

AGENDA
Jefferson Village Council
Order of Business

Date: Monday, September 18, 2023.

Regular Meeting 7:30 p.m.
Next Ordinance No. 23-(R/O) 3314

Meeting Called to Order by: Mayor Diehl

Pledge of Allegiance:

Moment of Silence

Opening Prayer:

Roll Call of Council: Damon, Dreier, Roderick, Sekanina, Szewczyk, Orvos

Corrections or Additions to the Agenda

Minutes: Addition/Correction

Motion to approve the Council Meeting Minutes of
September 5, 2023.

Motion: _____ Second: _____ Roll: _____

Motion to accept the Jefferson Cemetery Trustees
Meeting Minutes of August 7, 2023.

Motion: _____ Second: _____ Roll: _____

Visitor's Comments (five-minute limit per council rule #13)

DEPARTMENTS

Administrator

Clerk/Treasurer Fisher

Payroll Report/Special Pay Report

Chief Mackensen

No Report

Chief Lachey

No Report

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Building and Lands
Damon/Dreier

No Report

Forestry
Orvos/Roderick

No Report

Finance
Sekanina/Damon

No Report

Recreation
Roderick/ Sekanina

No Report

Motion for the Second Reading of Resolution No. 23-R- 3313

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 254.05 of the code of Ordinances of the Village of Jefferson, Ohio pertaining to Vacations and Holidays.

Motion: _____ Second: _____ Roll: _____

Motion to Suspend Council Rules Ordinance No. 2023-O-3313

Motion: _____ Second: _____ Roll: _____

Motion to Adopt Ordinance No. 2023-O-3313

Motion: _____ Second: _____ Roll: _____

Motion to approve Chief Maskensen's recommendation to move Patrolman William Dye who has completed his six-month step increase at the Detective/ Patrolman position. And receive a \$.50 per hour pay increase per the wage Ordinance effective September 18, 2023.

Motion: _____ Second: _____ Roll: _____

Motion to accept the Mayors recommendation to move Chief Chris Mackensen who has completed one year service to the Village of Jefferson. Chief Mackensen will move to the full rate for the Police Chief's position. per the wage Ordinance effective September 18, 2023.

Motion: _____ Second: _____ Roll: _____

Motion to approve the attendance of Police Chief Mackensen to attend the newly appointed mandatory police training Ohio October 16, 2023, through October 18, 2023. In Columbus Ohio at the Drury Inn. The Village will pay for the hotel, registration, and meals.

Motion: _____ Second: _____ Roll: _____

Motion to approve the Police Chief's
Recommendation to hire Nathaniel Talbert and Martin
Turek to the Part -Time (Non Road Qualified) position
at the Police Department at the rate of pay per the
Wage Ordinance pending their physical and
background checks effective September 18, 2023.
Motion: _____ Second: _____ Roll: _____

**Utilities/Wastewater Treatment/
Service**
Dreier/Szewczyk

**Motion for the Third Reading of Resolution No. 23-
R-3310**

A Resolution declaring the Road Maintainer and the
2013 Durapatcher owned by the Village of Jefferson to
be no longer needed for Municipal purposes and
authorizing the sale of each to the highest and best
bidder as is.

Motion: _____ Second: _____ Roll: _____

Motion to Adopt Ordinance No. 2023-O-3310

Motion: _____ Second: _____ Roll: _____

**Motion for the First Reading of Resolution No. 23-
R- 3314**

A Resolution declaring the official intent and
reasonable expectation of the Village of Jefferson
(Ashtabula County) on behalf of the State of Ohio (the
borrower) to reimburse its road fund for the East
Jefferson Street Improvements Project (OPWC project
number CG41Z/CG42Z) with the proceeds of tax
exempt debt of the state of Ohio and declaring an
emergency

Motion to Suspend Council Rules Resolution No.
2023-R-3314

Motion: _____ Second: _____ Roll: _____

Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 2023-R-3314

Motion: _____ Second: _____ Roll: _____

Mayor

No Report

**OLD BUSINESS/
NEW BUSINESS**

None

Visitor's Comments (five-minute limit per council rule #13)
CORRESPONDENCE

None

MEETINGS

None

Adjourn: Motion: _____ Second: _____ Roll: _____

Time: _____

**Unofficial Minutes of the Village of Jefferson. Minutes will be presented to
Council at the September 18, 2023, Council Meeting**

**VILLAGE OF JEFFERSON
COUNCIL MEETING**

September 5, 2023

Meeting called to order by Mayor Diehl.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Moment of Silence:

Roll call of Council Damon, Dreier, Roderick, Sekanina, Szewczyk- Absent,
Orvos.

Corrections or Additions to the Agenda:

Administrator Martuccio told Council that he had a letter he wanted to read after
his Administrator Report.

Minutes: Approval/Addition/Correction

Motion by Councilperson Roderick to approve the Council Meeting
Minutes of August 21, 2023.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Motion by Councilperson Damon to approve the Building Lands Committee
Meeting Minutes of August 21, 2023.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Motion by Councilperson Dreier to approve the Finance Committee Meeting
Minutes of August 21, 2023.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Visitor's Comments (five-minute limit per council rule #13)

Visitor's Comments

None

Also present:

Stephanie Wessell of the Gazette, Chiacchiero, Steve Fabel, Hendrik Wolfert, Ryan Williams, Kay Ann Brabender, Pat Bradek, John Perrotti, Mary Howe, Ken Fertig, Bill Painter, Darla Painter, Bill Niemi, Harold Specht, Chip Ashcraft, Chris Mackensen, Diane Mackensen, Jon Mc Mannes, Jake Rice, Kelly Butcher, Liz Cerlilla .

Departments

Administrator's Report

Village Administrator's report for the period ending September 5, 2023.

Projects update:

Project		Status	Vendor	Grant/Loan	Total Cost
ACTIVE PROJECTS	Project #				
WWTP Renovations	OPWC – R37	In Progress	CT Consulting	Engineering grant \$90,000	\$1,250,000
Market street & surroundings – Sewer lining	OPWC – R35	In progress	CT Consulting	\$198,000 Grant \$132,000 Loan	\$550,000
Falcon Way Reconstruction	OPWC – R36	Work started 8/31/23	CT Consulting	\$180,000 Grant \$50,000 Loan	\$460,000
E. Jefferson St - Reconstruction	OPWC – R36	Paving Complete – Storm to be done by Village	Smolen Eng.	49,950 Grant 49,950 Loan	\$199,900
2023 Village Paving		Complete	CT Consulting		\$224,765.76

Street Dept.

- Operating normal tasks.
- Our Street crew has been busy with removing old sidewalks and preparing for new sidewalks. All sidewalks on East Walnut are now complete.
- The E. Jefferson St reconstruction project is done as far as the paving goes. Our street crew will be working on replacing storm drains starting by the post office heading west. This will be part of our local contribution to this project.
- The Falcon Way project started August 31st with the installation of a catch basin and underdrains. Falcon Way was partially closed between Mulberry and the north exit to the HS parking lot. The Village Street crew also installed a temporary drive to allow access to the Board office parking lot. This temporary drive exits onto the section of Falcon Way that was done last year. This work saved the Village \$8,500 (amount that Ronyak would have charged if they performed this task) .

The schedule for reconstruction is the following: - September 7 to September 21 included – Pulverization & Stabilization (7-day cure time). This process consists in grinding/pulverizing in place up to a 12-inch depth. During this process, dry cement and water will be added to turn those 12 inches into a very strong road base. After the 7-day cure time, 4 inches of asphalt pavement will be added to complete the project. During this time Falcon Way will be CLOSED between Mulberry and the current drive to the Board office. This means that all traffic to and from the Elementary, Jr High and High School will be diverted to Mulberry St during those 2 weeks. All traffic to the Board office will be diverted to Falcon Way/South Poplar St.

It is important for the public to know that every effort was made to do this work when school was out. Unfortunately, we didn't receive approval from OPWC until July 2023. Then we had to go through Council approval, bidding, award & pre-construction process. We completed these tasks in record time but still not fast enough to get the project done before school started. There is no better time to get this road rebuilt considering that it has deteriorated beyond surface repair, and it would not hold up for another winter.

- We are looking at purchasing a new Ford F-550 with dump bed, plow and salt spreader. It is still very difficult to find a dealership that either has or can order this type of truck. Availability is very slim from the manufacturers.

Recreation Department:

- Operating normally.
- We are working on some ideas on how to improve and expand our gym. We would like to open the floor plan, add some natural lighting, and expand the back side into the current storage area. We are currently reviewing a preliminary plan.
- Katie and I had a meeting with Bob Smetana, a local Playground Equipment Services representative. He is working on a plan for the layout and use of the equipment we moved from the school. The plan includes adding swings at East Park by the pavilion, adding some equipment to the playground by Adams-W Monroe Cir. and replacing the south structure at Giddings with the one we removed from the current elementary school playground.
- The failed HVAC units at Giddings Hall has been replaced.
- Another HVAC unit on the community center has failed beyond repair. For this size unit we are looking at about \$15,000.

Wastewater Treatment Plant:

- Plant operations are running at fully acceptable levels.
- The Market Street and Sundry sewer lining project is complete. The contractor is supposed to send CT before and after videos for review before final payment can be issued.
- We are working with CT Consultants to identify areas of the WWTP that need to be overhauled. The EQ Tank project is part of the plan, and it will help both increase capacity and prevent/contain overflows.
- We have submitted 2 applications to OPWC for the WWTP. The first one is for the EQ Tank and the second is for the rehab of our clarifiers. It seems like the clarifier's application might have a good chance at getting approved.

Police:

Fire:

Other Items:

- For economic development purposes, we signed a consultation agreement with Small Nation. The Village of Jefferson and the Jefferson Area Chamber of Commerce will be splitting the \$12,000 fee in a 50/50 manner. We need to select up to 15 people among Village Officials, Chamber Members and stakeholders in our community to visit Bellefontaine on one of the following dates: September 26th or 27th , October 3rd or 4th (see attached agreement).
- We need to make a correction to the amended budget that we just passed at the last council meeting. The first change has to do with adding \$28,742.91 to the Special Fire Apparatus Fund. This is the Grant amount we are receiving from Firehouse Subs for the purchase of heavy rescue equipment. We had been told initially that Firehouse was going to pay the vendor directly. That's no longer the case and now they will be sending the village a check, so we must account for it in our budget. The other amount of \$15,000 to the street lighting fund had been discussed at the previous budget meeting but due to a clerical mistake, it never carried over to the budget.
- Aqua's water main replacement project on South Chestnut is now complete.
- We continue to ask all departments to be mindful of all non-essential expenses and we are trying to keep overtime to a minimum.

Properties with Code violations:

Address	Violation Type	Status	Comments

Administrator Martuccio read his letter to Council and the Mayor.

Dear Mayor Diehl, Members of Council,

Jefferson Village Residents,

Jefferson Village Employees,

Family and Friends.

I am very proud to be in front of you tonight knowing in my heart that from the time I became Village Administrator in 2019 I strived to make decisions that would further the interest of the Village, its' Residents, Businesses, and Employees.

It hasn't always been easy and there have been times when I have voiced my concerns and taken action to correct the issues at hand. In the end what really matters is what we, as a group, have been able to achieve in this Village. I think that we can all agree that the Village is in a better position today than it was 4 years ago.

We are financially stable; our budget has never been healthier.

We have done more projects and invested more money in our infrastructure; think of sidewalks, road reconstruction, bridges, drainage improvements, water line replacements. In the past 2 years alone, we have invested 1.1 million in improving and relining our clay sewer lines both on the East and West side of town. We tackled and solved issues that have been around since the 60's; think of the curve correction on South Poplar and Falcon Way. We have worked together with Jefferson Township to acquire the small tract of land on which the Helicopter Memorial is situated. We invested in better equipment for the Street Department and the Wastewater Department; I'm thinking of the Steiner tractor used to clear our sidewalks and mow our ditches and the self-propelled sewer camera system, just to name a few things.

We acquired the Memorial Field with the hopes of restoring it. I personally would like to see that space used by our community as a sports/entertainment venue for people of all ages. Maybe a baseball/softball field, soccer field, splash pad, and pickleball courts. At Giddings Park we now have a majestic pavilion that we use for community events; think of the festivals, concerts, movies in the park and weddings. These events bring people from the surrounding communities to our town. We are also working on fixing our playground; the idea here is to replace what is there now with 2 structures for all age groups and to add equipment for children with disabilities. At the Recreation Center we have a new roof. Activity levels are growing steadily, and our gym memberships are on the rise. We are looking at plans to expand the gym and to turn it into a more open and appealing space. Once we have done this, we can purchase more equipment as well.

Our safety forces have seen tremendous improvements. We were able to secure funding from USDA for the purchase of a new Fire Truck. Working with USDA was instrumental in obtaining a \$100,000 grant and a loan for about \$465,000 at a very low interest rate. Shortly, we should be receiving a \$28,000 grant from Firehouse Subs for the purchase of heavy rescue equipment. We were able to use federal funding for the purchase of one of our Police Cruisers. We invested in

technology to replace obsolete police camera systems both for officer and car cameras. Our Police car graphics have been redesigned to represent and consolidate support for our schools. We worked closely with Jefferson Rescue, Jefferson Township, and the County to purchase 3 new heart monitors. There is now a renewed sense of collaboration between Police, Fire and EMS like never before. All 3 agencies are now using the County Sheriff dispatch system so that everyone knows the same information when going out on a call. Last year, for the first time, Police, Fire, and EMS worked together on the awesome float that we all saw at the Christmas Parade. This year all safety forces participated in Water Wars with the Kids. What an awesome event that was, I had the most fun I've had in a while. It is this group of exceptional people working together that is keeping us safe, and I have the most profound respect and admiration for all of them.

On the economic development front, we are further ahead as well. We worked closely with Growth Partnership and Lake City Plating so they could start moving their operation to Jefferson. LCP plans to double in size in the next few years to about 250 employees. That means new jobs right here in Jefferson. The Village and the Chamber of Commerce have engaged Small Nation, a group of bright individuals that have experience in downtown revitalization. I have seen firsthand what they have done and learned a lot from this group. I believe Small Nation can be a great help when it comes to suggesting things that we can do to improve business and commerce in general right here in Jefferson.

I could go on and on about other positive things and ideas that we have implemented all in the best interest of our community but that would take a few more pages and I'm not sure that this is the right time or place for that. The point here is that none of these things would have been possible without our people. Our people make the difference; I can go down the list of every department including Council and the Mayor and point out supervisors, employees, and elected officials that care about Jefferson in a very passionate way. I could have achieved NOTHING without their help and support.

It has been an honor for me to work with all of you. I have learned a lot about our community and those of you who know me also know that I care deeply about Jefferson and try to do my best daily. You also know that I have always strived to make the best possible decisions, to be fair and impartial to everyone and have listened closely to the needs of our community.

Just last week Mayor Diehl approached me after our weekly staff meeting. He presented me with the contract that I had signed with the Village in 2019. Under section “K. Miscellaneous” it states that “The Village Administrator shall not become an elected official of, or a candidate for elected office for, the Village during his tenure as Village Administrator, nor shall he assume any other position, elected or otherwise, that would constitute a conflict of interest.”

To be honest, I was taken by surprise since it appears that I would be the only Village official that can’t even run for office while in another position. A sitting Mayor is allowed to run for office, sitting Council Members are allowed to run for office and no “conflict of interest” is even contemplated. Moreover, I informed the Mayor of my decision to run for Council at the beginning of July, almost 2 months ago, and nothing was said about this issue. However, what really matters here is what is written in my contract. The decision that I’m faced with tonight is a tough one but no different than any other important decision I’ve made. It really comes down to doing the right thing and that means that it is time for me to step down as Village Administrator effective immediately. This decision shows integrity, courage, resolve, transparency, and commitment to everyone as I will remain available for any questions concerning any of the work or projects that are pending. This is the right thing to do because I believe that I can be even more valuable to the Village as a Councilman. I have experienced firsthand what our community is expecting from our leaders. People in Jefferson, and throughout the Country, are tired of the drama, division, bickering, misinformation, dishonesty, and lack of action displayed by some leaders. They are looking for people with integrity, vision, and a demonstrated track record of actually doing something about the issues people care about. They are looking for leaders that are not afraid to speak up when they feel something is not right. I am that guy, and now I can officially announce my campaign for Jefferson Village Council.

Respectfully submitted this September 5th, 2023.

Pasquale Martuccio

Motion by Councilperson Roderick to accept Administrator Martuccio’s resignation effective immediately.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Mayor Diehl told Council on August 24, 2023, he was contacted by Councilperson, Roderick about administrator Martuccio's contract. After reading the contract he discovered there is a provision the does not permit the administrator to run for office during his employment with the Village of Jefferson. Becoming an elected official, or candidate for a elected office, during Martuccio's tenure as Village Administrator would constitute a conflict of interest.

Mayor Diehl did tell Council that he informed Administrator Martuccio on August 30, 2023 after consulting with the Legal Council and the president of Council Damon.

Mayor Diehl said that Administrator Martuccio asked him what he should do. Diehl told him he could not give his personal advice. But he did tell him that the Village would certainly be in a better position with him at his current role as the Administrator. To ensure a smooth transition.

Mayor Diehl told Council the executive session was to discuss the four options that the Village could go do. The four options were.

- 1)waiver of the contract provision which would have allowed the administrator to continue both roles until the election.
- 2) withdraw from the election
- 3) resign from the Administrator position
- 4)termination of the administrator for breach of contract.

Mayor Diehl told everyone that the executive session is not needed because, Administrator Martuccio stepped down from his position.

Clerk /Treasurer Fisher

Payroll Report/Special Pay Report

Motion by Councilperson Damon to approve the attendance of Clerk-Treasurer Fisher to attend the Ohio Association of Public Treasurers Annual Conference. The Training will be at the DoubleTree by Hilton Canton Downtown, 320 Market Avenue South Canton Ohio 44702. There will be no cost for a hotel room because I am part of the board. The training is October 3, 2023, through October 6, 2023. The cost to the Village will be \$150.00 for the registration, meals, and mileage.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Chief Mackensen

Chief Mackensen gave a report to Council on the complaints of speeders in the Village. He told Council he has put an extra patrolman to help solve the issue. During June, July and August 113 people were stopped and 63 received citations.

Buy the school there are stop signs being put in with flashers and speed signs to slow down the vehicles. The School is the most important place to catch the speeders and slow down the vehicles. The roads must be safe for our children.

Chief Lachey

No Report

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Building and Lands

Councilperson Damon told everyone that the meeting tonight was canceled and will be rescheduled for Monday September 18, 2023. If Kristin Hopkins from CT Consultants can come.

Forestry

No report

Finance

Clerk Treasurer Fisher told Council the first change has to do with adding \$28,742.91 to the Special Fire Apparatus Fund. This is the Grant amount we are receiving from Firehouse Subs for the purchase of heavy rescue equipment. We had been told initially that Firehouse was going to pay the vendor directly. That's no longer the case and now they will be sending the village a check, so we must account for it in our budget. The other amount of \$15,000 to the street lighting fund had been discussed at the previous budget meeting but due to a clerical mistake, it never carried over to the budget.

Motion by Councilperson Sekanina for the First Reading of Ordinance No. 23-O-__3311__
2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

First Reading of Resolution No. 23-R-3311

An Ordinance for the Appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures of the Village of Jefferson, Ohio during fiscal year ending December 31, 2023. And declaring an emergency.

Motion by Councilperson Sekanina to Suspend Council Rules on Resolution No. 23-R-__3311__
2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Motion by Councilperson Sekanina to Adopt Resolution No. 23-R-__3311__
2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Motion by Councilperson Sekanina for the First Reading of Ordinance No. 23-O-__3312__
2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

First Reading of Resolution No. 23-R-3312

A Resolution Authorizing the Transfer of Money from the 101 General Fund

Motion by Councilperson Sekanina to Suspend Council Rules on Resolution No. 23-R-__3312__
2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Motion by Councilperson Sekanina to Adopt Resolution No. 23-R-__3312__
2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Recreation

Flier: Explore Berlin Ohio

Flier: Adults and Children Karate Classes

Flier: Dance Classes

Safety

Motion by Councilperson Orvos for the First Reading of Ordinance No. 23-O- 3313 _
2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

First Reading of Resolution No. 23-R-3313

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 254.05 of the code of Ordinances of the Village of Jefferson, Ohio pertaining to Vacations and Holidays

Motion by Councilperson Orvos to Suspend Council Rules on Resolution No. 23-R-__3313____

There was not a second so motion failed.

Motion by Councilperson Orvos to accept the Mayor's recommendation to hire. Matthew Dailey to the fulltime Detective/Patrolman position, at the rate of pay per the Wage Ordinance upon his completion of his and physical with the Ohio Police & Fire.

Utilities/Wastewater Treatment/ Service

Motion by Councilperson Dreier for the Second Reading of Resolution No. 23-R- 3310 _
2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Second Reading of Resolution No. 23-R-3310

A Resolution declaring the Road Maintainer and the 2013 Durapatcher owned by the Village of Jefferson to be no longer needed for Municipal purposes and authorizing the sale of each to the highest and best bidder as is.

Mayor

Mayor Diehl tol Council that he will meet with all the Department heads tomorrow. To go over everything that needs done and completed. He told everyone he feels the transition will be good. Because we have very strong Department Heads that can get the job done. And they will do what has to be done to keep the Village running smoothly.

Councilperson Damon told Council that Administrator Martuccio told council he was a little struck that this ended this way. He did a fabulous job. It will be a huge hole to fill. That is a hard position to fill. What he did. He did a great job. I cannot deny that.

Councilperson Sekanina spoke up and said he totally agrees with Councilperson. Damon.

OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

None

Visitor's Comments (five-minute limit per council rule #13)

None

CORRESPONDENCE

None

MEETINGS

None

ADJOURN

Motion by Councilperson Sekanina to adjourn the Council Meeting.
2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Submitted by,

Patricia A Fisher, Clerk of Council