



**Watertown City Council
Committee on Human Services
Tuesday, June 10, 2025**

Members Present: Councilor Tony Palomba, Chair; Councilor Caroline Bays, Vice Chair; and Councilor John Gannon, Secretary. Also present was Corey Barr.

The Committee on Human Services held a public meeting on June 10, 2025, at 5:00pm to discuss the following:

A. Reappoint Corey Barr as a member of the Human Rights Commission for a term expiring April 1, 2028.

1. Call to Order

Committee Chair Palomba called the meeting to order at 5:00pm and introduced the other committee members present: Caroline Bays, Vice Chair; and John Gannon, Secretary.

2. Consideration of Reappointment of Corey Barr as a member of the Human Rights Commission for a term expiring April 1, 2028

Corey Barr is a human rights professional with over 15 years of experience in research, education and training, who has worked with non-governmental organizations and has worked on human rights issues around the world. She has a Master of Arts degree in Law and Diplomacy from the Fletcher School at Tufts University, with a major in Human Security, and she has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Hampshire College, where her major was U.S. Foreign Policy and Human Rights.

In describing her experience with serving as a member of the Human Rights Commission, she stated that the commission as an organization is working hard to fulfill its mission. The members have established subcommittees and have learned the Open Meeting Law. The commission sees community education of its service to the community as an important start and has been a sponsor of the Watertown Pride event and plans to promote its mission by sponsoring booths at community celebrations, such as the Watertown Faire on the Square, and establishing a local Juneteenth event next year. The Commission is presently developing a flyer to explain its human rights mission to the community. The commission is developing processes on how to address issues that residents refer to the commission and is discussing future initiatives.

Action Item: Councilor Gannon made a motion that the full Council vote to approve the reappointment of Corey Barr to the Human Rights Commission for a term expiring April 1, 2028. Councilor Bays 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 5:21pm.

Minutes prepared by John Gannon

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Anthony Palomba,
Chair

Caroline Bays
Vice Chair

John G. Gannon,
Secretary