

VILLAGE OF JEFFERSON COUNCIL MEETING

January 2, 2024

Meeting called to order by Mayor Diehl.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Moment of Silence:

Opening Prayer: **Pastor Curtis Cecil Jefferson Church of the Nazarene**

Judge Al Campese swearing in of Mayor.

- Jim Chiacchiero

Judge Harold Specht swearing in of Council Members

- Steve Febel
- Pat Martuccio

Roll call of Council Dreier, Febel, Martuccio, Roderick, Sekanina, Orvos

Corrections or Additions to the Agenda:

None

President Pro-Temp. Motion:

Motion by Councilperson Drier to appoint Councilperson Sekanina as President pro- temp for the year 2024

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Rules of Council Motion:

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Motion by Councilperson Sekanina to accept the Rules of Council Amended Ordinance 09-0-3136 passed 5/06/19 for the year 2024.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Motion by Councilperson Sekanina, to accept the Roberts Rules of Order for the Procedures for the Village of Jefferson for the year 2024.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Motion by Councilperson Febel to approve the Mayor's appointment for the 2024 Village of Jefferson Committees.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Mayors Appointments:

2024 Committees

Motion to approve the Mayor's appointment for the 2024 Village of Jefferson Committees.

Building/ Lands:

Chair Katy Drier - Member Steve Sekanina

Finance:

Chair Steve Sekanina - Member Katy Drier

Forestry:

Chair Pat Martuccio - Member Steve Febel

Recreation:

Chair Karen Roderick - Member Pat Martuccio

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Safety:

Chair Steve Febel - Member Kevin Orvos

Utilities/Wastewater/Services:

Chair Kevin Orvos - Member Karen
Roderick

Board of Tax Review

Motion by Councilperson Martuccio to accept the Mayor's recommendation to appoint Citizen Jon Glink to the Tax Review Board to a three-year term expiring 12/31/26.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Board of Audit Review

Motion by Councilperson Febel to accept the Mayor's recommendation to appoint Mayor Jim Chiacchiero to the Board of Audit Review Board for the year 2024.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Zoning Appeals Board

Motion by Councilperson Martuccio to accept the Mayor's recommendation to appoint citizen Lon Damon to the Board of Zoning Appeals, with the term expiring 12/31/28.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Zoning Appeals Board

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Motion by Councilperson Martuccio to accept the Mayor's recommendation to replace Jake Morgan's seat and appoint citizen Pat Bradek to the Board of Zoning Appeals, with the term expiring 12/31/25.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Planning Commission Board

Motion by Councilperson Martuccio to accept the Mayor's recommendation to appoint Mayor Jim Chiacchiero to the Planning Commission Board term, expiring 12/31/2024.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Ambulance Board

Motion by Councilperson Febel to accept the Mayor's recommendation to appoint Councilperson Steve Sekanina to the Ambulance Board for a 1-year term, expiring 12/31/2024.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Fire Dependency Board

Motion by Councilperson Martuccio to approve the recommendation of Fire Chief, Tom Lachey, to appoint Tom Lachey, David Locy and Roger Beckwith, Councilperson Steve Febel as Chairman and Councilperson Kevon Orvos to the Fireman Dependency Board for a 1-year term, expiring 12/31/2024.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Safety Service Committee Events Board

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Motion by Councilperson Orvos to accept the Mayor's recommendation to appoint Mayor Jim Chiacchiero, Administrator Mackensen, Deputy Chief Joseph Schor, Fire Chief, Tom Lachey, Assistant Chief David Locy, Assistant Chief Tim Blon, Roger Beckwith, Councilperson Steve Febel, Councilperson Kevin Orvos, John Boczar, Jake Rice and Brian Edelman to the Safety Service Community Board for a 1-year term, expiring 12/31/2024.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Records Commission Board-

STANDING COMMITTEE

Motion by Councilperson Martuccio to accept the Mayor's recommendation to appoint Administrator Chris Mackensen, Clerk Treasurer Patricia Fisher, Solicitor Jason Fairchild, Income Tax Clerk Amanda Berkowitz to the Records Commission Board.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Right of Way Implementation Committee Formed April 21, 2009

Motion by Councilperson Martuccio to accept the Mayor's recommendation to appoint Mayor Jim Chiacchiero to the Right of Way Implementation Committee.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Minutes: Approval/Addition/Correction

Motion by Councilperson Orvos to approve the Council Meeting Minutes of December 18, 2023.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Motion by Councilperson Sekanina to approve the Finance Committee Meeting Minutes of December 18, 2023.

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2nd

Roll: All ye, motion carried

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

None

Also present:

Anthony Chiacchiero, Connie Bowler, Heidi Sekanina, KayAnne Brabender, John Szewczyk, Tom Lachey, Devin Chiacchiero, Averi Drenik, Pastor Curtis Cecil Jefferson Church of the Nazarene, Ken Fertig, Lon Damon, Diane Mackensen, Kelly Butcher, Emma Martuccio, Joe Schor, Pat Bradek, John Perrotti, Roni Guerini, Chip Ashcraft, and Gabriel Nevey of the Gazette.

DEPARTMENTS

Administrator

Administrator was on Vacation.

Administrator Mackensen told Council that the Village received the storage container. The storage container will be placed by Giddings Hall. The storage contained will have in it all the safety town equipment. This will help with the expanding of the weight room in the Recreation building. The work will start sometime in the Spring.

Administrator Mackensen also told Council that the Streets Department has started taking down all the Christmas Decoration in the Village.

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Clerk /Treasurer Fisher

Payroll Report/Special Pay Report

Deputy Chief Schor

No Report

Chief Lachey

No Report

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Building and Lands

No Report

Forestry

No report

Finance

First Reading of Ordinance No. 23-O- 3324

An Ordinance Amending Section 254.03 of the Codified Ordinances of the Village of Jefferson.

Motion by Councilperson Sekanina to Suspend Council Rules on Ordinance No. 2023-O-3324

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Motion by Councilperson Sekanina to Adopt Ordinance No.2023-O-3324

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Motion by Councilperson Sekanina for the Second Reading of Ordinance No. 23-O- 3325

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Ordinance No. 23-O-3325

An Ordinance setting forth the pay for Salaried, Hourly, and Part-Time Employees of the Village of Jefferson, Ohio

Recreation

Motion by Councilperson Roderick for the Third Reading of Resolution No. 23-R-3322

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Resolution No. 23-R-3322

A Resolution authorizing the Village Administrator and Clerk-Treasurer to enter into a facility use agreement with the Ashtabula County Community Action Agency for the use of the Giddings Park Hall.

Motion by Councilperson Roderick to Adopt Resolution No. 2023-R-3322

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

FYI: Biggest Loser

Safety

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Motion by Councilperson Febel to approve the Deputy Chief Schor's Recommendation to hire Adam Gozelanzyk to the Full -Time Detective /Patrolman position at the Police Department at the rate of pay per the Wage Ordinance pending his physical and background check effective January 2, 2024.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Motion by Councilperson Febel to approve the Deputy Chief Schor's recommendation to approve Patrolman William Dye to attend training for Death Investigation, Cause, Manner, and Mechanism of Death and Investigating Process. The Cost to the Village will be \$417.00 for the class, hotel, and meals.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Motion by Councilperson Febel to approve the Deputy Chief Schor's recommendation to approve Patrolman Eric Massie to join the Crime Enforcement Agency Of Ashtabula County (CEAAC)

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Utilities/Wastewater Treatment/ Service

No Report

Mayor

State of the Village 2023

2023 was a busy year for the Village. At the beginning of January, we set several goals that would improve Village services, improve communication to the residents, and identify opportunities for economic development. I'm glad to say that many of these have been accomplished and more are in progress.

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In addition, through a combination of cautious spending and positive economic activity, the Village will end the year with a sound financial carryover of over 3 million dollars.

General

- The Village has experienced a number of personnel transitions during the year, which has and will continue to result in stronger service to the Village residents.
- Contract negotiations were completed with Community Action to continue housing the Senior meal site. These resulted in both continuation of this important program and additional financial stability for the taxpayer owned facility.
- Jefferson hosted the Great Ohio Bike Adventure (GOBA) which brought in around 1500 cyclists to the Village and County. The organization was very pleased with our hospitality and assistance with organizing the event.
- We worked with the township to acquire a parcel of land to house the Vietnam Helicopter Memorial on Rt 167. They saved the memorial from repossession by the Army Corp of Engineers and will allow it to continue to serve as a memorial for years to come.
- The downtown speakers and announcement system were upgraded to allow residents to better hear music and announcements during our many parades during the year.
- Village cleanup was once again completed in May, with Waste Management hauling away in excess of 41 tons of junk.
- Each department focused on cleaning up their areas of responsibility and removing excess equipment and materials. These items were sold in a surplus equipment sale in May.

Economic Development

- Council members began the process of developing a Community Reinvestment Area (CRA) to promote economic development. Much of this work is done and is ready for the new council to continue implementation.

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- We have submitted for participation in the Appalachian Community Grant for downtown revitalization. If successful, this investment in our community will start in fall of 2024.

Streets

- Replaced sidewalks on Walnut and Satin St and ground down uneven sidewalks where replacement wasn't yet warranted.
- Completed paving projects on East Jefferson, Washington Blvd Allotment, East Pine, East Cedar, and Hickory Ct.
- Completed paving on Falcon Way and installed required school zone signage.
- Planted 40 new Hot Wing Maple trees throughout the Village.
- Completed paving of parking lots at streets and wastewater.
- Completed the installation of storm lines at East Park
- Purchased and installed six new trash cans in the downtown business district.
- Continued brush pickup, street and basin cleaning, sidewalk plowing, and many other services to keep the Village beautiful.

Utilities

- Completed the relining of 16000 ft of slip lining on Market St and tributaries.
- Completed several maintenance projects including replacement of aeration tank air valves, installation of four dissolved oxygen sensors in aeration tanks, and replacement of the main airline to the aeration tanks.
- Upgraded the exterior of the Woodside Ave pump station.
- Completed the installation of a 1700 square foot sludge storage pad.
- Completed the upgrade of the Erie St pump station electrical panel.
- Improved overhead lighting at the Main Plant

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- Painted exterior walls at the Main Plant

Rec

- We hired a new, full time recreation director, to assist in improving the community center and expanding programs for the community.
- Replaced the basketball court at Giddings Park and designed it to become a dual-purpose court for both basketball and pickleball. Coating of the pickleball court will occur in the Spring once the concrete has adequately cured.
- Worked with the Jefferson Elementary school to obtain their used playground equipment. This will be installed in Giddings Park in 2024.
- Hosted and coordinated numerous activities including the Spring craft fair, t-ball, soccer, summer trips, movies in the park, water wars, breakfast with Santa, and many more.
- Developed plans for expansion of the gym, to begin in 2024.
- We had the largest Christmas parade to date in 2023, and prior to that had the largest parade to date in 2022. Jefferson's Christmas activities continue to grow every year, demonstrating what a wonderful town this truly is.

Safety

- Police
 - Completed the review and rewrite of department policies and procedures.
 - Procured new body cameras and storage for both personal cameras and car cameras.
 - Procured a mobile speed sign to alert drivers in target areas.
 - Promoted Joe Schor to Deputy Chief to fill the open position vacated by Chief Mackensen.
- Fire

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- Received a \$34,000 grants from Firehouse subs and used funds to add more heavy rescue tools for extraction.
- Updated department lighting to LED in the radio room, meeting room, west building annex, kitchen, and rest rooms.
- Began the process of updating the diesel fume extraction system in the truck bay.
- Replaced several pieces of turnout gear, hoses, and Scott air tanks.
- Updated the Kubota grass fire unit to a tracked system.

Looking forward

- Will continue to efficiently execute a number of projects throughout the Village including additional paving, sidewalk repair, and upgrades to the wastewater plant.
- The community center will continue to grow with more attention to the gym, additional programs, and additional community activities.
- I would encourage Council, and specifically the Finance Committee, to continue discussions focused on enacting legislation for economic development tools. We will also continue to actively participate with Growth Partnership and the County to ensure Jefferson is positioned to benefit from their efforts as well.
- I would like to thank the Village employees, council members, chamber, residents, and other Village organizations for continuing to make Jefferson a great place to live and work and look forward to another successful year in 2024.

OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

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

None

CORRESPONDENCE

**VILLAGE OF JEFFERSON
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None

MEETINGS

None

ADJOURN

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

Roll: All yea, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Submitted by,

Patricia A Fisher, Clerk of Council