



# TOWN OF WATERTOWN CONNECTICUT

## OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER

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### TOWN OF WATERTOWN BRIEFING MEMORANDUM

TO: Watertown Town Council/Taskforce

FROM: Mark A. Raimo, Town Manager *MAR*

DATE: July 14, 2025

RE: Summary Update – Water/Sewer Billing and WFD Liability Coordination

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### Summary of Activities: July 7–14, 2025

Over the past week, significant progress has been made in addressing outstanding water and sewer task obligations regarding the City of Waterbury, including coordination with the Watertown Fire District (WFD), the Water and Sewer Authority (WSA), and legal counsel. Below is a summary of key developments:

- **Historical and Financial Review:**  
Received the 1976 agreement between the Town and WFD regarding sewage payment responsibilities. Worked with Finance to quantify principal and interest related to sewer payments (Unico property) and verified calculations. Confirmed with Tax Collector that payments made to Waterbury are applied to the oldest balances, beginning July 2018.
- **Legal Coordination:**  
Consulted with Attorney Jessell to prepare for discussions with Atty. Pilicy regarding Watertown Fire District's (WFD) obligations. A working spreadsheet ("Unico P&I") was shared to support those discussions. Coordination is ongoing to set a meeting with WFD, legal, Finance, and WSA.
- **Communication with Waterbury:**  
Requested an official accounting from Waterbury reflecting how payments have been applied. Held multiple conversations with the Mayor, who advised interest may not be waivable under statute. The Town has proposed a 6–12-month payment process, with forbearance potentially available.
- **WSA Special Meeting:**  
Initiated scheduling for a WSA Special Meeting, projected for **Wednesday, July 16, 2025**, to address rate review, reserve planning for infrastructure maintenance, and payment appropriations. Dave McMahan and Jerry Lukowski were consulted on meeting logistics.
- **Financial Documentation:**  
Received an updated breakdown of water/sewer charges from Waterbury (as of June

17, 2025) and obtained audited WFD financial statements (FYE June 30, 2024). These will inform ongoing liability discussions.

- **Audit and Bonding:**

Met with Finance Director Maria Guerrero regarding FY2024 audit results, which reflect approximately \$9 million in accounts. A meeting with bond counsel and the Town's bonding representative is scheduled for July 16 to review funding options.

- **Next Steps:**

Finalize WSA meeting agenda, confirm WFD meeting date, analyze billing records, review legal pathways for forbearance, and develop appropriation recommendations. Continue exploring RFP/RFQ development.