



MINUTES

WATERTOWN PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

DATE: July 2, 2026

TIME: 7:00 PM

LOCATION: Town Hall – Parks and Recreation Conference Room
61 Echo Lake Road, Watertown, CT 06795

I. Call Meeting to Order:

Chairman Bill Donston called the regular meeting to order at 7:09 p.m.

II. Roll Call:

Members Present: Tadd Johnson, Pat Rinaldi, Vice Chair, Alan Mickel, Joseph McGrail, Bill Donston, Chair

Absent: Margaret Germain
Karim Belica
Herm Desena, Town Council Liaison

III. Public Participation: None

IV. Approval of Minutes:

June 4, 2026, Regular Meeting

Motion: Pat Rinaldi seconded by Alan Mickel to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 4, 2026. Aye: 4 Rinaldi, Mickel, McGrail, Donston Nay: 0 Abstain: 1 Johnson Motion passed.

V. Correspondence:

- a. Letter from Town Manager's office notification of new town website.
- b. Quotes to replace the Tennis and Pickleball Courts (4)

- c. Proposal from Girl Scout, Skylar F. proposed a “Rainbow Bench” at the Dog Park. It was hoped that Skylar would have attended to present this proposal in person
- d. Monthly report from the department

VI. Reports:

- A. Chairman –
 - a. Presented the report from Carrie Godfrey, Assistant Recreation Director
 - b. Staff have been busy closing out the fiscal year
- B. Director – proud of all staff for their efforts towards the completion of the recent projects; a goal heading into this fiscal year is to start projects earlier. There were 24-time-period flags proudly displayed at the entrance of the Town Hall in celebration of the country’s 250th.
- C. Sub-Committees – Golf.
 - a. Reported on the ongoing discussion about the enterprise account and its codification

VII. Old Business:

- A. Policies and Procedures – No update
- B. Maintenance List Update - Discussed
- C. Account Balances (specials) for Parks and Recreation – No Report

Motion: Alan Mickel seconded by Pat Rinaldi to add under Old Business #D: Adams Road Park

Motion passed unanimously.

D. Adams Road Park

The commission discussed the minimization of Adams Road Park; this was the conclusion because of several commissioners visiting the park

Motion: Pat Rinaldi seconded by Alan Mickel to add Old Business #E discussion about the John Staver Fund.

Motion passed unanimously.

The Commission revisited and discussed the priority list

VIII. New Business:

- A. Review and Consideration of Submitted Applications for 2026 –

Motion by Joe McGrail, seconded by Alan Mickel, to approve the Watertown Police Tournament on October 2, 2026

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Alan Mickel, seconded by Pat Rinaldi, to add under New Business #B to discuss a gate at Lake Winnemaug.

Motion passed unanimously.

B. Lake Winnemaug Gate

The gate at Lake Winnemaug was discussed at a previous Police Commission meeting.

IX. Adjournment:

Motion: Alan Mickel, seconded by Tadd Johnson, to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 pm

Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

William Donston, Chairman
Watertown Parks and Recreation Commission

Approved:

Susan King, Clerk