

**VILLAGE OF JEFFERSON  
COUNCIL MEETING**

May 19, 2025

Meeting called to order by Mayor Chiacchiero.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Moment of Silence:

Opening Prayer: Curtis Cecil Jefferson Church of the Nazarene

Mayor Chiacchiero thanked Curtis Cecil for coming on short notice.

**Roll call of Council** Dreier-Absent, Febel, Martuccio, Roderick, Sekanina, Orvos

**Corrections or Additions to the Agenda:**

None

**Minutes: Approval/Addition/Correction**

Motion by Councilperson Febel to approve the Council Meeting Minutes of May 5, 2025.

2<sup>nd</sup>

Roll: All yea, motion carried

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

Citizen Chris Wilms of 301 South Market spoke to Council about the speed bump That was put up on Market Street. He said he disagrees with it and wants to know who authorized it.

**Also present:**

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Stephanie Wessell of the Gazette, Warren Dillaway Star Beacon, Curtis Cecil Jefferson Church of the Nazarene, Pat Bradek, John Perrotti, Judy Maloney, Chris Wilms and Mary Howe.

## DEPARTMENTS

### Administrator Murphy

Village Administrator's report for the period ending May 18th, 2025.

Projects update:

Project		Status	Vendor	Grant/Loan	Total Cost
<b>ACTIVE PROJECTS</b>	<b>Project #</b>				
WWTP EQ Basin	OPWC – R37	Submitted to DOD/EPA Resubmitting to OPWC – R37	VERDANTAS	Engineering grant \$90,000	\$1,250,000
WWTP Clarifier Improvement Phase 1	OPWC – R38	Contracted-Union Industrial.	VERDANTAS	\$207,500 Grant \$50,000 Loan	\$615,000
WWTP Clarifier Improvement Phase 2	OPWC-R39	Submitted to DOD/EPA Resubmitting to OPWC – R39	VERDANTAS		\$369,000
WWTP Clarifier Improvement Phase 3	OPWC-R40	Submitted to DOD/EPA Resubmitting to OPWC – R40	VERDANTAS		\$389,000

### In the Village

In reference to the Mural to be painted within the Village of Jefferson, preliminary discussions had indicated the Mural to be painted on the wall of the Recreation Center. After further discussions with the S.O.C.C. Committee, Mayor, Recreation Director, and myself, we decided to move the Mural to the Police Station wall facing Giddings Park. This will make a better photo and viewing area for the Mural. Other locations and businesses have shown interest in additional Murals in the future, which can be further discussed at that time.

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I have been working on the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Nature Works Round 31 and the Recreational Trails Program (Storybook Trail) Applications for grant assistance. I am requesting Council to approve this evening's resolution authorization to submit on an emergency status, due to a June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025, application deadline. The purpose of this grant is to obtain additional funds for the Memorial Park Project.

I would like to give a public thank you to Brobst Tree Service for their quick response to an emergency on W. Walnut St. May 5<sup>th</sup>. During a severe storm, lightning struck a large tree, which created an emergency situation and threat of the tree falling onto a nearby house and power lines. Brobst was on scene within 45 minutes and took down the tree immediately without incident. In addition, thank you to the Jefferson Fire Dept. for arriving and taking control of the scene.

**Street Dept.**

I have reached out to Verdantas Engineering to get the warranty work completed on the North Spruce St. pavement issues. This work was completed last year and a small stretch of Spruce had issues with the new pavement, which is covered under warranty. I do not anticipate any delays with this being completed.

Street Dept. conducted maintenance on the water catch basin located on E. Jefferson St. at the Police Dept. driveway entrance. This basin was collapsing, and our Street Dept. crew did an excellent job in repairing it, saving the Village thousands in contract work.

**Zoning:**

Permits issued since the last council meeting: 0  
Total permits 2025 = 13

**Recreation Department:**

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There has been discussion and inquiries about the lack of available parking in the downtown area. Though I understand street parking is limited, several other public parking places are available. I spent time researching and counting every public parking spot within the village in conjunction to reasonable walking distance to downtown. At this time, the following data was compiled:

- Village Hall- 10
- Rec Center- 46
- Public Lot behind Jefferson Diner- 35
- Wall St. public lot.- 18
- Chestnut St. between Walnut/Jefferson St (Street).- 33
- Public Lot (Chestnut/Walnut)- 55
- Chestnut St. street parking (between Jefferson/Satin)Street- 25
- Public Parking Behind AXA- 38
- Giddings Park Berm- 65
- Giddings Hall- 30
- Public Defenders- 22
- Court house- 162
- Henderson Public Library- 37

Total number of parking spaces= 576

**Clerk /Treasurer Fisher**

Payroll Report/Special Pay Report

April Month End

End of Month Summary	<b>April</b>	

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Total Cash on Hand	\$1,000.00	
Andover Bank CD	\$50,000.00	
Huntington Bank 2257	\$46,234.42	
Star Ohio 26065	\$1,594,362.11	
Payroll Checking	\$1,840.16	
Andover/ First Common Bank Checking	\$3,398,002.89	
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$5,091,439.58</b>	Up 16.2. %
YTD Revenue	\$2,650,040.12	
YTD Expenses	\$1,965,626.07	
Outstanding Encumbrance	\$455,744.45	
Recreation Revenue YTD	\$68,715.56	Up 18.7 %
Senior Revenue YTD	<b>\$6,094.82</b>	Down 47.6%
Income Tax Revenue YTD	<b>\$964,046.48</b>	Down 5.9 %
Sewer Fee Collections YTD	\$325,178.44	Up 0.7 %

Motion by Councilperson Febel to accept the **List of Checks paid for April 2025**

April 1, 2025 – April 31, 2025

2<sup>nd</sup>

Roll: All yea, motion carried

**Chief Mackensen**

Chief Mackensen told the Council that the Ride the Bike Bus to School was very successful. The children involved rode from the Fairgrounds down Popular Street to the Jefferson Elementary School before school and back after school. It was a very successful first Bus Bike to the School.

**Chief Lachey**

No Report

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Building and Lands**

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**Committee Report:** No Report

**Forestry**

**Committee Report:** No Report

**Finance**

**Committee Report:** No report

**Ordinance/Resolution to Read:**

**Resolution No. 25-R-3382**

A Resolution authorizing the Village Administrator and/or Village Clerk/Treasurer to prepare and submit a Natureworks application to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, and declaring an emergency

**Motion by Councilperson Sekanina for the First Reading of Resolution  
No. 25-R- 3382**

2<sup>nd</sup>

Roll: All yea, motion carried

**Motion by Councilperson Sekanina to suspend Council Rules on Resolution  
No. 25-R- 3382**

2<sup>nd</sup>

Roll: All yea, motion carried

**Motion by Councilperson Sekanina to adopt Resolution  
No. 25-R- 3382**

2<sup>nd</sup>

Roll: All yea, motion carried

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**Ordinance/Resolution to Read:**

**Resolution No. 25-R-3383**

Resolution declaring it necessary to renew an existing 1.55 mills tax levy and requesting the Ashtabula County Auditor to certify the total current tax valuation of the Village of Jefferson and the dollar amount of revenue that would be generated by that renewal levy

**Motion by Councilperson Sekanina for the First Reading of Resolution  
No. 25-R- 3383**

2<sup>nd</sup>

Roll: All yea, motion carried

**Ordinance/Resolution to Read:**

**Resolution No. 25-R-3384**

Resolution declaring it necessary to renew an existing 1.00 mills tax levy and requesting the Ashtabula County Auditor to certify the total current tax valuation of the Village of Jefferson and the dollar amount of revenue that would be generated by that renewal levy

**Motion by Councilperson Sekanina for the First Reading of Resolution  
No. 25-R- 3384**

2<sup>nd</sup>

Roll: All yea, motion carried

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**Ordinance/Resolution to Read:**

**Resolution No. 25-R-3385**

A Resolution authorizing the Village Administrator and/or Village Clerk/Treasurer to prepare and submit a Recreational Trails program application to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, and declaring an emergency

**Motion by Councilperson Sekanina for the First Reading of Resolution  
No. 25-R- 3385**

2<sup>nd</sup>

Roll: All yea, motion carried

**Motion by Councilperson Sekanina to suspend Council Rules on Resolution  
No. 25-R- 3385**

2<sup>nd</sup>

Roll: All yea, motion carried

**Motion by Councilperson Sekanina to adopt Resolution  
No. 25-R- 3385**

2<sup>nd</sup>

Roll: All yea, motion carried

**Recreation**

**Committee Report:**

FYI: Fliers for Movies in the Park this Summer

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**Safety**

**Committee Report:** No Report

Motion by Councilperson Febel to accept the Resignation of Aaron Dumperth from the Jefferson Police Department effective May 1, 2025

2<sup>nd</sup>

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Motion by Councilperson Febel to accept the sick time balance for Steven Murphy in the amount of 1642.70 hours from the Ashtabula County Sheriff's department.

2<sup>nd</sup>

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Motion by Councilperson Febel to accept the Police Chiefs Recommendation to send Greg Lachey and William Dye to the Blue Gold training. Thursday May 29, 2025. The Cost to the Village will be \$199.00 per officer.

2<sup>nd</sup>

Roll: All yea, motion carried

**Utilities/Wastewater Treatment/ Service**

**Committee Report:** No Report

**Mayor**

Mayor Chiacchiero that the speed bump was put up for safety concerns. In the past there was a fatal accident. The decision to put the speed bump at its current

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location was made by the Mayor and then current administrator and current Chief of Police. There are a lot of events going on at Giddings Park this summer. With warm weather kids will be walking and riding their bikes to the park a lot.

The next Village of Jefferson Council Meeting will be on June 2, 2025.

Chief Mackensen told everyone the Village is going to try to get some grants which will replace the speed bumps with speed tables that is a new modified speed bump.

**OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS**

FYI: Andrews & Pontius L.L.C.

**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.

2<sup>nd</sup>

Roll: All yea, motion carried.

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Meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Submitted by,

Patricia A Fisher, Clerk of Council