

**VILLAGE OF JEFFERSON
COUNCIL MEETING**

November 17, 2025

Meeting called to order by Mayor Steven Sekanina.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Moment of Silence:

Opening Prayer: **Rev Jeremy Roseberry Jefferson United Methodist Church**

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

Corrections or Additions to the Agenda:

Per the Mayor, please add the additional items to tonight's council meeting agenda under safety:

1. Motion to accept the resignation of Dave Locy from the rank of Fire Chief effective 11 30 25.
2. Motion to accept the resignation of Bob Gregg from the rank of Assistant Fire Chief effective 11 30 25.
3. Motion for an ordinance creating the positions of Interim Fire Chief and Interim Assistant Fire Chief and declaring an emergency.
4. Motion for Mayors recommendation to appoint Joe Edison to the position of Interim Fire Chief effective December 1, 2025.
5. Motion for Mayors recommendation to appoint Dave Farina to the position of Interim Assistant Fire Chief effective December 1, 2025.
6. Motion for Mayors recommendation to appoint John C McMannes to the position of Captain effective December 1, 2025.

Minutes: Approval/Addition/Correction

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Motion by Councilperson Febel to approve the Council Meeting Minutes of November 3, 2025.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Motion by Councilperson Febel to accept the Jefferson Emergency Rescue Meeting Minutes of November 12, 2025.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

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

None

Also present:

Pierino Scrocca, Pat Bradek, Judy Maloney, Lon Damon, Will Anderson, Nick Beldon, Frank Stone III, Warren Dillaway the Star Beacon, Stephanie Wessell the Gazette, Jen Skinner, Amber Perry, and Rev Jeremy Roseberry.

DEPARTMENTS

Administrator Mackensen

Village Administrator's report for the period ending November 17th , 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

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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
Village Street Paving Program 2025	36360 (Roads)	Completed	Karvo Companies		\$222,895.00

In the Village

The 2025 Street Paving Program has officially concluded. The contractor is currently completing final grading and sealing on S. Poplar and Westview Dr., and this work is expected to be finalized soon.

Seasonal operations are also underway. Leaf pickup is continuing throughout the village, and the Street Department is managing snow removal, including the parking lot behind the businesses located on the southeast corner of Chestnut Street and Jefferson Street.

Additionally, the community Christmas lights will be turned on following Thanksgiving, and Christmas music has been activated in the downtown area for residents’ and visitors’ holiday shopping enjoyment.

I would like to recognize and thank the Street Department for their timely and effective response to the season’s first snowfall.

Zoning:

Permits issued since the last council meeting: **1**

This permit was for an 5000sf addition to Next Dimension located in the industrial area.

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Recreation Department:

Included in your packet is a motion to approve the recommendation to hire Katie Sweeney as the full-time Recreation Park Supervisor, with an effective start date of December 2nd. Her start will coincide with preparations for upcoming holiday events, including Breakfast with Santa on December 6th 9 am to 11 am, and the annual Christmas parade later that evening.

The parade is scheduled to step off at 6:00 PM. The route will proceed east on Mulberry Street, then north on S. Chestnut Street, before turning west onto Fairground Street, ending at the fairgrounds.

Also included in your packet is a motion to approve the temporary closure of Mulberry Street from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM for the parade. Additionally, Route 46 will be closed as the parade moves through the center of town. As in the past two years, parking on Chestnut Street will be restricted, with the exception of designated handicap parking from Satin Street to near Jefferson Street.

Wastewater Treatment Plant:

Regarding the EPA Wastewater Treatment Plant violation
As a follow-up, the Wastewater Department has begun additional testing to evaluate time-of-day variations and water-flow fluctuations. This expanded monitoring will help determine the most effective steps for addressing the elevated copper levels and ensuring continued compliance as conditions improve.

Other notes:

Technology and Cybersecurity

The Village has reviewed the final requirements regarding our cybersecurity upgrades. All required components have been approved and will be installed shortly to ensure compliance with the State of Ohio regulations.

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We have also discussed concerns related to the sound quality of council meetings. Improvements are underway, with a full replacement of the outdated 1980s-era microphone system. The new digital system is expected to be operational by the first meeting in December.

Over the past several weeks, I have attended two planning meetings for the upcoming 250th Celebration, which will take place at the Park on July 4, 2026. I encourage everyone to mark this important community event on your calendars.

Planned activities include: A “journey through time” experience

Craft shows and vendors

Historical reenactors representing various time periods

Multiple bands throughout the day

Fireworks to conclude the evening

For additional information about the 250th Celebration, residents may contact Tina Fuller at the Refinery Vintage Market, located at 39 South Chestnut Street. She will be happy to provide details and answer questions regarding the event.

In your console packet, you will find a motion recommending approval to send Jeremy Cummins and Officer William Dye to a training on December 2, 2025. This training will focus on investigating beyond the traffic stop, helping them identify higher-profile crimes occurring within the Village.

The cost of the training is \$199 per officer. There is no additional cost for lodging or meals, as the training will take place in Madison, OH.

I would like to take a moment to address the recent media attention regarding the increased number of traffic stops conducted by my officers. These actions are at my direction, as visible officer presence often encourages drivers to slow down and promotes safer streets.

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Normally, I do not address media concerns coming from social media platforms like Facebook, but I feel this is an important matter to discuss, as I support the attention it brings to our residents seeing a higher presence of police in the community.

These increased patrols allow residents to see that we are actively present, not simply waiting at the station to respond to calls.

As always, if anyone has questions or concerns, they are welcome to contact me at any time.

Clerk /Treasurer Fisher

Payroll Report/Special Pay Report

September Month End

End of Month Summary	September	
Total Cash on Hand	\$1,000.00	
Andover Bank CD	\$50,000.00	
Huntington Bank 2257	\$46,772.08	
Star Ohio 26065	\$2,119,473.50	
Payroll Checking	\$0.00	
Andover/ First Common Bank Checking	\$2,918,955.88	
Ending Balance	\$5,136,201.46	Up 11.1.%
YTD Revenue	\$5,871,168.28	
YTD Expenses	\$5,141,992.55	
Outstanding Encumbrance	\$290,492.91	
Recreation Revenue YTD	\$107,816.89	Down 7.6 %
Senior Revenue YTD	\$19,842.49	Up 13.4 %
Income Tax Revenue YTD	\$1,940,595.80	Down 1.4 %
Sewer Fee Collections YTD	\$816,305.44	Up 1.5 %

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Motion by Councilperson Febel to accept the **List of Checks paid for September 2025** September 1, 2025 – September 30, 2025
2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Chief Mackensen

Gave Report under Administrator

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:

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Reading of Resolution No. 25-R- 3399

An Ordinance for the Appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures of the Village of Jefferson, Ohio during fiscal year ending December 31, 2026.

**Motion by Councilperson Dreier for the Third Reading of Resolution
No. 25-R- 3399**

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Motion by Councilperson Dreier to Adopt Resolution No. 25-R- 3399

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Recreation

Committee Report: No Report

Motion by Councilperson Roderick to approve the Administrators recommendation to hire Katie Sweeney to the Full Time Recreation/ Parks Supervisor position at the Recreation Department at the rate of pay \$21.21 per the Wage Ordinance effective December 2, 2025.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Safety

Committee Report: No Report

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Motion by Councilperson Febel to accept the Police Chiefs Recommendation to send Jeromey Cummins and William Dye to the Advance Traffic Stops. Tuesday December 2, 2025. The Cost to the Village will be \$199.00 per officer.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Motion by Councilperson Febel to accept the resignation from Fire Chief David Locy from the Jefferson fire Department effective November 30, 2025.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Motion by Councilperson Febel to accept the resignation from Assistant Fire Chief Bob Gregg from the Jefferson fire Department effective November 30, 2025.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Mayor Sekanina told Council that Dave Locy and Bob Gregg are still staying with the Fire Department. They are stepping down from the Fire Chiefs position and Assistant Chiefs position. They both have done decades of service to the community. They will stay on as Blackcoats.

Ordinance/Resolution to Read:

Reading of Resolution No. 25-R- 3403

An Ordinance creating the positions of Interim Fire Chief and Interim Assistant Fire Chief in the Village of Jefferson Fire Department and declaring an emergency.

Motion for the First Reading of Resolution No. 25-R- 3403

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Mayor Sekanina explained to Council that even with the Village having only five people sitting on Council. To Suspend Council rules the council must have to have

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3/4th of appointed or elected and tonight we have four out of five and it passes the threshold that is required in the Ohio Revised Code book.

Motion by Councilperson Febel to Suspend Council Rules on Resolution No. 25-R- 3403

Motion by Councilperson Febel to Adopt Resolution No. 25-R- 3403

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Motion by Councilperson Febel to accept the Mayors recommendation to appoint Joe Edison to the position of Interim Fire Chief effective December 1, 2025.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Motion by Councilperson Febel to accept the Mayors recommendation to appoint Dave Farina to the position of Interim Assistant Fire Chief effective December 1, 2025.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Motion by Councilperson Febel to accept the Mayors recommendation to appoint John C McMannes to the position of Captain effective December 1, 2025.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Mayor Sekanina told Council that the new positions that were created Interim Fire Chief and Assistant Interim Fire are very important. This is so the Village can make the right decisions for the long term. There is no set time, it could be six months, a year or two years. When Council does decide to open the positions, it will be open to everyone so others can apply.

One Captains position is still open and when the new Administration gets in place they will decide on the new position. People will have to apply internally for that position also. The goal is that everyone in the Fire Department remains with the

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Fire Department and as the Village appreciates the service that they have put into the Department.

Utilities/Wastewater Treatment/ Service

Committee Report: No Report

Mayor Sekanina

Motion to accept the Mayor's recommendation to appoint Katy Dreier and Kevin Orvos to the hiring committee for the Village Administrator.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

Mayor Sekanina told everyone that the Village Fire Department trucks have Volunteer on them. In Ohio Fire Departments are described as paid or non-paid. Our Fire Department employees are paid. So, they are considered part-time paid employee.

The next Village of Jefferson Council Meeting will be on December 1, 2025.

OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

The by Councilperson Febel to accept the Jefferson Area Chamber of Commerce is requesting approval for the following.

We are requesting the following. Road Closure sign at Mulberry St (near 46)- For safety purposes we will not be permitting traffic to travel west down Mulberry St. Road Close Sign at Elm/Mulberry St.- to block traffic attempting to get around road closure ***Cones to block two entrances*** of Lakeview Federal Credit Union on Mulberry St. ***Road closures from police*** once the parade is traveling north, at: Linda Lane, Cedar St, Erie Street, Satin St, Jefferson St., Walnut St., and N. Chestnut St near Ashtabula St. ***Parking Closures-*** blocking off parking along

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Chestnut St.

2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried

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

Pierino Scrocca an resident, of Jefferson Township spoke to Council about the possibility of him and his family moving back into the Village of Jefferson. He said he had some concerns from a Police report filed from the previous Mayor and Councilperson Roderick about Councilperson Martuccio about their safety. He stated he is worried about his wife's safety. He read a statement from a Police report that the mayor filed about a heated conversation. Pierino Scrocca then asked Councilperson Roderick if the report was true.

Councilperson Rederick stated it is true.

Pierino Scrocca then requested a public record (copy of her report). He stated he would like it to be discussed at the next Council Meeting.

Mayor Sekanina told everyone that the Police reports were made at the Police Department. Which is the appropriate thing to do. If the Police Department thinks that there is something that warrants any concern it is forwarded to the Prosecutor's Office.

Mayor Sekanina said he is not aware of anything from the reports. He stated everything was handled through the proper channels. Sekanina told everyone he hopes everyone feels save in the Village. He lives here with his family. He is not aware of anything and takes any threats seriously.

Amber Perry of 21 West Satin Street spoke to Council about concerns that the County purchased property that they are hoping to have it utilized as an easement/driveway/entrance/exit/overflow parking. She State that first and foremost the safety risk-specific to the effected adjacent home is the most important. The driveway they are proposing would go between two residential lots.

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Amber Perry state concerns of transparency on this issue from the County Commissioners. Perry stated that her husband talked with the Commissioner and there is nothing written in stone at the moment. The lots are very narrow. She stated she needed to know if this was the plan the Commissioners are planning.

Perry gave all of Council documents of what she was talking about. She asked that Council not approve the easement and keep it residential.

Documents that were presented to Council will be included with the minutes.

Administrator Mackensen said he is not aware of the use of the property or its plan ot what it would be used for. Mackensen said looking at the documents you presented he would have some concerns as well. Mackensen stated he would contact the Commissioner's office and see what the plans for the property are. No changes would be made without Councils approval.

Mayor Sekanina told Amber Perry that the Village will look into it.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

MEETINGS

None

ADJOURN

Motion by Councilperson Febel to adjourn the Council Meeting.

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2nd

Roll: All yea, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Submitted by,

Patricia A Fisher, Clerk of Council