



VILLAGE OF JOHNSON CITY
MUNICIPAL BUILDING
60 LESTER AVENUE, JOHNSON CITY, NY 13790
(607) 798-7861
www.villageofjc.com

Village Board

Christina Charuk, Mayor
Deputy Mayor John Walker

Trustee Clark Giblin

Trustee Mary Jacyna

Trustee Lori Thorn

Minutes of Budget Meeting #9 of the Johnson City Village Board held at 6:00pm on Monday, April 20, 2026 in the Village Hall Board Room, 60 Lester Avenue, Johnson City, New York

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, Clerk/Treasurer
Thomas Johnson Deputy Treasurer

Mayor Christina Charuk called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Charuk led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance and took roll call.

The Board discussed:

- Auction line for Police \$20,000.00
 - Deputy Johnson stated they usually get \$20,000 from auction items
 - Attorney Coughlin suggested leaving a line in capital if their plan is to purchase capital with it. It should be a zeroed-out line for now.
- Trustee Walker wants \$50,000.00 taken out of concrete and put towards the carousel.
 - Mayor responded No, the CDBG funds will pay for the carousel in November.
 - Attorney Coughlin added the Small Communities Grant will pay for the inspection of the carousel.
 - Mayor said it is possible Carousel Day will be operated without a carousel
 - Trustee Walker wants the \$50,000.00 out of concrete to be used for the debt.
- Trustee Walker suggested
 - \$10,000.00 taken out of the water plant improvements.
 - \$5,000.00 out of water and sewer meters, but we budget \$30,000.00.

Attorney Coughlin stated the majority of the time water meters get installed at the customer's expense. Rarely is it the Village's expense. If one needs to get used it is a way for us to pay for it. It should replenish itself to replace the stock with the revenue coming in from the sale of the water meter.

Deputy Johnson discussed:

- Capital accounts
- Revenue
 - Need to do upgrades to MCSJ to get Revenue codes

Attorney Coughlin there is \$35,000.00 in for water meters and there is no corresponding revenue line. It should be in capital because it is existing stock.

Trustee Walker questioned the Fire Hydrants and whether we spend \$20,000.00.

- Fund balance of \$1,900,000.00.
- Contingency lines
- Sales Tax Revenue
 - Will receive about \$1.5 million

The Board discussed:

- \$1.3 million unappropriated
- Mayor spoke with Judge Thomas regarding budget lines for trainings that are mandated that funds can't be taken away from.
 - Putting back about \$5,300
 - Bullet proof vest for bailiff
- For next year, start the budget process in January

Mayor advised for the 2026-2027 tax rate she suggests 5% tax levy generating \$582 which would leave \$1.3 million in unappropriated after cuts.

She spoke regarding:

- Hotel Occupancy Tax potential of \$400,000-\$500,000 in yearly revenue may be \$200,000.00
- Going to go ahead in negotiating some Service Contracts and Insurance.
 - IT could stand to be rebid
 - Board agreed to rebid
 - Plenty of options
 - Speed of fixing issues
- Sale of old Village Hall
- Suggested hiring freeze for Police and Fire.
 - Subject to review by the Board

Trustee Thorn said there are signs up for Water Employee. Do we need to replace the person retiring?

Attorney Coughlin stated \$350,000 plus cuts from original tentative budget with \$1.9 appropriated fund balance, still appropriating \$1.1 with the 5%. Levy will be \$349,000 over the cap.

Deputy Johnson said we have depleted \$200,000 of the fund balance. Expenses are running ahead of the revenues because there is stuff out there that hasn't come in yet.

We should get \$700,000 in taxes that were due to us on April 1st.

- Replacing retirees
- Vehicle Use Policy is ready to adopt at the next meeting

- Will affect gas
- GPS tracking
- Municipal protection
- Will affect DPW, Water and Code
- Form committees for monthly check-in for departments on actual needs so we will have a much better picture for next year
- Trustee Thorn said the money in the budget, can we put a freeze on spending for the rest of the year.
- Trustee Walker asked why are we paying in advance for security for Village Hall. Attorney Coughlin asked if we could get a monthly invoice. Change the billing to monthly and 45-60 days due.
- Limit credit card usage
- Limit conferences/trainings attending
- Procurement Policy
 - Attorney Coughlin sent it to the Board at the last meeting so the answer is to change the procurement policy. If the Board wants to change it to limit it and make it so more things need to come across the Board's plate if its over \$1,000.
 - Trustee Walker wants a more Board auditing for personal services, engineering studies, financial people, anything that has to do with professional services.
 - Attorney Coughlin advised professional services exemption they can be hired without bidding.

Conflicts of Interest

- Board should take a more active role on auditing those processes that are done by the department heads.
 - Whoever has discretionary authority
- Change Orders
 - Board approves
- We have made progress on those

Director of Public Services agreed to taking \$5,000.00-\$10,000.00 out of fire hydrants, but advised it does not affect the taxes.

Trustee Giblin is concerned about:

- Using as much surplus.
 - Attorney Coughlin will let him know there was progress made on that.
- Property Liability and auto insurance potential increase after high usage for this year as it relates to 243 Main Street costs because that will make the rates go up.

Board discussed:

- Grant Writer
- Equipment requested has all been moved to Capital.
- Meeting on April 28, 2026
- Ventrax – need mowing and brush for the plow
- Cut another \$100,000.00
 - The Board will go through one more time.
- Choconut Water District
- Cannabis Sales Tax
- Retiree numbers
- PBA is willing to discuss contract
- Mayor wants to have all departments around the table at once.

Attorney Coughlin suggested having the Board or Representatives of the Board work with the insurance company to come up with numbers we are all comfortable with then understand it and then sit down with the Department Heads. Attorney Coughlin said we can mandate apples to apples.

Executive Session #1

A motion to enter executive session to discuss contract negotiations at 8:07 pm was made by Trustee Jacyna and seconded by Trustee Thorn. The motion carried with all those present voting in the affirmative.

A motion to exit executive session at 8:26pm was made by Trustee Walker and seconded by Trustee Jacyna. The motion carried with all those present voting in the affirmative.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Trustee Walker and seconded by Trustee Jacyna at 8:26 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.