

**MINUTES
CITY OF JEFFERSON COMMON COUNCIL
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2026**

The Tuesday, May 19, 2026, meeting of the City of Jefferson Common Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Council President Tully. Members' present were: Ald. Pernat, Ald. Tully, Ald. Beyer, Ald. Stallman, Ald. Teeter, Ald. Neils and Ald. Mattke. Absent: Ald. Obernberger. Also present were: City Administrator Freitag, City Attorney Rogers, Public Works Director Clark, Police Chief Richter and City Clerk/Deputy Treasurer Copsey.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Chuck Gottchlock, 812 Jackson Ave., would like to thank everyone with the problem he had with a neighbor on his road.

Mayor Oppermann would like to have a moment of silence to honor Richard "Dick" Kassner for his dedication to the city.

**AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT AN AMENDMENT TO THE CITY OF JEFFERSON
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

(To be introduced for first reading by Ald. Neils.)

**CITY OF JEFFERSON
ORDINANCE NO. 7-26**

The City Council of the City of Jefferson, Wisconsin, does ordain as follows:

WHEREAS, pursuant to sections 61.35 and 62.23(2) and (3) of Wisconsin Statutes, the City of Jefferson is authorized to prepare and adopt a comprehensive plan as defined in sections 66.1001(1)(a) and 66.1001(2) of the Wisconsin Statutes; and

WHEREAS, the City Council adopted its comprehensive plan in 2020 entitled "City of Jefferson Comprehensive Plan"; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with §66.1001(4)(a), Wisconsin Statutes, the City Council has further adopted the "Public Participation Procedures for Amendments to the Comprehensive Plan," which establishes formal procedures to ensure meaningful public involvement in the consideration and adoption of amendments to the Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Plan Commission of the City of Jefferson, by a majority vote of the entire Commission recorded in its official minutes, has adopted a resolution recommending to the City Council the adoption of an amendment to the Future Land Use Map (Map 6a and 6b) which involves changing the land use designation for one parcel. The proposed amendment to the map is described in a map provided, copies of which are attached hereto and incorporated by reference herein as Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, the City of Jefferson has, in compliance with the requirements of section 66.1001(4)(d) of the Wisconsin Statutes, provided opportunities for public involvement per its adopted public participation plan; and

WHEREAS, the City Council held a public hearing on the proposed amendment on June 2, 2026, considered the public comments made and the recommendations of the Plan Commission and staff, and has determined to approve the recommended amendment.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of Jefferson, Wisconsin, does ordain that the proposed amendment is hereby adopted as an amendment to the City's Comprehensive Plan pursuant to section 66.1001(4)(c) of Wisconsin Statutes.

AN ORDINANCE TO CLARIFY WHAT TYPES OF ACTIVITIES MAY BE ALLOWED IN MEDIUM INDUSTRIAL ZONE WITHIN THE CITY OF JEFFERSON, WISCONSIN

(To be introduced for first reading by Ald. Stallman.)

**CITY OF JEFFERSON
ORDINANCE NO. 8-26**

WHEREAS, the City of Jefferson (the City) has adopted a zoning code that regulates the type of activities that may be permitted in a given zoning area; and

WHEREAS, a question has arisen whether the production of certain food products is permitted in a Medium Industrial (MI) zone within the City; and

WHEREAS, the City wishes to clarify that it is the intent of the City that the production of certain food products are in fact permitted within the City's MI zoning districts.

NOW THEREFORE, the Common Council for the City of Jefferson, Wisconsin does hereby ordain as follows:

- 1) §300-3.14(E)(1) is hereby repealed in its entirety.
- 2) §300-3.14(E)(1) shall be replaced as set forth below.

Any business whose principal activity is the growing, production, or wholesaling of food products that are either grown or stored on-site or shipped to the site for indoor production purposes. This land use also includes the following activities: the seasonal display of plants and related products outdoors; the farming of aquatic plants and animals under controlled conditions utilizing recirculating (closed) system technology; and aquaponics, which is the symbiotic cultivation of plants and aquatic organisms in a recirculating system. On site production of dairy products (including cheese) is permitted. This land use does not include Heavy Industrial uses (Section 300.03.14(B)) such as slaughterhouses or other related production uses that may have industrial activities occurring

outdoors, the potential to create certain nuisances which are detectable at the property line or may involve materials which pose a significant safety hazard.

3) §300-3.14(E)(2)(c) is hereby repealed in its entirety.

4) §300-3.14(E)(2)(c) shall be replaced as set forth below.

On-site processing of seafood and food fermentation is permitted; provided the activity is conducted entirely within an enclosed building and no odors are detectable from the property line.

This ordinance shall be effective on the date after its enactment and publication as required by law.

CONSENT AGENDA

(To be introduced by Ald. Teeter.)

CITY OF JEFFERSON RESOLUTION NO. 9

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Common Council of the City of Jefferson, Wisconsin that the consent agenda for May 19, 2026, is hereby adopted.

- A. Vouchers Payable for May Payables in the amount of \$465,282.20. Payroll Summary for May 15, 2026, amount of \$221,152.99.
- B. Council Minutes from May 5, 2026, of the Common Council.
- C. Licenses as Approved by the Regulatory Committee:
 - 1. Operator's Licenses.
 - 2. Closure of Right-of-Way- Jefferson's Best Dam Art Fair- Saturday, June 20, 2026.
 - 3. Temporary Class B- County Line Vans "Van-A-Mega-Mania"- Jefferson County Fairgrounds, June 18-21, 2026.
 - 4. Temporary Class B- Jefferson Live Music Foundation- Concerts in the Park- Rotary Park.
 - 5. Sales of Goods in the ROW- Jefferson Live Music Foundation- Concerts in the Park- Rotary Park.

Mayor Oppermann asked what streets were going to be closed for the Jefferson's Best Dam Art Fair, Chief Richter stated part of the 100 block of E. Milwaukee Street and part of the City Center Parking Lot between Herbies Bar and Awaken Salon and Spa.

Ald. Teeter, seconded by Ald. Beyer, moved to approve Resolution No. 9. On call of the roll, Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CHANGES TO THE CITY OF JEFFERSON FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

(To be introduced by Ald. Tully.)

**CITY OF JEFFERSON
RESOLUTION NO. 10**

WHEREAS, the City of Jefferson Urban Area (UA) was designated by the 2020 US Census; and

WHEREAS, the Urban Area Boundary was adjusted and approved by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA); and

WHEREAS, functional classification is the method by which roads and streets are categorized based on the levels of mobility and access they provide; and

WHEREAS, functional classification of a road or street has a bearing on federal transportation funding eligibility, and

WHEREAS, FHWA and WisDOT have developed guidance for functional classification of roads and streets; and

WHEREAS, WisDOT periodically reviews and updates to the functional classification system of roads and streets throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, these recommended functional classification changes were developed through joint review by UA officials and WisDOT planning staff; and

WHEREAS, these recommended changes have been reviewed by the City of Jefferson Common Council; and

WHEREAS, documents showing the recommended changes are attached; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation will, after local approval of the recommended FC changes, approve the changes and submit them to FHWA for final approval; and

WHEREAS, the approved final FC map will be made available to the City of Jefferson after FHWA final approval; and

WHEREAS, the new functional classifications will supersede the existing functional classifications in the urban area;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that City of Jefferson Common Council hereby approves all recommended functional classifications.

Ald. Tully, seconded by Ald. Neils moved to approve Resolution No. 10. On call of the roll, motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION APPROVING SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION FUNDING SOLUTIONS

(To be introduced by Ald. Beyer.)

**CITY OF JEFFERSON
RESOLUTION NO. 11**

WHEREAS, local units of government in Wisconsin own and maintain approximately 90% of the public road miles in the state, including city and village streets, county highways, and town roads; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's economy—rooted in manufacturing, agriculture, and tourism—relies on a safe, reliable, and well-maintained transportation network; and

WHEREAS, local governments greatly appreciate the one-time infusions of General-Purpose Revenue, primarily sales and income taxes, and other revenue provided in recent state budgets, which have enabled the initiation and continuation of the successful and popular Local Roads Improvement Program Supplemental (LRIP-S); and

WHEREAS, despite modest increases from the state over the years, transportation aids to local governments remain insufficient to keep pace with inflation and rising construction costs, leaving many communities funded below 2000 levels in real dollars; and

WHEREAS, local governments throughout Wisconsin continue to struggle to perform even routine maintenance, pavement preservation, and safety improvements, resulting in deteriorating roads and bridges; and

WHEREAS, the inaugural inventory and assessment of small bridges between 6 to 20 feet found about 10% of the nearly 17,000 structures to be in poor or severe condition; and

WHEREAS, levy limits and other fiscal constraints prevent local governments from independently filling the funding gap created by inadequate state transportation aids; and

WHEREAS, absent sustainable state funding, many communities have been forced to address their shortfalls by significantly increasing borrowing, deferring essential projects, or imposing local vehicle registration ("wheel") taxes; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin motorists currently pay among the lowest transportation user fees in the Midwest, while neighboring states and dozens of others nationwide have enacted long-term revenue measures to keep their transportation systems competitive; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin is increasingly relying on General Purpose Revenues to make needed investments, potentially pitting transportation against other vital services, such as education; and

WHEREAS, continued lack of growing, dedicated, and predictable revenue places Wisconsin at a growing economic disadvantage by threatening the efficiency of freight movement, the safety of travelers, and the attractiveness of our state to businesses and residents; and

WHEREAS, both Wisconsin's aging Interstate highway system—largely constructed in the 1950s and 1960s—and our extensive network of state and local roads require predictable, adequate, and sustainable

funding to meet current and future needs;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Jefferson Common Council strongly urges the Governor of Wisconsin and the State Legislature to enact a comprehensive, sustainable transportation funding solution that:

1. Provides adequate and reliable revenue growth for the efficient long-term planning and execution of state and local transportation programs;
2. Includes responsible and prudent use of General-Purpose Revenue and bonding;
3. Adjusts any new and existing transportation user fees and other revenue mechanisms to sustain purchasing power in order to maintain and improve Wisconsin's transportation infrastructure; and
4. Ensures transportation continues to deliver for Wisconsin by adequately funding reconstruction, preservation, and safety investments on the state and local systems.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the clerk is hereby directed to transmit a copy of this resolution to the Governor's office, all members of the Wisconsin State Senate and Assembly representing districts within City, and the League of Wisconsin Municipalities.

Ald. Beyer, seconded by Ald. Stallman moved to approve Resolution No. 11. On call of the roll, motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DESIGNATION OF GENERAL FUND BALANCE AND REALLOCATION TO THE CAPITAL PROJECT FUND AND TAXI FUND

(To be introduced by Ald. Mattke.)

**CITY OF JEFFERSON
RESOLUTION NO. 12**

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Common Council of the City of Jefferson, Wisconsin that it herein authorizes the City Administrator to make the following adjustment to the FY 2025 Operating Budget:

*Allocate \$125,000 of General Fund fund balance to the Taxi Fund to eliminate the negative fund balance caused by the ongoing underfunded operations of the taxi program in Jefferson.

*Allocate \$450,000 of General Fund fund balance to the Capital Project Fund for the Council adopted 2026 Budget expenditures that were formerly earmarked for a debt issuance.

Ald. Mattke, seconded by Ald. Tully moved to approve Resolution No. 12. On call of the roll, motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Pernat, seconded by Ald. Stallman moved to adjourn the Jefferson Common Council Meeting at 7:24 p.m., carried unanimously on a voice vote.