

REGULAR SESSION

TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 2023

Chairman Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and welcomed students in attendance from the Cornell Cooperative Extension Association of Jefferson County, 4-H Student Government Program.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

All members present except Legislator Ferris.

Public Hearing

Status and Implementation of 2018 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Housing Award

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

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Chairman Johnson read a Proclamation and declared April Donate Life Month in Jefferson County recognizing the important role that organ, eye and tissue donation plays in saving lives. Counties have raised awareness of this need through local Department of Motor Vehicles, Board of Elections and other offices, and he said the Jefferson County Clerk through its Department of Motor Vehicle Office is actively promoting enrollment in the New York State Donate Life Registry this month.

County Clerk Gizelle Meeks advised that through the efforts of the Jefferson County Department of Motor Vehicles Office Jefferson County is #1 in the State with 73.3% of citizens registered as organ donors. She said when she first started the initiative in 2015 Jefferson County was at 29% so we have come a long way; the Office decorates and encourages signing up for organ donation throughout April as Donate Life Month, as well as in December for Give the Gift of Life Month which has helped bring attention to the need. She encouraged Board members and citizens to recognize the month and participate in the program.

Chairman Johnson read a Proclamation and declared 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, Jefferson-Lewis Board of Realtors thanked the Board for its continued commitment to fair housing in the North Country, and said the Fair Housing Act of 1968 addressed housing discrimination in communities, and is critical to the ability of all real estate professionals to serve their clients, customers and communities. The Jefferson-Lewis

Board of Realtors is committed to ethically providing equal opportunity to all people seeking housing, and he thanked the Board for their continued affirmation over the years of the principles of fair housing. He said together we can ensure that all residents have access to affordable, barrier free housing.

Amanda Root, 20 year employee of Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) of Jefferson County and lifelong resident of Jefferson County introduced herself as the new Executive Director of CCE since November 2022 when Kevin Jordan retired. She thanked the Board for their support of CCE every year, not only for the Student Government Program, but also their authorized agency funding. She said the funding is vital to Cooperative Extension in the work they do to support agriculture in Jefferson County as well as youth development programs. They leverage that funding to bring in millions of dollars in funding from outside grants for other services such as the after school and nutrition programs. She encouraged legislators to reach out to her if they have any questions.

Sabrina Duru, Camp Director for 4H Camp Wabasso, and Student Government Program Coordinator for Cornell Cooperative Extension of Jefferson County said the Program provides the students a hands on, in depth learning experience for different levels of our government from local to state to federal. They had sixteen students from five school districts across Jefferson County that participated. She thanked the Board for their continued support of the Program, for use the Board Room to hold their activities this afternoon, and appreciated them coming in early to interact with students before tonight's meeting.

Daniel Rushlow, Alexandria Central School and 4H Student Government Program participant thanked the Board for supporting the Program as it provides a lot of education about how governments operate. He felt it would be beneficial if more students could participate in the Program, if it had lasted longer or had been year round, and if there was transportation for it. He said if more people could receive this education and knowledge it would lead to a better society, better generation and better future.

Matias John Mercado, a foreign exchange student from the Phillippines who is hosted at Fort Drum and attends Indian River High School and 4H Student Government Program participant, thanked the Board for their support of the Program. He said they have been immersed in 6 weeks of discussion and discourse of the US government at the federal/state/local levels; he has learned a lot and the structure of the US government is similar to the constitutional framework of government in the Phillippines as they also have three levels. He said the Program is not just learning about the US government and its policies, it prepares participants for upholding democracy that our country's fought so hard for, continuing the legacy of our predecessors, and molds youth for the future.

READING OF MINUTES OF LAST SESSION, IF REQUESTED

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

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS

Correspondence was received from Assemblyman Blankenbush acknowledging receipt of Resolution No. 65 “Requesting Introduction of Legislation Extending the Authorization of a One Percent Increase in the County Sales and Compensating Use Tax in Jefferson County”.

Correspondence was received from NYSAC also acknowledging receipt of Resolution No. 65 “Requesting Introduction of Legislation Extending the Authorization of a One Percent Increase in the County Sales and Compensating Use Tax in Jefferson County”.

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, 2023.

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

The County Auditor provided a report on Erroneous Assessments for the month of March, 2023.

LOCAL LAWS, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS

Resolution No. 82

Opposing the Enactment by the State of New York of the Proposed Section 989 of the Real Property Tax Law.

By Legislator: Robert D. Ferris

Whereas, On February 1, 2023, the Governor of the State of New York announced New York State’s Fiscal Year 2024 Executive Budget (the “Budget”), and

Whereas, Article VII Revenue Bills includes Part M adding a new section 989 of the Real Property Tax Law titled “Distribution of surplus in tax enforcement proceedings”, and

Whereas, The Proposed Budget Legislation seeks to require municipalities governed by Article 11 of the Real Property Tax Law to give excess money to a prior owner of real property sold by the municipality after taking title pursuant to Article 11 of the Real Property Tax Law, and

Whereas, The Proposed Budget Legislation should be removed from the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget because (1) it is unconstitutional since Article VIII, Section 1 of the New York Constitution restricts a county from giving any money to or in aid of any individual, or private corporation or association or private undertaking, (2) it is unfair to lien holders since all liens are cut off by Section 1131 of Article 11 at the time an interested party fails to redeem or answer, which comes prior to the County taking title and selling the parcel, (3) it will be practically impossible for a county to accurately account for all administrative costs associated with administering enforcement of taxed for thousands of parcels during a two year time period involving subcontractors and staff from multiple departments, (4) it is unclear whether litigation costs incurred in enforcing taxes pursuant to Article 11 would be recoverable, (5) the number of unpaid parcels are likely to increase with owners knowing that they do not have to pay lien holders, including mortgage liens on their home, real estate agents and other costs that would be required absent this Proposed Budget Legislation, (6) the Proposed Budget Legislation does not address the case where there is no “prior owner” or the prior owner is deceased or the method and notice required if “prior owner” defaults in accepting payment and (7) it is unfair to the gross majority of parcel owners in the County who timely pay their taxes or properly sell their real property if they no longer desire or can afford to own it, and

Whereas, The County Tax Enforcement Officer strongly recommends that this Board oppose the proposed legislation.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the Jefferson County Board of Legislators hereby opposes the proposed enactment of section 989 of the Real Property Tax Law and respectfully requests the NYS Legislature remove said proposal from the 2024 Budget and alternatively for the Governor to exercise the appropriate veto power in the event of the enactment of this measure, and it is further

Resolved, That the Clerk of the Board shall transmit a certified copy of this resolution to Governor Kathy Hochul, Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Assembly Speaker Carl Heasie, Senator Mark Walczyk, Assemblymen Kenneth Blankenbush, Scott Gray, and William Barclay and any other party deemed necessary and appropriate.

Seconded by Legislator: Frances A. Calarco

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 83

Authorizing Agreement for Performance of a Single Audit of Jefferson County

By Legislator: Daniel R. McBride

Whereas, The Federal Single Audit Act of 1984 requires that Jefferson County retain an independent accountant to perform a Single Audit of the County in accordance with Federal Office of Management and Budget Circular A-128, and

Whereas, Pursuant to Resolution 198 of 2015 in response to a request for proposals, this Board authorized an agreement with Drescher & Malecki, LLP, which was extended by Resolution 145 of 2020, and

Whereas, The Treasurer has recommended extending for at least two more years this audit engagement.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That Jefferson County enter into an agreement with the firm of Drescher & Malecki, LLP for the performance of a Single Audit of Jefferson County in accordance with Federal Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133 or such other regulations and requirements as may be made applicable by the Federal government. Said agreement shall be for performance of a Single Audit of Jefferson County for County fiscal years 2023 and 2024 with an option for 2025, 2026 and 2027 unless prior notice is given by either party thirty days prior to the close of the fiscal year to be audited. Consideration to be paid to Drescher & Malecki, LLP shall be \$57,630 for 2023 and \$58,780 for 2024, with the options for the following three years of \$59,960 for 2025, \$61,160 for 2026, \$62,380 for 2027, and be it further

Resolved, That the Chairman of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized and directed to execute such agreement on behalf of Jefferson County.

Seconded by Legislator: Robert D. Ferris

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 84

Authorizing Appointments to the Workforce Development Board

By Legislator: Robert D. Ferris

Whereas, The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, Public Law 113-128, requires that there be established a local Workforce Development Board to oversee local job training services and activities, and

Whereas, Chapter 2, Section 107(a)(b) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act authorizes the establishment, membership, and composition of the local Workforce Investment Board, and

Whereas, Chapter 2, Section 107(c) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act authorizes the appointment and certification for local Workforce Investment Board membership, and

Whereas, The Counties of Jefferson and Lewis seek to appoint individuals to the local Workforce Development Board who have interest and experience in the delivery of local workforce development services.

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved, That the Board of Legislators hereby authorizes the Chairman of the Board to appoint the following individuals to serve as members of the Jefferson-Lewis Workforce Development Board for the terms indicated.

<u>Member</u>	<u>Term to Expire</u>
<u>Jefferson County Representative</u> Robert Killmer, Lawman Heating & Cooling, Inc.	6/30/2023
<u>Jefferson-Lewis Representative</u> Shena Patrick, NYS Department of Labor	6/30/2024
Travis J. Flint, IBEW	6/30/2024

Seconded by Legislator: Robert W. Cantwell, III

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 85

Amending the 2022 County Budget and Capital Plan Relative to Jefferson Community College Turf Field Project

By Legislator: Robert W. Cantwell, III

Whereas, By Resolutions 181 of 2019 and 245 of 2021, This Board of Legislators committed to a Jefferson Community College (JCC) Athletics Turf Field project with estimated cost of \$4,000,000, and

Whereas, Said project was intended to be funded by a bond for the local share, to be matched by the State of New York, all of which was recognized by Resolution 44 of 2022, and

Whereas, The JCC Faculty Student Association (FSA) and Foundation had committed to cover together the full cost of the debt service for the term of said bond, but the County has been able to upfront the local share rather than bonding for it, and

Whereas, In lieu of covering the debt service, the JCC FSA and Foundation will pay back the County's outlay on a repayment schedule over the fifteen year timeframe that the debt service had been envisioned to be, and

Whereas, It is necessary to amend the 2022 County Budget and Capital Plan to recognize the upfront funding that occurred in lieu of the debt service that had been planned.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the 2022 County Budget is hereby amended as follows:

Increase:

Fund Balance		
01000000 30599	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$2,000,000
Transfers		
01995000 09006	Transfer to Capital Projects Fund	\$2,000,000
20900600 95031	Transfer from General Fund	2,000,000
Decrease:		
Revenue		
209000600 957101	JCC Bonds	\$2,000,000

and be it further

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

Seconded by Legislator: Robert D. Ferris

Roll Call Vote

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

Absent: Ferris

Resolution passed.

Resolution No. 86

Authorizing a Joint Services Agreement with the Town of Hounsfield for Optional County Assessment Services to the Town Pursuant to Real Property Tax Law § 1537.

By Legislator: Daniel R. McBride

Whereas, The Town of Hounsfield is currently unable to fill vacant positions in the Town Board of Assessment Review in time for the 2023 Grievance Day scheduled for May 24, 2023, and

Whereas, Pursuant to NYS Real Property Tax Law §1537, an assessing unit and county shall have the power to enter into, amend, cancel and terminate an agreement for appraisal services, exemption services, assessment services, or assessment review services, and such agreement shall be considered an agreement for the provision of a “joint services” pursuant to NYS General Municipal Law Article 5-G, and

Whereas, The Town of Hounsfield desires the County to provide assessment review services for the 2023 Grievance Day and associated 2023 Assessment Roll functions and has enacted a resolution on January 11, 2023 authorizing an agreement for said purpose, and

Whereas, The Parties are desirous of entering into a joint services agreement for a period of one year.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the Chairman of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized and directed to execute an agreement with the Town of Hounsfield upon the aforementioned terms, subject to the approval of the County Attorney as to form and content, and it is further,

Resolved, That, upon recommendation of the County Director of Real Property Tax Services the following individuals are hereby appointed to serve as a County Board of Assessment Review, for a term of one year pursuant to with Article 5 of the Real Property Tax Law, to act as the Town of Hounsfield Board of Assessment Review for 2023:

Barbara Boulton
Christina Johnson
Sean O'Connor
Melissa VanBrocklin
Clarence Woodruff

Seconded by Legislator: Robert D. Ferris

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 87

Authorizing a Joint Services Agreement with the Town of Rutland for Optional County Assessment Services to the Town Pursuant to Real Property Tax Law § 1537.

By Legislator: Philip N. Reed, Sr.

Whereas, The Town of Rutland is currently unable to fill vacant positions in the Town Board of Assessment Review for 2023, and

Whereas, Pursuant to NYS Real Property Tax Law §1537, an assessing unit and county shall have the power to enter into, amend, cancel and terminate an agreement for appraisal services, exemption services, assessment services, or assessment review services, and such agreement shall be considered an agreement for the provision of a "joint services" pursuant to NYS General Municipal Law Article 5-G, and

Whereas, The Town of Rutland desires the County to provide assessment review services for the 2023 Grievance Day and associated 2023 Assessment Roll functions and passed a motion on January 12, 2023 to continue an agreement authorized April 8, 2021 and extended November 11, 2021 for said purpose, and

Whereas, The Parties are desirous of entering into a joint services agreement for a period of one

year.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the Chairman of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized and directed to execute an agreement with the Town of Rutland upon the aforementioned terms, subject to the approval of the County Attorney as to form and content, and it is further,

Resolved, That, upon recommendation of the County Director of Real Property Tax Services the following individuals are hereby appointed to serve as a County Board of Assessment Review, for a term of one year pursuant to with Article 5 of the Real Property Tax Law, to act as the Town of Rutland Board of Assessment Review for 2023:

Barbara Boulton
Christina Johnson
Sean O'Connor
Melissa VanBrocklin
Clarence Woodruff

Seconded by Legislator: Daniel R. McBride

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 88

Appointing Director of Office for the Aging

By Legislator: Robert W. Cantwell, III

Resolved, That pursuant to Section 204 of County Law and Section 66521.5 of Title 9 of the Official Compilation of New York State Codes, Rules and Regulations Bethany Munn be and is hereby appointed as Director of the Office for the Aging for a term to commence on May 1, 2023 and expire on December 31, 2023 and shall meet residency requirements by the end of said term. The appointment is at an annual salary for 2023 of \$72,122 (Grade VI-C), and 4 vacation days and 10 sick days shall be provided in addition to the benefits outlined in the County's Employment Policy Manual for Management Employees.

Seconded by Legislator: Robert D. Ferris

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 89

Authorizing the County of Jefferson's Participation in the Proposed Settlement of Opioid-Related Claims Against CVS, Walmart, and Walgreens and their Related Corporate Entities.

By Legislator: Robert D. Ferris

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

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

Whereas, Jefferson County has filed suit seeking recoveries for damages and ongoing harms associated with the distribution, manufacture, and sale of the pharmaceutical opioid products that have fuel the opioid epidemic that has harmed Jefferson County, and

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

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

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

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the Board of Legislators hereby approves the County's participation in the proposed settlement of opioid related claims against CVS, Walmart, and Walgreens and their related corporate entities, and directs the County Attorney and/or outside litigation counsel to execute the documents necessary to effectuate the County's participation in the settlements, including the required release of any claims it may have against settling entities.

Seconded by Legislator: Daniel R. McBride

For the benefit of the students in attendance, Legislator Maxon said from the beginning he did not agree with the County engaging in litigation to sue Opioid manufacturers because he did not believe it is just to hold manufacturers accountable for the intentional misuse of a product that is lawfully created; and because it is a slippery slope and where does it stop, when we sue McDonalds for obesity, etc. He said pharmacies had no hand in the creation of these drugs they simply did what they were required to do and handed out pills from lawfully prescribed prescriptions. He was not going to oppose the resolution as settling proposed litigation is less costly for everyone, but he opposes the County's involvement with this litigation. He understands there is an addiction problem and we need more treatment and services for vulnerable populations, but believed it is not just to sue companies that obeyed the law, and for lawyers to drag corporations into court with the threat of expensive litigation to rifle through

their pockets for change.

Legislator Montigelli stated that the Opioid settlement is against corporations who may not have done anything illegal, but it was in his opinion immoral. He said the example of saying that lawyers are taking advantage of the legal system in order to make money on the lawsuits is really the same thing, they are in business to be lawyers which consequently is capitalism or greed. So whether it is pharmacies or lawyers, it is the same issue.

Legislator Jareo said it is hard to draw the line for any kind of liability in suing the pharmacies in particular, and early on also opposed litigation against the manufacturers. He felt this may be the conclusion of the slippery slope and was not opposed to the resolution as it is settling the case, but believed it is unjust.

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 90

Authorizing Inter-Municipal Agreement with BOCES for Provision of Drug and Alcohol Testing

By Legislator: Philip N. Reed, Sr.

Whereas, It is necessary for Jefferson County Airport, Dispatch, Highway, Recycling and Waste Management and Sheriff's Departments to have drug and alcohol testing services available, and

Whereas, These services maintain compliance with the Federal Motor Carrier Clearinghouse mandate in relation to employees holding a CDL and covered by the County's agreement with the Civil Service Employees Association Local 1000, and

Whereas, These services maintain compliance with the Sheriff's Department Drug and Alcohol Testing Policy in relation to employees covered by the County's agreements with the Deputy Sheriff's Association Local 3928 and Sheriff's Employees Local 3089, and

Whereas, The County is enrolled in the Jefferson-Lewis BOCES Drug and Alcohol Program, and

Whereas, BOCES is now required to have an inter-municipal agreement to provide said services.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That Jefferson County enter into an agreement with Jefferson-Lewis BOCES for the provision of drug and alcohol testing services for the period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024, and be it further

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

Seconded by Legislator: John D. Peck

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 91

**Amending the 2023 County Budget and Capital Plan in Relation to
911 Emergency Dispatch Phone System Upgrade**

By Legislator: Daniel R. McBride

Whereas, By Resolution 360 of 2022 this Board of Legislators authorized an agreement with Motorola Solutions for an upgrade of the current 911 Emergency Dispatch Phone System to be funded by the 911 Wireless Surcharge Reserve, and

Whereas, It is necessary to allocate such funds into the appropriate account.

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

Increase:

Expenditure		
20302000 02031	E911 Dispatch	\$550,000
Interfund Transfers		
20900600 95031	Transfer from General Fund	\$550,000
01995000 09006	Transfer to Capital Fund	550,000

Decrease:

Restricted Funds		
01000000 30888	911 Wireless Surcharge Restricted Funds	\$550,000

and be it further,

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

Seconded by Legislator: Corey Y. Grant

Roll Call Vote

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

Absent: Ferris

Resolution passed.

Resolution No. 92

**Authorizing Agreement and Amending the 2023 County Budget in Relation to the
FY22 New York State Interoperable Communications Targeted Grant (SICG)**

By Legislator: Philip N. Reed, Sr.

Whereas, Jefferson County has been awarded a FY22 NYS Interoperable Communications Targeted Grant (SICG) in the amount of \$2,000,000 for the period March 1, 2023 to February 28, 2027, and

Whereas, The County must enter into an agreement with the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services to receive these grant funds to enhance public safety operations by strengthening communications infrastructure, and

Whereas, The grant will fund the development of a governance document for the Central New York Interoperable Communication Consortium and purchase a redundant Prime Controller for the Jefferson County P25 radio system to make it more resilient, and

Whereas, It is necessary to authorize an agreement with the State and to amend the 2023 County Budget to appropriate the funds.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the Chairman of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to execute said agreement on behalf of Jefferson County, subject to the review of 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

01341000 93397	State Aid Fire & Emergency Services	\$2,000,000
----------------	-------------------------------------	-------------

Expenditure

01341400 02300	Technical Equipment	\$1,800,000
----------------	---------------------	-------------

01341400 04416	Professional Fees	200,000
----------------	-------------------	---------

Seconded by Legislator: John D. Peck

Roll Call Vote

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

Absent: Ferris

Resolution passed.

Resolution No. 93

Amending the 2023 County Budget in Relation to the County Road Machinery Fund

By Legislator: Daniel R. McBride

Whereas, The Adopted 2023 County Budget includes funding for purchase of a recycling container in the Road Machinery Fund, and

Whereas, Funds need to be transferred into the appropriate account, and

Whereas, The Adopted 2023 County Budget also includes funding for purchase of two portable stop lights, for which the cost exceeds the budgeted amount.

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

Increase:

Expenditure		
10513000 02502	Recycling Container	\$12,000
10513000 02700	Bridge Equipment	10,000

Decrease:

Expenditure		
10513000 02464	Track Hoe	\$10,000
10513000 02600	Shop Equipment	12,000

Seconded by Legislator: Corey Y. Grant

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 94

Amending the 2023 County Budget in Relation to Recycling & Waste Management

By Legislator: Robert D. Ferris

Whereas, Recycling and Waste Management is requesting funding to purchase two recycling containers to replace two that have deteriorated, and

Whereas, Funding is available due to the purchase price of a loader being less than budgeted.

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

Increase:

Expenditure		
15816000 02502	Recycling Containers	\$25,000

Decrease:

Expenditure		
15816000 02494	Loader	\$25,000

Seconded by Legislator: John D. Peck

Resolution No. 95

Establishing Time and Place for Public Hearing Related to the Status of the Implementation of the 2020 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Housing Award

By Legislator: John D. Peck

Whereas, Jefferson County received a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) award in program year 2020 for \$800,000 from the NYS Office for Community Renewal for an owner-occupied housing rehabilitation assistance program for low to moderate income eligible residents, and

Whereas, Jefferson County is in the process of implementing the County's 2020 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Award administered by the NYS Office of Community Renewal, and

Whereas, The CDBG application process requires applicants to hold a public hearing to obtain the views of the general public on the status and implementation of the award.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, Pursuant to Section 104(A)(2) of the Federal Housing and Community Development Act, as amended, a CDBG public hearing shall be held on Tuesday, May 2, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Chambers of the Jefferson County Board of Legislators Historic Courthouse, 195 Arsenal Street, Watertown, NY, , and be it further

Resolved, 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. 96

Authorizing Agreement for Raise the Age Relative to Probation Department

By Legislator: Jeremiah J. Maxon

Whereas, New York State has directed implementation of Raise the Age and has provided grant funding in the amount of \$84,955 through the Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS), and

Whereas, Said grant funds a Probation Officer to cover all Raise the Age related activities including related training, and

Whereas, Funding has been allocated in the Adopted County Budget, and

Whereas, An agreement needs to be authorized with DCJS for this funding for the period of April 1, 2022 through March 31, 2023.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That Jefferson County hereby accepts the \$84,955 and authorizes the Chairman of the Board to electronically execute the above referenced agreement.

Seconded by Legislator: Robert D. Ferris

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 97

**Authorizing Agreement in Relation to the State Alternatives to Incarceration
(Pre-Trial Release) Program Funding**

By Legislator: Robert D. Ferris

Whereas, New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services Alternatives to Incarceration has awarded Jefferson County \$8,867 for the operation of a Pre-Trial Release Program during the period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024, and

Whereas, The County must enter into an agreement with New York State to receive these grant funds, and

Whereas, Said grant is already contained in the Adopted County Budget, and

Whereas, Jefferson County does hereby commit to providing 50% matching funds for operation of the alternatives program.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That Jefferson County hereby accepts the \$8,867, and authorizes the Chairman of the Board of Legislators to execute any and all documents as may be

required to fulfill the requirements of this grant award subject to approval by the County Attorney as to form and content.

Seconded by Legislator: Jeremiah J. Maxon

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 98

Amending the 2023 County Budget in Relation to the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee's Stop-DWI Crackdown Enforcement Grant

By Legislator: Daniel R. McBride

Whereas, By Resolution 371 of 2022, this Board of Legislators accepted \$17,500 in New York State Stop-DWI Foundation Crackdown Enforcement funding, and

Whereas, There remains \$12,772.02 unspent, to be shared with the Watertown City Police Department, NYS Park Police, Alexandria Bay, Black River, Carthage and Clayton Police Departments, and

Whereas, The 2023 County Budget must be amended to appropriate said remaining funding and allocate it to the applicable accounts.

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

Increase:

Revenue:

01000000 30599	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$12,772.02
01311000 92614	Stop DWI Svcs Sheriff	1,443.47

Expenditure:

01311000 01300	Overtime	\$ 1,443.47
01331500 04414	Supporting Services	1,443.47
01331500 04428	Public Safety Svcs. - Other Govt	11,328.55

Seconded by Legislator: Corey Y. Grant

Legislator Jareo advised that for many years he voted against this funding because it authorized money that goes to other governments and could be used for DWI road blocks which he believes are unconstitutional. He was assured by the grant writer that it is not used for those purposes so he has supported the resolution in the most recent past, however if the funding ever was used for

road blocks in the future he would again vote against it.

Roll Call Vote

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

Absent: Ferris

Resolution passed.

Resolution No. 99

Amending the 2023 County Budget to Reappropriate Insurance Recovery in Sheriff’s Department

By Legislator: Robert D. Ferris

Whereas, An insurance settlement check was received in late 2022 in the amount of \$5,370.93 for damage to a patrol unit which was not recognized in the 2022 Budget, and

Whereas, The Sheriff has requested the settlement 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:

01000000 30599	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$ 5,370.93
Expenditure		
01311000 043102	External Fleet Expense	\$ 5,370.93

Seconded by Legislator: Corey Y. Grant

Roll Call Vote

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

Absent: Ferris

Resolution passed.

Resolution No. 100

**Amending a Resolution and Authorizing an Agreement for
Provision of Services to Elderly of Jefferson County**

By Legislator: John D. Peck

Whereas, The Jefferson County Office for the Aging works for the establishment and expansion of programs and services which assist older persons in the areas of their most urgent needs, and is eligible to receive State and Federal funds for the purpose of providing such needed programs and services to elderly residents of Jefferson County, and

Whereas, By Resolution 320 of 2022 this Board of Legislators authorized an amended agreement with **Caregivers** for the provision of personal care services to the elderly intended to address the growing waiting list for services due to staffing difficulties by guaranteeing schedules to the caregiver staff, and

Whereas, The Office for the Aging continues to require traditional caregiver services without guaranteed schedules.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That Resolution 320 of 2022 is hereby amended to read:

Personal Care Services

Caregivers, for the period of January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023 at a blended rate of \$33.50 per hour for the provision of housekeeping/chore, homemaker/personal care and caregiver respite services *with guaranteed schedules*,

and be it further,

Resolved, That pursuant to Section 95-a of the General Municipal Law, Jefferson County enter into an agreement with the below listed party for provision of such programs and services to elderly residents of Jefferson County and for such consideration as follows:

Personal Care Services

Caregivers, for the period January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023 at a blended rate of \$30.00 per hour for the provision of housekeeping/chore, personal care and caregiver respite services, and be it further

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

Seconded by Legislator: Corey Y. Grant

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 101

Authorizing Agreements for the Provision of Services to Combat the Negative Impacts of Opiate Use and Amending the 2023 County Budget in Relation Thereto

By Legislator: John D. Peck

Whereas The New York State Attorney General’s Office successfully achieved a settlement through litigation with Amerisource Bergen Corporation, Cardinal Health, Inc., McKesson Corporation (The Distributors), and Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Janssen) ahead of the national settlement and Jefferson County’s share is a total of \$760,000 for 2022, and

Whereas, These funds will be distributed between Transitional Living Services, Samaritan Medical Center and Northern Regional Center for Independent Living to provide services to combat the negative impacts of opiate use, as was outlined in the settlement, and

Whereas, Transitional Living Services has successfully served the people of Jefferson County in both housing and behavioral health needs and will receive an award of \$325,000 for the period of January 1 through December 31, 2023 to assist in program operations to ensure adequate staffing of the Pine Street, Single Room Occupancy Program, and

Whereas, Samaritan Medical Center being the designated Mental Hygiene Law Section 9.39 hospital for behavioral health crisis in Jefferson County will receive an award of \$430,000 for the period of January 1 through December 31, 2023 to assist in the expansion of the emergency department’s behavioral health wing, and to provide assistance in the provision of Medication Assisted Therapies for substance involved patients, and

Whereas Northern Regional Center for Independent Living, being the fiscal intermediary of the Jefferson County Suicide Prevention Coalition will receive an award of \$5,000 for the period of January 1 through December 31, 2023 for the purchase of coalition give away items for public events and other advertising costs.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That Jefferson County accepts these funds and the Chairman of Board of Legislators is hereby authorized and directed to execute agreements with the above providers for services as outlined, subject to the approval of 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

01104500 92735	Opioid Settlement Funds	\$760,000
Expenditures		

01432000 04708	NRCIL FSS RIV	\$ 5,000
01432000 04714	NCTLS Reinvestment	325,000
01432000 04728	Samaritan Medical Center	430,000

Seconded by Legislator: Frances A. Calarco

Roll Call Vote

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

Absent: Ferris

Resolution passed.

Resolution No. 102

Amending the 2023 County Budget to Accept Funding for Veterans Peer Support (P2P) Program

By Legislator: John D. Peck

Whereas, NYS Office of Mental Health (OMH) funding for the Veterans Peer Support (P2P) Program for 2023 in the amount of \$185,000 has been received, and

Whereas, The Veterans Peer Support (P2P) Grant Program Funding will cover the period of April 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024, 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 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 2023 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: Frances A. Calarco

Roll Call Vote

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

Absent: Ferris

Resolution passed.

Resolution No. 103

**Amending the 2023 County Budget to Allocate Additional State Aid
for Credo Community Center for the Treatment of Addictions**

By Legislator: Corey Y. Grant

Whereas, The New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports has approved additional one-time only State Aid for the Credo Community Center for the Treatment of Addictions, Inc., in the amount of \$128,288 for Capital Project start-up costs, and

Whereas, The 2023 County Budget needs to be amended to reflect the additional funds.

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

Increase:

Revenue
01431000 93484 State Aid - Alcohol & Substance Abuse \$128,288

Expenditure:
01432000 04702 Credo Foundation \$128,288

Seconded by Legislator: John D. Peck

Roll Call Vote

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

Absent: Ferris

Resolution passed.

Resolution No. 104

Authorizing Agreements with NYS Department of Education Approved Agencies for the Provision of Special Education Services for Preschool Children with Disabilities

By Legislator: Frances A. Calarco

Whereas, New York State Education Law requires that municipalities enter into agreements with agencies approved by the NYS Commissioner of Education to offer special education services to preschool children with disabilities who are determined by the Board of Education of local school districts to require placement in such special education programs, and

Whereas, The New York State Commissioner of Education has approved a number of providers of services and has set rates for all special education program services, and

Whereas, In conjunction with the operation of the Special Education Services for Preschool Children with Disabilities program, it is necessary to enter into contracts with approved services providers at said established rates.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, Pursuant to Section 4410 of the New York State Education Law, Jefferson County is hereby authorized to enter into agreements for the term July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024, for the provision of special education services to children ages three through five with disabilities with the following New York State Education Department approved service providers:

<u>Provider</u>	<u>Service</u>
ARC Jefferson-St. Lawrence NY	Evaluations Special Education Classroom Special Education Itinerant Teaching
Building Blocks SLP, OT & PT Family Services, PLLC	Evaluations
Milestones Children’s Center	Evaluations Special Education Itinerant Teaching
Watertown City School District	Evaluations

and be it further

Resolved, That the need for such special education services is to be determined by local School

Boards of Education, at rates established by the NYS Commissioner of Education as certified by the Director of the Budget of the State of New York, and shall be in a form and contain such terms and conditions as may be acceptable to the NYS Commissioner of Education, and be it further

Resolved, That the Chairman of the Board of Legislators and the Director of Community Services are hereby authorized and directed to execute such agreements on behalf of Jefferson County, subject to approval by the County Attorney as to form and substance, and be it further

Resolved, That the Director of Community Services is hereby directed to send a letter notifying local School Boards of Education of the rates of each of the special education service providers and the percentage of local share of such cost.

Seconded by Legislator: Steel E. Potter

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 105

**Authorizing Agreements and Establishing Rates for Provision of Related Services
in Connection with the Program for Preschool Children with Disabilities**

By Legislator: Frances A. Calarco

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

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

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That, pursuant to Section 4410 of the Education Law, Jefferson County enter into an agreement with each of the following parties for the provision of the indicated service(s). The term of said agreement shall be for the period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 in accordance with the requirements of the State Education Law and regulations:

<u>Provider</u>	<u>Service</u>
ARC Jefferson-St. Lawrence NY	Speech Therapy Physical Therapy Occupational Therapy
Building Blocks SLP, OT & PT	Speech Therapy

Family Services, PLLC	Physical Therapy Occupational Therapy
Central Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired	Orientation ad Mobility Teacher of the Visually Impaired
Citi BOCES	Audiological Teacher of the Deaf
Special Programs, Inc. D.B.A. Little Lukes Childcare Center	Speech Therapy Physical Therapy Occupational Therapy
Lyme Central School District	Speech Therapy
Watertown City School District	Speech Therapy Occupational Therapy

and be it further

Resolved, That the rates of payment for Preschool Related Services by a Speech Pathologist, Occupational Therapist and Physical Therapist are hereby established as follows:

	On-site	Off-site
Individual Up to 59 Minutes	\$38.00	\$65.00
Individual Over 60 Minutes	\$54.00	\$81.00
Group Up to 59 Minutes	\$27.00	\$43.00
Group Over 60 Minutes	\$43.00	\$60.00

and be it further

Resolved, That the rates of payment for Preschool Related Services by Certified Occupational Therapy and Licensed Physical Therapy Assistants are hereby established as follows:

	On-site	Off-site
Individual Up to 59 min.	\$27.00	\$43.00
Individual Over 60 min.	\$38.00	\$52.00
Group Up to 59 Minutes	\$24.00	\$38.00
Group Over 60 Minutes	\$35.00	\$48.00

and be it further

Resolved, That the Chairman of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to execute such agreements on behalf of Jefferson County, and be it further

Resolved, That the Director of Community Services is hereby authorized and directed to take such steps and execute such documents as may be necessary to secure approval of the rates established herein by the New York State Education Department.

Seconded by Legislator: John D. Peck

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 106

**Accepting Climate and Health Adaptation Funding, Authorizing Agreement
and Amending the 2023 County Budget in Relation Thereto**

By Legislator: John D. Peck

Whereas, The New York Association of County Health Officials (NYSACHO) is providing funding to Jefferson County Public Health Service to support climate and health adaptation initiatives within Jefferson County, and

Whereas, Public Health will develop a presentation in collaboration with New York State Department of Health and NYSACHO, and will provide education to the Perch Lake area community regarding Eastern Equine Encephalitis, and

Whereas, NYSACHO will provide funding in the amount of \$3,000 via a one-time payment in 2023.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That Jefferson County hereby accepts said funding and authorizes the Chairman of the Board of Legislators to execute any and all contract/agreement documents with NYSACHO for provision of this funding, 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:

0145100 91689	Other Health Department Income	\$3,000
---------------	--------------------------------	---------

Expenditures:

0145100 04116	Postage	\$ 500
0145100 04515	Professional Food Expense	450
0145100 04585	Operating Supplies	2,050

Seconded by Legislator: Corey Y. Grant

Roll Call Vote

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

Absent: Ferris

Resolution passed.

Resolution No. 107

**Accepting Strengthening U.S. Public Health Workforce Funding and
Authorizing Agreement in Relation Thereto**

By Legislator: John D. Peck

Whereas, The Jefferson County Public Health Service has been notified by the NYS Department of Health/Health Research Inc. (NYSDOH/HRI) of an allocation in the amount of \$135,192.40 annually for a total of \$675,962, for the period of December 1, 2022, through November 30, 2027, and

Whereas, The purpose of the allocation is to address long-standing weaknesses due to chronic underinvestment in New York's Public Health system and support Local Health Departments to meet ongoing and future public health needs, and

Whereas, The funding investment includes improvement in the Local Health Department workforce capabilities through recruitment, retention, training and other staffing enhancements, and

Whereas, Grant funds will be recognized and appropriated into the 2023 County Budget in a future resolution.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That Jefferson County hereby accepts said funding and authorizes the Chairman of the Board of Legislators to execute any and all contract documents with the HRI/NYSDOH for the provision of this funding, subject to approval by the County Attorney as to form and content.

Seconded by Legislator: Steel E. Potter

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 108

**Accepting Funding for Community Medicine and Paramedicine Programs and
Authorizing Agreement in Relation Thereto**

By Legislator: Frances A. Calarco

Whereas, By Resolution 254 of 2022, this Board of Legislators authorized an agreement with the Home Care Association of New York State and the Iroquois Healthcare Association for Jefferson County to pilot a community medicine and Paramedicine program in 2022 with grant funds received from the Mother Cabrini Health Foundation, and

Whereas, Jefferson County Public Health Service will be awarded \$225,000 to continue the pilot program for the period of January 1 through December 31, 2023, and

Whereas, Jefferson County Public Health Service will collaborate with community partners to implement a comprehensive model of community paramedicine to expand the reach of primary care and public health services using EMS personnel through non-emergency interaction with patients, and

Whereas, Said funding award is already included in the 2023 County Budget.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That Jefferson County hereby accepts said funding and authorizes the Chairman of the Board of Legislators to execute any and all documents necessary to accept said funding and to execute an agreement with the New York State Home Care Association subject to approval by the County Attorney as to form and content.

Seconded by Legislator: Corey Y. Grant

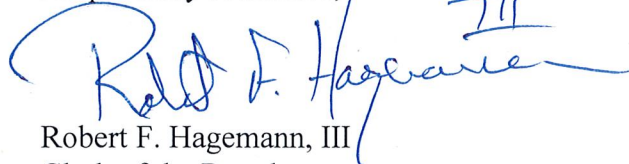
All members present voted aye.

Legislator Naywaniec thanked Legislator Doldo for his assistance and generosity with his Dog Wash facilities and a situation in the City of Watertown where many dogs ended up being taken into custody by Jefferson County Dog Control last weekend.

Legislator Doldo gave kudos to the Dog Control staff with regard to a cruelty case in the City of Watertown where numerous neglected dogs were found, two of which had to go to a veterinarian and one was euthanized. He said this same kind of thing is going on all over the County and with the addition of these dogs the total number of dogs at the County facility is at about 20. He thanked Health & Human Services Chair Nabywaniec and Administrator Hagemann for keeping on top of this situation and commended the Dog Control employees for the great work they do.

There being no further business of the Board, on a motion by Legislator Maxon seconded by Legislator Montigelli and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 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