

**VILLAGE OF JEFFERSON
COUNCIL MEETING**

June 2, 2025

Meeting called to order by Mayor Chiacchiero.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Moment of Silence:

Opening Prayer: Councilperson Steve Sekanina

Roll call of Council Dreier, 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 19, 2025.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Motion by Councilperson Sekanina to accept the Jefferson Emergency Rescue Meeting Minutes of May 15, 2025.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Motion by Councilperson Orvos to accept the Memorial Park Meeting Minutes of May 15, 2025.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

**VILLAGE OF JEFFERSON
COUNCIL MEETING**

June 2, 2025

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

None

Also present:

Stephanie Wessell of the Gazette,

DEPARTMENTS

Administrator Murphy

Village Administrator's report for the period ending June 1, 2025.

Projects update:

Project		Status	Vendor	Grant/Loan	Total Cost
ACTIVE PROJECTS	Project #				
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

**VILLAGE OF JEFFERSON
COUNCIL MEETING**

June 2, 2025

WWTP Clarifier Improvement Phase 3	OPWC-R40	Submitted to DOD/EPA Resubmitting to OPWC – R40	VERDANTAS			\$389,000
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In the Village

The village is moving forward with annual maintenance on trees and stumps. Brobst Tree Service has been contacted to provide the service and would like to have this done within the next 30 days.

The Mayor and I have met with representatives from Verdantas Consultants. We discussed the importance of having a Comprehensive Safety Action Plan completed, which is a pre-requisite to future grants for the village. A grant application for this will be prepared through the Safe Streets and Roads for All Grant Program. Verdantas has worked with the City of Conneaut and City of Geneva in their respective Comprehensive Plans, with each being awarded over \$200,000. We will be applying for the Planning and Demonstration Grant. This grant is needed to establish eligibility for future Implementation Grants through Safe Streets for a variety of projects throughout the village. Comprehensive Safety Action Plans are the basic building block to significantly improve roadway safety and pedestrian travel.

A successful Action Plan includes the following seven key components:

1. Leadership commitment and goal setting
2. Planning Structure
3. Safety Analysis
4. Engagement and collaboration
5. Policy and Process Changes
6. Strategy and project selections
7. Progress and transparency

VILLAGE OF JEFFERSON COUNCIL MEETING

June 2, 2025

Action Plans use data analysis to characterize roadway safety problems and strengthen a community's approach through projects and strategies that address the most significant risks.

Street Dept.

The Street Dept. has been very busy with mowing, maintenance on equipment, ditch cleaning, and general maintenance around the village. I want to commend the Street Dept. for their hard work, while working around the inclement weather, to get the downtown ready for the Memorial Day parade. This included gazebo maintenance, sound system testing, and painting of crosswalks and pavement markings. It should be noted; the Street Dept. came in on a Sunday evening to get the roadway painted as they juggled the weather. Their hard work and dedication have not gone unnoticed and is much appreciated.

Zoning:

Permits issued since the last council meeting: **2**

Total permits 2025 = **15**

Letters indicating violations of the Village of Jefferson zoning code have been sent to the following addresses:

S. Chestnut St.- Maximum number of dogs in a Dwelling 618.17

S. Chestnut St.- General Standards 1450.01 Accumulation of Trash/Rubbish

Jackson St.- General Standard 1450.01 Accumulation of Trash/Rubbish

W. Ashtabula St- Tall Grass

Westview Dr.- Tall Grass

Recreation Department:

A few programs happening at the Recreation Center:

VILLAGE OF JEFFERSON COUNCIL MEETING

June 2, 2025

- Kindergarten Kick Start is Wednesdays from June 11th to July 30th. The cost is \$110 and must be paid by June 11th to secure a spot.
- Movies in the park begins June 6th. Other dates include July 11th, and August 15th.
- Fairy Garden Festival June 14th from 10am-5pm
- Autorama is June 21st from 4pm-8pm
- Summerfest/Waterwars 11am-8pm July 26th

Safety Town was a success last week and I want to thank Recreation Director Jaime Dean and her staff for making this a tradition in the village. I also want to thank the Jefferson Police Dept. for their professional service and for helping to make this a success.

Wastewater Treatment Plant:

Wastewater Plant has been running smoothly and the employees doing lots of routine maintenance on the grounds.

Other notes:

Sidewalk repairs for 2025 will be beginning soon. Arrangements are in the works to get quotes and scheduling the work. I will have updates at the next Council Meeting.

I am requesting the Village Council's approval of an emergency status to purchase a new Case 4WD front loader and backhoe this evening. This purchase was budgeted for this year and the purpose for the emergency status is for the Village getting the \$29,500 trade in value for the old backhoe. The longer we keep it in our possession, the value reduces significantly. In addition, the risk of something breaking on the current backhoe would also significantly alter the trade-in value. The new piece of equipment cost \$138,751.04. With the trade in, the balance

VILLAGE OF JEFFERSON COUNCIL MEETING

June 2, 2025

comes to \$109,251.04. This is the most widely used piece of equipment the village uses and is valuable to the Street Dept's everyday work.

Lastly, On Tuesday, May 20th, the Jefferson Area Chamber of Commerce held its annual awards banquet. Among the evening's recognitions was the presentation of the Chuck Lewis Lifetime Achievement Award. This year's honored recipient was Roni Guerini, who faithfully served as the Administrative Assistant at Village Hall for the past 27 years.

Roni is an invaluable member of our community and an essential part of the daily operations at Village Hall. She consistently goes above and beyond in her role, and her hard work, dedication, and contributions to the Village of Jefferson are deeply appreciated and highly valued. Both the Mayor and I are sincerely grateful for Roni's unwavering commitment to our village and its residents.

Clerk /Treasurer Fisher

Payroll Report/Special Pay Report

Motion by Councilperson Febel to approve the Clerk Treasurer and the Clerk Treasurer assistant to attend the Municipal Income Tax Seminar July 9 through July 11, 2025. The Cost to the Village will be four hundred dollars for each person, mileage, hotel, and meals.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Clerk-Treasurer Fisher told Council that the 2023-2024 Audit has started with the State Auditors

Chief Mackensen

FYI: May Stats

**VILLAGE OF JEFFERSON
COUNCIL MEETING**

June 2, 2025

Chief Lachey

No Report

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Building and Lands

Committee Report: No Report

Forestry

Committee Report: No Report

Finance

Committee Report: No report

Ordinance/Resolution to Read:

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

**VILLAGE OF JEFFERSON
COUNCIL MEETING**

June 2, 2025

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

2nd

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 Second Reading of Resolution
No. 25-R- 3384**

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Ordinance/Resolution to Read:

Resolution No. 25-R-3386

Resolution for the submission to the electors of the Village of Jefferson, Ohio the question of a renewal levy of 1.55 mills per year for five years for the benefit of Jefferson Village.

**Motion by Councilperson Sekanina for the First Reading of Resolution
No. 25-R- 3386**

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Ordinance/Resolution to Read:

**VILLAGE OF JEFFERSON
COUNCIL MEETING**

June 2, 2025

Resolution No. 25-R-3387

Resolution for the submission to the electors of the Village of Jefferson, Ohio the question of a renewal levy of 1.00 mills per year for five years for the benefit of the Village of Jefferson in operating the Jefferson area Fire Department

**Motion by Councilperson Sekanina for the First Reading of Resolution
No. 25-R- 3387**

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Ordinance/Resolution to Read:

Resolution No. 25-R-3388

A Resolution authorizing the Village Administrator to trade in a 2015 case 580sn serial number jjgn58snjfc720349 backhoe toward the purchase of a 2025 case 580sn 4wd t4 and to purchase the 2025 case 580sn 4wd t4 backhoe from Southeastern Equipment co. Inc. Through the Sourcewell Cooperative purchasing program and declaring an emergency

**Motion by Councilperson Sekanina for the First Reading of Resolution
No. 25-R- 3388**

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

**Motion by Councilperson Sekanina to suspend Council Rules on Resolution
No. 25-R- 3388**

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Motion by Councilperson Sekanina to adopt Resolution

**VILLAGE OF JEFFERSON
COUNCIL MEETING**

June 2, 2025

No. 25-R- 3388

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Recreation

Committee Report:

FYI: Flyer Fairy Garden Festival

FYI: Flyer Summer Festival

Safety

Committee Report: No Report

Utilities/Wastewater Treatment/ Service

Committee Report:

Motion by Councilperson Orvos to accept the resignation of Zachary Waters effective June 9, 2025.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Mayor

The next Village of Jefferson Council Meeting will be on June 16, 2025.

OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

**VILLAGE OF JEFFERSON
COUNCIL MEETING**

June 2, 2025

FYI: Flyer Strawberry Festival

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 7:44 p.m.

Submitted by,

Patricia A Fisher, Clerk of Council