

**VILLAGE OF JEFFERSON
COUNCIL MEETING**

January 5, 2025

Minutes and Videos from each Council Meeting are available at Jeffersonohio.gov

Meeting called to order by Mayor Steven Sekanina.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Moment of Silence:

Opening Prayer: **Erin Valenti CSR Ministries**

Swearing in of Council:

Judge Albert Campese Swearing in the new Council Members.

Pat Bradek

Karen Roderick

Jen Skinner

Roll call of Council Bradek, Febel, Roderick, Skinner

Motion by Councilperson to accept the resignation of Councilperson Pasquale Martuccio effective January 5, 2026.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Corrections or Additions to the Agenda:

Add Under Wastewater Treatment: Letter from the Administrator moving Artman up to WWTP Class Operator I effective January 5, 2026.

**VILLAGE OF JEFFERSON
COUNCIL MEETING**

January 5, 2025

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President Pro-Temp. Motion:

Motion by Councilperson Bradek to appoint Councilperson Karen Roderick as President pro- temp for the year 2026.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Rules of Council Motion:

Motion by Councilperson Febel to accept the Rules of Council Amended Ordinance 09-0-3136 passed 5/06/19 for the year 2026.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Motion by Councilperson Febel to accept the Roberts Rules of Order for the Procedures for the Village of Jefferson for the year 2026.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Mayors' Appointments:

2026 Committees

Motion to approve the Mayor's appointment for the 2025 Village of Jefferson Committees.

Building/ Lands:

Chair Pat Bradek - Member Karen Roderick

Finance:

Chair Karen Roderick - Member Jen Skinner

Forestry:

Chair Jen Skinner - Member Pat Bradek

**VILLAGE OF JEFFERSON
COUNCIL MEETING**

January 5, 2025

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Recreation:

Chair Steve Febel - Member Karen Roderick

Safety:

Chair Jen Skinner - Member Pat Bradek

Utilities/Wastewater/Services:

Chair Steve Febel - Member Jen Skinner

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Mayor Sekanina told Council that the Committees will change again, after the two Council seats are filled.

Board of Audit Review

Motion by Councilperson Febel to accept the Mayor's recommendation to appoint Mayor Steven Sekanina, Councilperson Karen Roderick to the Board of Audit Review Board for the year 2026.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Board of Tax Review

Motion by Councilperson Febel to accept the Mayor's recommendation to appoint Lon Damon to the Board of Tax Review Board for a three-year term expiring 12/31/2028.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

**VILLAGE OF JEFFERSON
COUNCIL MEETING**

January 5, 2025

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Zoning Appeals Board

Motion by Councilperson Febel to accept the Mayor's recommendation to appoint citizen Billy Burnet and Kay Anne Brabender to the Board of Zoning Appeals for a five-year term, with the term expiring 12/31/2030.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Planning Commission Board

Motion by Councilperson Febel to accept the Mayor's recommendation to appoint Mayor Steven Sekanina and Councilperson Jen Skinner to the Planning Commission Board term, expiring 12/31/2026.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Ambulance Board

Motion by Councilperson Febel to accept the Mayor's recommendation to appoint Mayor Steven Sekanina to the Jefferson Emergency Rescue District Ambulance Board for a 1-year term, expiring 12/31/2026.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Fire Dependency Board

Motion by Councilperson Febel to accept the Mayor's recommendation to accept the Interim Fire Chief Joe Edison's recommendation, to appoint Interim Fire Chief Joe Edison, Interim Assistant Fire Chief David Farina, Citizen Roger Beckwith, and Councilperson Pat Bradek as Chairman and Councilperson Jen Skinner to the Fireman Dependency Board for a 1-year term, expiring 12/31/2026.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

**VILLAGE OF JEFFERSON
COUNCIL MEETING**

January 5, 2025

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Safety Service Committee Events Board

Motion by Councilperson Febel to accept the Mayor's recommendation to appoint Mayor Steven Sekanina, Administrator Andria Manor, Police Chief Chris Mackensen, Interim Fire Chief, Joe Edison, Interim Assistant Fire Chief David Farina, Councilperson Jen Skinner, Councilperson Pat Bradek, Township Trustee John Boczar, Captain Jake Rice, Captain Cooper McMannes, Brian Edelman to the Safety Service Community Board for a 1-year term, expiring 12/31/2026

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Records Commission -Standing Committee

Motion by Councilperson Febel to accept the Mayor's recommendation to appoint Administrator Andria Manor to the Records Commission Committee.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Design Review Board

Motion by Councilperson Febel to accept the Mayor's recommendation to appoint Rick Hoyson to the Design Review Board for a 5-year term, expiring 12/31/2030

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Right of Way Implementation Committee

Motion by Councilperson Febel to accept the Mayor's recommendation to appoint Mayor Steven Sekanina, Councilperson Karen Roderick and Councilperson Pat Bradek to the Right of Way Implementation Committee.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

**VILLAGE OF JEFFERSON
COUNCIL MEETING**

January 5, 2025

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Community Reinvestment Housing Council

Motion by Councilperson Febel to accept the Mayor's recommendation to appoint Administrator Andria Manor- Housing Officer to the Community Reinvestment Housing Council for a 3-year term, expiring 12/31/2027

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Tax Incentive Review Council

Motion by Councilperson Febel to accept the Mayor's recommendation to appoint Administrator Andria Manor- Housing Officer to the Tax Incentive Review Council.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Playground Committee

Motion by Councilperson Febel to accept the Mayor's recommendation to appoint Mayor Steven Sekanina, Administrator Andria Manor, and Recreation Director Katie Sweeney to the Playground Committee.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Memorial Park Committee

Motion by Councilperson Febel to accept the Mayor's recommendation to appoint Mayor Steven Sekanina, Administrator Andria Manor, Councilperson Jen Skinner and Councilperson Steven Febel to the Memorial Park Committee.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

**VILLAGE OF JEFFERSON
COUNCIL MEETING**

January 5, 2025

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Minutes: Approval/Addition/Correction

Council Meeting Minutes of December 15, 2025, will be approved at the January 19, 2026 Council meeting.

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

Also present:

Pierino Scrocca, Pat Bradek, John Perrotti, Judy Maloney, Lon Damon, Kayanne Brabender, Warren Dillaway the Star Beacon, Stephanie Wessell the Gazette, Jen Skinner, Joe Edison, Nicholas Belden, Katy Drier Morghan Pacheco, Felipe Pacheco, Adam Lee and Erin Valenti CSR Ministries.

DEPARTMENTS

Administrator Mackensen

Village Administrator's report for the period ending January 2nd, 2026.

Projects update:

Project	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

January 5, 2025

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WWTP Clarifier Improvement Phase 3	OPWC-R40	Submitted to DOD/EPA Resubmitting to OPWC – R40	VERDANTAS		\$389,000
Village Street Paving Program 2025	36360 (Roads)	Completed	Karvo Companies		\$222,895.00

In the Village

Seasonal operations are underway, and the Street Department continues to actively manage snow and ice control throughout the Village. I would like to sincerely thank them for the long hours they have put in over the past two weeks, having been called out numerous times throughout the holiday period to ensure our streets remained as safe as possible.

Residents are reminded that the Village snow ban goes into effect when snowfall reaches three inches or more. This helps ensure streets can be cleared safely and efficiently.

During this past Friday's storm, the Village experienced a continuous four-hour period of heavy snowfall. In these conditions, streets may not be plowed or appear plowed to everyone's liking while snowfall is ongoing. Salt is generally not applied during heavy snow events because it becomes ineffective and can be immediately pushed off the roadway by plows. Instead, crews focus on plowing and allow the snowfall to subside so that a final pass can scrape the roadway clean and apply salt more effectively if needed.

There were reports that the Village was out of salt; however, this was not the case. Salt was intentionally limited during the height of the storm to avoid wasting material and to allow plows to properly clear the snow before treatment.

We appreciate residents' patience and understanding as crews work to maintain safe road conditions during winter weather events.

Zoning:

VILLAGE OF JEFFERSON COUNCIL MEETING

January 5, 2025

Minutes and Videos from each Council Meeting are available at Jeffersonohio.gov
NO Permits

Recreation Department:

Wastewater Treatment Plant:

Wastewater monitoring is ongoing and will help determine the most effective steps for addressing the elevated copper levels and ensuring continued compliance as conditions improve. The EPA will be conducting a site visit to observe the plant operations in person and to review our permit, as well as the wastewater testing results.

Other notes:

Under Police Department

I would like to introduce our new village administrator, Andrea Manor

Mayor Sekanina told everyone that we have the First Female Administrator ever and he welcome her to being part of the Village.

Clerk /Treasurer Fisher

Payroll Report/Special Pay Report

Chief Mackensen Police Chief

Police Department Summary – December 2025

During the month of December 2025, the Police Department remained active
Officers responded to a total of **261 calls for service** throughout the month. This

VILLAGE OF JEFFERSON COUNCIL MEETING

January 5, 2025

Minutes and Videos from each Council Meeting are available at Jeffersonohio.gov included **22 traffic stops**, which resulted in **one citation**. The department also responded to **four traffic crashes** in December. Officers continued to focus on visibility, response readiness, and maintaining safety during the holiday season.

Police Department Summary – Year in Review 2025

Throughout 2025, the Police Department maintained a strong and consistent presence in the community, responding to a total of **2,890 calls for service**. Traffic enforcement efforts resulted in **570 traffic stops**, with **143 citations issued** over the course of the year. Officers investigated and responded to **41 traffic crashes** in 2025. Additionally, the department made **52 arrests**, reflecting ongoing proactive policing and commitment to public safety. Overall, the department continued to serve the community with professionalism, dedication, and responsiveness throughout the year.

Interim Fire Chief Edison

FYI: December Fire Reports

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Building and Lands

Committee Report: No Report

**VILLAGE OF JEFFERSON
COUNCIL MEETING**

January 5, 2025

Minutes and Videos from each Council Meeting are available at Jeffersonohio.gov
Finance

Committee Report: No report

Ordinance/Resolution to Read:

Reading of Resolution No. 25-R- 3405

A Resolution enacting and adopting amended and updated code of Ordinances of the Village of Jefferson, Ohio, published by American Legal Publishing Corporation, and copyrighted 2024.

Motion by Councilperson Roderick for the Third Reading of Resolution No. 25-R- 3405

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Motion by Councilperson Roderick to Adopt Resolution No. 25-R- 3405

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Ordinance/Resolution to Read

Reading Of Ordinance No. 25-O-3409

A Resolution declaring a list of items 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 by Councilperson Roderick for the Second Reading of Ordinance No. 25-O- 3409

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Ordinance/Resolution to Read:

**VILLAGE OF JEFFERSON
COUNCIL MEETING**

January 5, 2025

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Reading Of Resolution No. 26-R- 3410

A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into the Natureworks Local Assistance Grant agreement identified as division contract ID# ASHT-039 and legal contract ID# 2025-2032 with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.

Motion by Councilperson Roderick for the First Reading of Resolution No. 26-R- 3410

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Forestry

Committee Report: No Report

Recreation

Committee Report: No Report

Safety

Committee Report:

Motion by Councilperson Skinner to accept the Interim Fire Chief's Recommendation to hire Cooper Cole to the Fire Department at the rate of pay per the Wage Ordinance pending his physical and background check effective January 5, 2026.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Motion by Councilperson Skinner to accept the Interim Fire Chief's Recommendation to hire Derek Nelson to the Fire Department at the rate of pay

VILLAGE OF JEFFERSON COUNCIL MEETING

January 5, 2025

Minutes and Videos from each Council Meeting are available at Jeffersonohio.gov per the Wage Ordinance pending his physical and background check effective January 5, 2026.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Utilities/Wastewater Treatment/ Service

Committee Report: No Report

Motion by Councilperson Febel to accept the Administrators recommendation to move Joshua Artman up to Wastewater Treatment Operator I effective January 5, 2026. Joshua has passed his Ohio EPA Class I Operator Certification

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Mayor Sekanina

State of Jefferson Village 2025

Dear members of council, residents, members of the press and visitors. Each year at the first council meeting in January the Mayor provides the State of the Village address which provides a summary of highlights, achievements and milestones for our Village. Tonight, I will share some of the highlights from 2025.

General / Administration

- Major improvements were completed to enhance accessibility and public use of Village facilities. All sidewalks surrounding Giddings Park were replaced, improving safety and ADA accessibility.
- The Village entered into a contract to relocate the BMV testing facility away from the building, reducing congestion and improving operational flow. Additionally, the Village secured a new lease to provide increased public parking just off Chestnut Street and Jefferson Street.
- The Village ended the year with a healthy balance sheet fulfilling all financial obligations, meeting the necessary carry over requirements and earning interest throughout the year.

VILLAGE OF JEFFERSON COUNCIL MEETING

January 5, 2025

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Economic Development

- The Community Reinvestment Area (CRA) to promote economic development through tax incentives saw multiple applications this year.
- More than 50 zoning permit applications were received this year which included additions, sewer tap ins, sheds, decks and new home construction applications.
- The village received a \$30,344 grant from the ODNR which will be used towards part of the memorial field project.
- The village saw significant local business activity including new ownership of Classy Consignments, and the Grand Opening of the Village Marketplace. We are proud of all the hard work going on behind the scenes at all our local businesses.

Streets

- New storm lines and basins were replaced throughout the village including locations on Pine Street, Cucumber and Westview Drive.
- Poplar, North Spruce and Westview Drive received paving updates. Curbs were rebuilt as well as repair and replacement of scrub drains.
- New crosswalks were placed on Chestnut.
- A new school sign was placed at the corner of Poplar and Beech Street.
- Work was started at Memorial field to take down dugouts and fencing and new trees were planted throughout the village.
- The covered bridge was stained.
- For the Christmas season the new 30-foot Christmas tree was set up making it the highlight of all the decorations throughout the village.
- The streets department kept our brush picked up, streets, parking lots and sidewalks plowed, and grass mowed throughout the year.

Utilities

- We have initiated the rebuild of clarifier one, with necessary parts currently on order.
- Engineering for the clarifier two rebuild has been completed, and funding has been secured for clarifier three and the equalization basin addition.
- Pump upgrades were completed at the Woodside Ave pump station
- We had an operator at the waste treatment plant successfully pass the Wastewater Class 1 operator test giving plant more scheduling flexibility.
- Waste Management began accepting our pressed sludge greatly reducing paperwork for the village.

VILLAGE OF JEFFERSON COUNCIL MEETING

January 5, 2025

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Recreation

- We saw the return of Katie Sweenie as our new Recreation Director
- We successfully hosted the 4th annual movies in the park over 3 different nights offering a free family friendly outdoor tradition
- We hosted the fairy garden festival which was well attended despite the early clouds and rain.
- We co-hosted the 3rd annual Summerfest featuring water wars on a beautiful hot day filled with fun for all ages.
- Haunted woods emerged as a fan favorite event of the year successfully expanding to two nights with nice weather and support from high school volunteers
- Breakfast with Santa was a huge success supported by boy scout volunteers. The event featured appearances by Mr. and Mrs. Claus and strong family attendance enjoying pancakes and sausage.
- The Christmas Craft Fair drew large crowds throughout the day filling the Rec Center with shoppers supporting local vendors. The addition of a coffee truck outside the entrance was well received.
- At the community center we installed new flooring in the hallway, office areas and the MPR Room. These areas were also freshly painted, creating a fresh new modern look that has been well received by renters and staff.
- We added a new partition wall between the senior center and the MPR room to improve aesthetics and effectively block sound during simultaneous events or parties.
- We completed renovations in the back gym including new flooring and the installation of 3 new pieces of equipment proving users more space, improved equipment and flooring that supports proper form and comfort.
- Installed new lights and ceiling tiles in the MPR, Kitchen and gym brightening spaces and improving the overall experiences for visitors and staff.
- Both annual bake sales were sold out, bringing significant community support and contributing to our activity fund.
- Rummage sale revenue tripled compared to last year, making this year our most successful sale to date.
- Thanks to fund raising and generous donations from the elementary school, the department was able to treat seniors to a trip to Castle Noel giving many a memorable holiday experience.
- The Safari trip was a major highlight of the year with strong interest in repeating the trip next year.
- A truly inspiring milestone when one of our seniors checked off a bucket list dream by skydiving at 83 years of age. An event celebrated by the entire department.

VILLAGE OF JEFFERSON COUNCIL MEETING

January 5, 2025

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- Our annual Halloween party was a spooky good time with creative costumes and positive feedback from attendees.
- Over 170 seniors registered for the Worthington Holiday Lunch, one of our highest turnouts ever with food sponsored by Worthington and gift bags generously provided by multiple sponsors.

Police

- Over the past year, the Village of Jefferson has made significant investments in public safety infrastructure, technology, and community security. The Police Department underwent a comprehensive remodel, creating new individual office spaces for each officer and a new dedicated training room located across the hall. Improvements were also made to Giddings Hall, including updated ceilings and hallways to enhance both functionality and appearance.
- The Village upgraded two patrol vehicles with new Mobile Data Terminals (MDTs), ensuring officers have modern, reliable technology to better serve the community. Staffing remains a priority: the department successfully hired one new officer this year and continues recruitment efforts to fill one additional position.
- Several security enhancements were completed to benefit residents directly. Exterior lighting was installed to provide a safe and secure drop-off and pick-up location for child exchanges and package exchanges. This area is monitored by 24-hour video surveillance. Additional security cameras were installed at the dog park facilities and at the Village compost site to deter and reduce illegal dumping.

Fire

- The department received the new grass fire skid unit to replace the old skid unit that was 15 years old
- We Improved the ISO insurance rating for a 5.5 to a 4
- Fire inspections increased to 45
- Training hours were 715.5
- The monument from the old fire station on the wall of the fire station was completed.
- We updated the Ceiling and lighting in the bays and meeting room.
- The fire Fighter association bought new ice and water rescue equipment.
- We received a worker's comp grant for a new hose and gear dryer.
- We celebrated the retirement of Tom Lachey after 53 years of service.

VILLAGE OF JEFFERSON COUNCIL MEETING

January 5, 2025

Minutes and Videos from each Council Meeting are available at Jeffersonohio.gov. Finally, the village experienced numerous personnel changes throughout the year including receiving resignations from the Recreation Director, Mayor, Administrator, Fire Chief, and a council member. The village responded by promoting two Captains to the newly created positions of Interim Fire Chief and Interim Assistant Fire Chief, we promoted two new Captains, we hired a new Recreation Director, we hired an experienced municipal administrative professional who happens to be our first ever female Administrator and of course I had the privilege of becoming the mayor of this truly special community after serving on council for four years.

Moving forward I believe we have a great team in place, and I look forward to great 2026. In the words of Phil Jackson "The strength of the team is each individual member. The strength of each member is the team." I ask that each Village employee and official do whatever they can to help ensure that each one of us is successful. By working together and helping each other, our residents succeed.

Thank you.

Steven M Sekanina

Mayor, Village of Jefferson, Ohio

The Next Village of Jefferson Council Meeting will be on January 20, 2026.

Mayor Sekanina told everyone that the Village of Jefferson only has four Council members right now. There are two open Council seats. One is a four-year term that fills my empty seat that became available when I took the mayor's position when it became open. Another one is a two-year term that will fill the empty seat of Pat Martuccio. Council has thirty days to appoint someone to the empty Council seat. If Council does not appoint someone in thirty days, then mayor will then make the appointments.

OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

Motion by Councilperson Febel to accept the park benches that are around the Village and quilt sign that were purchased by residents of the Village of Jefferson.

2nd

**VILLAGE OF JEFFERSON
COUNCIL MEETING**

January 5, 2025

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Roll: All yea, motion carried

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

None

CORRESPONDENCE

None

MEETINGS

None

ADJOURN

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

Roll: All yea, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Submitted by,

Patricia A Fisher, Clerk of Council