



Watertown City Council

Administration Building

149 Main Street

Watertown, MA 02472

Phone: 617-972-6470

Report of the Committee on Education and School System Matters October 10, 2023

The Committee convened on Tuesday October 10th at 5:15 pm in the City Council Office. Present were Emily Izzo, chair; Nicole Gardner, vice chair; and John Airasian, secretary. The purpose of the meeting was to conduct three interviews for reappointment to the Watertown Cable Access Corporation.

The meeting was called to order and the first candidate interviewed was Jen Nicholson. Mrs. Nicholson explained that it was a very exciting time to be on the board as there was an influx of new talent. In addition to being a voice for the schools, she has learned a lot on the technical side of things which has been enjoyable. Mrs. Nicholson serves on the Bylaws and Organizational subcommittee which is charged with reviewing bylaws, policies and employee handbook. She closed by stating there is a great variety of perspectives and an active group who truly care for the WCA-TV and its ability to thrive.

Action Item: Councilor Gardner made a motion, seconded by Councilor Airasian, to recommend that the City Council confirm the reappointment of Jen Nicholson on the Watertown Cable Access Corporation with a term expiring September 15, 2026.
The motion passed 3-0

The second interview was with Robert Romano. Mr. Romano began by showing appreciation for the job that the Executive Director has done in a difficult period. He explained that the current group working on the board have been supportive through an arduous move and financial situation, but they all understand the importance WCA-TV brings to the community and committed to seeing it through. He feels the board as constituted works very well with the ED and her staff.

Action Item: Councilor Gardner made a motion, seconded by Councilor Airasian, to recommend that the City Council confirm the reappointment of Robert Romano on the Watertown Cable Access Corporation with a term expiring September 15, 2026.
The motion passed 3-0

The final interview was with Elaine Mello. Ms. Mello explained that the best part of being on the board was the ability to use the knowledge she has from her experience, specifically in the construction of studios. She mentioned the current construction of the studio has been difficult to manage. Ms. Mello is looking forward to being able to sustain for the future via grants and membership.

Action Item: Councilor Gardner made a motion, seconded by Councilor Airasian, to recommend that the City Council confirm the reappointment of Elaine Mello on the Watertown Cable Access Corporation with a term expiring September 15, 2026.
The motion passed 3-0

Councilor Gardner made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Councilor Airasian and passed 3-0 at 5:55pm.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Emily Izzo,
Chair

Nicole Gardner,
Vice Chair

John M. Airasian,
Secretary