

Finance & Rules Committee Minutes

June 30, 2026

Members Present: Committee Chair Michael Montigelli, Legislators Robert Cantwell, Daniel McBride, Robert Ferris, Frances Calarco, Steel Potter, Board Chair William Johnson

Others Present: Legislators Tina Bartlett-Bearup, Karen Freeman, Patrick Jareo, Christopher Boulio, Corey Grant, Anthony Doldo, County Administrator Ryan Piche, Deputy Administrator Dylan Soper, County Attorney John Sabik, Conf. Asst. for Fiscal Affairs Kristy O'Shaughnessy, JCC President Daniel Dupee, JCC Vice President for Administration and Finance Sid Pond, Interim Public Defender Laural McCarthy, Sheriff Pete Barnett, Undersheriff Kris Spencer, Sheriff Lt. Patrick Larkins, Sheriff Lt. James Newtown, Confidential Secretary Jaimie Lee, Confidential Secretary Jill Jones

Chairman Montigelli called the meeting to order at 6:29 p.m. and offered Privilege of the Floor however no one present wished to speak. The Committee approved the minutes of the May meeting, without objection or correction.

JCC President Dan Dupee presented on the 2026/2027 JCC Budget, Capital Progress and Fall Capital Request. Dr. Dupee outlined academic and campus highlights related to the STEM, Business, and Liberal Arts programs. Accolades for the year include the Nursing program being ranked #2 in NYS out of 68 associate degree programs, JCC was named a 2026-2027 Top 10 Gold-level Military Friendly School and Military Spouse Friendly School, and also ranked among Military Times 2025 Best for Vets Colleges. He highlighted student life and achievements in athletics over the past year and said capital project renovation work is actively progressing on Building 3.

With regard to budget, enrollment and financial outlook he advised that student metrics of first year credit momentum and three-year graduation rate both continue to increase; the funding mix for FY 2027 is 35% local share, 37% tuition and fees, 24% state aid and 4% offsets; and the net price of attending JCC is \$7,724 annually, with total potential aid (Pell Grant and NYS Tuition Assistance Program) of \$13,059. JCC requested a 2% increase in County funding totaling \$113,919 with the primary cost drivers being increases in raises \$437,546 and benefits \$1,033,761. JCC and Jefferson County continue to collaborate on creative, long-term sustainable funding streams. He advised that higher education landscape considerations include the trend toward more part-time students, the growing necessity for high-cost programs in healthcare and technology to meet market demand, and overall low NYS funding levels for community colleges that do not keep up with operating demands. Dr. Dupee expressed his appreciation to the Board for their continued support of the College.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution for Payment of Legislators Expenses and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator McBride

seconded by Legislator Potter and there being no debate, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution Authorizing the Vacating of Judgment of Foreclosure for Owners of Certain Parcels of Real Property and Discontinuance of Foreclosure Proceeding and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Potter seconded by Legislator Ferris and there being no debate, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution Authorizing an Agreement for a Pilot Program with Clear Ballot Group for Board of Elections and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Potter seconded by Legislator Cantwell and there being no debate, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution Adopting the 2026-2027 Jefferson Community College Budget and Appropriating Funds for Jefferson Community College Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Potter seconded by Legislator Ferris and there being no debate, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution Appointing Public Defender and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Cantwell seconded by Legislator McBride and there being no debate, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution Authorizing an Agreement with Savi Solutions PBC for Student Loan Guidance and Employment Verification Services and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Potter seconded by Legislator Ferris and there being no debate, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution Amending the 2026 County Budget Relative to Probation Department Personnel and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Potter seconded by Legislator Cantwell and there being no debate, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Montigelli said that the next resolution would normally go to the General Services Committee, but because of time constraints it is being addressed by this Committee. He introduced a resolution 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 and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Ferris and seconded by Legislator Cantwell. Legislator Doldo appreciated Sheriff's Department personnel meeting with him on this matter, and said he watched the presentation made by Trinity regarding this contract. He expressed concerns about it not being a cost savings to the County, about it not being positive for the inmates, and about issues Trinity has had in other facilities. He did not feel comfortable moving forward with the

resolution at this time. Because there did not appear to be any debate from Committee members, Chairman Montigelli did not see the merit of continuing to debate the issue at the Committee level. He said the Sheriff and anyone else who wants to speak on this resolution will have an opportunity to do so at the end of the meeting. There being no further debate, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented with Legislator Potter opposed.

Chairman Montigelli advised that if there were no objections, the resolutions referred from other jurisdictional committees would each be dealt with as a block and legislators could pull out any resolution to discuss or vote on separately if desired. Legislators did not express objections to approving those resolutions in that manner.

On a motion by Legislator Calarco seconded by Legislator Cantwell and unanimously carried, the Committee approved the following General Services Committee sponsored resolutions:

- ✓ Authorizing Agreements and Amending the 2026 County Budget and Capital Plan in Relation to Watertown International Airport Runway 10-28 Rehabilitation – Phase 2
- ✓ Authorizing an Agreement and Amending the 2026 County Budget and Capital Plan in Relation to Site Paving at the Recycling and Waste Management Facility
- ✓ 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
- ✓ Reappropriating Funds in Relation to the FY 2024 Operation Stonegarden Grant Relative to the Sheriff's Office and Amending the 2026 County Budget in Relation Thereto

On a motion by Legislator Potter seconded by Legislator Ferris and unanimously carried, the Committee approved the following Health & Human Services Committee sponsored resolutions:

- ✓ Accepting Funding and Authorizing an Agreement in Connection with Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program
- ✓ Accepting Stipend from the Fort Drum Regional Health Planning Organization and Amending the 2026 County Budget in Relation Thereto
- ✓ Amending the 2026 County Budget Relative to Public Health Personnel Accounts
- ✓ 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

Sheriff Pete Barnett said the change to a contract with Trinity for food service at the Jail should have happened a long time ago. He supports the contract with Trinity because they are well respected in the business, other Sheriff's who have this service are satisfied with it, the vendor is familiar with medical, religious and nutrition food requirements, and it will alleviate personnel issues the Jail has had with the cooks being overworked. He urged legislators to support the resolution.

Legislator Jareo said he was happy to endorse Ms. McCarthy as the Public Defender as she has handled the office as Interim Public Defender in a very professional manner.

Legislator McBride asked if legislators who are not part of this Committee can still speak on issues before the Committee. Chairman Montigelli said it is a courtesy of the Committee Chairman to allow debate by non-Committee members in moving through the business of the Committee.

There being no further business of the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Ryan Piche
Clerk of the Board