

REGULAR SESSION

TUESDAY, JULY 7, 2026

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

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

All members present except Legislators Ferris, Freeman and Cantwell.

PUBLIC HEARING

Local Law Intro No. 1 of 2026 A Local Law Requiring Building Permits for all Commercial Renewable Energy Conversion Systems

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

Tentative 2026-2027 Jefferson Community College Budget

Chairman Johnson called the public hearing to order at 6:02p.m. No one present wished to comment and the public hearing was closed.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Jay Thompson, 242 Paddock Street, Watertown, US Army Retired (2021) and 10 year resident of the community related his negative experience in applying for the Counselor position in the Veterans Service Agency Office. He was unable to speak to anyone in that office despite numerous attempts at contact and did not feel leadership in the office was adequate. He could address a written complaint to legislators if necessary and said he would be happy to step into the position for half pay to demonstrate his abilities.

READING OF MINUTES OF LAST SESSION, IF REQUESTED

The minutes of the June Session and June 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 and on Legislators expenses.

REPORTS OF COUNTY OFFICERS AND OTHER

The County Treasurer provided a report on Investments and Cash In Banks as of May 31, 2026

The County Administrator provided a report on Budget Transfers for the month of June, 2026.

LOCAL LAWS, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS

Local Law Intro. No. 1 of the Year 2026

A LOCAL LAW REQUIRING BUILDING PERMITS FOR ALL COMMERCIAL RENEWABLE ENERGY CONVERSION SYSTEMS

By Legislator: Steel E. Potter

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

SECTION 1. TITLE

This Local Law shall be known as “**A LOCAL LAW REQUIRING BUILDING PERMITS FOR ALL COMMERCIAL RENEWABLE ENERGY CONVERSION SYSTEMS.**”

SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS

As used in this law, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

Accessory Facilities or Equipment: Any structure and other equipment other than the Renewable Energy Conversion System, related to the use and purpose of reviving, collecting, storing or distributing energy from such a system, located on or associated with the Renewable Energy Conversion System.

Applicant: Owner/Operator/Developer (with authorization from the landowner) of a Renewable Energy Conversion Device/System/Farm.

Building Code: NYS Building Code as currently in effect and as the same may hereinafter be amended.

Code Enforcement Officer: 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). —

Permit: A permit issued pursuant to this law granting the holder the right to install, construct and Operate a Renewable Energy Conversion System or its Accessory Facilities or Equipment.

Renewable Energy Conversion System: A system that converts naturally replenishing resources into usable energy, such as, but not limited to, Solar Energy Conversion Systems and Wind Energy Conversion Systems/Wind Turbines.

Solar Energy Conversion System: The components and subsystems required to convert solar energy into electric energy suitable for use. The term includes, but is not limited to, Solar Panels and Solar Energy Equipment.

Uniform Code: 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.*).

Wind Energy Conversion System/Wind Turbine: A machine that converts the kinetic energy in the wind into a usable form of mechanical or electrical energy (commonly known as a “wind turbine” or “windmill”). The Wind Energy Conversion System includes all parts of the system, including but not limited to the tower, the concrete platform, turbine housing and associated control, electronics and equipment. The turbine may be on a horizontal or vertical axis, rotor or propeller.

All definitions contained in the NYS Building Code, including, but not limited to, renewable energy conversion systems, are incorporated herein by reference and shall apply with respect to the administration and enforcement of this Local Law.

SECTION 3. PURPOSE AND INTENT

A. The purpose of this Local Law is to provide building permits for the construction and operation of Renewable Energy Conversion Systems located within the County of Jefferson, and to regulate their reasonable installation and construction conditions by permit in order to protect public health and safety.

B. The County of Jefferson is committed to the development of renewable energy resources in an effort to promote green energy and to reduce its carbon footprint. Renewable energy systems in Jefferson County, which when converted to electricity, will reduce dependence on nonrenewable energy sources, and decrease pollutants that are traditionally associated with the production of electricity from conventional carbon energy sources.

C. Conversion of energy to electricity requires the construction and operation of systems, consisting of one or more solar arrays, wind/water turbines, battery energy storage, and other accessory structures and buildings, including substations, meteorological towers, electrical infrastructure, transmission lines and other appurtenant structures and facilities directly associated with measuring, converting and transmitting energy produced for electric generation.

D. The construction of Renewable Energy Conversion Systems involves the installation of engineered structures and accessory facilities. Potential failure of these structures and systems, which can adversely affect the health and safety of workers, property owners and the general public, can be minimized by a permit system and procedure which requires periodic

inspections to ensure proper installation, construction, maintenance and appropriate safety measures during all processes.

E. The County of Jefferson finds and declares that the impact of Renewable Energy Conversion Systems upon the health and safety of the residents of and visitors to Jefferson County necessitates implementation of building permits for all commercial renewable energy conversion systems.

SECTION 4. APPLICABILITY

A. By enactment of this local law, the County of Jefferson declares that a building permit shall be required and issued prior to the construction and operation of Renewable Energy Conversion System(s). 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.

B. This local law is separate from and is in addition to any Federal, State, Local, Town or Village law and/or regulation pertaining to zoning and the location and placement of Renewable Energy Conversion Systems within the County of Jefferson.

SECTION 5. PERMITS

A. No Renewable Energy Conversion System shall be constructed, reconstructed, and/or altered for operation in the County of Jefferson without a permit issued by the County of Jefferson through its Fire Prevention and Building Code Office as provided under this law.

B. A permit under this law shall not be required for mechanical, non-electrical wind turbines utilized for applicant's onsite agricultural activities.

C. A permit under this law shall also not be required for those Renewable Energy Conversion Systems whose end use is limited to the onsite structure where the system is located, to include residential, commercial or agricultural use.

SECTION 6. PERMITTING PROCEDURE

A. Prior to the issuance of a building permit, the Applicant shall have complied with any local municipalities' zoning and planning board procedures and approvals, and shall comply with any other Federal, State, Local government laws, regulations and applicable processes. The applicant shall provide proof of compliance of the above to the Code Enforcement Officer with submission of the permit application.

B. Simultaneously with submission of the application required herein, the applicant shall pay the permit fee established by the Jefferson County Board of Legislators by Resolution, or as may be amended by Resolution of said Board from time to time.

C. Upon review of the application, design documents, specifications, applicable zoning and planning board approvals, if required, together with any other documents the Code Enforcement Officer may request, and the payment of the permit fee, the Code Enforcement Officer may issue a valid permit for a period of up to three (3) years or until the project is completed, whichever event occurs first. If the Renewable Energy Conversion System is not completed within said period of time, the Applicant must re-apply and submit a request for renewal of the permit for an additional period of time to be determined by the Code Enforcement Officer. The Applicant must pay an additional permit fee upon such re-application/renewal in accordance with the permit fee in effect at that time.

D. The County of Jefferson designates the onsite engineers of the owner/operator/developer and the third party inspection agents employed by the owner/operator/developer as "special inspectors". Such special inspectors are responsible for geotechnical evaluations, inspections of reinforcement and concrete slump and placement, tower foundation anchorage, structural erection of the tower, certification of all welded/bolt connections, certification of electrical, mechanical, life safety and final commissioning of the Renewable Energy Conversion System and associated equipment and facilities. Said certifications shall be submitted to the Code Enforcement Officer.

E. If at any time during the permitting process the owner/operator/developer fails to abide by the procedures and technical building specifications of the Code Enforcement Officer, the owner/operator/developer may be subject to a Stop Work Order issued by the Code Enforcement Officer.

F. Upon completion of the project and prior to distribution of energy to the Grid, the special inspector(s) employed by the owner/operator/developer shall certify in writing to the Code Enforcement Officer that the foundation, structural components, and equipment are all sound and meet the manufacturers' recommended specifications and warranties.

G. Upon completion of the project and prior to distribution of energy to the Grid, the special inspector(s) employed by the owner/operator/developer shall certify in writing to the Code Enforcement Officer, that the electrical systems(s) is in compliance with accepted electrical engineering practices and pursuant to the provisions of the National Electrical Code as adopted by New York State.

H. Upon completion of the project and prior to distribution of energy to the Grid, the special inspector(s) employed by the owner/operator/developer shall certify in writing to the Code Enforcement Officer that systems are compliant with manufacturers' installation recommendations and design specifications.

I. Upon receipt of any and all required certifications from the special inspector(s), the Code Enforcement Officer shall make a final visit, and if all is in satisfactory condition and compliance, shall issue a Certificate of Compliance.

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 judgement 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 in which such order or judgement shall be rendered.

SECTION 8. EFFECTIVE DATE

This local law shall take effect immediately upon its being duly filed in the office of the Secretary of State of the State of New York in accordance with 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. 1 off the table for action. Such motion was made by Legislator Jareo and seconded by Legislator Calarco. There being no debate, all members present voted aye on the local law and it became Local Law No. 2 of 2026.

Resolution No. 195

Payment of Legislators' Expenses

By Legislator: Daniel R. McBride

Whereas, The Finance & Rules Committee is responsible for examining and auditing claims made by members of the Board, and

Whereas, Claims in the amount of \$268.98 have been audited and deemed allowable.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the County Treasurer be and is hereby directed to draw checks payable to the claimants as audited.

Seconded by Legislator: Steel E. Potter

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 196

Authorizing the Vacating of Judgment of Foreclosure for Owners of Certain Parcels of Real Property and Discontinuance of Foreclosure Proceeding.

By Legislator: Steel E. Potter

Whereas, Pursuant to Section 1.6 of the Administrative Regulations for the Sale of Real Property

Acquired by the County Pursuant to Real Property Tax Foreclosure Proceedings, certain owners of foreclosed properties have tendered offers to re-purchase the County's right of foreclosure obtained in certain Tax Foreclosure proceedings, by depositing in trust with the County funds in an amount equal to all the tax, penalties, and interest, together with the County's established administrative fee, and

Whereas, The said owners and the amounts deposited are set forth in Exhibit A which is hereby incorporated herein, and made a part hereof.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved, that Pursuant to Section 1.6 of the Administrative Regulations for the Sale of Real Property acquired by the County Pursuant to Real Property Tax Foreclosure Proceedings, the Board of Legislators does hereby approve of the re-purchase of the County's right of foreclosure to those individuals set forth in Exhibit A, in considerations of the amounts paid by such individuals as shown on said Exhibit, and be it further

Resolved, That the County Attorney is hereby authorized to file with the Court a motion seeking an Order to vacate the Judgement of Foreclosure, discontinuing the *in rem* tax foreclosure action and cancelling the Notice of Pendency of such action in regard to the respective parcel(s) of property.

Seconded by Legislator: Robert D. Ferris

EXHIBIT A

Jefferson County Delinquent Tax Buybacks - As of 06/03/26

<u>TOWN</u>	<u>PARCEL #</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>TAXES PAID</u>
Adams	99.13-2-17	Justin Whiting	\$ 8,740.60
Alexandria	7.22-1-19.2	James & Stanley Parker & Estate of Antoinette Parker	\$ 23,226.07
Alexandria	15.13-1-49	Patricia & Eric Gates	\$ 9,741.16
Alexandria	15.13-1-60.82	Patricia & Eric Gates	\$ 235.41
Alexandria	15.13-1-60.81	Patricia & Eric Gates	\$ 235.41
Alexandria	15.13-1-50.1	Eric R. Gates	\$ 4,605.10
Alexandria	7.29-1-18	Estate of Clarence Thomson	\$ 37,214.42
Alexandria	7.29-2-38.2	Estate of Clarence Thomson	\$ 20,112.90
Alexandria	7.29-1-19	Captain Thomson Realty Corp	\$ 61,580.12
Antwerp	36.48-1-6	Margaret Getman & Katelynn Weaver	\$ 1,826.21
Antwerp	35.00-1-11.4	Roxanne M. Hill	\$ 5,830.83
Brownville	80.00-1-33.2	Robert W. and Suzanne Rowe	\$ 7,648.07
Brownville	62.00-1-18.1	Rizwana Liaquat	\$ 27,245.02

Cape Vincent	40.09-1-12	Bobenhausen Irrevocable Trust	\$ 9,261.37
Cape Vincent	59.11-1-25.21	Valerie Waite	\$ 11,073.65
Cape Vincent	50.00-1-73	Estates of Karl & Grace VanVoorhis	\$ 7,418.44
Champion	86.48-2-4	North Star Rentals NNY LLC	\$ 8,102.68
Champion	76.00-2-9.9	Susanne M. Valliere	\$ 2,107.41
Champion	76.07-1-22.2	MFC Properties LLC	\$ 16,454.42
Champion	76.06-1-25	Jaymes Willoughby	\$ 19,140.34
Clayton	20.46-1-19	Eric Wood	\$ 57,032.13
Clayton	20.46-1-19.-201	Eric Wood	\$ 5,512.56
Henderson	105.19-3-5	Mary Anne M. Aubin	\$ 3,981.89
Hounsfield	89.00-2-50	Timothy J. Browne	\$ 4,649.32
Leray	83.08-1-56.7	Robert N. & Erin L. Decker	\$ 36,220.59
Leray	44.00-3-30.3	Brooks and Dale Timmerman	\$ 3,125.08
Leray	64.20-1-30	Toped Management Serv. Inc	\$ 6,519.57
Leray	64.11-1-15.41	Connie Corey	\$ 10,994.43
Lorraine	119.08-1-48	Fortune Global Monopoly LLC	\$ 6,666.26
Orleans	53.10-1-7	William J. Traynor	\$ 6,793.67
Orleans	12.12-1-1.-0016	Ryan T. and Justin A. Wild	\$ 2,990.74
Orleans	12.12-1-1.-5577	Ryan T. and Justin A. Wild	\$ 21,630.26
Orleans	13.06-1-30.21	Philip J. Simao	\$ 69,817.94
Orleans	13.06-1-30.23	Route 57 Development LLC	\$ 31,647.55
Orleans	32.00-2-10	Ann R. Dibble	\$ 16,187.71
Orleans	32.00-2-12	Ann R. Dibble	\$ 1,788.48
Rodman	100.00-1-24.1	Michael & Desiree Pierce	\$ 3,033.04
Theresa	9.19-1-28	Sean L. Regan	\$ 102.87
Theresa	45.11-1-1	Town of Theresa/Brian Palmer	\$ 923.57
Theresa	34.11-1-31	William F. Murphy II	\$ 1,986.72
Watertown	91.05-1-9.32	Aujla Associates LLC	\$ 8,316.72
Watertown	82.08-1-2	Onondaga Development	\$ 28,810.51
Watertown	82.08-1-13	Route 57 Development LLC	\$ 12,270.79
Watertown	82.08-1-17	Toped Management Serv. Inc	\$ 18,653.39
Watertown	82.11-1-37	Philip J. Simao	\$ 20,506.31
Watertown	82.11-1-35.223	Thirty One Development LLC	\$ 22,844.37
Watertown	82.11-1-36	Thirty One Development LLC	\$ 19,559.08
Watertown	82.11-1-79	Thirty One Development LLC	\$ 20,657.35
Watertown	90.19-1-13	Thomas Berry	\$ 1,598.90
Wilna	68.00-1-52	Douglas O. & Ogden Fitzsimons	\$ 5,584.76
Wilna	86.41-2-50	William and Susanne Valliere	\$ 17,803.68

Wilna	86.41-4-23	United Dev Group of NNY LLC	\$ 15,409.51
		TOTAL	\$ 765,419.38

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 197

Authorizing an Agreement for a Pilot Program with Clear Ballot Group for Board of Elections

By Legislator: Steel E. Potter

Whereas, By Resolution 46 of 2024, Jefferson County authorized an agreement with Clear Ballot Group for the provision of voting machines and support services for the period of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2028, and

Whereas, Clear Ballot Group has developed a localized ballot on-demand technology solution that enables the immediate printing of customized ballots at early voting or poll site locations based on real-time voter turnout and specific precinct requirements, and

Whereas, Implementing a pilot program for this technology will modernize the supply chain of election materials, streamline poll site operations, and evaluate long-term financial efficiencies for Jefferson County taxpayers, and

Whereas, Clear Ballot Group has offered to provide the software, equipment configuration, and associated support services for this localized pilot deployment at no cost to Jefferson County, and

Whereas, The Jefferson County Election Commissioners and departmental staff have thoroughly reviewed the operational parameters, safety protocols, and technical specifications of the program and recommend its approval to enhance service delivery.

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved, That the Chairman of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to execute an agreement with Clear Ballot Group for a Ballot On-Demand Pilot Program and associated support services for the period March 1, 2026 through July 1, 2026, at no cost to Jefferson County, subject to the approval of the County Attorney as to form and content.

Seconded by Legislator: Robert W. Cantwell, III

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 198

**Adopting the 2026-2027 Jefferson Community College Budget and Appropriating Funds
for Jefferson Community College Fiscal Year 2026-2027**

By Legislator: Steel E. Potter

Whereas, Pursuant to Section 357 of the County Law, the Finance and Rules Committee of this Board has reviewed the requested 2026-2027 Jefferson Community College Budget.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That pursuant to Section 360 of the County Law, said Budget be and is hereby adopted as the Budget of Jefferson Community College for College Fiscal Year 2026-2027, and be it further

Resolved, In accordance with the 2026-2027 Jefferson Community College Budget, the County of Jefferson will provide a Sponsor Contribution in the amount of \$5,809,870 and thereby approving a total operating expenditure for the JCC Budget of \$28,987,872, and be it further

Resolved, That pursuant to Section 360 of County Law, the several amounts specified in such budget are hereby appropriated for the objects and purposes specified, and be it further

Resolved, That this resolution shall take effect September 1, 2026.

Seconded by Legislator: Robert D. Ferris

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 199

Appointing Public Defender

By Legislator: Robert W. Cantwell, III

Resolved, That, Pursuant to Local Law No. 4 of 1987 and Section 716 of County Law, Laurel McCarthy be and is hereby appointed as Public Defender for a term to commence on July 6, 2026 and expire on December 31, 2026, at an annual salary of \$157,542, (Grade 1, Rate) of the Attorney Management Compensation Schedule.

Seconded by Legislator: Daniel R. McBride

All members present voted aye.

Chairman Johnson congratulated Ms. McCarthy on her appointment.

Resolution No. 200

**Authorizing an Agreement with Savi Solutions PBC for Student Loan Guidance and
Employment Verification Services**

By Legislator: Steel E. Potter

Whereas, Student loan debt represents a significant financial strain on workforce populations across the nation, with over 45 million Americans carrying a combined \$1.7 trillion in student loan debt and navigating a complex landscape of ever-changing repayment, deferment, and forgiveness policies, and

Whereas, Employees of local government organizations are uniquely eligible for the federal Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) program after making 120 qualifying payments, yet many individuals face low awareness and high initial application denial rates due to complicated paperwork and manual re-enrollment processes, and

Whereas, Savi Solutions PBC provides a secure, digital Student Debt Navigator platform and custom co-branded micro-site that automates the tracking, application, and verification processes for federal repayment and forgiveness options, which significantly reduces the manual administrative lifting, and

Whereas, Implementing access to these specialized self-serve optimization tools and expert-led educational workshops serves as a valuable differentiator for employee recruitment and retention, directly mitigating financial stress and enhancing overall workforce well-being within Jefferson County.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the Chairman of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to execute an agreement with Savi Solutions PBC to provide the Student Loan Guidance platform to Jefferson County employees as a voluntary benefit at no cost to Jefferson County, with voluntary premium options available at the individual user's expense, for a term of one (1) year commencing upon execution and termination by 30 days notice in advance of renewal, subject to approval of the County Attorney as to form and content.

Seconded by Legislator: Robert D. Ferris

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 201

Amending the 2026 County Budget Relative to Probation Department Personnel

By Legislator: Steel E. Potter

Whereas, The Probation Department has experienced unanticipated leaves of absence in 2026, and

Whereas, The utilization of temporary staff is necessary to ensure the continuity of essential department operations and maintain service efficiency, and

Whereas, Funds are available for transfer within the Probation Department budget to cover

additional temporary staffing costs.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the 2026 County Budget is hereby amended as follows:

Increase:

01314000 01110	Temporary Services	\$ 15,000
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Decrease:

01314000 01100	Personal Services	\$ 15,000
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Seconded by Legislator: Robert W. Cantwell, III

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 202

Authorizing an Agreement with Trinity Services Group, Inc. for Food Service Management Operations at the Jefferson County Correctional Facility, Abolishing Positions and Amending the 2026 County Budget

By Legislator: Robert D. Ferris

Whereas, Food services at the Jefferson County Correctional Facility require compliance with New York State Commission of Correction regulations and public health standards, and

Whereas, Correctional facilities often lack the specialization in food services and can experience staffing issues compared to that of a professional food services organization, and

Whereas, Trinity Services Group, Inc. specializes in food services in correctional institutions, currently providing services for 24 county facilities within New York State, and

Whereas, Transitioning to an experienced specialized vendor provides Jefferson County with national procurement advantages, professional operational oversight, dietitian-certified menus, and compliance with the New York State Commission of Correction (NYSCOC) Minimum Standards, American Correctional Association (ACA) standards, and Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) guidelines, and

Whereas, Trinity Services Group, Inc. has submitted a proposal for services for the estimated annual sum of \$711,312 based upon an average daily population of 160 incarcerated individuals, for food service management operations at the Jefferson County Correctional Facility, while cultivating a safer kitchen environment through decreased high-risk contact with incarcerated individuals, and

Whereas, Said contracted services will replace existing food service correctional facility kitchen

positions.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved, That the Chairman of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to execute an agreement with Trinity Services Group for food service management operations at the Jefferson County Correctional Facility, at a cost per meal determined by the proposal's population sliding scale, for a three (3) year term, commencing upon final contract execution, with options to extend the Agreement for two (2) subsequent consecutive one (1) year periods, subject to approval of the County Attorney as to form and content, and be it further

Resolved, that the positions of Head Cook (3150043), Cook (3150044), Cook (3150082) & Cook (3150042), be abolished upon execution and implementation of the Agreement, and be it further

Resolved, That the 2026 County Budget is hereby amended as follows:

Increase:

Expenditure		
01315000 04416	Professional Fees	\$237,104.00

Decrease:

Expenditure		
01315000 01100	Personal Services	\$ 65,438.00
01315000 04512	Food Supplies	171,666.00

Seconded by Legislator: Robert W. Cantwell, III

Legislator Doldo did not believe this contract is what is best for taxpayers. He cited issues, violations and fines paid by Trinity and information he has shared with Board members, and said he would not be supporting the resolution.

Legislator McBride appreciated the information supplied by Legislator Doldo and said there is a lot going on with this resolution and made a motion to postpone voting on the resolution until the August Session, the motion was seconded by Legislator Grant.

Legislator Jareo understood why legislators would want to postpone voting but did not believe that was prudent as the situation at the Jail is dire and the Sheriff has found the best solution at his disposal. He didn't see the outcome of the resolution going any differently in August and felt we should move forward.

Legislator Nabywaniec agreed with Legislator Jareo and said the Sheriff is elected by the citizens of Jefferson County, has the responsibility of running the Jail, this is his call and the Board should not be overstepping his authority. He did not support delaying the resolution.

Legislator Montigelli agreed with his colleagues regarding the status of the Sheriff. In the Sheriff's presentation he stated that 28 other counties use this same firm so he vetted the

company, and if it's revenue neutral it is more operational for the Jail and that decision falls to the Sheriff.

Legislator McBride did not want to vote no on a resolution but wanted to make sure we have preventative procedures in place so we don't have an incident like what has happened in other counties because once the contract is in place we will not be able to back out of it.

Legislator Doldo wanted to make sure the proper policies and procedures were in place to hold the vendor accountable and protect the County and Sheriff if something happened. He felt that should be in place before we vote on the resolution.

Roll Call Vote on motion to postpone voting on Resolution No. 202

Ayes: Potter, Bartlett-Bearup, Grant, McBride, Doldo

Nays: Boulio, Montigelli, Reed, Jareo, Nabywaniec, Calarco, Johnson

Absent: Freeman, Ferris, Cantwell

Motion defeated.

Legislator Montigelli said the employees losing jobs will be offered positions by the contractor, and this contract is like any other contract in that the County has legal recourse if there is a problem.

Legislator Nabywaniec stated that the Sheriff is dealing with many issues like mental health, correction officer shortages, etc. at the Jail and this is one thing that can be taken off his plate. He said running the Jail is up to the Sheriff and if privatization this is what he is recommending then Legislator Nabywaniec supports that decision.

Roll Call Vote on Resolution No. 202

Ayes: Jareo, Montigelli, Reed, Nabywaniec, Calarco, Boulio, Bartlett-Bearup, Johnson

Nays: Doldo, McBride, Potter, Grant

Absent: Ferris, Freeman, Cantwell

Resolution passes.

Resolution No. 203

Amending Fee Schedule in Relation to the Jefferson County Rules and Regulations for Administration and Enforcement of the Uniform Code and Adoption of Local Law No. 2 of 2026 Providing for Permitting of Commercial Renewable Energy Conversion Systems

By Legislator: Robert D.Ferris

Whereas, Jefferson County is responsible for the administration and enforcement of the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code in municipalities within Jefferson County that have opted not to administer and enforce the same, and

Whereas, The Jefferson County Board of Legislators adopted Local Law No. 2 of 2026, which provides for the permitting of commercial renewable energy conversion systems to ensure their safe and orderly development within the jurisdiction of Jefferson County Fire Prevention and Building Code, and

Whereas, Commercial energy storage systems and renewable energy conversion systems require specialized technical review to protect the safety of residents and property, and

Whereas, It is beneficial to Jefferson County to establish specific fees for these permits to more closely reflect the real value of the administrative resources required and to review and permit commercial renewable energy conversion systems.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That pursuant to Section 13 of the Jefferson County Rules and Regulations for Administration and Enforcement of the Uniform Code, the attached Fee Schedule and Construction Value Factors are hereby enacted for permits issued in connection with County administration and enforcement of the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code, and be it further

Resolved, That this resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

Seconded by Legislator: Daniel R. McBride

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 204

Adopting Revised General Municipal Law 239-M Referral Exemption Framework and Authorizing Agreements in Relation Thereto

By Legislator: Philip N. Reed, Sr.

Whereas, The Jefferson County Planning Board was established pursuant to Article 12-B of the New York State General Municipal Law, and

Whereas, General Municipal Law Section 239-M requires local municipal boards to refer certain land use actions located within five hundred feet of specified features to the County Planning Board for review and recommendation, and

Whereas, The statute further provides that a county and a municipal governing body may enter into an agreement identifying classes of actions that are primarily of local concern and therefore

exempt from regional referral, and

Whereas, Jefferson County and its municipalities recognize that routine zoning actions do not produce intermunicipal or countywide impacts and can be more efficiently addressed at the local level, thereby enabling the Jefferson County Planning Board to focus its review resources on development projects with significant regional, environmental, or infrastructural implications, and

Whereas, These administrative changes are implemented in an effort to reduce bureaucratic red tape and eliminate county reviews or involvement in projects that are of local concern only, and

Whereas, Adopting the aforementioned 2026 exemption framework for minor residential, nonresidential, accessory, and administrative actions streamlines local economic development and reduces unnecessary administrative delays while ensuring that critical areas, such as highway access, municipal boundaries, and airport safety zones, remain protected under county review.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the Jefferson County Board of Legislators hereby adopts the attached Revised General Municipal Law 239-M Referral Exemption Framework, to be effective upon the adoption of this Resolution, and

Resolved, That the Chairman of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to execute intermunicipal agreements with participating local municipalities within Jefferson County for the implementation of the attached 2026 Updated Section 239-M Referral Exemption Framework at no cost to Jefferson County, upon adoption of a corresponding municipal resolution by each participating municipality, subject to approval of the County Attorney as to form and content.

Seconded by Legislator: Daniel R. McBride

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 205

Authorizing a Grant Application with the New York State Department of State for a Brownfield Opportunity Area Program Pre-Planning Grant

By Legislator: Robert D. Ferris

Whereas, By Resolution No. 47 of 2026, The Board of Legislators adopted the 2026 Strategic Priorities for the General Services Committee, including developing a strategy for brownfield redevelopment and blight removal, and

Whereas, Section 970-r of the General Municipal Law authorizes State assistance to eligible parties for Brownfield Opportunity Areas (BOA) Program grants by means of a State Assistance Contract to enable municipalities to realize community revitalization, environmental remediation, and economic growth, and

Whereas, Jefferson County has identified concentrations of known or suspected brownfields and underutilized properties that present significant opportunities for redevelopment, which will directly benefit local residents, restore blighted areas, and stabilize the property tax base of Jefferson County, and

Whereas, Participation in the Brownfield Opportunity Areas Program will enable Jefferson County to conduct an area-wide identification and preliminary analysis, facilitating future specific planning and redevelopment efforts that are in the public interest and benefit, and

Whereas, The proposed project, to be known as the Jefferson County Pre-Planning Area Project, consists of conducting an area-wide inventory and preliminary analysis of known or suspected Brownfield areas to identify focus areas for future planning and revitalization, and

Whereas, Territory boundaries shall encompass targeted rural, municipal, and waterfront corridors across Jefferson County.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That Jefferson County Department of Planning and Community Development is hereby authorized to submit an application with the New York State Department of State for a Brownfield Opportunity Area Program Pre-Planning Grant in an amount not to exceed \$300,000.00, with the required local match of 10% of the total project cost.

Seconded by Legislator: Corey Y. Grant

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 206

Authorizing a Grant Application with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation for the 2026 Jefferson County Natural Resources Inventory

By Legislator: Philip N. Reed, Sr.

Whereas, Jefferson County's most recent Natural Resources Inventory was completed in 1992, and

Whereas, By Resolution No. 47 of 2026, The Board of Legislators adopted the 2026 Strategic Priorities for the General Services Committee, including address land use, permitting, and taxation policies regarding clean energy development, and

Whereas, The New York State Office of Renewable Energy Siting (ORES) possesses the authority to bypass local municipal zoning and land-use regulations when permitting major solar and renewable energy facilities, making it imperative that Jefferson County establishes strong, data-driven baselines to protect its landscape, and

Whereas, ORES is legally required to consider substantive local environmental, agricultural, and

ecological factors during its review process, but relies heavily on applicants' self-reported data in the absence of comprehensive, updated local studies, and

Whereas, A modernized 2026 Natural Resources Inventory will provide Jefferson County and its constituent towns with an authoritative, scientifically sound, and legally defensible repository of data regarding prime agricultural soils, critical wildlife habitats, wetlands, and water resources, and

Whereas, Possessing an updated Natural Resources Inventory equips Jefferson County with the empirical evidence necessary to actively intervene in ORES proceedings, challenge unsuitable developer proposals, and enforce strict adherence to local environmental constraints, thereby restoring a critical measure of local control over utility-scale solar siting, and

Whereas, Financial assistance is available through the New York State Climate Smart Communities grant program pursuant to Environmental Conservation Law Article 54, Title 15, and

Whereas, This funding will provide significant economic benefit to Jefferson County by offsetting the costs of this vital project, and

Whereas, Jefferson County certifies that it has identified \$20,000 of matching funds from general county funds to include in-kind personnel services pursuant to the requirements of Environmental Conservation Law Article 54, Title 15, thereby successfully leveraging \$80,000 in state funding for a total project value of \$100,000.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the Jefferson County Department of Planning and Community Development is hereby authorized to submit an application with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation to update Jefferson County's Natural Resources Inventory in the amount of \$80,000, plus a local match of \$20,000 for a total project value of \$100,000.

Seconded by Legislator: Robert D. Ferris

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 207

Authorizing an Agreement and Amending the 2026 County Budget and Capital Plan in Relation to Site Paving at the Recycling and Waste Management Facility

By Legislator: Philip N. Reed, Sr.

Whereas, By Resolution No. 81 of 2025, The Jefferson County Board of Legislators authorized a loan from the General Fund to the Enterprise Fund for capital infrastructure needs in the amount of \$1,000,000, and

Whereas, By Resolution No. 134 of 2025, The Board of Legislators authorized an agreement with Barton and Loguidice for professional engineering services that included engineering services for potential paving needs, and

Whereas, Jefferson County solicited sealed bids for the Transfer Station Site Paving Project to perform essential pavement rehabilitation and modifications at the Solid Waste and Recycling Transfer Facility to maximize site durability, traffic safety, and proper water drainage, and

Whereas, Barrett Paving Materials Inc. submitted the lowest responsive and responsible bid, including recommended additive bids, in the amount of \$427,863.50, and

Whereas, The necessary asphalt concrete products required for the project will be procured separately by Jefferson County under its existing asphalt materials award in an approximate amount of \$272,000.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the Chairman of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to execute an agreement with Barrett Paving Materials Inc. for the Jefferson County Transfer Station Site Paving Project in an amount not to exceed \$427,863.50, for a term expiring upon final completion by May 1, 2027, subject to approval of the County Attorney as to form and content, and be it further

Resolved, That the 2026 County Budget is hereby amended as follows:

Increase:

Fund Balance		
15000000 30599	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$202,460
Expenditure		
15816000 02014	Paving	\$700,000

Decrease:

Expenditure		
15819000 02010	Transfer Station Construction	\$497,540

and be it further

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

Seconded by Legislator: Daniel R. McBride

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Doldo, Calarco, Bartlett-Bearup, Potter, Jareo, Montigelli, McBride, Boullo, Reed, Nabywaniec, Grant, Johnson

Absent: Cantwell, Freeman, Ferris

Resolution passed.

Resolution No. 208

Authorizing an Agreement with the New York Division of Criminal Justice Services Gun Involved Violence Elimination (GIVE) Grant 2025-2026 Relative to the Sheriff's Office and Amending the 2026 County Budget in Relation Thereto

By Legislator: Philip N. Reed, Sr.

Whereas, The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office has been awarded a New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services Gun Involved Violence Elimination (GIVE) 2025-2026 Grant in the amount of \$39,000, and

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

Whereas, Said grant will be used for Sheriff's Office overtime costs, community engagements and specialized training.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That Jefferson County hereby accepts said grant award and 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 Gun Involved Violence Elimination (GIVE) Grant, within available appropriations, per Purchasing Policy 4.01 – Policy, Control and Quotations, and be it further

Resolved, That the 2026 County Budget is hereby amended as follows:

Increase:

Revenue		
01311000 93389	State Aid – Other Public Safety	\$ 39,000
Expenditure		
01311000 01300	Overtime	\$ 35,000
01311000 04313	Travel	3,500
01311000 04613	Training	500

Seconded by Legislator: Corey Y. Grant

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Calarco, Doldo, Potter, Jareo, Montigelli, McBride, Reed, Grant, Boulio,
Nabywaniec, Bartlett-Bearup, Johnson

Absent: Ferris, Freeman, Cantwell

Resolution passed.

Resolution No. 209

Authorizing the Amendment of the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services 2024 Operation Stonegarden Grant Relative to the Sheriff's Office and Amending the 2026 County Budget in Relation Thereto

By Legislator: Daniel R. McBride

Whereas, By Resolution Nos. 185 of 2025 and 130 of 2026, The Board of Legislators authorized an agreement with the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (NYSDHSES) and subsequently reappropriated the 2024 Operation Stonegarden Program Grant (OPSG), and

Whereas, There remain unspent funds in the 2024 OPSG Program Grant, and

Whereas, The Sheriff's Office applied for and received an amendment to the 2024 Stongarden Program Grant to support the purchase of two (2) engines for the County-owned 2007 AMC Kingfisher patrol vessel which is used to support Operation Stonegarden border security.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the Board of Legislators enter into an agreement with the NYSDHSES to amend the 2024 OPSG grant as described above, and be it further

Resolved, That 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 this grant amendment on behalf of Jefferson County, subject to approval by the County Attorney as to form and content, and be it further

Resolved, That the 2026 County Budget is hereby amended as follows:

Increase:

Expenditure		
01311400 02100	Equipment (SHSTON24)	\$ 45,000

Decrease:

Revenue		
01311000 943201	Fed Homeland Sec-Sheriff	\$ 21,000

Expenditure		
01311000 02100	Equipment	\$ 21,000
01311400 01300	Overtime (SHSTON24)	44,000
01311400 08010	Retirement (SHSTON24)	500
01311400 08030	Social Security (SHSTON24)	500

Seconded by Legislator: Robert D. Ferris

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Calarco, McBride, Montigelli, Bartlett-Bearup, Nabywaniec, Reed, Doldo, Boulio, Grant, Jareo, Potter, Johnson

Absent: Freeman, Cantwell, Ferris

Resolution passed.

Resolution No. 210

Accepting Funding and Authorizing an Agreement in Connection With Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program

By Legislator: Karen J. Freeman

Whereas, The Jefferson County Public Health Service (JCPHS) has been allocated, \$90,122 for a one (1) year term renewal from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Health Research, Inc. (HRI) of the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) for the period of July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027, to improve its preparedness to address public health emergencies, and

Whereas, The funds will be used to improve capacities to respond to public health threats pursuant to guidelines developed by the CDC and NYSDOH, and

Whereas, The Public Health Emergency Preparedness Plan and other improvements will require use of existing personal services and purchase and payment of certain operating expenses authorized in the 2026 Budget, all to be 100% funded by the grant.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the Chairman of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to sign the renewal agreement with Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Health Research, Inc. (HRI) of the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) to improve its preparedness to address public health emergencies, for the period of July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027, subject to approval by 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 documents as may be required to execute any and all future amendments and agreements with CDC/HRI/NYSDOH relative to this funding, per Purchasing Policy 4.01 – Policy, Control and Quotations, subject to approval by the County Attorney as to form and content.

Seconded by Legislator: Tina M. Bartlett-Bearup

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 211

Accepting Stipend from the Fort Drum Regional Health Planning Organization and Amending the 2026 County Budget

By Legislator: Corey Y. Grant

Whereas, The Fort Drum Regional Health Planning Organization has provided a \$250 stipend to the Public Health Service for hosting Job Shadow Program participants, and

Whereas, The Public Health Service intends to use the stipend to offset materials for the County's oral health initiatives, and

Whereas, The 2026 County Budget must be amended to recognize the stipend.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the Board of Legislators accept the stipend and the 2026 County Budget is amended as follows:

Increase:

Revenue:		
01405000 92705	Gifts & Donations	\$250

Expenditure:		
01405100 04585	Operating Supplies	\$250

Seconded by Legislator: Christopher S. Boulio

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Nabywaniec, Potter, Montigelli, Bartlett-Bearup, Reed, Jareo, Doldo, Calarco, Boulio, Grant, McBride, Johnson

Absent: Freeman, Cantwell, Ferris

Resolution passed.

Resolution No. 212

Amending the 2026 County Budget Relative to Public Health Personnel Accounts

By Legislator: Tina M. Bartlett-Bearup

Whereas, The Public Health Department has utilized retirees as temporary employees to meet workflow and staffing shortages caused by ongoing vacancies, and

Whereas, Funds are available for transfer in personal services due to such vacancies.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the 2026 County Budget be and is hereby amended as follows:

Increase:

01401000 01110	Temporary	\$19,000
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Decrease:

01401000 01100	Personal Services	\$19,000
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Seconded by Legislator: Robert W. Cantwell, III

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 213

Amending 2025/26 Comprehensive Planning Resource Allocation Agreement with the NYS Office of Children & Family Services, Authorizing Amended Contractual Youth Program Agreements and Amending the 2026 County Budget in Relation Thereto

By Legislator: Tina M. Bartlett-Bearup

Whereas, Pursuant to Resolution No. 283 of 2025 the Board of Legislators authorized a 2025/26 Comprehensive Planning Resource Allocation Agreement with the NYS Office of Children & Family Services (OCFS), and

Whereas, Funding allocated for the Administration of the programs was underspent by \$5000 for Youth Development Programs, \$4,000 for Youth Team Sports Programs, and \$5,500 for Youth Sports and Education Opportunity Programs, all as listed below, and

Whereas, The 2025/26 Resource Allocation Plan needs to be amended to reflect those changes.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the 2025/26 Comprehensive Planning Resource Allocation

Agreement with the NYS Office of Children & Family Services is hereby amended to reflect the following updates:

Youth Development Program (YDP)

<u>Agency/Program</u>	<u>Original State Aid Allocation</u>	<u>Increase/ Decrease</u>	<u>Revised State Aid Allocation</u>
CHJC SoZo Teen Center	30,000	2,500	32,500
Hearts for Youth	12,780	2,500	15,280

Youth Team Sports (YTS)

<u>Agency/Program</u>	<u>Original State Aid Allocation</u>	<u>Increase/ Decrease</u>	<u>Revised State Aid Allocation</u>
Thousand Islands Youth Hockey	25,027	4,000	29,027

Youth Sports and Education Opportunity Funds (YSEF)

<u>Agency/Program</u>	<u>Original State Aid Allocation</u>	<u>Increase/ Decrease</u>	<u>Revised State Aid Allocation</u>
CYC Junior Division Sailing Program	11,115	5,500	16,615

and be it further

Resolved, That Pursuant to Section 450 of County Law, the Chairman of the Board of Legislators be and is hereby authorized to execute necessary amended contractual Youth Program Agreements with the various agencies on behalf of Jefferson County, subject to the review and approval of the County Attorney as to form and content, and be it further

Resolved, That the 2026 County Budget is amended as follows:

Increase:

01731000 04781 Youth Development Program Fund \$14,500

Decrease:

01601000 04416 Professional Fees (External) \$14,500

Seconded by Legislator: Robert W. Cantwell, III

All members present voted aye.

Legislator Nabywaniec gave kudos to the Highway Department for the paving job they did on the parking lot at the Watertown International Airport. He advised that the annual FAA inspection at the Airport went well also.

Chairman Johnson reminded legislators that the Public Transit Ribbon Cutting is tomorrow afternoon at 1:00 p.m. at JCC, and the OFA Senior Picnic is on July 15th 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at Westcott's Beach State Park, Pavillion D.

Legislator Jareo said he was proud of his colleagues on the Board as even when there is a disagreement the level of decorum is still maintained, and they are a great group to work with.

There being no further business of the Board, on a motion by Legislator McBride seconded by Legislator Bartlett-Bearup and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan Piche". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ryan" and last name "Piche" clearly distinguishable.

Ryan Piche
Clerk of the Board