



Watertown City Council Committee on Public Works

Councilor Piccirilli-Chair, Councilor Feltner-Vice Chair, Councilor Palomba- Secretary

Committee Report of April 7, 2026 Meeting Presented to the City Council on April 14, 2026

The Committee on Public Works met on Tuesday, April 7, 2026 in the City Council Office to interview candidates for appointment to the Memorialization Committee. Present at the meeting were Councilor Piccirilli, Committee Chair, Councilor Feltner, Committee Vice Chair, and Councilor Palomba, Committee Secretary. The meeting began at 5:30 PM.

5:00 PM – Interview of Dimitri Petrosian

Mr. Petrosian is a 30-year resident of Watertown with deep family roots in Watertown. He recently purchased a two-family home in town. He is a real estate agent and partner at Elevate Boston as well as a principal at Gone7 Production, a company that focuses on producing events.

In response to the question of why he wants to serve on the Memorialized Committee he emphasized the importance of getting involved in one's community and that his extensive background with Armenian volunteer organizations is an example of his commitment to Watertown. As an individual from an Armenian and Italian background he feels he understands how important it is to recognize the diversity of the residents who live in Watertown. He emphasized that he is willing to do the research necessary to learn more about the history of Watertown.

In regard to how he would approach the need for the Memorialization Committee to develop processes and guidelines for reviewing requests for naming public property, he noted his experience in collaborating with others in various committee and organizations he is associated with and the need to listen to other members of the Memorialization Committee as they register their support for as well as their concerns about a particular request. He is acutely aware of the need to listen to the input from the community as well as the need to find ways to enlist such input. Finally, he feels he can easily arrange his schedule to meet the needs of the Committee.

Councilor Palomba made the following motion:

That the Committee on Public Works recommends that the City Council approve the appointment of Dimitri Petrosian to the Memorialization Committee for a term ending on September 15, 2027.

Councilor Feltner seconded the motion, and it was approved by a 3-0 vote.

5:30 PM – Interview of Ani Aroyian

Ms. Aroyian is a life-long resident of Watertown with extensive experience in public health and youth engagement. She has been and continues to be an active volunteer in many organizations particular in the Armenian community. While she has spent time in Canada and in Maine, she was happy to return to Watertown. She is committed to contributing to her community and feels it is the responsibility of everyone to contribute if their life circumstances provide the opportunity to do so.

Ms. Aroyian feels she has useful experience and skills that she would bring to the Committee. She would approach the creation of processes for reviewing requests to name public property by a) being clear about goals, b) implementing actions steps, and c) having in place a method to measure success. She noted that she has experience creating an atmosphere where group members can comfortably share their opinions. She recognizes the opportunities as well as the challenges related to establishing the procedures and policies of a new committee. Mr. Aroyian said she understands the importance of communication which she feels is critical in her present work.

Ms. Aroyian knows that Watertown is a diverse community and that it is important to connect with and listen to as many residents as possible when determining the value of a request. Finally, she says that she is ready to “hit the books” to learn more about the history of Watertown and she is confident that she can do the research needed to be able to evaluate a request.

Councilor Palomba made the following motion:

That the Committee on Public Works recommends that the City Council approve the appointment of Ani Aroyian to the Memorialization Committee for a term ending on September 15, 2026.

Councilor Feltner seconded the motion and it was approved 3 – 0.

Councilor Feltner made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Councilor Palomba and approved 3 – 0. The meeting adjourned at 6:15 PM. The minutes were prepared by Councilor Palomba.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr.,
Chair

Lisa J. Feltner
Vice Chair

Anthony Palomba,
Secretary