



**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