



Committee on Education and School System Matters

The Committee on Education and School System Matters convened on Wednesday, September 10, 2025, at 5:30 pm in the City Council office. The purpose of the meeting was to conduct interviews with 2 candidates for reappointment for Watertown Cable Access (WCAC) Board of Directors. Present were Emily Izzo, chair; John Airasian, secretary was present via zoom.

Samantha Henry - Samantha has enjoyed her time on the board so far. She mentioned how hard it has been for local media in today's world, yet she is very impressed with staff and how they have dealt with various challenges in a systematic and comprehensive manner. Samantha feels she will continue to bring the role of a working journalist to the Board which dovetails nicely with the overall mission of WCAC. She feels the Board and staff are very good at strategic thinking and feels they are in a good position to negotiate a solid contract with Comcast in the upcoming months.

Action Item – Councilor Airasian made a motion to recommend the City Council approve the reappointment of Samantha Henry to the Watertown Cable Access Board of Directors with a term expiring September 15, 2028. Motion was seconded by Councilor Izzo and passed 2-0.

James Vershbow – Mr. Vershbow feels he brings a unique perspective to the Board being a volunteer at WCAC. He feels a lot of work has been done leading up to the Comcast negotiation and is hopeful that a fair deal will be attained. He expressed that much work has been getting done leading up to the negotiation. He feels more promotion of the station is needed so people can really follow the issues on a regular basis.

Action Item – Councilor Airasian made a motion to recommend the City Council approve the reappointment of James Vershbow to the Watertown Cable Access Board of Directors with a term expiring September 15, 2028. The motion was seconded by Councilor Izzo and passed 2-0.

Meeting adjourned
Minutes prepared by John M. Airasian

Emily Izzo,
Chair

Nicole Gardner,
Vice Chair

John M. Airasian,
Secretary