



**TOWN COUNCIL  
WATERTOWN, CONNECTICUT  
MONDAY, AUGUST 12, 2025  
PUBLIC HEARING**

A public hearing was held on August 12, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Attendees: Mary Ann Rosa, Chair  
Ken Demirs, Vice Chair  
Robert Desena  
Anthony DiBona  
Gary Lafferty  
Carina Noyd  
Robert Retallick  
Rachael Ryan

Mark Raimo, Town Manager

Chair Mary Ann Rosa stated we have two ordinances' items up for discussion this evening. We will give you information on each of them and we will take your comments and questions on each one. We are not enforcing the sign up, three-minute regulation, we would ask that you be respectful with all the people that might want time to speak.

Chair Mary Ann Rosa read the notice.



**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS  
TOWN COUNCIL  
TOWN OF WATERTOWN  
AUGUST 12, 2025**

The Town Council of the Town of Watertown will hold public hearings at Watertown Town Hall, Town Council Chambers, in Watertown, Connecticut, on Tuesday, August 12, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. to consider the following proposed ordinances:

“AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$34,000,000 FOR SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION AGAINST THE TOWN IN THE CASE OF CITY OF WATERBURY V. TOWN OF WATERTOWN AND FOR RELATED COSTS; AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF BONDS OR NOTES AND TEMPORARY NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT TO FINANCE THE APPROPRIATION”

“AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$10,000,000 FOR VARIOUS ROAD IMPROVEMENTS AND RELATED WORK; AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF BONDS OR NOTES AND TEMPORARY NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT TO FINANCE THE APPROPRIATION”

A copy of each of the proposed ordinances is on file with the Town Clerk of the Town of Watertown. Eligible voters and affected persons will be heard at the public hearing concerning the proposed ordinances.

Dated at Watertown, Connecticut, this 6th day of August, 2025.

Mary Ann Rosa, Chair  
Watertown Town Council  
Town of Watertown

**CERTIFICATE OF NOTICE**  
**(August 12, 2025 Public Hearings)**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on August 6, 2025, I caused a copy of the foregoing notice of public hearings to be published in the Republican American which newspaper has a general and substantial circulation in the Town of Watertown; that I caused a copy of the foregoing notice of public hearings to be posted on the public signposts in the Town of Watertown on August 6, 2025 2025; that all of such acts took place at least five days before the holding of said public hearings on August 12, 2025 and that such notice has been filed with the Town Clerk in the records of the Town.

Dated: August 6, 2025.

Title: Maria Guerrero, Finance Director  
Town of Watertown

## TOWN CLERK'S CERTIFICATE AS TO NOTICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the attached warning and notice are duly recorded in the records of the Town of Watertown, Connecticut, and that the following person was the duly elected Town Council Chairperson of the Town on the date the attached warning and notice was signed:

Mary Ann Rosa

Signed and sealed at Watertown, Connecticut this 6<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2025.

Lisa Dalton  
Town Clerk  
Watertown, Connecticut

### First Bond Ordinance

Chair Mary Ann Rosa stated the first issue before us is settlement of the litigation with Waterbury for 34 million dollars and I will ask the Town Manager to make comments on this.

Mark Raimo, Town Manager stated I would like to talk about the Water & Sewer litigation and look at the strategic options and overview of the bonding package that is being presented before you. This overview focuses on the bonding package and its impact on both rate payers and tax payers. While not mentioned throughout this document there is still pending litigation currently under consideration by the Supreme Court as a reminder. The Water and Sewer Authority has set a public hearing on August 27<sup>th</sup> for rate setting.

Attached presentation

### Public comments and questions:

Franklin Pilicy 235 Main Street stated I support all the council decisions throughout this matter. The council made the proper decision based on all the information available to it; I support the ordinance that is up for decision at this hearing.

Thomas Dunston, 320 Park Road asked on this 34-million-dollar bond, are we going to continue to withhold money monthly on paying Waterbury or are we paying rates they want, so we don't incur more bills?

Mark Raimo answered yes, the Water & Sewer Authority back in I believe June voted to start paying the current rates, we are currently doing that.

Katherine Camara, 31 Cottage Place stated I still don't understand why this work wasn't done two years ago. As we just heard we are accruing a payment of \$355,000 a month. I can understand when it went to appeal, you were not advised that we might lose. I can't understand

why all this wasn't done in preparation for a loss. We all sitting here every day that goes by thousands and thousands of dollars in interest. Something was just said about the choices of how this could get paid. I don't know if this was misspoken Mr. Raimo said proportionate share so that those that cannot afford it wouldn't have to pay as much. I don't understand are we doing this by your share based on what you use or based on what your income is?

Chair Mary Ann Rosa answered based on your use. That reference he made the difference between a commercial building being more able to afford, than a resident.

Katherine Camara I am curious about the Waterbury contract I would think that once this gets paid, we could back to get talking about a contract. I am not for selling it to anybody, we are talking about this as if there is any other problem. The problem comes down to we were short changing he money. I hope once the judgement is paid perhaps discussing a contract. I don't know if there is talk about the state have anything to do with this, I don't know about borrowing money from state would be less than a bond. I will tell you my problem with the bond how much money I am going to be putting towards this. You are asking us for a bond take a loan basically and I don't have any idea what I am paying If we could get a breakdown of expenses on this. Businesses in town, their rates are going up and who is going to pay for those; it is going to be us. I want to apologize back in 2023 when you decided to appeal the STP as were known, calculated to a debt grew of 28 million and we were wrong it grew to 34.4 million.

Amy Quinnan, 159 Fern Hill Road talked about the 34 million bond, the residents of town are now being asked to shoulder the cost of the decisions and indecisions that we did not make. This is why our trust in our leadership has eroded. If the town is asking tax payers to approve these funds we deserve specific answers. What is the bond repayment schedule and the town's overall budget and what services or projects provided might face cuts to accommodate these payments. What independent oversight or audits will be conducted to ensure the bond funds are used as promised and how will findings be shared with the public. These questions are not just about numbers they are about accountability. If leadership cannot give residents confidence on how these debts will be managed then it is not the residents who have failed, it is leadership that has failed to earn that trust. Approval of these bonds is not just a financial decision, it is a test of whether transparency, accountability, and the fiscal responsibility truly matter in this town.

Alex Webster, 110 Eddy Street stated I am here tonight to say what a lot of people are thinking. Honestly not enough people are coming to this room to say it out loud. This is the result of years of poor planning, lack of transparency. We are now facing a bill we have no choice but to pay for every single year to come. Because we have to pay it doesn't mean we have to accept how we got here. These people were elected by us, they keep getting re-elected, too many people don't show up and that's exactly what politics counts on to don't ask enough questions, this has to change. I do respect the volunteers give their time freely but this issue has been known for years yet here we are and now there is talk of now adding this other 10 million infrastructures with no clear plan. I am sorry to the Town Manager, you are paid by us to manage this town responsibly, your letting things get this bad the failure of leadership. Taxpayers now have to bear this burden.

You say that taxes are not going to increase everything else is going to. We need transparency, real planning, honesty and no more vague promises for last minutes fixes. If there is a problem, we deserve to hear it before it comes a disaster. The election season is coming up and this is our chance to hold people accountable. People staying silent will get more of the same, more debt, higher rates, and more decisions made. Every budget season the politics try to pit the seniors against the school's, seniors vs. the kids, this is a distraction because the real problem is your poor decisions and failed leadership consistent for years. I am asking you don't let the politics divide us when it is their actions that have created this mess. Come budget season I will be reminding everyone the decisions are a direct result of town's management and we need to remember who let us get here and get better for it.

Elliot Longo, 83 Bella Vista Drive asked if we look at the monthly curing cost the debt to Waterbury, if this bond does not pass the \$355,000 annualized, that is approximately 4.3 million dollars. If you are paying 18% (inaudible) 4.3 million is 18% of 23 million. Have we already paid Waterbury \$10 million?

Mark Raimo answered we have paid 5 million.

Elliot Long so that estimate has to be somewhat short of \$355 on a monthly basis. The monthly basis may be well over 4450 per month carrying costs.

Mark Raimo if the 5 million was not applied, correct.

Elliott Longo stated my concern is as a town we don't over extend ourselves because you are pressing against a debt ceiling on it. Borrow what we need to borrow. I am in favor of this resolution because I see this is the only viable option at this time. I just ask that you triple check all the amounts and numbers here let's borrow what we feel we need to borrow maybe there is a slight margin there of 5% within the borrowing. If it is up to 34 million dollars which we need, is 27 million dollars perhaps that is where it should be capped.

Mark Raimo commented I am in full agreement under the advice of bond council. We went for the 34 million, we also anticipate that number to be around 28, 29 million dollars. But it is a moving number that we cannot put figure on at the moment. We still do not know what the Fire District has to share with us and cover their costs. Those numbers we are going to review, this is not a full bond that we are going out in October for. It will be a banding series where we will take short term notes that will accumulate to whatever that bond will be. It would give us a budget cycle to actually understand what the impact is to the budget and we can properly budget for it next year. Yes, we are under the same opinion as you.

Richard Rozanski, 35 Reynolds stated I wanted to express my disappointment that there have been no communications with the Fire District in regards to their share that they owe towards the 34 million dollars. There has been no official notification to the Fire District as far as what rate the WSA is going to be charging them. They read the same things we do; I talked to the

Superintendent late last week; they still received no firm information. The Fire District cannot pass on to their 22 hundred customers what effect this bond is going to be on their customer base. I live in the Fire District I can't use any of these numbers that are being displayed here. Last night the Town Manager said their share was 6 million. They don't know how much they are going to have bond themselves, what those bonding costs will be. We are holding a public hearing tonight and 22 hundred residents have no information on what this bond is going to cost them and I am one of those 22 hundred people. The WSA and the Town Manager and the Water & Sewer Task Force needs to inform the Fire District with good data. What is it going to cost them so the Fire District can pass this information onto the Fire District customers.

Mark Raimo, Town Manager commented that information was not passed on to you but that is no result of towns actions. We have provided data; we are revising that data and we found a cost that should be included that we did not include in our first estimate. We are now waiting for return phone call from the Water & Sewer's attorney. We have made our efforts to get this information over and to get a response from the Watertown Fire District.

Chair Mary Ann Rosa added it's their attorney you are talking about, right?

Mark Raimo, Town Manager answered that is correct.

Frankie Popilowski, 35 Chestnut Avenue stated this has been dragging this on for years, you have to have some kind of clue. Waterbury's water is horrible; I will not drink it and cook with it. If we are going to be paying all this money out, they could give us decent water, it smells and tastes like mold. You put on here that the low residential use is now going to be 5,000 it was 12 that is your way of getting more money, you lower the gallons that you use per year. Do you have money in the town budget that is going to pay the increase in municipalities.

Mark Raimo answered we do not budget an exact amount for utilities.

Frankie Popilowski stated now we have to pay an extra \$284.00 which a typical resident uses more water. Do you have any money in the town budget that is going to pay the increase for municipalities?

Mark Raimo answered we do not budget an exact number for utilities.

Frankie Popilowski stated here we go again exact amount again when you already know what we are going to have to pay, you still can't give us a number. When do you see what you are doing to the rate payers and the tax payers? You said you based the gallons usage on 12 to 24 historic usage that is not true. Are you going to tell us how much the town has to pay? You lied about the money being in water & sewer. Why wasn't this meeting on the Time Times? Are you going to put the August 27<sup>th</sup> meeting on there.

Chair Mary Ann Rosa answered we are not the editor of the paper, we can't tell them what to put in.

Mark Raimo commented I would like to correct the record; I was not the Town Manager that was in charge when this started but I am responsible for navigating this and I am listening to your comments and appreciating them.

Frankie Popilowski stated you knew about this when you took the Town Manager's job elected by the Town Council.

Mark Raimo answered it is not under my prevue to make decisions; this is not my decision.

Frankie Popilowski stated have more consideration for the rate payers and the tax payers because the tax payers have to pay a part for this too. They don't wat to believe that, but it is true. We are paying twice because we have to pay the taxes and pay our own rates.

Mark Sebastianelli, 7 Warwick Road stated in the Waterbury Republican they asked that the Watertown Fire District was overcharging the Town of Watertown for the water rate, now was that from 2018 to 2025?

Mark Raimo answered I don't have the year but I believe it's been longer than that.

Mark Sebastianelli, asked the rates are going up from 328 per thousand gallons to the Water Fire District customers to 984 per thousand according to the Waterbury Republican newspaper. Let's say it was 2018 to 2025 seven years, when we start paying the new rates that is going to take seven years from 2025 to 2032 will our rates go from 984 to 459 per thousand gallons.

Mark Raimo answered I don't have that information on that if you would leave your number, I would be happy to get that information and I can post it on the website with an answer. The other question I had is their any way we can lower the bond rating from 34 million to say 30 million do you have any town properties you can sell and apply to the bond. For example, on Route 262 east and Route 262 west across the street from the Uncommon Grill the parcel of land that was suppose to build a gas station is now overgrown with weeds. Could we get a Cumberlands Farms in there or a Texas Roadhouse restaurant and sell the property?

Chair Mary Ann Rosa stated we don't own the property; we can't sell it.

Mark Raimo added we did consider looking at property that we could sell that would be a short-term answer to help offset the cost. We do not have real estate that would bring that value down much. I do believe this bond would offset it is going to be closer to the 30 million or maybe even less. It is a banding process where we take short term loans to create. It would pay to Waterbury and then Watertown would actually have it bonded the exact amount. We will provide a full accounting to what's being bonded and we will be held accountable to what is in the bond ordinance. It's not like we can put a project up on 262 and develop something and add this to the bond.

Cynthia Tun, 1362 Litchfield Road stated I am rather happy that I not a member of the Water & Sewer program here in Watertown. But I am a citizen and have empathy and compassion for town members and citizens who do have to face this. With this bond that you are going to obtain who is going to monitor the payment of the money and report it out to the townspeople on a monthly basis so that we know that the money is being managed correctly.

Chair Mary Ann Rosa answered payments are handled by our Finance Department that monitors our course.

Cynthia Tun will this audit of the grant be provided to the townspeople on a monthly basis?

Chair Mary Ann Rosa answered I don't believe that is how it normally works. I believe it is an annual audit.

Cynthia Tun stated that money could be spent anyway that anyone in this town choses without any reporting to the people of this town.

Chair Mary Ann Rosa answered that is not correct, it's never happened.

Cynthia Tun asked can you imagine the trust of the Republicans government in the Town of Watertown had eroded. It is a critical issue because I am concerned as a tax payer is that I would never trust this government with the management of a 34 million bond. In 2017 or 2018 when the same rates were applied to Middlebury, Naugatuck, Wilton, Prospect all these townships guess what they did, they paid the new rates. We deserve and we deserve to be communicated with.

Barbara Zulkeski, 17 Mallory Road stated I am going to read what I put on Facebook; I am a registered Republican I am proud to say that and I am disappointed in the Town Council and our Town Manager. It was a reckless gamble with our money both Town Manager's acted far outside their authority and the Town Council sat back and allowed it. Mr. Raimo, I like you I have respect for you but when you came into office you could have changed what the previous Town Manager did. We should sue both Town Manager's and Town Council and if their bonded those bonds should repay the loss because the people who cause this mess should have to pay for it and not the ratepayers. I am the Treasurer for the Fire District and I see the bills every month and I am not talking for the Fire District but can you clarify to me what the Fire District overcharged anybody in WSA? We have been playing catchup on the advice of the attorney that represents the Fire District that we should start raising our rates. I am pulling up my bill right now, I am a single person I don't water my lawn, I water my garden every other day for 5 minutes so I can have fresh produce. My minimum charge which is passed on to everybody in the Fire District is 37.87 that is for water. Our monthly sewer minimum charge is 31.52 how much do we have to take on. Not just in the Fire District who only uses sewer because we have our own water. Watertown is becoming a want to be Greenwich and not all of us can afford it.

Chair Mary Ann Rosa stated the Town Manager for clarification never had an opportunity to reverse any actions by the council even if he wanted to, that is not an authority that he has or option.

Mark Raimo responded I don't believe I said the Fire District overcharged the town. The discussion point was of a section of town in which the Fire District charged an upgraded amount and the town never took that amount and passed ...

Barbara Zulkeski stated you are talking about Platt Road; this is controlled by WSA and not the Fire District.

Mark Raimo added that is the point I was trying to get to. It never came into my mind that WFD is over charging the WSA. That is not in my mindset and it is nothing I wrote and I ever discussed. The only piece was that one area that WFD charged appropriately and it was the WSA that did not pass that price.

Barbara Zulkeski stated this is correct but that is not how it sounded.

Mark Raimo responded because there is an emotional piece that everybody is getting into and we are missing the facts. I am willing to sit down with anyone and talk through the facts. I have been putting out a frequently asked questions bulletin. We openly communicate; we are trying to get the information out there.

Brenda Tate, 24 Knowlton Street stated this is not all your fault, this is a town that has been asleep for a long time. This started in 2016 and if people would attend meetings, they would see what is going on. But no one attends these meetings, no one goes to the WSA and Fire Districts meetings. They are all in the meeting minutes when it started with the car wash on Straits Turnpike to today. There are court documents where Mr. Pilicy said to the Interim Manager at the time we advise to start putting some money aside you could lose this, no one read those documents. Noone read anything, not even you. All of us are to blame, it is not one-sided or one person. I think we all have to work together as residents to do the best we can to fix it and move forward and make change. But we need more people to become more active in more meetings, everybody has to take a part and do something. There were red flags along the way and someone could have said something bad is happening.

Chair Mary Ann Rosa read one comment online.

Attached letter

## Second Ordinance

Jerry Lukowski, Director of Public Works gave a presentation on the condition of roads in town and reviewed the Pavement Management Program.

Attached presentation

### Public comments and questions:

Franklin Pilicy, 235 Main Street stated I would like to compliment Jerry and all in the Public Works. Often individuals that I run into will make a comment to me about how good the Public Works Department has been working around town the last couple of years. I tell them to pass that on to the Public Works and the Town Council. I am here to speak for all that have mentioned to me the complimentary aspects of what's going on with Public Works and I thank the council for supporting Public Works. I thank the Town Manager for supporting Public Works and I thank Jerry because he's done a great job and has been a great credit to Watertown.

Mike Fusco, 917 Hamilton Avenue stated I also complement you on your crew. I have seen those guys I know a lot of them; they do a really good job, I think we have one of the best Highway Departments in the state. As far as those people making claims, I live on Hamilton Avenue the speed limit is 30 most people go by my driveway when I am getting my mail speed like 50 or 55. It wasn't the roads fault it was their fault.

Tom Donston, 320 Park Road stated most of these roads need to be rehabbed from the ground up. The water system and everything it has go. Most of our water pipes are 70, 80 years old. Forty years ago, someone sold this town a bunch of corrugated pipes. Look at Echo Lake Road, look what happened to it. Now we are putting plastic in the ground, nothing stops water, the best pipe to put in the ground is round circle concrete pipe. That is the best pipe to put in the ground. I have done this business for 40 years, I know I see what the roads do. Just shimming the roads, you are just wasting asphalt at \$93 a ton. Do a road, fix some potholes.

Cynthia Tun, 1362 Litchfield Road stated Mr. Lukowski great presentation, thank you so much. I have definitely noticed a difference. I will never forget back when I called in 2013, 2014 and said this one particular road is not doing well and needed to be repaved. They said, well maybe in 80 years before Baldwin Road would be taken care of in any way. It seems a little loosey goosey with how you are going to use your money. I am not questioning your integrity in any manner. Based upon what we have been experiencing recently here in town, when I see this long list of the things that money can be spent on, I start getting nervous. Is there a way we can tighten that up a little bit, to show where the money is going?

Jerry Lukowski, Director of Public Works answered it's on the pavement list for the 3-year program, each and every road that we are going to work on.

Cynthia Tun stated regardless of how that money is spent the roads are going to be done?

Jerry Lukowski answered it depends on the utilities companies if there is a construction coming in, it depends if we have another 18 August storm that set us back, there is a lot of variables.

Cynthia Tun stated it is such a shame that we have to spend 30 million on water & sewer when that could have been applied to our infrastructure.

Barbara Zulkeski, 17 Mallory Road stated I am in full support of the 10-million-dollar bond. To the gentlemen in the Public Works, you are doing a fantastic job. I want to read what I wrote on face book regarding the wording of the bond. This language leaves far too much room for discretionary spending without precise accountability. While milling, paving and other improvements sound straightforward, the proposal's broad wording, other improvements, other expenses related to the project opens the door to costs far beyond road work. A ten million dollars appropriation requires a detailed itemized plan before approval, not just a blank check. Taxpayers deserve exactly which roads are being milled and paved, the projected cost for each, and how much is allocated to non-paving expenses like consultants, legal fees, police and temporary interests. The clause granting the Town Manager and designees the authority to reduce or modify the scope without further approval is particularly troubling. This effectively removes public oversight once the funds are approved. The trust has already been broken with the Republican Party in town. The only responsible path forward is to demand a full transparent breakdown of all costs, a firm project list and safeguards preventing reallocation without public consent. Ten million should fix roads not fund an open-ended wish list.

Chair Mary Ann Rosa noted the ordinance language is guided by our guidance from the bonding firm, the way they wanted the bond language to be written.

Katherine Camara, 31 Cottage Place stated on the presentation talking about the 3 years, there was 4 years up there it was still 2025. I don't know 2025 is up there as part of what were bonding or that is what is going on now or going to be finished.

Jerry Lukowski answered the bonding is focused on a portion of 2025 to finish and also the 3 years 26, 27 & 28.

Katherine Camara asked I did see Guernseytown Road was in 2025 and then you said you just got off Guernseytown Road. Is Guernseytown Road completed or will this 11 million dollars go towards Guernseytown Road.

Jerry Lukowski answered Guernseytown Road we do it in sections. The northern section of Guernseytown Road that we are going to work on next. Guernseytown is 5 or 6 sections of the road going on for about for 10 years.

Katherine Camara asked back in 2025 a pipe broke in the road leading to my house. It was December 17<sup>th</sup> my basement was flooding continuously. The road crew out to plow realized that I had a leak. After New Year's I had my road dug up and my yard dug up, all pipes put in. The same thing happened to house a few years before mine. Then it happened to three more after mine and we were all replacing those pipes. We were told then they we were going to need all new piping. When you are going to be paving our road will the pipes never be done.

Jerry Lukowski answered that the first thing that has to be done is we have to put a camera in all these roads they we are going to pave, the camera will be in the storm water waterlines.

Frankie Popilowski, Chestnut Avenue stated my street wasn't on the list but is has to be fixed. What happens in that case?

Jerry Lukowski answered I still have to look at during the rain even and see what you are talking about. I can't see it during dry weather conditions unfortunately that is where we do have the 10 million of halves and 30 million of have nots. Everyone asked me what about my road and I say 40 million dollars.

Frankie Popilowski stated the water is ponding, winter is coming, it's all ice. If a car comes whipping around the corner it will hit the townhouse on the end and it will damage mine. Water is still coming down the driveway and it's going down the gully. She asked is the Town Council and the Town Manager bonded?

Chair Mary Ann Rosa answered that is something we would look into and advise you about. Our Town Manager is definitely bonded I know.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mary Ann Rosa, Chair  
Watertown Town Council

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Susan King, Clerk

RECEIVED

AUG 12 2025

TOWN MANAGERS OFFICE  
WATERTOWN, CT

I find the Water/Sewer debacle very confusing. Please clarify the following so I can make an informed decision when I vote.

A breakdown of the WSA/Water & Sewer Customers, billed amount owed versus their interest amount owed; Fire Dist/WSA Sewer only Customers, billed amount owed and their interest owed, Lawyer Fees owed.

Customers deserve to know what it is they are paying for and the breakdown of the \$34,000.000.00 bill the Town of Watertown is giving to Users who didn't opt in for 18 percent interest fees.

Please see attached chart for customer charges versus interest and lawyer fees.

Nancy Drumm  
Watertown

Cannon Ridge

# Town of Watertown, Connecticut Water & Sewer Litigation & Strategic Options Overview

---

Summary of bonded debt repayment, strategic options for the WSA, and impacts on ratepayers.

Who is  
Responsible  
for Repaying  
the Bonded  
Debt?

---

\$34M litigation bond:  
Repaid by WSA  
ratepayers

---

Watertown Fire District:  
Expected contribution to  
litigation bond

---

Litigation bond could be  
reduced/eliminated  
under strategic options

# Why Bond?

Avoids 18% statutory interest + 8% post-judgment interest

Secures lower interest rates, thereby reducing the total cost.

Debt management strategy to support AA Bond Rating

Estimated monthly interest accrual without bonding: \$355,000

# Estimated Rate Increases

- \$34M, 20-year bond @ 4.25% interest

- Annual cost  $\approx$  \$2.56M

- Equal-share illustration: \$568/year, \$142/quarter, \$47/month per account

- Actual increases proportional to usage



# Estimated Proportional Impact

USAGE LEVEL	ANNUAL GALLONS USED	ESTIMATED ANNUAL COST	ESTIMATED MONTHLY COST
Low Residential	5,000	\$284	\$23.67
Typical Residential	10,000	\$568	\$47.33
High Residential	20,000	\$1,136	\$94.67
Small Business	50,000	\$2,840	\$236.67
Large Business/Manufacturer	200,000	\$11,360	\$946.67

Determining  
Each  
Ratepayer's  
Portion

Based on historical  
usage (12–24  
months)

Proportional to each  
customer's share of  
system consumption

# Will This Referendum Raise Taxes?



No direct property tax  
increase anticipated



If costs exceed budgets,  
they may flow into the  
municipal budget,  
potentially affecting taxes



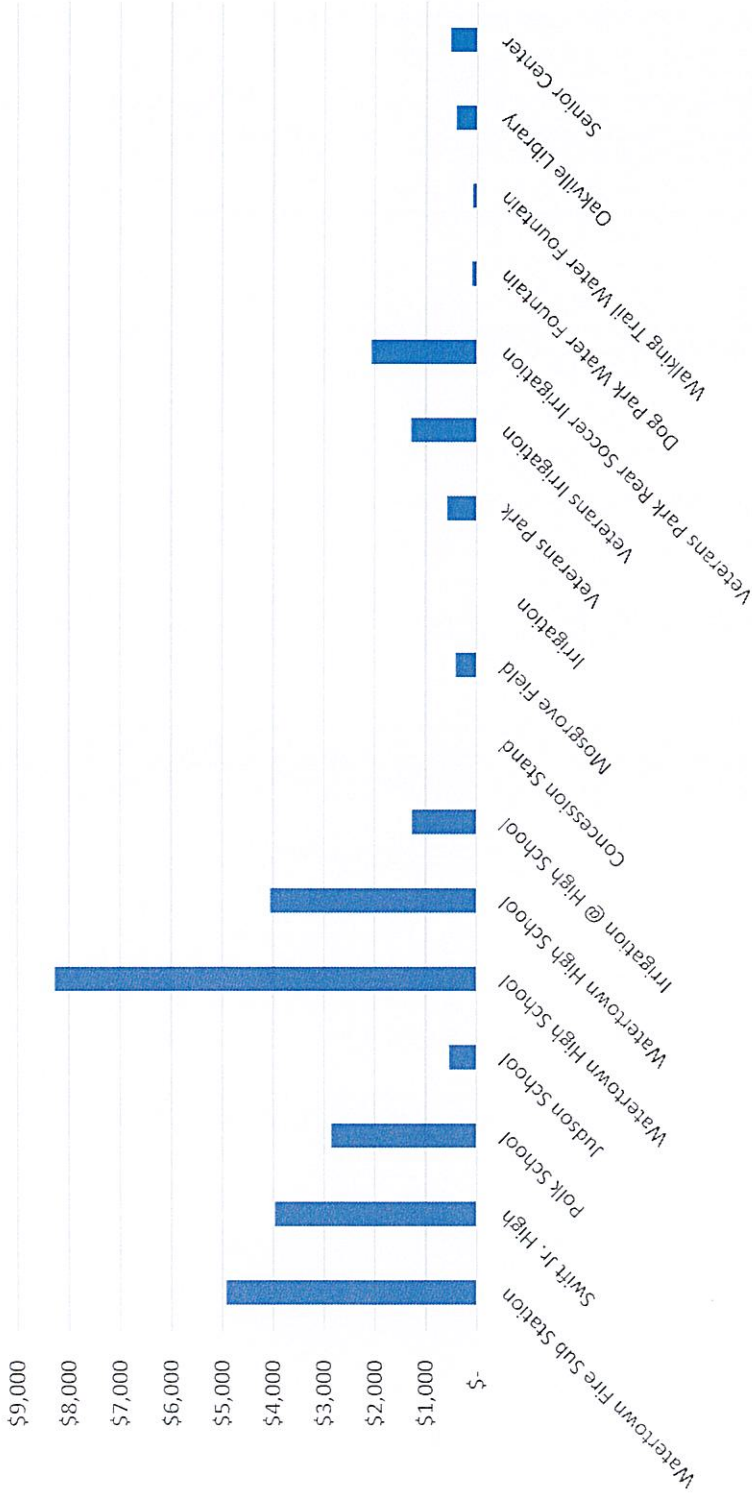
Water and sewer rates will  
increase as part of recovery  
strategy

If You  
Have a  
Well and  
Septic  
System

Not affected by  
Waterbury-related  
bonding or rate  
increases

Potential impact only if  
municipal budget is  
affected by overruns

### Total Charges: Billed from 7/1/2024 – 8/6/2025



### General Fund Budget Impact

The Town has 8,933 taxable residential properties, 1,299 businesses, and 25,599 motor vehicles (including MV Supplemental Accounts), totaling approximately 36,169 taxable accounts.

If we exclude motor vehicle taxes, the estimated impact to the General Fund budget would be \$31,451.54, divided among 10,232 taxpayers.

- Annual cost per taxpayer: \$3.07 (~\$0.26 per month)
- Annual cost per taxable account (all 36,169 accounts): \$0.87

Note: This calculation does not reflect any change to the tax rate.

If You  
Live in  
the Fire  
District

---

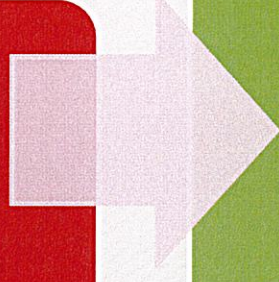
Rate adjustments  
determined through  
Fire District  
governance

---

Coordinated with  
Town for consistent  
approach

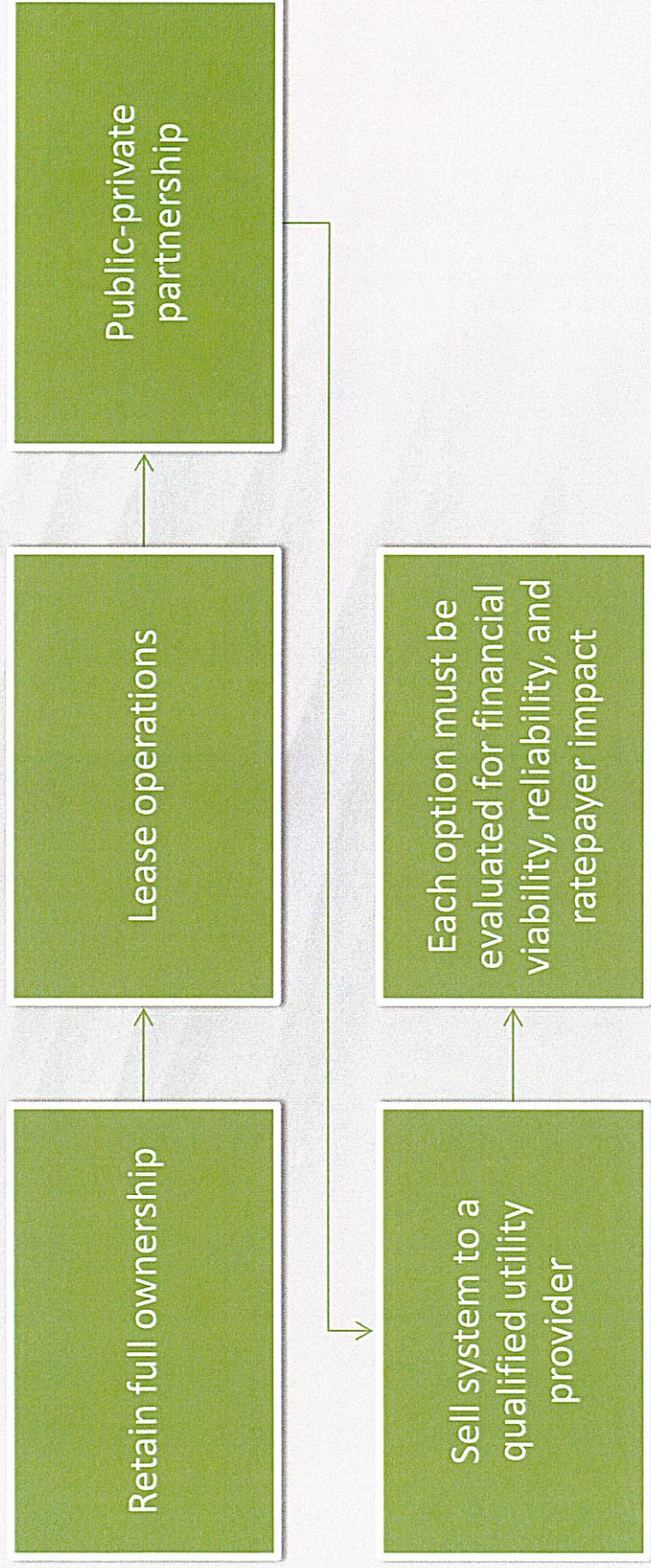
# If the Referendum FAILS

JUDGMENT REMAINS DUE;  
INTEREST CONTINUES TO  
ACCRUE MONTHLY



TOWN MAY RESORT TO  
LESS FAVORABLE  
FINANCING

# WSA Strategic Options



# Impact on WSA Staffing

---

Dependent on selected option

---

If transferred: Retention, severance,  
impact bargaining to be negotiated

---

Goal: Fairness and minimal  
disruption

# System Valuation

PROFESSIONAL VALUATION  
CONSIDERS:

- PHYSICAL ASSETS

- INFRASTRUCTURE CONDITION

- REGULATORY COMPLIANCE

- PROJECTED REVENUES/EXPENSES

# Ensuring Local Control if Ownership Changes

Enforceable service  
quality standards

Rate-setting  
protocols

Public accountability  
provisions

PURA oversight for  
private purchasers

# Long-Term Rate Management Plan

01

IMPLEMENT RATE  
STABILIZATION  
PLAN

02

EVALUATE  
STRATEGIC  
OPTIONS FOR THE  
PATH FORWARD

03

EVALUATE  
SUPPLEMENTAL  
REVENUE  
OPPORTUNITIES

# Pavement Management Program \$10M Bond - 2025

Jerry Lukowski  
Director of Public Works  
Watertown

12 AUG 2025 – Version 3

# Pavement Management

Road Surface Rating (RSR)  
(State Average 72 )

- 2022 = 61 RSR
- 2023 = 63 RSR (if no work in the past two years 58 RSR)
- 2024 = 64 RSR (If no work this past two years 55 RSR)

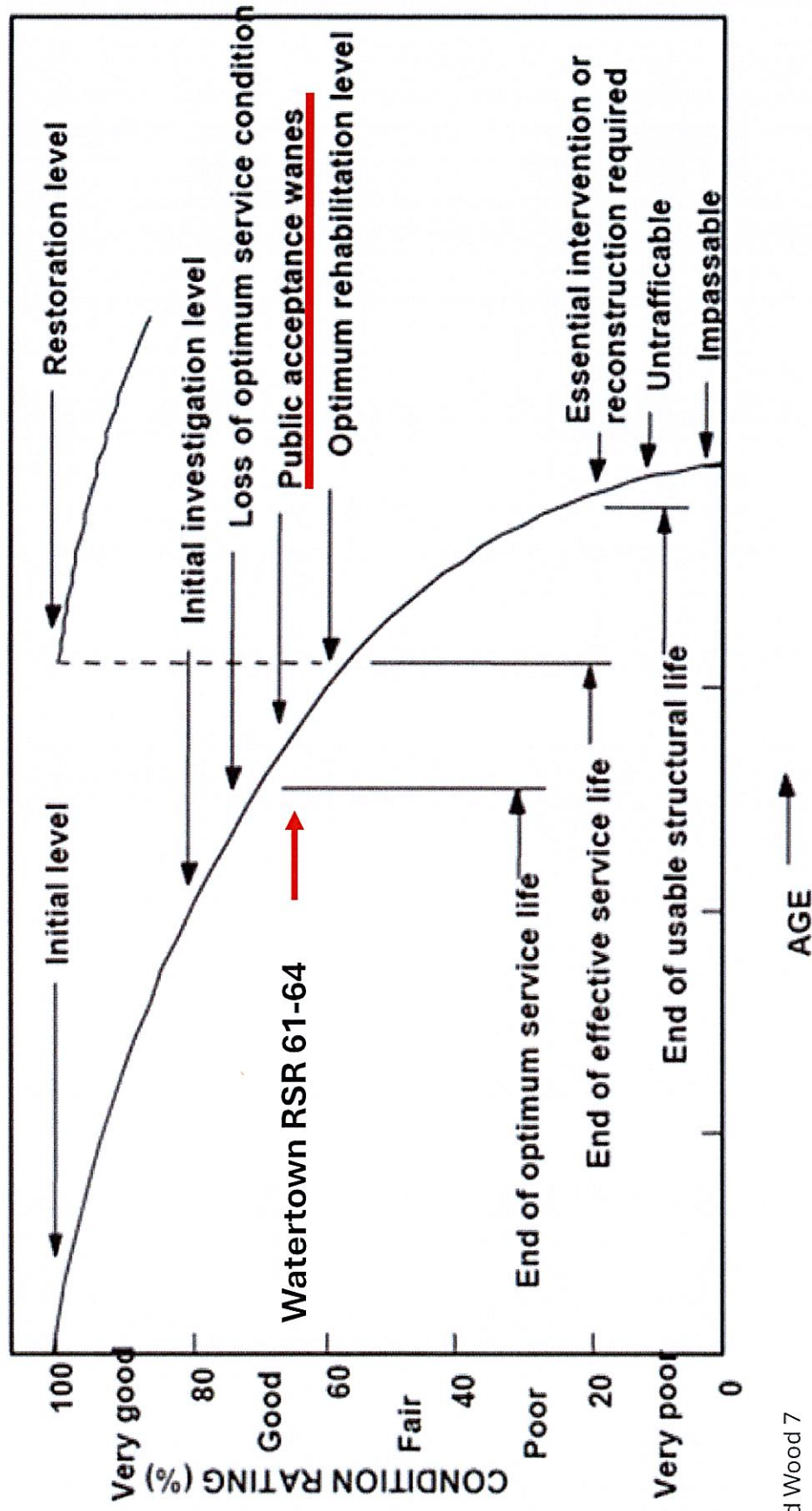
Town Bonding

- Request \$10 M in Bonding - 2025

Notes:

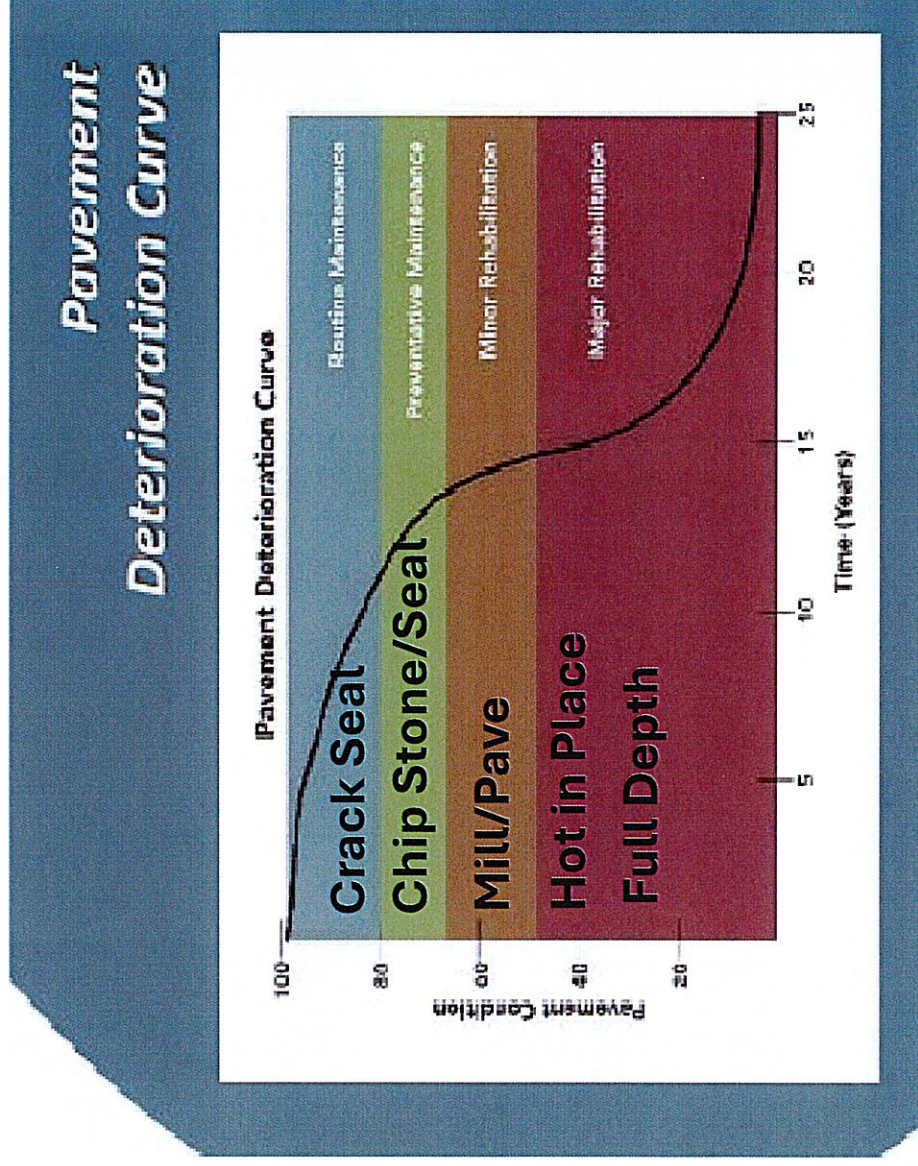
- Each Year we lose Life to our Road Network
- Estimate a drop of 3 RSR Points \$1.5 M in Value
- State Average is 72 – Our Initial Goal

# Pavement Management Program

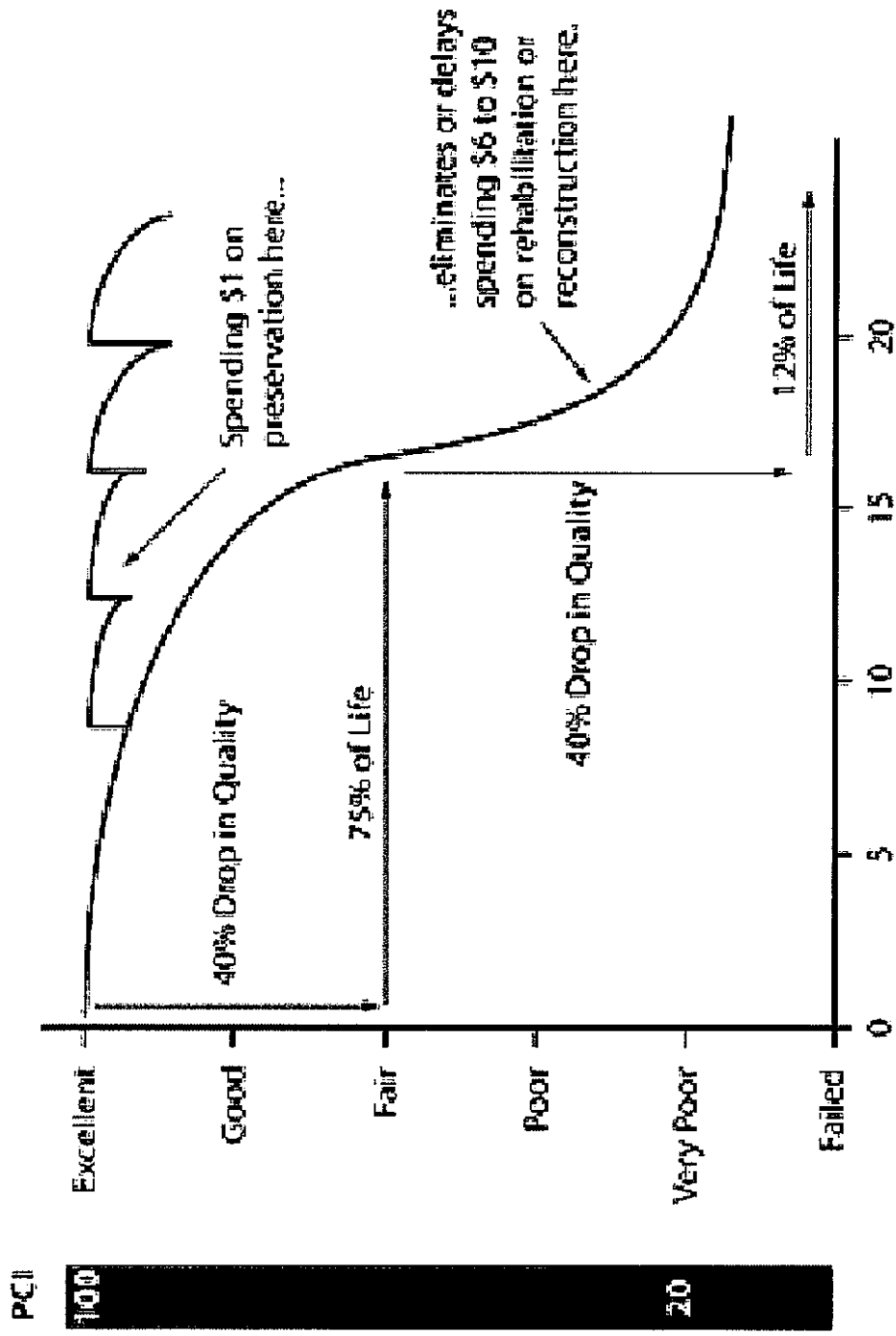


# Pavement Management Program

## Types of Treatment lined up w/ Condition of the Road



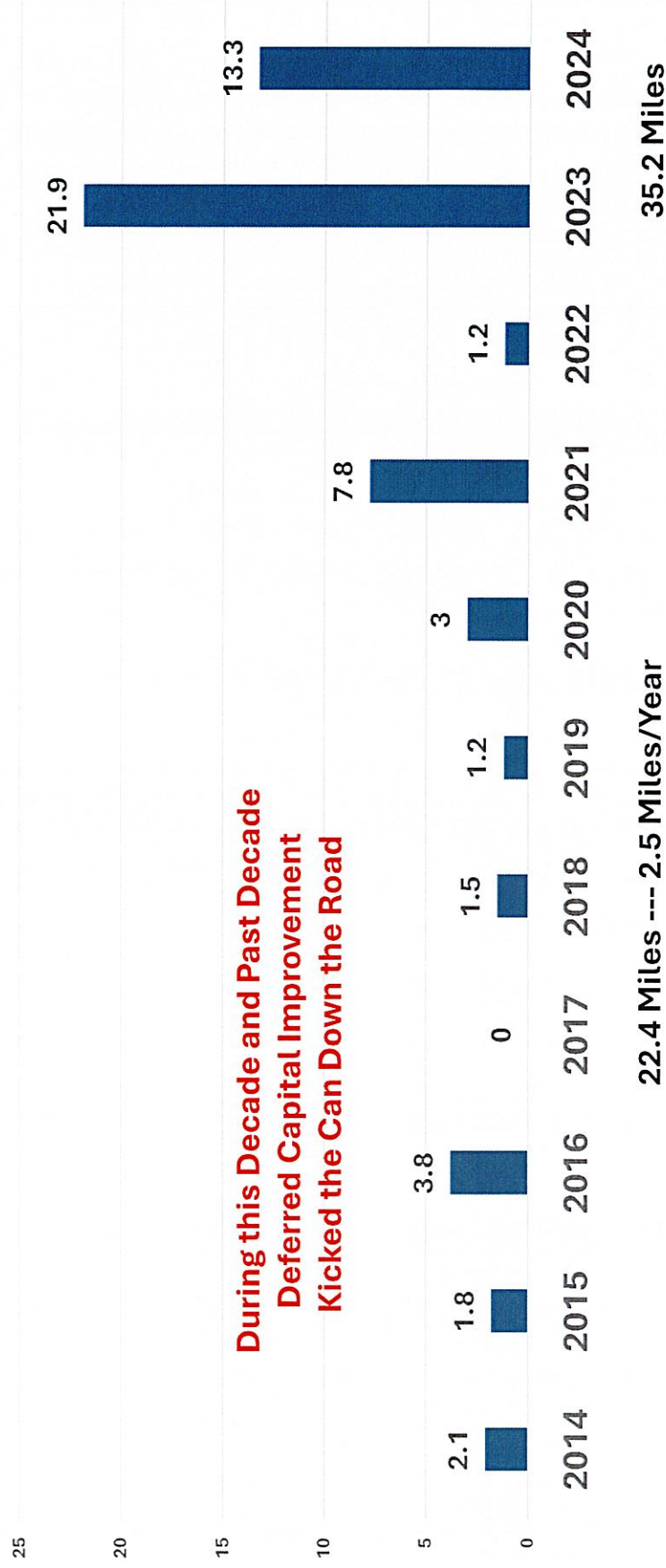
# Pavement Management Program



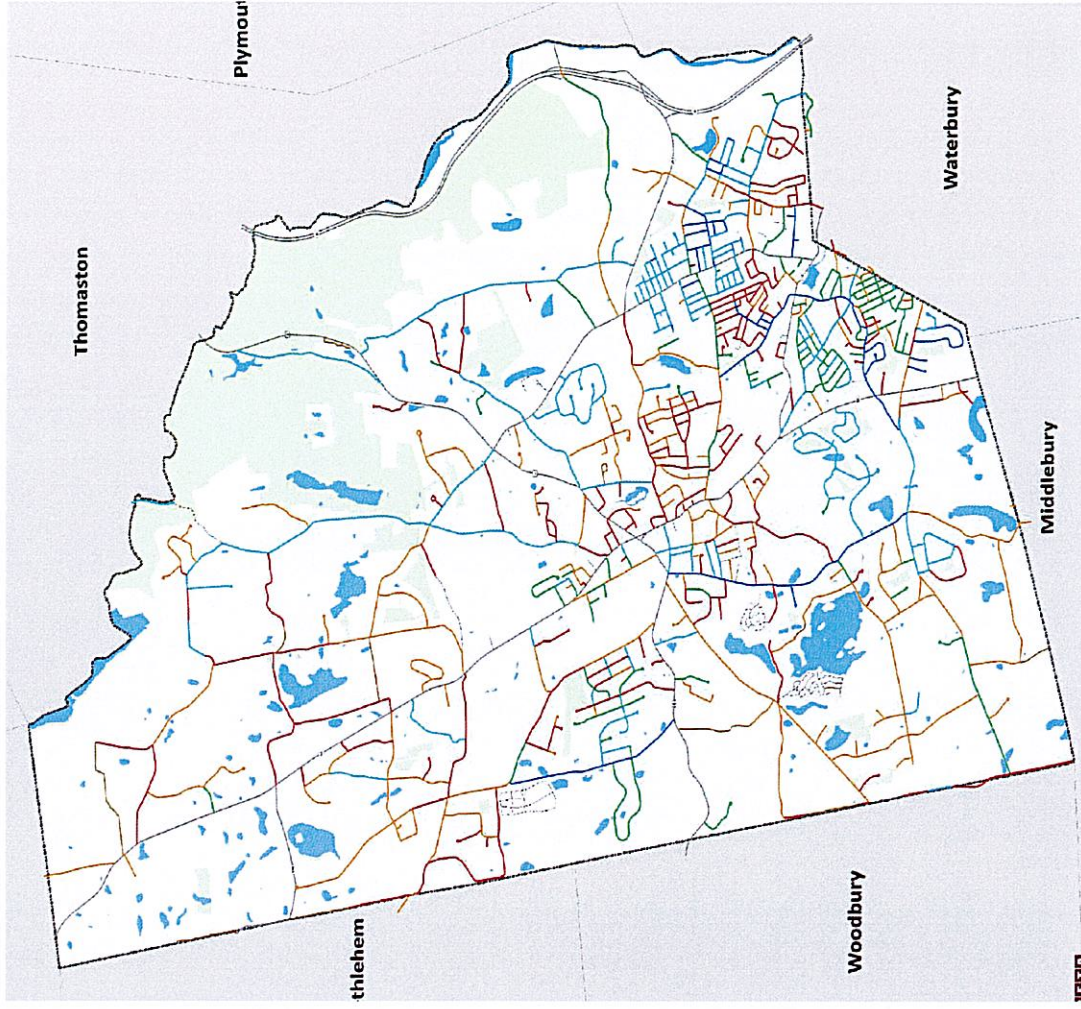
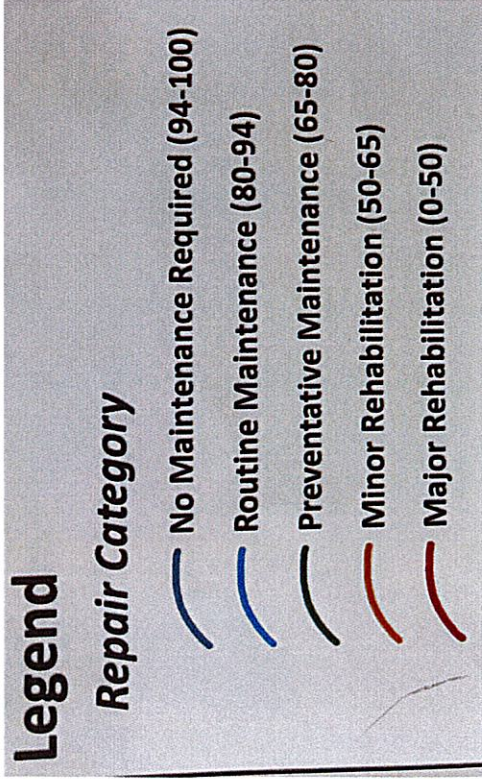
# Watertown DPW Miles (Road Treatment)

RSR 2024 64.31  
UFR \$40.4 Million

Dated 16 JAN 2025



# Watertown Paving Management Program



# Watertown, CT

## Estimated Roadway Improvement Costs

Repair Method	Length (Miles)	Square Yards	Percent Repair	Estimated Cost
Major Rehabilitation	35.65	510,307.35	25.11%	\$24,494,752.98
Minor Rehabilitation	43.83	663,508.67	30.87%	\$12,739,366.50
Preventative Maintenance	18.17	292,815.82	12.80%	\$2,811,031.85
Routine Maintenance	34.20	520,640.81	24.09%	\$390,480.61
No Maintenance Required	10.12	153,107.61	7.13%	\$0.00

Total:

Average RSR By Segment:

\*RSR - Road Surface Rating (0-100)

# Watertown Paving Management Program

## Current Year w/ 26/27/28

### Watertown CT Three Year Road List

#### 2025 ROADS

JERCHIO RD  
 AVALON AVE (Chip Seal)  
 BALDWIN ST(Chip Seal)  
 BARNES RD (Double Chip Seal)  
 BASSET RD NORTH (Pending Hot in Place)  
 CHIMNEY RD (Pending Hot in Place)  
 GUERNSEYTOWN RD (Fog Seal)  
 HAMILTON AVE(Chip Seal)  
 KILLORIN RD (Fog Seal)  
 LAKE WINNEMAUG RD (Double Chip Seal)  
 LEDGEWOOD RD (Pending Hot in Place)  
 LEE ST(Chip Seal)  
 LEWIS DR (Chip Seal)  
 LINKFIELD RD (Pending Hot in Place)  
 MCDONNELL RD (Double Chip Seal)  
 NETTLETON ST (Fog Seal)  
 NIEL DRIVE(Pending Hot in Place)  
 NOVA SCOTIA HILL RD(Pending Hot in Place)  
 PARK LN (Chip Seal)  
 RADNOR LN (Chip Seal)  
 ROBERT ST(Chip Seal)  
 SILLS DR (Chip Seal)  
 WILLIAMSON CIR (Chip Seal)  
 Wilson Dr (2' Milling and Drainage)

#### 2027 ROADS

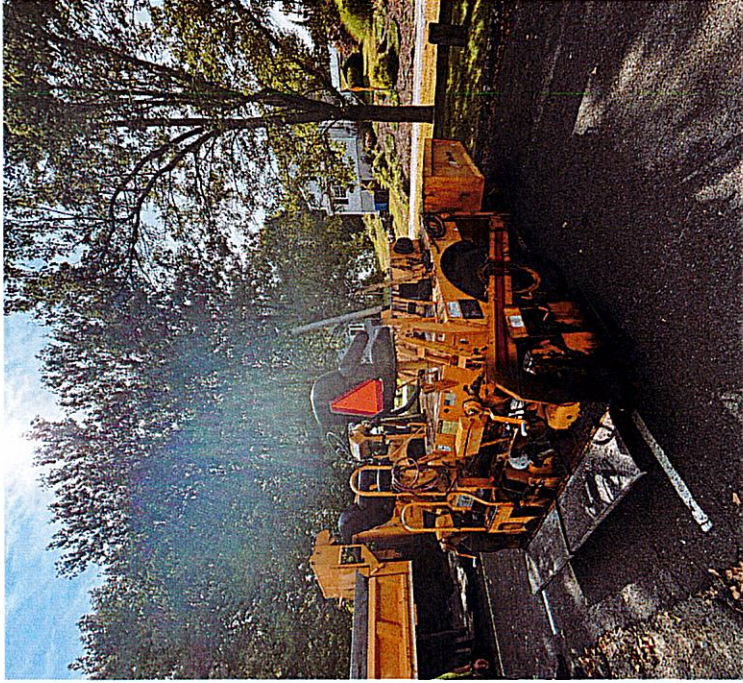
TARBELL AVE  
 BALL FARM RD  
 BEARDSLEY AVE  
 COTTAGE PL  
 EARLE AVE  
 FAIRVIEW AVE  
 FLAGG AVE  
 HENRY ST  
 HIGHWOOD AVE  
 HUGHES AVE  
 PHELPS AVE  
 PLEASANT VIEW ST  
 PROSPECT AVE  
 ROACKLAND AVE  
 SAUNDERS AVE  
 SLADE AVE  
 SQUIRE CT  
 TAFT AVE  
 TUCKER AVE  
 WARNER AVE  
 ZOAR AVE

#### 2026 ROADS

SKILTON RD (Pending Hot in Place)  
 AUBREY CT  
 BROOKVIEW CIR (Pending Hot in Place)  
 CHARTER OAK DR (Pending Hot in Place)  
 ECHO LAKE RD (Pending Hot in Place)  
 FARM CIRCLE (Pending Hot in Place)  
 FARVIEW CIR (Pending Hot in Place)  
 HINMAN RD (Pending Hot in Place)  
 ICE HOUSE RD (Pending Hot in Place)  
 WHEELER FARM RD (Pending Hot in Place)  
 SKILTON RD (Pending Hot in Place)  
 AUBREY CT  
 BROOKVIEW CIR (Pending Hot in Place)  
 CHARTER OAK DR (Pending Hot in Place)

#### 2028 ROADS

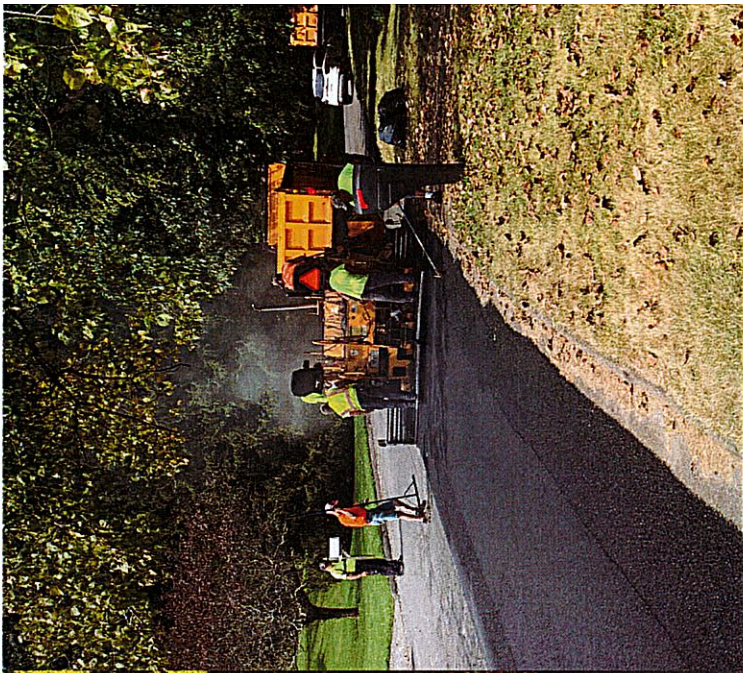
DEPOT ST (Pending Hot in Place)  
 ADAMS ST  
 BIRCH ST  
 BURTON ST  
 CLIFF ST  
 COLLINS ST  
 CRESTWOOD AVE  
 EDGE RD  
 ELM ST  
 GILBERT LN  
 GREENWOOD ST  
 HART ST  
 INNES RD  
 JASON AVE  
 JENTA LN  
 LAKE RD  
 LANCASTER ST  
 MALLORY RD  
 MORELAND AVE  
 MT VERNON  
 PROSPECT ST  
 RUSSELL AVE  
 WEST RD  
 WESTBURY PARK RD  
 WILLIAMS AVE  
 WOODGATE CIR



Vintage 25 Years Old

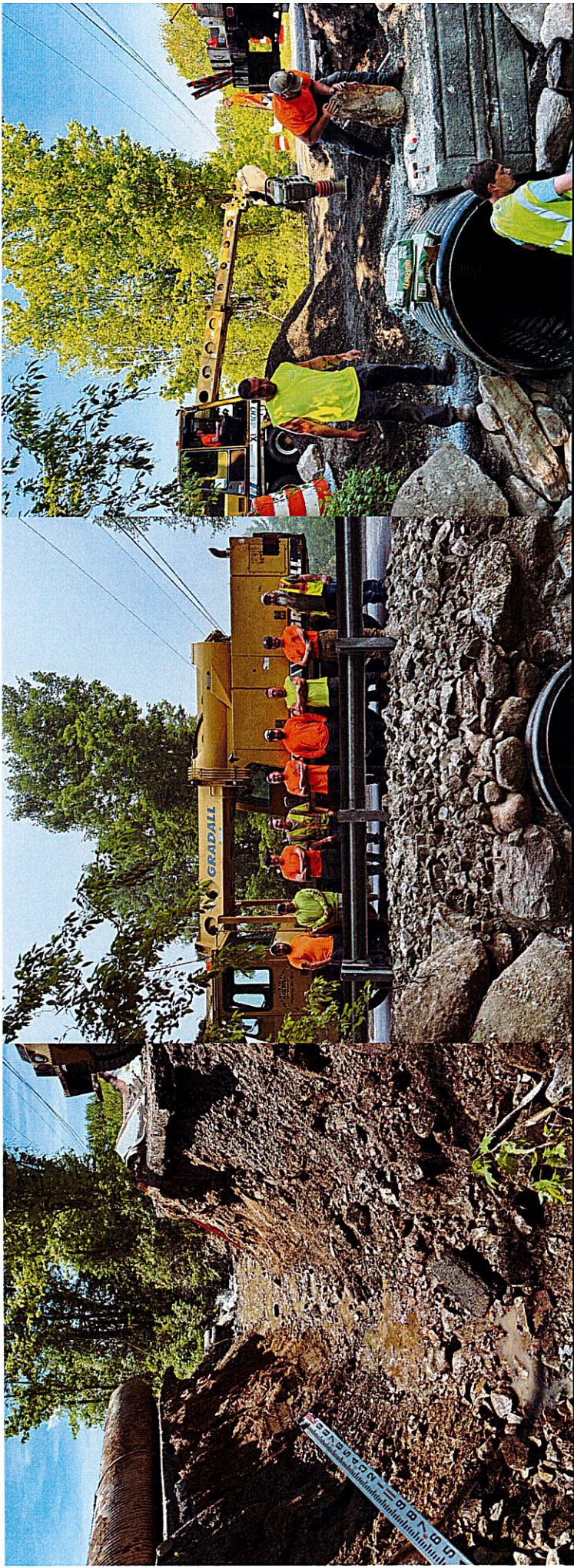


Sylvan Lake Road 2024



Farmdale Rd 2024

# Highways - Shim/Skim



Highways - 2024  
48" Culvert Pipe Replacement  
Northfield Rd

Pavement Management Program  
\$10M Bond - 2025

Jerry Lukowski  
Director of Public Works  
Watertown

**THANK YOU**