



Watertown City Council

Administration Building
149 Main Street
Watertown, MA 02472
Phone: 617-972-6470

ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Mark S. Sideris,
Council President

Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr.,
Vice President &
District C Councilor

Caroline Bays,
Councilor At Large

John G. Gannon,
Councilor At Large

Theophilus Offei,
Councilor At Large

Anthony Palomba,
Councilor At Large

Nicole Gardner,
District A Councilor

Lisa J. Feltner,
District B Councilor

Emily Izzo,
District D Councilor

Report of the Committee on Economic Development & Planning Meeting Date: June 22, 2026

The Committee convened on Monday, June 22, 2026, at 5:01 pm in the Council Office. Present were John Gannon, chair; Vincent Piccirilli, vice chair; and Lisa Feltner, secretary. The purpose of the meeting was to conduct confirmation interviews with the following residents:

Simone Worsdale grew up immersed in the arts through theater, visual art, and craft, which shaped a lasting appreciation for creative expression, and she is interested in cultural initiatives that strengthen community engagement. She holds a Master of Science degree in Global Strategic Communications and has studied at the Harvard Business School. Simone moved to Watertown about five years ago while working for the Harvard Kennedy School in digital marketing and strategy, and her experience in outreach and stakeholder alignment will contribute to thoughtful review of applications received by the Watertown Cultural Council. Simone has also served as a mentor for The Arboretum (Sprout Social's "The Arb") community platform, Harvard Women in Tech network, and Big Brothers Big Sisters programs.

Motion by Feltner, seconded by Piccirilli to recommend City Council confirm Simone Worsdale as an appointed member of the Cultural Council to May 15, 2027, to fulfill the unexpired term of Nick Haddad; approved 3-0.

Kevin Lee has lived in Watertown for almost 10 years. He holds a Master in Architecture from the Harvard University Graduate School of Design and has over 16 years of experience in the architecture profession, which has encompassed small-scale public art projects to large-scale mixed-use developments. His involvement on 212 Stuart Street is an example of successfully connecting Boston's historic Bay Village neighborhood with the modern high-rises in Back Bay. In the 2010s, Kevin served on the Fenway CDC which was a vital community pillar in that area's redevelopment. He is passionate about discovering the historical significance of places and believes in stewardship of Watertown resources as a resident. Kevin feels open collaboration is key to successful placemaking and improving the public realm, while preservation is ideally an act of preserving memories as well as places.

Motion by Feltner, seconded by Piccirilli to recommend City Council confirm Kevin Lee as an appointed member of the Historical Commission to October 1, 2026, to fulfill the unexpired term of Marilynne Roach; approved 3-0.

Phyllis Perrone has served on the Cultural Council for 4 years and is eager to continue her involvement. Although her resume is "tech heavy" as a senior project management professional, the arts have always been a passion of hers; she paints, draws, and participates in events at the Senior Center, and she has led many teams for projects with teenagers, because she mostly enjoys the community aspect of arts and culture. The Cultural Council is ramping up for the Arts Market on August 8 at Arsenal Park, and they have become more active on social media platforms to engage volunteers to match their ambitions.

Motion by Feltner, seconded by Piccirilli to recommend City Council confirm Phyllis Perrone for reappointment to the Cultural Council for a term to May 15, 2029; approved 3-0.

At 5:57 p.m. Feltner made a motion to adjourn by Feltner, seconded by Piccirilli, approved 3-0.
Respectfully submitted, Lisa Feltner