

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF WATERTOWN
June 19, 2023
7:00 p.m.**

Mayor Jeffrey M. Smith Presiding

Present: Council Member Patrick J. Hickey
Council Member Clifford G. Olney III
Council Member Sarah V.C. Pierce
Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero
Mayor Jeffrey M. Smith

Also Present: Kenneth A. Mix, City Manager
H. Todd Bullard, Esq. Harris Beach PLLC, Interim City Attorney

City staff present: James Mills, Matthew Roy, Michael Lumbis, Vicky Murphy, Meredith Griffin, Logan Eddy

The City Manager presented the following reports to Council:

- Public Hearing - Proposed Local Law No. 1 of 2023 - A Local Law amending Sections 253-17 of the City of Watertown Code of the City of Watertown
- Resolution No. 1 - Approving Pivot Employee Assistance Services Contract
- Resolution No. 2 - Approving Change Order No. 1 with National Water Main Cleaning Company for Western Outfall Trunk Sewer Manhole Rehabilitation – Phase 1
- Resolution No. 3 - Accepting Proposal from Arborcare Tree Service for the Street & Park Tree Pruning Project
- Resolution No. 4 - Consenting to the Reappointment of Paul J. DiFabion to the Roswell P. Flower Memorial Library Board of Trustees
- Resolution No. 5 - Accepting Bid from Empire Tractor for Multifunction Snow Pusher
- Resolution No. 6 - Finding that Constructing the Water Treatment Plant Water Quality Improvement Project Will Not Have a Significant Adverse Impact on the Environment
- Resolution No. 7 - Approving Amendment No. 3 of the GHD Consulting Services Agreement for the Water Treatment Plant Disinfection By-Product Project
- Resolution No. 8 - Authorizing a Grant Application to the Defense Community Infrastructure Pilot Program for the Water Treatment Plant Water Quality Improvement Project
- Resolution No. 9 - Re-Adoption of Fiscal Years 2022-23 through 2026-27 Capital Budget – Water Treatment Plant Water Quality Improvement Project
- Resolution No. 10 - Approving Amendment No. 1 with GHD Consulting Services, Inc. for the Pratt Street and Sherman Street Water Main Replacement Project
- Resolution No. 11 - Approving Change Order No. 1 with GYMO for the Barben Avenue, Holcomb Street, and Bugbee Drive Water Main Replacement Project
- Resolution No. 12 - Approving Change Order No.1 with GYMO for the East Street Water Main Replacement Project
- Ordinance No. 1 – An Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of \$875,000 Bonds of the City of Watertown, Jefferson County, New York, to Pay a Portion of the \$1,050,000 Estimated Maximum Cost of the Replacement of the Storm and Sanitary Sewer on Washington Street and Keyes Avenue, in and for Said City

- Ordinance No. 2 – An Ordinance Amending the Ordinance dated July 18, 2022, Authorizing the Issuance of \$3,000,000 Bonds of the City of Watertown, Jefferson County, New York, to Pay the Cost of Water Treatment Plant Improvements, Including Filter Underdrain and Media Replacement, to Expand the Purposes Financed to Include a new Flocculation/Sedimentation Basin and a New Ozone Production and Injection System, and to Increase the Estimated Maximum Cost and the Amount of Bonds Authorized to \$50,000,000
- Old Business/Tabled - A Resolution Directing City Manager to Hire a Bus to Transport Handicapped and Elderly Persons to Election Polling Locations on June 27, 2023
- Old Business/Laid Over Under the Rules - An Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of \$3,900,000 Bonds of the City of Watertown, Jefferson County, New York, to Pay the Costs of the Reconstruction of the William J. Flynn Municipal Swimming Pool and Rehabilitation of The Bathhouse, in and for Said City
- Old Business - Proposed Local Law No. 1 of 2023 - A Local Law amending Sections 253-17 of the City of Watertown Code of the City of Watertown
- Sale of Surplus Hydro-electricity – May 2023
- Sales Tax Revenue – May 2023

Complete Reports on file in the office of the City Clerk

Meeting opened with a moment of silence.

Pledge of Allegiance was given.

The reading of the minutes of the adjourned meeting of June 5, 2023, regular meeting of June 5, 2023, and work session of June 12, 2023 was dispensed and accepted as written by motion of Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero, seconded by Council Member Sarah V.C. Pierce and carried with all voting in favor thereof.

COMMUNICATIONS

An email was received from Donald Brooks, 902 Franklin St, requesting that Council consider installing a four-way stop on the intersection of Franklin, Arlington and Brainard Streets, citing hazards of speeding and failure to stop as a cause of local accidents.

Above communication was placed on file in the office of the City Clerk.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Jason Traynor, 424 Arsenal Street, expressed opposition regarding the purchase of the golf course and a third pool and concerns with paying for the \$50 million disinfectant by-products project. He also asked if the City has received the property due from Mr. Lundy, in compliance with the asset purchase agreement.

S.G. Gates, 157 Dorsey Street, congratulated Council for all the work being done throughout the City. Regarding the \$50 million disinfectant by-products project, he said he feels that there are State and Federal grants available to fund the project. He also discussed his desire to bring a dog park to the City and indicated that he will be donating \$3,700 for this project.

Jonathan Phillips, 735 Mill Street, expressed concern with the work being done on Mill Street and was not happy with the gravel that was put in place. He also expressed concern with the ADA ramps being constructed near CSX property.

Robert Ferris, 22736 Tall Timber Trail, indicated that he was representing Jake Johnson and himself, who are the owners of the Key Bank building on Washington Street. He discussed the work being done in front of this building and expressed issues with the elimination of parking spots, especially handicapped-accessible spots.

Ben Shoen, Academy Street, commented that there are issues with the removal of parking downtown and the large bump-out at the intersection of Washington Street and Arcade Street. He wondered if these issues could be rectified before the project is completed. He also spoke about ADA ramps that have been torn up for months and not completed, and he wondered if the bid contracts have timeline requirements. Lastly, he wondered if street vendors are required to obtain a permit through the City, mentioning cell phone vendors that were blocking the sidewalk.

PUBLIC HEARING

At 7:15 p.m. Mayor Smith asked the Deputy City Clerk to read the notice of Public Hearing concerning Proposed Local Law No. 1 of 2023 - A Local Law amending Sections 253-17 of the City of Watertown Code of the City of Watertown

Mayor Smith declared the hearing open at 7:15 p.m.

Jason Traynor, 424 Arsenal Street, addressed the chair in opposition to the increase in the rates.

Ben Shoen, Academy Street, commented that he would rather see incremental increases each year rather than a large increase all at once.

Mayor Smith declared the hearing closed at 7:18 p.m.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 1 - Approving Pivot Employee Assistance Services Contract

Introduced by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

WHEREAS Employee Assistance Programs are designed to assist employees and their families with difficult issues related to finances, stress at home and in the workplace, substance abuse, and other issues related to the well-being of employees, and

WHEREAS an Employee Assistance Program is an effective and supportive management tool aimed at helping employees cope with life's many challenges, and

WHEREAS the City wishes to provide such a program for its employees and their families in compliance with NYS DOT and FTA requirements, and

WHEREAS the City of Watertown wishes to enter into a Service Agreement with Pivot, 167 Polk Street, Watertown, New York, for one year,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby approves the Pivot Employee Assistance Services Contract between the City of Watertown and Pivot (formerly Northern Employee Assistance Services), a copy of which is attached and made part of this resolution, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager is hereby authorized and directed to execute the Contract on behalf of the City.

Seconded by Council Member Sarah V.C. Pierce

Prior to the vote, Council Member Hickey disclosed that he does volunteer work for the Alliance for Better Communities, which PIVOT is a part of.

At the call of the chair, a vote was taken on the foregoing resolution and carried with all voting yea.

Resolution No. 2 - Approving Change Order No. 1 with National Water Main Cleaning Company for Western Outfall Trunk Sewer Manhole Rehabilitation – Phase 1

Introduced by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

WHEREAS the City desires to reduce infiltration and inflow into the Western Outfall sewer network, and

WHEREAS on April 4, 2022, City Council approved a Design Agreement with GHD Consulting for the design of repair and rehabilitation of manholes to reduce infiltration and inflow, and

WHEREAS on September 6, 2022, City Council approved a Contract with National Water Main Cleaning Company in the amount of \$196,550.00 for the repair of 63 manholes to reduce infiltration and inflow, and

WHEREAS due to construction timing the available supply of materials the project has been delayed, and

WHEREAS National Water Main Cleaning Company has asked for a time extension for substantial completion to August 11, 2023, and

WHEREAS GHD Consulting has recommended the extension of time.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby approves the no cost Contract Change Order No. 1 between the City of Watertown and National Water Main Cleaning Company, a copy of which is attached and made a part of this resolution, and

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

Seconded by Council Member Sarah V.C. Pierce and carried with all voting yea.

Resolution No. 3 - Accepting Proposal from Arborcare Tree Service for the Street & Park Tree Pruning Project

Introduced by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

WHEREAS the City desires to enter into a professional services contract with a professional tree care company to conduct priority tree pruning services at various locations in the City of Watertown, Watertown, NY, and

WHEREAS the Purchasing Department advertised and received one (1) sealed proposal for Street and Park Tree Pruning Project, and

WHEREAS on May 23, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. the proposals received were publicly opened and read, and

WHEREAS Purchasing Manager, Tina Bartlett-Bearup reviewed the proposal received with the Office of Planning and Community Development and it is their recommendation that the City Council accept the proposal submitted by Arborcare Tree Service, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby accepts the proposal received from Arborcare Tree Service in the amount of \$66,950.00, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager of the City Watertown is hereby authorized and directed to execute the Agreement, a copy of which is attached and made part of this resolution, on behalf of the City of Watertown.

Seconded by Council Member Sarah V.C. Pierce and carried with all voting yea.

Resolution No. 4 - Consenting to the Reappointment of Paul J. DiFabion to the Roswell P. Flower Memorial Library Board of Trustees

Introduced by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown, New York, hereby consents to the reappointment to the Roswell P. Flower Memorial Library Board of Trustees by Mayor Jeffrey M. Smith, to an 11-year term, which term expires December 31, 2033:

Paul J. DiFabion
328 Bugbee Drive
Watertown, NY 13601

Seconded by Council Member Sarah V.C. Pierce and carried with all voting yea.

Resolution No. 5 - Accepting Bid from Empire Tractor for Multifunction Snow Pusher

Introduced by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

WHEREAS the City desires to purchase a multifunction snow pusher attachment to be used at various City business and parking facilities, and

WHEREAS the Purchasing Department advertised and received one (1) sealed bid for a Multifunction Snow Pusher and Installation, and

WHEREAS on June 1, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. the bids received were publicly opened and read, and

WHEREAS Purchasing Manager, Tina Bartlett-Bearup reviewed the bid received with the Department of Public Works and it is their recommendation that the City Council accept the lowest responsive responsible bid submitted by Empire Tractor, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby accepts the bid received from Empire Tractor in the amount of \$21,800.00, and

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

Seconded by Council Member Sarah V.C. Pierce and carried with all voting yea.

Resolution No. 6 - Finding that Constructing the Water Treatment Plant Water Quality Improvement Project Will Not Have a Significant Adverse Impact on the Environment

Introduced by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

WHEREAS the City Council of the City of Watertown, New York, is planning to construct the Water Treatment Plant Water Quality Improvement Project, and

WHEREAS the construction of said Project is an “Action” as defined by the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) and the regulations promulgated pursuant thereto, and

WHEREAS the proposed project is a Type I Action pursuant to 6NYCRR Part 617 regulations, which requires the City Council to review its possible environmental impact and coordinate that review with all Involved Agencies to determine the Lead Agency, and

WHEREAS SEQRA specifies that for actions governed by local environmental review, the Lead Agency shall be that agency which has primary responsibility to undertake, fund or approve the action, and

WHEREAS the review has been coordinated with all other Involved Agencies with the City Council declaring its intent to be Lead Agency and none have objected to the City Council acting as Lead Agency, and

WHEREAS to aid the City Council in its determination as to whether the proposed project will have a significant adverse impact on the environment, Part 1 of a Full Environmental Assessment Form has been prepared, a copy of which is attached and made part of this Resolution,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council hereby declares itself the Lead Agency for the purpose of determining the environmental impact of the Water Treatment Plant Water Quality Improvement Project, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Watertown, New York, that:

1. Based upon its examination of the Full Environmental Assessment Form and comparing the proposed action with the criteria set forth in 6 NYCRR Part 617, no significant adverse impact to the environment is known, and the construction of the Water Treatment Plant Water Quality Improvement Project will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment.
2. The Mayor of the City of Watertown is authorized and directed to execute Part 3 of the Environmental Assessment Form to the effect that the City Council is issuing a Negative Declaration under SEQRA.
3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Seconded by Council Member Sarah V.C. Pierce

Prior to the vote, Council considered Part II of the Full Environmental Assessment Form.

At the call of the chair, a vote was taken on the foregoing resolution and carried with all voting yea.

Resolution No. 7 - Approving Amendment No. 3 of the GHD Consulting Services Agreement for the Water Treatment Plant Disinfection By-Product Project

Introduced by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

WHEREAS GHD Consulting Services Inc., and the City of Watertown entered into an Agreement dated April 5, 2022 to perform engineering services to design a disinfection by-products system to reduce TTHM's and HAA5's, in the amount of \$43,900.00, and

WHEREAS the agreement with GHD was first amended to include additional pilot rental/commissioning, analyses, sampling, and reporting services, which increased the contract by \$663,000, and

WHEREAS Amendment No. 2 added \$20,405.00 to the cost for a funding schedule, an interim report, SEQR assistance, WIIA/IMG funding assistance, DCIP funding assistance, and additional services, and

WHEREAS GHD has submitted Amendment No. 3 to extend the lease of Pilot Enclosure No. 2 by two weeks, perform an archaeological assessment, and additional sampling,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby approves Amendment No. 3 of the GHD agreement, a copy of which is attached and made part of this resolution, to include the additional services with an increase of \$49,300.00, bringing the contract total \$776,605.00, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager, Kenneth A. Mix, is hereby authorized and directed to execute Amendment No. 3 on behalf of the City of Watertown.

Seconded by Council Member Sarah V.C. Pierce and carried with all voting yea.

Resolution No. 8 - Authorizing a Grant Application to the Defense Community Infrastructure Pilot Program for the Water Treatment Plant Water Quality Improvement Project

Introduced by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

WHEREAS the United States Department of Defense, Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation, has recently announced a funding opportunity to address deficiencies in community infrastructure supportive of military installations under the Defense Community Infrastructure Pilot Program, and

WHEREAS eligible infrastructure projects include community support facilities that enhance military value, resiliency, and family quality of life, and

WHEREAS the City of Watertown's Water Treatment Plant provides water to Fort Drum, and

WHEREAS the City Council of the City of Watertown desires to pursue funding for the construction of the Water Treatment Plant Water Quality Improvement Project to address disinfection by-products in the system,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby approves and endorses the City's application for up to \$20 million in grant funding to the United States Department of Defense, Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation, under the Defense Community Infrastructure Pilot Program for the project known as the Water Treatment Plant Water Quality Improvement Project, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager is hereby authorized and directed to file a grant proposal and application for funding for the project on behalf of the City of Watertown.

Seconded by Council Member Sarah V.C. Pierce and carried with all voting yea.

Resolution No. 9 - Re-Adoption of Fiscal Years 2022-23 through 2026-27 Capital Budget – Water Treatment Plant Water Quality Improvement Project

Introduced by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

WHEREAS on June 6, 2022 the City Council adopted the Fiscal Years 2022-23 through 2026-27 Capital Budget, and

WHEREAS the Fiscal Years 2022-23 through 2026-27 Capital Budget included a project to replace the water treatment plant filter underdrain and filter media at an estimated cost of \$3,000,000, and

WHEREAS the estimated cost of the granular activated carbon project has increased from the initial \$3,000,000 to \$10,700,000, and

WHEREAS GHD Consulting Services, Inc. has recommended expanding the project scope to include a flocculation/sedimentation basin and a pre-ozonation system at estimated costs of \$22,700,000 and \$16,600,000 respectively,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby amends the Fiscal Years 2022-23 through 2026-27 Capital Budget to modify the scope of the water treatment plant filter underdrain and filter media project to also include a flocculation/sedimentation basin and a pre-ozonation system at an estimated total cost of \$50,000,000.

Seconded by Council Member Sarah V.C. Pierce and carried with all voting yea.

Resolution No. 10 - Approving Amendment No. 1 with GHD Consulting Services, Inc. for the Pratt Street and Sherman Street Water Main Replacement Project

Introduced by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

WHEREAS at its April 04, 2022, meeting, the City Council approved the Professional Service Agreement with GHD Consulting Services, Inc. (GHD) in the amount of \$82,700.00 for the Pratt Street and Sherman Street Water Main Replacement Project, and

WHEREAS the GHD incurred additional Site Survey and Design Work for the design services for the Pratt Street and Sherman Street Water Main Replacement Project, and

WHEREAS the GHD Group has now submitted Amendment No. 1 to its Agreement in the amount of \$23,800.00,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby approves Amendment No. 1 from the GHD in the amount of \$23,800.00, a copy of which is attached and made part of this Resolution, bringing the total contract amount to \$106,500.00, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that City Manager Kenneth A. Mix is hereby authorized and directed to execute Amendment No. 1 on behalf of the City of Watertown.

Seconded by Council Member Sarah V.C. Pierce and carried with all voting yea.

Resolution No. 11 - Approving Change Order No. 1 with GYMO for the Barben Avenue, Holcomb Street, and Bugbee Drive Water Main Replacement Project

Introduced by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

WHEREAS at its April 18, 2022 meeting, the City Council approved the Professional Service Agreement from GYMO in the amount of \$89,000.00 for professional design services and \$41,000.00 for Construction Administration Services for the Barben Avenue, Holcomb Street, and Bugbee Drive Water Main Replacement Project, and

WHEREAS the original Construction Administration Agreement was for nine-weeks of full-time work, and

WHEREAS the construction timeline has increased to nineteen-weeks, and

WHEREAS GYMO Engineering has now submitted Change Order No. 1 in the amount of \$41,000.00,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby approves Change Order No. 1 from GYMO in the amount of \$41,000.00 for Construction Administration Services, a copy of which is attached and made part of this Resolution, bringing the total Construction Administration amount to \$82,000.00, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that City Manager Kenneth A. Mix is hereby authorized and directed to execute Change Order No. 1 on behalf of the City of Watertown.

Seconded by Council Member Sarah V.C. Pierce and carried with all voting yea.

Resolution No. 12 - Approving Change Order No.1 with GYMO for the East Street Water Main Replacement Project

Introduced by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

WHEREAS at its April 04, 2022, meeting, the City Council approved the Professional Service Agreement from GYMO in the amount of \$20,000.00 for professional design services and \$10,000.00 for Construction Administration Services for the East Street Water Main Replacement Project, and

WHEREAS the original Construction Administration Agreement was for nine-weeks of full-time work, and

WHEREAS the construction timeline has increased to nineteen-weeks, and

WHEREAS GYMO has now submitted Change Order No. 1 in the amount of \$10,000.00,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby approves Change Order No. 1 from GYMO in the amount of \$10,000.00 for Construction Administration Services, a copy of which is attached and made part of this Resolution, bringing the total Construction Administration amount to \$20,000.00, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that City Manager Kenneth A. Mix is hereby authorized and directed to execute Change Order No.1 on behalf of the City of Watertown.

Seconded by Council Member Sarah V.C. Pierce and carried with all voting yea.

ORDINANCES

Ordinance No. 1 – An Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of \$875,000 Bonds of the City of Watertown, Jefferson County, New York, to Pay a Portion of the \$1,050,000 Estimated Maximum Cost of the Replacement of the Storm and Sanitary Sewer on Washington Street and Keyes Avenue, in and for Said City

Introduced by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

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, as follows:

Section 1. For paying a portion of the estimated maximum cost of the replacement of the storm and sanitary sewer on Washington Street and Keyes Avenue, in and for the City of Watertown, Jefferson County, New York, including incidental expenses in connection therewith, a specific object or purpose, there are hereby authorized to be issued \$875,000 bonds of said City pursuant to the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 2. It is hereby determined that the estimated maximum cost of the aforesaid specific object or purpose is \$1,050,000 and that the plan for the financing thereof is by the issuance of the \$875,000 bonds of said City authorized to be issued pursuant to this bond ordinance and \$175,000 from the General Fund.

Section 3. It is hereby determined that the period of probable usefulness of the aforesaid specific object or purpose is forty 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 of Watertown, Jefferson County, New York, 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 of Watertown, Jefferson County, New York, 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 he shall deem best for the interests of the City, including, but not limited to, the power to sell said bonds to the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation; provided, however, that in the exercise of these delegated powers, he 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 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. The power to issue and sell notes to the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation pursuant to Section 169.00 of the Local Finance Law is hereby delegated to the City Comptroller. Such notes shall be of such terms, form and contents as may be prescribed by said City Comptroller consistent with the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 9. The City Comptroller is hereby further authorized, at his or her sole discretion, to execute a project financing agreement, and any other agreements with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and/or the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation, including amendments thereto, and including any instruments (or amendments thereto) in the effectuation thereof, in order to effect the financing or refinancing of the specific object or purpose described in Section 1 hereof, or a portion thereof, by a bond, and, or note issue of said City in the event of the sale of same to the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation.

Section 10. The intent of this ordinance is to give the City Comptroller sufficient authority to execute those applications, agreements, instruments or to do any similar acts necessary to effect the issuance of the aforesaid bonds and, or notes, without resorting to further action of the City Council.

Section 11. 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 12. 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 13. 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 Constitution.

Section 14. This ordinance, which takes effect immediately, shall be published in summary in the *Watertown Daily Times* the official newspaper, together with a notice of the City Clerk in substantially the form provided in Section 81.00 of the Local Finance Law.

Seconded by Council Member Sarah V.C. Pierce

Motion for unanimous consent moved by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero, seconded by Council Member Sarah V.C. Pierce and carried with all voting in favor thereof.

At the call of the chair, a vote was taken on the foregoing ordinance and carried with all voting yea.

Ordinance No. 2 – An Ordinance Amending the Ordinance dated July 18, 2022, Authorizing the Issuance of \$3,000,000 Bonds of the City of Watertown, Jefferson County, New York, to Pay the Cost of Water Treatment Plant Improvements, Including Filter Underdrain and Media Replacement, to Expand the Purposes Financed to Include a new Flocculation/Sedimentation Basin and a New Ozone Production and Injection System, and to Increase the Estimated Maximum Cost and the Amount of Bonds Authorized to \$50,000,000

Introduced by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

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, by ordinance dated July 18, 2022 (the “Prior Ordinance”), the Council of the City of Watertown, Jefferson County, New York (the “City”), authorized the issuance of \$3,000,000 bonds of said City to pay the cost of water treatment plant improvements, including filter underdrain and media replacement, including incidental expenses in connection therewith, a specific object or purpose, at an estimated maximum cost of \$3,000,000, in and for the City; and

WHEREAS, no obligations have been issued under the Prior Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the Council now wishes to (i) expand the scope of the aforesaid specific object or purpose to include a new flocculation/sedimentation basin and a new ozone production and injection system, and including incidental expenses in connection therewith, and (ii) increase the estimated maximum cost of the aforesaid specific object or purpose from \$3,000,000 to \$50,000,000, an increase of \$47,000,000 over that previously authorized, and to authorize the issuance of bonds sufficient to pay said estimated maximum cost;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Council of the City as follows:

Section A. The ordinance duly adopted July 18, 2022, authorizing the issuance of \$3,000,000 bonds to pay the cost of water treatment plant improvements, including filter underdrain and media replacement, including incidental expenses in connection therewith, a specific object or purpose, at an estimated maximum cost of \$3,000,000, in and for the City, is hereby amended in its entirety to read as follows:

“AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$50,000,000 BONDS OF THE CITY OF WATERTOWN, JEFFERSON COUNTY, NEW YORK, TO PAY THE COST OF WATER TREATMENT PLANT IMPROVEMENTS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO FILTER UNDERDRAIN AND MEDIA REPLACEMENT, A NEW FLOCCULATION/SEDIMENTATION BASIN AND A NEW OZONE PRODUCTION AND INJECTION SYSTEM, 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 paying the cost of water treatment plant improvements, including but not limited to filter underdrain and media replacement, a new flocculation/sedimentation basin, a new ozone production and injection system, other related upgrades to the plant and incidental expenses in connection therewith, in and for the City, there are hereby authorized to be issued \$50,000,000 bonds of said City pursuant to the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 2. It is hereby determined that the estimated maximum cost of the aforesaid specific object or purpose is \$50,000,000 and that the plan for the financing thereof is by the issuance of the \$50,000,000 bonds of said City authorized to be issued pursuant to this ordinance, provided however, that the amount of bonds to be issued shall be reduced by the amount of any grant funds received therefor.

Section 3. It is hereby determined that the period of probable usefulness of the aforesaid specific object or purpose is forty years, pursuant to subdivision one 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, including, but not limited to, the power to sell said bonds to the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation; 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 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. The power to issue and sell notes to the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation pursuant to Section 169.00 of the Local Finance Law is hereby delegated to the City Comptroller. Such notes shall be of such terms, form and contents as may be prescribed by said City Comptroller consistent with the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 9. The City Comptroller is hereby further authorized, at his or her sole discretion, to execute a project financing agreement, and any other agreements with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and/or the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation, including amendments thereto, and including any instruments (or amendments thereto) in the effectuation thereof, in order to effect the financing or refinancing of the specific object or purpose described in Section 1 hereof, or a portion thereof, by a bond, and, or note issue of said City in the event of the sale of same to the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation.

Section 10. The intent of this resolution is to give the City Comptroller sufficient authority to execute those applications, agreements, instruments or to do any similar acts necessary to effect the issuance of the aforesaid bonds and, or notes, without resorting to further action of the City Comptroller.

Section 11. 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 12. 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 resolution 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 Constitution.

Section 13. 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 14. This ordinance, which takes effect immediately, shall be published 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.

Section B. 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 Constitution.

Section C. Upon this ordinance taking effect, the same shall be published 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.

Section D. This ordinance is effective immediately.

Seconded by Council Member Sarah V.C. Pierce

Motion for unanimous consent moved by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero, seconded by Council Member Sarah V.C. Pierce and carried with all voting in favor thereof.

At the call of the chair, a vote was taken on the foregoing ordinance and carried with all voting yea.

OLD BUSINESS

Resolution - Directing City Manager to Hire a Bus to Transport Handicapped and Elderly Persons to Election Polling Locations on June 27, 2023. *(Introduced on 6/5/2023; tabled; appears in its entirety in the 2023 Minutes Book on page 15-16 of the 6/5/2023 minutes).*

Motion was made by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero to remove the foregoing resolution from the table. Motion was seconded by Council Member Patrick J. Hickey and carried with all voting in favor thereof.

Mayor Smith asked if transporting just a segment of the population was legal.

City Manager Mix expressed concerns about how to choose where to run the buses from and how often to pick up and drop off. He informed Council that staff had reviewed the election districts and noted that some people now lived closer to their polling place. He commented that there were pluses and minuses to the change in voting locations.

Attorney Bullard commended Council for their laudable attempts to assist the elderly and disabled to be able to vote, citing his 80-year-old mother as his reason for having a keen interest in this particular topic. He stated there was nothing wrong with helping one group of people over another.

Mayor Smith questioned whether the City should provide transportation to everyone.

Attorney Bullard reiterated that assisting the elderly and disabled should be the focus and suggested the City do some type of polling to determine the necessity. He added that this may require more work before spending public funds. He further suggested some organizations might want to volunteer to provide transportation.

Council Member Pierce said she believed that Midtown Towers was at the heart of this issue and noted that the Voter meeting she held there recently had allowed some of the affected people to get absentee ballots. She noted she felt they had received help and suggested finding out the need before paying to provide transportation.

Council Member Olney reminded Council that the removal of the two polling places is a “pause” by the Board of Elections and perhaps the polling places would be back in place in future elections.

Debate continued about whether the bus was needed, how it could be provided, who should be offered transport and how to publicize the availability of the transportation.

Council Member Olney suggested that transportation be provided twice a day from each location: Midtown Towers and Massey Street Fire Station.

Attorney Bullard clarified that Council has reached a consensus that they would like to assist the elderly and disabled get to their polling places.

Motion was made by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero to amend the foregoing resolution in order to add the following statement: “at Midtown Towers and Massey Street Fire Station, making one trip in the morning at 10 a.m. and one trip in the afternoon at 3 p.m., and to issue a press release to advise the public.”

Motion was seconded by Council Member Sarah V.C. Pierce and carried with all voting yea.

The resolution now reads as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED that the City Manager is hereby directed to hire a bus with wheelchair access to transport handicapped and elderly persons to election polling places on June 27, 2023 ***at Midtown Towers and Massey Street Fire Station, making one trip in the morning at 10 a.m. and one trip in the afternoon at 3 p.m., and to issue a press release to advise the public.**

At the call of the chair, a vote was taken on the foregoing resolution and carried with all voting yea.

Ordinance - Authorizing the Issuance of \$3,900,000 Bonds of the City of Watertown, Jefferson County, New York, to Pay the Costs Of the Reconstruction of the William J. Flynn Municipal Swimming Pool and Rehabilitation of The Bathhouse, in and for Said City. *(Introduced on 6/5/2023; laid over under the rules; appears in its entirety in the 2023 Minutes Book on page 16-19 of the 6/5/2023 minutes).*

At the call of the chair, a vote was taken on the foregoing ordinance and defeated with all voting yea except Council Member Sarah V.C. Pierce and Mayor Jeffrey M. Smith voting nay.

Proposed Local Law No. 1 of 2023 - A Local Law amending Sections 253-17 of the City of Watertown Code of the City of Watertown. *(Introduced on 6/5/2023; public hearing held this evening; appears in its entirety in the 2023 Minutes Book on page 7-8 of the 6/5/2023 adjourned meeting minutes).*

Council Member Ruggiero commented that she agreed with the comments during Privilege of the Floor that this large hike in fees is less desirable than increases in smaller increments would have been and asked Mr. Mix what the large increase would be paying for.

Mr. Mix indicated that the increase will only increase the fund balance and is strictly operational, adding no new projects are to be funded with the money.

City Comptroller James Mills confirmed that the increase in funds would cover water, sewer and HVAC costs already in the budget.

Mr. Mix added that the increase is because there have been no increases in five years and all of the City's expenses have gone up, citing raises for employees jumping 3.75% and growing costs of materials as examples.

Mayor Smith remarked that smaller increment of increases might be nice, and 2% raises each year for five years might make sense, but Council does not want to raise fees every year if it is not necessary. He commented that if Council had not voted to remove large amounts of money from the general fund, this increase might not be necessary.

At the call of the chair, a vote was taken on the foregoing local law and carried with all voting yea except Council Member Sarah V.C. Pierce and Mayor Jeffrey M. Smith voting nay.

STAFF REPORTS

Sale of Surplus Hydro-electricity and Sales Tax Revenue – May 2023

A report was available for Council to review. At the end of New Business, Mayor Smith provided a summary of the reports, indicating they are trending downward.

NEW BUSINESS

Pool Fees for Disabled

Referring to concerns brought up at the last meeting, Mayor Smith informed Council that no disabled programs will be charged pool fees as those fees will be covered by BOCES.

Streetscape DRI Project and Parking Concerns

Mayor Smith commented that, overall, the Streetscape project has been great for Downtown and the City of Watertown. He noted that many of the early concerns had not panned out and that people seem generally pleased. He suggested that this project had been in development for many years and noted the possibility that, although the removal of parking spaces has surprised the current owner, previous owners of the Key Bank building may not have objected.

Mr. Lumbis informed Council that the design kicked off in January and February of 2021 with preliminary conceptual designs. He stated there were focus groups, meetings with business owners, public open houses and door-to-door visits. He indicated the plans were brought to Council in October of 2021, bid out in early 2022 with construction commencing in August of 2022. Mr. Lumbis commented that he understands the concerns but the overall philosophy behind the project, as suggested by the public, was to improve the Downtown area for pedestrians. To prove his point, he cited parts of the Comprehensive Plan developed in 2019 which listed “Create great public spaces that enhance character and livability” and “Create a more walkable downtown.”

Mayor Smith asked if there was a way to alleviate the problem with the parking for Mr. Ferris and Mr. Johnson.

There was discussion of potentially adding parking spaces in one of the two lanes of the one-way Stone Street adjacent to the Key Bank building.

Mr. Mix said staff would look into this.

Vendor Permits

Addressing Mr. Shoen’s concerns from Privilege of the Floor, Mayor Smith commented that the City Clerk’s office does issue permits for vendors on City property but was not sure which department oversees enforcement.

Mr. Mix said he would look into the specifics of what Mr. Shoen was referring to.

Council Member Hickey’s Meetings and Events

Council Member Hickey listed the following upcoming meetings and events: Alliance for Better Communities and Community Broadcasters Candidate Forum on June 20; Vet Center dedication, Fort Drum’s Mountainfest and ZBA meeting on June 21; Watertown Local Development Corp. and Friends of Thompson Park meeting on June 22; Mount Carmel Feast weekend begins on June 23; Thompson Park and Alteri pools are open daily beginning June 26; Primary Election day, WPBS 65th Anniversary and Diane Woodhouse retirement on June 27; Eclipse meeting and Graf/Gaffney Youth awards on June 28; Concert in the Park with fireworks on June 29, and Downtown Block Party on June 30.

Fire Department CPR/AED and First Aid Courses

Council Member Hickey announced that the City's Fire Department had offered free courses in CPR, automated external defibrillation and first aid last week and added there are more classes scheduled. He urged people to sign up for them.

Support for Thompson Park, Zoo New York and Sidewalk Program

Council Member Hickey noted that, in light of ARPA funding being removed for the Park, Zoo and Sidewalk program, he was looking forward to finding alternate funding opportunities for these projects. He offered his full support of an expanded Zoo and additional recreational opportunities in the Park, as well as suggesting Syracuse and Ithaca as examples of cities with sidewalk programs the City should consider.

Fentanyl and Xylazine Concerns

Council Member Hickey explained his concerns regarding the opioid crisis in the United States, citing various statistics about the drugs and the deaths they cause. He encouraged everyone to reach out to the ACR Health, The Alliance for a Better Community or local fire and police departments to ask for a harm reduction kit. He commented that access to these life saving measures should be expected, supported and applauded by the community.

Downtown Parking and Road Construction Issues

Council Member Olney thanked Mr. Ferris for his Privilege of the Floor comments and offered his thoughts on his concerns. He indicated that the original intent of the downtown improvements was to take the downtown area from being a "racetrack" to being a more pedestrian-friendly area. He suggested that mistakes were made as Fort Drum grew in not having an "outer loop" like the one Syracuse has so traffic can bypass downtown congestion. He suggested that improvements to Public Square have a blend of slowing traffic and better walking conditions.

Landlord Listening and Senior Center Meetings

Council Member Olney noted he had attended both and found them informative.

Un-Utilized Parking

Council Member Olney informed Council that he had counted 8,000 parking spaces in the City and felt much of the parking was not being used to its fullest potential. He proposed a shuttle from J.B. Wise Parking lot to the Square to run every 15 minutes.

Dog Park

Council Member Olney offered his support to Mr. Gates for a proposed Dog Park.

Downtown Parking

Council Member Olney indicated he had spoken with developer Brian Murry about the potential of a public/private partnership with the City that would allow the City to use Mr. Murray's lot behind the Black River Valley Club if they would share maintenance and security costs. He further suggested it might be time to consider a downtown parking garage, adding that increased parking would promote growth downtown.

Future of the City

Council Member Olney commented that he feels there are two conflicting ideologies about the future of the City of Watertown. He stated that he believes that there are few obstacles to what someone with

ideas can accomplish, which is the more hopeful and positive idea about the future of the City. He added that this is the opposite viewpoint to the people who suggest that the City is in trouble in ten years.

Landlord Listening Meeting

Council Member Pierce advised that the Landlord Listening event had been well attended and very informative. She noted that in the two hour-long meeting it was determined that there were some things the City could do to help but that the bulk of the changes needed must come from New York State. She informed Council that she is preparing letters of outreach to the State for assistance.

Voter Education Event

Council Member Pierce thanked the Board of Elections and NRCIL for attending her Voter event at Midtown Towers.

Eclipse Meeting

Council Member Pierce reminded Council that the next Eclipse meeting would be held on June 28th at 1:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. She commented that plans were headed in the right direction and more people had come to the previous meeting looking for ways to help. She encouraged anyone who wanted to get involved to come to the next meeting.

Senior Center Meeting

Council Member Ruggiero advised that there had been between 20 and 25 people at the meeting who all agreed that a Senior Center would be desirable. She thanked representatives from the YMCA, Office of the Aging and Jefferson County Community Services, as well as Scott Weller from Parks and Rec and Kyle Meehan from CitiBus for attending and explaining the services that their organizations already offer for seniors. She noted the next meeting would be held July 11 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Flower Library and a survey is being prepared.

Council Member Hickey added that anyone interested in more information about the proposed Senior Center could email either Council Member Ruggiero or himself to be placed on the master email list for the newsletter.

Council Member Ruggiero informed Council that Robert Avallone, the driving force behind the center, had been unable to attend this meeting because he has been unwell and she wished him a speedy recovery.

Voter Registration Event at Seaway Plaza

Council Member Ruggiero noted she held a voter registration at Kinney Drugs in Seaway Plaza and had registered six voters. She thanked members of the Board of Elections for stopping by and providing information.

Jefferson County Historical Society

Council Member Ruggiero informed Council that the Historical Society, which has been closed for years, has had an open house and over 100 people attended. She added that some had never been there before. She advised that the grand re-opening was scheduled for August 5 from 1-5 p.m.

Juneteenth and Pride Day

Council Member Ruggiero commented that she had attended two recent flag raising events for Pride Day on Saturday and for Juneteenth tonight outside City Hall. She also noted that she had attended the Juneteenth event at JCC, which had mixed the history of the day with great music.

Salt Storage Memo Consolidated Funding

Referring to the memo received from Mr. Lumbis, Mayor Smith indicated that he felt Council was in support of grant writer LaBella seeking consolidated funding to pay for the Salt Storage.

Mr. Brooks' Communication Email

Mayor Smith noted that the City did a traffic study back when Kurt Hauck was the City Engineer and no action was taken. He directed the City Manager to investigate the need for a four-way stop sign at Franklin, Arlington and Brainard.

Juneteenth

Mayor Smith noted it was the City's 10th year in celebrating Juneteenth and raising the flag in its honor.

Attorney Bullard Statement

After the completion of New Business, Attorney Todd Bullard was granted the floor and read from a prepared statement (on file in the City Clerk's office) regarding the Facebook page entitled "Todd Bullard City of Watertown Attorney Fan Club." He informed Council that he and his firm, Harris Beach PLLC, have no role in the creation or administration of the page and have requested the page be removed from the social media outlet.

Motion was made by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero to move into Executive Session to discuss pending, current or proposed litigation.

Motion was seconded by Council Member Sarah V.C. Pierce and carried with all voting in favor thereof.

Council moved into Executive Session at 9:20 p.m.

Council reconvened at 10:34 p.m.

A D J O U R N M E N T

At the call of the chair, meeting was duly adjourned at 10:34 p.m. by motion of Mayor Jeffrey M. Smith, seconded by Council Member Sarah V.C. Pierce and carried with all voting in favor thereof.

Lisa M. Carr

Deputy City Clerk