

CITY OF WATERTOWN, NEW YORK
AGENDA
Monday, April 6, 2026
7 p.m.

This shall serve as notice that the next regularly scheduled meeting of the City Council will be held on Monday, April 6, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 245 Washington Street, Watertown, New York.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

COMMUNICATIONS

PROCLAMATIONS

Fair Housing Proclamation

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

PUBLIC HEARING

RESOLUTIONS

- Resolution No. 1 - Accepting Bid for Primary Grit Collector Replacement – Pollution Control Facility (PCF) Blue Heron Construction Company LLC
- Resolution No. 2 - Authorizing the Waiver of Fees for the PGA Hope Golf Program
- Resolution No. 3 - Readopting Fiscal Year 2025-26 General Fund Budget – Establish Transportation Planner Position and Transfer Appropriations Within the Bus Department
- Resolution No. 4 - Readopting Fiscal Year 2025-26 Annual Rates of Pay for Management Employees
- Resolution No. 5 - Authorizing the Dissolution of the Transportation Commission and the Creation of the Transit Committee

ORDINANCES

- Ordinance No. 1 - An Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of \$2,700,000 Bonds of the City of Watertown, Jefferson County, New York, to Pay the Cost of Improvements to the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant Facilities, In and for Said City

LOCAL LAW

- Proposed Local Law of 2026 A Local Law Overriding the Tax Levy Limit Established by New York General Municipal Law §3-c

OLD BUSINESS

STAFF REPORTS

1. Sale of Surplus Hydro-electricity – February 2026
2. Sales Tax Revenue – February 2026
3. Public Hearings for 2026-27 Operating Budgets and 2026-27 through 2030-31 Capital Budget

NEW BUSINESS

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The proposed acquisition, sale or lease of real property when publicity would affect the value thereof.

To discuss collective bargaining.

ADJOURNMENT

WORK SESSION

NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED CITY COUNCIL MEETING IS MONDAY, APRIL 20, 2026.

Res No. 1

April 6, 2026

TO: The Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Tina Bartlett-Bearup, Purchasing Manager

SUBJECT: Accepting Bid for Primary Grit Collector Replacement – Pollution Control Facility (PCF) Blue Heron Construction Company LLC

The City’s Purchasing Department advertised in the Watertown Daily Times for sealed bids from qualified bidders for the Primary Grit Collector Replacement – Pollution Control Facility (PCF), per City specifications, and publicly opened and read the sealed bids on March 12, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. EST. Bids were provided to six (6) plan houses and sixty-one (61) potential vendors.

The Purchasing Department received two (2) sealed bid submittals, and the bid tabulations are shown below:

Vendor Name and Address		Blue Heron Construction Company LLC	John R. Dudley Construction, Inc.
		9289 Bonta Bridge Road Jordan, NY 13080	5848 St. Rt. 104E, PO Box 3076 Oswego, NY 13126
Quantity	Description	Price	Price
1	Mobilization - Cannot exceed 5% of total bid	\$50,000.00	\$130,000.00
2	Grit Collector System	\$1,231,000.00	\$1,780,516.80
1	Demo and removal	\$50,000.00	\$105,844.67
1	Installation and testing	\$95,611.00	\$374,640.68
1	Required Documents and Manuals	\$3,000.00	\$5,000.00
Total Base Bid		\$1,429,611.00	\$2,396,002.15

The Purchasing Manager, Water Superintendent, and Chief Operator reviewed the responses to ensure compliance with the specifications and hereby recommend that City Council award the total base bid for the Primary Grit Collector Replacement – Pollution Control Facility (PCF) to Blue Heron Construction Company LLC as the lowest responsive responsible bidder in the base bid amount of **\$1,429,611.00**.

Acceptance of the Primary Grit Collector Replacement – Pollution Control Facility (PCF) bid is contingent upon the passing of the bond ordinance, which is included in tonight’s agenda.

If there are any questions concerning this recommendation, please contact me at your convenience.



CITY OF WATERTOWN, NEW YORK

CITY HALL, ROOM 206

245 WASHINGTON STREET

WATERTOWN, NEW YORK 13601-3380

Project:	Primary Grit Collector Replacement - PCF
Bid / RFP Number:	Bid #2026-04
Opening Date:	Thursday, March 12, 2026 @ 11:00 AM

The following results are bids as presented at the bid opening and do not represent an award.

Vendor Name and Address

**Blue Heron Construction
Company LLC**

9289 Bonta Bridge Road
Jordan, NY 13080

John R. Dudley Construction, Inc.

5848 St. Rt. 104E, PO Box 3076
Oswego, NY 13126

Quantity	Description	Price	Price	Price
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1	Required Documents and Manuals	\$3,000.00	\$5,000.00	
Total Base Bid		\$1,429,611.00	\$2,396,002.15	

Angel French
Chief Operator

NYS ELAP
Certified Lab
Lab ID# 10166

**William T. Field Memorial
Pollution Control Plant
700 William T. Field Drive
Watertown, New York 13601**
Phone: (315) 785-7840
Fax: (315) 779-2095
Email: afrench@watertown-ny.gov

Richard Artz
O & M Supervisor

Jay Slate
Lab Technician

March 13, 2026

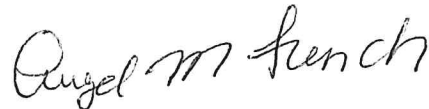
RE: Bid #2026-04 Primary Grit Collector Replacement - Pollution Control Facility

To: Mr. Eric Wagenaar,

After viewing the bid tabulation for the Primary Grit Collector Replacement I contacted Blue Heron, the lowest bidder, to confirm they had reviewed Revision 1 of the bid specifications and remained comfortable with their submitted price. Charles Gregory of Blue Heron confirmed their bid remains valid as submitted.

Mr. Gregory subsequently provided the equipment specification sheet for review. The manufacturer, WSG & Solutions, is the successor to Envirex, the original manufacturer of the equipment, and maintains the original contract design from Contract No. H99761 (circa 1976).

Based on this confirmation and the continuity of the original design specifications, I recommend proceeding with the Blue Heron bid.



Angel French
Chief Operator
City of Watertown PCF

RESOLUTION

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Accepting Bid for Primary Grit Collector Replacement – Pollution Control Facility (PCF) Blue Heron Construction Company LLC

Council Member GARRABRANT, Shane A.
 Council Member KIMBALL, Robert O
 Council Member OSBORNE Jr, Douglas E.
 Council Member SHOEN, Benjamin P.
 Mayor PIERCE, Sarah V.C.
 Total

YEA	NAY

Introduced by _____

WHEREAS the City desires to contract with a qualified vendor for the demolition, removal of the current collector, purchase, delivery, installation, and startup of a Rex C&B Grit Collector or equivalent, per departmental specifications for use at the City’s Pollution Control Facility (PCF) located at 700 William T. Field Drive, Watertown, NY 13601, and

WHEREAS the Purchasing Department advertised and received two (2) sealed bids for the Primary Grit Collector Replacement – Pollution Control Facility (PCF), and

WHEREAS on March 12, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. the bids received were publicly opened and read, and

WHEREAS Purchasing Manager, Tina Bartlett-Bearup reviewed the bids received with the Water Superintendent and Chief Operator, and it is their recommendation that the City Council accept the lowest responsive responsible bid submitted by Blue Heron Construction Company LLC,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby accepts the base bid received from Blue Heron Construction Company LLC in the amount of \$1,429,611.00, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager of the City of Watertown or their designee is hereby authorized and directed to execute the Agreement on behalf of the City of Watertown.

Seconded by _____

Res No. 2

April 6, 2026

To: The Honorable Mayor and City Council
From: Jim Scordo, Parks & Recreation Program Manager
Subject: Authorizing the Waiver of Fees for the PGA Hope Golf Program

The Parks & Recreation Department was recently contacted by Tim Hume, a PGA of America Golf Professional who works with the PGA HOPE program. Mr. Hume has expressed interest in bringing the PGA HOPE program to the Thompson Park Golf Course during the upcoming golf season, beginning May 13.

PGA HOPE (Helping Our Patriots Everywhere) is a national program operated through PGA REACH. The program introduces and teaches the game of golf to Veterans and Active-Duty Military with the goal of enhancing their physical, mental, social, and emotional well-being. All instruction is led by certified PGA of America Golf Professionals, and there is no cost to participants. Since the program began in 2015, it has been held at 624 golf courses across the country.

The proposed program would consist of three six-week sessions, each held on Wednesday evenings for just over one hour. Each session would accommodate approximately five to six participants.

The requested use of the Thompson Park Golf Course facilities would be phased throughout each session. Weeks one and two would utilize the practice green, weeks three through five would utilize the driving range, and the final week would include playing four to five holes of the golf course.

Mr. Hume is requesting City Council approval to use the golf course facilities at no charge for this program. Estimated amount to be waived is approximately \$300 per six-week session.

Additional information regarding the PGA HOPE program can be found at the following link: <https://www.pgareach.org/pgahope?campaign=735339>

RESOLUTION

Page 1 of 1
Authorizing the Waiver of Fees for the
PGA Hope Golf Program

Council Member GARRABRANT, Shane A.
Council Member KIMBALL, Robert O.
Council Member OSBORNE Jr, Douglas E.
Council Member SHOEN, Benjamin P.
Mayor PIERCE, Sarah V.C.
Total

YEA	NAY

Introduced by _____

WHEREAS the City Code states that Parks & Recreation charges fees to utilize the Thompson Park Golf Course, including the driving range, and

WHEREAS the City Council has received a request from PGA Hope, requesting that fees be waived for this national program, and

WHEREAS this program is designed to introduce and teach the game of golf to Veterans and Active-Duty Military with the goal of enhancing their physical, mental, social, and emotional well-being, and,

WHEREAS the proposed program would consist of three six-week sessions, each held on Wednesday evenings for just over one hour, and,

WHEREAS the City Council of the City of Watertown desires to waive the fee, which is estimated at approximately \$300 per session, and

WHEREAS the City Code authorizes the City Council to charge a fee other than what is contained in the City Code,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Manager, or their designee, and City Staff are hereby authorized to waive vendor fees for the PGA Hope program.

Seconded by _____

Res No. 3

April 6, 2026

To: The Honorable Mayor and City Council

From: Eric Wagenaar, City Manager

Subject: Readopting Fiscal Year 2025-26 General Fund Budget – Establish Transportation Planner Position and Transfer Appropriations Within the Bus Department

The Fiscal Year 2025-26 General Fund Budget included within the Bus Department an appropriation for mobility management contracted services. The current mobility management contract with the Volunteer Transportation Center expired March 31, 2026. It is recommended to create the position of Transportation Planner to perform the duties of mobility management and transition this function to an in-house role. Establishing this position will allow the City to provide more direct oversight, improve coordination with City departments and transit operations, and enhance responsiveness to community mobility needs. Bringing this function in-house also strengthens accountability and continuity in delivering federally and state-supported mobility services.

There is no budgetary impact to Fiscal Year 2025-26 as the funding of the mobility management contracted service is the same for having the work instead performed by an employee. The City receives Federal funding of 80% and New York State funding at 10% for this function. The City's share of 10% is already contained in the Fiscal Year 2025-25 General Fund budget. In addition to maintaining existing funding levels, this change positions the City to better manage grant compliance, reporting requirements, and long-term mobility planning initiatives.

Attached for City Council consideration is a resolution to re-adopt the Fiscal Year 2025-26 General Fund Budget to add the Transportation Planner position and transfer appropriations within the Bus Department operating budget.

RESOLUTION

Page 1 of 1

Readopting Fiscal Year 2025-26 General Fund Budget – Establish Transportation Planner Position and Transfer Appropriations Within the Bus Department

Council Member GARRABRANT, Shane A.
 Council Member KIMBALL, Robert O.
 Council Member OSBORNE Jr, Douglas E.
 Council Member SHOEN, Benjamin P.
 Mayor PIERCE, Sarah V.C.
 Total

YEA	NAY

Introduced by _____

WHEREAS on June 2, 2025 the City Council adopted the Fiscal Year 2025-26 General Fund Budget, and

WHEREAS the adopted budget included within the Bus Department an appropriation for mobility management, and

WHEREAS the current mobility management contract expired March 31, 2026, and the City has evaluated the delivery of these services and identified an opportunity to enhance service coordination, oversight, and responsiveness through a City-administered program, and

WHEREAS the City desires to create the position of Transportation Planner to perform the duties of mobility management, allowing for improved integration with City operations, strengthened compliance with Federal and State program requirements, and more consistent, customer-focused service delivery to residents, including seniors, individuals with disabilities, veterans, and low-income populations, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby re-adopts the Fiscal Year 2025-26 General Fund Budget to add a Transportation Planner position, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby re-adopts the Fiscal Year 2025-26 General Fund Budget to re-appropriate the funds for contracted mobility management to the appropriate personal service and fringe benefit line items with the following adjustments:

GENERAL FUND

A.5630.0130	Bus – Salaries	\$ 9,925
A.5630.0430	Bus – Contracted Services	\$ (16,400)
A.5630.0810	Bus – Retirement	\$ 775
A.5630.0830	Bus – Social Security	\$ 1,275
A.5630.0850	Bus – Health Insurance	\$ 4,425
	Total	\$ _____

Seconded by _____

Res. No. 4

April 6, 2026

To: The Honorable Mayor and City Council

From: Eric Wagenaar, City Manager

Subject: Readopting Fiscal Year 2025-26 Annual Rates of Pay for Management Employees

Earlier in tonight's agenda was a resolution to add a Transportation Planner position. If the position was added, City Council should also amend the Annual Rates of Pay for Management Employees to add the position at a recommended Grade 21.

RESOLUTION

Page 1 of 1

Readopting Fiscal Year 2025-26 Annual Rates of Pay for Management Employees

Council Member GARRABRANT, Shane A.
 Council Member KIMBALL, Robert O.
 Council Member OSBORNE Jr, Douglas E.
 Council Member SHOEN, Benjamin P.
 Mayor PIERCE, Sarah V.C.
 Total

YEA	NAY

Introduced by _____

WHEREAS on June 2, 2025, City Council adopted the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Annual Rates of Pay for Management Employees, and

WHEREAS the City Council established the new position of Transportation Planner earlier in tonight’s agenda, and

WHEREAS the City Council establishes that the Transportation position be a Grade 21 position,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby re-adopts the Annual Rates of Pay for Management Employees chart that is attached and made part of this resolution to add the position of Transportation Planner at a Grade 21, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager is authorized to start individual employees at the step he/she determines to be appropriate at the time of hire.

Seconded by _____

Res No. 5

April 6, 2026

To: The Honorable Mayor and City Council

From: Eric F. Wagenaar, City Manager

Subject: Authorizing the Dissolution of the Transportation Commission and the Creation of the Transit Committee

The Transportation Commission was originally established in 1974 to provide input and recommendations on transportation-related matters, and in 1997 the Paratransit Committee was combined into the Commission to further support advisory functions. Over time, the scope and expectations of the Commission have evolved, and more recently, there has been a need to evaluate whether the current structure aligns with the City's operational needs, staffing capacity, and overall priorities.

Following the appointment of a new Transit Director, the City conducted a review of the Transportation Commission's structure, responsibilities, and level of engagement with staff and resources. Through this review, it was determined that a more streamlined advisory body would better support current operations while maintaining the ability to receive meaningful input on transit-related matters.

The proposed Transit Committee is intended to function as a focused, flexible advisory group that complements the work of the Transit Director, Transportation Planner, and the Complete Streets Committee. The Committee would not have authority to direct staff or make policy decisions, but rather would provide input, review specific issues as assigned, and offer recommendations as requested.

In addition, the City has met its obligations related to paratransit planning under the Americans with Disabilities Act through the establishment of a Transportation Planner. As a result, a separate Paratransit Committee is no longer necessary.

The proposed structure is intended to ensure that advisory input remains available to the City in a manner that is efficient, coordinated, and aligned with current staffing and operational priorities.

This resolution is presented for City Council consideration.

RESOLUTION

Page 1 of 3

Authorizing the Dissolution of the Transportation Commission and the Creation Of the Transit Committee

Council Member GARRABRANT, Shane A.
 Council Member KIMBALL, Robert O.
 Council Member OSBORNE Jr, Douglas E.
 Council Member SHOEN, Benjamin P.
 Mayor PIERCE, Sarah V.C.
 Total

YEA	NAY

Introduced by _____

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Watertown is responsible for establishing policies and structures that best support the efficient and effective operation of City government, and

WHEREAS, on April 1, 1974, the City established a Transportation Commission to provide input and recommendations on transportation-related matters, and

WHEREAS, on November 17, 1997, the City combined the Paratransit Committee into the Transportation Commission to serve in an advisory role, and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Commission has recently sought expanded authority and increased involvement of City staff and resources, which exceeds the advisory role originally contemplated by the City Council, and

WHEREAS, following the appointment of a new Transit Director, the City conducted a review of the structure, scope, and operational demands of the Transportation Commission to ensure alignment with current City priorities and staffing resources, and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to move toward a more streamlined and nimble advisory structure that complements existing efforts, including the work of the Transit Director and the Complete Streets Committee, and

WHEREAS, the City responded to the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 by developing a complementary paratransit plan, and the establishment of the City Transportation Planner will satisfy all applicable requirements related to paratransit planning and oversight, thereby eliminating the need for a separate Paratransit Committee, and

WHEREAS, the City Council seeks to continue to receive focused, timely, and practical advisory input on transit-related matters in a manner that is efficient and aligned with current City priorities,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby directs:

RESOLUTION

Page 2 of 3

Authorizing the Dissolution of the Transportation Commission and the Creation Of the Transit Committee

Council Member GARRABRANT, Shane A.
 Council Member KIMBALL, Robert O.
 Council Member OSBORNE Jr, Douglas E.
 Council Member SHOEN, Benjamin P.
 Mayor PIERCE, Sarah V.C.
 Total

YEA	NAY

1. **Dissolution of Transportation Commission:**
 The Transportation Commission of the City of Watertown is hereby dissolved, effective immediately.

2. **Creation of the Transit Committee:**
 There is hereby established a Transit Committee, which shall serve in an advisory capacity only.

3. **Purpose and Role:**
 The purpose of the Transit Committee shall be to support the Transit Director and the Complete Streets Committee by providing advisory input on transit-related matters as directed.

4. **Duties and Responsibilities:**
 The Transit Committee may be tasked with the following responsibilities when directed by the City Council, the City Manager, the Transit Director, or the Complete Streets Committee:
 - Reviewing specific transportation or transit-related issues assigned to it;
 - Evaluating policies, plans, or initiatives related to transit services and infrastructure;
 - Providing written findings, recommendations, or reports to the City Council, Transit Director, or Complete Streets Committee; and
 - Offering advisory input on implementation of adopted transportation and transit plans.

5. The Transit Committee shall have no authority to make policy decisions, direct staff, expend funds, or act on behalf of the City.

6. **Membership and Appointments:**
 The Transit Committee shall consist of five (5) members, all of whom shall be appointed by the City Council.

7. **Terms of Appointment:**
 Members shall serve three-year terms, and may be reappointed at the discretion of the City Council.

RESOLUTION

Page 3 of 3

Authorizing the Dissolution of the Transportation Commission and the Creation Of the Transit Committee

Council Member GARRABRANT, Shane A.
 Council Member KIMBALL, Robert O.
 Council Member OSBORNE Jr, Douglas E.
 Council Member SHOEN, Benjamin P.
 Mayor PIERCE, Sarah V.C.
 Total

YEA	NAY

8. Organization and Procedures:

As an advisory body only, the Transit Committee:

- Shall not be required to elect a chairperson;
- Shall meet only as needed at the direction of City staff or committees; and
- Shall function solely in a consultative capacity without independent authority.

9. Paratransit Committee:

Any prior requirement or authorization for a Paratransit Committee is hereby deemed satisfied and no longer necessary, as the City has fulfilled all related obligations and will continue to do so with the Transit Director and Transportation Planner, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council expresses its appreciation to the members of the former Transportation Commission for their time, service, and contributions to transportation planning and policy discussions within the City of Watertown, and that any matters previously under review by the Transportation Commission may, at the discretion of the City Manager or Transit Director, be referred to the Transit Committee or other appropriate City body, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Seconded by _____

Ordinance No. 1

April 6, 2026

To: The Honorable Mayor and City Council

From: James E. Mills, City Comptroller

Subject: An Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of \$2,700,000 Bonds of the City of Watertown, Jefferson County, New York, to Pay the Cost of Improvements to the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant Facilities, In and for Said City


Included in the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Capital Budget was the Primary Grit System replacement (\$3,000,000) and the Influent B Screen project (\$600,000).

Earlier in tonight's agenda City Council was presented with a resolution to accept the bid from Blue Heron Construction Company LLC in the amount of \$1,429,611 for the primary grit system. Acceptance of the bid was contingent upon City Council also approving the funding through the following bond ordinance.



Staff is concerned that the Influent B Screen project will be significantly over the initial budget of \$600,000 and closer to \$1,200,000. Accordingly, it is requested that City Council approve the attached bond ordinance in the amount of \$2,700,000. Only the amount needed to cover the project bids plus professional fees for the debt issuance will actually be borrowed.

Primary Grit System	\$1,500,000
Influent B Screen	<u>1,200,000</u>
Total	<u>\$2,700,000</u>

FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026
 CAPITAL BUDGET
 FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS
 WASTEWATER TREATMENT

PROJECT DESCRIPTION	COST
<p data-bbox="155 438 672 478">Primary Grit System Replacement</p> <p data-bbox="155 516 1235 697">The primary tank was commissioned in 1981, and the current grit collection system has remained unchanged since then. This system has far exceeded its expected lifespan and urgently requires replacement. The grit towers have undergone multiple rehabilitations and demand frequent repairs. A major concern is that if these systems fail, the cost of replacing them post-failure would rise exponentially.</p> <div data-bbox="386 758 967 1528" style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p data-bbox="180 1833 1214 1902">Funding to support this project will be from the issuance of a 15-year serial bond with Fiscal Year 2026-27 Sewer Fund debt service of \$312,500.</p>	<p data-bbox="1276 438 1455 478">\$ 3,000,000</p>
TOTAL	\$ 3,000,000

**FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026
CAPITAL BUDGET
FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS
WASTEWATER TREATMENT**

PROJECT DESCRIPTION	COST
<p data-bbox="159 438 386 470">Influent B Screen</p> <p data-bbox="151 512 1230 726">In 2020, the wastewater treatment plant upgraded the Influent A screen and grit removal system. This upgrade significantly reduced the amount of grit and screenings passing through Influent A. However, excessive rags continue to accumulate through the entire plant, indicating they are entering through the Influent B line and causing damage to downstream components. Installing a screen on the Influent B line would help minimize repairs to downstream equipment.</p> <div data-bbox="224 890 1224 1444" style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div> <p data-bbox="180 1864 1214 1934">Funding to support this project will be from the issuance of a 10-year serial bond with Fiscal Year 2026-27 Sewer Fund debt service of \$82,500.</p>	<p data-bbox="1279 438 1455 480">\$ 600,000</p>
TOTAL	\$ 600,000

ORDINANCE

Page 1 of 5

An Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of \$2,700,000 Bonds of the City of Watertown, Jefferson County, New York, to Pay the Cost of Improvements to the City’s Wastewater Treatment Plant Facilities, In and for Said City

- Council Member GARRABRANT, Shane A.
- Council Member KIMBALL, Robert O.
- Council Member OSBORNE Jr, Douglas E.
- Council Member SHOEN, Benjamin P.
- Mayor PIERCE, Sarah V.C.

Total

YEA	NAY

Introduced by _____

At a regular meeting of the Council of the City of Watertown, Jefferson County, New York, held at the Municipal Building, in Watertown, New York, on April 6, 2026, at 7:00 o'clock P.M., Eastern Time.

The meeting was called to order by _____, and upon roll being called, the following were

PRESENT:

ABSENT:

The following ordinance was offered by _____, who moved its adoption, seconded by _____, to wit:

BOND ORDINANCE DATED APRIL 6, 2026.

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$2,700,000 BONDS OF THE CITY OF WATERTOWN, JEFFERSON COUNTY, NEW YORK, TO PAY THE COST OF IMPROVEMENTS TO THE CITY’S WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT FACILITIES, IN AND FOR SAID CITY.

WHEREAS, all conditions precedent to the financing of the capital purposes hereinafter described, including compliance with the provisions of the State Environmental Quality Review Act to the extent required, have been performed; and

WHEREAS, it is now desired to authorize the financing of such capital project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Council of the City of Watertown, Jefferson County, New York (the “City”), as follows:

Section 1. For the class of objects or purposes of paying the cost of improvements to the City’s wastewater treatment plant facilities, including replacement of the primary grit system and installation of a screen on the Influent B line, and incidental expenses in connection

ORDINANCE

Page 2 of 5

An Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of \$2,700,000 Bonds of the City of Watertown, Jefferson County, New York, to Pay the Cost of Improvements to the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant Facilities, In and for Said City

- Council Member GARRABRANT, Shane A.
- Council Member KIMBALL, Robert O.
- Council Member OSBORNE Jr, Douglas E.
- Council Member SHOEN, Benjamin P.
- Mayor PIERCE, Sarah V.C.

Total

YEA	NAY

therewith, there are hereby authorized to be issued \$2,700,000 bonds of said City pursuant to the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 2. It is hereby determined that the maximum estimated cost of the aforesaid class of objects or purposes is \$2,700,000 and that the plan for the financing thereof is by the issuance of the \$2,700,000 bonds of said City authorized to be issued pursuant to this bond ordinance.

Section 3. It is hereby determined that the period of probable usefulness of the aforesaid class of objects or purposes is thirty years, pursuant to subdivision four of paragraph a of Section 11.00 of the Local Finance Law.

Section 4. Subject to the provisions of the Local Finance Law, the power to authorize the issuance of and to sell bond anticipation notes in anticipation of the issuance and sale of the bonds herein authorized, including renewals of such notes, is hereby delegated to the City Comptroller, the chief fiscal officer. Such notes shall be of such terms, form and contents, and shall be sold in such manner, as may be prescribed by said City Comptroller, consistent with the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 5. The faith and credit of said City are hereby irrevocably pledged for the payment of the principal of and interest on such obligations as the same respectively become due and payable. An annual appropriation shall be made in each year sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such obligations becoming due and payable in such year.

Section 6. Such bonds shall be in fully registered form and shall be signed in the name of the City by the manual or facsimile signature of the City Comptroller and a facsimile of its corporate seal shall be imprinted thereon and may be attested by the manual or facsimile signature of the City Clerk.

Section 7. The powers and duties of advertising such bonds for sale, conducting the sale and awarding the bonds, are hereby delegated to the City Comptroller, who shall advertise such bonds for sale, conduct the sale, and award the bonds in such manner as the City Comptroller shall deem best for the interests of the City; provided, however, that in the exercise of these delegated powers, the City Comptroller shall comply fully with the provisions of the Local Finance Law and any order or rule of the State Comptroller applicable to the sale of

ORDINANCE

Page 3 of 5

An Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of \$2,700,000 Bonds of the City of Watertown, Jefferson County, New York, to Pay the Cost of Improvements to the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant Facilities, In and for Said City

- Council Member GARRABRANT, Shane A.
- Council Member KIMBALL, Robert O.
- Council Member OSBORNE Jr, Douglas E.
- Council Member SHOEN, Benjamin P.
- Mayor PIERCE, Sarah V.C.

Total

YEA	NAY

municipal bonds. The receipt of the City Comptroller shall be a full acquittance to the purchaser of such bonds, who shall not be obliged to see to the application of the purchase money.

Section 8. All other matters, except as provided herein relating to such bonds, including determining whether to issue such bonds having substantially level or declining annual debt service and all matters related thereto, prescribing whether manual or facsimile signatures shall appear on said bonds, prescribing the method for the recording of ownership of said bonds, appointing the fiscal agent or agents for said bonds, providing for the printing and delivery of said bonds (and if said bonds are to be executed in the name of the City by the facsimile signature of the City Comptroller, providing for the manual countersignature of a fiscal agent or of a designated official of the City), the date, denominations, maturities and interest payment dates, place or places of payment, and also including the consolidation with other issues, shall be determined by the City Comptroller. It is hereby determined that it is to the financial advantage of the City not to impose and collect from registered owners of such bonds any charges for mailing, shipping and insuring bonds transferred or exchanged by the fiscal agent, and, accordingly, pursuant to paragraph c of Section 70.00 of the Local Finance Law, no such charges shall be so collected by the fiscal agent. Such bonds shall contain substantially the recital of validity clause provided for in section 52.00 of the Local Finance Law and shall otherwise be in such form and contain such recitals in addition to those required by section 52.00 of the Local Finance Law, as the City Comptroller shall determine.

Section 9. This ordinance shall constitute a statement of official intent for purposes of Treasury Regulations Section 1.150-2. Other than as specified in this ordinance, no monies are, or are reasonably expected to be, reserved, allocated on a long term basis, or otherwise set aside with respect to the permanent funding of the object or purpose described herein.

Section 10. The validity of such bonds and bond anticipation notes may be contested only if:

- (1) Such obligations are authorized for an object or purpose for which said City is not authorized to expend money, or
- (2) The provisions of law which should be complied with at the date of publication of this ordinance are not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the date of such publication, or
- (3) Such obligations are authorized in violation of the provisions of the

ORDINANCE

Page 4 of 5

An Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of \$2,700,000 Bonds of the City of Watertown, Jefferson County, New York, to Pay the Cost of Improvements to the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant Facilities, In and for Said City

- Council Member GARRABRANT, Shane A.
- Council Member KIMBALL, Robert O.
- Council Member OSBORNE Jr, Douglas E.
- Council Member SHOEN, Benjamin P.
- Mayor PIERCE, Sarah V.C.

Total

YEA	NAY

Constitution.

Section 11. This ordinance, which takes effect immediately, shall be published in full in summary in the Watertown Daily Times, the official newspaper of the City, together with a notice of the City Clerk in substantially the form provided in Section 81.00 of the Local Finance Law.

Unanimous consent moved by _____, seconded by _____, with all voting "AYE".

The question of the adoption of the foregoing ordinance was duly put to a vote on roll call, which resulted as follows:

- Council Member Shane A. Garrabrant VOTING _____
- Council Member Robert O. Kimball VOTING _____
- Council Member Douglas E. Osborne Jr. VOTING _____
- Council Member Benjamin P. Shoen VOTING _____
- Mayor Sarah V.C. Pierce VOTING _____

The ordinance was thereupon declared duly adopted.

* * * * *

APPROVED BY THE MAYOR

_____, 2026.

Mayor

STATE OF NEW YORK)

) ss.:

COUNTY OF JEFFERSON)

I, the undersigned Clerk of the City of Watertown, Jefferson County, New York, DO HEREBY CERTIFY:

That I have compared the annexed extract of the minutes of the meeting of the Council of said

ORDINANCE

Page 5 of 5

An Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of \$2,700,000 Bonds of the City of Watertown, Jefferson County, New York, to Pay the Cost of Improvements to the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant Facilities, In and for Said City

- Council Member GARRABRANT, Shane A.
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- Council Member OSBORNE Jr, Douglas E.
- Council Member SHOEN, Benjamin P.
- Mayor PIERCE, Sarah V.C.

Total

YEA	NAY

City, including the ordinance contained therein, held on April 6, 2026, with the original thereof on file in my office, and that the same is a true and correct transcript therefrom and of the whole of said original so far as the same relates to the subject matters therein referred to.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that all members of said Council had due notice of said meeting.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that said meeting was (i) open to the general public pursuant to Section 103 of the Public Officers Law or (ii) conducted in conformance with Section 103-a of the Public Officers Law.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that, PRIOR to the time of said meeting, I duly caused a public notice of the time and place of said meeting to be given to the following newspapers and/or other news media as follows:

Newspaper and/or other news media Date given

Regular meeting of the City Council held in accordance with Section 14-1 of the Municipal Code

I FURTHER CERTIFY that PRIOR to the time of said meeting, I duly caused public notice of the time and place of said meeting to be conspicuously posted in the following designated public location(s) on the following dates:

Designated Location(s) of Posted Notice Date of Posting

Regular meeting of the City Council held in accordance with Section 14-1 of the Municipal Code

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said City on April _____, 2026.

City Clerk
(CORPORATE SEAL)

Seconded by _____

Proposed Local Law of 2026

April 6, 2026

To: The Honorable Mayor and City Council

From: Eric F. Wagenaar, City Manager

Subject: A Local Law Overriding the Tax Levy Limit Established by New York
General Municipal Law §3-c

In order for a municipality to adopt a budget which includes a property tax levy increase above the allowable limit as set forth in General Municipal Law §3-c (the Property Tax Cap), a local law must be adopted to override the limit. Initiating this procedure not only provides the City Council with budget flexibility, but it also provides the public with an opportunity to be heard on the topic.

Staff is recommending a public hearing be set for Monday, April 20th, at 7:15 p.m. to hear public comments.

LOCAL LAW

Page 1 of 1

A Local Law Overriding the Tax Levy Limit Established by New York General Municipal Law §3-c

Council Member GARRABRANT, Shane A.
Council Member KIMBALL, Robert O.
Council Member OSBORNE Jr, Douglas E.
Council Member SHOEN, Benjamin P.
Mayor PIERCE, Sarah V.C..
Total

Table with 2 columns: YEA, NAY. Multiple empty rows for voting.

Introduced by _____

A local law to override the tax levy limits established by New York General Municipal Law §3-c.

WHEREAS the City Council of the City of Watertown desires to override the limit on the amount of real property taxes that may be levied by the City of Watertown pursuant to General Municipal Law §3-c, and to allow the City of Watertown to adopt a budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the "tax levy limit" as defined by General Municipal Law §3-c, and

WHEREAS such override is authorized by the provisions of subdivision 5 of General Municipal Law §3-c, which expressly authorizes the City Council to override the tax limit by adoption of a local law approved by a vote of at least sixty percent (60%) of the City Council, and

WHEREAS a public hearing on this was held on April 20, 2026, at 7:15 p.m. in the City Council Chambers,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED by the City Council of the City of Watertown, New York, as follows:

Tax Levy Limit Override: The City Council of the City of Watertown, County of Jefferson is hereby authorized to adopt a budget for the fiscal year 2026-2027 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the amount otherwise prescribed in General Municipal Law §3-c.

Severability: If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this Local Law or the application thereof to any person, individual, firm or corporation, or circumstance, shall be adjudicated by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional, such order or judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this Local Law or in its application to the person, individual, firm or corporation or circumstance, directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment or order shall be rendered.

Effective Date: This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

Seconded by _____

March 24, 2026

To: The Honorable Mayor and City Council
 From: James E. Mills, City Comptroller
 Subject: Sale of Surplus Hydro-electricity – February 2026

The City has received the monthly hydro-electricity production and consumption data from National Grid. In comparison to last February, the sale of surplus hydro-electric power on an actual-to-actual basis was down \$2,061 or 1.05%. In comparison to the budget projection for the month, revenue was down \$130,498 or 40.26%. The year-to-date actual revenue is down \$1,116,361 or 37.05%, while the year-to-date revenue on a budget basis is down \$1,034,537 or 35.29%.

	<u>Actual</u> <u>2022-23</u>	<u>Actual</u> <u>2023-24</u>	<u>Actual</u> <u>2024-25</u>	<u>Actual</u> <u>2025-26</u>	<u>Variance</u>	<u>%</u> <u>Inc/(Dec)to</u> <u>Prior Year</u>
July	\$ 165,435	\$ 380,883	\$ 793,352	\$ 152,826	\$ (640,526)	(80.74%)
August	\$ 157,460	\$ 26,670	\$ 688,115	\$ 3,512	\$ (684,603)	(99.49%)
September	\$ 442,559	\$ 181	\$ 145,453	\$ 1,909	\$ (143,543)	(98.69%)
October	\$ 216,702	\$ 184,779	\$ 79,259	\$ 38,607	\$ (40,652)	(51.29%)
November	\$ 373,674	\$ 682,240	\$ 209,619	\$ 728,745	\$ 519,126	247.65%
December	\$ 533,542	\$ 826,789	\$ 542,585	\$ 332,508	\$ (210,077)	(38.72%)
January	\$ 522,759	\$ 533,340	\$ 359,155	\$ 445,132	\$ 85,976	23.94%
February	\$ 477,279	\$ 626,162	\$ 195,739	\$ 193,678	\$ (2,061)	(1.05%)
March	\$ 612,321	\$ 923,928	\$ 747,418			
April	\$ 872,321	\$ 785,870	\$ 905,006			
May	\$ 471,237	\$ 446,726	\$ 1,022,190			
June	<u>\$ 234,979</u>	<u>\$ 377,657</u>	<u>\$ 451,656</u>			
YTD	<u>\$5,080,268</u>	<u>\$5,795,225</u>	<u>\$6,139,548</u>	<u>\$1,896,917</u>	<u>\$(1,116,361)</u>	<u>(35.05%)</u>

	<u>Original</u> <u>Budget</u> <u>2025-26</u>	<u>Actual</u> <u>2025-26</u>	<u>Variance</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Power</u> <u>Purchased</u> <u>from</u> <u>National</u> <u>Grid</u>
July	\$ 352,202	\$ 152,826	\$ (199,376)	(56.61%)	\$ 21,157
August	\$ 159,603	\$ 3,512	\$ (156,091)	(97.80%)	\$ 45,825
September	\$ 151,765	\$ 1,909	\$ (149,856)	(98.74%)	\$ 41,838
October	\$ 344,078	\$ 38,607	\$ (305,471)	(88.74%)	\$ 40,642
November	\$ 641,102	\$ 728,745	\$ 87,643	13.67%	\$ -
December	\$ 548,789	\$ 332,508	\$ (216,281)	(39.41%)	\$ -
January	\$ 409,739	\$ 445,132	\$ 35,393	8.64%	\$ -
February	\$ 324,176	\$ 193,678	\$ (130,498)	(40.26%)	\$ -
March	\$ 607,067				
April	\$ 893,601				
May	\$ 663,278				
June	<u>\$ 429,600</u>				
YTD	<u>\$5,525,000</u>	<u>\$1,896,917</u>	<u>\$(1,034,537)</u>	<u>(35.29%)</u>	<u>\$ 149,462</u>

March 12, 2026

To: The Honorable Mayor and City Council
 From: James E. Mills, City Comptroller
 Subject: Sales Tax Revenue – February 2026

Sales tax revenue was down \$2,979 or 0.18% compared to last February. In comparison to the budget projection for the month, sales tax was up \$17,503 or 1.08%. The year-to-date actual receipts are up \$1,107,927 or 6.66%, while the year-to-date receipts on a budget basis are up \$1,315,960 or 8.01%.

	<u>Actual 2022-23</u>	<u>Actual 2023-24</u>	<u>Actual 2024-25</u>	<u>Actual 2025-26</u>	<u>Variance</u>	<u>Monthly % Inc/(Dec)to Prior Year</u>	<u>Quarterly % Inc/(Dec)to Prior Year</u>
July	\$ 2,035,333	\$ 2,353,567	\$ 2,143,817	\$ 2,284,149	\$ 140,332	6.55%	
August	\$ 2,008,482	\$ 2,186,214	\$ 2,158,407	\$ 2,332,892	\$ 174,485	8.08%	
September	\$ 2,757,376	\$ 2,490,458	\$ 2,615,865	\$ 2,729,060	\$ 113,195	4.33%	6.19%
October	\$ 1,847,562	\$ 1,907,106	\$ 1,867,195	\$ 1,961,987	\$ 94,792	5.08%	
November	\$ 1,818,188	\$ 1,904,366	\$ 1,893,395	\$ 1,987,560	\$ 94,165	4.97%	
December	\$ 2,232,223	\$ 2,223,964	\$ 2,437,266	\$ 2,764,330	\$ 327,065	13.42%	8.33%
January	\$ 1,849,036	\$ 1,851,962	\$ 1,888,207	\$ 2,055,079	\$ 166,872	8.84%	
February	\$ 1,643,774	\$ 1,645,921	\$ 1,638,527	\$ 1,635,548	\$ (2,979)	(0.18%)	
March	\$ 2,041,305	\$ 1,899,459	\$ 2,114,743				N/A
April	\$ 1,888,370	\$ 1,908,041	\$ 1,970,112				
May	\$ 1,835,982	\$ 1,970,375	\$ 1,987,411				
June	<u>\$ 2,566,086</u>	<u>\$ 2,542,299</u>	<u>\$ 2,423,378</u>				N/A
YTD	<u>\$ 24,614,716</u>	<u>\$ 24,883,732</u>	<u>\$ 25,138,323</u>	<u>\$ 17,750,605</u>	<u>\$ 1,107,927</u>	<u>6.66%</u>	
			<u>Original Budget 2025-26</u>	<u>Actual 2025-26</u>	<u>Variance</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>
July			\$ 2,117,019	\$ 2,284,149	\$ 167,130	7.89%	
August			\$ 2,131,427	\$ 2,332,892	\$ 201,465	9.45%	
September			\$ 2,583,166	\$ 2,729,060	\$ 145,894	5.65%	7.53%
October			\$ 1,843,855	\$ 1,961,987	\$ 118,132	6.41%	
November			\$ 1,869,728	\$ 1,987,560	\$ 117,832	6.30%	
December			\$ 2,406,800	\$ 2,764,330	\$ 357,530	14.86%	9.70%
January			\$ 1,864,605	\$ 2,055,079	\$ 190,474	10.22%	
February			\$ 1,618,045	\$ 1,635,548	\$ 17,503	1.08%	
March			\$ 2,088,308				N/A
April			\$ 1,789,981				
May			\$ 1,848,458				
June			<u>\$ 2,393,608</u>				N/A
YTD			<u>\$ 24,555,000</u>	<u>\$ 17,750,057</u>	<u>\$ 1,298,457</u>	<u>8.01%</u>	

New York State sales tax distribution methodology: Monthly sales tax payments are prorated to all the jurisdictions using a percentage based on the collections from the prior year. It is important to note that most of the sales tax collections are received as monthly payments. It is not until when sales tax returns are filed in the months of March, June, September, and December that the monthly payment for each business is un-prorated and distributed per the return to the proper jurisdiction. This un-proration and re-distribution is the quarterly reconciliation process that results in how sales tax truly performed for the quarter.

April 6, 2026

To: The Honorable Mayor and City Council

From: Eric F. Wagenaar, City Manager

Subject: Public Hearings for 2026-27 Operating Budgets and 2026-27 through 2030-31 Capital Budget

As part of the Budget review process, the City provides the public with an opportunity to voice their opinions about the Proposed Budgets, both Operating and Capital. Staff is recommending that the City Council make a motion to set Public Hearings on the Proposed Budgets as follows:

Monday, April 20, 2026

7:15 p.m. Fiscal Year 2026-27 Operating Budgets

7:15 p.m. Fiscal Year 2026-27 through 2030-31 Capital Budget

At the conclusion of the April 20th public hearing staff is recommending that the hearing not be closed but rather adjourned to May 4th to provide a second opportunity for people to be heard.