

Town of Watertown
Town Council
PUBLIC WORKS SUBCOMMITTEE
Special Meeting Agenda

Date: June 15, 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. Main St Watertown – T & B at 65 + % Design /// Heminway Design
- 8. New Business**
 - A. Spring Work – Highway Superintendent
 - B. PFAS/PFOS ongoing testing for perimeter and household wells at the Transfer Station
 - C. Household Hazardous Waste Event – 18 JULY 2026 – Southbury
 - D. CCGP – Community Connectivity Grant Program – Pin Shop
 - E. MEMO: St John Wall Bid – “CCGP” – Dayton Construction (see attachment)
 - F. MEMO: Milling & Paving Bid – Cocchiola Paving (see attachment)
 - G. MEMO: Request for funds – Steele Brook Greenway Phase #3 (see attachment)
 - H. Next Public Works Subcommittee Meeting – 10 AUG 2026
- 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
-

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 18th

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.

**Public Works Department
Jerry Lukowski
Director**

**Paul Bunevich
Town Engineer**



**Watertown Town Hall
61 Echo Lake Road
Watertown, CT 06795
(860) 945-5240**

www.watertownct.org

Date: June 10, 2026
To: Mark Raimo, Town Manager
From: Jerry Lukowski, Public Works Director
Subject: Bunker Hill & Wilson Drive Milling and Paving Bid

The Public Works Department requests approval to award the milling bid for Wilsons Drive and Bunker Hill Avenue to Cocchiola Paving of 1380 Echo Lake Road, Watertown, Connecticut, with Stony Brook Construction, also of 1500 Echo Lake Road, Watertown, Connecticut, serving as subcontractor. Both firms are local contractors.

Bids for the milling and paving project were opened on 29 May 2026. The top four bids were separated by only 0.0% to 1.3%, and Cocchiola Paving's proposal was just 0.5% higher than the lowest bid.

Because the bids were so close, the Town proposes to exercise the provision in the bidding documents that permits selection of a bidder other than the lowest bidder. The Notice of Bid states that the Town of Watertown reserves the right to consider the residency of bidders and the location of their businesses within the Town when evaluating and awarding the bid.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jerry Lukowski", is written over a horizontal line.

Jerry Lukowski
Director of Public Works

Public Works Department
Jerry Lukowski
Director

Paul Bunevich
Town Engineer



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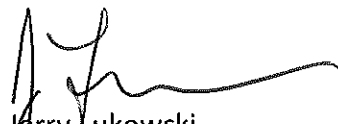
www.watertownct.org

Date: June 10, 2026
To: Mark Raimo, Town Manager
From: Jerry Lukowski, Public Works Director
Subject: St John Wall Bid

I respectfully request consideration of Dayton Construction for the St. John's Retaining Wall Project, consistent with the Hometown Contractor, if permitted under Connecticut Department of Transportation requirements. Dayton Construction is a qualified Watertown-based contractor willing to match the lowest bid while providing substantial local economic benefit and self-performing most of the work. Their experience, local presence, and commitment to the community make them a strong candidate for this project.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Respectfully submitted,



Jerry Lukowski
Director of Public Works

**Public Works Department
Jerry Lukowski
Director**

**Paul Bunevich
Town Engineer**



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Date: June 10, 2026
To: Mark Raimo, Town Manager
From: Jerry Lukowski, Public Works Director
Subject: Request for Funds – Steele Brook Greenway (SBG) Improvements – Phase #3

Public Works respectfully requests authorization for \$175,000 to fund the construction of the proposed Steele Brook Greenway Improvements – Phase #3 project. These funds will be fully reimbursed through the Urban Act Grant Program, under which the Town of Watertown has entered into a grant agreement.

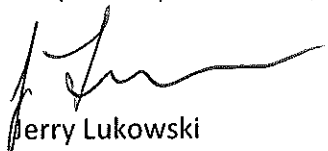
The proposed work represents a continuation of the Steele Brook Greenway Phase #2 project, which is currently under construction and extends from French Street to the UNICO Bridge. Phase #3 will continue the Greenway from the UNICO Bridge to the existing pedestrian bridge on Main Street.

The project generally consists of the construction of approximately 1,400 linear feet of a 12-foot-wide paved multi-use trail, along with the replacement of three culverts as required to support the trail improvements and ensure proper drainage.

Authorization of these funds will allow the Town to proceed with construction and satisfy the requirements of the Urban Act Grant Program.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Respectfully submitted,


Jerry Lukowski
Director of Public Works