this financial interest in a municipal contract. OR ☐ STATEMENT #2: I will have a new financial interest in a contract made by a municipal agency. My financial interest in a municipal contract is: ☐ I have a non-elected, compensated municipal employee position. ☐ A municipal agency has a contract with me. ☐ I have a financial benefit or obligation because of a contract that a municipal agency has with another person or an entity, such as a company or organization. ☐ I work for a company or organization that has a contract with a municipal agency, and I am a "key employee" because the contract identifies me by name or it is otherwise clear that the city or town has contracted for my services in particular.
BOX # 2 Select either STATEMENT #1 or STATEMENT #2.	NON-ELECTED, COMPENSATED MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE I am a non-elected municipal employee. ☐ STATEMENT # 1: I had one of the following financial interests in a contract made by a municipal agency before I took a position as a non-elected municipal employee. I will continue to have this financial interest in a municipal contract.

Write an X beside your financial interest.	My financial interest in a municipal contract is: ☐ A municipal agency has a contract with me, but not an employment contract. ☐ I have a financial benefit or obligation because of a contract that a municipal agency has with another person or an entity, such as a company or organization. -- OR -- ☐ STATEMENT # 2: I will have a new financial interest in a contract made by a municipal agency. My financial interest in a municipal contract is: ☒ I have a non-elected, compensated municipal employee position. ☐ A municipal agency has a contract with me. ☐ I have a financial benefit or obligation because of a contract that a municipal agency has with another person or an entity, such as a company or organization. ☐ I work for a company or organization that has a contract with a municipal agency, and I am a "key employee" because the contract identifies me by name or it is otherwise clear that the city or town has contracted for my services in particular.
FINANCIAL INTEREST IN A MUNICIPAL CONTRACT	
Name and address of municipal agency that made the contract	
Please put in an X to confirm these facts.	"My Municipal Agency" is the municipal agency that I serve as a municipal employee. The "contracting agency" is the municipal agency that made the contract. ☐ My Municipal Agency is not the contracting agency. ☒ My Municipal Agency does not regulate the activities of the contracting agency. ☒ In my work for my Municipal Agency, I do not participate in or have official responsibility for any of the activities of the contracting agency. ☐ The contract was made after public notice or through competitive bidding.
FILL IN THIS BOX OR THE BOX BELOW	ANSWER THE QUESTION IN THIS BOX IF THE CONTRACT IS BETWEEN THE CITY OR TOWN AND YOU. - Please explain what the contract is for. Contract of employment.
FILL IN THIS BOX OR THE BOX ABOVE	ANSWER THE QUESTIONS IN THIS BOX IF THE CONTRACT IS BETWEEN THE CITY OR TOWN AND ANOTHER PERSON OR ENTITY. - Please identify the person or entity that has the contract with the municipal agency. - What is your relationship to the person or entity? - What is the contract for?

What is your financial interest In the municipal contract?	- Please explain the financial interest and include the dollar amount if you know it. About \$25.80 an hour
Date when you acquired a financial interest	9/06/23
What is the financial interest of your immediate family?	- Please explain the financial interest and include the dollar amount if you know it. None.
Date when your immediate family acquired a financial interest	
Write an X to confirm each statement.	FOR A CONTRACT FOR PERSONAL SERVICES – Answer the questions in this box ONLY if you will have a contract for personal services with a municipal agency (i.e., you will do work directly for the contracting agency). I will have a contract with a municipal agency to provide personal services. ___ The services will be provided outside my normal working hours as a municipal employee. ___ The services are not required as part of my regular duties as a municipal employee. ___ For these services, I will be compensated for not more than 500 hours during a calendar year.
Employee signature:	Emma McGoldrick
Date:	10/28/24

Attach additional pages if necessary.

NOT A PERSONAL SERVICES CONTRACT -- File disclosure with the city or town clerk.

SEE CERTIFICATION AND APPROVAL REQUIRED FOR PERSONAL SERVICES CONTRACTS, BELOW.

FOR CONTRACTS FOR PERSONAL SERVICES ONLY:

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	INFORMATION ABOUT HEAD OF CONTRACTING AGENCY
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Municipal Agency:	
Agency Address:	
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	CERTIFICATION
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Signature:	
Date:	

**APPROVAL BY CITY COUNCIL, BOARD OF ALDERMEN,
BOARD OF SELECTMEN OR TOWN COUNCIL**

	INFORMATION ABOUT APPROVING BODY
Name:	
Title/ Position	
Agency Address:	
Office Phone:	
	APPROVAL
	I have received a disclosure under G.L. c. 268A, § 20(b) from a municipal employee who seeks to provide personal services to a municipal agency, identified above. The exemption under § 20(b) is approved.
Signature:	On behalf of the Council or Board, I sign this approval.
Date:	

**Attach additional pages if necessary.
File disclosure, Certification and Approval with the city or town clerk.**

CITY COUNCIL ROLL CALL VOTE
MEETING DATE: DECEMBER, 2024

	YES	NO	PRESENT
JOHN M. AIRASIAN	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
CAROLINE BAYS	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
LISA J. FELTNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
JOHN G. GANNON	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NICOLE GARDNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
EMILY IZZO	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
ANTHONY PALOMBA	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
VINCENT J. PICCIRILLI JR.	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
MARK S. SIDERIS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Motion to accept the Committee on Climate and Energy Report from its meeting on
November 18, 2024



Watertown City Council

Administration Building
149 Main Street
Watertown, MA 02472
Phone: 617-972-6470

Climate and Energy Committee 11/18/2024

The Climate and Energy Committee convened on Monday November 18, 2024, at 5:30pm in the City Council Chambers. The purpose of the meeting was to hear updates on the Climate Action Plan (CAP) with a focus on Transportation and Mobility.

Present in the room were Tony Palomba, chair; Caroline Bays, vice chair; and John Airasian, secretary. Also present were Laurel Schaub, Sustainability Manager; Katie Swan, Environmental Planner; Zeke Mermell, Senior Transportation Planner; Silas Fyler, Energy Manager and Councilor Vincent Piccirilli. A full list of attendees in person and online is attached.

Laurel began her presentation stating that staff is working to track progress and looking to get a 3-year report in the summer of '25 as this will mark the 3-year adoption of the CAP. Staff also looking to recalculate greenhouse gas inventory since the data they have been going off is from 2019.

Laurel and Sylas went over several elements and below are the highlights. The full discussion can be seen on the WCATV link below or the presentation attached.

Outreach and Education

- Have increased the frequency of the monthly newsletter
- Hosted 200 volunteers at the Lowell for Miyawaki forest planting
- Planning an inaugural sustainability festival in May of 2025

Buildings and Energy

- Promoting heat pump workshop on 12/7 at the library
- Providing assistance for clean energy financing
- Working to have BERDO in front of Council by end of year

Natural Resources

- The Environmental site assessment of Walker Pond is underway
- Tree ordinance is under legal review
- Planted a total of 854 new trees since 2022

Infrastructure and Waste Management

- Preparing to roll out a student composting at Middle School
- Drafting a sustainable procurement policy ordinance

Public Health and Preparedness

- Open space staff is working with DPW and schools to provide shade at park redesigns
- Climate change and health vulnerability assessment is in progress

As Transportation was the focus of the meeting, Zeke Mermell addressed the committee on

several updates. The city's vehicle fleet is transitioning to electric as WPD has purchased 3 EVs and the DPW has purchased 1. Chargers are going in at the Phillips school and WPD. A "Safe Streets for All" grant was awarded in the amount of \$800,000 over the next 5 years to provide education, city wide speed limit study and protected bike lanes. The purpose of the grant is to enhance and show the community safer modes of travel for all. Part of the grant is to build a demonstration project consisting of protected bike lanes from Watertown St. to North Beacon St with wider sidewalks and a focus on safety measures. There has been more thought on Blue Bike stations including ebike options, bus prioritization lanes, progressing the Pleasant street ridership and a bike parking ordinance.

Councilor Palomba noted that with all the activity and in order to reach our CAP goals by 2050, more capacity would be needed in these departments.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05

Minutes prepared by John M. Airasian

Full list of Attendees:

Deborah Pederson – in person
Ernesta Krackiewicz – in person
Lise Paul – in person
Nancy Hamett – online
Brian Hebeison – online
Susan Ladue – online
Sophia Galimore

Link to WCATV

<http://vodwcatv.org/CablecastPublicSite/show/3520?site=3>

Attachments:

TO: Watertown Climate and Energy Committee
FROM: Deborah Peterson, 9 Westland Road, Watertown
RE: Comments on Climate Plan Transportation Report
DATE: Nov18,2024

I am glad we are meeting about transportation. It is our second largest contributor to green house gasses. This primarily comes down to vehicle mile reduction. And for that you need transit. Bikes and walking are great, but you get the biggest bang from transit. The City is doing a lot, but there needs to be a way that all these disparate pieces can work together and an assessment of the contribution of each to car mile reduction.

We need to have a clearer idea of what it will take to reduce our vehicle miles and a schedule of phase in of targets. Here are some things that we are doing and some where we can do more.

The council has recommended an update to the TDM regulations and exploring options to open up the shuttles to the public which is good because the TDM was created to address congestion not vehicle miles and TDM targets are much lower than our climate goals for SOV use . It would be good if this update had options to include all buildings not just new development. The City was awarded a grant to create a robust monitoring system for the TDM, and is working on policies around speed limit reductions and parking requirements which will all work to reduce car use. The ARPA funded Mobility Grant will give us a better picture of what and how the city can improve mobility without relying on a personal automobile.

We also have a Bike-Ped Plan and Complete Streets Prioritization Plan which were created before the climate goals. Let's take a second look at these and see what we can prioritize or add: for example is likely to give north south bike routes a higher priority in both and may add the need for improved transit accommodations to the Complete Streets priorities.

On another note, we continue to require and use traditional traffic studies which were designed to identify and reduce congestion. We now know that the mitigation directed by these traffic studies ends up increasing vehicle miles through the dynamic of induced demand. It may be a little complicated but I urge you to check out *Walkable Cities* by Jeff Speck. So we need to refocus traffic studies on people- not cars moved. MAPC has been promoting this approach.

And finally we have a visionary plan for a denser Watertown Square with much needed housing and accompanying amenities that will depend on greater use of transit.

So the question is, can we align all these different plans, initiatives and practices into a single **comprehensive, and integrated strategy with vehicle reduction goals and new housing, and new development**. I expect the ARPA Mobility Study to help. And we need it quickly.

The recent Final Environmental Review filed by Alexandria Real Estate for the Watertown Mall Transformation has some sobering lessons. This Project is expected to generate 78,000 car trips a week. While they embraced the City's TDM and built them into their plan, these targets are way below our climate vehicle mile targets. WE could be asking for more – maybe phased in over time. They also clearly state that they cannot meet our climate targets because the “ transportation infrastructure does not currently provide the resources necessary to achieve this goal”. **We need to provide a credible plan for the**

transportation infrastructure and components that developers can rely on to build less car-centric developments.

If we had vision of what the city would need to meet our climate vehicle reduction goal it would inform both new development and city practices in a way that aligns with not only our climate goals, but with the widespread desire for a more livable, walkable, and local community as embraced by our Comprehensive Plan and Watertown Square. We are planning for the future. And given a chance, many people would opt to live in a neighborhood where they would leave the car behind or not own one if they could!

Full list of Attendees:

Deborah Pederson – in person
Ernesta Krackiewicz – in person
Lise Paul – in person
Nancy Hamett – online
Brian Hebeison – online
Susan Ladue – online
Sophia Galimore

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Anthony Palomba,
Chair

Caroline Bays,
Vice Chair

John M. Airasian,
Secretary

RESILIENT WATERTOWN CLIMATE AND ENERGY PLAN- ACTION STATUS TRACKER

Timeframe Key
short: less than 1 year to complete
medium: 1-3 years
long: 3-5 years

	Action	Plan Element	Lead Entity	Timeframe	Cost Magnitude	Status
CC 1	Strategy CC1: Add staff capacity and resources to the Energy Manager's Office, the DPW Forestry Division, and the Department of Community Development and Planning	n/a	DCDP	ongoing	n/a	creation of new Sustainability Team within DCDP headed by Sustainability Manager (Laurel Schwab); hired a full-time Energy Advocate and full-time Sustainability Planner; added support to Energy Managers office
CC 2	Strategy CC2: Create an overarching Resilient Watertown Outreach & Education Campaign	n/a	DCDP	ongoing	n/a	moved external RW website to a series of pages on the city website; increased frequency of email newsletter to monthly
CC 3	Strategy CC3: Develop assistance mechanisms and resources for renters and landlords (regarding energy efficiency, EV charging, etc.)	n/a	DCDP	ongoing	n/a	Energy Advocate (EA) conducting outreach to renters and landlords as well as local realtors
CC 4	Strategy CC4: Collaborate regionally with other communities and entities	n/a	DCDP	ongoing	n/a	staff spoke with Sustainable Belmont on 3/26/24- a new effort to cross-pollinate sustainability programs countywide.
CC 5	Strategy CC5: Explore establishing a Transportation Infrastructure Fund with funding from developers and the City to implement recommendations of this Plan	n/a	DCDP	ongoing	n/a	
CC 6	Strategy CC6: Encourage and require sustainable, climate-resilient development patterns	n/a	DCDP	ongoing	n/a	piloting new sustainability requirements in Watertown Square rezoning
BE 1.1	Expand and strengthen the existing solar ordinance	Buildings & Energy	DCDP	medium	\$	Municipal Policy Analyst creating intial memo of research
BE 1.2	Investigate commercial PACE and other financing programs	Buildings & Energy	Energy Mgr	short	\$	Municipal Policy Analyst creating intial memo of research
BE 1.3	Outreach campaign for WEC and rooftop solar	Buildings & Energy	Energy Mgr	short	\$	is watertown mall still pursuing community solar as part of their redev?
BE 2.1	Adopt the state stretch code	Buildings & Energy	Energy Mgr	medium	\$	complete- adopted Jan 2023 and in effect as of July 2023
BE 2.2	Enact fees for residential gas hookups to promote electrification	Buildings & Energy	Energy Mgr	medium	\$\$	Waiting for outcome of 10-municipality DOER pilot banning new gas hookups; DOER will be comparing results to the municipalities that adopted the specialized stretch code.
BE 2.3	Promote workforce development and training programs for net zero construction	Buildings & Energy	Energy Mgr	medium	\$\$	Municipal Policy Analyst creating intial memo of research
BE 2.4	Work with municipalities to eliminate fossil fuels (home rules etc)	Buildings & Energy	Energy Mgr	long	\$	Multi-town gas leaks initiative is tracking legislation
BE 2.5	Use Whole Building Life Cycle Assessment as condition for granting permits and set progressively tighter standards	Buildings & Energy	Energy Mgr	medium	\$\$	
BE 3.1	Investigate and support development of geo-microgrid pilot programs	Buildings & Energy	Energy Mgr	long	\$\$\$	city hall complex under evaluation for ground source heat pumps
BE 3.2	outreach campaign for heat pumps in residential homes	Buildings & Energy	Energy Mgr	short	\$\$	EA recruiting Heat Pump Ambassadors and Coaches; hosting Heat Pumps 101 workshop in December
BE 3.3	Incentivize transition to heat pumps	Buildings & Energy	Energy Mgr	short	\$\$	
BE 4.1	Enact a BEUDO/BERDO	Buildings & Energy	Energy Mgr	medium	\$\$	WE3C voted to support draft bill at their March meeting; submittal to Council forthcoming after completion of DCDP staff review
BE 4.2	Provide technical assistance for clean energy, energy efficiency, and financing activities	Buildings & Energy	Energy Mgr	medium	\$\$\$	EA providing support to residents and small businesses
BE 4.3	Upgrade major municipal facilities to net zero	Buildings & Energy	DPB	long	\$\$\$	Municipal Decarbonization Roadmap was adopted by City Council July 2024;
BE 4.4	Develop a bulk procurement and purchasing program to support smaller commercial properties with deep energy retrofits	Buildings & Energy	Energy Mgr	medium	\$\$	EA following up with Mass Save and partners to assess effectiveness of this concept
BE 4.5	Incentivize large grocery stores and buildings with significant refrigeration to get certified in EPA GreenChill program to reduce HFCs	Buildings & Energy	Energy Mgr	short	\$\$	EA following up with Mass Save and partners to assess effectiveness of this concept

TM 1.1	install bike and ped-only infrastructure for protected and off-street connections	Transportation & Mobility	DCDP/DPW	medium	\$\$\$	Safe Streets for All grant awarded for education, protected bike lanes, and other quick-build projects; bike parking regulations adopted for Watertown Square; ongoing coordination with DPW on complete streets, community path, and greenway
TM 1.2	collaborate regionally to increase and improve pathways for bikes and peds	Transportation & Mobility	DCDP	medium	\$	coordination with other communities on Western Ave, Newton Corner, I-90, and Bluebikes network planning
TM 1.3	increase use of transit, bike and ped travel through outreach, incentives, policy changes	Transportation & Mobility	DCDP	long	\$\$	Expansion of bikeshare stations in discussion for 2025 TDM monitoring will commence Jan 2025 and inform a regulation update to better align with climate plan goals
TM 1.4	Work with MBTA to improve accessibility of routes, stops, and CharlieCard purchasing stations within Watertown, and electrification of the bus fleet	Transportation & Mobility	DCDP	long	\$	discussions of Watertown Square Area Plan mitigations and changes to bus routes/stops to enhance user experience
TM 1.5	Implement bus prioritization projects such as dedicated lanes and signal priority	Transportation & Mobility	DPW	medium	\$\$\$	upcoming coordination with DPW and MBTA on "smart lights"
TM 1.6	Develop an integrated, publicly accessible electric transit system that connects to MBTA and other points of interest not accessible by MBTA, including on-demand transportation options	Transportation & Mobility	DCDP	long	\$\$\$	Pleasant St Shuttle EV fleet – continued progress on sustainable funding and increased ridership on electric shuttles Preparing to launch study on City-supported local transit, including microtransit
TM 2.1	Create and implement EV roadmap	Transportation & Mobility	DCDP	short	\$\$\$	Police dept purchasing 3 Evs and getting 3 chargers installed at the station.
TM 2.2	Transition all city-owned, leased, and contracted vehicles to electric, including school bus, garbage truck, and maintenance fleets	Transportation & Mobility	DPW/purchasing	long	\$\$\$	City Council adopted a Zero Emission Vehicle First (ZEV) policy as part of Climate Leader Communities process for DOER
TM 2.3	Support the development of Multi-Use Parking Arrangements to develop EV charging at places of worship and other organizations with large parking lots in residential neighborhoods	Transportation & Mobility	DCDP	medium	\$	conducting precedent research
TM 2.4	Develop an outreach and incentive campaign to those with a vehicle over 10 years old to promote and incentivize EV purchase	Transportation & Mobility	DCDP	medium	\$\$	
TM 2.5	increase availability of charging stations on municipal property	Transportation & Mobility	Energy Mgr	medium	\$\$\$	Energy Manager has list of 9 future charging locations. Also considering best locations for Level 3 fast chargers.
TM 2.6	Incentivize homeowners and landlords to install EV chargers	Transportation & Mobility	DCDP	long	\$\$\$	promoting state rebate
NR 1.1	Incorporate pocket parks into all neighborhoods lacking green space	Natural Resources	DCDP	long	\$\$	DCDP was chosen to be part of Tufts UEP Masters Program Field Projects course, spring 2025 semester, to have a group of students conduct a feasibility and design study of new small-scale public spaces
NR 1.2	Promote biodiversity improvements to existing and new parks and open space by codifying existing DPW planting and maintenance practices and strengthening requirements for private development	Natural Resources	DCDP/DPW	medium	\$	Miyawaki Forest Planting Day Celebration took place on October 26th at the Lowell School (see image) Park renovation projects: designers adding new native/drought resistant plant beds
NR 1.3	acquire more open space and create open space on private property	Natural Resources	DCDP	long	\$\$\$	Walker Pond: Ecological assessment started summer 2024
NR 1.4	Establish equitable and accessible natural-habitat corridors along water bodies, trails, and utility easement areas, and protect existing ones	Natural Resources	DCDP/DPW	medium	\$\$	Watertown Community Gardens hosted ~15 volunteer events to remove invasive plant species along the Watertown-Cambridge Greenway in 2024
NR 2.1	establish a tree ordinance	Natural Resources	DCDP	medium	\$	draft under legal review
NR 2.2	outreach program to increase awareness of urban forest's role in climate change and mitigation	Natural Resources	DCDP	short	\$	urban forest outreach this year will tie into Lowell Microforest project
NR 2.3	increase tree plantings and prioritize plantings in areas at risk for urban heat impacts	Natural Resources	DPW/Forestry	medium	\$\$	Planted approximately 163 trees in 2024 for a total of 854 new trees since 2022 Tree Warden has requested funding for regular tree inventories and related software
NR 3.1	outreach and education on regenerative landscaping	Natural Resources	DCDP	medium	\$	City Manager signed Mayor's Monarch Pledge to promote pollinator species; DCDP doing associated comms/outreach and coordination with groups such as Watertown Community Gardens, who have formed a coalition called Watertown Pollinator Pathways. Volunteer-supported pollinator garden installations on public property occur each spring and fall, led by DPW. staff created a publicly accessible pollinator garden GIS map layer and yard signs for residents.

NR 3.2	Utilize school gardens and community gardens as nature-based landscaping demonstration sites	Natural Resources	WPS	medium	\$	ACR Garden Intern program for middle school students took place summer '23 and '24; evaluating how to maintain it beyond life of ACR grant Freight Farm being installed at temporary High School location; will provide hydroponically grown produce for cafeteria
NR 3.3	update regs to require native plants/de-emphasize lawn species	Natural Resources	DCDP	short	\$	DCDP staff reviewing all regs/policies that need to be updated or augmented as part of comprehensive zoning update (forthcoming)
NR 4.1	Expand and accelerate existing Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI) policies and management programs for public projects	Natural Resources	DPW	medium	\$	City was awarded a nearly \$1M MVP Action Grant for Phase 2 of the Community Greening Program, which adds green infrastructure to neighborhood streets in areas most vulnerable to climate impacts (heat and flooding). Phase 2 will see construction on Templeton Pkwy and Dexter Ave. DPW has installed ~30 tree trenches with 40 more planned for Spring 2025
NR 4.2	Promote and/or incentivize the incorporation of green stormwater infrastructure into existing large impervious areas	Natural Resources	DPW	long	\$\$	conducting precedent research
NR 4.3	Enhance incentives and ongoing education related to individual actions such as rain barrels, planting strips, and de-paving private residential properties	Natural Resources	DPW	medium	\$\$	Watertown Pollinator Pathways is encouraging residents to populate their planting strips via a new brochure
IW 1.1	Create a bulk purchasing network for compostable and environmentally friendly goods among the commercial and industrial sectors	Infrastructure & Waste	DCDP	medium	\$	conducting precedent research
IW 1.2	outreach campaign on reducing consumption across all categories	Infrastructure & Waste	DPW	medium	\$	
IW 1.3	Create an organics recycling program	Infrastructure & Waste	DPW	short	\$\$	current enrollment at about 3,000 residents; student composting at middle school rolling out this year.
IW 1.4	Establish an Environmentally Preferable Purchasing policy (EPP) that focuses on reducing consumption, particularly of single use items within municipal government	Infrastructure & Waste	Purchasing	short	\$	Drafting a Sustainable Procurement Policy and guidelines
IW 1.5	Investigate opportunities to pursue a circular economy in Watertown or within the Metro Boston region	Infrastructure & Waste	DPW	medium	\$	Solid Waste and Recycling Advisory Committee sent letter to the Manager in support of recycling ordinance, summer 2024; this is a priority for new Recycling Manager
IW 2.1	require all major new and upgraded infrastructure to incorporate resilient design guidelines	Infrastructure & Waste	DPW	medium	\$	conducting initial research
IW 2.2	Review and enhance current infrastructure maintenance systems and protocols to align with the needs of a changing climate	Infrastructure & Waste	DPW	medium	\$	
IW 2.3	Advocate for removal of Watertown Dam	Infrastructure & Waste	DCDP	long	\$	DCR hosted meetings in July and Sept 2024
IW 2.4	investigate back up power/microgrid/battery options for public bldgs	Infrastructure & Waste	DPB	medium	\$\$\$	
PH 1.1	outreach campaign about climate preparedness	Public Health & Preparedness	Health	short	\$	Health Department continues to inform and educate the public on issues such as COVID, Flu Shots, tick and mosquito born infectious diseases along with emergency preparedness prior to and during climate related weather emergencies
PH 1.2	Actively recruit volunteers to participate in the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program	Public Health & Preparedness	Health	short	\$	investigating feasibility
PH 2.1	complete a climate change and health vulnerability assessment	Public Health & Preparedness	Health	medium	\$	assessment is underway in coordination with MAPC via a technical assistance grant; final report expected spring 2025
PH 2.2	mitigate existing and prevent new urban heat islands	Public Health & Preparedness	DCDP	medium	\$\$\$	Open Space staff working with DPW and Schools to prioritize shade/cooling options for school playgrounds and park redesigns City was awarded a nearly \$1M MVP Action Grant for Phase 2 of the Community Greening Program, which adds green infrastructure to neighborhood streets in areas most vulnerable to climate impacts (heat and flooding). Phase 2 will see construction on Templeton Pkwy and Dexter Ave.
PH 2.3	Continue to enhance access to local food by expanding resources and support for food pantries and community fridge programs, community gardens, and the Farmers' Market for those who are food insecure	Public Health & Preparedness	Health	medium	\$\$	Community Wellness PM is working to establish a food access working group and reduce barriers to utilizing Farmer's Market SNAP Match and free HIP produce bags in the off-season

PH 3.1	Identify and reduce structural barriers (e.g., internet access, language and cultural barriers, cognitive and/or physical disabilities, social isolation, access to services and emergency information) that prevent individuals and neighborhoods from taking care of themselves during and after extreme weather	Public Health & Preparedness	Health/DCDP	medium	\$\$	will be conducted as part of Climate and Health Vulnerability Assessment
PH 3.2	Require all commercial building owners to rebroadcast and post Watertown Alert announcements to building occupants in English and Spanish	Public Health & Preparedness	DCDP	medium	\$	
PH 3.3	launch a "sign up" campaign to ensure equitable access to communication resources	Public Health & Preparedness	Health/IT	short	\$	
PH 3.4	Enhance emergency info on city website	Public Health & Preparedness	IT	short	\$	complete
PH 4.1	Establish a network of resilience hubs that provide resources (e.g., cooling, phonecharging, pantry) that are easily accessible throughout the community	Public Health & Preparedness	Health/Fire	medium	\$\$	waiting for results of health vulnerability assessment
PH 4.2	Enhance the Live Well Watertown coalition and its programs	Public Health & Preparedness	DPH	medium	\$\$	Live Well Watertown has added a "Community Connect" initiative that supports efforts to encourage the development of neighborhood groups to intentionally connect people for practical and social/community building purposes



Resilient Watertown Climate & Energy Plan: Implementation Update

Watertown City Council Subcommittee Meeting, November 18, 2024

Laurel Schwab
Sustainability Manager

Silas Fyler
Asst. Director for Energy Management

Zeke Mermell
Senior Transportation Planner





Agenda

1. Introduction
2. Strategy and Action Updates as of Nov. 2024
3. Next Steps



Plan Elements and Organization



- Each Plan Element follows the structure:
 - Goal: what we want to accomplish; broad statement
 - Strategy: How we will accomplish it as a general approach
 - Action: *Specific activity that will be undertaken*
 - Action
 - Etc.
- Each Plan Element has quantifiable metrics for tracking our progress
- For every Action we identify a lead entity, cost magnitude, timeframe, and contribution to mitigation, resilience, or both



Tracking Our Progress

- Staff is working to gather updated data for our plan metrics
- Some data sources are only released periodically (Census, for example) but we will do our best to get a sense of how we are doing
- Goal: interim progress report at the 3-year implementation milestone (summer 2025)
- Evaluating how and when to recalculate our GHG inventory (original inventory was based on 2019 data)

24						
25	Buildings and Energy					
26	Metric	Unit	Baseline Year	Baseline	2030 Target	2050 Target
27	Percent of income spent on energy for household within 0% to 30% of AMI	%	2018	16	8	2
28	Enrollment in Watertown Electricity Choice	%	2019	82	82	100
29	Enrollment in Watertown Electricity Choice (100% renewable option)	%	2019	3	3	100
30	Potential solar capacity	Number of rooftops	2019	3209	4256	6700
31	Installed solar capacity	kW	2021	4521	33600	112000
32	Estimated total solar electricity	MWh	2021	5360	38400	128000
33	Commercial energy use intensity (EUI). For buildings >5,000 sf	MMBtu/sq. ft.	2023			
34	Number of gas/oil heated residential properties	Number of gas/oil Res	2019	9625	5775	0
35	Number of gas/oil heated commercial properties	Number of gas/oil Com	2019	521	312	0
36						
37						
38	Transportation and Mobility					
39	Metric	Unit	Baseline Year	Baseline	2030 Target	2050 Target
40	Residents who use sustainable mode (bike, walk, transit) to travel to work	%	2013-2017	2	5	6
41	Roads rated at a 4 or 5 stress level	# of miles	2018	6.9	3.5	0
42	Total electric vehicles	%	2020	7	54	100
43	Population within a 1/2 mile radius of a public EV charging station	%	2021	23	100	100
44	Number of publicly accessible EV charging stations	#	2021	17	575	1050
45						
46	Natural Resources					
47	Metric	Unit	Baseline Year	Baseline	2030 Target	2050 Target
48	Open space per person	acres/1,000 people	2020	3.25	5	10
49	Tree canopy coverage	%	2016	21	23	27
50	Impervious surfaces	%	2016	57	55	50
51	Public Trees in Good Health	%	2018	84	90	100
52	Public Trees Sites Occupied	%	2018	49	75	100
53	Area (sf) of school gardens and community gardens	sf	2021	20350	24000	30000
54						

Example of metric tracking spreadsheet



Cross-Cutting Strategy Updates

- CC1: Add capacity and resources to the Energy Manager's Office, DPW Forestry Division, and DCDDP in order to successfully implement the plan
 - *Created new Sustainability Team within DCDDP*
 - Hired Fangxue Zheng (Energy Advocate) and Mia Kania (Sustainability Planner), fall 2024
- CC2: Create an overarching Resilient Watertown Outreach and Education Campaign
 - See next slide
- CC4: Collaborate regionally with other communities and entities
 - Resilient Mystic Collaborative; Charles River Climate Compact; MAPC Metro Mayors Coalition; Multi-town gas leaks working group; Building Electrification Accelerator; Charles River Chamber Environmental Committee; Sustainable Middlesex
- CC6: Encourage and require sustainable, climate-resilient development patterns
 - Watertown Square Plan process served as a pilot for some of these changes; zoning update adopted Nov. 2024



Signage outside 66 Galen St development highlighting sustainability features of the site and building



Outreach & Education Updates

- CC2: Create an overarching Resilient Watertown Outreach & Education Campaign (Actions BE1.3, BE3.2, TM1.3, NR2.2, NR3.1, NR3.2, NR4.3, IW1.2, PH1.1, PH3.3)

New since May:

- *WE3C Outreach Working Group successfully transferred external Resilient Watertown website onto City Website for enhanced flexibility of content and better searchability*
- *Staff tabled at Farmers Market the fourth week of every month during 2024 season*
- *Increased frequency of RW Newsletter to monthly issues*
- *Worked with project partners to host ~200 volunteers at the Lowell School Miyawaki Forest Planting Day, Oct 26, 2024*
- *Submitted Mayor's Monarch Pledge Annual Report for 2024; plan to re-pledge for 2025*
- *Planning for Watertown's inaugural sustainability resource festival, May 2025 at the Commander's Mansion!*

Other ongoing items:

- Periodically updating publicly available pollinator garden map and giving free yard signs to residents who elect to be placed on the map (as well as Life-Friendly Garden Tour hosts)
- Installing pollinator garden signage and informational tags on newly planted street trees
- Arts and Culture tie-ins with “Edible Watertown” programming: visited ACR garden interns during summer 2024; upcoming “Expert Pairings” public art series
- Coordinating with WE3C, Stormwater, Bike/Ped, and Solid Waste Advisory Committees, Live Well Watertown, Hatch Makerspace, Watertown Pollinator Pathways, Trees for Watertown, etc.

Buildings & Energy Updates

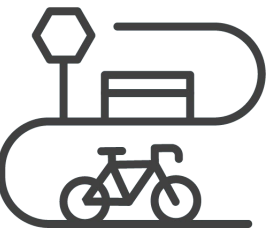


- BE 2.1: Adopt the state's net-zero energy standard as soon as permissible 
- BE 3.2: Develop and implement a targeted outreach campaign focused on promoting heat pumps for residential homes
 - Energy Advocate doing outreach on heat pumps. Workshop scheduled for December 7th at WFPL
- BE 4.1: Enact a Building Energy Use Disclosure Ordinance with a reporting requirement
 - WE3C voted to support draft bill at their March meeting; submittal to Council by end of 2024
- BE 4.2: Provide technical assistance for clean energy, energy efficiency, and financing
 - Energy Advocate conducting outreach, home energy assessments, and troubleshooting
 - Launching “Energy Ambassador” program to pair residents who have made energy efficiency/sustainability upgrades with those who are curious/have questions and “Energy Coach” cohort recruitment (people with technical/HVAC backgrounds)
- BE 4.3: Upgrade major existing municipal facilities to achieve net zero energy performance
 - City adopted a Municipal Decarbonization Roadmap as part of process to achieve Climate Leader Community designation from DOER (new version of Green Communities program)
 - Requested a city budget line item for energy efficiency upgrades
- Action BE4.4: Develop a bulk procurement and purchasing program to support smaller commercial properties with deep energy retrofits
 - Energy Advocate working with Economic Development Planner and business groups to identify opportunities
 - Mass Save “Main Streets” effort, which offers enhanced incentives for small businesses and non-profits, ran during Summer/Fall 2024

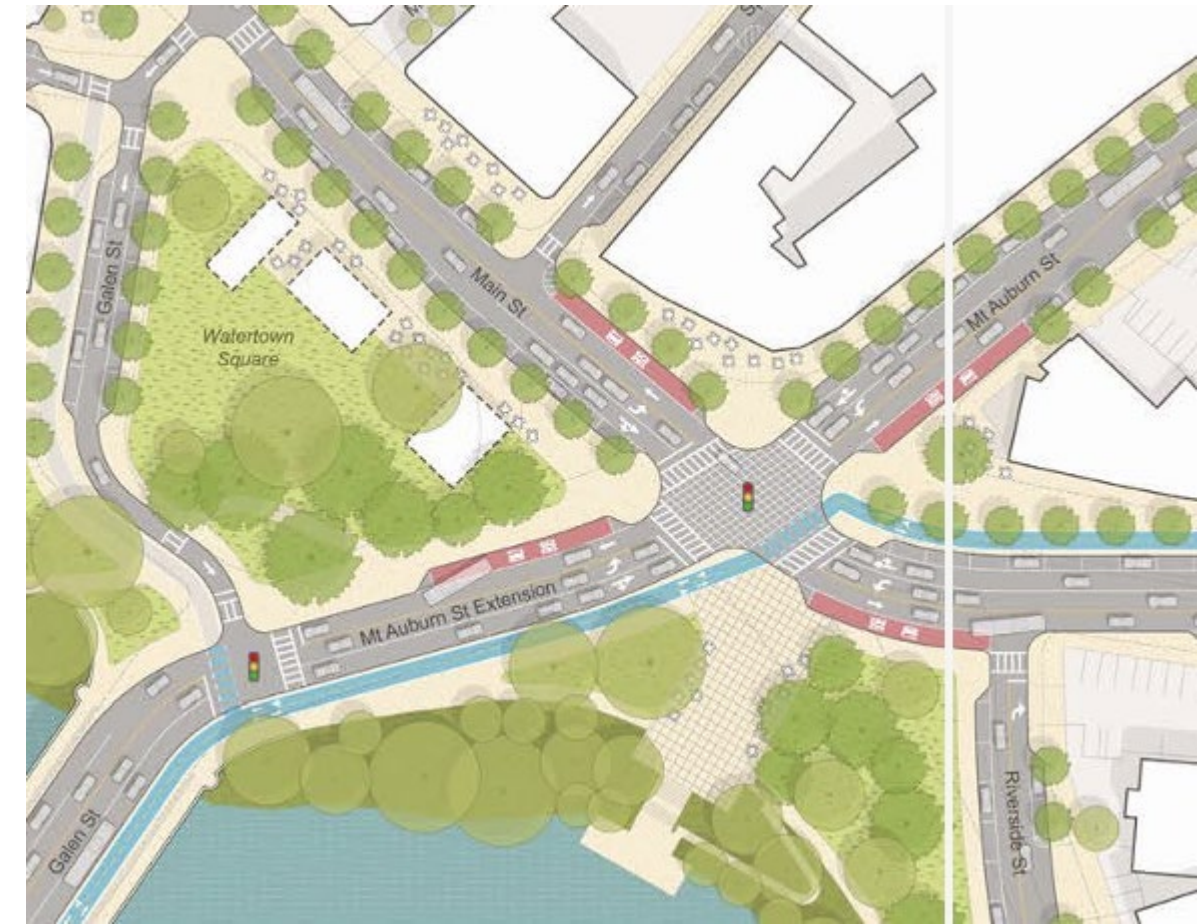


Watertown's LEED Platinum high school building under construction

Transportation & Mobility Updates



- TM 1.1: Install well-shaded bike/ped-only infrastructure, especially in densely developed areas and areas of high traffic volume
 - Watertown Square Area Plan adopted July 2024
 - Safe Streets for All grant awarded for education program, protected bike lanes, and more over next ~5 years
 - Planning for additional Bluebikes stations, including e-bike options
 - Bike parking guidelines and bike parking ordinance ready to be integrated into Watertown Square zoning and streetscape design process
 - Ongoing coordination with DPW and other depts on Community Path, Greenway, and Complete Streets connections
- TM 1.2: Collaborate regionally to increase and improve pathways for bikes and pedestrians
 - Western Ave, Newton Corner, Bluebikes network planning with MAPC
- TM 1.3: Increase use of transit, bike, and pedestrian travel through outreach, incentives, and policy changes
 - TDM monitoring will commence Jan 2025 and help inform a regulation update to better align with City and Climate Plan goals
- TM 1.5: Implement bus prioritization projects
 - Watertown & MBTA discussing Watertown Square Area Plan mitigations, including potential queue jumps, transit signal priority & bus lanes
 - Upcoming DPW coordination on “smart lights”
- TM 1.6: Develop an integrated, publicly accessible electric transit system that connects to MBTA
 - Pleasant St Shuttle EV fleet – continued progress on sustainable funding and increased ridership on electric shuttles
 - Mobility Study RFP released Oct 2024 (funded by ARPA grant)



Proposed Watertown Square redesign

Transportation & Mobility Updates

- TM 2.2: Transition all City-owned, leased, and contracted vehicles to electric, including school bus, garbage truck, and maintenance fleets
 - City adopted an internal Zero Emission Vehicle First (ZEV) policy as part of Climate Leader Communities process for DOER
 - Police Department has purchased 3 new electric vehicles; DPW has purchased 1
 - Forthcoming Sustainable Purchasing Policy will identify opportunities to push for EVs in contracted services when feasible
- TM 2.5: Increase the availability of charging stations on municipal property
 - Staff will prioritize future identified charging locations based on geographical and equity criteria; identifying and applying for competitive grants to fund installations
 - For safety and access reasons, the chargers at the DPW are now for fleet vehicles only

Natural Resources Updates

- NR 1.1: Incorporate pocket parks into neighborhoods lacking green space
 - DCDP was chosen to be part of Tufts UEP Masters Program Field Projects course, spring 2025 semester, to have a group of students conduct a feasibility and design study of new small-scale public spaces
- NR 1.2: Promote biodiversity improvements to existing and new parks and open space
 - Miyawaki Forest Planting Day Celebration took place on October 26th at the Lowell School (see image)
 - Park renovation projects: designers adding new native/drought resistant plant beds
- NR 1.3: Acquire more open space, where possible, and create more open space on private property
 - Environmental site assessment of Walker Pond underway
- NR 1.4: Establish and protect natural habitat corridors along water bodies, trails, and easement areas
 - Watertown Community Gardens hosted ~15 volunteer events to remove invasive plant species along the Watertown-Cambridge Greenway in 2024
- NR 2.1: Establish an enforceable tree ordinance
 - Draft under legal review
- NR 2.3: Increase tree plantings and prioritize plantings in areas at risk for urban heat impacts
 - Planted approximately 163 trees in 2024 for a total of 854 new trees since 2022
 - Tree Warden has requested funding for regular tree inventories and related software
- NR 3.2: Utilize school gardens and community gardens as nature-based landscaping demonstration sites
 - ACR Garden Intern program for middle school students took place summer '23 and '24; evaluating how to maintain it beyond life of ACR grant
 - Freight Farm being installed at temporary High School location; will provide hydroponically grown produce for cafeteria
- NR 3.3: Update current development regulations to require the use of appropriate native plants for new- and re-development and de-emphasize non-native lawn spaces
 - DCDP staff reviewing all regs/policies that need to be updated or augmented as part of comprehensive zoning update (forthcoming)
- NR 4.1: Expand and accelerate existing Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI) policies and management programs for public projects
 - City was awarded a nearly \$1M MVP Action Grant for Phase 2 of the Community Greening Program, which adds green infrastructure to neighborhood streets in areas most vulnerable to climate impacts (heat and flooding). Phase 2 will see construction on Templeton Pkwy and Dexter Ave.
 - DPW has installed ~30 tree trenches with 40 more planned for Spring 2025



Volunteers participating in the Lowell Miyawaki Forest Planting Day Celebration

Infrastructure & Waste Updates



- IW 1.3: Create convenient and free organics recycling program 
 - Enrollment still around 3,000
 - Preparing to roll out front-of-house (student) composting at Middle School
- IW 1.4: Establish an Environmentally Preferable Purchasing policy (EPP) that focuses on reducing consumption within municipal government
 - Drafting a Sustainable Procurement Policy ordinance and guidelines
- IW 1.5: Investigate opportunities to pursue a circular economy in Watertown or within the Metro
 - Solid Waste and Recycling Advisory Committee sent letter to the Manager in support of recycling ordinance, summer 2024; this is a priority for new Recycling Manager
- IW 2.1: Require all major new and upgraded infrastructure to incorporate resilient design guidelines
 - Staff conducting initial research on policy updates required
- IW2.3: Advocate with partners for the safe removal of the Watertown Dam
 - DCR held informational meetings in Watertown in July and Sept 2024

Public Health & Community Preparedness Updates



- PH 2.1: Complete and climate change and health vulnerability assessment
 - In progress, with support from MAPC via a technical assistance grant. Final report anticipated Spring 2025.
- PH 2.2: Mitigate existing and prevent new urban heat islands in Watertown
 - Open Space staff working with DPW and Schools to prioritize shade/cooling options for school playgrounds and park redesigns
 - City was awarded a nearly \$1M MVP Action Grant for Phase 2 of the Community Greening Program, which adds green infrastructure to neighborhood streets in areas most vulnerable to climate impacts (heat and flooding). Phase 2 will see construction on Templeton Pkwy and Dexter Ave.
- PH 2.3: Continue to enhance access to local food for those who are food insecure
 - Effort to establish a food access working group is in process with support from state and local food system networks
- PH 3.4: Enhance emergency preparedness information on City website 
- PH 4.2: Enhance the existing Live Well Watertown coalition and its programs to incorporate neighborhood connections to nature and to each other
 - Live Well Watertown has added a “Community Connect” initiative that supports efforts to encourage the development of neighborhood groups to intentionally connect people for practical and social/community building purposes. Block parties that are planned as part of the MVP Action Grant will inform our strategy for expanding Community Connect.



Next Steps

- Heat Pump Workshop- Saturday, December 7th, 11am-12:30pm at the Watertown Free Public Library (Savings Bank Room)
 - Please spread the word! 
- Launch pocket park study with UEP students (Jan '25)
- Submit BERDO legislation to City Council
- Energy Resource Festival, May 2025

HEAT PUMPS 101

Come join Steve Breit, co-founder of HeatSmart Alliance, in a discussion around fundamentals of heat pumps systems. You will also have the chance to learn about the Mass Save program. Together, we will outline key factors homeowners should consider when deciding to upgrade their HVAC systems.

**Saturday December 7, 2024
11am-12:30pm**

**Watertown Free Public Library, First Floor
Watertown Savings Bank Room**



Contact fzheng@watertown-ma.gov

**CITY COUNCIL ROLL CALL VOTE
MEETING DATE: DECEMBER, 2024**

	YES	NO	PRESENT
JOHN M. AIRASIAN	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
CAROLINE BAYS	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
LISA J. FELTNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
JOHN G. GANNON	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NICOLE GARDNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
EMILY IZZO	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
ANTHONY PALOMBA	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
VINCENT J. PICCIRILLI JR.	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
MARK S. SIDERIS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Motion to accept the Committee on Human Services Report from its meeting on August 19, 2024



**Watertown City Council
Committee on Human Services
Wednesday, August 19, 2024**

Members Present: Councilor Tony Palomba, Chair; Councilor Caroline Bays, Vice Chair; and Councilor John Gannon, Secretary

The Committee on Human Services held a public meeting on August 19, 2024, at 6:00pm to discuss the following re-appointments to the Watertown Affordable Housing Trust:

- Reappoint Clifford Cook as a member of the Affordable Housing Trust to a term expiring June 30, 2026;
- Reappoint Helen Oliver as a member of the Affordable Housing Trust to a term expiring June 30, 2026; and
- Reappoint Zoe Weinrobe as a member of the Affordable Housing Trust to a term expiring June 30, 2026.

Call to Order

Committee Chair Palomba called the meeting to order at 6:00pm and introduced the other committee members present: Caroline Bays, Vice Chair; and John Gannon, Secretary. Also present at various during the meeting were Clifford Cook, Helen Oliver and Zoe Weinrobe.

The Committee first interviewed Clifford Cook. Prior to his service on the Affordable Housing Trust, Mr. Cook was a member of the Watertown Housing Partnership. Chair Palomba asked Mr. Clifford how the relatively new Affordable Housing Trust was going. Mr. Clifford stated that the Trust was successful in organizing as a board and creating an inventory of potential sites for the creation of affordable housing. The Trust also spoke with owners of potential sites for affordable housing including the entity that runs the Belmont/Watertown Methodist Church on Mt. Auburn Street that is presently for sale. The Trust is potentially close in choosing one location for the creation of affordable housing. The Trust has also spoken of other affordable housing possibilities, including the recent signing into law of state legislation allowing for the creation of accessory dwelling units by right, without the need for zoning. Mr. Cook would like to see the creation of affordable housing at 65% and 80% AMI. Mr. Cook would like to see affordable housing built at the Belmont/Watertown Methodist Church, but it would be a complicated project

Action Item 1: Councilor Gannon made a motion that the full Council vote to approve Clifford Cook for re-appointment as a member of the Affordable Housing Trust for a term expiring on June 30, 2026. Councilor Bays seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 3-0.

The Committee interviewed Helen Oliver next. Prior to her service on the Affordable Housing Trust, Ms. Oliver was also a member of the Watertown Housing Partnership. Chair Palomba asked Ms. Oliver her thoughts on the accomplishments of the Trust so far. Ms. Oliver is enthused about the resources available to the Trust, including access to architectural resources to review potential properties for the creation of affordable housing and that the Trust completed an inventory of potential sites for the creation of affordable housing. She stated that the Trust discussed the possibility of affordable housing creation through the recent signing of the accessory dwelling unit law. She also discussed the potential use of tax credits to spur affordable housing creation possibilities. When asked about the success of Watertown's adoption of linkage fee payments to create affordable housing, she stated that market timing stalled development that would pay linkage fee revenue, but there are possibilities for the future.

Action Item 2: Councilor Gannon made a motion that the full Council vote to approve Helen Oliver for re-appointment as a member of the Affordable Housing Trust for a term expiring on June 30, 2026. Councilor Bays seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 3-0.

The Committee next interviewed Zoe Weinrobe as the final candidate for re-appointment as a member of the Affordable Housing Trust. Ms. Weinrobe is professionally dedicated to the field of affordable housing finance and development. She previously served as a housing planner for the City of Cambridge Planning Department and helped manage affordable housing issues. She stated that the Affordable Housing Trust has made great progress so far. Trustees have created the affordable housing inventory, consulted with architects and site engineers on potential properties, reached out directly to property owners. Trustees have thoroughly reviewed over a dozen potential properties for the creation of affordable housing. She likes the Watertown Housing Authority's redevelopment of the Willow Park complex and the reputation of the non-profit organization that will partner with the Housing Authority to complete the redevelopment. She stated that she would like to have the Affordable Housing Trust develop an affordable housing property; while there is desire to move forward, there are presently limits on the financing that would be required to do so, however.

Action Item 3: Councilor Bays made a motion that the full Council vote to approve Zoe Weinrobe for re-appointment as a member of the Affordable Housing Trust for a term expiring on June 30, 2026. Councilor Gannon seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 3-0.

Councilor Gannon made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Councilor Bays. The motion was approved by a vote of 3-0.

The meeting concluded at 7:00pm.

Minutes prepared by John Gannon

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Anthony Palomba,
Chair

Caroline Bays,
Vice Chair

John G. Gannon,
Secretary

CITY COUNCIL ROLL CALL VOTE
MEETING DATE: DECEMBER, 2024

	YES	NO	PRESENT
JOHN M. AIRASIAN	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
CAROLINE BAYS	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
LISA J. FELTNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
JOHN G. GANNON	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NICOLE GARDNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
EMILY IZZO	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
ANTHONY PALOMBA	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
VINCENT J. PICCIRILLI JR.	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
MARK S. SIDERIS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Motion to accept the Committee on Human Services Report from its meeting on September 24, 2024



**Watertown City Council
Committee on Human Services
Wednesday, September 24, 2024**

Members Present: Councilor Tony Palomba, Chair; Councilor Caroline Bays, Vice Chair; and Councilor John Gannon, Secretary

The Committee on Human Services held a public meeting on September 24, 2024, at 6:15pm to discuss the re-appointment of Shannon Lawn as a member of the Watertown Housing Authority to a term expiring May 15, 2029

1. Call to Order

Committee Chair Palomba called the meeting to order at 6:15pm and introduced the other committee members present: Caroline Bays, Vice Chair; and John Gannon, Secretary. Also present was Shannon Lawn.

Chair Palomba asked Ms. Lawn to discuss her background relative to re-appointment to the Watertown Housing Authority for another four-year term. In response to questions, Ms. Lawn said she found her service on the Board to be interesting and discussed the challenges of public housing. She stated that the Watertown Housing Authority is run very well, and she wanted to maintain the current extraordinary level of service. She expressed enthusiasm over the redevelopment of the East End Willow Park housing. The Housing Authority is partnering with a non-profit entity to replace the existing family apartments while also adding new affordable housing apartments that would be targeted to a mix of income ranges. There will be challenges in continuing to provide housing to existing residents while building the new complex.

Action Item: Councilor Bays made a motion that the full Council vote to approve Shannon Lawn for re-appointment as a member of the Housing Authority for a term expiring on May 15, 2029. Councilor Gannon seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 3-0.

Councilor Gannon made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Councilor Bays. The motion was approved by a vote of 3-0.

The meeting concluded at 6:30pm.
Minutes prepared by John Gannon

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Anthony Palomba,
Chair

Caroline Bays,
Vice Chair

John G. Gannon,
Secretary

CITY COUNCIL ROLL CALL VOTE
MEETING DATE: DECEMBER, 2024

	YES	NO	PRESENT
JOHN M. AIRASIAN	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
CAROLINE BAYS	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
LISA J. FELTNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
JOHN G. GANNON	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NICOLE GARDNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
EMILY IZZO	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
ANTHONY PALOMBA	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
VINCENT J. PICCIRILLI JR.	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
MARK S. SIDERIS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Motion to accept the Committee on Human Services Report from its meeting on May 13, 2024



**Watertown City Council
Committee on Human Services
Monday, May 13, 2024
6:00PM**

Members Present: Councilor Tony Palomba, Chair; Councilor Caroline Bays, Vice Chair; and Councilor John Gannon, Secretary. Also present were Health Director Abbey Myers, and residents Alexis Khalid and Jackie Van Leeuwen.

The Committee on Human Services meeting was called to order at 6:03pm to continue the discussion regarding the city's ongoing efforts to create and implement a city rodent control plan.

Chair Palomba introduced Health Department Director Abbey Myers to inform the committee of updates to the ongoing city rodent control plan. Ms. Myers stated that the city rodent control plan has progressed significantly since the last committee meeting in December.

She introduced the latest version of the rodent control plan. She stated that the goal of the plan is to reduce rodent population to a manageable level, while also reducing the environmental impact. She prefaced her remarks by stating that the 100% elimination of rats in the community was not feasible; therefore, the rodent control plan is focused on decreasing the rat population and their negative impact on humans. The city plan is focused on integrated pest management, education and outreach. Such outreach includes mailings, social media and an updated and informative presentation on the Health Department website. Also, the Board of Health promulgated new dumpster regulations, with the effective date scheduled for July 1, 2024. The Health Department is now the focal point for rodent complaints. The Department monitors properties with rodent conditions, reporting monthly on progress, and baiting where necessary.

Councilor Palomba commended the efforts of the Health Department but expressed concern with the number of city departments involved in different aspects of the rodent control responsibilities. Ms. Myers stated that there is a city task force comprising the respective departments that have rodent control responsibilities. Councilor Palomba opined that there should be a city policy to the effect that the Health Department should be the lead department in rodent control enforcement.

Councilor Bays made a motion that the City's rodent control enforcement efforts be coordinated by the Health Department; the motion was seconded by Council Gannon, and the vote was 3-0.

Councilor Gannon made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Councilor Bays. The motion was approved 3-0.

The meeting adjourned at 7:05pm.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Anthony Palomba,
Chair

Caroline Bays,
Vice Chair

John G. Gannon,
Secretary

**CITY COUNCIL ROLL CALL VOTE
MEETING DATE: DECEMBER, 2024**

	YES	NO	PRESENT
JOHN M. AIRASIAN	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
CAROLINE BAYS	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
LISA J. FELTNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
JOHN G. GANNON	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NICOLE GARDNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
EMILY IZZO	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
ANTHONY PALOMBA	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
VINCENT J. PICCIRILLI JR.	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
MARK S. SIDERIS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Motion to accept the Committee on Human Services Reports from its meetings on
December 5, 2023



**Watertown City Council
Committee on Human Services
Tuesday, December 5, 2023
(First Meeting)**

Members Present: Councilor Tony Palomba, Chair; Councilor Caroline Bays, Vice Chair; and Councilor John Gannon, Secretary. Also present were City Manager George Proakis and resident Jackie van Leeuwen

The Committee on Human Services meeting was called to order at 6:03pm to discuss the qualities and characteristics needed for the position of Health Director

Mr. Proakis discussed the present staffing levels of the Health Department. The department staffing includes a community health officer, public health nurse, two health officers, per diem food inspector, head clerk, and a health officer for rodent control. The department is responsible for required health inspections of food service establishments.

Councilor Gannon discussed that in other communities where he has worked, the Health Director has sufficient education in the field, including a masters in public health or other related area, or environmental health. He suggested that the new director be knowledgeable of laws pertaining to public health in Massachusetts.

Councilor Bays stated that an ideal candidate for health director could have a medical background, including in communicable diseases, be comfortable with enforcement and inspections, be a good leader and communicator, be able to outreach, be an innovative thinker, have knowledge of budgets and data analysis and capable of networking with other community health officers statewide.

Councilor Palomba suggested that ideal skills for the health director would include analytical skills, capacity to understand and utilize data, work with other departments, be a team builder and have the fortitude to close out enforcement matters.

Councilor Gannon emphasized that ideal qualities would include the ability to educate members of the public on health issues and why health enforcement is necessary for community health. Also, he recalled that a prior health director was active in building a regional public health medical reserve team, which was helpful in working on regional approaches to community health issues. He also emphasized that an ideal quality would include knowledge of addiction treatment and mental health issues.

City Manager Proakis stated that he appreciated the feedback and will use the information when addressing finalists for the position of Health Director. He looks forward to learning of the

results of the upcoming study on the community's health and human services delivery. He believes that the social services resource specialists are doing great work and would like to see how the study would advise providing broader community awareness of these services.

Councilor Palomba recommended that the Committee on Human Services take action in the future to study the various categories of revenue spent by the City relative to substance abuse treatment and prevention. Councilor Gannon made a motion, which was seconded by Councilor Bays. The motion was approved by a vote of 3-0.

Councilor Bays made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Councilor Gannon. The motion was approved by a vote of 3-0.

The meeting adjourned at 6:47pm.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Anthony Palomba,
Chair

Caroline Bays,
Vice Chair

John G. Gannon,
Secretary



**Watertown City Council
Committee on Human Services
Tuesday, December 5, 2023
7:00PM
(Second Meeting)**

Members Present: Councilor Tony Palomba, Chair; Councilor Caroline Bays, Vice Chair; and Councilor John Gannon, Secretary. Also present were Acting Health Director Abbey Myers, DPW Administration and Finance Director Michael Albano and resident Dean Martino.

The Committee on Human Services meeting was called to order at 7:00pm to continue the discussion regarding the ongoing efforts to create and implement a city rodent control plan.

Chair Palomba introduced Abbey Myers, who is the Acting Director of the Health Department, to inform the committee of updates to the ongoing city rodent control plan. Ms. Myers stated that she and the Health Department have been active in education and outreach concerning rodent control, have been baiting additional sites identified as showing rodent activity and has been working on coordination of rodent control efforts with other city departments.

Ms. Myers stated that the city has introduced a new form of rodent bait known as TERAD3 bait, which utilizes Vitamin D3 to kill rodents but also reduces the risk of secondary poisoning of other animals, including birds. With this form of rodent control, the rodent brings the bait back to the burrow shared with other rodents, and the other rodents die after eating the bait. She stated that a secondary animal, such as a bird, would have to eat multiple rodents poisoned by TERAD3 over multiple times to become ill.

Ms. Myers explained the enforcement process utilized by the Health Department for rodent complaints. She stated that the owner is made aware of the presence of rodents on their property and educates them on methods to reduce such presence. There is follow-up to review progress; if no progress is made, the Health Department will issue fines, and place rodent control devices on a nearby public street. She stated that city efforts to control rodents have been extensive, and that the high school construction project contains many rodent control devices. The City uses mapping software to track the locations of rodent control devices, and the devices are checked periodically.

With respect to large construction projects, Ms. Myers stated that she has enacted a protocol that contractors must follow while working on city-owned land and private property for large-scale construction projects. As one element of the protocol, a contractor will not be issued a building permit or other permission to commence construction, unless there is a rodent control plan in place.

As a further initiative stemming from the rodent control plan, the Health Department is working on promulgating dumpster regulations to prompt a reduction in rodent problems. Other city departments are in the process of reviewing and commenting on the draft regulations.

Ms. Myers further stated that there are presently three interdepartmental working groups focusing on rodent control issues. One group is tasked with monitoring properties deemed to have a high incidence of rodent problems. Another group is working with owners of properties who may have hoarding disorders, which increases the likelihood of rodent problems. The final group is a rodent control working team, which meets periodically.

Ms. Myers stated that the Health Department is working on increasing citywide education on rodent issues and urges residents to reach out to the Health Department for assistance with any questions.

Resident Dean Martino stated that Edenfield Road is enduring rodent problems and is in need of rodent control solutions. He was urged to work with the Health Department to address his concerns.

Councilor Bays made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Councilor Gannon. The motion was approved by a vote of 3-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:12pm.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Anthony Palomba,
Chair

Caroline Bays,
Vice Chair

John G. Gannon,
Secretary

CITY COUNCIL ROLL CALL VOTE
MEETING DATE: DECEMBER, 2024

	YES	NO	PRESENT
JOHN M. AIRASIAN	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
CAROLINE BAYS	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
LISA J. FELTNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
JOHN G. GANNON	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NICOLE GARDNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
EMILY IZZO	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
ANTHONY PALOMBA	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
VINCENT J. PICCIRILLI JR.	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
MARK S. SIDERIS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Motion to refer the Health and Human Services Study to the Committee on Health and Human Services

Comments for City Council Meeting 12/10/2024

8A Public Hearing

Presentation & Vote Property Tax Levy

Greetings Councilors:

Today's fragile economy cannot adhere to a tax and spend mentality. *Rein in spending to stabilize real estate taxes.*

Does every elected Watertown City Councilor understand the concept of working in the best interest of the electorate? Does everyone scrutinize the financial consequence on residents of Watertown, prior to, unanimous votes of approval? Or, is there a rubber stamp given to the Administration?

According to the cover letter, (herein linked) associated with the Fiscal Year 2025 Public Disclosure Statement of Tax Valuation (attached); increases for different ***residential property classes*** were subject to ***increases from 3.8% to 10.4%***. Add to that, the formula for calculating the ***Tax Levy (2.5% + New Growth*** - attached). The numbers are quite consequential.

<https://notifications.civicplus.com/message/b3ffc818-0216-4593-930f-497269ad8167/?list=324>

Is this how we advocate for affordable housing? And entice restaurateurs and small business owners to lease storefronts? The domino effect of real estate tax increases equates to higher rents. *Rein in spending to stabilize real estate taxes.*

Yes, there have been no tax overrides. Yes, Watertown does hold a AAA Bond Rating. And yes; many people have worked very hard to achieve, and retain these levels. Inherited status and good circumstances do not mean to spend: at will.

Over 77% of the City Budget is supported by real and personal property taxes. The average homeowner has become: "house poor". City Councilors are entrusted with wisely spending taxpayer dollars; or not? *Rein in spending to stabilize real estate taxes.*

In my opinion: a baseline budget that starts with perpetual levels of an enhanced leadership team and continuation of increased organizational strategies are not sustainable on the backs of the taxpayers. Taxpayer relief shield be a prerequisite. Thank you.

Best,

Angie

Angeline Maria B. Kounelis
Retired District A, East End, City Councilor