

REGULAR SESSION

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2023

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

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

All members present except Legislators Drake and Maxon.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

None.

READING OF MINUTES OF LAST SESSION, IF REQUESTED

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

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS

A note of acknowledgement was received from the American Cancer Society for the Board's donation in memory of Dorothy Nabywaniec.

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, 2023.

The County Administrator provided a report on Budget Transfers for the month of August, 2023.

LOCAL LAWS, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS

Resolution No. 211

**Authorizing Agreement Extension and Increase for the New York State Board of Elections
Absentee Ballot Pre-Paid Postage Grant and
Amending the 2023 County Budget in Relation Thereto**

By Legislator: Allen T. Drake

Whereas, By Resolution 195 of 2022, this Board of Legislators authorized an agreement with the NYS Board of Elections to accept a Absentee Ballot Pre-Paid Postage Grant in the amount of \$26,653.43 for the period of July 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022, and

Whereas, The purpose of said grant is to cover expenses related to providing postage paid return envelopes for all absentee ballots, and

Whereas, There are \$328.41 remaining grant funds for which the NYS Board of Elections will extend the contract for the period of December 31, 2022 through December 31, 2023, and

Whereas, Additional funding of \$26,653.43 has been awarded for the contract period December 31, 2022 through December 31, 2023.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That Jefferson County hereby accepts said funding and the Chairman of the Board is authorized to execute said amended agreement and extension on behalf of Jefferson County, subject to approval by the County Attorney as to form and content, and be it further

Resolved, That the 2023 County Budget is hereby amended as follows:

Increase:

Revenue		
01145000 93089	State Aid Other General Government	\$26,653.43
01000000 30599	Appropriated Fund Balance	328.41

Expenditure		
01145000 01110	Temporary	\$ 3,000.00
01145000 04110	Office Supplies	981.84
01145000 04116	Postage	20,000.00
01145000 04117	Printing	3,000.00

Seconded by Legislator: Robert D. Ferris

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Jareo, Cantwell, Nabywaniec, Reed, Ferris, Potter, Montigelli, Peck, Calarco, McBride, Grant, Doldo, Johnson

Absent: Maxon, Drake

Resolution passed.

Resolution No. 212

Upgrading an Employment and Training Department Position

By Legislator: Robert W. Cantwell, III

Whereas, The Jefferson County Department of Employment and Training has the need for a further administrative and supervisory professional position in consideration of succession planning, and

Whereas, The Director of Employment and Training recommends upgrading a vacant Senior Employment and Training Coordinator position to ensure the continuity of the department and to enhance services, and

Whereas, The recommended upgrade is to Assistant Employment and Training Director, which title already exists in the Management Schedule, and

Whereas, Sufficient funding exists in the Adopted 2023 Budget.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the position 6340-029 in the Employment and Training Department be upgraded to Assistant Employment and Training Director at Grade VII of the Management Schedule.

Seconded by Legislator: Daniel R. McBride

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 213

**Urging the Governor to Veto A.04282B/S.3505B
in Regard to Moving Elections to Even-Numbered Years**

By Legislator: Philip N. Reed, Sr.

Whereas, The Jefferson County Board of Legislators believes that increasing participation in the election process and reducing costs of government operations are in the best interest of the County, and

Whereas, Keeping local elections separate and apart from State and Federal elections affords voters more time and focus to better understand important local issues, and

Whereas, Keeping local elections separate and apart provides for more thoughtful consideration to be given to vitally important municipal offices being filled, without having to compete with national and state-level campaigns for attention, and

Whereas, Versions of the referenced legislation have been introduced in previous years and failed to reach the floor for a vote due to lack of support, and

Whereas, This legislation circumvented the legislative committee process during the session with no public hearing, no engagement with local elections commissioners and other stakeholders, limiting public input and understanding of the impacts, and

Whereas, This legislation was proposed as a savings to municipalities, but there has been no financial analysis nor operational analysis of the impacts on local Boards of Elections, and

Whereas, With this legislation, at least one election would continue to be held in odd numbered years so all election infrastructure will still need to be in place, and

Whereas, Local municipalities have for decades had the ability to change their elections to even-numbered years and have chosen not to do so, and

Whereas, This legislation removes local control and places another unfunded mandate on municipalities.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the Jefferson County Board of Legislators urges New York State Governor Hochul to utilize her veto authority on A.04282B/S.3505B, and be it further

Resolved, That this resolution shall be delivered to NYS Governor Kathy Hochul, Senator Mark Walczyk, Assemblyman Ken Blankenbush, Assemblyman Scott Gray, Assemblyman William Barclay, and the New York State Association of Counties.

Seconded by Legislator: Robert D. Ferris

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 214

Amending the 2023 County Budget in Relation to the Watertown International Airport

By Legislator: Jeremiah J. Maxon

Whereas, The Watertown International Airport is required to maintain runways, taxiways, and aprons in accordance with the Airport Certification Manual approved by the Federal Aviation Administration to comply with 14 CFR Part 139, and

Whereas, Various transfers are needed to cover anticipated expenses and meet fuel operations requirements through the end of the year, and

Whereas, Funds are available within the airport budget including revenue from fuel sales.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the 2023 County Budget is amended as follows:

Increase:

Revenue		
01561000 91776	FBO Sale of Fuel & Oil	\$160,000
Expenditure		
01561000 01110	Temporary	\$ 39,000
01561000 04214	Utilities	13,000
01561000 043101	Internal Fleet Expense	7,000
01561000 04415	Advertising	3,000
01561000 04575	Cost of Fuel & Oil	100,000

Decrease:

Expenditure		
01561000 04312	Automobile Rental	\$ 2,000

Seconded by Legislator: Corey Y. Grant

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: McBride, Montigelli, Peck, Calarco, Reed, Potter, Ferris, Nabywaniec, Grant, Cantwell, Jareo, Doldo, Johnson

Absent: Maxon, Drake

Resolution passed.

Resolution No. 215

Authorizing an Agreement with Rochester Institute of Technology in Relation to the Gun Involved Violence Elimination Grant Award

By Legislator: John D. Peck

Whereas, By Resolution 191, this Board of Legislators recognized NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services Gun Involved Violence Elimination (GIVE) Grant Award in the District Attorney's budget, and

Whereas, Said grant includes GIVE data coordination and analysis for the jurisdiction, and 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 said services for the period September 25, 2023 through June 30, 2024 in the amount of \$92,641, 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: Daniel R. McBride

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 217

Approving Appointment to the Jefferson County Planning Board

By Legislator: Jeremiah J. Maxon

Resolved, That pursuant to Section 239-c of the General Municipal Law, the following individual is hereby appointed to the Jefferson County Planning Board to fill a vacant term that expires December 31, 2024.

Jean Waterbury

Seconded by Legislator: Corey Y. Grant

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 218

Establishing Time and Place for a Public Hearing on the 2023 Inclusions of Viable Agricultural Land in NYS Certified Agricultural Districts

By Legislator: Jeremiah J. Maxon

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 concerning the inclusion of viable agricultural land in certified Agricultural Districts before the Districts' established review periods be held before this Board of Legislators on Tuesday, October 3, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the Jefferson County Board of Legislators Chambers, Historic Courthouse, 195 Arsenal Street, 2nd Floor, Watertown, New York, and be it further

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

Seconded by Legislator: John D. Peck

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 219

Establishing Time and Place for a Public Hearing on the Eight Year Review of the North Agricultural District No. 2

By Legislator: Jeremiah J. Maxon

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 North Agricultural District No. 2, and

Whereas, In accordance with Section 202 of Article 25AA of the New York State Agriculture and Markets Law this action has been referred to the Jefferson County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board for review and recommendation, and

Whereas, The report and recommendation of the Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board will be submitted to this Board prior to the public hearing for the District's review.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That a public hearing will be conducted by this Board of Legislators concerning the Eight Year Review of the North Agricultural District No. 2 and any modifications thereof. The public hearing will be held at the Jefferson County Board of Legislators Chambers, Historic Courthouse, 195 Arsenal Street, 2nd Floor, Watertown, NY on Tuesday, October 3, 2023 immediately following the conclusion of the public hearing on the inclusion of viable agricultural land in certified Agricultural Districts before the Districts' established review periods, and be it further

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

Seconded by Legislator: Daniel R. McBride

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 220

**Amending the 2023 County Budget to Recognize Insurance Recovery
and Allocating Same in Sheriff's Department Budget**

By Legislator: Jeremiah J. Maxon

Whereas, By Resolution 113, this Board of Legislators recognized an anticipated insurance recovery for damage to a county vehicle and allocated funds for purchase of a replacement vehicle, and

Whereas, The actual insurance recovery received exceeded the estimated amount by \$5,651.67 and the cost of the replacement vehicle was \$1,384.01 less than anticipated, and

Whereas, The Sheriff's Department has received insurance settlement checks in the amount of \$137.50 and \$4,208.33 for damage to patrol units, and has requested that the settlements be appropriated to supplement the external fleet expense line for repairs.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the 2023 County Budget is hereby amended as follows:

Increase:

Revenue

01311000 92680	Insurance Recoveries	\$ 9,997.50
----------------	----------------------	-------------

Expenditure

01311000 043102	External Fleet Expense	\$11,381.51
-----------------	------------------------	-------------

Decrease:

Expenditure

01311000 02401	Automotive Equipment	\$ 1,384.01
----------------	----------------------	-------------

Seconded by Legislator: Robert D. Ferris

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Calarco, Montigelli, Peck, Grant, Nabywaniec, Doldo, Ferris, Cantwell, Reed, McBride, Potter, Jareo, Johnson

Absent: Drake, Maxon

Resolution passed.

Resolution No. 221

Amending 2023 County Budget Relative to Social Services Department Accounts

By Legislator: Allen T. Drake

Whereas, The Jefferson County Department of Social Services is experiencing a higher number of vacancies than anticipated and due to the current competitive job market, vacancies are remaining unfilled for longer than usual lengths of time, and

Whereas, The shortage in staff results in more employees working additional hours and overtime to meet the various mandates of the programs they work in, and

Whereas, The Department has also brought back Retirees as Temporary employees to assist with workflow and meeting mandates, and

Whereas, Funding is available in Personal Services due to vacancies.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the 2023 County Budget is hereby amended as follows:

Increase:

01601000 01110	Temporary	\$ 45,000
01601000 01300	Overtime	200,000

Decrease:

01601000 01100	Personal Services	\$245,000
----------------	-------------------	-----------

Seconded by Legislator: Jeremiah J. Maxon

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 222

Establishing Two Caseworker Positions and One Case Supervisor-Grade A Position Within Social Services and Amending the 2023 County Budget in Relation Thereto

By Legislator: Allen T. Drake

Whereas, The Bonadio Group was engaged by Jefferson County to conduct an operational analysis of the Child Welfare Division of the Department of Social Services (DSS) which resulted in a report recommending that additional caseworkers are needed in Child Protective Services (CPS) to lower overall caseloads, and to improve case timeliness and overall case quality, and

Whereas, The report also recommends the addition of one Grade A Supervisor is needed given

the increase in case volume and complexity being seen, the increase in PINS cases, and the rate of staff turnover, and

Whereas, The DSS Commissioner determined that two new full time caseworker positions and one full time Case Supervisor-Grade A position are needed to bring DSS to appropriate staffing levels as recommended in the operational analysis.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved, That two new positions of Caseworker – CPS be created in the Department of Social Services (6010-260 and 6010-261), and be it further

Resolved, That one new position of Case Supervisor-Grade A be created in the Department of Social Services (6010-262), and be it further,

Resolved, That the 2023 County Budget is hereby amended as follows:

Increase:

Revenue		
01601000 93610	State Aid Social Services Admin	\$31,791
01607000 93655	State Aid Daycare	2,149
01601000 94610	Fed Aid Admin	32,400
01607000 94615	Fed Aid FFFS	17,092
01000000 30599	Appropriated Fund Balance	7,651

Expenditures		
01601000 01100-260	Personal Services	\$16,035
01601000 01100-261	Personal Services	16,035
01601000 01100-262	Personal Services	22,310
01601000 08010	Retirement	7,069
01601000 08020	Health Benefits	25,474
01601000 08030	Social Security	4,160

Seconded by Legislator: Corey Y. Grant

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: McBride, Peck, Cantwell, Calarco, Doldo, Montigelli, Grant, Ferris, Nabywaniec, Jareo, Reed, Potter, Johnson

Absent: Maxon, Drake

Resolution passed.

Resolution No. 223

**Authorizing 2023/24 Comprehensive Planning Resource Allocation Agreement
with the NYS Office of Children & Family Services and Authorizing
Contractual Youth Program Agreements**

By Legislator: Steel E. Potter

Whereas, The Jefferson County Youth Advisory Board has endorsed the allocation of State Aid Funding for 2023/24 Youth Development Programs to be operated and administered by various eligible organizations in Jefferson County, and

Whereas, The following constitutes the list of endorsed State Aid allocations for Youth Development Programs for the period October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024, which require an agreement between the County and the respective Agency or Municipality and provision for pass-through funding:

Youth Development Program (YDP)

<u>Agency/Program</u>	<u>State Aid Allocation</u>
ACR Health/The Q Center	\$10,000
CHJC/Sozo Teen Center	20,000
Hearts for Youth, Inc./Hearts for Youth	13,500
Lyme Central School/Summer Theater Institute	6,000
Resolution Center of Jefferson & Lewis Counties/Youth Court	5,000
Resolution Center of Jefferson & Lewis Counties/Family Visitation Program (FVP)	5,000
North Country Prenatal/Perinatal Council/Education Opportunities For Adolescents	10,350
Jefferson County DSS/Recreation Scholarships	15,150

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That Jefferson County enter into a Resource Allocation Agreement with the NYS Office of Children and Family Services for the 2023/24 year which contains applications for State Aid funding for County YDP Administration and for the above listed Youth Development Programs, and be it further

Resolved, That upon final approval and execution of said Resource Allocation Agreement by the appropriate State officials, Jefferson County enter into agreements with the above Contractual Agencies/Municipalities for provision of Youth Development Programs for the youth of Jefferson County during 2023/24 and with Cornell Cooperative Extension in the amount of \$6,050 to provide support for the Youth Advisory Board for 2023-2024, and be it further

Resolved, That the Chairman of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to execute the Resource Allocation Agreement and the various contractual Agency/Municipality Agreements on behalf of Jefferson County, subject to approval by the County Attorney as to form and content.

Seconded by Legislator: Frances A. Calarco

All members present voted aye.

Chairman Johnson entertained a motion to waive Standing Rules 35 and 60 to permit the introduction of additional resolutions for consideration. Such motion was made by Legislator Ferris seconded by Legislator Grant and unanimously carried.

Resolution No. 224

Appointing Jail Physician

By Legislator: Patrick R. Jareo

Whereas, Pursuant to Section 501 of Corrections Law, Burton Fletcher, M.D. be and is hereby appointed as Jail Physician effective October 1, 2023.

Seconded by Legislator: Michael A. Montigelli

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 225

Authorizing Amended Agreement in Relation to Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity Reopening Schools Grant Award and Amending the 2023 County Budget in Relation Thereto

By Legislator: Robert W. Cantwell, III

Whereas, By Resolution 165 of 2021, this Board of Legislators accepted an Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity grant award to maintain open schools by implementing and supporting school-based COVID-19 screening and testing for the period of June 1, 2021 through July 31, 2022 and authorized an agreement with BOCES to expedite the program and serve as a conduit for funding to Jefferson County schools, and

Whereas, By Resolution 205 of 2022, this Board amended said agreement to extend the period through July 31, 2023 as provided by New York State Department of Health (NYS DOH) and Health Research Inc., and

Whereas, By Resolution 208, this Board amended the 2023 County Budget in relation to said grant as a result of NYS DOH expanding allowable purchases to include other mitigation strategies such as air filtration equipment to be used in schools, and

Whereas, There remain some school equipment purchases to be reimbursed and Jefferson-Lewis BOCES is willing to amend the agreement to extend their service as the conduit for the funding through December 31, 2023 and in doing so, to guarantee the reimbursement of expended funds, and

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the Chairman of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to execute any and all documents to extend said agreement, subject to approval by the County Attorney as to form and content, and be it further

Resolved, That the 2023 County Budget is hereby amended as follows:

Increase:

Revenue

01405000 94489	Fed Aid Other Health	\$214,019
----------------	----------------------	-----------

Expenditure

01405100 04416	Professional Fees	\$214,019
----------------	-------------------	-----------

Seconded by Legislator: James A. Nabywaniec

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Jareo, Ferris, McBride, Cantwell, Calarco, Doldo, Reed, Potter, Montigelli, Grant, Peck, Nabywaniec, Johnson

Absent: Maxon, Drake

Resolution passed.

There being no further business of the Board, on a motion by Legislator Potter seconded by Legislator Ferris and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Sarah H. Baldwin
Deputy Clerk of the Board