



WATERTOWN COMMISSION ON AGING REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

**WATERTOWN TOWN HALL
FIRST FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
61 ECHO LAKE ROAD, WATERTOWN, CT**

Thursday, September 17, 2026

I. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Melanie Flaherty, Chair

II. Roll Call

PRESENT: Melanie Flaherty, Chair
Debra Desena
Alan Mickel
Wilbur Hughes, Vice Chair
Sally Kuslis
Amy Quinnan
Andrea Corcoran
Tracy Dasilva

ABSENT: Cynthia Blanchard

OTHERS PRESENT: Michael Ganem, Director of Parks, Recreation, Senior, and
Social Services

III. Public Participation – NONE

IV. Correspondence –

- Grant award letter from the Thomaston Savings Bank Foundation

V. Approval of Minutes:

August 20, 2026, Regular Meeting

*Motion by Amy Quinnan, to approve the minutes of the August 20, 2026, meeting.
Second by Alan Mickel.*

*Motion to amend the minutes of the August 20, 2026, meeting by Alan Mickel.
Seconded by Wilbur Hughes.*

*Amendment to VI. Reports #C. Senior Center Coordinator/Municipal Agent:
To ensure statistics reports are made available to anyone in the public that would be
available through an FOI request.*

*In favor: Debra Desena
 Alan Mickel
 Wilbur Hughes
 Sally Kuslis
 Amy Quinnan
 Tracy Dasilva*

Opposed: Melanie Flaherty

Abstain: Andrea Corcoran

*Motion to approve the minutes as amended by Amy Quinnan. Seconded by
Alan Mickel.*

*In favor: Debra Desena
 Wilbur Hughes
 Sally Kuslis
 Amy Quinnan
 Tracy Dasilva
 Alan Mickel*

*Opposed: Andrea Corcoran
 Melanie Flaherty*

Motion passed 5 to 2

VI. Reports

A. Chairman – no report

B. Parks & Recreation Director

Michael Ganem:

- Written report is attached to the minutes

C. Senior Center Coordinator/Municipal Services

Laura Garay:

Provided a written report (attached to the packet)

D. Sub-Committee on Mission Statement

Amy Quinnan summarized that the sub-committee will be working to identify the community's priority needs and the ways to deliver/meet those priorities

- VII. Old Business- the commission requested clarification on some of the FASC data reported this evening. What falls under the "other" category? What is a "Sr. Center Activity?" The commission asked if handrails will be installed on the new walkway installed at the FASC.
- VIII. New Business – Alan Mickel presented details about information available to the public about senior resources.
- IX. Adjournment -

Motion: Alan Mickel, seconded by Sally Kuslis to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:13 P.M.

The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie Flaherty, Chair
Watertown Commission on Aging

Approved: _____
Susan King, Clerk



Thomaston Savings Bank Foundation, Inc.

203 Main Street, P.O. Box 907
Thomaston, CT 06787
P: 860.283.1874 | F: 860.283.2529
www.thomastonsavingsbank.com

Stephen L. Lewis, President

August 25, 2026

Jeanne Vichioli
Town Of Watertown- Parks and Recreation Dept.
61 Echo Lake Rd.
Watertown, CT 06795

Dear: Jeanne Vichioli

Congratulations! On behalf of the Thomaston Savings Bank Foundation, Inc., I am pleased to advise you and your organization that an award of \$1,181.31 has been approved towards your grant request. It has been a rewarding process to learn about your organization, recognize your merits and help make an important contribution to your efforts.

The Thomaston Savings Bank Foundation, Inc. has carefully reviewed your request and has allocated the grant proceeds to be utilized solely for funding the following purpose (s):

To assist in funding the purchase of (2) vacuum cleaners

As indicated in your email notification, grant funds will be disbursed electronically. If you have not yet done so, please complete the Grant Agreement and ACH Authorization form attached to your grant application at your earliest convenience so that we may begin the electronic transfer process.

We are proud of the well-established Thomaston Savings Bank Foundation, Inc. and the Phase II funding of **\$196,405** to local charitable causes. As you may be aware, these funds are to be distributed to benefit the citizens of the Thomaston Savings Bank assessment area. Any acknowledgment of our grant to the public would be greatly appreciated.

Please accept my best wishes for a promising and rewarding upcoming year. Thank you for all the good work you are doing to make our community a better place.

Sincerely,

Stephen L. Lewis
President
THOMASTON SAVINGS BANK
FOUNDATION, INC

To: The Commission on Aging
From: Michael Ganem, Director of Parks and Recreation
Date: September 17, 2026
Subject: Director's Report – September 2026 Updates

1. Transportation & Fleet Management

5310 Grant & Senior Bus Acquisition

- **Master Agreement Executed:** The Master Agreement for our newest wheelchair-accessible senior bus via the DOT Section 5310 Grant has been fully executed by both the Town Manager and the State. We anticipate vehicle delivery within the next couple of months.
- **Fleet Transition Plan:** With the new bus incoming, we are initiating the formal process to liquidate our 2014 bus. In the interim, we intend to maximize the utilization of the 2014 vehicle for local trips to get full operational value from the asset prior to final disposal.

2. Seasonal Programming & Event Acknowledgments

Senior Picnic Success

- **Event Thank You:** A sincere thank you to everyone who participated in, organized, or attended the annual Senior Picnic at Veterans Park on August 28. Community involvement is what makes these events successful and impactful for our local seniors.

Autumn Activities

- **Fall Scheduling:** Autumn is a fantastic season for our senior center community to enjoy the favorable weather. We are actively leveraging these optimal conditions to provide outdoor programs and local trip opportunities over the coming weeks.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Ganem

Director of Parks and Recreation

Town of Watertown, CT