

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

Mayor Jeffrey M. Smith Presiding

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

Not Present: Council Member Clifford G. Olney III

Also Present: Kenneth A. Mix, City Manager
Justin Miller, Esq. Harris Beach PLLC, Interim City Attorney
(via videoconference)

City staff present: James Mills, Vicky Murphy, Charles Donoghue, Michael Lumbis, Patrick Keenan, Matthew Timerman, Jennifer Voss, Logan Eddy

The City Manager presented the following reports to Council:

- Resolution No. 1 - Re-Appointing Ann M. Saunders as a Marriage Officer for the City of Watertown
- Resolution No. 2 - Readopting Fiscal Year 2022-23 General Fund and Library Fund Budgets – Window Replacement Project
- Resolution No. 3 - Readopting Fiscal Year 2022-23 Sewer Fund Budget – Lift Station Emergency Generators
- Resolution No. 4 - Accepting Bid for Lift Stations Standby Generator Installation Project Phase 1 - Northern Pioneer Contractors, Inc.
- Resolution No. 5 - Accepting Bid for Arsenal Street Parking Lot Pavement Rehabilitation Project - Ruston Paving Co., Inc.
- Resolution No. 6 - Approving Agreement for Public Benefit Services Between the City of Watertown and the Thompson Park Conservancy, Inc.
- Resolution No. 7 - Readopting Fiscal Year 2023-24 General Fund Budget and Approving Police Department Overhires
- Resolution No. 8 - Accepting a Grant from the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services for a Gun Involved Violence Elimination Initiative
- Resolution No. 9 - Readopting Fiscal Year 2023-24 General Fund Budget – New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services Gun Involved Violence Elimination (GIVE) Initiative Grant
- Resolution No. 10 - Readopting Fiscal Year 2023-24 General Fund Budget – New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services Hot Spot Policing Grant
- Resolution No. 11 - Accepting Change Order No. 2 with CCI Companies, Inc for the Watertown Streetscape Design Improvements Project
- Resolution No. 12 - Approving the Funding Approval/Agreement for the Program Year 2023 Community Development Block Grant Program
- Resolution No. 13 - Approving School Resource Officer Agreement with Watertown City School District

- Resolution No. 14 - Accepting a Grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency's FY 2022 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program
- Resolution No. 15 - Readopting Fiscal Year 2023-24 General Fund Budget – FEMA's FY 2022 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Award
- Resolution No. 16 - Readopting Fiscal Years 2023-24 through 2027-28 Capital Budget and Fiscal Year 2023-24 General Fund Budget – Thompson Park Bandstand Roof
- Resolution No. 17 - Approving the Professional Services Agreement with Kerestes-Martin Associates Inc (KMA Design) for the Downtown Branding, Wayfinding, and Signage Project
- Ordinance No. 1 - An Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of \$3,100,000 Bonds of the City of Watertown, Jefferson County, New York, to Pay the Costs of the Renovation and Reconstruction of City Hall, in and for Said City
- Tabled - Resolution Approving Amendment Number 3 to the Agreement with Barton & Loguidice, D.P.C. For the Downtown Revitalization Initiative Streetscape Project
- Laid Over Under the Rules - Ordinance Amending Chapter 216: Parks, Playgrounds, and Recreational Areas of the City Code – Revising Thompson Park Hours
- Sales Tax Revenue – June 2023
- Sale of Surplus Hydro-electricity – June 2023
- Report on Boards and Commissions
- Property Purchase Offer – 610 Pine Street
- Initiating the coordinated SEQR review process between the City Council and City Planning Commission for the RESTORE NY project at 75-79 Public Square

Complete Reports on file in the office of the City Clerk

Meeting opened with a moment of silence and Mayor Smith asked that it be in remembrance of Council Member Olney's father, Clifford G. Olney, Sr.

Pledge of Allegiance was given.

The reading of the minutes of the regular meeting of July 17, 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 present voting in favor thereof.

COMMUNICATIONS

A letter was received from John Li, resident of Watertown, requesting Council consider repealing the local law that prohibits the development of adult-use cannabis retail dispensaries within the City of Watertown.

A letter was received from Brian Ashley, on behalf of the bandstand roof project committee, thanking Council for their past support and requesting their continued support by adopting Resolution No. 16 allocating \$50,000 towards the project.

Above communications were placed on file in the office of the City Clerk.

A claim was received from Joshua Haskins, 332 Arlington Street, seeking reimbursement of \$388.13 for damage to the tires of his vehicle after driving on Arlington and Academy Streets.

Above claim has been referred to the Board of Audit.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Christopher Tehonica, organizer of the 1000 Islands Softball Tournament, expressed disappointment in not receiving a response to his request for a reduction of rental fees for the use of the fields at the fairgrounds. He discussed the importance of youth sports and the benefits that this tournament brings to the community.

Jason Traynor, 424 Arsenal Street, discussed his concerns with green energy, in particular NYS's requirement for electric vehicles, stressing that green energy is unreliable.

Jonathan Phillips, 735 Mill Street, addressed the chair concerning his issues with the removal of parking in front of the Key Bank building and along Court Street. He also expressed concerns with the work being done as part of the Mill Street reconstruction project.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 1 - Re-Appointing Ann M. Saunders as a Marriage Officer for the City of Watertown

Introduced by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

WHEREAS Section 11-C(1) of the New York State Domestic Relations Law permits the City Council of the City of Watertown to appoint one or more Marriage Officers who shall have the authority to solemnize marriages within the City, and

WHEREAS the City Council of the City of Watertown adopted Local Law No. 2 of 2002, establishing the position of City Marriage Officer under Section 45-11.3 of the City Code of the City of Watertown, and

WHEREAS Ann M. Saunders is over the age of 18 and is a resident of the City of Watertown, as required by Section 11-C(2) of the New York State Domestic Relations Law,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Watertown that Ann M. Saunders shall be re-appointed as a Marriage Officer for the City of Watertown with the duties established by Section 45-11.3 of the City Code of the City of Watertown and by Article 3 of the New York State Domestic Relations Law for a term of four (4) years commencing September 1, 2023 and expiring August 31, 2027.

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

Resolution No. 2 - Readopting Fiscal Year 2022-23 General Fund and Library Fund Budgets – Window Replacement Project

Introduced by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

WHEREAS on June 6, 2022 the City Council passed a resolution adopting the Budget for Fiscal Year 2022-23, of which \$57,731,644 was appropriated for the General Fund and \$1,612,991 was appropriated for the Library Fund, and

WHEREAS the adopted Fiscal Year 2022-23 Library Fund budget appropriated as a transfer to the Capital Project Fund \$53,940 for the City share of a window replacement project and,

WHEREAS on July 17, 2023 the City awarded a contract in the amount of \$197,500 to Zerodraft of CNY, Inc. to complete the project which created a budgetary shortfall of \$23,500,

NOW BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby re-adopts the General Fund and Library Fund Budgets for Fiscal Year 2022-23 and makes the following adjustments in the re-adopted General Fund and Library Fund Budgets:

GENERAL FUND

Appropriated Fund Balance:

A.0000.0909	Fund Balance	<u>\$ 23,500</u>
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Expenditures:

A.9512.0900	Transfer to Library Fund	<u>\$ 23,500</u>
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LIBRARY FUND

Appropriated Fund Balance:

L.0000.5031	Interfund Transfer	<u>\$ 23,500</u>
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Expenditures:

L.9950.0900	Transfer to Capital Projects Fund	<u>\$ 23,500</u>
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Seconded by Council Member Sarah V.C. Pierce and carried with all present voting yea.

Resolution No. 3 - Readopting Fiscal Year 2022-23 Sewer Fund Budget – Lift Station Emergency Generators

Introduced by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

WHEREAS on June 6, 2022 the City Council passed a resolution adopting the Budget for Fiscal Year 2022-23, of which \$7,622,275 was appropriated for the Sewer Fund, and

WHEREAS the adopted Fiscal Year 2022-23 Sewer Fund budget appropriated \$150,000 for the installation of lift station emergency generators and,

WHEREAS the City received a bid to complete the project in the amount of \$175,680 from Northern Pioneer Contractors, Inc. which creates a budgetary shortfall of \$25,680 and,

NOW BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby re-adopts the Sewer Fund Budget for Fiscal Year 2022-23 and makes the following adjustments in the re-adopted Sewer Fund Budget:

SEWER FUND

Appropriated Fund Balance:		
G.0000.0909	Fund Balance	\$ 25,680
Expenditures:		
G.8130.0250	Sewage Treatment and Disposal – Other Equipment	\$(150,000)
G.9950.0900	Transfer to Capital Projects Fund	\$ 175,680
		\$ 25,680

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

Resolution No. 4 - Accepting Bid for Lift Stations Standby Generator Installation Project Phase 1 - Northern Pioneer Contractors, Inc.

Introduced by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

WHEREAS the City desires to replace emergency generators at (3) three lift stations located on Gaffney Drive, Cedar Street, and Lachenauer Drive to minimize the amount of sewage back up in the event of a loss of National Grid power, and

WHEREAS the Purchasing Department advertised and received one (1) sealed bid for the Lift Stations Standby Generator Installation Project Phase 1, and

WHEREAS on June 20, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. the bids received were publicly opened and read, and

WHEREAS Purchasing Manager, Tina Bartlett-Bearup reviewed the bids received with the Engineering and Water Departments and it is their recommendation that the City Council accept the lowest responsive responsible bid submitted by Northern Pioneer Contractors, Inc., and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby accepts the bid received from Northern Pioneer Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$175,680.00, 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 present voting yea.

Resolution No. 5 - Accepting Bid for Arsenal Street Parking Lot Pavement Rehabilitation Project - Ruston Paving Co., Inc.

Introduced by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

WHEREAS the City desires to rehabilitate the parking lot located on Arsenal Street adjacent to the new YMCA Aquatics Center to include milling, structure repair as needed, and re-striping of the parking spaces, and

WHEREAS the Purchasing Department advertised and received two (2) sealed bids for the Arsenal Street Parking Lot Pavement Rehabilitation Project, and

WHEREAS on July 20, 2023, 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 Public Works Department and it is their recommendation that the City Council accept the lowest responsive responsible bid submitted by Ruston Paving Co., Inc., and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby accepts the bid received from Ruston Paving Co., Inc. in the amount of \$124,400.00, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager of the City of 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 present voting yea.

Resolution No. 6 - Approving Agreement for Public Benefit Services Between the City of Watertown and the Thompson Park Conservancy, Inc.

Introduced by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

WHEREAS the Lessor, City of Watertown, owns the facility known as Thompson Park, located in the City of Watertown, County of Jefferson, State of New York, and

WHEREAS the Lessor has entered into an Agreement with the Tenant, Thompson Park Conservancy, Inc., to lease certain premises located at the Park for the operation of the “Thompson Park Zoo”, and

WHEREAS the City of Watertown has provided both financial and in-kind services in support of the Thompson Park Conservancy, and

WHEREAS the City Council has determined that it is in the best interest of the taxpayers of the City of Watertown to provide direct support to the Thompson Park Conservancy to assist with operations as detailed in the attached Agreement,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby approves the Agreement for Public Benefit Services Between the City of Watertown and the Thompson Park Conservancy, Inc., a copy of which is attached and made a part of this resolution, and

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

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

Resolution No. 7 - Readopting Fiscal Year 2023-24 General Fund Budget and Approving Police Department Overhires

Introduced by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

WHEREAS on June 5, 2023 the City Council passed a resolution adopting the Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-24, of which \$54,436,090 was appropriated for the General Fund and,

WHEREAS the City of Watertown Police Department is presently operating under its FY 2023-24 Budget of sworn 72 police personnel, and

WHEREAS there are three pending retirements expected between June 2024 and October 2024, and

WHEREAS the Police Training Academy will commence in September 2023 and field training will conclude approximately in July 2024,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby approves hiring three additional police cadets at this time, bringing the total Police Department personnel temporarily to three over the current budget of 72, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief of Police is hereby authorized and directed to proceed with the requested overhires to enter the September 2023 Police Training Academy, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby re-adopts the General Fund Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-24 and makes the following adjustments in the re-adopted General Fund Budget:

GENERAL FUND

Appropriated Fund Balance	\$ <u>231,000</u>
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Expenditures:

A.3120.0130	Police – Wages	\$ 136,000
A.3120.0460	Police – Materials and Supplies	10,000
A.3120.0820	Police - Retirement	\$ 29,000
A.3120.0830	Police – Social Security	\$ 11,000
A.3120 0850	Police – Health Insurance	<u>\$ 45,000</u>
Total Expenditures		<u>\$ 231,000</u>

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

Resolution No. 8 - Accepting a Grant from the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services for a Gun Involved Violence Elimination Initiative

Introduced by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

WHEREAS, the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services has offered a grant of \$150,000 to the City of Watertown to support the Gun Involved Violence Elimination (GIVE) initiative; and

WHEREAS, the GIVE initiative is a critical component of the State's violence prevention and reduction strategy, and

WHEREAS the grant will support costs for the Police Department overtime for hot-spot policing details, pole cameras, travel and training, and guest speakers,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Watertown that it hereby accepts the grant of \$150,000 from the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services for the Gun Involved Violence Elimination (GUN) Initiative; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor of the City of Watertown is hereby authorized and directed to sign the award notice, thereby formalizing the acceptance of this grant.

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

Resolution No. 9 - Readopting Fiscal Year 2023-24 General Fund Budget – New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services Gun Involved Violence Elimination (GIVE) Initiative Grant

Introduced by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

WHEREAS on June 5, 2023 the City Council passed a resolution adopting the Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-24, of which \$54,436,090 was appropriated for the General Fund, and

WHEREAS on August 7, 2023 City Council was presented with a resolution to accept a grant in the amount of \$150,000 from the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services to support a Gun Involved Violence Elimination (GIVE) initiative,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that if the City Council of the City of Watertown accepted the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services Gun Involved Violence Elimination (GIVE) Initiative grant in the amount of \$150,000 it hereby re-adopts the General Fund Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-24 to increase the revenue and expenditure estimates related to the grant and includes the following adjustments in the re-adopted Fiscal Year 2023-24 General Fund Budget:

Revenues

A.0000.3389	State Aid, Public Safety	<u>\$ 150,000</u>
Total Revenues		<u>\$ 150,000</u>

Expenditures

A.3120.0150	Police – Overtime	\$ 65,000
A.3120.0430	Police – Contracted Services	\$ 5,000
A.3120.0450	Police – Training	\$ 5,000
A.3120.0465	Police – Minor Equipment	<u>\$ 75,000</u>
Total Expenditures		<u>\$ 150,000</u>

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

Resolution No. 10 - Readopting Fiscal Year 2023-24 General Fund Budget – New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services Hot Spot Policing Grant

Introduced by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

WHEREAS on June 5, 2023 the City Council passed a resolution adopting the Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-24, of which \$54,436,090 was appropriated for the General Fund and,

WHEREAS on July 17, 2023 the City Council accepted the Hot Spot Policing grant in the amount of \$50,000 offered by the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services for radios utilized in "hot spot" patrols, enhancing the City's ability to ensure public safety and respond promptly and effectively to criminal activities,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby re-adopts the General Fund Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-24 to increase the revenue and expenditure

estimates related to accepting the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services Hot Spot Policing grant in the amount of \$50,000 and makes the following adjustments the re-adopted Fiscal Year 2023-24 General Fund Budget:

Revenues

A.0000.4389	Federal Aid, Public Safety	<u>\$ 50,000</u>
Total Revenues		<u>\$ 50,000</u>

Expenditures

A.3120.0465	Police – Minor Equipment	<u>\$ 50,000</u>
Total Expenditures		<u>\$ 50,000</u>

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

Resolution No. 11 - Accepting Change Order No. 2 with CCI Companies, Inc for the Watertown Streetscape Design Improvements Project

Introduced by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

WHEREAS the City Council awarded the contract for the Watertown Streetscape Design Improvements Project to CCI Companies, Inc. on June 6, 2023 for \$3,647,704.75, and

WHEREAS Change Order No. 1 to the contract was accepted on June 5, 2023 for \$20,612.42, and

WHEREAS the City Engineering Department has received Change Order No. 2 for \$111,959.49, which will bring the contract total to \$3,780,276.66 and

WHEREAS City Engineer, Michael Delaney reviewed the Project Change Order and it is his recommendation that the City Council accept the Change order submitted by CCI Companies, Inc.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown accepts Change Order No. 2 in the amount of \$111,959.49, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager is hereby authorized and directed to sign Change Order No. 2 on behalf of the City.

Seconded by Council Member Sarah V.C. Pierce

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Planning and Community Development Director Michael Lumbis responded to Mayor Smith's questions about the stamped asphalt causing the change order. He explained that it is more durable, easier to install, and the installation time is less, which will be less disruptive to traffic. He added that it is similar to other stamped asphalt sidewalk crossings downtown, except that it will be a brick pattern instead of cobblestone.

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

Resolution No. 12 - Approving the Funding Approval/Agreement for the Program Year 2023 Community Development Block Grant Program

Introduced by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

WHEREAS the City of Watertown has completed its Program Year 2023 Annual Action Plan for the Community Development Block Grant Program and submitted it to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and

WHEREAS HUD has approved the City's Annual Action Plan and has prepared a Funding Approval/Agreement for the grant funding,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby approves the Funding Approval/Agreement with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Program Year 2023 Community Development Block Grant Program, a copy of which is attached and made part of this Resolution, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor, Jeffrey M. Smith, is hereby authorized and directed to sign the Agreement on behalf of the City Council.

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

Resolution No. 13 - Approving School Resource Officer Agreement with Watertown City School District

Introduced by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

WHEREAS the City of Watertown possesses authority over the Watertown Police Department, which was created as a department and agency of the City government by Charter, and

WHEREAS it is the intent and desire of the City of Watertown and the Watertown City School District to provide for services of two School Resource Officers,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Watertown that it hereby approves the School Resource Officer Agreement between the City of Watertown and the Watertown City School District, a copy of which is attached and made a part of this resolution, and

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

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

Resolution No. 14 - Accepting a Grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency's FY 2022 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program

Introduced by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

WHEREAS, on February 6, 2023 the City Council authorized the application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency's FY 2022 Assistance to Firefighters grant program, and

WHEREAS, the City has been notified that it has received a grant offer in the amount of \$85,755 which also requires a City share of \$8,575 for a total cost of \$94,330, and

WHEREAS the grant will support costs for the Fire Department firefighter rehab equipment, EMS training aids and an automatic chest compression device(s),

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Watertown that it hereby accepts the grant of \$85,755 from the Federal Emergency Management Agency's FY 2022 Assistance to Firefighters grant program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager or designee of the City of Watertown is hereby authorized and directed to sign the award notice, thereby formalizing the acceptance of this grant.

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

Resolution No. 15 - Readopting Fiscal Year 2023-24 General Fund Budget – FEMA's FY 2022 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Award

Introduced by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

WHEREAS on June 5, 2023 the City Council passed a resolution adopting the Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-24, of which \$54,436,090 was appropriated for the General Fund, and

WHEREAS on August 7, 2023 City Council was presented with a resolution to accept a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency's FY 2022 Assistance to Firefighters program in the amount of \$85,755 which also requires a City share of \$8,575,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that if the City Council of the City of Watertown accepted the Federal Emergency Management Agency's FY 2022 Assistance to Firefighters grant program in the amount of \$85,755 it hereby re-adopts the General Fund Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-24 to add the grant revenue, appropriate fund balance to fund the City's share and add the expenditure estimates related to the grant and includes the following adjustments in the re-adopted Fiscal Year 2023-24 General Fund Budget:

Revenues

A.0000.4389 Federal Aid, Public Safety \$ 85,755

Appropriated Fund Balance

A.0000.0909 Fund Balance \$ 8,575
\$ 94,330

Expenditures

A.3410.0250 Fire – Equipment \$ 36,330
A.3420.0430 Fire – Contracted Services \$ 17,000
A.3120.0465 Fire – Minor Equipment \$ 41,000
Total Expenditures \$ 94,330

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

Resolution No. 16 - Readopting Fiscal Years 2023-24 through 2027-28 Capital Budget and Fiscal Year 2023-24 General Fund Budget – Thompson Park Bandstand Roof

Introduced by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

WHEREAS on June 5, 2023 the City Council adopted the Fiscal Years 2023-24 through 2027-28 Capital Budget and the General Fund Budget, and

WHEREAS as City Council wishes to construct a roof for the Thompson Park bandstand, and

WHEREAS there is community support from multiple sources to assist with partial funding of the project,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby amends the Fiscal Years 2023-24 through 2027-28 Capital Budget to include in the FY 2023-24 Capital Budget the following project:

Thompson Park Bandstand Roof	\$ 150,000
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and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby re-adopts the Fiscal Year 2023-24 General Fund Budget to provide partial funding for the Thompson Park Bandstand Roof project and makes the following adjustments in the re-adopted General Fund Budget:

GENERAL FUND

Appropriated Fund Balance:

A.0000.0900	Fund Balance	<u>\$ 50,000</u>
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Expenditures:

A.9950.0900	Transfer to Capital Projects Fund	<u>\$ 50,000</u>
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Total Expenditures		<u>\$ 50,000</u>
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Seconded by Council Member Sarah V.C. Pierce and carried with all present voting yea.

Resolution No. 17 - Approving the Professional Services Agreement with Kerestes-Martin Associates Inc (KMA Design) for the Downtown Branding, Wayfinding, and Signage Project

Introduced by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero

WHEREAS the City desires to secure the professional services of a consultant to develop a Downtown Branding, Wayfinding and Signage plan to create a recognizable brand for Downtown Watertown as well as a coordinated wayfinding network of gateway signs, parking signs, interpretive signs and vehicular and pedestrian signs in downtown Watertown, and

WHEREAS the City's Purchasing and Planning and Community Development Departments recently issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) to seek proposals from individuals and firms who were interested in providing these professional services to the City, and

WHEREAS the Purchasing Department advertised and received nine (9) sealed proposals for the Downtown Branding, Wayfinding, and Signage Project, and

WHEREAS after review and evaluation of the proposals based on several criteria outlined in the RFP, Purchasing Manager, Tina Bartlett-Bearup and the Planning and Community Development

Department are recommending that the City Council accept the proposal from and enter into a contract with Kerestes-Martin Associates Inc. (KMA Designs),

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Watertown hereby approves the Professional Services Agreement with Kerestes-Martin Associates Inc. (KMA Designs) for professional 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 agreement on behalf of the City.

Seconded by Council Member Sarah V.C. Pierce

Prior to the vote on the foregoing resolution, Council Member Pierce noted that the staff memo mentioned a kickoff meeting and wondered if the public or Council Members would be invited to it.

Senior Planner Jennifer Voss indicated that the kickoff meeting would initially be for staff and one representative from Council, but there would be public meetings later in the process.

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

ORDINANCES

Ordinance No. 1 - An Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of \$3,100,000 Bonds of the City of Watertown, Jefferson County, New York, to Pay the Costs of the Renovation and Reconstruction of City Hall, 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 (the "City"), as follows:

Section 1. For paying the costs of the renovation and reconstruction of City Hall, including but not limited to mechanical, electrical and plumbing upgrades, exterior improvements, and replacement of the roof and elevator, and incidental expenses in connection therewith, a class of objects or purposes, there are hereby authorized to be issued \$3,100,000 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 class of objects or purposes is \$3,100,000 and that the plan for the financing thereof is by the issuance of the \$3,100,000 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 twenty-five years pursuant to subdivision twelve of paragraph a of Section 11.00 of the Local Finance Law, as City Hall is a class “A” building within the meaning of subdivision eleven of said paragraph a.

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 the sole discretion of the City Comptroller, to execute a project finance 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 class of objects or purposes 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 its 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 resolution, 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.

Seconded by Council Member Sarah V.C. Pierce

Laid Over Under the Rules

OLD BUSINESS

Resolution Approving Amendment Number 3 to the Agreement with Barton & Loguidice, D.P.C. For the Downtown Revitalization Initiative Streetscape Project. *(Introduced on 7/17/2023; tabled; appears in its entirety in the 2023 Minutes Book on page 11-13 of the 7/17/2023 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 present voting in favor thereof except for Mayor Jeffrey M. Smith voting nay.

At the call of the chair, a vote was taken on the foregoing resolution and defeated with Council Member Patrick J. Hickey and Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero voting yea and with Council Member Sarah V.C. Pierce and Mayor Jeffrey M. Smith voting nay.

Ordinance Amending Chapter 216: Parks, Playgrounds, and Recreational Areas of the City Code – Revising Thompson Park Hours. *(Introduced on 7/17/2023; laid over under the rules; appears in its entirety in the 2023 Minutes Book on page 16-17 of the 7/17/2023 minutes).*

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

STAFF REPORTS

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

A report was available for Council to review.

Report on Boards and Commissions

Mayor Smith noted that this report provides Council with an update on the Board vacancies.

Property Purchase Offer – 610 Pine Street

Mayor Smith summarized the report, stating the City had received an offer to purchase this property from someone purchasing 604 Pine Street.

Council Member Pierce noted the report also contains a list of violations and amounts due to the City from this individual on his other properties within the City.

Council agreed to send this property to auction.

Initiating the coordinated SEQR review process between the City Council and City Planning Commission for the RESTORE NY project at 75-79 Public Square

Mr. Lumbis explained his staff report, noting that either Council or the Planning Commission must be the lead agency for the SEQRA process. He added that staff is recommending the Planning Commission to be the lead agency since they will be approving the site plan for the project. He responded to questions from Council Member Ruggiero in regard to access to Public Square through the Strauss Walkway and noted that it is deeded into the property and it will comply with ADA requirements.

NEW BUSINESS

FERC Licensing

Council Member Hickey informed Council of a recent meeting in which five members from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) were in the area to do an initial study report on Beaver River Hydroelectric Project (FERC #2645), Black River Hydroelectric Project (FERC #2569) and Beebee Island Hydroelectric Project (FERC #2538). Noting that no one from the City attended the meeting, he

stressed the importance of the City attending this meeting and having representation. He provided a summary of the reports and information needed for the licensing process that the City could have been informed of and stressed that the City is stakeholder on the water flowing downstream of 18 plants. He listed the plants that need relicensing in the near future. He then turned the discussion to his concerns with the relicensing of the City's hydro plant due in 2035.

Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program

Council Member Hickey advised that the deadline for this program through the NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance is August 31. He explained that it is for water and sewer bills that are past due.

Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America International Conference (CADCA)

Council Member Hickey provided an overview of a recent conference that he attended in Texas. He noted that the Drug Enforcement Agency has a pamphlet for parents that defines Emojis that children use in their social media. He distributed an Emoji Drug Decoder (on file in the City Clerk's Office) and encouraged parents to supervise their children's social media accounts. He provided other helpful information and age-appropriate talking points for parents.

Solar Eclipse Meeting

Council Member Pierce announced the next meeting will be Tuesday, August 8 at noon in City Hall Council Chambers.

Traffic Island at the Mill and LeRay Streets Entrance of City

Referring to previous discussions about the condition of this traffic island at the north entrance to the City, Council Member Pierce said that she distributed to Council a draft letter to be sent to DOT.

Council agreed that the letter should be sent.

Community Office Hours

Council Member Pierce announced that she will be holding Community Office Hours on Tuesday, August 15 at noon at Thompson Park.

Friends of the Library Book Sale

Council Member Pierce advised that the Friends of the Library are accepting donations for their annual book sale and noted that this is a major fundraiser for the Library.

Cedar Street Improvements

Council Member Ruggiero indicated that she had received complaints about the work being done on Cedar Street. She said that some areas have gravel along the street and wondered if it was going to be left that way.

Mr. Mix said he would look into this and report back to her.

Senior Center

Council Member Ruggiero announced the next meeting would be held on August 15 at 1:00 p.m. at the Library. She added that she would be meeting with CAPC this week to see how they could participate with the process.

Book Give Away

Council Member Ruggiero advised that she will be hosting a book give away on August 16 and August 17. She said the hours each day will be 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Thompson Park Pool and 2:15 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. at the Fairgrounds Pool.

Motion was made by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero to move into Executive Session to discuss proposed, pending, or current litigation, to discuss the proposed acquisition, sale, or lease of real property, and to discuss the employment history of particular persons or corporations.

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

Council moved into Executive Session at 7:51 p.m.

Council reconvened at 8:15 p.m.

A D J O U R N M E N T

At the call of the chair, meeting was duly adjourned at 8:15 p.m. by motion of Council Member Patrick J. Hickey, seconded by Council Member Lisa A. Ruggiero and carried with all present voting in favor thereof.

Ann M. Saunders
City Clerk