



Watertown City Council

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

ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Mark S. Sideris,
Council President

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

John M. Airasian,
Councilor At Large

Caroline Bays,
Councilor At Large

John G. Gannon,
Councilor At Large

Anthony Palomba,
Councilor At Large

Nicole Gardner,
District A Councilor

Lisa J. Feltner,
District B Councilor

Emily Izzo,
District D Councilor

Report of the Committee on Economic Development and Planning Meeting Date: November 18, 2024

The Committee convened on Monday November 18, 2024 at 5:00 pm in the City Council Office. Present were Lisa Feltner, chair; John Gannon, vice chair; and Vincent Piccirilli, secretary. The purpose of the meeting was to conduct Public Arts & Culture Committee (PACC) interviews.

Barbara Epstein is a long-time Watertown arts organizer and advocate, and has served on the PACC since October 2023, filling an unexpired term. She is excited about all the initiatives the PACC has been taking. They are focusing on ways to engage a broader segment of the community, and partnering with the schools. A new initiative for next year is a town-wide music festival/dance party.

Jason Wilson is a scientist, and part owner of a jazz club, and has served on the PACC since February 2024, filling an unexpired term. He is impressed with the quality of the initiatives established by the PACC, but understands the amount of volunteer effort required to make sure they run smoothly, and the need to recruit new people to help. He loved the success of Porchfest this year, and is really looking forward to the town-wide music festival/dance party next year.

➔ **Action Item:** Councilor Piccirilli made a motion, seconded by Councilor Gannon, to recommend that the City Council confirm Barbara Epstein for Reappointment to the Public Arts and Culture Committee for a term to expire November 15, 2027. Voted 3-0.

➔ **Action Item:** Councilor Piccirilli made a motion, seconded by Councilor Gannon, to recommend that the City Council confirm Jason Wilson for Reappointment to the Public Arts and Culture Committee for a term to expire November 15, 2027. Voted 3-0.

(Note: Archy LaSalle was scheduled to be interviewed for reappointment, but advised the Committee that he regretfully will not be pursuing reappointment for another term.)

The meeting adjourned at 5:32 pm.

Report prepared by Vincent Piccirilli