

## **REGULAR SESSION**

**TUESDAY, APRIL 6, 2021**

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

### **ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS**

All members present except Legislators Cantwell and Maxon.

### **Public Hearing 2020 Community Development Block Grant**

Chairman Gray opened the public hearing at 6:00 p.m., no one present wished to speak and the public hearing was closed at 6:01 p.m.

### **PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR**

Chairman Gray proclaimed April as Month of the Military Child in Jefferson County recognizing the importance of the military child and their contributions to our nation's strength and resilience, and encouraged County residents to pay particular attention to the important role military children play in our armed forces community.

Chairman Gray proclaimed April as Fair Housing Month in Jefferson County recognizing the importance of the Fair Housing Act that provides the right to equal housing opportunities for everyone in the community.

Lance Evans, Executive Officer of the Jeff-Lewis Board of Realtors thanked the Board for continuing to recognize the Fair Housing Act of 1968 that addresses housing discrimination and issues in the community as it is critical to the ability of all real estate professionals to serve their clients, customers and communities. He said the Jefferson-Lewis Board of Realtors are committed to highlighting the Fair Housing Act by continuing to address discrimination in our community, to support programs that will educate the public about the right to equal housing opportunities, and to plan partnership efforts with other organizations to help assure everyone of their right to fair housing.

### **READING OF MINUTES OF LAST SESSION**

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

### **PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS**

There are 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 OTHERS**

The County Treasurer provided a report on Investments and Cash in Banks as of February 28, 2021.

The County Administrator provided a report on Budget Transfers for the month of March.

The County Auditor provided a report on Erroneous Assessments for the month of March.

## **LOCAL LAWS, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS**

### **Resolution No. 82**

#### **Authorizing the Sale of Certain Tax Foreclosure Property to the Town of Pamela**

By Legislator: Patrick R. Jareo

Whereas, The County of Jefferson foreclosed on a parcel of land in the Town of Pamela identified as Tax Map No. 74.13-1-27 due to delinquent tax liens, and

Whereas, Said parcel consists of a small triangular area with dimensions of 35 feet by 58 feet, and

Whereas, The Town of Pamela has sought the County's permission to grant an easement 10 feet in width across said parcel for the installation and maintenance of a waterline, and

Whereas, The County of Jefferson has attempted to sell the above parcel at public auction and by sealed bid to contiguous land owners without success, and

Whereas, the Town of Pamela desires to purchase title in fee to said real property in lieu of taking an easement given the small size of the parcel, its unsuitability for private use, and the significant portion that will be used for the water line for the sum of \$1.00, and

Whereas, the County has no further purpose in maintaining possession of the parcel.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved, that the Chairman of the Board is hereby authorized and directed to execute any and all necessary documents for the conveyance of the above parcel to the Town of Pamela for the sum of one dollar (\$1.00), subject to the review and approval of the County Attorney as to form and content.

Seconded by Legislator: James A. Nabywaniec

All members present voted aye.

**Resolution No. 83**

**Amending the 2021 County Budget to Re-appropriate Funding from NYS Department of Transportation for New York Statewide Opportunities for Airport Revitalization (SOARS) Marketing Grant**

By Legislator: Anthony J. Doldo

Whereas, By Resolution 149 of 2019, This Board of Legislators authorized a grant agreement for the Statewide Opportunities for Airport Revitalization (SOARS) from the New York State Department of Transportation, and

Whereas, By Resolution 116 of 2020, This Board re-appropriated unspent SOARS Funds, and

Whereas, Jefferson County, through the Watertown International Airport, has not fully expended the grant funds, and has remaining unspent funds, and

Whereas, Said funds must be re-appropriated and placed in the appropriate 2021 expenditure lines.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the 2021 County Budget is amended as follows:

**Increase:**

01000000 30599	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$ 28,749.21
Expenditure		
01561000 04415	Advertising	\$ 22,749.21
01561000 04416	Professional Fees	\$ 6,000.00

Seconded by Legislator: Corey Y. Grant

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Calarco, Montigelli, Johnson, Reed, Nabywaniec, Jareo, Doldo, Ferris, Drake, Grant, Peck, McBride, Gray

Absent: Cantwell, Maxon

Resolution passed.

**Resolution No. 84**

**Amending the 2021 County Budget and Capital Plan to Recognize 2020 Revenue from**

**the Passenger Facility Charges at the Watertown International Airport**

By Legislator: Anthony J. Doldo

Whereas, Pursuant to Resolution 289 of 2016, the Board of Legislators authorized an application to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for the Passenger Facility Charge (PFC) program at the Watertown International Airport, and

Whereas, The FAA approved the application and the PFC funds collected in 2017, 2018 and 2019 were recognized by Resolutions 155 of 2018, 168 of 2019 and 128 of 2020 respectively, and

Whereas, The County collected \$54,084.83 PFC in 2020, which needs to be appropriated for use in FAA-approved projects that enhance safety, security or capacity; reduce noise; or increase air carrier competition.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the 2021 County Budget is hereby amended as follows:

**Increase:**

Revenue		
01000000 30599	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$ 54,084.83
Transfers		
01995000 09006	Transfer to Capital Projects Fund	\$ 54,084.83
20900600 95031	Transfer from General Fund	\$ 54,084.83
Expenditure		
20698900 02071	PFC Projects	\$ 54,084.83

and be it further

Resolved, That the six year Capital Plan is amended accordingly.

Seconded by Legislator: Robert W. Cantwell, III

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Jareo, Doldo, Drake, Reed, Peck, Montigelli, McBride, Johnson, Grant, Ferris, Calarco, Nabywaniec, Gray

Absent: Cantwell, Maxon

Resolution passed.

**Resolution No. 85**

**Authorizing the Implementation and Funding in the First Instance 100% of the Federal Aid and State “Marchiselli” Program Aid Eligible Costs of a Transportation Federal-Aid Project (CR 97 and Brown Road over Fish Creek), Appropriating Funds Therefore and Amending the 2021 County Budget and Capital Plan**

By Legislator: Robert D. Ferris

Whereas, A Project for CR 97 and Brown Road over Fish Creek, PIN 7753.93 (the “Project”) is eligible for Funding under Title 23 U.S. Code, as amended, that calls for the apportionment of the costs of such program to be borne at the ratio of 80% Federal funds and 20% non-federal funds, and

Whereas, By Resolution 130 of 2020, the County of Jefferson approved the above project by making a commitment of \$166,000 for the cost of the Preliminary Design and Right of Way Incidentals Phase, and

Whereas, The County of Jefferson desires to advance the Project by making a commitment of 100% of the non-federal share of the cost of All Phases of the Project.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the Jefferson County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes the Jefferson County Treasurer to pay in the first instance 100% of the federal and non-federal share of the cost of the Preliminary Design and Right of Way Incidentals Phase of the Project or portions thereof, and be it further

Resolved, That the sum of \$324,000, which includes the Preliminary Engineering Phase of the Project, or so much thereof as is necessary is hereby appropriated from Account 20511300 02861 in the 2021 County Budget, and made available to cover the cost of participation in the above phase of the Project, and be it further

Resolved, That in the event the full federal and non-federal share of the costs of the project exceed the amount appropriated above, the Jefferson County Board of Legislators shall convene to appropriate said excess amount immediately upon the notification by the Chairman of the Jefferson County Board of Legislators thereof, and be it further

Resolved, That the Chairman of the Jefferson County Board of Legislators be and is hereby authorized to execute all necessary Agreements, certifications or reimbursement requests for Federal and State Aid, subject to the approval of the County Attorney as to form and substance, on behalf of the County of Jefferson with NYSDOT in connection with the advancement or approval of the Project and providing for the administration of the Project and the municipality’s first instance funding of project costs, and permanent funding of the local share of federal-aid and state-aid eligible Project costs and all Project costs within appropriations therefor that are not federal-or State-aid eligible, and be it further

Resolved, That a certified copy of this resolution be filed with the New York State Commissioner of Transportation by attaching it to any necessary Agreement in connection with the Project, and be it further

Resolved, That this Resolution shall take effect immediately, and be it further

Resolved, That the 2021 County Budget is amended as follows:

**Increase:**

Revenue		
20900600 94592	Federal Aid Bridges	\$ 126,400
20000000 30599	Appropriated Fund Balance	34,000

Expenditure		
20511300 02861	CR 97/Brown Road over Fish Creek (Q5)	\$ 158,000

**Decrease:**

Revenue		
20900600 93592	State Aid Bridges	\$ 2,400

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, Reed, Nabywaniec, Drake, Peck, Montigelli, Jareo, Calarco, Grant, McBride, Ferris, Johnson, Gray

Absent: Cantwell, Maxon

Resolution passed.

**Resolution No. 86**

**Amending the 2021 County Budget in Relation to the County Road Machinery Fund**

By Legislator: Robert W. Cantwell, III

Whereas, The Adopted 2021 County Budget includes funding for purchases of a roller and wood chipper, and

Whereas, The purchase prices for both pieces of equipment exceed the budgeted amounts, and

Whereas, Funds are available in other road machinery accounts.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the 2021 County Budget is amended as follows:

**Increase:**

Expenditure		
10513000 02465	Roller	\$ 11,088.00
10513000 02476	Wood Chipper	19,395.00

**Decrease:**

Expenditure		
10513000 02404	Dump Truck Replacement	\$ 81.10
10513000 02405	Service Truck Replacement	16,775.14
10513000 02480	Trailer	13,626.76

Seconded by Legislator: Robert D. Ferris

All members present voted aye.

**Resolution No. 87**

**Amending the 2021 County Budget in Relation to Recycling & Waste Management**

By Legislator: Corey Y. Grant

Whereas, Recycling and Waste Management is requesting funding to repair their bailer and replace a trailer that was totaled in an accident, and

Whereas, Funding is available to make the necessary repair and purchase a new trailer.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the 2021 Budget is amended as follows:

**Increase:**

Expenditure		
15816000 02480	Trailer	\$100,000
15816000 04114	Equipment Maintenance/Repair	50,000

Fund Balance		
15000000 30599	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$128,000

Revenue		
15910100 92680	Insurance Recoveries	\$ 22,000

Seconded by Legislator: Anthony J. Doldo

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Nabywaniec, Peck, Ferris, Johnson, Reed, Jareo, Montigelli, Doldo, Calarco, McBride, Grant, Drake, Gray

Absent: Cantwell, Maxon

Resolution passed.

**Resolution No. 88**

**Authorizing Agreement for Development and Submission of a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Application to the NYS Office for Community Renewal, and the Development and Administration of Grant Program**

By Legislator: Robert D. Ferris

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 2020 Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from the NYS Office for Community Renewal (OCR), and

Whereas, The County issued a Request for Proposals for the three year period 2019 - 2021 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 RFP process, Avalon Associates was identified as having the required credentials, expertise, and experience to assist the County in developing a 2020 CDBG housing application for a sum of \$7,500, which would be a County cost and is contained in the 2021 budget, and

Whereas, Avalon Associates has also proposed, if a CDBG grant is awarded, to develop the housing program and assist in grant administration for a lump sum of \$15,000 (eligible grant expense); provide program delivery services (e.g., qualifying applicants; inspecting properties; preparing loan and construction documents) for \$2,250 per housing unit (eligible grant expense); and fixed general and grant administration services fees as authorized by the grant program (eligible grant expense).

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That Jefferson County enter into an agreement with Avalon Associates as described for the terms above for the 2020 CDBG Housing Grant, 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: Daniel R. McBride

All members present voted aye.

**Resolution No. 89**

**Authorizing Agreements in Connection with New York State Snowmobile Trails Grant-in-Aid Program and Amending 2021 County Budget in Relation Thereto**

By Legislator: Robert W. Cantwell, III

Whereas, Jefferson County has been notified by New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation that it has received an award of \$79,620 through the 2020-2021 Snowmobile Trails Grant-In-Aid Program, based upon a grant application submitted by the County in cooperation with the Winona Forest Recreation Association, Barnes Corners Sno-Pals Snowmobile Club, Pulaski-Boylston Snowmobile Club, Thousand Islands Snowmobile Club, and Missing Link Snowmobile Club.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That Jefferson County does hereby accept the above referenced funding and authorizes the Chairman of the Board of Legislators to execute such grant agreements and other documents as may be required to receive the funding from the State of New York, and be it further

Resolved, That the Chairman of the Board is further authorized to execute agreements between the County of Jefferson, the Winona Forest Recreation Association, Barnes Corners Sno-Pals, Pulaski-Boylston, Thousand Islands, and Missing Link snowmobile clubs, upon the approval of the County Attorney as to form and content, which provides for said organizations to conduct snowmobile trail development and maintenance consistent with the referenced grant application and grant program requirements, and be it further

Resolved, That the 2021 County Budget be amended as follows:

**Increase:**

Revenue		
01802000 93889	State Aid Snowmobile Trail	\$79,620
Expenditure		
01798900 04600	Snowmobile Trail Improvements	\$79,620

Seconded by Legislator: Robert D. Ferris

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Johnson, Reed, Drake, McBride, Calacro, Doldo, Jareo, Peck, Grant, Montigelli, Nabywaniec, Ferris, Gray

Absent: Cantwell, Maxon

Resolution passed.

**Resolution No. 90**

**Authorizing Agreements for an Additional Allocation for The Governor's Traffic Safety Committee's Stop-DWI Crackdown Enforcement Grant and Amending the 2021 County Budget in Relation Thereto**

By Legislator: Anthony J. Doldo

Whereas, The New York State Stop-DWI Foundation has successfully coordinated and obtained Stop-DWI Crackdown Enforcement Grants for 44 counties throughout the state, and

Whereas, Jefferson County has been notified of an additional allocation of \$6,000 to be shared with the NYS Park Police, Alexandria Bay, Carthage, and Black River/Evans Mills Police Departments, and

Whereas, Agreements must be authorized with the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee and the aforementioned agencies, and

Whereas, The 2021 County Budget must be amended to recognize said funding and allocate it to the appropriate accounts.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the Chairman of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to execute agreements as necessary to obtain and distribute funding as described above, subject to the review of the County Attorney as to form and content, and be it further

Resolved, That the 2021 County Budget is amended as follows:

**Increase:**

Revenue		
01331500 94389	Federal Aid Criminal Justice	\$ 6,000

Expenditure		
01331500 04428	Public Safety Svcs. - Other Govt	\$ 6,000

Seconded by Legislator: Robert D. Ferris

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Calarco, Doldo, Drake, Peck, Reed, Grant, Johnson, Nabywaniec, Montigelli, Ferris, McBride, Gray

Nays: Jareo

Absent: Cantwell, Maxon

Resolution passed.

**Resolution No. 91**

**Appointing Members to the Jefferson County Office for Aging Advisory Council**

By Legislator: James A. Nabywaniec

Resolved, That, pursuant to Title III of the Older Americans Act, as amended, the below listed individuals be and are hereby appointed as members of the Advisory Council of the Jefferson County Office for Aging for terms to expire as follows:

<u>Members</u>	Term Expires
Gail Marsh	12/31/2022
Rev. Leon E. Schilling	12/31/2023

Seconded by Legislator: Anthony J. Doldo

All members present voted aye.

**Resolution No. 92**

**Amending the 2020 County Budget Relative to Community Services Department**

By Legislator: Robert D. Ferris

Whereas, Additional appropriations are needed to cover care, maintenance and examination services to patients placed in NYS Office of Mental Health psychiatric facilities pursuant to County Criminal or Family Court Orders through year end 2020, and

Whereas, The costs for these services were shared 50/50 between New York State and Jefferson County prior to 2020, but are now entirely a Jefferson County expense.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the 2020 County Budget is hereby amended as follows:

**Increase:**

01439000 04413	Medical Fees - Court Commitments	\$75,393
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**Decrease:**

01199000 04963	Contingent Account	\$75,393
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Seconded by Legislator: Allen T. Drake

All members present voted aye.

**Resolution No. 93**

**Amending the 2021 County Budget Relative to Community Services Department**

By Legislator: Anthony J. Doldo

Whereas, Additional appropriations are needed to cover current and future care, maintenance and examination services to patients placed in NYS Office of Mental Health psychiatric facilities pursuant to County Criminal or Family Court Orders, and

Whereas, The costs for services are entirely a Jefferson County expense.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the 2021 County Budget is hereby amended as follows:

**Increase:**

01439000 04413	Medical Fees - Court Commitments	\$244,000
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**Decrease:**

01199000 04963	Contingent Account	\$244,000
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Seconded by Legislator: James A. Nabywaniec

Legislator McBride said he would not support the resolution as after listening to Community Services Director Ruetten's presentation last week the prices charged for the services provided seem outrageous for both the individual as well as the taxpayer, but it didn't seem like we have much choice but to pay the bill.

Legislator Peck agreed that this is yet another program cost passed down by New York State with little or no justification for the expense or the policy, and it should be examined and corrected at the State level. He said it really is an injustice to the taxpayer and the person in the situation, and he would begrudgingly support the resolution but also wanted to work with the Community Services Department and what ever State agency Mr. Ruetten works with to enlighten the State as to the fallacy of this policy and the way they do business.

Legislator Jareo said he would not support the resolution, is sick of the mandates from the State

that are crippling our taxpayers, and we need to take a stand. He understood that at the end of the day that we will end up paying the bill, but it is worth the a message to Albany to vote some of these things down, even if it costs us some money in litigation, in order to have our voice heard.

All members present voted aye except Legislators McBride, Jareo and Ferris who voted nay. Chairman Gray said he and other appropriate signatories could write a letter to the State articulating the concerns expressed by Board members tonight. He said a draft will be forwarded to everyone before it is sent out.

**Resolution No. 94**

**Amending the 2021 County Budget to Accept Funding  
for Veterans Peer Support (P2P) Program**

By Legislator: Anthony J. Doldo

Whereas, NYS Office of Mental Health (OMH) funding for the Veterans Peer Support (P2P) Program for 2020 in the amount of \$138,750 and for 2021 in the amount of \$46,250 which had been withheld due to Covid-19 has been released, and

Whereas, The Veterans Peer Support (P2P) Grant Program Funding will cover the period of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2022, and

Whereas, The funding will be used by the Mental Health Association and River Hospital for their Veterans Program.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That Jefferson County enter into an agreement with the NYS OMH to receive the grant funds, and agreements with the River Hospital and the Mental Health Association for the new funding and to extend the operation of the Veterans Peer Support (P2P) Program, through December 31, 2022, and be it further

Resolved, That the Chairman of the Board of Legislators and the Community Services Director are hereby authorized and directed to execute the above agreements subject to the approval of the County Attorney as to form and content, and be it further

Resolved, that the 2021 County Budget is amended as follows:

**Increase:**

Revenue		
01431000 93490	State Aid Mental Health	\$185,000
Expenditures		
01432000 04735	Veterans Peer Support	\$185,000

Seconded by Legislator: Robert D. Ferris

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Johnson, Peck, Montigelli, Doldo, Drake, Grant, McBride, Nabywaniec, Reed, Calarco, Ferris, Jareo, Gray

Absent: Cantwell, Maxon

Resolution passed.

### **Resolution No. 95**

#### **Amending the 2021 County Budget Relative to Community Services Department**

By Legislator: Anthony J. Doldo

Whereas, The 2021 County Budget needs to be amended to reflect current funding levels from the NYS Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services and Office of Mental Health, and County support for Community Services Department programs.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved That, the 2021 County Budget is amended as follows:

#### **Increase**

Revenue		
01104500 93099	State Funding Reduction	\$1,142,576
Expenditures		
01432000 04702	CREDO Foundation	\$ 510,638
01432000 04703	Substance Abuse Council	181,931
01432000 04707	CMHC Outpatient Clinic	17,271
01432000 04708	NRCIL FSS RIV	46,804
01432000 04711	Carthage Area Hospital	7,863
01432000 04712	Contracted Mental Health Programs	18,653
01432000 04714	NCTLS Reinvestment	101,661
01432000 04717	CMH Forensics	20,163
01432000 04718	JRC Employment	57,234
01432000 04721	Mental Health Assn	52,565
01432000 04728	Samaritan Medical Center	12,096
01432000 04732	Children's Home - Jeff. Co.	115,697

and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Legislators does hereby grant its approval for the Community Services Board to enter into any necessary amended agreements related to these changes.

Seconded by Legislator: James A. Nabywaniec

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Reed, McBride, Nabywaniec, Ferris, Montigelli, Calarco, Grant, Drake, Doldo, Peck, Jareo, Johnson, Gray

Absent: Cantwell, Maxon

Resolution passed.

**Resolution No. 96**

**Authorizing Agreements with Area Veterinarians for  
Preparation of Specimens for Rabies Testing**

By Legislator: Corey Y. Grant

Whereas, NYS Department of Health (NYSDOH) regulations and the Jefferson County Rabies Control Plan require the preparation and submission of animal specimens to the New York State Rabies Lab to determine the presence of the rabies virus, and

Whereas, Public Health is reimbursed by the NYSDOH for costs associated with animal specimen preparation and submissions for rabies testing, and

Whereas, At the recommendation of the NYSDOH, agreements were executed and need to be renewed with area veterinary practices for the preparation and submission of animals.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the Chairman of the Board of Legislators be and is hereby authorized to execute agreements with interested area veterinarians capable of providing such services at rates as established by the NYSDOH and followed by the Public Health Service for the period April 1, 2021 through March 31, 2025.

Seconded by Legislator: Anthony J. Doldo

All members present voted aye.

**Resolution No. 97**

**Appointing Member to Jefferson County Public Health Service  
Professional Advisory Committee**

By Legislator: Anthony J. Doldo

Resolved, That the following individual is hereby appointed as a member of the Professional Advisory Committee for a term to expire as indicated below:

Member  
Amanda Root

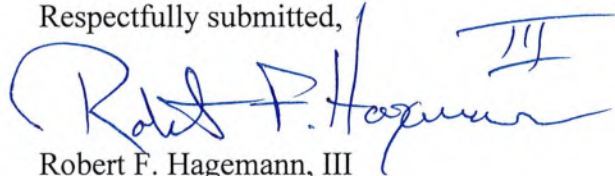
Term to Expire  
12/31/2022

Seconded by Legislator: James A. Nabywaniec

All members present voted aye.

There being no further business of the Board on a motion by Legislator Montigelli seconded by Legislator Johnson and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert F. Hagemann, III". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "R" and a distinct "III" at the end.

Robert F. Hagemann, III  
Clerk of the Board