

**Town of Watertown**  
**Town Council**  
**PUBLIC WORKS SUBCOMMITTEE**  
**Regular Meeting Agenda**

**Date: June 08, 2026**

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: Watertown Town Hall

Town Council Chambers

61 Echo Lake Road

Watertown, CT 06795

- 1. Call Meeting to Order**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Roll Call**
- 4. Public Participation**
- 5. Minutes**
  - A. Approval of May 14, 2026 Special Meeting Minutes
- 6. Correspondence**
  - A. None
- 7. Old Business**
  - A. Paving Program
  - B. Steele Brook Greenway #2 – Construction – Sub Base South/Micro Piles/Bridge
  - C. St. John Wall “CCGP” Community Connectivity Grant Program – Bid Status
  - D. Main St Watertown – T & B at 65 + % Design /// Heminway Design
  - E. Steele Brook Greenway #3 – Out to bid / Submission to DECD
  - F. 28 MAY – Road Safety Audit (RSA) Training w/ UCONN T2 and NVCOG – Watertown FH
- 8. New Business**
  - A. Spring Work – Highway Superintendent
  - B. NORCOM Radio Comms – Highways & WSA install of vehicle radios plus 2 base stations at WSA & DPW – Completed
  - C. PFAS/PFOS ongoing testing for perimeter and household wells at the Transfer Station
  - D. Household Hazardous Waste Event – 18 JULY 2026 – Southbury
  - E. Next Public Works Subcommittee Meeting – 10 AUG 2026
  - F. CCGP – Community Connectivity Grant Program – Pin Shop
- 9. Transfers and Appropriations**
  - A. None
- 10. Adjournment**

cc: Paul Bunevich, Town Engineer  
Dan Cocchiola, Town Council  
Lisa Dalton, Town Clerk  
Ken Demirs, PW Subcommittee  
Robert Desena, PW Subcommittee Vice Chair  
Michele McHugh, Vice Chair

Rachael Ryan, PW Subcommittee  
Mark A. Raimo, Town Manager  
Jonathan Ramsay, Town Council Chair  
Robert Retallick, PW Subcommittee Chair  
Mary Ann Rosa, Town Council  
Carina Noyd, Town Council

**Town of Watertown**  
**Town Council**  
**PUBLIC WORKS SUBCOMMITTEE**  
**SPECIAL Meeting Minutes**

**Date: May 14, 2026**

Time: 5:00 p.m.

Location: Watertown Town Hall

Town Council Chambers

61 Echo Lake Road

Watertown, CT 06795

**1. Call Meeting to Order**

Meeting called to order at 6:00 P.M. by Subcommittee Chairperson, Robert Retallick.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

**3. Roll Call**

**Present:** Robert Retallick, Robert Desena, Ken Demirs

**Also Present:** Jerry Lukowski, Bob Grandpre, Mike Zoller

**Absent:** Dan Cocchiola, Rachael Ryan

**4. Public Participation**

None

**5. Minutes**

Robert Retallick asked for approval of October 14, 2025, Meeting Minutes and March 9, 2026, Meeting Minutes. Desena makes a motion to approve the minutes. Seconded by Ken Demirs. All in favor.

**6. Correspondence**

Jerry Lukowski states although no formal correspondence was listed, staff reported receiving approximately 774 work orders, with 633 completed to date. Staff indicated that most correspondence and service requests are handled directly by Public Works personnel before reaching the committee level.

**7. Old Business**

**A. RRFB – 3/3 Installed one on Davis and two on Main St – COMPLETED**

All three planned flashing beacon installations were completed:

- Two on Main Street
- One on Davis Street

This item will be removed from future agendas.

**B. Highway Garage Renovation – COMPLETED**

The renovation project is complete.

Key updates:

Project cost approximately \$620,000

Nearly \$500,000 in reimbursement funding has been received

A 2% retainage remains pending final contractor closeout and CHRO requirements

### **C. Paving Program**

Staff provided an extensive update on road conditions and paving plans.

Highlights:

- 186 miles of road treatment completed in 2025
- Average treatment rate of approximately 18 miles per year
- Current Road Surface Rating (RSR): 67.7
- Estimated unfunded roadway need: \$37.2 million
- The recently approved \$10 million road bond has begun funding projects

New paving methods being piloted include:

- Cold-in-place recycling
- PA-in-place stabilization

These methods are expected to:

- Reduce costs
- Improve road bases
- Recycle existing roadway materials
- Reduce hauling and milling operations

Discussion also included future treatment of Linkfield Road and Basset Road using mastic/rubber-chip style surface treatments.

### **D. Steele Brook Greenway #2 – Construction Started – Tree Removal/Submittals/Eversource**

Construction has officially started.

Current progress:

- Drainage installation underway
- Utility poles relocated by Eversource
- Trail subbase and base installation progressing
- Bridge foundation micropiles being installed
- Future parking area and flashing-beacon crosswalk planned at French Street

Additional notes:

- Original construction estimate: \$2.4 million
- Winning bid: \$1.9 million
- Approximate savings: \$500,000
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### **E. St. John Wall –Approved – OUT TO BID**

The project has been approved and bid documents are released.

Scope includes:

- Removal of existing retaining wall
- Tree removal and replacement
- New sidewalk extending toward Starbucks
- Pedestrian safety improvements

Funding:

- \$800,000 Community Connectivity Grant
- Grant is provided upfront rather than through reimbursement

Goal:

- Begin construction immediately after school ends
- Complete major work before students return in late August

## **F. Main St Watertown – T & B at 65% Design /// Coordinating with Property Owners**

Design is now beyond the 65% stage.

Current focus:

- Sidewalk improvements
- Pedestrian safety enhancements
- Crosswalk bump-outs
- Relocation of flashing beacon infrastructure
- Coordination with adjacent property owners

Funding:

- \$3 million federal appropriation secured through Congresswoman Johanna Hayes.

Tentative schedule:

- Design completion in Fall 2026
- Bid process during Winter 2026-2027
- Construction beginning Spring 2027

Additional discussion focused on:

- Traffic management during construction
- Business access
- Use of alternate routes including Buckingham Street
- Minor property acquisitions required by DOT

## **8. New Business**

### **A. Spring Work – Highway Superintendent**

The Highway Department reported significant seasonal activity.

Street Sweeping:

- 100% of Oakville completed
- Approximately 50% of town completed overall
- Significant reduction in debris due to salt-only winter operations

Drainage Improvements:

- Major drainage project underway on Meadow Crest Lane
- Approximately 260 feet of drainage pipe installed
- Nearly 1,400 feet planned
- Numerous yard drains and catch basins being upgraded

Additional Activities:

- Pothole repairs
- Lawn and curbing restoration
- Catch basin cleaning
- Roadside mowing beginning with new tractor
- Flag installation using rented bucket truck
- Tree trimming
- Sign installation
- Building maintenance

Fleet Maintenance:

- Rebuilding an older international dump truck for approximately \$40,000–\$50,000 instead of purchasing a new \$300,000 replacement.

**B. Steele Brook Greenway #3 – Going out to bid / Public Hearing May 18<sup>th</sup>**

The Town received additional grant funding to extend the trail from the UNICO Bridge to the existing pedestrian bridge.

Key points:

- Public hearing scheduled for May 18
- Project funding approximately **\$270,000–\$280,000**
- Grant is 100% reimbursable
- Project must still be publicly bid despite efforts to use existing contractor pricing

Goal:

- Construct concurrently with Phase 2 work when possible

**C. 28 MAY – Road Safety Audit (RSA) Training w/ UCONN T2 and NVCOG – Watertown FH**

The Town will host a Road Safety Audit training session with:

- UConn T2 Center
- NVCOG

Focus Area:

- French Street corridor

Participants invited:

- Police Department
- Fire Department
- School administrators

The audit is intended to identify future safety improvement opportunities.

**D. 8 June 2026 – Next Public Works Subcommittee Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for June 8, 2026.

**9. Transfers and Appropriations**

**A. Budget Transfer – PFOS/PFAS Testing at the Transfer Station**

The committee approved a budget transfer of \$35,000.

Purpose:

- Testing residential wells near the Transfer Station for PFAS/PFOS contamination
- Maintaining and installing water filtration systems where required
- Meeting Connecticut DEEP permit requirements

Funding Transfer:

- From Waste & Recycling account
- To Residential Wells and DEEP Fees account

Motion passed unanimously.

**10. Adjournment**

The committee thanked Public Works staff for their efforts during the winter season and throughout ongoing infrastructure projects.

A motion to adjourn was made by Robert Retallick, seconded, and approved. The meeting adjourned at approximately 5:40 p.m.