



**TOWN COUNCIL
WATERTOWN, CONNECTICUT
MONDAY, JUNE 1, 2026
REGULAR MEETING – 7:00 P.M.**

**MOTIONS
WATERTOWN TOWN HALL
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
61 ECHO LAKE RD.
WATERTOWN, CT 06795**

1. Call Meeting to Order.
Chairman Jonathan Ramsay called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance.
Chairman Jonathan Ramsay led the pledge of allegiance.
3. Moment of Silence in Honor of Michele McHugh.
4. Roll Call.

Jonathan Ramsay, Chairman
Dan Cocchiola
Ken Demirs
Robert Desena
Carina Noyd
Robert Retallick
Mary Ann Rosa
Rachael Ryan

ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Mark Raimo, Town Manager
Maria Guerrero, Finance Director

Prior to the beginning of the first agenda a motion was made to move an item on the agenda.

Motion: Mary Ann Rosa seconded by Robert Retallick: I make a motion to move Public Participation to item 7.

Motion passed unanimously

5. Discussion with Harris Beach Murtha, Attorneys at Law, regarding the dispute involving the City of Waterbury/Watertown Fire District, including an update on accounting, billing analysis, financial review, and related support.

No action or discussion.

6. Executive Session. – Discussion of strategy regarding pending claims in the dispute involving the City of Waterbury/Watertown Fire District. – Members of the Water and Sewer Authority will be invited to participate in the discussion.

In Executive Session at 7:13 p.m.

Motion: Mary Ann Rosa seconded Robert Retallick: I move to enter Executive Session with

- Members of the Water and Sewer Authority - Joseph Masi, Thomas Claire, Marisa Mancini-Cavallo, Keith Franson, James Sugden, Raymond Primini, Adam Simonsen
- Atty. Dan Canavan and Atty. Jennifer Morgan from Harris Beach Murtha
- Mark A. Raimo, Town Manager
- Paul Jessell, Town Attorney
- Members of the Watertown Town Council Present

Motion passed unanimously

Out of Executive Session 8:05 p.m.

- 8 Public Participation.(Moved to Item 7)

The Town Council invites the public to speak during Public Participation. Please complete and submit a *Watertown Town Council Public Participation* form if you wish to speak at the meeting. Copies are available on the Town's website and at the meeting. Speakers are limited to three minutes each.

9. Minutes.

- a. May 18, 2026 – Regular Meeting.

Motion: Mary Ann Rosa seconded by Robert Retallick: I move to approve the Regular Meeting minutes dated May 18, 2026 as presented.

Motion passed unanimously

10. Chairman's Report.
 - a. Correspondence.
 - i. Resignation from Bob Marinaro as a member of the Planning and Zoning Commission, dated May 27, 2026
11. Staff Reports.
 - a. Town Manager.
 - b. Finance Director.
12. Subcommittees.
13. New Business.

Moved Item 7: Discussion and possible action regarding funding strategies related to potential litigation involving the City of Waterbury/Watertown Fire District.

More information is needed and without objection we will move on to the next item on the agenda.

- a. Consider appointments to boards and commissions.

Motion: Mary Ann Rosa seconded by Ken Demirs: I move to appoint Enrico Sarandrea, 21 Emile Avenue, Oakville as a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals as a regular member of the Zoning Board of Appeals to fill the remaining term of Mr. Phillippe Roger who has resigned for a term to expire January 31, 2028.

Motion passed unanimously.

- b. Discussion with Barry Bernabe of Phoenix Advisors, and possible action, regarding options for the \$34 million BAN/bond conversion related to water and sewer debt.

Motion: Mary Ann Rosa seconded by Rachael Ryan: I make a motion we approve Option one.

Motion passed unanimously.

- c. Consider authorizing an appropriation of \$927.40 from the Jahana Hayes Communications Grant to account 262.50320.511.0000.9062 for Change Order No. 4 for the communication upgrade project.

Motion: Mary Ann Rosa seconded by Robert Desena: I move to authorize an appropriation of \$927.40 from the Jahana Hayes Communications Grant to account 262.50320.511.0000.9062 for Change Order No. 4 for the communication upgrade project.

Motion passed unanimously

- d. Consider the budgets for Fiscal Year 2026–2027.

Motion: Robert Retallick seconded by Ken Demirs: The split between the town and the school, 40% by the town and 60% by the school. We cut \$1.3 million dollars with that 40/60 split.

Chairman Jonathan Ramsay stated the motion was for a 1.3 million with a 60/40 split, 520 for the town and 780 for the school.

Aye: 2 Retallick, Demirs

Nay: 6 Cocchiola, Desena, Noyd, Ramsay, Rosa, Ryan

Abstain: 0

Motion failed.

Motion: Mary Ann Rosa seconded by Robert Desena: I propose a cut of \$500,000 for the town and \$500,000 to the BOE.

Aye: 5 Ramsay, Retallick, Desena, Demirs, Ryan

Nay: 3 Cocchiola, Noyd, Ryan

Abstain: 0

Motion passed.

Motion: Mary Ann Rosa seconded by Robert Retallick: I move to approve the following budgets to be sent to referendum.

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| | |
| A. Town General Fund | 39,571,355 |
| B. School General Fund | 59,511,962 |
| General Fund Total | 99,083,317 |
| C. Water Extension | 0 |
| D. Sewer Extension | 0 |
| E. Sewer Operations | 6,748,016 |
| F. Sewer Capital | 0 |
| G. Water Operations | 3,560,586 |
| H. Water Capital | 0 |
| I. Water and Sewer Debt | 2,537,566 |
| J. Crestbrook Golf Operations | 1,120,765 |
| K. Town Road Aid | 471,772 |

| | |
|------------------------------|---------|
| L. Local Capital Improvement | 240,055 |
| M. Debt Service Fund | 0 |

Motion passed unanimously.

- e. Consider setting the date for the machine vote on the Fiscal Year 2026–2027 budgets.

Motion: Mary Ann Rosa seconded by Robert Retallick: I move to approve the Referendum Notice and date for the machine vote on the 2026-2027 Budgets as follows:

A referendum of electors and citizens qualified to vote in Town Meeting of the Town of Watertown will be held on Tuesday, June 23, 2026 between the hours of 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. to vote for the approval or disapproval of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Budgets.

Voting will be at the following polling places:

- Voting District 68-01 – Watertown High School, 324 French Street, Watertown, CT
 - Voting District 68-02 – Judson School, 124 Hamilton Lane, Watertown, CT
 - Voting District 68-03 -Swift Middle School, 250 Colonial Street, Oakville, CT
 - Voting District 68-04-Polk School, 437 Buckingham Street, Oakville, CT
- Persons qualified to vote in Town Meeting who are not electors shall vote at the Office of the Registrar, 61 Echo Lake Road, Watertown, Connecticut.

Absentee ballots may be obtained at the Town Clerk’s Office.

Motion passed unanimously.

- f. Consider setting ballot for Fiscal year 2026-2027 budgets.

Motion: Mary Ann Rosa seconded by Robert Retallick: I move to approve the questions for the referendum as follows:

1. Shall the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Town General Budget be approved in the amount of \$39,571,355 and shall the following Fiscal Year 2026-2027 budgets be approved in the amounts of:

| | |
|------------------|-------------|
| Water Extension | 0 |
| Sewer Extension | 0 |
| Sewer Operations | \$6,748,016 |
| Sewer Capital | 0 |
| Water Operations | \$3,560,586 |
| Water Capital | 0 |

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------|
| Water and Sewer Debt | \$2,537,566 |
| Crestbrook Golf Operations | \$1,120,765 |
| Town Road Aid | \$471,772 |
| Local Capital Improvement | \$240,055 |
| Debt Service Fund | 0 |

2. Shall the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 School General Fund Budget be approved in the amount of \$59,511,962?

Motion passed unanimously.

- g. Consider setting the mill rate for the first installment of real estate taxes due and payable on July 1, 2026.

Motion: Mary Ann Rosa seconded by Ken Demirs: I make a motion (see resolution) that we set the mil rate at 30.04 for the first installment of the real estate taxes due and payable on July 1, 2026.

Motion passed unanimously

- h. Consider a resolution authorizing the transfer of funds between line items for Fiscal Year 2025–2026.

Motion: Mary Ann Rosa seconded by Robert Retallick: I make a motion we consider a resolution authorizing the transfer of funds between line items for Fiscal Year 2025–2026.

Motion passed unanimously

13. Adjournment.

Motion: Ken Demirs seconded by Dan Cocchiola: to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 9:47 p.m.

Motion passed unanimously