

REGULAR SESSION

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2025

Chairman Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

All members present except Legislators Boullo, McBride and Doldo who were excused.

PUBLIC HEARING

Local Law Intro No. 5 of 2025

A Local Law Providing for the Repair or Removal of Unsafe Buildings,
Unsafe Equipment and Collapsed Structures

Chairman Johnson called the public hearing to order at 6:01 p.m. No one present wished to speak and the public hearing was closed.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Bill Cleftis, resident of the Town of Lyme and member of the Concerned Citizens for Responsible Solar updated the Board with regard to large scale solar projects proposed in the County and brought a map of the County depicting all the projects. He expressed opposition to the projects and asked Legislators to use vocal, administrative and legislative action to convince the State of New York and the Office of Renewable Energy Siting and Electric Transmission to stop the siting of large scale solar projects in Jefferson County

Jim Lawrence, 16882 Parker Road, Watertown, applauded the Board for appointing Kyle Ratigliano as Director of Recycling and Waste Management as he has worked with Kyle for any years and said he will do a good job for the County in that position. Mr. Lawrence thanked this Board and Administration, and former Boards and Administrations for their recognition and the opportunity to serve as Jefferson County Highway Superintendent. He said as Highway Superintendent he had the opportunity to also work at the Airport and at Solid Waste, and it was nothing but a pleasure

READING OF MINUTES OF LAST SESSION, IF REQUESTED

The minutes of the August Session and August Special Session stand approved in the absence of objection or correction.

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS

None this month.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

The Finance & Rules Committee reported favorably on resolutions referred from other jurisdictional committees.

REPORTS OF COUNTY OFFICERS AND OTHER

The County Treasurer provided a report on Investments and Cash In Banks as of July 31, 2025.

The County Administrator provided a report on Budget Transfers for the month of July, 2025.

LOCAL LAWS, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS

Local Law Intro. No. 5 of 2025

A LOCAL LAW PROVIDING FOR THE REPAIR OR REMOVAL OF UNSAFE BUILDINGS, UNSAFE EQUIPMENT AND COLLAPSED STRUCTURES

By Legislator: Daniel R. McBride

BE IT ENACTED by the Board of Legislators of the County of Jefferson, as follows:

SECTION 1. PURPOSE AND INTENT

1. The Board of Legislators finds that unsafe buildings, unsafe equipment and collapsed structures pose a threat to life and property in the County of Jefferson. Buildings and structures may become unsafe by reason of damage by fire, the elements, age or general deterioration. Vacant buildings that are not properly secured at doorways and windows also serve as an attractive nuisance for young children who may be injured therein, as well as point of congregation by vagrants and transients. A dilapidated building may also serve a place of rodent infestation, thereby creating a health menace to the community. Similarly, unsafe equipment may pose a threat to public health as well as risk of injury. It is the purpose of this local law to provide for the safety, health protection and general welfare of persons and property in the County of Jefferson by requiring that such unsafe buildings be repaired, secured, or demolished and removed. Similarly, any unsafe equipment shall be repaired, secured or removed.

2. It is further the purpose of this local law to establish procedures for identifying and addressing unsafe structures and equipment pursuant to Section 1203.3(f) of the NYS Uniform Fire and Building Code (19 NYCRR 1203.3(f)), currently in effect, or as hereafter may be amended.

SECTION 2. TITLE

This local law shall be known as “Unsafe Buildings and Equipment Law” of the County of Jefferson.

SECTION 3. DEFINITIONS

- (1) “**Building**” means any structure utilized or intended for supporting or sheltering any occupancy.
- (2) “**Building Code**” means the NYS Building Code as currently in effect and as the same may hereafter be amended.
- (3) “**Code Enforcement Officer**” shall mean the Code Enforcement Officer, including any building inspectors, appointed by the Director of the Jefferson County Fire Prevention and Building Code Office (who shall also be a Code Enforcement Officer).
- (4) “**County**” shall mean the County of Jefferson.
- (5) “**Board of Legislators**” shall mean the Jefferson County Board of Legislators.
- (6) “**Uniform Code**” shall mean the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code, as currently in effect and as the same may hereafter be amended (19 NYCRR 1201 *et. seq.*).

All definitions contained in the NYS Building Code, including, but not limited to, those definitions regarding unsafe buildings and equipment, are incorporated herein by reference and shall apply with respect to the administration and enforcement of this Local Law.

SECTION 4. APPLICATION

The provisions of this Local Law shall apply to any building or equipment located in Jefferson County and where the town or village where the property is located has relinquished to the County the responsibility of enforcing and administering the Uniform Code pursuant to Section 1202.1 of the Uniform Code.

The provisions of this Local Law shall also apply where the County and a town or village which is responsible for enforcing and administering the Uniform Code enter into an agreement whereby the County is to proceed under this Local Law with respect to a particular unsafe building or equipment located within such town or village.

SECTION 5. INVESTIGATION AND REPORT

1. The Code Enforcement Officer shall, in addition to any other duties or responsibilities prescribed by Local Law No. 3 of 2006, the Building Code or any other general or special law or resolution, be responsible for administering and enforcing the terms of this Local Law.

2. In the event that upon conducting an inspection of property as provided under this Local Law, Local Law No. 3 of 2006, the Building Code or any other general or special law or resolution, or upon an investigation of a complaint, the Code Enforcement Officer becomes aware that a building (whether vacant or occupied):

- (1) is or may become dangerous or unsafe to the general public;
- (2) is open at the doorways and windows making it accessible to and an object of attraction to minors, as well as vagrants and other trespassers;
- (3) is or may become a place of rodent infestation;
- (4) presents any other danger to the health, safety, morals and general welfare of the public; or
- (5) is unfit for the purposes for which it may lawfully be used,
- (6) contains unsafe equipment as that term is defined by the Building Code,

the Code Enforcement Officer shall cause or make an investigation thereof and report his/her findings to the Director of the Jefferson County Fire Prevention and Building Code Office, or his or her designee. Should the Director of the Jefferson County Fire Prevention and Building Code Office, or his/her designee, in consultation with the County Attorney, thereafter determine that it is unlikely that the owner of the premises upon which the unsafe structure or equipment is located, to repair, secure or demolish and remove the unsafe structure or equipment, or should the Director of the Jefferson County Fire Prevention and Building Code Office determine that the unsafe building or equipment likely constitutes an emergency case under Section 13 of this Local Law, he/she shall report in writing to the Board of Legislators his/her findings and recommendations in regard to its repair or demolition and/or removal.

3. If, at any time, the Code Enforcement Officer finds that an unsafe building and/or equipment should be condemned, he or she shall follow the procedures set forth in the Building Code, irrespective of whether he or she seeks further action from the Board of Legislators hereunder.

SECTION 6. BOARD OF LEGISLATORS ORDER

The Board of Legislators shall thereafter consider such report and by resolution determine,

- (1) if in its opinion that such building or equipment is unsafe;
- (2) whether, in addition to any order of condemnation issued by the Code Enforcement Officer, to order the repair of the same if it can be safely repaired; or
- (3) whether to order its demolition and removal; and
- (4) in any event to require that a notice of its decision be served upon the persons and in the manner provided herein.

SECTION 7. NOTICE; CONTENTS

Notice of the Board of Legislators' determination, to include any order to be issued thereunder, shall be given as provided in this Local Law. The notice shall contain the following:

- (1) a description of the premises;
- (2) a statement of the particulars in which the building or equipment is deemed unsafe;
- (3) an order, outlining the manner in which the building or equipment is to be made safe and repaired, secured, or demolished and removed;
- (4) a statement that the repairing, securing or demolition and removal of such building or equipment shall commence within 30 days of the service of the notice and shall be completed within 60 days thereafter, unless, for good cause shown, such time shall be extended;
- (5) a date, time and place for a hearing before the Board of Legislators in relation to such unsafe building or equipment, which hearing shall be scheduled not less than five business days from the date of service of the notice; and
- (6) a statement that in the event of neglect or refusal to comply with the order to repair, secure or demolish and remove the building or equipment, the Board of Legislators is authorized to provide for its demolition and removal, to assess all expenses thereof against the land on which it is located and to institute a special proceeding to collect the costs of demolition, including legal expenses.

SECTION 8. SERVICE OF NOTICE AND FILING

The said notice shall be served:

- (1) by personal service of a copy thereof upon the owner, executor, administrator, agent, lessee, or any person having a vested or contingent interest in such unsafe building or equipment as shown by the records of the receiver of taxes (or tax collector) or of the county clerk and by affixing a copy of such notice upon the unsafe building or equipment; OR
- (2) or if no such person can be reasonably found, by mailing such owner by regular mail and registered mail, return receipt requested, a copy of such notice directed to his last known address as shown by the above records, and by personal service of a copy of such notice upon any adult person residing in or occupying said premises if such person can be reasonably found, and by affixing a copy of such notice upon the unsafe building or equipment.

SECTION 9. FILING OF NOTICE

A copy of the notice as provided herein shall be also filed in the office of the Jefferson County Clerk, which notice shall be filed by the Clerk in the same manner as a notice of pendency pursuant to Article 65 of the Civil Practice Law and Rules, and shall have the same effect as a notice of pendency as therein provided. A notice so filed shall be effective from the

date of filing, provided, however, that it maybe vacated upon the order of a judge or justice of a court of record or upon the consent of the County Attorney.

SECTION 10. HEARING

The hearing shall be conducted before the Board of Legislators. The owner, either individually, and/or through his/her attorney, shall be given an opportunity to respond to the Notice of the Board of Legislators' determination as provided for in Section 7 and the investigation and report submitted to the Board of Legislators as provided for in Section 5, and to present witnesses and any other proof relating to the matter.

At the conclusion of the hearing, the Board of Legislators shall make a written determination which shall be signed by the Chairman of the Board of Legislators, and which shall either sustain, modify or reverse the Board of Legislators' determination and order issued under Section 7.

Should the owner fail to appear at the hearing, the Board of Legislators shall sustain the Board of Legislators' determination and order issued under Section 7.

SECTION 11. REFUSAL TO COMPLY

In the event of the refusal or neglect of the person so notified by comply with said order of the Board of Legislators and after the hearing, the Board of Legislators shall provide for the demolition and removal of such building or equipment or structure either by County employees or by contract. Except in emergency as provided in section 13 hereof, any contract for demolition and removal of a building in excess of \$20,000.00 shall be awarded through competitive bidding.

SECTION 12. ASSESSMENT OF EXPENSES

All expenses incurred by the County in connection with the proceedings to repair, secure, demolishand/or remove the unsafe building or equipment, including the cost of actual removing such building, and all reasonable and necessary legal expenses incidental thereto, shall, at the option of the Board of Legislators, either:

- (1) Be assessed against the land on which such building is located and shall be levied and collected in the same manner as provided in Section 270 of the County Law for the levy and collection of a special ad valorem levy, or
- (2) Be collected by commencement of a special proceeding against the owner of said unsafe or dangerous building or structure in Supreme Court, County of Jefferson.

SECTION 13. EMERGENCY CASES

Where it reasonably appears to the Board of Legislators, upon its review of the report of the Code Enforcement Officer, that there is present a clear and imminent danger to life, safety or health of any person or property, unless the unsafe building or unsafe equipment is immediately repaired and secured or demolished, the Board of Legislators may by resolution authorize the Code Enforcement Officer to immediately cause the repair or demolition of such unsafe building or equipment. If the Board of Legislators reasonably finds that such an emergency exists, the bidding requirements of Section 11 above shall be dispensed with. The expenses of such repair or demolition shall be a charge against the land on which it is located and shall be assessed, levied and collected as provided in section 12 hereof.

SECTION 14. SEPARABILITY

Each separate provision of this local law shall be deemed independent of all other provisions herein, and if any provisions shall be deemed invalid, all other provisions hereof shall remain valid and enforceable.

SECTION 15. EFFECTIVE DATE

This local law shall take effect upon its being duly filed in the office of the Secretary of State of the State of New York as provided in Section 27 of the Municipal Home Rule Law.

Seconded by Legislator: Philip N.Reed,Sr.

Chairman Johnson entertained a motion and second to take Local Law Intro No. 5 of 2025 off the table. Such motion was made by Legislator Jareo seconded by Legislator Ferris and unanimously carried. There being no debate, all members present voted aye on the local law, and it became Local Law No. 6 of 2025.

COUNTY OF JEFFERSON

Local Law Intro Number 6 of 2025

A LOCAL LAW PROVIDING A REAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FROM COUNTY PROPERTY TAXES PURSUANT TO NEW YORK REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW SECTION 485-A FOR NON-RESIDENTIAL REAL PROPERTY CONVERTED TO MIXED USE PROPERTY WITHIN THE CITY OF WATERTOWN.

By Legislator: Steel E. Potter

BE IT ENACTED by the County Legislature of the County of Jefferson as follows:

Section 1. Legislative Intent and purpose.

A. By Section 485-a of the Real Property Tax Law, the New York State Legislature authorized towns, cities and villages to provide an exemption from certain taxes for developers and building owners to convert office space and properties, formerly housing warehouse, manufacturing and retail activities, to residential housing units and commercial mixed uses.

B. Section 485-a of the Real Property Tax Law further allows a county in which such towns, cities and villages are located may, by local law, exempt such properties from its taxation in the same manner and to the same extent as such towns, cities and villages have done.

C. The City of Watertown adopted such an exemption by local law in 2024 and the County of Jefferson has determined it to be in the public interest that the same exemption be provided to the County portion of the property taxes for qualifying properties within the City of Watertown.

D. The purpose of this local law is to exempt eligible properties within the City of Watertown from County property taxation applied to conversions of Non-Residential Real Property to Mixed-Use Property in accordance with Section 485-a of the Real Property Tax Law.

Section 2. Definitions.

- A. "Municipality" means any town, city or village except for a city having more than one million inhabitants.
- B. "Applicant" means any person obligated to pay real property taxes on the property for which an exemption from real property taxes under this section is sought.
- C. "Commercial construction work" means the modernization, rehabilitation, expansion or other improvement of the portion of mixed-use property to be used for commercial purposes.
- D. "Commercial purpose or use" means (i) the buying, selling or otherwise providing of goods or services directly to the public; or (ii) a non-residential lawful use including, but not limited to, an office, hotel, retail store, brewery, distillery, restaurant, café, bar or tavern, gymnasium, theater, or entertainment venue which employs or is anticipated to employ a minimum of five employees primarily at the mixed-use property for which an exemption under Section 485-a of the Real Property Tax Law is sought.
- E. "Mixed-use property" means property on which will exist, after completion of residential construction work or a combination of residential construction work and commercial construction work, a building or structure used for both residential and commercial purposes of which, at least forty percent of the building or structure's square footage is devoted to residential purposes or use and at least fifteen percent of the building or structure's square footage is devoted to commercial purposes or use .
- F. "Person" means an individual, corporation, limited liability company, partnership, association, agency, trust, estate, foreign or domestic government or subdivision hereof, or other entity.
- G. "Residential construction work" means the creation, modernization, rehabilitation, expansion or other improvement of dwelling units, other than dwelling units in a hotel, in the portion of mixed-use property to be used for residential purposes.

H. “Taxable Assessed Value” shall mean the taxable assessed value of property within a municipality as defined by the Real Property Tax Law of New York State.

Section 3. Exemption granted.

The assessment increases as a result of the conversion of non-residential real property to mixed use real property within the City of Watertown only, shall be exempt from County taxation and special ad valorem levies pursuant to section 485-a of the New York Real Property Tax Law. For a period of twelve years from the approval of an application with the Assessor of the City of Watertown, the increase in assessed value of such property attributable to such conversion shall be exempt as provided below. Such exemption shall be computed with respect to the “exemption base.” The exemption base shall be determined for each year in which there is an increase in assessed value so attributable from that of the previous year’s assessed value. Such exemption shall be computed in accordance with the following:

Year of exemption	Percentage of Exemption
1 through 8	100% of exemption base
9	80% of exemption base
10	60% of exemption base
11	40% of exemption base
12	20% of exemption base

Section 4. Exclusions from exemption.

No such exemption shall be granted unless:

- (a) Such conversion was commenced subsequent to the date on which the City of Watertown’s local law took effect; and
- (b) The cost of such conversion exceeds the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000); and
- (c) For the purposes of this section the term “conversion” shall not include ordinary maintenance and repairs; and
- (d) No such exemption shall be granted concurrent with or subsequent to any other real property tax exemption granted to the same improvements to real property, except, where during the period of such previous exemption, payments in lieu of taxes or other payments were made to the local government in an amount that would have been equal to or greater than the amount of real property taxes that would have been paid on such improvements had such property been granted an exemption pursuant to this section. In such case, an exemption shall be granted for a number of years equal to the twelve year exemption granted pursuant to this section less the number of years the property would have been previously exempt from real property taxes.

Section 5. Application.

- (a) Such exemption shall be granted only upon application by the owner of such real property on a form prescribed by the Commissioner of the New York State Department of Taxation & Finance. Such application shall be filed with the Assessor of the City of Watertown on or before the appropriate taxable status date.
- (b) The twelve year period of exemption shall be calculated from the date the application was approved by the Assessor of the City of Watertown. However, in no event may such approval be construed to allow for retroactive application of this exemption.

Section 6. Add Back Provision.

To ensure that the exemption granted by this Local Law is implemented without reducing County tax collections and to ensure that County property taxpayers in municipalities not requesting the exemption do not have to pay a higher share of County property taxes as a result of the exemption, the County hereby enacts an “add back” provision pursuant to Real Property Tax Law Section 844(1)(b)(ii), specifying that “taxable assessed value” for purposes of apportionment of county taxes will include the amount of assessed value partially exempt from county taxation under Section 485-a of the Real Property Tax Law, which shall ensure that the City of Watertown will not pay less county property taxes in the aggregate than it would had the Real Property Tax Exemption for Non-Residential Real Property Converted to Mixed-Use Property not been applied to properties within the City of Watertown.

Section 7. Severability

If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section, or part of this law shall be adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional, such order or judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined to its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section or part of this law, or in its application to the person, individual, corporation, firm, partnership, entity, or circumstance directly involved in the controversy in which such order or judgment shall be rendered.

Section 8. Effective Date.

This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing in the Office of the Secretary of State and shall apply to assessment rolls for which an application has been filed with the Assessor of the City of Watertown prior to the taxable status date of such municipality.

Seconded by Legislator: Robert D. Ferris

There being no debate, Chairman Johnson entertained a motion and second to lay the local law on the table pending a public hearing. Such motion was made by Legislator Potter seconded by Legislator Montigelli and unanimously carried.

Resolution No. 225

Setting Time and Place for Public Hearing on Local Law Intro. No. 6 of 2025

By Legislator: Robert D. Ferris

Resolved, That this Board of Legislators shall hold a public hearing on a proposed local law entitled "A Local Law Providing a Real Property Tax Exemption from County Property Taxes Pursuant to New York Real Property Tax Law Section 485-A for Non-Residential Real Property Converted to Mixed Use Property Within the City of Watertown" on October 7, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. in the Board of Legislators Chambers, 195 Arsenal Street, Watertown, NY, and be it further

Resolved, That the Clerk of the Board of Legislators shall give notice of said public hearing as required by law.

Seconded by Legislator: Daniel R. McBride

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 226

Abolishing the Position of Solid Waste Maintenance Supervisor and Reestablishing and Appointing the Position of Director of Recycling and Waste Management

By Legislator: Philip N. Reed, Sr.

Whereas, Pursuant to Local Law No. 1 of 2014, the Jefferson County Board of Legislators established the Jefferson County Department of Recycling and Waste Management to oversee, coordinate, operate, and regulate all recycling and waste management matters within the County, and

Whereas, The effective administration and leadership of the department requires a dedicated director-level position to manage the growth, changing regulations, budget, personnel, and mission as outlined in the establishing local law, and

Whereas, The current position of Solid Waste Maintenance Supervisor does not adequately reflect the scope of responsibilities and administrative duties required for the head of the department, and

Whereas, It is recommend to reestablish a Director of Recycling and Waste Management to provide appropriate leadership and abolish the Solid Waste Maintenance Supervisor position.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, Position 8160001, Solid Waste Maintenance Supervisor be abolished, and be it further

Resolved, That Position 8160014, Director of Recycling and Waste Management be established, effective August 10, 2025, and be it further

Resolved, That, pursuant to Local Law No. 1 of 2014, Kyle Rutigliano be and is hereby appointed as Director of Recycling and Waste Management to serve at the pleasure of the Board, effective August 10, 2025, at an annual salary of \$92,074 (Grade 5-A).

Seconded by Legislator: Frances A. Calarco

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 227

Appointing Director of Planning

By Legislator: Steel E. Potter

Resolved, That, pursuant to Local Law No. 1 of 1979, Elizabeth Hartley Bonisteel-Schweitzer be and is hereby appointed as Director of Planning for a term to commence on September 3, 2025 and expire on December 31, 2025, at an annual salary of \$106,401, Grade 3-A of the Management Compensation Schedule, and be it further

Resolved, That 10 sick days shall be provided in addition to the benefits outlined in the County's Employment Policy Manual for Management Employees.

Seconded by Legislator: Robert D. Ferris

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 228

Authorizing the County of Jefferson's Participation in the Proposed Settlement of Opioid-Related Claims Against Sandoz, Inc. and Its Related Corporate Entities, and Directing the County Attorney and/or the County's Outside Counsel to Execute the Documents Necessary to Effectuate the County's Participation in the Settlement

By Legislator: Robert D. Ferris

Whereas, The opioid epidemic that has cost thousands of human lives across the country also impacts Jefferson County, New York by adversely impacting the delivery of emergency medical, law enforcement, criminal justice, mental health and substance abuse services, and other services by the County's various departments and agencies, and

Whereas, Jefferson County, New York has been required and will continue to be required to

allocate substantial taxpayer dollars, resources, staff energy and time to address the damage the opioid epidemic has caused and continues to cause the citizens of the County, and

Whereas, The settlement proposal has been negotiated that will cause the opioid manufacturer, Sandoz, Inc., to pay approximately \$99.5 million nationwide to resolve opioid-related claims against it, and

Whereas, The County has filed suit against Sandoz, Inc. and their related corporate entities for their role in the distribution, manufacture, and sale of the pharmaceutical opioid products that have fueled the opioid epidemic that has harmed the County, and

Whereas, The County's suit seeks recovery of the public funds previously expended and to be expended in the future to abate the consequences and harms of the opioid epidemic, and

Whereas, The County's outside opioid litigation counsel has recommended that the County participate in the settlement in order to recover its share of the funds that the Sandoz, Inc. settlement would provide, and

Whereas, The County has reviewed the available information about the proposed settlements and concurs with the recommendation of outside counsel.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, That the Jefferson County Board of Legislators hereby approves of the County's participation in the proposed settlements of opioid-related claims against Sandoz, Inc. and their related corporate entities, and directs the County Attorney and/or the County's outside counsel to execute the documents necessary to effectuate the County's participation in the settlement, including the required release of claims against the Sandoz, Inc.

Seconded by Legislator: Steel E. Potter

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 229

Accepting the Purdue Pharma Bankruptcy Plan and Authorizing the County of Jefferson's Participation in the Proposed Direct Settlement of Opioid-Related Claims Against the Sackler Family, and Directing the County's Outside Counsel to Execute the Documents Necessary to Accept the Plan and Effectuate the County's Participation in the Settlement

By Legislator: Steel E. Potter

Whereas, The opioid epidemic that has cost thousands of human lives across the country also impacts Jefferson County, New York by adversely impacting the delivery of emergency medical, law enforcement, criminal justice, mental health and substance abuse services, and other services by the County's various departments and agencies, and

Whereas, Jefferson County, New York has been required and will continue to be required to allocate substantial taxpayer dollars, resources, staff energy and time to address the damage the opioid epidemic has caused and continues to cause the citizens of the County, and

Whereas, A settlement proposal has been negotiated that will cause the Sackler family, the owners of the Purdue Pharma family of companies, to pay an aggregate of \$6.5 billion dollars nationwide to resolve opioid-related claims against them and resolve Purdue Pharma's bankruptcy, and

Whereas, Jefferson County, New York has filed suit against Purdue Pharma and the Sackler family for their role in the distribution, manufacture, and sale of the pharmaceutical opioid products that have fueled the opioid epidemic that has harmed the County, and

Whereas, The County's suit seeks recovery of the public funds previously expended and to be expended in the future to abate the consequences and harms of the opioid epidemic, and

Whereas, The County submitted a proof of claim in the bankruptcy and is thus entitled to vote on whether the bankruptcy court should accept or reject the associated bankruptcy plan, and

Whereas, The County's outside counsel has reviewed the available information about the proposed settlement with the Sackler family and the Purdue Pharma bankruptcy plan and has recommended that the County accept the bankruptcy plan and participate in the settlement, in order to recover its share of the funds that the settlement would provide.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, That the Jefferson County Board of Legislators hereby accepts the Purdue Pharma bankruptcy plan and approves of the County's participation in the proposed settlement of opioid-related claims against the Sackler family, and directs the County's outside counsel to execute the documents necessary to effectuate the County's participation in the settlement, including the required release of claims against the Sackler family, and accept the bankruptcy plan.

Seconded by Legislator: Robert D. Ferris

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 230

Authorizing the County of Jefferson's Participation in the Proposed Settlements of Opioid-Related Claims Against Alvogen, Amneal, Apotex, Hikma, Indivior, Mylan, Sun, And Zydus and Their Related Corporate Entities, And Directing the County Attorney And/Or the County's Outside Counsel to Execute the Documents Necessary to Effectuate the County's Participation in the Settlements

By Legislator: Steel E. Potter

Whereas, The opioid epidemic that has cost thousands of human lives across the country also impacts Jefferson County, New York by adversely impacting the delivery of emergency medical, law enforcement, criminal justice, mental health and substance abuse services, and other services by the County's various departments and agencies, and

Whereas, Jefferson County, New York has been required and will continue to be required to allocate substantial taxpayer dollars, resources, staff energy and time to address the damage the opioid epidemic has caused and continues to cause the citizens of the County, and

Whereas, Eight settlement proposals have been negotiated that will cause eight opioids manufacturers, Alvogen, Inc., Amneal Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Apotex Corp, Hikma Pharmaceuticals USA, Inc., Indivior Inc., Mylan Pharmaceuticals Inc, Sun Pharmaceutical Industries, Inc., and Zydus Pharmaceuticals (USA) Inc. (collectively the "Manufacturers") to pay approximately \$720 million nationwide to resolve opioid-related claims against it, and

Whereas, Jefferson County, New York has filed suit against certain of the manufacturers and their related corporate entities for their role in the distribution, manufacture, and sale of the pharmaceutical opioid products that have fueled the opioid epidemic that has harmed the County, and

Whereas, The County's suit seeks recovery of the public funds previously expended and to be expended in the future to abate the consequences and harms of the opioid epidemic, and

Whereas, The County's outside opioid litigation counsel has recommended that the County participate in the eight settlements in order to recover its share of the funds that the Manufacturers settlements would provide, and

Whereas, The County has reviewed the available information about the proposed settlements and concurs with the recommendation of outside counsel.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the Board of Legislators hereby approves of the County's participation in the proposed settlements of opioid-related claims against the Manufacturers and their related corporate entities, and directs the County Attorney and/or the County's outside counsel to execute the documents necessary to effectuate the County's participation in the settlements, including the required release of claims against the Manufacturers.

Seconded by Legislator: Daniel R. McBride

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 231

Authorizing an Agreement with the Thousand Islands Regional Tourism Development Corporation for the Provision of Destination Marketing and Amending the 2025 Budget in Relation Thereto

By Legislator: Philip N. Reed, Sr.

Whereas, By Resolution No. 218 of 1998, the Board of Legislators designated Thousand Islands Regional Tourism Development Corporation as Jefferson County's Official Tourism Promotion Agency, and

Whereas, Jefferson County has established an Occupancy Tax Fund, and

Whereas, Revenues generated by Occupancy Tax have exceeded expenditures in recent years, resulting in a significant fund balance that is available for reinvestment, and

Whereas, Local Law No. 5 for 2025 mandates that such funds must be utilized for the purpose of promoting and developing tourism related resources of Jefferson County, and

Whereas, The Board of Legislators has determined that marketing the County as a destination is an effective and strategic method for supporting economic activity, and

Whereas, The Thousand Islands Regional Tourism Development Corporation possesses the expertise and regional focus necessary to effectively market the County to visitors, and

Whereas, A proposal has been presented by the Thousand Islands Regional Tourism Development Corporation for the creation of a one-time supplemental destination marketing allocation to include a focus on marketing related to the Watertown International Airport, Fort Drum, Travel Trade and the continuation of a successful public relations campaign, and

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That Jefferson County enter into an agreement with Thousand Islands Regional Tourism Development Corporation for supplemental destination marketing services, for the term of October 1, 2025 through December 31, 2028, and be it further

Resolved, That the total amount of said agreement shall not exceed Three Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$350,000.00), and be it further

Resolved, That payment shall be made by the County Treasurer in the sum of Three Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$350,000.00) on or about October 1, 2025, and be it further

Resolved, That the Chairman of the Board is hereby authorized to execute such agreement with Thousand Islands Regional Tourism Development Corporation, including any future extensions within the appropriations as recommended by the County Administrator, subject to the approval of the County Attorney as to form and content, be it further

Resolved, That at any time as the Board of Legislators may request, the Thousand Islands Regional Tourism Development Corporation shall report in writing to this body a detailed statement of work and transactions completed in such form as it may direct, and be it further

Resolved, That the Corporation shall refund to the County at the termination of this Agreement

any monies paid by the County remaining unobligated, and be if further

Resolved, That the 2025 County Budget is hereby amended as follows:

Increase:

Fund Balance		
50000000 30599	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$350,000

Expense		
50641000 04654	TI Council	\$350,000

Seconded by Legislator: Frances A. Calarco

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Ferris, Calarco, Jareo, Reed, Nabywaniec, Bartlett-Bearup, Montigelli, Cantwell, Potter, Freeman, Grant, Johnson

Absent: McBride, Doldo, Boulio

Resolution passed.

Resolution No. 232

Authorizing an Agreement with the New York Department of Transportation in Relation to Airport Equipment and Amending the 2025 County Budget and Capital Plan in Relation Thereto

By Legislator: Steel E. Potter

Whereas, Jefferson County has received a grant from New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) for procurement of a Fuel Truck and various Ground Service Equipment in the amount of \$642,042, and

Whereas, The Jefferson County local share of the equipment totals \$71,338, and

Whereas, The 2025 County Budget and Capital Plan must be amended to fund said equipment.

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved, That Jefferson County enter into agreements with the NYSDOT for said equipment, and be it further

Resolved, That the Chairman of the Board of Legislators, be and is hereby authorized and directed to execute said agreements on behalf of the County, including any change orders as recommended by the Director of Aviation and County Administrator, not to exceed the funding

available, subject to approval of the County Attorney as to form and content, and be it further

Resolved, That the 2025 County Budget is amended as follows:

Decrease:

Expenditure		
20698900 02064	Property Acquisitions/Improvements	\$ 71,338

Increase:

Revenue		
20900600 93589	Airport State Aid – DOT	\$642,042

Expenditure		
20561000 02068	Ground Service Equipment	\$713,380

and be it further

Resolved, That the six-year capital plan is amended accordingly.

Seconded by Legislator: Philip N. Reed, Sr.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Jareo, Calarco, Ferris, Potter, Reed, Grant, Monigelli, Cantwell, Freeman,
Nabywaniec, Bartlett-Bearup, Johnson

Absent: Doldo, McBride, Boullo

Resolution passed.

Resolution No. 233

**Authorizing an Agreement with McFarland Johnson in Relation to Watertown
International Airport Deicing Storage Tanks**

By Legislator: Philip N. Reed, Sr.

Whereas, By Resolution No. 169 of 2019, The Board of Legislators accepted a grant from New York Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) for the acquisition of a deicing truck in the amount of \$602,905, and

Whereas, Jefferson County purchased the deicing truck for the cost of \$417,964, and

Whereas, Funds remain in the grant in the amount of \$184,941 and the NYSDOT has approved use of the funds for the procurement of deicing storage tanks, and

Whereas, The County's airport consultant on the project, McFarland Johnson, will assist in preparing bid documents, grant administration, equipment acceptance and inspection, at a cost not to exceed \$20,000, and

Whereas, Funds are available in the airport Snow Removal Equipment Capital Account 20561000 02086.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That Jefferson County enter into agreements with McFarland Johnson for said project, and be it further

Resolved, That the Chairman of the Board of Legislators, be and is hereby authorized and directed to execute said agreements on behalf of the County, including any change orders as recommended by the Director of Aviation and County Administrator, not to exceed the funding available, subject to approval of the County Attorney as to form and content.

Seconded by Legislator: Daniel R. McBride

All members present vote aye.

Resolution No. 234

Amending 2025 County Budget for the Airport Department Relative to General Ledger Coding Review and Miscellaneous Budget Adjustments

By Legislator: Steel E. Potter

Whereas, Since the 2025 budget process, a review has been conducted to ensure uniformity in general ledger coding with best practices and the adopted Chart of Budgetary Accounts, and

Whereas, In an effort to reflect expenses in their most appropriate account and strengthen County financial reporting, it is necessary to transfer funds between certain accounts, and

Whereas, Transfers are needed to cover anticipated expenses and to meet current airport business demands, and

Whereas, Funds are available within the Airport budget, and the Director of Aviation has requested transfers to pay for associated expenses.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the 2025 County Budget is hereby amended as follows:

Decrease:

Expenditure		
01561000 01100	Personal Services	\$45,000
01561000 04119	Computer Software	27,540
01561000 04480	Airfield Pavement Marking	35,000

Increase:

Expenditure		
01561000 01300	Overtime	\$45,000
01561000 04214	Utilities	25,000
01561000 04416	Professional Fees	10,000
01561000 04120	Computer Subscriptions	27,540

Seconded by Legislator: Corey Y. Grant

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 235

Amending the 2025 County Budget and Capital Plan in Relation to the Watertown International Airport Runway 28 Medium-Intensity Approach Lighting System with Runway Alignment Indicator Lights (MALSR)

By Legislator: Philip N. Reed, Sr.

Whereas, By Resolution No. 117 of 2020, The Board of Legislators authorized agreements with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT), and McFarland Johnson, Inc. for the design and bidding of the Runway 28 Medium-Intensity Approach Lighting System with Runway Alignment Indicator Lights (MALSR), and

Whereas, By Resolution No. 272 of 2022, The Board of Legislators authorized the agreement with Baseline King Corporation in the amount of \$3,748,519.05 for the construction for the Project, and

Whereas, By Resolution No. 190 of 2023, The Board of Legislators authorized a change order with Baseline King Corporation, Inc. for said Project in the amount of \$54,166.56 and recognized related federal and state revenue, and

Whereas, By Resolution No. 311 of 2023, The Board of Legislators authorized a change order with Baseline King Corporation, Inc. for said Project in the amount of \$128,415.30 and recognized related federal and state revenue, and

Whereas, It is necessary to authorize a change order with Baseline King Corporation to reduce the contract by \$34,834.38 to reconcile the contract quantities with the actual quantities installed during construction, and

Whereas, A correction to the appropriated capital budget is required to account for the difference in anticipated Airport Improvement Program funds and those grant funds actually received.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the Chairman of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized and directed to execute said change order on behalf of the County, including any subsequent change orders as recommended by the Director of Aviation and County Administrator, not to exceed the funding available, subject to approval of the County Attorney as to form and content, and be it further

Resolved, That the 2025 County Budget is hereby amended as follows:

Increase:

Revenue

20900600 94589 Federal Aid – Airport Capital Projects \$2,615

Expenditure

20561000 02097 Airfield Lighting \$2,615

and be it further

Resolved, That the six-year capital plan is amended accordingly.

Seconded by Legislator: Daniel R. McBride

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Reed, Grant, Freeman, Bartlett-Bearup, Jareo, Calarco, Potter, Ferris, Montigelli, Cantwell, Nabywaniec, Johnson

Absent: Boulio, Doldo, McBride

Resolution passed.

Resolution No. 236

Authorizing Agreements with the Federal Aviation Administration, New York State Department of Transportation, and McFarland Johnson for the Watertown International Airport Runway 25 Obstruction Removal Design and Amending the 2025 County Budget and Capital Plan

By Legislator: Steel E. Potter

Whereas, By Resolution No. 226 of 2024, the Board of Legislators authorized agreements with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT), Arnold K. Crump, Patrick K. Crump, Christine Spencer, Margaret Moore, Daniel, and Rebecca Crosby for the acquisition of land in the vicinity of Runway 25 at the Watertown International Airport, and

Whereas, The Watertown International Airport anticipates grant funding from the FAA in the amount of \$192,203 through the Airport Improvement Program (AIP) in Federal Fiscal Year 2025 for the Design of the Runway 25 Obstruction Removal, and

Whereas, The Watertown International Airport anticipates a NYSDOT grant in Federal Fiscal Year 2025 for an amount up to \$5,058, and

Whereas, The local share of FAA Airport Improvement Program funding is \$5,058, and

Whereas, It is necessary to authorize agreements with the County's selected consultant, McFarland Johnson, Inc., for completion of the design services in the amount of up to \$198,319, and

Whereas, The County is expected to incur up to \$4,000 in administrative, preliminary, and reimbursable agreement expenses in relation to the project, and

Whereas, An Environmental Assessment was prepared and approved by the FAA with the issuance of a Finding of No Significant Impact in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, and

Whereas, A Negative Declaration was issued as part of Resolution No. 65 of 2022 pursuant to 6 NYCRR 617.5.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That Jefferson County enter into agreements with the FAA to accept said grant funds through AIP in the amount of \$192,203, NYSDOT to accept grant funds in an amount not to exceed \$5,058, and McFarland Johnson, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$198,319 for design services, and be it further

Resolved, That Jefferson County, upon award of the FAA grant, enter into agreements with the FAA, NYSDOT, and McFarland Johnson, Inc. for said project and that the Chairman of the Board be and is hereby authorized and directed to execute said agreements on behalf of the County, including any change orders as recommended by the Director of Aviation and County Administrator, not to exceed the funding available, subject to review of the County Attorney as to form and content, and be it further

Resolved, That the 2025 County Budget is hereby amended as follows:

Decrease

Expenditure		
20698900 02064	Property Acquisition/Improvements	\$ 5,058

Increase:

Revenue		
20900600 94589	Federal Aid - Airport Capital Projects	\$192,203
20900600 93589	Airport State Aid - DOT	5,058

Expenditure		
20561000 02072	Obstruction Removal	\$202,319

and be it further

Resolved, That the six-year capital plan is amended accordingly.

Seconded by Legislator: Corey Y. Grant

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Freeman, Reed, Montigelli, Ferris, Bartlett-Bearup, Cantwell, Grant, Potter, Jareo, Nabywaniec, Calarco, Johnson

Absent: Doldo, McBride, Boulio

Resolution passed.

Resolution No. 237

Authorizing an Agreement with Rifenburg Construction, Inc. for the Watertown International Airport Runway 10-28 Rehabilitation- Phase 1 and Amending the 2025 County Budget and Capital Plan in Relation Thereto

By Legislator: Steel E. Potter

Whereas, By Resolution No. 110 of 2022, The Board of Legislators authorized agreements with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT), and McFarland Johnson, Inc. for the design and bidding of the Runway 10-28 Rehabilitation, and

Whereas, By Resolution No. 231 of 2024, The Board of Legislators authorized agreements with the FAA, NYSDOT, and provided SEQR Determination for the Project, and

Whereas, By Resolution No. 272 of 2024, The Board of Legislators authorized an agreement with Rifenburg Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$3,485,115 to complete the base bid for the Project, with the remaining segment to be completed at a later date, and

Whereas, It is necessary to authorize a change order (No. 1) with Rifenburg Construction, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$16,609.58 for additional work related to the contractor haul route and credit for reuse of taxiway guidance sign foundations, and

Whereas, It is necessary to authorize a change order (No. 2) with Rifenburg Construction, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$5,144.18 for additional work related to remobilization and drainage structure modifications, and

Whereas, The County is anticipating an increase in FAA and NYSDOT funding in the amounts of up to \$19,578.38 and \$1,087.69, respectively, with a required local share of \$1,087.69.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the Chairman of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized and directed to execute said change orders with Rifenburg Construction on behalf of the County in the combined amount of \$21,753.76, including any subsequent change orders as recommended by the Director of Aviation and County Administrator, not to exceed the funding available, subject to approval of the County Attorney as to form and content, and be it further

Resolved, That the 2025 County Budget is hereby amended as follows:

Decrease:

Expenditure		
20698900 02064	Property Acquisition/Improvements	\$ 1,087.69

Increase:

Revenue		
20900600 94589	Federal Aid - Airport Capital Projects	\$ 19,578.38
20900600 93589	Airport State Aid - DOT	1,087.69

Expenditure		
205610000 02087	Runway 10-28	\$ 21,753.76

and be it further

Resolved, That the six-year capital plan is amended accordingly.

Seconded by Legislator: Christopher S. Boulio

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Ferris, Reed, Freeman, Jareo, Montigelli, Potter, Calarco, Cantwell, Grant,
Nabywaniec, Bartlett-Bearup, Johnson

Absent: Doldo, Boulio, McBride

Resolution passed.

Resolution No. 238

Authorizing Agreements with the Federal Aviation Administration, McFarland Johnson, and Rifenburg Construction Inc. for the Watertown International Airport Runway 10-28 Rehabilitation - Phase 2 Construction and Amending the 2025 County Budget and Capital Plan

By Legislator: Corey Y. Grant

Whereas, By Resolution No. 110 of 2022, the Board of Legislators authorized agreements with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT), and McFarland Johnson, Inc. for the design and bidding of the Runway 10-28 Rehabilitation Design, and

Whereas, By Resolution No. 272 of 2024, the Board of Legislators authorized the agreements with Rifenburg Construction, Inc. and McFarland Johnson, Inc. to complete the base bid for the project, with the remaining segment to be completed at a later date, and

Whereas, The Watertown International Airport anticipates grant funding from the FAA through the Airport Improvement Program (AIP) in Federal Fiscal Year 2025 for the Runway 10-28 Rehabilitation Phase II Construction in the amount of \$2,891,729, and

Whereas, The Watertown International Airport anticipates a NYSDOT grant in Federal Fiscal Year 2025 for an amount up to \$76,098, with a local share requirement of \$76,099 for the AIP, and

Whereas, The County's selected airport consultant on this project, McFarland Johnson, Inc., has completed a re-design process and coordinated the bidding for the remaining segment of the runway and recommends that the lowest responsible bidder, Rifenburg Construction Inc., be awarded the construction contract in the amount of \$2,683,115, and

Whereas, It is necessary to authorize agreements with Rifenburg Construction Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$2,683,115 for construction, with McFarland Johnson, Inc. for re-design and re-bidding services in the amount of up to \$30,007, and with McFarland Johnson, Inc. for construction administration and project construction representative services in the amount not to exceed \$320,804, and

Whereas, The County is expected to incur up to \$10,000 in administrative, preliminary, and reimbursable agreement expenses in relation to the project, and

Whereas, A Categorical Exclusion Determination was prepared and approved by the Federal Aviation Administration on July 20, 2022 in accordance with the National Environmental Protection Act, and a subsequent review was completed pursuant to 6 NYCRR Part 617 in relation to the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR), and

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That Pursuant to 6 NYCRR Part 617, Jefferson County has determined the proposed improvements are classified as a Type II action and no further action is required, and be it further

Resolved, That Jefferson County enter into agreements with the FAA to accept said grant funds through AIP in the amount of \$2,891,729, NYSDOT to accept said grant funds in an amount not to exceed \$76,098, Rifenburg Construction Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$2,683,115 for the construction of the Phase 2, and with McFarland Johnson, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$30,007 for re-design and bidding and in an amount not to exceed \$320,804 for construction administration and project representative services for said Project, and be it further

Resolved, That the Chairman of the Board is hereby authorized and directed to execute said agreements on behalf of the County, including any change orders as recommended by the Director of Aviation and County Administrator, not to exceed the funding available, subject to review of the County Attorney as to form and content, and be it further

Resolved, That the 2025 County Budget is hereby amended as follows:

Decrease

Expenditure

20698900 02064	Property Acquisition/Improvements	\$ 76,099
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Increase:

Revenue

20900600 94589	Federal Aid – Airport Capital Project	\$ 2,891,729
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20900600 93589	Airport State Aid – DOT	76,098
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Expenditure

20561000 02087	Runway 10-28	\$ 3,043,926
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and be it further

Resolved, That the six-year capital plan is amended accordingly.

Seconded by Legislator: Christopher S. Boullo

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Potter, Grant, Reed, Calarco, Montigelli, Cantwell, Jareo, Ferris, Bartlett-Bearup, Freeman, Nabywaniec, Johnson

Absent: Doldo, Boulio, McBride

Resolution passed.

Resolution No. 239

**Amending Agreements with Federal Aviation Administration and New York State
Department of Transportation in Relation to Watertown International Airport Land
Acquisition**

By Legislator: Steel E. Potter

Whereas, By Resolution No. 65 of 2022, the Board previously authorized agreements with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), New York Department of Transportation (NYSDOT), and McFarland Johnson, Inc. in relation to the Watertown International Airport Land Acquisition Services (Runways 7, 10, 25, and 28), and

Whereas, By Resolution No. 226 of 2024, the Board authorized agreements with Arnold K. Crump, Christine Spencer, Margaret Moore, Daniel and Rebecca Crosby, the Federal Aviation Administration, and the New York State Department of Transportation in Relation to Watertown International Airport Land Acquisition Services (Runways 7, 10, 25, and 28), and

Whereas, The FAA is now anticipated to provide grant funding in phases, with a Phase I grant anticipated in 2025 in the amount of \$1,156,253, and a NYSDOT matching grant in the amount of \$30,428, and

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, Jefferson County enter into an agreement with the FAA to accept said grant funds in the amount of \$1,156,253, and with NYSDOT to accept said grant funds in the amount of \$30,428, and be it further

Resolved, That Jefferson County enter into said agreements and that the Chairman of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to execute said agreements, including any change orders as recommended by the Director of Aviation and County Administrator, not to exceed the funding available, subject to the approval of the County Attorney as to form and content.

Seconded by Legislator: Christopher S. Boulio

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 240

**Amending Agreements with Federal Aviation Administration and New York State
Department of Transportation in Relation to Watertown International Airport Terminal**

Gateway Project

By Legislator: Daniel R. McBride

Whereas, By Resolution No. 351 of 2022, The Board of Legislators previously authorized agreements with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), New York Department of Transportation (NYSDOT), and McFarland Johnson in relation to the Watertown International Airport Passenger Terminal Reconstruction and Expansion, State Environmental Quality Review Determination thereto, and amended the 2022 County Budget and Capital Plan in Relation thereto, and

Whereas, By Resolution No. 104 of 2025, the Board authorized an amendment to the 2025 County Budget and Capital Plan in Relation to the Watertown International Airport Terminal Gateway Project, and

Whereas, Additional federal funds through the FAA's Airport Infrastructure Grant (AIG) Program became available to support the Project, as well as an increase in the federal share on grants in Fiscal Year 2025, and

Whereas, Resolution No. 263 of 2023 anticipated a future grant from the FAA through the Airport Infrastructure Grant program in the amount of \$3,098,053 and a matching grant from NYSDOT in the amount of \$172,114, and

Whereas, The FAA is now anticipated to provide a grant in the amount of \$3,099,346, and with NYSDOT providing a matching grant in the amount of \$81,562.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That Jefferson County enter into agreements with the FAA to accept said grant funds in the amount of \$3,099,346 and with NYSDOT to accept said grant funds in the amount of \$81,562, and be it further

Resolved, That Jefferson County enter into said agreements and that the Chairman of the Board is hereby authorized to execute said agreements, including any change orders as recommended by the Director of Aviation and County Administrator, not to exceed the funding available, subject to the approval of the County Attorney as to form and content, and be it further

Resolved, That the 2025 County Budget is hereby amended as follows:

Decrease:

Revenue

20900600 93589	Airport State Aid – DOT	\$90,552
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Expenditure

20561000 02088	Airport Terminal	\$89,259
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Increase:

Revenue
20900600 94589 Federal Aid – Airport Capital Projects \$ 1,293

and be it further

Resolved, That the six-year capital plan is amended accordingly.

Seconded by Legislator: Christopher S. Boullo

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Nabywaniec, Jareo, Grant, Calarco, Bartlett-Bearup, Cantwell, Reed, Freeman,
Montigelli, Ferris, Potter, Johnson

Absent: Doldo, Boullo, McBride

Resolution passed.

Resolution No. 241

**Authorizing an Agreement with Rochester Institution of Technology in Relation to the Gun
Involved Violence Elimination (GIVE) Grant Award**

By Legislator: Steel E. Potter

Whereas, By Resolution No. 315 of 2024, the Board of Legislators recognized New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services Gun Involved Violent Elimination (GIVE) Grant Award, and

Whereas, Said grant includes GIVE data coordination and analysis for the jurisdiction, and

Whereas, The District Attorney has recommended contracting with Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT), which handles such services through their Sponsored Research Services.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That Jefferson County enter into an agreement with RIT for the above referenced services for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 in the amount of \$106,443, and be it further

Resolved, That the Chairman of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to execute said agreement on behalf of the County, subject to approval by the County Attorney as to form and content.

Seconded by Legislator: Christopher S. Boulio

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 242

**Authorizing an Agreement with New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services
Statewide Targeted Reduction of Intimate Partner Violence (STRIVE) Grant Award to the
District Attorney's Office and Amending the 2025 Budget in Relation Thereto**

By Legislator: Daniel R. McBride

Whereas, The Jefferson County District Attorney's Office has been awarded a New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services Statewide Targeted Reduction of Intimate Partner Violence (STRIVE) Grant in the amount of \$10,000, and

Whereas, The STRIVE initiative provides for preventative and enforcement strategies to focus efforts on the reduction of Intimate Partner and Domestic Violence utilizing evidence-based practices, and

Whereas, Said grant will be used to offset expenditures for mandatory training for Assistant District Attorneys specifically related to implementing the grant and the chosen initiatives for this County.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That Jefferson County hereby accepts said grant award, and be it further

Resolved, That the Chairman of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to execute any and all documents as may be required to fulfill the requirements of this grant award on behalf of Jefferson County, subject to the County Attorney as to form and content, and be it further

Resolved, That the Chairman of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized and directed to execute any and all future amendments and agreements with New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services relative to the STRIVE Grant, within available appropriations, per Purchasing Policy 4.01 – Policy, Control and Quotations, and be it further

Resolved, That the 2025 County Budget is hereby amended as follows:

Increase:

Revenue

01116500 93389

State Aid- Other Public Safety

\$10,000

Expenditure

01116500 04313 Travel

\$10,000

Seconded by Legislator: Corey Y. Grant

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Montigelli, Potter, Jareo, Bartlett-Bearup, Nabywaniec, Freeman, Ferris, Reed,
Cantwell, Grant, Calarco, Johnson

Absent: McBride, Boulio, Doldo

Resolution passed.

Resolution No. 243

Authorizing the Abandonment of Portion of the Right of Way on the Corner of State Route 26 and Bridge Street, Village of West Carthage, Town of Champion to GRJ95 Bridge 3 South Broad, LLC

By Legislator: Christopher S. Boulio

Whereas, GRJ 95 Bridge 3 South Broad, LLC, property owner adjacent to the Right of Way on the corner of State Route 26 and Bridge Street, Village of West Carthage, Town of Champion has expressed an interest in acquiring a portion of the Right of Way abutting the LLC's property, and

Whereas, The Right of Way was initially created in 1932 for the expansion of State Route 26 and is currently used for maintenance and line-of-sight purposes, and

Whereas, After evaluation of the location, the County Highway Superintendent has determined that the portion requested is unnecessary for current County Highway purposes, and

Whereas, Pursuant to Highway Law §118-a, the Board of Legislators may, upon recommendation of the County Highway Superintendent, abandon sections or parts of highway property to the abutting owner when such property is of no further use for highway purposes.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That pursuant to section 118-a of the Highway Law, a portion of the Right of Way on the corner of State Route 26 and Bridge Street, Village of West Carthage, Town of Champion, said parcel identified on the maps in the County Highway Department and described in the attached description and incorporated as part of this resolution by reference, is declared unnecessary for highway purposes, and be it further

Resolved, That the above referenced parcel shall be sold to GRJ 95 Bridge 3 South Broad, LLC, abutting property owner, for the sum of one dollar (\$1.00) and the Chairman of the Board is hereby authorized and directed to execute a quit claim deed and other documents necessary to convey said parcel subject to the approval of the County Attorney as to form and content.

Seconded by Legislator: Steel E. Potter

Description

ALL THAT CERTAIN PIECE OR PARCEL OF LAND situate in the Village of West Carthage, Town of Champion, County of Jefferson, and State of New York, intending to describe a portion of a 0.21± acre parcel of land reputedly appropriated from Atlantic Refining Co. for highway purposes, shown on "Map No. 12, Highway No. 5332, Jefferson County", prepared by R. F. Hall, District Engineer for District 7, elated February 24, 1932, said parcel being bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at a 1/2" rebar found in the presumed southeast margin of Bridge Street at its intersection with the northeast bounds of the 0.21± acre parcel;

Thence along the bounds of said parcel the following two (2) courses and distances;

- 1) S. 39 deg. 21min. 22 sec. E., a distance of 86.89' to a point;
- 2) S. 29 deg. 22 min. 51sec. W., a distance of 94.74' to a 1/2" rebar found in the presumed northeast highway margin of New York State Route 26;

Thence N. 03 deg. 17 min. 41sec. W., passing through the 0.21± acre parcel a distance of 149.99' to the point of beginning, containing 0.09 acres of land.

Subject to any private or municipal rights pertaining to utilities crossing the described premises.

Subject to any other rights, restrictions and reservations of record.

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 244

Establishing Time and Place for a Public Hearing on the 2025 Inclusions of Viable Agricultural Land in New York State Certified Agricultural Districts

By Legislator: Daniel R. McBride

Whereas, New York State Agriculture and Markets Law Article 25AA, Section 303-b requires that Counties establish an annual thirty-day period within which to accept requests by landowners to have viable agricultural land included in a certified Agricultural District, and

Whereas, The Jefferson County Board of Legislators passed Resolution No. 98 of 2004, Establishing an Annual Thirty Day Period, June 1 through June 30, for landowners to submit proposals to include viable agricultural land within an existing agricultural district before the district's established review period, and

Whereas, In accordance with Section 303-b of Article 25AA of the New York State Agriculture and Markets Law, the requests for inclusion were referred to the Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board for review and recommendation, and

Whereas, The recommendation of the Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board concerning the inclusion proposals has been submitted to the Clerk of the Board.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That a Public Hearing be conducted by the Board of Legislators concerning the inclusion of viable agricultural land in certified Agricultural Districts before the Districts' established review periods, to be held in the Jefferson County Board of Legislators' Chambers, 2nd floor, Historic Courthouse, 195 Arsenal Street, Watertown, New York, on Tuesday, October 7th, 2025, at 6:00 p.m., and be it further

Resolved, That a notice of such public hearing shall be given in accordance with law.

Seconded by Legislator: Steel E. Potter

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 245

Establishing Time and Place for a Public Hearing on the Eight Year Review of the Southwest Agricultural District No. 3

By Legislator: Steel E. Potter

Whereas, Jefferson County has been officially notified by the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets to commence the Eight Year Review of the Southwest Agricultural District No. 3, and

Whereas, In accordance with Section 303 of Article 25AA of the New York State Agriculture and Markets Law this action was referred to the Jefferson County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board for review and recommendation, and

Whereas, District No. 3 encompasses land within the townships of the Towns of Ellisburg, Henderson, Hounsfield, the Villages of Adams, Ellisburg, Mannsville, and Sackets Harbor, and portions of the Towns of Adams, Lorraine, and Watertown, and

Whereas, There have been requests to add 459.15 acres and no requests to remove land, and

Whereas, The Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board has submitted a recommendation to modify and continue the Southwest District to the Board.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That a public hearing will be conducted by the Board of Legislators concerning the Eight Year Review of the Southwest Agricultural District No. 3 and any modifications thereof to be held in the Jefferson County Board of Legislator's Chambers, 2nd floor, Historic Courthouse, at 195 Arsenal Street, Watertown, New York on Tuesday, October 7th, 2025, after the 2025 Individual Inclusion public hearing at 6:00 p.m. and be it further

Resolved, that a notice of such public hearing shall be given in accordance with law.

Seconded by Legislator: Philip N. Reed, Sr.

Resolution No. 246

Authorizing an Agreement for Development and Submission of a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Application to the New York State Office for Community Renewal and the Development and Administration of Grant Program

By Legislator: Steel E. Potter

Whereas, Jefferson County remains committed to pursuing affordable housing resources to assist low to moderate income County residents to improve the quality of the County's housing stock, and

Whereas, Jefferson County intends to apply for 2025 Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from the New York State Office for Community Renewal (OCR), and

Whereas, New York State OCR has released the 2025 Notice of Funding Assistance with applications due September 19, and

Whereas, The County issued a Request For Proposals (RFP) for the three-year period 2025 to 2027 to identify qualified community development firms that could assist with grant preparation, program development, and program implementation for CDBG Housing assistance initiatives, and

Whereas, Through the professional services assistance of Avalon Associates, the County has received seventeen CDBG awards since 2007 totaling \$11.8 million which have been used for housing rehabilitation programs to benefit income eligible homeowners throughout Jefferson County, and

Whereas, Through the RFP process, Avalon Associates was identified as a firm with the required credentials, expertise, and experience to assist the County in developing a 2025 CDBG housing application for a sum of \$7,500, and

Whereas, Avalon Associates has also proposed, upon a CDBG grant award, to develop the housing program and assist in grant administration for a lump sum of \$15,000, provide program delivery services for \$2,250 per housing unit, and fixed general and grant administration services fees as authorized by the grant program, all of which are eligible grant expenses.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That Jefferson County enter into an agreement with Avalon Associates as described for the terms above for 2025 CDBG Housing Grant assistance, and be it further

Resolved, That the Chair of the Board of Legislators be and is hereby authorized and directed to execute said agreement on behalf of the County, subject to the review of the County Attorney as

to form and content

Seconded by Legislator: Phillip N. Reed, Sr.

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 247

Designating a Certifying Officer for the 2025 Community Development Block Grant Award

By Legislator: Daniel R. McBride

Whereas, Jefferson County will apply for a grant from the New York State Office of Community Renewal (OCR) through its 2025 Community Development Block Grant program to fund a housing rehabilitation program to benefit eligible homeowners throughout the County, and

Whereas, In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and the related authorities listed at 24 CFR Part 58, the County is required to conduct an environmental review before grant award funds are released, and

Whereas, The New York State OCR, as the agency responsible for administering United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funding in New York State, requires that local communities administering programs with that funding must designate a Certifying Officer with authority to monitor compliance with the environmental review process.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That Samuel C. Wilson, Community Development Coordinator, is hereby appointed as Certifying Officer for Jefferson County with authority to monitor compliance with 24 CFR Part 58 of the federal regulations for the 2025 grant, and be it further

Resolved, That any issues or complaints related to this compliance shall be reported to the County Administrator, who shall determine what action is required under the regulations.

Seconded by Legislator: Corey Y. Grant

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 248

Appointing a Section 3 Coordinator for Jefferson County

By Legislator: Christopher S. Boulio

Whereas, Jefferson County has been awarded grant monies from the New York State Office of

Community Renewal (OCR) through its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program to fund an owner-occupied housing rehabilitation program to benefit income eligible homeowners throughout Jefferson County and a mobile home replacement program for low to moderate income eligible residents, and

Whereas, The Board of Legislators has agreed to comply with all state and federal regulations that are applicable to that funding, and

Whereas, Section 3 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992, as amended, requires that recipients of United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funding ensure that employment and other economic opportunities generated by certain HUD financial assistance shall, to the greatest extent feasible, and consistent with existing federal, state and local laws and regulations, be directed to lower income persons, particularly those who are recipients of government assistance for housing, and to business concerns which provide economic opportunities to lower income persons, and

Whereas, The New York State OCR, as the agency responsible for administering HUD funding in New York State, requires that local communities administering programs with HUD funding must designate a local Section 3 Coordinator with authority to monitor compliance with the HUD regulations.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That Samuel C. Wilson, Community Development Coordinator in the Jefferson County Department of Planning, is hereby appointed as Section 3 Coordinator for Jefferson County with authority to monitor compliance with the regulations at 24 CFR Part 135 of the federal regulations, and be it further

Resolved, That all issues or complaints shall be reported to the County Administrator, who will determine what action is required under the regulations.

Seconded by Legislator: Steel E. Potter

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 249

Authorizing an Agreement for Services between the Jefferson County Stormwater Coalition and Jefferson County Soil and Water Conservation District

By Legislator: Daniel R. McBride

Whereas, The United States Bureau of the Census has designated an area of Jefferson County as an "Urbanized Area" in excess of 50,000 residents based on the 2010 Census population data, and

Whereas, The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requires that municipalities which operate a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) within said area are required to obtain a permit through the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), to discharge stormwater, for the purpose of reducing pollution, and

Whereas, The Towns of LeRay, Rutland and Watertown, the Villages of Black River, Brownville, Carthage and West Carthage, City of Watertown and Jefferson County have formed the Jefferson County Stormwater Coalition to combine their resources for the purpose of developing and implementing plans, and

Whereas, By Resolution No. 217 of 2014, The Board of Legislators authorized an agreement with said Coalition, subsequently re-authorized by Resolution Nos. 259 of 2017 and 62 of 2024, and

Whereas, The Jefferson County Soil and Water Conservation District acts as staff consultants to said coalition and have provided an Agreement for Services that describes the Scope of Services, Term of Contract, Compensation, and Termination Provisions between the Jefferson County Soil and Water Conservation District and the Jefferson County Stormwater Coalition.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That Jefferson County, as part of the Coalition, enter into an agreement with Jefferson County Soil and Water Conservation District as described in the Agreement of Services for the period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2026, and be it further

Resolved, That the Chair of the Board of Legislators be and is hereby authorized and directed to execute said agreement on behalf of the County, subject to the review of the County Attorney as to form and content.

Seconded by Legislator: Steel E. Potter

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 250

Authorizing an Agreement with New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services Statewide Targeted Reductions in Intimate Partner Violence (STRIVE) Grant Award to the Probation Department and Amending the 2025 County Budget in Relation Thereto

By Legislator: Christopher S. Boulio

Whereas, The Jefferson County Probation Department has been awarded a New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services Statewide Targeted Reductions in Intimate Partner Violence (STRIVE) Grant (C485158) in the amount of \$211,348, and

Whereas, The STRIVE initiative provides for preventative and enforcement strategies to focus efforts on deterrence through community outreach, resource alignment, and specialized training, and

Whereas, Said grant will be used to partially offset salary and fringe benefits of existing positions.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That Jefferson County hereby accepts said grant award, and be it further,

Resolved, That the Chairman of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to execute any and all documents as may be required to fulfill the requirements of this grant award for the term of March 1, 2025 through March 31, 2026 on behalf of Jefferson County, subject to the County Attorney as to form and content, and be it further

Resolved, That the Chairman of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized and directed to execute any and all future amendments and agreements with New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services relative to the STRIVE Grant, within appropriated funds, per Purchasing Policy 4.01 – Policy, Control and Quotations, and be it further

Resolved, That the 2025 County Budget is hereby amended as follows:

Increase:

Revenue

01314000 93389	State Aid- Other Public Safety	\$ 32,462
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Expenditure

01314000 01300	Overtime	\$ 13,496
01314000 04419	Electronic Home Detention	13,166
01314000 04613	Training	5,300
01314000 04585	Materials for Offender	500

Seconded by Legislator: Steel E. Potter

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Grant, Bartlett-Bearup, Calarco, Freeman, Cantwell, Reed, Potter, Ferris, Nabywaniec, Montigelli, Jareo, Johnson

Absent: Boulio, McBride, Doldo

Resolution passed.

Resolution No. 251

**Authorizing an Agreement with Michele L. Carr for Provision of Related Services
in Connection with the Program for Preschool Children with Disabilities**

By Legislator: Christopher S. Boulio

Whereas, The Program for Preschool Children with Disabilities provides a variety of related services to children aged three to five years with certain disabilities, such services to be provided in the least restrictive environment, be it home or agency based, and

Whereas, Chapter 243 of the Laws of 1989 requires that counties maintain a list of appropriately certified or licensed professionals to deliver related services to preschool children with disabilities and set a reasonable reimbursement rate for such services, subject to the approval of the New York State Education Department, and

Whereas, Resolution No. 138 of 2025 authorized agreements and established rates for the provision of related services in connection with the program for preschool children with disabilities, and an additional provider needs to be added.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That, pursuant to Section 4410 of the Education Law, Jefferson County enter into an agreement with Michele L. Carr, MA CCC-SLP to provide speech-language therapy services for the period October 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 in accordance with the requirements of the State Education Law and regulations, and be it further

Resolved, That the Chairman of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to execute such agreement on behalf of Jefferson County with the approval of the County Attorney as to form and content.

Seconded by Legislator: Frances A. Calarco

All members present voted aye.

Chairman Johnson entertained a motion and second to waive Standing Rules 35 and 60 to permit the introduction of an additional resolution for consideration. Such motion was made by Legislator Montigelli seconded by Legislator Reed and unanimously carried.

Resolution No. 252

**Authorizing an Agreement with Bronze Contracting LLC for the Demolition of a Structure
Located at 301 S Main Street, Mannsville**

By Legislator: Philip N. Reed, Sr.

Whereas, A property located at 301 S Main Street, Mannsville, NY 13661 has been acquired by Jefferson County through the foreclosure of delinquent real property taxes, and

Whereas, The two-story brick and wood building on said property is abandoned, has been condemned for occupancy, and has severely deteriorated to the point of falling brick and debris into public areas, rendering it unsafe to enter and an imminent danger to the community, and

Whereas, Due to the emergent nature of the hazard posed by the structure, Jefferson County issued an expedited RFQ to solicit quotes for the complete demolition of the building and surface restoration of the site, and

Whereas, Bronze Contracting LLC has been determined to be the lowest responsible bidder for the project, and

Whereas, Demolition projects inherently involve unpredictability due to the deteriorating nature and inaccessibility of the structures and subsurfaces, and as such, an alternate bid for additional scope was provided to plan for potential environmental related issues, and

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That Jefferson County authorizes an agreement with Bronze Contracting LLC in the amount of \$115,072 for the demolition of the structure located at 301 S Main Street, Mannsville (Project No. Manns), and be it further

Resolved, Due to environmental unpredictability, an additional \$90,000 is hereby appropriated to the Project, and be it further

Resolved, That the Chairman of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to execute said Agreement, on behalf of the County, including any additional changes orders as recommended by the County Administrator, within the authorized level of appropriations, subject to review of the County Attorney as to form and content, and be it further

Seconded by Legislator: Steel E. Potter

Legislator Jareo thanked County Attorney Sabik and Administrator Piche for making this project a priority and moving it along. He thanked his fellow legislators for agreeing to waive the rules and realizing this is a priority as the structure is in really bad shape and is a hazard. All members present voted aye.

Chairman Johnson entertained a motion and second to go into executive session to discuss the proposed acquisition, sale or lease of real property. Such motion was made by Legislator Montigelli seconded by Legislator Nabywaniec and the Board entered executive session at 6:24 p.m. The Board returned to open session at 7:18 p.m. on a motion by Legislator Reed seconded by Legislator Montigelli and unanimously carried.

There being no further business of the Board, on a motion by Legislator Potter seconded by

Legislator Grant and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan Piche". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "R".

Ryan Piche
Clerk of the Board