

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

**Date: March 09, 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 October 14, 2025 Meeting Minutes
- 6. Correspondence**
  - A. None
- 7. Old Business**
  - A. DPW Update – Positive Work
  - B. Paving Program – \$10M Bond & Highway Paving Complete 2025
  - C. Steele Brook Greenway – Precon Completed – NTP March 1<sup>st</sup>
  - D. St. John Wall
- 8. New Business**
  - A. Winter 2026
  - B. 2026 Public Works Subcommittee Meeting Dates Reminder
  - C. CIP Book
  - D. Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Budget
- 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**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**

Date: October 14, 2025

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: Watertown Town Hall  
Planning & Zoning Conference Room  
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, Rachael Ryan, Ken Demirs, Gary Lafferty

**Also Present:** Jerry Lukowski, Joe Millette, Carissa Plourde

**Absent:**

**4. Public Participation**

None

**5. Minutes**

Robert Retallick asked for an approval motion for the August 11, 2025 meeting minutes. Robert Desena makes a motion to approve the minutes. Seconded, by Gary Lafferty. All in favor.

**6. Correspondence**

A. Civil Dispute – 08/22/2025

B. Civil Dispute – 09/22/2025

The meeting was called to order after resolving technical issues with the online connection. It was noted for the record that the meeting had already proceeded through Public Participation and Correspondence prior to recording being established.

**7. Old Business**

**A. Paving Program – \$10M Bond & Highway Paving Complete 2025**

Discussion focused on ongoing roadway maintenance efforts and funding implementation.

- The department has been addressing potholes continuously since March, exceeding typical seasonal repair durations.
- The recently approved \$10M bond will be implemented in phases, with approximately \$6M initially and \$4M requested in 18–24 months.
- Funding may be applied to drainage and pipe lining work in addition to paving.
- Planned inspections include video assessment of 10–20 miles of underground piping to prevent failures after resurfacing.
- Alternative resurfacing approaches (hot-in-place recycling and rubber-modified treatments) are being evaluated for cost efficiency.
- Staff reported resurfacing over 400,000 sq. ft. of roadway in three months using 3,700+ tons of asphalt (approx. 7 miles equivalent).
- Repairing paving equipment for \$2,600 enabled continuation of the paving program.
- Positive feedback was expressed regarding roadway rehabilitation results and crew performance.

**B. Main St – Tighe & Bond/FHI Public Info Meeting – Thursday Oct 23<sup>rd</sup>**

- A public information meeting was scheduled for October 23<sup>rd</sup> featuring open house review and formal presentations.
- Project includes improvements supported by a \$3M federal grant.
- Design concepts include sidewalk bump-outs to improve pedestrian visibility and crossing distance.
- Stakeholder outreach included consultation with local officials, veterans groups, and public safety leadership.
- Traffic signal flow changes were discussed and generally supported after evaluation.
- Parking visibility and pedestrian safety concerns were raised and identified for further review with designers

**C. Steele Brook Greenway – 100% Design – Special Town Meeting Monday Oct 20<sup>th</sup>**

- Final design completed; special town meeting scheduled to approve funding.
- Total project cost slightly over \$3M with approximately 80% federal reimbursement (net local share approx. \$600K).
- Acquisition of six rights-of-way underway.
- Bidding targeted for November with award in January.
- Tree removal required before April 15 due to environmental permitting restrictions.
- Project includes new pedestrian bridge connections to expand recreational corridor access.

**D. Main Street / Davis St RRFB Update & DOT Future RRFB**

- Adjustments required due to state inspection review; beacon heights must be raised and control boxes repositioned.
- Retrofit costs on Main Street estimated at \$7,500 but covered by funding.
- Davis Street work funded separately with no additional cost impact.
- Additional beacon installations approved at multiple locations near schools and pedestrian routes, funded by the state.
- Parking visibility, enforcement concerns, and speed-related safety issues were discussed.
- Coordination with police and future traffic enforcement measures (including camera programs) noted as separate jurisdiction.

**E. Highway Garage Renovation Update**

- Roof replacement, window installation, HVAC upgrades, and new emergency exit door completed.
- Office addition exterior substantially complete; interior finishing underway.
- Electrical panel replacements scheduled.
- Security gate and site paving improvements installed.
- Guardrail added to protect office occupants from vehicle hazards.
- Project supported by combined local and state funding.
- Committee acknowledged improved staff morale and operational benefits.

**F. Detention Basin**

- Cleaning of approximately 50 municipal detention basins nearing completion ahead of initial schedule.
- FEMA-related funding supported accelerated progress.
- Work expected to reduce flooding and sediment impacts.
- Coordination with commercial property owners ongoing regarding basin maintenance responsibilities.
- Clarification provided distinguishing catch basins from detention basins and overall system scope.

**8. New Business**

**A. Veterans Day Conflict – Cancel or Reschedule?**

**Alternative Dates: Nov 17<sup>th</sup> before TC 6:00pm OR Nov 24<sup>th</sup>**

- Meeting date conflict discussed.
- Tentative plan to cancel original date and provisionally hold November 17th meeting if required, depending on pending business needs.

**B. Bid Waiver Pavement Manager BETA**

- Proposal presented to waive bid process and continue with consultant performing prior road study.
- Expanded scope includes 360° roadway imagery, sign inventory, pavement marking inventory, and guiderail evaluation.
- Motion approved to forward bid waiver recommendation to Town Council.

**C. 2026 Public Works Subcommittee Meeting Dates**

- Dates previously approved; informational review only.
- Future planning to include scheduling of 2027 calendar to avoid special meetings.

**D. Public Works Citizen Academy – Tuesday Oct 28<sup>th</sup> @ Highway Garage**

- Program scheduled at Highway Garage rather than council chambers.
- Members invited to attend and review renovation progress.

**E. First Responder Recognition**

- Public Works recognized alongside police and fire departments by community foundation.
- Recognition acknowledged and documentation displayed.

**F. DOT Direct Funded Projects**

- Overview of state-managed transportation projects including signal upgrades, crosswalk improvements, and pedestrian accommodations.
- Noted that projects remain in planning/design phases and are managed by state district offices rather than town staff.

**9. Transfers and Appropriations**

A. None

**10. Adjournment**

Robert Retallick makes a motion to adjourn. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Robert Retallick, Chairperson

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Jerry Lukowski, Director of Public Works