



VILLAGE OF JOHNSON CITY
MUNICIPAL BUILDING
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Village Board

Christina Charuk, Mayor

Deputy Mayor John Walker

Trustee Clark Giblin Trustee Mary Jacyna Trustee Lori Thorn

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Johnson City Village Board held in the Village Hall Board Room, 60 Lester Avenue, Johnson City, NY on Tuesday, February 17, 2026 at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Christina Charuk, Mayor
 John Walker, Deputy Mayor
 Clark Giblin, Trustee
 Mary Jacyna, Trustee
 Lori Thorn, Trustee

Absent: None

Also Present: Keegan Coughlin, Legal Counsel
 Kim Cunningham, Acting Village Clerk/Treasurer

Mayor Christina Charuk led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Charuk advised the meeting attendants where the fire exits are and took roll call.

Mayor Charuk spoke regarding the fire on Cherry Street. She said it was very frightening event and expressed her gratitude to all the first responders who acted with incredible speed and professionalism and courage and maintained the dignity of the residents and did the work that was necessary. They were under exhausting conditions and they did the very best for our community. She thanked the residents and all of neighbors across this community, not just Johnson City and local organizations who have stepped up to care for those affected. This is what makes our community strong. She stated she is very proud of all of us and thanked the community. She said her office is in communication with emergency services, Red Cross and local partners and we are all working together to support the residents who have been affected.

Mayor Charuk said one of the first responders delivered a cat that was affected by the fire and it will be returned to their people tomorrow.

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

[1] The Village proudly celebrates and affirms **Black History Month**. This is a time to honor the achievements, resilience, and lasting contributions of Black Americans to our nation and to our own community. We remain committed to ensuring our village is a place where equity, dignity, and opportunity are reflected not just in words, but in our actions and policies.

- [2] I would like to extend warm wishes to all who are celebrating the **Lunar New Year**. May this new year bring health, prosperity, and renewed hope to families here in our village and around the world.
- [3] We are currently **reviewing and updating the Village website** to improve accessibility, transparency, and communication with residents. In the coming months, we look forward to engaging the community for feedback so we can build a site that truly serves the needs of our residents, businesses, and visitors.
- [4] I received quite a few comments suggesting I should “get back into the kitchen” since the election. So, in the best spirit of community, I’m happy to share that I am doing exactly that—by partnering with the Village Library and Big Zeus BBQ to host a community meal and hygiene giveaway to be held in March. More information will be forthcoming.
- [5] The next Zoning Board Meeting will be held Monday, February 23, 2026 at 6:30pm with a work session at 6:00pm in the Johnson City Village Hall Board Room.
- [6] The next Planning Board Meeting will be Tuesday, February 24, 2026 at 7:30pm with a work session at 7:00pm in the Johnson City Village Hall Board Room.
- [7] The next regular Village Board Meeting will be held Tuesday, March 3, 2026 at 7:30pm with a work session at 6:00pm in the Johnson City Village Hall Board Room.

APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

- [1] February 3, 2026 Village Board Work Session and Regular Meeting Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of February 3, 2026 and place them on file was made by Trustee Walker and seconded by Trustee Giblin. The motion carried with all those present voting in the affirmative.

BIDS – None

PUBLIC HEARINGS – None

PETITIONS RECEIVED – None

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR – VISITORS

Mayor Charuk opened the privilege of the floor. She advised if anyone would like to address the Board, please line up at the podium and if they would like to state their name and address and if they have a prepared statement, please address it to the Clerk-Treasurer. She advised the attendees the Board follows Roberts Rules of Order and any speaker can address the Board for up to five minutes and asked everyone to be timely with their comments.

Mr. Picalilla – *Albert St.*

- Spoke regarding the fire and said the first responders were phenomenal.
- Last meeting he saw a Board of Trustees who didn’t offer a second to Resolution 27.
 - He said they could have been given a chance to discuss this and the public could have been given a glimpse into the thought process of the Board on why they might not have wanted to approve that or that it could have been tabled for a later date.
 - Everyone in the room was denied communication due to a failure of one person saying “second”.
 - They came to see action and got inaction.
 - There was a room full of passionate constituents, neighbors, friends, patrons of the Village, residents and concerned citizens who live in, work, shop or visit our lovely Village. This was not typical of the size of visitors to a Village Board meeting; it was quite a bit larger. People were confused, upset, hurt and he thinks it was apparent to anyone who was at the meeting last

time. He asked that if anyone feels upset or concerned in any way or need to stand up and have their voice heard, he asked them to line up at the podium as well.

- He further stated, if they want the Board to do the work that residents want, please speak up. If they feel threatened or terrified by the ICE activity across the nation and are concerned of it happening here in Johnson City, then please speak up. Speak up if they want their elected officials to hear them.

Ms. Connelly, *Spruce St*

- She is a concerned resident for over 35 years and takes pride in Village where she lives, the County she lives in, the state and country she lives in.
- Her presence tonight is to let the Board know how deeply disappointed she is with the Trustee's no response to the Mayor and Chief of Police's resolution. She is disappointed with the Board members, except the Mayor, for refusing to address the resolution. The silence in the room was bone-chilling, so thick you could've cut it with a knife.
- She is extremely concerned about the safety of all people, including immigrant families. We are all living in chaotic and tumultuous times. Listening to the news on television about arresting immigrants because they are thought to be violent criminals, but then many are eventually determined not to be criminals; separated from their families, detained and deported to places where they have no families. Many not given due process. It is very sad and heartbreaking to see.
- She had a simple yes or no question for Trustee Mary Jacyna. The question she was asking was in no way to undermine the village of Johnson City's Police Department. She supports the police and expects the police officers to be ready to respond to any crimes happening in Johnson City; ready to protect all people from all crimes, especially violent criminal acts and not be patrolling the streets doing snatch and grab. She believes it is important to keep the community, all people in Johnson City, safe at all times and that all people feel safe.
- Question to Trustee Jacyna, the reply to her question is just a simple answer yes or no. Does she truly and sincerely believe it is important to keep all the people in Johnson City safe at all times and that all people in this community feel safe?

Trustee Jacyna responded no comment.

Ms. Connelly thanked her for her no comment response.

Ms. Zawerucha- *Lusk St* submitted the statement below:

My name is Christina Zawerucha, I live on 35 Lusk Street, one of the most vibrant and diverse blocks in Johnson City. I also taught for 3 years as an English as a New Language Teacher at Johnson City High School, where it was my honor to work with the largest ENL population in our region. At the time more than 11 percent of our students were English language learners, speaking 17 different languages.

I am a volunteer with Concerned Residents of Greater Binghamton and I manage a project called Humans of ICE. Every week, volunteers visit the Broome County Jail to interview the people who are detained by ICE, to learn who they are, how they got detained, and what their needs and goals are. We then try to connect them to local resources, and, with their permission, share their stories with the larger community in order to educate people about what is happening and to humanize the people detained by ICE in the Broome County jail. We have discovered that the overwhelming majority of people detained by ICE in the BC jail are legally present in the United States, have no criminal record, and are authorized to live and work in the US when they were detained. They get stuck there due to lack of legal representation.

I'm grateful for all of the people who are in the room tonight, but I think it's important to think about the stakeholders who are not in the room right now. Many of the people who are most directly impacted by ICE are not here because they are afraid. And sadly, they are right to be.

One of my interviews is from a young man who is an Endwell resident who was detained by ICE in Endicott. He is out on bail right now. He gave me permission to share his story:

A__ came to NY from Punjab, Pakistan in 2021 on a Tourist visa to visit family in New York City when he was 18 years old. He was originally planning on just visiting, but his older brother wanted to stay so he decided to stay too. They moved to Endwell, NY in 2022. His family runs several local businesses, including a local restaurant.

On September 15th, 2025, he was very sick and went to a 1PM doctor's appointment at UHS Primary Care in Endwell. Undercover officers pulled him over and pulled him from the car. They said that they had officers waiting outside his house to take his family (he later found out that this was a bluff). He was on the phone with a friend when the cops pulled him over. The cops hung up the phone and he could hear his family trying to call him but they would not let him answer the phone.

The officers pulled him from the car and he started vomiting. He said that he needed his inhaler from the car but they wouldn't give it to him. They called their supervisor and had him waiting in a car for 15-20 minutes on McKinley Avenue. They then drove to his family's house with a Dodge SUV and 2 more cars from local police, Ford SUVs.

A_'s home is a 2-family house, with his uncles living on the first floor and him and his cousin on the second floor. When they asked him who lived on the first floor, he lied and said "I don't know. It's a white family and we don't really speak to them." So the cops did not go in there and his uncles were safe. There's a guest house behind the house. He said, "it's an old Black lady." They knocked on her door and asked her to come out for questioning.

The ICE officers called his cousin. They said, "We arrested your cousin and we came to give the car keys to you so you can bring the car back from the doctor's office." When the cousin came out for the keys, they arrested him too.

They did not allow him to call any family. They took him in a car to the Holiday Inn parking lot in Binghamton and held him for 2 hours in the parking lot. He said there were a lot of ICE officers and vehicles there. Then, they detained him in a solitary room in Syracuse. They pushed him to sign documents stating he was self-deporting, but he refused to sign because the documents were all wrong- they said he was from Ecuador, when he is from Pakistan. He said he wanted to speak with a lawyer before signing anything. They told him he would be taken to the Buffalo County Jail. They let him have one phone call and he told his family they were taking him to Buffalo.

The next day they took him to the Broome County jail. This was very lucky because his uncles, who are citizens, could visit him. A lot of his family could not visit because they are not citizens. He requested to be put with his cousin but they put him in solitary confinement for 6 days. His cousin got sick in solitary confinement, and was hospitalized for 7 days. No calls to family for 7 days— then he was taken to K-pod. He was told he had a court date for October 2, but there was no call on October 2, so they then gave him a new date. He had 2-3 different court dates, then he was released on bail. His family had sold their Halal restaurant to pay for the bail and legal fees. A_ paid \$5000 and his family paid \$10,000.

He has a lawyer from NYC and has applied for asylum. He currently has an ankle monitor and is on the ADT program. He drives for a delivery service, works at a local gas station and needs to report to Syracuse every 3 weeks. His cousin is out on bail under the same arrangement.

He said he wants the people in the jail to be treated better. He said that when he was there the officers would not let him and his brother pray. He said that the ICE officers are supposed to visit 1x/week, but instead they only visited 3 times during the time he was there.

He is worried because his brother has a court date in NYC in a few weeks and he is afraid ICE will detain him on his way to court.

He said that his cousin was also brought deportation papers while he was inside, but just like him the papers were incorrect so he also didn't sign. His cousin arrived in 2024, but the ICE officers were saying they had records of him coming in 2022. At one point, they brought deportation papers to his cousin saying "You signed it." But he had never signed anything. He feels they may be confusing him with somebody else with the same name.

He talked about some of the folks we already met, whose narratives you have already read on this website, humansofice.org. He said there were many Chinese people in K-pod for 3 months, then they were all gone. We talked about Guan Heng's case, and he said he didn't think he would win asylum. He said that he only saw one person whose case was approved, and it was a guy from Belarus. Now that he hears that Guan Heng is free, he wants to shake his hand.

Interview collected by Christina Zawerucha on 1/24/26. Illustration by local artist Blue Magnolia.

Please think about the people who are not in this room right now, who are impacted by these ICE actions. I don't know how anybody on this board, or any resident of Johnson City could hear this testimony, and want their tax dollars to be complicit on whatever this... this "police action" is. Thank you for listening.

Mr. Kalos - *Roberts St* – His heart goes out to the residents of Cherry St. He came out tonight because of his disappointment in not passing Resolution 27. The fact that it was silence. He was afraid to even come out here and speak. He can't stay silent, to not even consider it. He is livid. They can do better and should do better. He is the son of an immigrant that came through the proper channels. She had an opportunity and those opportunities are being stripped every day. Is it because you want to enforce this or because you don't want the immigrants coming in at all? It takes bravery and he did not see that with the exception of the Mayor Christina Charuk and he thanked her for that. He wants this to be a town he feels welcome in as well as the rest of his family. He thanked the Board for listening and he hopes the Board will change their mind.

Mr. Kane - *Reynolds Rd*

- He is not only here to talk about ICE, but it is disappointing they didn't want to discuss it at the last meeting. The former Mayor mentioned there was issue with the language and he can't understand what the issue was, but how are we going to discuss the issue with the language but to discuss it, that's how you fix those things. If the Board did have issues with the language and agreed with the former Mayor, their options were to read it before hand and if they did do that, they willfully chose not to discuss it so the Board didn't want to do their jobs or they didn't know where to find it so you are incompetent. It is incredibly disappointing and he doesn't know why they keep electing them.
- He reached out to the Board how his car was illegally towed in 2024. Police chief told him there won't be any more communication about it. The Board is legally obligated to look into it and do something about it. The Police Chief told him that his car was towed based on Code 264-60, Authority to Impound Vehicles. He said the Police Chief should have told him the specific section of the code and tell him what he did not just tell him they are towing his car because they want to. He either intentionally is not telling him which section of the code he thinks he broke, because either he knows he didn't break any section of it or he doesn't know the code himself and doesn't want to have that conversation. He can explain why he didn't break any section of code. It seems like if the Board doesn't want to do anything he will sue you. If they would like to have that conversation with him, he would like to not go to court. But he can go through definitions with them and tell them why their wrong if they will have a conversation with him. The former Mayor didn't either, he said good luck in Court. He gave the Board all the state laws and code and said his car was illegally towed and said the officer filed a false report. He said the Board all have his email and phone number.

Resident - Attended several meetings both with the current mayor and previous mayor and she is concerned there was no discussion of any sort by any of the Trustees at the previous meeting about the ICE resolution. She said it was shameful to see all four trustees avoiding and not acknowledging the resolution. She had never seen so many people show up to a board meeting before and she knows most of people here last time and today were hoping the Trustees would help protect the people in Johnson City and pass the resolution. She sincerely hopes they would give resolution the decency of a discussion.

Brent Dodge Chief of Police – Responding to Mr. Kane. He said nothing he said was accurate. He knows exactly why he was ticketed. There was a major snow event. His car was parked on the street. You have to move car within eight hours so DPW can effectively come through and plow the street. When they have to drive around a car that is parked in the street, they leave a lot of snow behind the car and in front of the car. It effectively makes those parking spots unusable and as time goes on and they can't plow, the snow hardens and the patch turns to ice, becomes slippery and is a hazard. That is why the law says you have to move your car within eight hours especially after a major snowfall. He refused to do that and was ticketed for not moving his car. The car was not towed. The car wasn't registered to him. They had no way of reaching out to him, it was registered to someone with a different name and in a different town. After the car wasn't moved for a second day, it was then towed legally. He was informed of this. He refuses to accept that. When someone refuses to move their car for days after a major snowfall, it is a selfish act and it is a parking hazard and safety hazard. Therefore, you are ticketed and if you don't respond to the ticket, your car is not moved and they have no way to get a hold of you it is not the police's fault. There were no mistakes or wrong doing. There were no lies, no false reports. He simply failed to move his car so it was towed. He wanted to make sure he spoke to the Board and attendees to make sure they don't listen to him and not have faith in the police department.

Ms. Smith, *Brewster St*

- She would like to direct this to Trustee Walker. She grew up on Brewster Street in the late 1990's, her husband was a Senior Master Sergeant in the Airforce and she returned to her home town to take care of her parents. Her dad had Alzheimer's and her mom was a recent cancer survivor. For three years they raised their three boys in the same house she grew up in. Growing up they had a kind, intelligent, thoughtful neighbor Jim McCabe. Jim was also a Mayor in the Village of Johnson City from 1963-1972 and went on to serve in the State Assemblyman through 1982. When she came back to Johnson City and reconnected with Jim and his wife Margaret it was one of the greatest joys in returning to her hometown. She couldn't ask for a better educator. How would Jim feel about his well-respected police officers becoming lackeys for ICE and one of the cruelest policies ever known. He would have never allowed it because he knew there was a strong bond between citizens and the people who were sworn to protect them and that bond should never be broken. Johnson City police officers always had a stellar reputation for community policing and build bonds and trust with the community and they still do. You have been a Trustee for close to ten years so he knows and admires these fine officers and likely knows deep in his heart if you allow Johnson City to work with ICE you would be changing their lives forever. They will see the distraught families being torn apart where entire families "disappear". They will note that some of these people maybe saw the children walking home from school or remember their parents from the grocery store. Why allow the Johnson City Police Department to be part of the abject cruelty that befalls every person who is swept up in the ICE raids? These are human beings. The mass majority are not criminals. In fact, immigrants commit less crimes than native born citizens. If you don't believe her, go to the US Department of Justice's Policy Statement entitled Undocumented Immigrant Offending Rate Lower than US Born Citizen Offending Rate. Your likely to not expected to hear that. These people are just trying to support their families and have a small bit of the American dream. They are

millennials trying to get a decent education, parents working in a laundromat, an uncle re-shingling a roof, a grandma taking care of the elderly in the nursing home, a sister clearing the table after you and your spouse have a nice dinner out after she studied all afternoon at the public library for an upcoming Physics exam. The worst of the worst. This is who ICE is targeting? As for the fate of the JC Police Officers, do you know how traumatic and dangerous these situations can be for local law enforcement? Surely you have seen plenty of footage showing how ICE cruelly attacks people with reckless disregard for life and limb. Guns are drawn by poorly trained ICE yahoos who think they are Rambo. They spray painful chemical irritant into people's faces; they cruelly take out their aggression on people they deem animals. She hopes the Board does not cheer them on. Police officers are trained for community policing not Gestapo tactics. Putting your officers in these traumatic experiences does nothing at all for the good people of Johnson City. She does not expect an answer because she has watched this Board quietly turn away from what is right and just in this Village, the Village she grew up in. If the Board listened thank you. She asked Trustee Walker if he would like to reply.

Trustee Walker responded no comment.

Ms. Smith stated there is another no reply.

- This is for Clark Giblin, good evening Mr. Giblin. He has been with the Village for over eight years and has benefitted from relatively calm times in Johnson City. She would like to ask a few questions regarding his lack of support for our Mayor Charuk who does not want the JC Police Department to work with ICE. Binghamton seven-member City Council has voted not to partner with ICE. There will be no 287G Program darkening the City of Binghamton. The Republican mayor did not voice support in the 287 Program in Binghamton. Council members due to the Department Homeland Security have repeatedly violated its own ethical rules of conduct. She gave sections of the Code that were violated. The City of Binghamton wisely wants no part of this. Has the Johnson City Board considered the ramifications of supporting and working with Federal ICE Agencies? Because all they have to do is watch the nightly news. There is well-documented evidence that the cruel treatment shows that the Federal Law Enforcement Officers have not received training in ethics, have no concern for our fellow humans.

Ms. Smith reached her five-minute limit. She thanked Madam Mayor.

Mr. Reynolds – *North St* – he stated he was a former neighbor of Clark Giblins. He wanted the Board to know that all four of their lack of giving a second so they could then vote no on a resolution showed extreme cowardice. Don't be Marty's minions and do your job.

Mr. Meaney – *Weymouth Ln* – He stated he knows there is a decorum policy in heckling people who come up to speak. It is a violation of the decorum policy and shows bad taste and is unprofessional.

He gave a prepared statement which is below:

Good evening, I hope that my attire is not offensive to anyone. I ask this question because at the last Village Board meeting, I wore a light grey BU Bearcat vest and a grey Note Dame sweatshirt under it. Some thought that the color I was wearing was white and that I color coordinated with members of the board. Some even went as far to state that I was a racist and a member of the KKK for wearing white during February, Black History Month. Nothing could be further from the truth. I am bringing this up here because there are people in this room who are making these comparisons and statements and I am kindly asking them to stop. I would like to note that Bad Bunny wore white during his Super Bowl performance, and USA Olympic team is also wearing white.

I came to the last meeting to ask questions about resolutions 27,28,29 and 30. I did not come as the former Mayor or a bitter old man. I came as a resident and taxpayer to ask how those four resolutions were going to impact the budget. I did not receive any answers for resolutions 27,28, and 29, and only a partial answer for resolution 30. I hope that the Trustees and the Mayor understand that they are employed by the taxpayers, and are to be held accountable to the taxpayers. This meeting is a public forum where questions are asked and expected to be answered without recourse, rebuke, or prejudice. Where else can we, the taxpayer, go to get answers to our questions. When valid questions are left unanswered it begs the questions, what is going on, are there problems, why is my Village Board not being transparent. The Board has a fiscal responsibility to the taxpayers and when questions directly related to the operating costs of the Village go unanswered the Board fails the taxpayers and residents that they were elected to represent.

So again, I will ask what monetary impact do resolutions 28 and 29 have on the budget? Is the position of full-time clerk a new position? What are her duties? What is the cost of a sister city program? Who will be on the committee? Will other sister cities be explored? Fun fact the city that the Mayor has selected has a population over 115,000 and is already a sister city to thirteen other cities including one in Corvallis Oregon. If resolution 29 is adopted the first order of business for the exploratory committee should be to research a sister city that is more aligned with the ethnic makeup and the population of Johnson City and one that does not have as many sisters.

Thank you.

Mr. Meaney stated the Trustees are all called cowards for not speaking up. He is asking questions now and nobody seems to be responding. Are we still cowards? They are valid questions.

Trustee Giblin responded Resolution 28 is for an exploratory committee which won't have any cost to the Village whatsoever at this time. Resolution 29 will be tabled for further discussion.

Mayor Charuk advised the resolution on the exploratory committee for a sister city was put into place just as that, just to explore, and if the previous mayor was interested in exploring other sister cities, he had the previous four years to do so.

Jeremy Haas, *Ackley Ave* – In regard to the Rules of Decorum there is a request in those rules, that if you have a matter of concern with this Board, instead of addressing it to the Board in this manner, you can simply reach out the members of the Board on the specific topics you wish to discuss. Following the previous meeting, he reached out to every single member of this Board nearly two weeks ago and it was related in part and inspired by some of the resolutions for discussion at the previous session. He had a number of topics he wished to discuss with each of the Board members and had different topics for all of them. He received two very prompt responses from Mayor Charuk and Trustee Giblin. They were incredibly professional and he was requested to give a detailed breakdown of the topics he wished to discuss them so they could better prepare to speak with him. Despite the fact he would have been satisfied with 15-20 minutes of their time, both of them gave him nearly an hour of their time to discuss in detail the concerns he had. They were on different topics and different matters also part of the matter was that he wished to get to know each of you because he is a member of this Village for twelve years and he would like to understand what they do. He is mostly disappointed that from the other three Trustees he did not get a projection even and received no response and his message sits unread. He did reach out and ask before he emailed if that would be an appropriate means of doing so to the members of the Board who remained quiet in this room at the last meeting and he was told that was the most appropriate way to schedule such a meeting. There is not a lot being said in these public meetings or the working sessions. He wants to gets a chance to know their thought processes and would genuinely like to understand the choices they are making together. He did not want to have the conversation in this way, he was hoping they would respect him as someone who has never broken the decorum of this room. He has never said anything rude and he has been respectful at all times and he thought he merited at least a rejection on that basis and it hurts quite a bit that he did not get a response. He believes he invited them all to his house and he was going to cook them dinner. He thanked the Board.

Ms. Kane – spoke regarding the ICE resolution. She said there was no tickets. The facts show it was a false report. Wants the Board to look into it.

Jeremy was a registered republican for over ten years. He has been here for about ten years and is a transplant from Long Island. In high school he was in the junior's program in the local fire dept at which his father was a member. Some of his uncles and cousins are members of the police departments up and down the east coast. He brought this up to show so everyone in the room understands he is not some bleeding heart, but that his background shows the common ground between the Trustees and himself. He has been a member of the American workforce for 21 years. His first manager told him that she will always be clear and concise about what she is expecting. She said when an employer is vague with a worker's expectations or responsibilities, they are doing so with intent of exploiting that worker by putting more and more on their plate hoping they won't know how wrong or disrespectful that is. Everyone in that room, who has ever had a job working for another human being understands and shares that mindset. To his surprise when Resolution 27 defining the responsibilities and expectation of our local enforcement officers was shut down. By shutting it down, the Board has chosen instead to keep the responsibilities of our men and women in uniform vague. They have chosen that more responsibilities can be thrust upon the officers on a whim. They are going to have to suck it up buttercup. Even worse, they didn't even vote no. They wanted their no vote to be implied, not outright stated because if something were to happen, they could put any officer involved to say that wasn't their responsibility and they should've known better. It absolves the Board of any responsibility if the worst were to happen you would rather our officers be scapegoats and telling them they must fall on the grenade of big government as long as it means you are covered. This is not supporting local law enforcement; this is not supporting small government ideals. This is not encouraging traditional expectations that our nation has had for local law enforcement for longer than we have all been alive. It is not even the fiscally responsible thing to do because if the worst happened, the expected cost of a civil settlement that would have to covered by the Johnson City taxpayer would be greater than the \$0 that it costs for a preventative resolution that codifies expectations and responsibilities. The Trustees acted like Republicans

in name only who claim to unscrupulous charlatans who could not care much for our brothers and sisters in blue. Meek and obedient, you followed your leader and our local law enforcers should deserve better.

Lin Perry, *Bernice St* – she stated she is here with her son who is a recent graduate of the University of Albany. He is fifth generation in Johnson City and she is the fourth. Her family came to Johnson City and was the first EJ house on Dewitt Street. She is an independent voter. She really wants to see from her Village; she wants to see progress not on party lines. She sees so much divisiveness here. She actually heard the former mayor say to someone in the front row I'll see you outside. That is not what she wants to see. She wants to see people getting along. She knows people have things they want to say. She has respect for all the Trustees and thanked them for their service. She wants to see progress, she thinks it's great we have new people here that are speaking out. She thinks it is important we have more people here. She would like to see younger people here. She sees so many people that are her sons age that move out the Village and never come back. We want to find ways to attract them to come back so they are part of our future.

Mayor Charuk thanked everyone for their engagement and gave a statement which is follows:

We were elected to serve all the people of Johnson City and they take that seriously. She wants to be clear that every day since taking office, she has watched our local police officers do more than just enforce. They serve as social workers, counsellors, problem solvers. They are the ones who show up in moments of crisis and they are still the ones who will patiently help a cold, frustrated, scared middle-aged lady who locked her keys in her car. That is what community policing looks like. She has also had conversations with some of our school children right here in the district who have asked her very directly, what she is going to do to protect them and their friends. They weren't asking about politics, they were just asking about safety, trust and building community. So, her position is really clear, our police serve and protect our people here and this government exists to serve and protect the people here.

Mayor Charuk closed the privilege of the floor.

COMMUNICATIONS

A motion to accept and file the following Communications was made by Trustee Giblin and seconded by Trustee Walker. The motion carried with all those present voting in the affirmative.

[1] Correspondence from Ty Fish, owner of 92 Crocker Avenue regarding forgiveness of water bill penalty.

COMMITTEE AND BOARD REPORTS

A motion to accept and file the following Committee and Board Reports was made by Trustee Walker and seconded by Trustee Thorn. The motion carried with all those present voting in the affirmative.

[1] Joint Sewage Treatment Board reports for December 31, 2025

[2] Interim Superintendents report for January JSTP Board meeting

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

A motion to accept and file the following Department Reports was made by Trustee Walker and seconded by Trustee Jacyna. The motion carried with all those present voting in the affirmative.

[1] Fire Department Overtime Report for January 29, 2026 – February 11, 2026

PAYROLL AND BILLS PRESENTED

A motion to approve Abstract #14 of the 2025-2026 Fiscal bills as stated and/or amended, and attached to the work session minutes and recorded as part of the work session minutes, having been audited by the Board and approved with the amendments, was made by Trustee Giblin and seconded by Trustee Thorn. The motion carried with all those present voting in the affirmative.

Motion Carried – Vote:

Ayes – 5 (Thorn, Jacyna, Giblin, Walker, Charuk) Nays – 0 Absent – 0

GENERAL FUND	\$88,225.21
WATER FUND	\$41,451.79
SEWER FUND	\$2,656.41
REFUSE FUND	\$30,279.76
VARPUR	\$12,913.93
SPECIAL GRANT	\$11,213.72
DEBT SERVICE	\$0
CAPITAL	\$13,599.50

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A motion to untable Resolution 17 of 2026 was made by Trustee Giblin and seconded by Trustee Jacyna. The motion carried with all those present voting in the affirmative.

Resolution 17 of 2026

A motion to authorize the Mayor to sign a Personal Services Agreement with the Clerk/Treasurer in a form acceptable to counsel was made by Trustee Walker and seconded by Trustee Giblin.

Motion Carried – Vote:

Ayes – 5 (Thorn, Jacyna, Giblin, Walker, Charuk) Nays – 0 Absent – 0

Resolution 28 of 2026

A motion to approve the following resolution was made by Trustee Walker and seconded by Trustee Jacyna.

Motion Carried – Vote:

Ayes – 5 (Thorn, Jacyna, Giblin, Walker, Charuk) Nays – 0 Absent – 0

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CREATION OF AN EXPLORATORY COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SISTER CITY RELATIONSHIP WITH UZHGOROD, UKRAINE

WHEREAS, the Village of Johnson City recognizes the value of international municipal partnerships in fostering cultural exchange, educational collaboration, economic development, and mutual understanding among communities; and

WHEREAS, Sister City relationships promote people-to-people diplomacy, strengthen global awareness, and create opportunities for civic, academic, nonprofit, and business partnerships; and

WHEREAS, the City of Uzhhorod, Ukraine, is a historic regional center with strong cultural, educational, and civic institutions, and has demonstrated resilience, civic engagement, and a commitment to democratic values; and

WHEREAS, Johnson City has a longstanding tradition of welcoming diverse communities and supporting international engagement, education, and humanitarian cooperation; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board of Trustees wishes to explore the feasibility, benefits, and responsibilities associated with establishing a Sister City relationship prior to taking formal action;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board of Trustees of the Village of Johnson City hereby authorizes the creation of a **Sister City Exploratory Committee** for the purpose of examining the potential establishment of a Sister City relationship with Uzhhorod, Ukraine; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Exploratory Committee shall be advisory in nature and may include representatives from Village government, local educational institutions, nonprofit organizations, cultural organizations, business leaders, and community members, as deemed appropriate by the Mayor; and

1. Assessing the cultural, educational, civic, and economic benefits of a potential Sister City relationship;
2. Identifying potential partnership opportunities and community stakeholders;
3. Reviewing best practices and requirements associated with Sister City affiliations, including those recognized by Sister Cities International; and
4. Reporting findings and recommendations to the Village Board of Trustees within a reasonable timeframe; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the creation of this Exploratory Committee does not obligate the Village of Johnson City to enter into a formal Sister City agreement, nor does it authorize the expenditure of Village funds unless separately approved by the Board of Trustees

Resolution 29 of 2026

A motion to appoint Stacey Thomas to the position of full-time Clerk in Village Hall at the salary pursuant to the Administrative Support Unit Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective February 4th, 2026 contingent upon the passing of the required civil service test, successful completion of a background investigation and the required preemployment drug test was tabled at least until the next meeting by Trustee Walker to get further information.

NEW BUSINESS

FINANCE & RULES

Resolution 36 of 2026

Amended Bond Resolution for the Arch

Resolution 37 of 2026

Bond Resolution for Lincoln Avenue

Resolution 38 of 2026

Bond Resolution for Overbrook Road/Nelson Road

Discussion: Attorney Coughlin advised Resolutions 36, 37 and 38 were acting as placeholders. We were hoping the Board would receive updated bond resolutions. One is related to costs for the Arch, the other two are for planned construction projects for the year. The attorney who is assisting the Village's bond counsel is out on vacation, so we weren't able to get those for the meeting. Everyone will expect to see them on the next meeting.

A motion was to hold over Resolution 36, Resolution 37 and Resolution 38 was made by Trustee Walker and seconded by Trustee Jacyna.

Motion Carried – Vote:

Ayes – 5 (Thorn, Jacyna, Giblin, Walker, Charuk) Nays – 0 Absent – 0

Resolution 39 of 2026

A motion to appoint Pamela Meazler to the position of permanent part-time Clerk in Village Hall at the rate of \$16.00 per hour from line A1325.1-000, effective February 19, 2026 contingent upon final approval from Broome County Civil Service was made by Trustee Walker and seconded by Trustee Thorn.

Motion Carried – Vote:

Ayes – 5 (Thorn, Jacyna, Giblin, Walker, Charuk) Nays – 0 Absent – 0

Resolution 40 of 2026

A motion for waiver of water bill penalty in the amount of \$31.68 to Ty Fish, TCF Properties, owner of 92 Crocker Avenue was made by Trustee Jacyna and seconded by Trustee Giblin.

Motion Carried – Vote:

Ayes – 5 (Thorn, Jacyna, Giblin, Walker, Charuk) Nays – 0 Absent – 0

Resolution 44 of 2026

A motion to authorize the Director of Public Services to execute a Contract with Servpro for water mitigation for 243 Main Street, Old Village Hall was made by Trustee Walker and seconded by Trustee Giblin.

Motion Carried – Vote:

Ayes – 5 (Thorn, Jacyna, Giblin, Walker, Charuk) Nays – 0 Absent – 0

Discussion: Attorney Coughlin advised this is a new addition. There was a major water main break and as a result of that there is a resolution added to tonight’s Agenda.

PUBLIC SAFETY

FIRE – No new business

POLICE

Resolution 41 of 2026

Appoint Lou DePrez as a police officer with the Johnson City Police Department at the base starting salary as outlined in the collective bargaining agreement, to be effective March 5th, 2026, contingent upon the results of the background investigation, physical exam, psychological exam, and final approval from Broome County Civil Service was made by Trustee Walker and seconded by Trustee Jacyna.

Motion Carried – Vote:

Ayes – 5 (Thorn, Jacyna, Giblin, Walker, Charuk) Nays – 0 Absent – 0

Discussion: Chief Dodge stated Mr. DePrez came to the Village of Johnson City from Binghamton University where he was a recent graduate. He was an outstanding student and even a more outstanding student athlete and he shows the kind of character and integrity we have in the Johnson City Police and we are excited to bring him on board and he is excited to serve all the Johnson City families to come.

Mayor Charuk welcomed Mr. DePrez to the team.

PUBLIC WORKS – No new business

PLANNING, ZONING & CODE ENFORCEMENT

Resolution 42 of 2026

A motion to approve the following resolution was made by Trustee Walker and seconded by Trustee Jacyna.

Motion Carried – Vote:

Ayes – 5 (Thorn, Jacyna, Giblin, Walker, Charuk) Nays – 0 Absent – 0

Appoint Amanda Lamoree to the position of temporary part-time Clerk in Village Hall at the rate of \$16.00 per hour, out of line CD-1989-2-130, to be effective immediately, contingent on completion of a

background check and basic drug screening.

WHEREAS, the Village of Johnson City has been awarded a grant through the Local Government Records Management Improvement Fund (LGRMIF) and;

WHEREAS, these funds will be used to complete a records inventory at Village Hall;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Community Development Administrator is authorized to hire two (2) part-time Clerks to support the project, contingent on continued grant funding.

Discussion: Attorney Coughlin advised that this and the next resolution were created by a grant that the Village was awarded for local government records management improvement. Part of it is doing records inventory from all the old records they gracefully moved from Old Village Hall into this current Village Hall. Once the grant funding runs out, those positions could be eliminated. As of right now they will be unless more funding is found.

Resolution 43 of 2026

A motion to approve the following resolution was made by Trustee Jacyna and seconded by Trustee Giblin.

Motion Carried – Vote:

Ayes – 5 (Thorn, Jacyna, Giblin, Walker, Charuk)

Nays – 0 Absent – 0

Appoint Kathleen Voltz to the position of temporary part-time Clerk in Village Hall at the rate of \$16.00 per hour, out of line CD-1989-2-130, to be effective immediately, contingent on completion of a background check and basic drug screening.

WHEREAS, the Village of Johnson City has been awarded a grant through the Local Government Records Management Improvement Fund (LGRMIF) and;

WHEREAS, these funds will be used to complete a records inventory at Village Hall;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Community Development Administrator is authorized to hire two (2) part-time Clerks to support the project, contingent on continued grant funding.

JOINT SEWAGE TREATMENT BOARD – No new business

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Christina Charuk thanked all attendees for coming and adjourned the meeting at 8:32 pm.

Kim Cunningham
Village Clerk/Treasurer

Recordings of the Village Board meetings and work sessions are available for review through the Village Clerk/Treasurer’s Office.