



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

John M. Airasian
Councilor At Large

Caroline Bays
Councilor At Large

John G. Gannon,
Councilor At Large

Anthony Palomba,
Councilor At Large

Nicole Gardner,
District A Councilor

Lisa J. Feltner,
District B Councilor

Emily Izzo,
District D Councilor

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2022, 7:00 P.M.

**RICHARD E. MASTRANGELO COUNCIL CHAMBER
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 149 MAIN STREET**

MINUTES

ACCESS INFORMATION:

- A. The meeting was televised through WCATV (Watertown Cable Access Television): <http://vodwcatv.org/CablecastPublicSite/?channel=3>
- B. The Public was permitted to join the virtual meeting online: <https://watertown-ma.zoom.us/j/92991331344>
- C. Public was permitted to join the virtual meeting audio only by phone: (877) 853-5257 or (888) 475-4499 (Toll Free) and enter Webinar ID: 929 9133 1344 #
- D. Public was permitted to comment through email: vpiccirilli@watertown-ma.gov

1. ROLL CALL

Council President Sideris called to order a regular meeting of the City Council at 7:00 p.m. in the Richard E. Mastrangelo Chamber, Administration Building. Those present were Councilors John M. Airasian, Caroline Bays, John Gannon, Nicole Gardner, Lisa J. Feltner, Emily Izzo, Anthony Palomba, Vice President Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., and Council President Mark S. Sideris. Also present were George Proakis, City Manager, Mark Reich, City Attorney, and Marilyn W. Pronovost, Council Clerk.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. PUBLIC FORUM

Pat Rathbone – 36 Adams Avenue – Thanked all those who worked on the Energy Plan especially Ed Lewis, Laurel Schwab, Steve Magoon, and Brian Hebieson. Item 3 of the Plan states Department Budgets should reflect how

they advance the goals of the energy plan and she hoped the City would require the assessment to be made.

Clyde L. Younger – 188 Acton Street – Made a statement against antisemitism and that Watertown needs to remain a welcoming community to the various ethnic and religious groups and respects people’s sexual or gender orientation. He stated the community must not remain silent and requested a Resolution to so state this intent.

There being no other speakers, the Public Forum was closed.

4. EXAMINATION OF RECORDS OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS
A. City Council Meeting Minutes – November 9, 2022

Councilor Piccirilli moved to adopt the minutes as written; Councilor Gannon seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

5. PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Council President Sideris thanked the Councilors for all of their hard work that they have completed this year.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Public Hearing and Vote on a Proposed Order Allocating the Property Tax Levy Among or Between Property Classes for Fiscal Year 2023

Mr. Smith, City Assessor, made a presentation regarding the tax levy for Fiscal Year 2023 with the purpose being a vote on the tax shift rate and the residential exemption rate. He compared data from FY 22 to FY 23

	Fiscal Year 2022	Fiscal Year 2023
Average Residential Assessment	\$757,802	\$802,987
Residential Tax Rate	\$13.25	\$13.64
Average Tax Bill	\$10,040	\$10,953
Residential Exemption (Tax \$)	-\$3,012	-\$3,614
Ave Residential Tax Bill w/Resid Exemp	\$7,028	\$7,338
Total Residential Value	\$7,602,271,296	\$8,100,534,759
Total CIP Value	\$2,447,353,029	\$2,850,351,099
Total Real and Personal Property Value	\$10,049,624,325	\$10,950,885,858

The total residential value of property in Watertown increased by about \$500,000,000 and commercial and personal property has increased by about \$400,000,000. Taxes from residential property is 73.97% while commercial, industrial, and personal property pays about 26.03% of the local taxes.

To derive the tax levy limit, the City totals the FY22 levy limit, adds the 2.5% assessment of the FY 22 levy, and includes the new growth for FY 2023. Once the levy limit is calculated, the single tax rate is determined by dividing the City's total assessed value by the total tax levy.

Levy Limit Calculation	
FY 2022 Levy Limit	\$134,418,141
2.5% Increase	\$ 3,360,454
FY23 New Growth	+ \$ 6,354,454
	<u>\$144,133,270</u>

Single Tax Rate Calculation	
Total Tax Levy	\$144,133,270
Total Assessed Value	÷ <u>\$10,950,885,858</u>
Single Tax Rate	\$13.16

Significant new growth contributors for FY 2023 include 85 Walnut Street, Arsenal on the Charles, Arsenal Yards, 99 Coolidge Avenue, 580 Pleasant Street, and personal property accounting for more than \$5,300,000 of the \$6,354,675 new growth.

Watertown has elected to shift the tax burden to commercial, industrial and personal properties and the shift for this fiscal year will be 150% saving residential taxpayers \$18,750,205. The effect of the tax shift is to reduce the single tax rate from \$13.16 to \$10.85 prior to a residential tax exemption and increases the commercial, industrial, and personal property rate from \$13.16 to \$19.74.

The Board of Assessors recommended the residential exemption should be increased from 30% to 33% for FY 2023.

Council President Sideris opened the public hearing. There being no speakers, the public hearing was closed.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to adopt the maximum shift allowed by law which is 150%; Councilor Gannon seconded the motion. Councilor Piccirilli then moved to accept the provisions of Chapter 59 section 5C approving the residential exemption of 33% of the average assessed value for residents domiciled in Watertown for FY 2023; Councilor Gannon seconded the motion.

In the discussion, the Council addressed the following matters:

- The new growth in personal property stems from such places as restaurants which has \$700,000 - \$800,000 worth of equipment and labs which often contain \$1,000,000 - \$3,000,000 worth of equipment. Mr.

Smith projected that the new growth would be around \$6,000,000 for the next fiscal year as well.

- Mr. Smith explained that the City by law must pay 61.64% of its tax burden; therefore the shift cannot exceed that balance. In FY 2022, if the shift had been 175%, residents would have paid only 57% of the tax burden which would not have been permitted by state law.
- Of the approximately 10,000 households in Watertown, about 6,200 take advantage of the exemption.
- Mr. Smith also stated that other communities that use the tax shift are not in a similar position; therefore, it is difficult to make comparisons

The motion to adopt the maximum shift allowed by law which is 150% was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

The motion to accept the provisions of Chapter 59 section 5C approving the residential exemption of 33% of the average assessed value for residents domiciled in Watertown for FY 2023 was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

B. Public Hearing and Vote on a Proposed Amendment to the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget

Mr. Proakis stated this was a budget amendment request to increase the revenue and expenses of the City's budget by \$11,500,000 in order to purchase the lot known as Walker's Pond.

Council President Sideris opened the Public Hearing; there being no speakers, the public hearing was closed.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to adopt the budget amendment; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a roll call vote.

8. MOTIONS, ORDINANCES, ORDERS, AND RESOLUTIONS

A. First Reading on a Proposed Amendment to the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget

Mr. Proakis stated the budget amendment was for \$12,000,000 to be used for the purposes of purchasing the former Parker School. Originally, the City was going to borrow the funds to be repaid over a twenty year period. The property will have non-municipal tenants; therefore, the bonding would not qualify for municipal bond rates. Any lending would be at a higher rate of interest. It was decided then to use \$12,000,000 from Free Cash and to retain the City's capacity for bonding for the new High School should that be needed. The amendment would be voted on at the next City Council meeting. The hope is to close on the property in mid-January.

9. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

- A. Committee of the Budget and Fiscal Oversight Regarding the Review of Input and the Recommendations Made for the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Policy Guidelines – Vincent J. Piccirilli, Chair

ACTION ITEM:

That the City Council Adopt the FY2024 Budget Policy Guidelines as Drafted

Councilor Piccirilli read the Committee Report. Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the report; Councilor Gannon seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Councilor Piccirilli moved that the City Council adopt the FY 2024 Budget Policy Guidelines as drafted; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

- B. Committee on Human Services Report Regarding a Discussion of the Position of the Director of Senior Services and the Council on Aging with City Manager Proakis – Anthony Palomba, Chair

Councilor Palomba read the Committee Report. Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the report; Councilor Gannon seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

- C. Committee on Human Services Reports Regarding the Review of the Request for Proposal (RFP) for a Health and Human Services Needs Assessment (September 26, 2022 and October 27, 2022) – Anthony Palomba, Chair

ACTION ITEM:

That the City Council Vote to Approve the Attached RFP for a Health and Human Services Assessment (October 27, 2022 Report)

Councilor Palomba read the Committee Report. Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the two reports; Councilor Gannon seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to approve the RFP that was attached for a Health and Human Services assessment; Councilor Gannon seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

- D. Committee on Public Works Report Regarding the 2023 Local Road Construction Program – Vincent J. Piccirilli, Chair

ACTION ITEMS:

1. That the City Council Approve the Department of Public Works Recommendation for the 2023 Road Program as Presented Using the FY

2023 \$2,500,000 Loan Order for Bates Road, Bates Road East, Essex Street, Francis Street, and Bradshaw Street

2. That the City Council Approve the Department of Public Works Recommendation to Remove Fifth Avenue from the FY 2022 Long Street and Connector Program (Which Includes Morse Street), and Use the FY 2023 \$1,500,000 Loan Order for The Long Street and Connector Program for the Repair of Fifth Avenue and Related Work on Watertown Street
3. That the City Council Approve the Department of Public Works Use of the FY2024 Funding for the Long Street and Connector Program for the Repair of Forest and Springfield Streets, and to Use the FY 2025 Funding for the Long Street and Connector Program for the Repair of Riverside Street
4. That the City Council Ask the Administration to Increase the Annual Funding for the Long Street and Connector Program in the CIP from \$1,500,000 to \$2,000,000

Councilor Piccirilli asked that the Report be tabled until the next meeting.

- E. Committees Public Works and Rules and Ordinances Report Regarding Recommendations on a Snow Shoveling Ordinance – Vincent J. Piccirilli, Chair of Public Works; John G. Gannon, Chair of Rules and Ordinances

Councilor Gannon read the Report of the Committees. Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the Report of the Committees; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

10. NEW BUSINESS

There were no new business requests.

11. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

- A. Request for Confirmation of Appointment and Reappointments to the Environment and Energy Efficiency Committee

Mr. Proakis stated he would like to appoint Silas Fyler to finish the unexpired term of Ed Lewis; the term would expire on November 15, 2024 and to reappoint Shin Nagpal and Pat Rathbone whose terms would expire on November 15, 2025.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to refer this matter to the Committee on Public Works; Councilor Gannon seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

- B. Request for Confirmation of Appointment and Reappointments to the Historic District Commission.

Mr. Proakis wanted to appoint Jae Hyoung Kim as the AIA appointee to serve for a term to expire on November 15, 2023. He asked for the reappointment of Elizabeth Hayes as the Realtor Appointee and Robert Bloomberg as a Historical Society Appointee to serve for terms to expire on November 15, 2023; James Bensinger as a residential property owner for a term to expire on November 15, 2024; and Harvey Steiner and Linda Sternberg, as residential property owners, for terms to expire on November 15, 2025.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to refer the matter to the Committee on Economic Development and Planning; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

C. Request for Confirmation of Reappointments to the Public Arts and Culture Committee

Mr. Proakis stated he would like to reappoint Dawn Evans Scaltreto and Carole Katz to the Public Arts and Culture Committee for terms to expire on November 15, 2025.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to refer the matter to the Committee on Economic Development and Planning; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

D. Fire Chief Assessment Center

Mr. Proakis stated he want to initiate a strategy for hiring a new Fire Chief which is subject to the Civil Service process. He began pulling a contract together for a consultant. To begin the process, he was requesting a referral to the Committee on Public Safety. Councilor Piccirilli moved to refer the matter to the Committee on Public Safety; Councilor Gannon seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

The City Manager stated he had received applications for the Residents Advisory Committee, and he would begin interviews in the near future.

The City has received responses to the RFP regarding the Personnel Department regarding resources and salary compensation studies.

Mr. Proakis stated this year would be the 100th Watertown/Belmont football game and would be played at Fenway Park on Wednesday, November 3, 2022. General Admission tickets were still available starting at \$20. Anyone interested could get tickets at www.redsox.com/football.

He mentioned that in observance of Thanksgiving the Administration Building and the Senior Center would be closed on both Thursday and Friday, November 24-25, 2022. He also wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

There would be a Whoville Jubilee and tree lighting ceremony on Saturday, December 3, 2022 from 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the Commander's Mansion. The event will be sponsored by the Commander's Mansion, Arsenal Yards, Roche Brothers Supermarkets, and Private Shute's Detachment.

12. REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

Councilor Feltner requested information as how to respond to inquiries regarding the teacher negotiations. Council President Sideris stated the School Committee is in negotiations and they are at the negotiating table with the teachers. The negotiating team is working on this; however, the City Council has no role in these meetings. This is a matter under the control of the School Committee.

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Gardner announced she would be holding her annual Councilor's meeting on December 1, 2022 from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. at St. James Armenian Church in the Church Hall.

Councilor Bays announced she would be holding her annual meeting in the Council Chamber on December 8, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. and noted there would also be a virtual option for the meeting.

Councilor Feltner announced she would be holding her annual meeting in the Council Chamber on November 29, 2022 from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. The meeting would be in person only. She encouraged people to send their questions to her at her email lfeltner@watertown-ma.gov.

Councilor Palomba announced he would be holding three meetings to meet with people across the city. All of the meetings will be held in the Watertown Free Public Library on Saturday, December 10, 2022 at 3:45 – 4:45 in the Watertown Savings Bank Room; Wednesday, December 14, 2022 at 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. in the Mastrangelo Room; and Tuesday, December 21, 2022 at 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. in the Mastrangelo Room.

Council President Sideris reminded people that Saturday, November 26, 2022 is Small Business Saturday. He encouraged all to shop at small businesses.

14. PUBLIC FORUM

There were no speakers for the Public Forum.

15. RECESS OR ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Piccirilli moved to adjourn the meeting; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

I hereby certify that at a regular meeting of the Town Council for which a quorum was present, the above minutes were adopted by a vote of ___ for, ___ against, ___ present on December 13, 2022.

Mark S. Sideris, Council President
s:/MWP

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2022, AT 7:00 P.M.
RICHARD E. MASTRANGELO COUNCIL CHAMBER
WITH REMOTE ACCESS OPPORTUNITIES**

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

1. Minutes of the City Council Meeting – November 9, 2022 – Item 4A
2. Fiscal Year 2023 Tax Classification Hearing – Board of Assessors – November 9, 2022 – Item 6A
3. Proposed Amendment to the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget – George Proakis, City Manager, to City Council – November 7, 2022 – Item 6B
4. Proposed Amendment to the Fiscal Year 2023 Project – George Proakis, City Manager, to City Council – November 17, 2022 – Item 7A
5. Committee of the Budget and Fiscal Oversight Report Regarding Its Recommendations to the City Council on the FY 2024 Budget Policy Guidelines – Vincent J. Piccirilli, Chair – November 2, 2022 – Item 8A
 - Watertown’s FY2024 Budget Policy Guidelines Worksheet – For Committee Report November 22, 2022
 - Watertown’s FY 2024 Budget Policy Guidelines for Approval by the City Council
 - Watertown’s FY 2024 Budget Policy Guidelines Priority Ranking
6. Committee on Human Services Report Regarding the Discussion of the Position of Director of Senior Services and the Council on Aging – Anthony Palomba, Chair – October 27, 2022 – Item 8B
 - Letter Regarding the Attributes of the Future Director of Senior Services and the Council on Aging – Board of the Council on Aging to George Proakis – August 15, 2022
 - Statement Regarding the Director of Senior Services – Susan Flint
7. Committee on Human Services Report Regarding a Request for Proposal for a Health and Human Services Needs Assessment – Anthony Palomba, Chair – September 26, 2022 – Item 8C
 - Request for Proposals to Provide a Health and Human Services Needs Assessment for the City of Watertown and the Organization and Operation of Health and Human Services in Watertown
8. Committee on Human Services Report Regarding the Continuing Discussion of the Health and Human Services Assessment – Anthony Palomba, Chair – October 27, 2022 – Item 8C
 - Request for Proposals to Provide a Health and Human Services Assessment for the City

of Watertown

9. Committee on Public Works Report Regarding Recommendations for the 2023 Local Road Construction Program – Vincent J. Piccirilli, Chair – November 1, 2022 – Item 8D
10. Committees on Public Works and Rules and Ordinances Report Regarding the Continuing Discussion on Recommending a Sidewalk Snow Shoveling Ordinance – Vincent J. Piccirilli, Chair of Public Works; John G. Gannon, Chair of Rules and Ordinances – October 17, 2022 – Item 8E
11. Request for Confirmation – Appointment and Reappointments to the Environment and Energy Efficiency Committee – George Proakis, City Manager, to City Council – November 17, 2022 – Item 10A
12. Request for Confirmation – Appointment and Reappointments to the Historic District Commission – George Proakis, City Manager, to City Council – November 17, 2022 – Item 10B
13. Request for Confirmation – Reappointments to the Public Arts and Culture Committee – George Proakis, City Manager, to City Council – November 17, 2022 – Item 10 C

*Addendum to the
Minutes of the
November 22, 2022
City Council
Meeting*



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CITY COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2022 AT 7:00 PM

**RICHARD E. MASTRANGELO COUNCIL CHAMBER
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 149 MAIN STREET**

AGENDA

ACCESS INFORMATION:

- A. The meeting will be televised through WCATV (Watertown Cable Access Television): <https://vodwcatv.org/CablecastPublicSite/?channel=3>
- B. The Public may join the virtual meeting online:
<https://watertown-ma.zoom.us/j/92991331344>
- C. Public may join the virtual meeting audio only by phone: (877) 853-5257 or (888) 475-4499 (Toll Free) and enter Webinar ID: 929 9133 1344
- D. Public may comment through email: vpiccirilli@watertown-ma.gov

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- 1. ROLL CALL
 - 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
 - 3. PUBLIC FORUM
 - 4. EXAMINATION OF RECORDS OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS
 - A. City Council Meeting Minutes - November 9, 2022
 - 5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT
 - 6. PUBLIC HEARINGS
 - A. Public Hearing and Vote on a Proposed Order Allocating the Property Tax Levy Among or Between Property Classes for Fiscal Year 2023
 - B. Public Hearing and Vote on a Proposed Amendment to the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget
 - 7. MOTIONS, ORDINANCES, ORDER, AND RESOLUTIONS
 - A. First Reading on a Proposed Amendment to the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget
 - 8. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES
 - A. Committee of the Budget and Fiscal Oversight Report Regarding the Review of Input and the Recommendations Made for the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Policy Guidelines - Vincent J. Piccirilli, Chair

ACTION ITEM:

That the City Council Adopt the FY 2024 Budget Policy Guidelines as Drafted

- B. Committee on Human Services Report Regarding a Discussion of the Position of the Director of Senior Services and the Council on Aging with City Manager George Proakis - Anthony Palomba, Chair

- C. Committee on Human Services Reports Regarding the Review of the Request for Proposal (RFP) for a Health and Human Services Needs Assessment (September 26, 2022 and October 27, 2022) - Anthony Palomba, Chair

ACTION ITEM:

That the City Council Vote to Approve the Attached RFP for a Health and Human Services Assessment (October 27, 2022 Report)

- D. Committee on Public Works Report Regarding the 2023 Local Road Construction Program - Vincent J. Piccirilli, Chair

ACTION ITEMS:

1. That the City Council Approve the Department of Public Works Recommendation for the 2023 Road Program as presented using the FY2023 \$2,500,000 Loan Order for Bates Road, Bates Road East, Essex Street, Francis Street, and Bradshaw Street

2. That the City Council Approve the Department of Public Works Recommendation to Remove Fifth Avenue from the FY2022 Long Street and Connector Program (Which Includes Morse Street), and Use the FY2023 \$1,500,000 Loan Order for the Long Street and Connector Program for the Repair of Fifth Avenue and Related Work on Watertown Street

3. That the City Council Approve the Department of Public Works Use of the FY2024 Funding for the Long Street and Connector Program for the Repair of Forest and Springfield Streets, and to use the FY 2025 Funding for the Long Street and Connector Program for the Repair of Riverside Street

4. That the City Council Ask the Administration to Increase the Annual Funding for the Long Street and Connector Program in the CIP from \$1,500,000 to \$2,000,000

- E. Committees on Public Works and Rules and Ordinances Report Regarding Recommendations on a Snow Shoveling Ordinance - Vincent J. Piccirilli, Chair of Public Works; John G. Gannon, Chair of Rules and Ordinances

9. NEW BUSINESS

10. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

- A. Request for Confirmation of Appointment and Reappointments to the Environment & Energy Efficiency Committee
- B. Request for Confirmation of Appointment and Reappointments to the Historic District Commission
- C. Request for Confirmation of Reappointments to the Public Arts & Culture Committee
- D. Fire Chief Assessment Center

11. REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION/REVIEW OF LIST OF PENDING MATTERS

12. ANNOUNCEMENTS

13. PUBLIC FORUM

14. RECESS OR ADJOURNMENT

CITY COUNCIL ATTENDANCE
MEETING DATE: NOVEMBER 22, 2022

	YES	NO	PRESENT
ANTHONY PALOMBA	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
VINCENT J. PICCIRILLI	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
JOHN M. AIRASIAN	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
CAROLINE BAYS	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
LISA J. FELTNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
JOHN G. GANNON	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NICOLE GARDNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
EMILY IZZO	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
MARK S. SIDERIS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

In this year, the NBA is remembering legendary Boston Celtic Bill Russell as one of the greatest athletes of all time. He was a voice of justice and a civil rights leader despite facing discrimination throughout his playing and coaching career. Those with celebrity status – actors, politicians and athletes included, can use their voice as Bill Russell did, to speak out against hate or, as we have sadly seen in the past weeks, used their voices to spread it.

Most recently, the Jewish community has been the target of such attacks of antisemitism and I call on the Watertown community to speak out against growing antisemitic and LGBTQ activities against our fellow neighbors. I recall not long-ago Watertown adopted the principle "No Place For Hate". In enacting this, Watertown built on its history of being a caring and accepting community welcoming and the various racial, ethnic, religious and respecting a person's sexual orientation of each group that comprise and enrich our great city.

In the past decade there has been a surge of Anti-Semitic and LGBTQ activities. Antisemitic incidents in Massachusetts increased by 48% in 2021, higher than the national average of 35%.

This past 9/11 an Antisemitic Banner was raised by masked men associated with a neo-Nazi group over Route 128 stating that "Jews were responsible for 9/11". Homes in Stoneham and Stow were marred by antisemitic symbols and slurs. These are but a few examples of the hate that is present today.

We must not be silent; otherwise, we are enabling those that traffic in hate and disinformation. We may not be able change an individual's mind but we can certainly call out antisemitism and LGBTQ in Watertown and throughout the Commonwealth, and work to build bridges and engage in dialogue and civic discourse required to combat it. By doing so, Watertown can also serve as an example for other towns in the Commonwealth.

I hope that the City Council would see fit to enact a Resolution bringing attention to the fact that we do not tolerate such behavior in our City.



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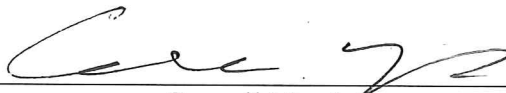
ORDER #123

2022-O-123

AN ORDER ALLOCATING THE PROPERTY TAX LEVY AMONG OR BETWEEN PROPERTY CLASSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023

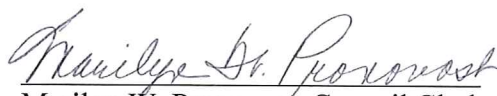
BE IT ORDAINED: That for Fiscal Year 2022 for the purposes of Section 1A of the General Laws, Chapter 58, the Watertown Board of Assessors, in allocating the tax levy shall

1. Adopt a factor of 150% of the flat tax rate on the portion of the total tax levy imposed on the value of the Industrial, Commercial and Personal Property classes.
2. Adopt a 33% Residential Exemption.

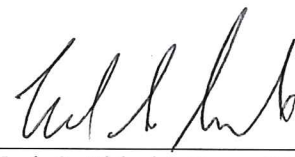


Council Member

I hereby certify that at a regular meeting of the nine member City Council for which a quorum was present, the above Order was adopted by a vote of 9 for, 0 against, and 0 present on November 22, 2022.



Marilyn W. Pronovost, Council Clerk



Mark S. Sideris, Council President

**CITY COUNCIL ROLL CALL VOTE
MEETING DATE: NOVEMBER 22, 2022**

	YES	NO	PRESENT
VINCENT J. PICCIRILLI	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
JOHN M. AIRASIAN	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
CAROLINE BAYS	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
LISA J. FELTNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
JOHN G. GANNON	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NICOLE GARDNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
EMILY IZZO	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
ANTHONY PALOMBA	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
MARK S. SIDERIS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

MOTION TO ADOPT THE BUDGET AMENDMENT TO THE FY 2023 BUDGET



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

John M. Airasian
Councilor At Large

Caroline Bays
Councilor At Large

John G. Gannon,
Councilor At Large

Anthony Palomba,
Councilor At Large

Nicole Gardner,
District A Councilor

Lisa J. Feltner,
District B Councilor

Emily Izzo,
District D Councilor

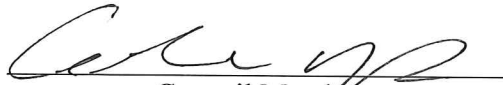
ORDER # *124*

2022 - O - *124*

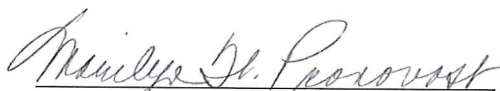
ORDER ADOPTING AN AMENDMENT TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2023 BUDGET

BE IT ORDAINED: That the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby adopts an amendment to the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget, as attached.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED: That a copy of said order is forwarded to the City Auditor and the City Treasurer/Collector.


Council Member

I hereby certify that at a meeting of the City Council for which a quorum was present, the above Order was adopted by a vote of 9 for, 0 against, and 0 present on November 22, 2022.


Marilyn W. Pronovost, Council Clerk


Mark S. Sideris, Council President

REVENUE	INCREASE (DECREASE)	TO READ
TRANSFER FROM ACQUISITION OF LAND STABILIZATION FUND	\$ 11,150,000	\$ 11,150,000
TOTAL REVENUE ADJUSTMENT	<u>\$ 11,150,000</u>	
EXPENDITURES	INCREASE (DECREASE)	TO READ
ACQUISITION OF LAND 0194000-580950	\$ 11,150,000	\$ 11,250,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURE ADJUSTMENT	<u>\$ 11,150,000</u>	

Watertown's FY2024 Budget Policy Guidelines

As Approved and Ranked by the City Council

November 22, 2022

The City Council is adopting these budget policy guidelines pursuant to Section 5-1 of the Watertown Home Rule Charter. Based on these guidelines, the City Manager will develop budgetary goals and the City budget for Fiscal Year 2024. *Watertown's Ongoing Budget Policy Guidelines* Resolution 2012-72, *Amending Watertown's Ongoing Budget Policy Guidelines* Resolution 2017-84 and *Watertown's Ongoing Capital Project Budget Guidelines* Resolution 2013-76 are hereby incorporated by reference.

I. COST-SAVINGS/REVENUES

Note: The items in this section were ranked in order of priority by the City Council on November 29, 2022

The City Council believes that identification of cost savings and/or new revenues should be a precondition to additional expenditures. To this end, in developing the FY24 budget, the City Manager should:

- A. Continue to proceed with the guidelines of the Strategic Framework for Economic Development, with the long-term goal to promote a diversified and growing tax base.
- B. Continue pursuing mitigation monies, linkage fees, and/or other measures from larger scale projects.
- C. Require all Departments to actively pursue filing applications for all relevant state, federal, and private foundation grant programs.
- D. Actively seek Payment In Lieu Of Taxes (PILOT) agreements, or other in-kind services, with each non-profit organization owning or purchasing property in Watertown.

II. PROGRAM ENHANCEMENTS/EXPENDITURES

Note: The items in this section were ranked in order of priority by the City Council on November 29, 2022

To the extent that resources allow, in light of the financial policies stated above, and adhering to the principle of first identifying cost-savings and/or new revenue, the following program enhancements and, if necessary, new expenditures should receive priority in the FY24 budget. Education program enhancements and expenditures should be considered subsequently in light of the recommendations of the School Committee.

- A. Beginning with FY24, all departments should prepare their budgets to address the strategies and action items in the Climate and Energy Plan adopted August 9, 2022.
- B. Continue to work collaboratively with the Watertown Public Schools on the comprehensive multi-year educational budget that assures sustainable funding for our schools and the successful education of our children, and seek to accommodate a 3.5% annual increase for FY24 for the Education appropriation that will provide level-service funding for our schools.
- C. Continue support for Building for the Future Initiative funding in collaboration with the School Building Committee, for the Three Elementary Schools project, and for the MSBA High School project, without debt exclusion funding.
- D. With the ongoing update to the Comprehensive Plan, which will include new goals and strategies for development in Watertown, continue to enhance the capabilities of the Department of Community Development and Planning by adding resources and/or redeploying existing resources.
- E. Improve the operational efficiency, flexibility, and capacity of the Public Works Department to meet the City's growing needs to manage contractors, respond to work order requests, oversee development projects, plan and implement infrastructure improvements, improve communications to residents about road construction, comply with the MassDEP 2030 Solid Waste Management Plan, and maintain complete streets infrastructure. Review improvements for snow and ice removal. Consider what technology platforms are needed to support the Department.
- F. Provide funding for a study of Watertown Square that will incorporate goals of the updated Comprehensive Plan, and include Intersection Design, Development & Zoning changes, Small Business strategies, and better use of City owned land, parking lots, and former police station.
- G. Update the five year plan and funding schedule for the integrated improvements of the City's streets and sidewalks, water-sewer-stormwater infrastructure, and underground utilities. The plan should show status of ongoing projects, identify future projects including those with no funding source, identify sources of stormwater and sewage outflow to the Charles River, and coordination with water-sewer-stormwater projects and underground utility projects.

Watertown's FY2024 Budget Policy Guidelines as Approved and Ranked

- H. Provide increased funding and resources for City-wide rodent control in the FY24 budget.
- I. Provide funding and resources for launch of the 311 system in the FY24 budget.
- J. Consider funding for the recommendations of the Personnel Department Assessment Review and the Salary Study in the FY24 budget.
- K. Continue to enhance the capabilities of the Department of Public Works Forestry Department by adding resources and/or redeploying additional resources for improving Watertown's public shade trees and increasing the City's overall tree canopy by: (1) Developing a robust data collection process for public shade trees in Watertown, (2) Analyzing the data to determine an action plan and (3) to seek collaboration and partnership opportunities with community groups such as Trees for Watertown.
- L. Continue working to identify additional acquisition of land for open space and recreation, using the Acquisition of Land/Open Space Stabilization Fund, and including proposals submitted to the Community Preservation Committee.
- M. Carry out the remaining recommendations of the City-wide Information Technology Assessment.
- N. Consider funding for the recommendations of the Health & Human Services Study in the FY24 budget.
- O. Continue to work with the Watertown Transportation Management Association to identify sustainable sources of funding for the shuttle bus program in Watertown. Use data from the pilot program to explore strategies to increase ridership in a permanent program.
- P. Based on final City Council policy direction, develop a budgetary plan to meet the identified need for DPW staging space.
- Q. Finalize re-use of the former north branch library.



Watertown Town Council

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149 Main Street
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Phone: 617-972-6470

ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Mark S. Sideris,
Council President

Stephen P. Corbett,
Vice President

John A. Donohue,
Councilor At Large

Susan G. Falkoff,
Councilor At Large

Anthony Palomba,
Councilor At Large

Angeline B. Kounelis,
District A Councilor

Cecilia Lenk,
District B Councilor

Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr.,
District C Councilor

Kenneth M. Woodland
District D Councilor

Resolution# 2012- *72*

Resolution: Watertown's Ongoing Budget Policy Guidelines

WHEREAS the Town Council adopts budget policy guidelines each year pursuant to Section 5-1 of the Watertown Home Rule Charter, so that the Town Manager can develop budgetary goals and the Town budget for the next fiscal year, and

WHEREAS for the past several years, annual budget policy guidelines have included three sections of ongoing budget practices, namely Section I. FINANCIAL POLICIES, Section II. ONGOING BUDGET PRACTICES, and Section V. BUDGET AND FINANCIAL MONITORING, and

WHEREAS the budget policy guidelines in these three sections have reached a point of maturity whereby they have become standard operating procedure, and do not need to be revised each year.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council of the City known as the Town of Watertown hereby establishes the following budget policy guidelines as permanent policy guidance, to be followed annually:

I. FINANCIAL POLICIES

A. Unreserved fund balance: In order to respond to emergencies and other unanticipated needs, preserve financial flexibility, and maintain favorable bond ratings, the Town should seek to maintain an unreserved fund balance (including stabilization funds) equal to 7-10% of the annual operating budget. The Council and the Town Manager will work to develop a formal multi-year policy on the unreserved fund balance, including the use of free cash if the unreserved fund balance is above the 7-10% target.

B. Capital Expenditures: In order to maintain and improve its infrastructure, facilities, and equipment, the Town should seek to make annual capital expenditures (including debt and exclusive of enterprise funds) equal to at least 7.5-8% of the operating budget.

C. Pension Liability and Other Post Employment Benefits: In order to achieve long term financial stability, meet the Town's obligations to its employees and retirees, and maintain favorable bond ratings, the Council, the Retirement Board and Town Manager will work to address the Town's unfunded pension liability and other post-employment benefits (OPEB). As was done with the unfunded Pension Liability, create a long-range financial plan for addressing the unfunded OPEB liabilities, including the converting the OPEB stabilization fund to an OPEB Trust Fund. Continue dialog with Retirement Board and State representatives to consider options for pension reforms for new hires.

II. ONGOING BUDGET PRACTICES

A. Continue the Town's efforts within all departments to obtain grant funding from federal, state, and other sources, including the use college interns.

B. Continue to analyze the Town's charges for licenses, permits, penalties, and fees to determine whether they should be increased or new ones instituted, while adhering to the principal that fees should not exceed the cost of services provided.

C. Review the possibilities and cost implications of contracted services vs. staffing in various departments.

D. Support the possibilities of providing more services on a regional or inter-municipal basis in accordance with the council resolution.

E. All department heads should seek to identify line items within their existing budgets where costs can be controlled and not increased. Look at other possible scenarios including spending freezes, level dollar and reduction budgets. Review the use of overtime in each department and monitor consistent Town-wide practices and related utilization.

F. Continue to enhance the Town's website and use other technologies as cost effective means of delivering information and services, increasing public awareness, and encouraging public feedback.

G. Explore cost savings by sharing personnel across Town departments. Work towards merging or combining the following functions to better serve both Town and School Departments: facilities management, human resources, finance, and information technology.

H. Meet annually in Executive Session(s) to discuss strategies on pending collective bargaining agreements and the potential impact on upcoming and future budgets.

III. BUDGET AND FINANCIAL MONITORING

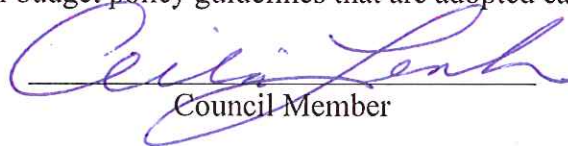
A. In order to improve its ability to monitor the implementation of the Town budget, the Town Council will receive quarterly reports on the revenues and expenditures during the fiscal year.

B. The Town Council will receive a report on the use and balance of monies in the Council reserve upon each transfer, and a report each month when there is a change in Town Councilors' expense line items.

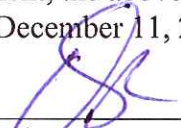
C. An early-warning system will be used to alert the Town Council if revenues fall below projections.

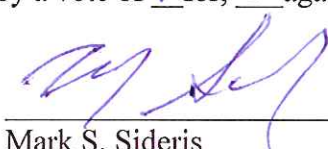
D. The Town Council will receive quarterly updates on progress in addressing the recommendations in the annual audit report.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall be incorporated by reference into the annual budget policy guidelines that are adopted each year.


Council Member

I hereby certify that at a regular meeting of the Town Council for which a quorum was present, the above Resolution was adopted by a vote of 9 for, 0 against and 0 present on December 11, 2012.


Valerie Papas
Council Clerk


Mark S. Sideris
Council President



Watertown Town Council

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

ELECTED
OFFICIALS:

Resolution # 84

2017- R - 84

Mark S. Sideris,
Council President

Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr.,
Vice President

Michael F. Dattoli,
Councilor At Large

Aaron P. Dushku,
Councilor At Large

Susan G. Falkoff,
Councilor At Large

Anthony Palomba,
Councilor At Large

Angeline B. Kounelis,
District A Councilor

Lisa J. Feltner,
District B Councilor

Kenneth M. Woodland,
District D Councilor

RESOLUTION: AMENDING WATERTOWN'S ONGOING BUDGET POLICY GUIDELINES

WHEREAS the Town Council adopted Resolution 2012-72 *Watertown's Ongoing Budget Policy Guidelines*, to establish permanent financial policy guidance, and

WHEREAS since 2014 the Town Council and the School Committee have been working on a plan for the renovation or reconstruction of Watertown's school buildings, including submitting Statements of Interest to the Massachusetts School Building Authority, and

WHEREAS at the Fiscal Year 2019 Preliminary Budget Overview presented on October 10, 2017, it was proposed to self-fund a project to renovate or reconstruct three elementary schools entirely within the operating budget, with funds redirected from the retirement appropriation when the pension is fully funded, while also paying down the OPEB liability, and

WHEREAS the value of the debt service required for such school capital expenditures would exceed 8% of the operating budget as stipulated in Resolution 2012-72, and

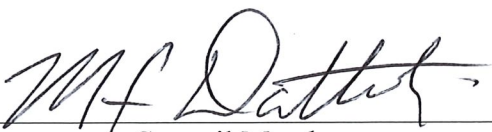
WHEREAS the Town of Watertown wants a "strong" position for its financial management policies to get the most favorable rates when going to the bond market for such capital expenditures.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council of the City known as the Town of Watertown hereby amends Resolution 2012-72 *Watertown's Ongoing Budget Policy Guidelines*, with existing guidelines I.A and I.B to be deleted in their entirety and replaced with the following language:

I. A. Unreserved fund balance: In order to respond to emergencies and other unanticipated needs, preserve financial flexibility, and maintain favorable bond ratings, the Town should seek to maintain an unreserved fund balance (including stabilization funds) equal to 8-15% of the annual operating budget. The Council and the Town Manager will work to develop a formal multi-year policy on the unreserved fund balance, including the use of free cash, if the unreserved fund balance is above the 8-15% target.

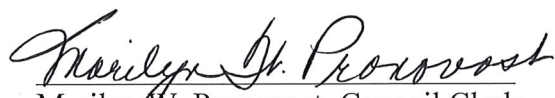
I. B. Capital Expenditures: In order to maintain and improve its infrastructure, facilities, and equipment, the Town should seek to make annual capital expenditures (including debt and exclusive of the school Building for the Future Initiative funding and enterprise funds) equal to at least 7.5-8% of the operating budget.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall be incorporated by reference into the annual budget policy guidelines that are adopted each year.



Council Member

I hereby certify that at a regular meeting of the Town Council for which a quorum was present, the above Resolution was adopted by a vote of 8 for, 0 against, and 0 present on November 28, 2017.



Marilyn W. Pronovost, Council Clerk



Mark S. Sideris, Council President



Watertown Town Council

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

ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Resolution# 2013- 76

Mark S. Sideris,
Council President

Stephen P. Corbett,
Vice President

John A. Donohue,
Councilor At Large

Susan G. Falkoff,
Councilor At Large

Anthony Palomba,
Councilor At Large

Angeline B. Kounellis,
District A Councilor

Cecilia Lenk,
District B Councilor

Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr.,
District C Councilor

Kenneth M. Woodland
District D Councilor

Resolution: Watertown's Ongoing Capital Project Budget Guidelines

WHEREAS the Town Council adopts budget policy guidelines each year pursuant to Section 5-1 of the Watertown Home Rule Charter, so that the Town Manager can develop budgetary goals and the Town budget for the next fiscal year, and

WHEREAS in the Fiscal Year 2014 budget policy guidelines, Attachment A "ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS ON CAPITAL PROJECTS" was included to use the Town's capital project funds in the most efficient manner, and to improve the efficiency and transparency of the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) process, and

WHEREAS these recommendations have become standard operating procedure for the Town of Watertown, and do not need to be revised each year.

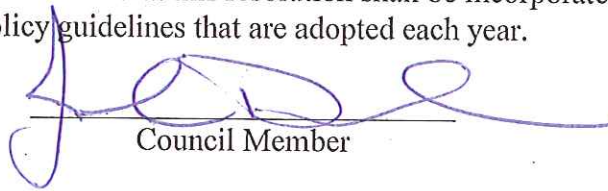
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council of the City known as the Town of Watertown hereby establishes the following recommendations on capital projects as permanent budget policy guidance, to be followed annually:

1. Status of existing capital funds and projects: As part of the January CIP submission by the Town Manager, include from each department, a listing of all existing unspent capital funds (including Chapter 90, developer mitigation, grant funds, etc.) and a status on each project or acquisition, including how and when remaining funds will be spent, effective November 30th.
 - a. Include project funds appropriated by the Town Council to the School Department.
 - b. Include Water/Sewer Enterprise Fund reporting of capital projects & funds as a new section of the CIP separate from the General Fund.
2. Details on new projects: As part of the January CIP submission by the Town Manager, provide details for all items in the CIP that have been previously shown as annual lump sums in a single line.
 - a. Include the School Department's "various school improvements".
 - b. Include "highway reconstruction" and "sidewalk reconstruction", with a forecast of streets to be done each year.
 - c. Include Water/Sewer Enterprise Fund capital projects as a new section of the CIP separate from the General Fund, with a forecast of streets to be done each year.

- d. Include transportation or water/sewer and stormwater projects which have or will be proposed in the future, with no funding source yet identified.
3. Coordination Issues Related to Public Works projects: The increasing volume and complexity of public works projects requires a rethinking of how the Town does its planning to maximize the use of capital funds and departmental resources, as well as providing information to the public in a timely, readily accessible fashion.
 - a. To this end, the CIP needs to have a five-year forecast of what water/sewer/stormwater, road reconstruction, and sidewalk reconstruction are planned, by specific street, which will:
 - i. Insure that work is sequenced to obtain the maximum life from road and sidewalk reconstruction without major water/sewer work compromising their integrity.
 - ii. Allow utility companies adequate time to plan underground service replacements prior to road and sidewalk reconstruction, to avoid compromising their integrity.
 - iii. Allow time for the Zoning Enforcement Office to notify property owners of non-conforming driveways, while giving the owners adequate time to seek a variance.
 - iv. Allow developers time to plan their projects in coordination with the Town, and avoid digging up newly installed roads and sidewalks.
 - v. Allow abutting homeowners, who may want to pay for granite curbs on streets scheduled for asphalt curbs, time to arrange contracting and payment.
 - vi. Allow time for the Tree Warden to notify abutters who may want a street tree in front of their property, to allow for the placement of a tree pit prior to the installation of a new sidewalk.
 - vii. Provide more transparency to citizens on public works projects and spending.
 - viii. Allow the Public Works Committee or other appropriate committee adequate time to review the proposed work and provide policy guidance on the above as it relates to Watertown's goals.
 - b. Issues of coordination and timing need to be improved to insure the most efficient use of funds, and bonding of annual street construction projects should be coordinated with bidding such that contractors can begin by April and be completed by November.
 - c. The Public Works Department should address, on an ongoing basis:
 - i. Assure adequate supervisory capacity to eliminate decision bottlenecks and improve timeliness of responses for construction work.
 - ii. Notification to the public of what construction is happening and where and when it will occur must be improved, and should be available on the website and updated regularly.
 - iii. Improve completion of punch list items on projects needs to be improved, including painting of roadway markings, installation of traffic signs, removal of temporary construction signs, cleanup of construction debris, etc.
4. Protection of investments: With millions of dollars being spent each year in Watertown on street and sidewalk construction, the administration should take a more aggressive

role to protect the value of these investments to insure that maximum life is obtained from the new surfaces.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall be incorporated by reference into the annual budget policy guidelines that are adopted each year.

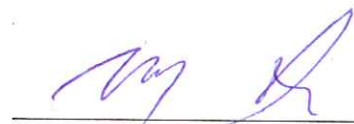


Council Member

I hereby certify that at a regular meeting of the Town Council for which a quorum was present, the above Resolution was adopted by unanimous voice vote on December 9, 2013.



Valerie Papas, Council Clerk



Mark S. Sideris, Council President

FY2024 Budget Policy Guidelines, Ranked By Priority November 30, 2022

	Airasian	Bays	Feltner	Gannon	Gardner	Izzo	Palomba	Piccirilli	Sideris	Composite
I. COST-SAVINGS/REVENUES										
I. A. Continue to proceed with the guidelines of the Strategic Framework for Economic Development, with the long-term goal to promote a diversified and growing tax base.	1	2	1	3	1	2	4	1	1	1.8
I. B. Continue pursuing mitigation monies, linkage fees, and/or other measures from larger scale projects.	2	3	2	2	2	1	1	2	2	1.9
I. C. Require all Departments to actively pursue filing applications for all relevant state, federal, and private foundation grant programs.	3	4	3	1	3	4	2	3	3	2.9
I. D. Actively seek Payment In Lieu Of Taxes (PILOT) agreements, or other in-kind services, with each non-profit organization owning or purchasing property in Watertown.	4	1	4	4	4	3	3	4	4	3.4

	Airasian	Bays	Feltner	Gannon	Gardner	Izzo	Palomba	Piccirilli	Sideris	Composite
II. PROGRAM ENHANCEMENTS/EXPENDITURES										
II. N. Beginning with FY24, all departments should prepare their budgets to address the strategies and action items in the Climate and Energy Plan adopted August 9, 2022.	12	1	3	3	1	8	1	3	4	4.0
II. B. Continue to work collaboratively with the Watertown Public Schools on the comprehensive multi-year educational budget that assures sustainable funding for our schools and the successful education of our children, and seek to accommodate a 3.5% annual increase for FY24 for the Education appropriation that will provide level-service funding for our schools.	2	3	1	2	3	7	17	2	2	4.3
II. A. Continue support for Building for the Future Initiative funding in collaboration with the School Building Committee, for the Three Elementary Schools project, and for the MSBA High School project, without debt exclusion funding.	1	2	2	1	2	16	16	1	1	4.7
II. I. With the ongoing update to the Comprehensive Plan, which will include new goals and strategies for development in Watertown, continue to enhance the capabilities of the Department of Community Development and Planning by adding resources and/or redeploying existing resources.	5	4	6	5	4	10	6	5	3	5.3
II. C. Improve the operational efficiency, flexibility, and capacity of the Public Works Department to meet the City's growing needs to manage contractors, respond to work order requests, oversee development projects, plan and implement infrastructure improvements, improve communications to residents about road construction, comply with the MassDEP 2030 Solid Waste Management Plan, and maintain complete streets infrastructure. Review improvements for snow and ice removal. Consider what technology platforms are needed to support the Department.	3	6	4	8	9	4	8	8	5	6.1
II. M. Provide funding for a study of Watertown Square that will incorporate goals of the updated Comprehensive Plan, and include Intersection Design, Development & Zoning changes, Small Business strategies, and better use of City owned land, parking lots, and former police station.	4	7	8	6	11	3	7	4	8	6.4
II. D. Update the five year plan and funding schedule for the integrated improvements of the City's streets and sidewalks, water-sewer-stormwater infrastructure, and underground utilities. The plan should show status of ongoing projects, identify future projects including those with no funding source, identify sources of stormwater and sewage outflow to the Charles River, and coordination with water-sewer-stormwater projects and underground utility projects.	6	5	5	10	5	14	10	9	11	8.3

FY2024 Budget Policy Guidelines, Ranked By Priority November 30, 2022

II. P. Provide increased funding and resources for City-wide rodent control in the FY24 budget.	13	11	14	15	8	1	4	7	6	8.8
II. Q. Provide funding and resources for launch of the 311 system in the FY24 budget.	8	13	12	14	10	5	5	6	7	8.9
II. G. Consider funding for the recommendations of the Personnel Department Assessment Review and the Salary Study in the FY24 budget.	11	9	7	7	12	15	3	10	9	9.2
II. J. Continue to enhance the capabilities of the Department of Public Works Forestry Department by adding resources and/or redeploying additional resources for improving Watertown's public shade trees and increasing the City's overall tree canopy by: (1) Developing a robust data collection process for public shade trees in Watertown, (2) Analyzing the data to determine an action plan and (3) to seek collaboration and partnership opportunities with community groups such as Trees for Watertown.	10	10	9	11	6	12	13	12	10	10.3
II. E. Continue working to identify additional acquisition of land for open space and recreation, using the Acquisition of Land/Open Space Stabilization Fund, and including proposals submitted to the Community Preservation Committee.	7	16	11	4	15	6	9	14	15	10.8