

WHY WATERVILLE NEEDS A CHANGE

Five sourced facts about taxes, spending, and downtown decline in Waterville — straight from the public record.

- 1** Waterville's newest city budget raises the property tax rate about 5% — from \$17.00 to \$17.84 per \$1,000 of assessed value.
SOURCE: Kennebec Journal / Morning Sentinel, centralmaine.com — July 20, 2026
- 2** That budget grew city spending 9% in a single year and leaned on \$2 million in one-time reserve funds just to balance — even Mayor Morris called it “unsustainable” when he vetoed it.
SOURCE: Kennebec Journal / Morning Sentinel, centralmaine.com — July 20, 2026
- 3** Weeks earlier, the City Council rejected its own amended budget outright and ordered deeper cuts after disputes over staffing and reserve-fund draws.
SOURCE: The Maine Monitor, themainemonitor.org — June 5, 2026
- 4** A state-certified needle exchange has had every site it proposed in Waterville turned down for years, leaving pickup limited to mobile outreach in homeless encampments.
SOURCE: Maine Morning Star, mainemorningstar.com — November 25, 2024
- 5** Two Main Street businesses that anchored downtown Waterville for 44 years — Lebanese Cuisine and Paragon Shop — closed for good, with owners pointing to downtown decline and rising costs.
SOURCE: Kennebec Journal / Morning Sentinel, centralmaine.com — January 15, 2024

Waterville deserves better than this.

See the sources, read the coverage, and add your name to the pledge for change at:

MaineForKeeps.org/Waterville