

Regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Brockport was held in the Village Court Conference Room 49 State Street Brockport, New York, March 5, 2018 at 7:00pm.

PRESENT: Mayor Margaret B. Blackman, Trustee/Deputy Mayor William G. Andrews, Trustee Annette M. Crane, Trustee Katherine J. Kristansen, Clerk Leslie Ann Morelli

EXCUSED: Trustee John D. LaPierre

ALSO PRESENT: Ute Duncan, Joan Hamlin, Fred Webster

CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE: Mayor Blackman called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOMENT OF SILENCE: to honor those who serve our Country, enforce our laws, & respond to emergencies

MISSION STATEMENT: "To provide a high quality of life for all residents, exercising fiscal responsibility and preserving Brockport's unique heritage and historic character."

BROCKPORT HISTORICAL MOMENT: Trustee/Deputy Mayor Andrews shared the following:

The local militia unit was one of the most important organizations in early Brockport. Under state law, all able-bodied men, ages 21 to 45, were required to belong. Exceptions were made for members of the fire companies. Others were exempt after ten years service.

The post of commander of the unit was among the most prestigious in the community. Among the men who served in that position were Frederick Willkie, son-in-law of Hiel Brockway; Robert Staples, who was elected Supervisor of the Town of Sweden eleven times, more than any other man and served in the State Assembly; and Davis Carpenter, another of Brockway's many sons-in-law, physician, and future congressman.

Militias were required by law to train at least one day a year. Company drills were held in June and general training in the fall, lasting from 9 am until 6 pm. The latter event seems to have been one of the highlights of the year in Brockport. An early Brockporter has left this description:

"General Training was by far the greatest event of all. The screeching fifes, and rattling tenor and booming bass drums, made music that surpassed anything I have ever heard since...Battalion after battalion was drawn up in grand array. The commanding officers, with cocked hats, gilt epaulettes, buckskin gloves and red sashes, galloped up and down the line on richly caparisoned horses. After much time thus spent...the stentorian voice of the commanding General [ordered] 'Bat-tal-ion to the right!' The martial band struck up 'The Girl I Left Behind Me'; the horses pranced and the grand march began. I was fairly lifted from my feet."

Another account is less ecstatic:

"Guns were used, but only such as each soldier possessed. There were consequently a great variety, which were without doubt in all conditions—good, bad and indifferent. Toward the end of the militia's existence some who had no guns appeared with sticks such as they could secure and which would be apt to make the whole affair most ridiculous. No one except officers wore uniforms, and in the latter days the soldiers appeared in the most ridiculous costumes they could procure, making the parades a sort of fantastic drills."

Another critic described the decline of the militias this way:

[Their] "trainings were mere farces, so that they gradually fell into contempt, and finally into disuse.... Military organizations were not held in esteem; money and time expended in equipment and drill were considered thrown away; the fines imposed were insignificant in amount, and even these were seldom collected...."

The last company drill was held in Brockport in 1840 or 1841. Thereafter, the militia system was replaced by the National Guard, formed of recruits who were paid and organized in a much more professional way. The basic militia legislation remained in effect, permitting the conscription of all able-bodied men in time of war or insurrection. In fact, this was the basis of the mobilization of the Union Army in the Civil War. At that time, the National Guard consisted of 19,435 officers and men and the unorganized militia, subject to conscription, numbered 450,000 men.

OATH OF OFFICE: none

CERTIFICATES & PROCLAMATIONS: none

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- Consider proposed Local Laws of 2018:
 - o authorize real property tax exemption "Gold Star Parent Exemption"
 - o make permanent real property tax exemption "Cold War Veterans Exemption"

**VILLAGE OF BROCKPORT
Notice of Public Hearing**

Please take notice that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Brockport will hold a **public hearing beginning at 7:00 pm on Monday, March 5, 2018**, at Village Court 49 State Street, Brockport, NY 14420 to consider proposed Local Laws of 2018 as follows:

- To authorize real property tax exemption: "Gold Star Parent Exemption" which per Section 458-a of the Real Property Tax Law authorizes a limited exemption from real property taxes for real property owned by "Gold Star Parents," parents of a child who died in the line of duty while serving in the United States Armed Forces during a period of war.
- To make permanent real property tax exemption: "Cold War Veterans Exemption" which per Section 458-b of the Real Property Tax Law authorizes a limited exemption from real property taxes for real property owned by persons who rendered military service to the United States during the Cold War (September 2, 1945 to December 26, 1991).
 - o Note – this exemption was adopted by the Village of Brockport as Local Law #9 of 2008 and is set to expire after 10 years unless made permanent.

All interested parties will be given the opportunity to be heard.

By Order of the Brockport Village Board February 5, 2018.

Leslie Ann Morelli
Village Clerk
Village of Brockport

Dated: 2/6/18

For publication in Suburban News and posting on Village website and at Village Hall.

→ At 7:04pm Trustee Crane moved, Trustee Andrews seconded, carried 4/0 to close the regular meeting and open the public hearing.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Ute Duncan of Brook Terrace asked how one would apply for the exemption.

Clerk Morelli said through the Town of Sweden Assessor.

- Joan Hamlin of Park Avenue asked if the Gold Star Parent exemption includes the Cold War timeframe.

Clerk Morelli said the information she was provided did not specify. It is per Section 458-a of the New York State Real Property Tax Law.

→ At 7:06pm Trustee Crane moved, Trustee Andrews seconded, carried 4/0 to close the public hearing and re-open the regular meeting.

Clerk Morelli reminded that the Village Board has 62 days from the close of the public hearing to render a decision as to adoption of the local law. However, since the Village was not notified by the Town Assessor of this until January 30th, it is somewhat time-sensitive and she recommends a decision this evening. Then she can apprise the Town Assessor and file it with NYS DOS, then post filing receipt and notify General Code.

→ Trustee Kristansen moved, Trustee Crane seconded, carried 4/0 to enact Local Law No. 1 & 2 – 2018 as follows:

**VILLAGE OF BROCKPORT
RESOLUTION TO ENACT LOCAL LAW NO. 1 & 2 - 2018**

WHEREAS a public hearing was held the 5th day of March 2018 by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Brockport, notice of which was given as required by the Municipal Home Rule Law, the Open Meetings Law and the Village Law of the State of New York;

WHEREAS at said public hearing the Board of Trustees considered the enactment of proposed Local Law No. 1-2018, entitled A LOCAL LAW TO AUTHORIZE REAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION: "GOLD STAR PARENT EXEMPTION" PER SECTION 458-a OF THE REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW and proposed Local Law No. 2-2018, entitled A LOCAL LAW TO MAKE PERMANENT REAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION: "COLD WAR VETERANS EXEMPTION" PER SECTION 458-b OF THE REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW and to incorporate those into the CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF BROCKPORT; and

WHEREAS all interested persons were given an opportunity to be heard with respect to the enactment of said local law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Local Law No. 1 and 2-2018 be enacted.

By Order of the Brockport Village Board March 5, 2018.

PUBLIC COMMENT: none

GUESTS: none

CONSENSUS ITEMS:

- **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

→ Trustee Andrews moved, Trustee Kristansen seconded, 4/0 that the minutes of the 2/5/18 meeting be approved as amended.

→ Trustee Andrews moved, Trustee Kristansen seconded, Trustee Crane abstained as she was absent, carried 3/0/1 that the minutes of the 2/26/18 meeting be approved as written.

- **APPROVAL OF BILLS TO BE PAID**

→ Trustee Crane moved, Trustee Kristansen seconded, carried 4/0 that the bills be allowed and paid upon audit.

A/P Clearing Account

	<u>Abstract Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>	
FUND (A): <u>General</u>	3/5/18	\$109,031.79	
FUND (F): <u>Water</u>	3/5/18	\$53,159.17	
FUND (G): <u>Sewer</u>	-	-	
FUND (H): <u>Capital</u>	-	-	
FUND (T): <u>Trust & Agency</u>	-	-	
			\$162,190.96 total

CLERK REPORT: Clerk – Leslie Ann Morelli

- o FYI – Camp Abilities 5K walk/run/roll/race 4/15/18 – new route – no Village streets involved – Clerk Morelli reminded the Board that one of the guests at the 2/5/18 meeting proposed this race on Village Streets and part of Main Street, a NYS route. The organizers then met and came up with a different route. It turns out the new route does not involve any Village streets. Therefore, no Village Board action is needed.

- **PERSONNEL ITEMS:**

- o Zoning Board of Appeals – accept resignation of Eileen Ryerse effective 5/31/17 –

→ Trustee Kristansen moved, Trustee Crane seconded, carried 4/0 to accept with regret the resignation of Eileen Ryerse from the Zoning Board of Appeals effective 5/31/17, due to moving, with thanks for her service since July 2015.

- o E.L.K. Museum volunteers – drops & adds to roster – Clerk Morelli shared that per Head Volunteer Sue Savard, a couple of inactive volunteers wish to be dropped from the roster. Also, a position interest form was submitted by Maggie LaPierre to be added to the roster.

→ Trustee Crane moved, Trustee Andrews seconded, carried 4/0 to approve the following changes to the E.L.K. Museum volunteer roster: drop Ann Butler, Norm Frisch, Kimberly Taylor and add Maggie LaPierre.

- Authorize hire of Scott R. Korn as Police Officer – transfer from Binghamton – pending Civil Service – Trustee Kristansen shared that Lt. (soon to be Chief) Cuzzupoli will soon be bringing before the Board his recommendation to promote one of the current Sergeants to Lt. and one of the current officers to Sergeant. This creates an Officer vacancy. She shared that she participated in the interviews and that S. Korn is the recommended hire. He is moving here to be closer to family. She said he excelled in the interview process matching his impressive paperwork and is confident he will be an asset to the Brockport Police Department.

Mayor Blackman said this hiring is a transfer as opposed to having to put a new hire through the Police Academy. Clerk Morelli said Lt. Cuzzupoli has submitted the transfer paperwork to Monroe County Civil Service whose Commission meets this Thursday. They expect an easy approval. Then start date can be determined.

→ Trustee Kristansen moved, Trustee Crane seconded, carried 4/0 to hire Scott R. Korn as a full time Police Officer, transferring from the City of Binghamton Police Department, pending final approval of Monroe County Civil Service.

- **OLD or NEW BUSINESS:**

- Treasurer's update regarding budget development (none) -
- Proposed amendments to Village Code Chapter 43: Signs & Billboards – call for public hearing – Mayor Blackman referred to the proposal in the packet. Trustee Kristansen commended the Code Review Committee and Village Attorney for their due diligence on recommending changes to this section of the Village Code. It has been a long time in the making with many drafts along the way. Mayor Blackman said she knows they really wrestled with it.

→ Trustee Kristansen moved, Trustee Crane seconded, carried 4/0 to schedule a public hearing for April 16, 2018, when the entire Village Board and Village Attorney will be in attendance, as follows:

VILLAGE OF BROCKPORT
Notice of Public Hearing

Please take notice that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Brockport will hold a **public hearing beginning at 7:00 pm on Monday, 4/16/18** at Village Court 49 State Street, Brockport, NY 14420 to consider proposed Local Law of 2018 to amend Brockport Village Code Chapter 43: Signs & Billboards.

Text of the proposed local law is available for public inspection during normal business hours at the Village Clerk's office and is on the Village website at www.brockportny.org.

All interested parties will be given the opportunity to be heard.

By Order of the Brockport Village Board

Leslie Ann Morelli
Brockport Village Clerk

Dated: 3/5/18

For publication in Suburban News and posting on Village website and at Village Hall.

- Declare surplus and authorize for sale on Auctions International – old P.A. system in court/conference room –

→ Mayor Blackman moved, Trustee Kristansen seconded, carried 4/0 to declare surplus and authorize DPW Spt. Donahue to list the old P.A. system on Auctions International.

- Authorize replacement of Bobcat Track Loader for DPW (trade in program) – Mayor Blackman referred to the proposal in the packet. The bottom line of the quote is \$6,360. Trustee Crane said this is the current fiscal year budget and would come from the sewer fund.

→ Trustee Kristansen moved, Trustee Crane seconded, carried 4/0 to approve the replacement of the Bobcat Track Loader (trade in program) and authorize the Mayor to sign the proposal.

- Authorize replacement of Caterpillar 938M for DPW (trade in program) – Mayor Blackman referred to the proposal in the packet. The bottom line of the quote is \$10,175. Trustee Crane said this is the current fiscal year budget and would come from the water fund.

→ Trustee Kristansen moved, Trustee Crane seconded, carried 4/0 to approve the replacement of the

Caterpillar 938M (trade in program) and authorize the Mayor to sign the proposal.

Trustee Kristansen said these are good programs and commended DPW Spt. Donahue for his efforts to be frugal with taxpayer money and keeping equipment up to date.

- o Comprehensive Plan – resolution for outside consultant and authorization to issue an RFP – Trustee Kristansen said the Village has been looking for ways to fund a comprehensive plan for some time having determined it needed its own apart from the joint Town of Sweden/Village of Brockport plan. Expertise is needed by an outside consultant specializing in such. Having a comprehensive plan can open the door to many other grant opportunities. The estimated cost is \$45,000 or \$50,000. It would be more if the Village weren't going to do a good deal of the legwork. For example, some work by the Housing Task Force and Code Review Committee. Surveys of the community will be involved and an idea is to host community socials in each of the 9 Village parks to discuss the importance of a comprehensive plan and hand out surveys to be completed.

Trustee Andrews recalled working toward meeting various criteria regarding clean energy that was to have secured \$50,000 in funding. Mayor Blackman said that \$50,000 in funding will be available, but it turns out not for use in developing a comprehensive plan.

→ Trustee Kristansen moved, Trustee Crane seconded, carried 4/0 via roll call to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Brockport Village Board of Trustees, in anticipation of the development of a Village Comprehensive Plan, does hereby authorize the development and issuance of an RFP (request for proposals) for an outside consultant to guide the Village through the planning process, conducting an analysis and community outreach (public meetings and surveys), and providing an implementable plan at the end of a 10 to 12 month process

Note for the record:

Village Board contact is Trustee Katherine Kristansen
Village Office contact is Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Erica Linden

RFP Notice

The Village of Brockport is issuing a Request for Proposals (RFP) for Planning Consultant Services to spearhead the development of a Village Comprehensive Plan. Proposals must be received at the Village Hall, 127 Main Street, Brockport, NY, 14420, no later than noon on Wednesday, April 11th, 2018. Full specifications for the RFP available at www.brockportny.org. Direct any questions to Erica Linden at elinden@brockportny.org or (585) 637-5300 x110.

- o Monroe County Sales Tax distribution for 4th Quarter 2017 – Mayor Blackman referred to the letter in the packet that the Village's share of the 4th quarter 2017 sales tax receipts is \$443,137.86. This compares to \$423,193.14 distributed for the same quarter in 2016.

- o Grants – NYS JCAP awarded Village \$22,894.37 for court – surveillance, alarms, furnishings – Mayor Blackman referred to the letter in the packet that the NYS Unified Court System has awarded the Village a grant under the 2017 JCAP (Justice Court Assistance Program). This almost \$23,000 is for security systems and furnishings for the Brockport Village Court.

- o NYMIR subscriber share of underwriting earnings – NYMIR returned the operating reserve funds at the recent NYCOM legislative conference and presented Mayor Blackman and Trustee Crane with a check for \$272 of the reserve return for 2016.

- o 2018 NYCOM Legislative conference report – Mayor Blackman & Trustee Crane –

SUMMARY

Trustee Annie Crane and Mayor Margay Blackman attended the annual Albany meeting which provided informative "Solution Sessions", Policy Committee Meetings, and A Briefing on the Proposed State Budget along with Speeches by Comptroller DiNapoli, Senate Majority Leader Flanagan, and Lt. Governor Kathy Hochul. We were guests at a reception hosted by Governor Andrew Cuomo at the Governor's mansion. Tuesday morning, we met with Canal Corporation Officials re a public meeting in Brockport. Our visit concluded with a trip to the state capitol to speak with Assembly leader Joe Morelle about Aid to SUNY municipalities with 4-year SUNY Residential Institutions (Bills A01920, S3967).

Having two members of the board attend the conference greatly increased what we could take in as all sessions had simultaneous presentations.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON

Policy Committee Meetings—these are a new initiative by NYCOM. Committees will meet at least twice more during the year.

Mayor Blackman was one of nine mayors appointed to the Community Revitalization Policy Committee and attended that session. Discussion centered around downtown revitalization grants (10 grants of \$10 million to one community in each of the regional areas) and vacant and abandoned properties. Communities reported their experience and progress in dealing with vacant properties.

Trustee Crane sat in on the Energy and Environment Committee meeting. Most of the meeting was taken up discussing Telecom “Small Cell” technology, which will be coming our way with 5G (G just stands for generation) networks. They will eventually be backed up by optical fiber networks and replacing cell towers. This was also the topic of a session she attended Monday afternoon. See below.

Also mentioned briefly in the Energy and Environment Committee meeting:

- Environmental Protection fund—good legislation
- Brownfield Opportunity Area Reforms—good legislation.
- CCAs- bill to authorize all Cities, Towns and Villages to participate in community Choice Aggregation
- Clean Water Bond Act—good legislation.
- DEC monitoring of water contamination. Governor’s initiative, will help fight toxic algal blooms in the Finger Lakes, source of drinking water for much of Central New York and Rochester...
- Net Neutrality being addressed on state level.

MONDAY MORNING

Briefing on the 2018-19 budget. Barbara Van Epps, Deputy Director of NYCOM

The five-page handout, included with this report, summarizes the key budget proposals impacting cities and villages. The NYS proposed budget is \$168 billion. Some highlighted notes follow.

- AIM Funding—again, this is NYCOM’s greatest priority; there has been no increase in 10 years. By comparison the increase in school aid is greater than the entire AIM budget for municipalities.
- Countywide Shared Services Property Tax Savings Plan. NYCOM does not believe it this should be a permanent requirement.
- NYCOM supports ending the sales tax exemption on ESCOs; that would increase local tax revenue
- Small Cell Deployment—this has to do with the installation of wireless facilities in the ROW (e.g. on utility poles). This is potentially problematic, giving wireless unfettered access to utility poles. Rates would come way down. Takes away local control; should not be negotiated in the budget.
- Code Enforcement Expansion. This is another unfunded mandate.
- Financial Disclosure. NYCOM believes this is unnecessary
- Expansion of State’s MWBE (Minority and Women Business Enterprises). NYCOM is not opposed but at certain times and in certain places it would be impossible to comply.
- Require Internet sales tax collection. Would provide increased local sales tax revenue. (And it would take away an unfair advantage internet sales have over local businesses.)
- Eliminate sales tax exemption for ESCOs. Again, provide increased local sales tax revenue.
- Superpower language-enables Governor to singlehandedly reduce local assistance if federal funding is reduced. General feeling is this should not be done without legislative input.

Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli

Update on the NYS economy

- The budget gap due to looming cuts to federal programs that help states is projected to be \$4 Billion for NYS.
- 850,000 private sector jobs have been added in the last year, most of them in the 5 boroughs. 90% of job growth is downstate. There are great regional differences.
- Sales tax collection: \$16 billion, an increase of 3.9% over 2016. 4th quarter of 2017 marked an increase of 5.7%
- Finger Lakes region had the greatest increase in sales tax at 4.9%
- 18% of the NYS revenue comes from Wall Street

Senate Majority Leader John Flanagan

- Told us to “take comfort in no cuts to AIM funding”.
- Offended many from the Finger Lakes region with a snide comment about algal blooms.
- Also, didn’t like Governor’s Rochester Waterway Grant.

Monday Solution Sessions

Health Insurance: Generating REAL savings from Shared Services (Annie)

Session was about forming health care cooperatives with other municipalities. Presented by Dept. of Financial Services. Something was said at the Budget Briefing indicating that this might be useful. Municipalities of any size can join a cooperative. (100 employee minimum turns out to be a myth, DFS could not find it in any regulations.) But, the cooperative is required to have at least 2000 policy holders (employees and retirees, dependents don't count) total. It is essentially self-insurance. We would need to have at least 25% of expected claims in reserve funds. May require stop-loss insurance. Cooperative would need to hire an actuary firm. DFS will help if we ever decide to go this route. This is probably not for us.

The State's Downtown Revitalization Initiative: Lessons Learned and Is It Right for Your Community? (Margay)

The downtown revitalization initiative offers ten \$10 million-dollar grants, one in each of the 10 regional areas, to municipalities that have a plan for redevelopment, public private partnerships, and evidence of already having made progress towards doing so. Each had to present their application to the regional council and defend it. Three municipalities that have won awards over the last two cycles presented their cases in this session—Jamestown, Olean, and Glens Falls. Each city had been a former manufacturing center, had lost population, could show need, and had already marshalled local support and investment. Applications were detailed (2 inches thick in Jamestown's case) and were accompanied by videos showing the community, opportunities, and need for the grant \$. Only two villages have received this award, one of which is Watkins Glen. Medina applied for the grant.

The State's Response to Federal Tax Reform (Margay)

This session was run by two people on opposite sides of this issue: Gov. Cuomo's Deputy Secretary for Economic Development and the Research Director for the Empire Center for Public Policy. The tax actions refer to anyone employing a NYS resident not just to NYS employers. The plan would phase in beginning in 2019.

The payroll tax deduction would shift the tax liability from employee to employer who could then take it as a business deduction. The people most affected by the limit on SALT (state and local tax deductions) are "income millionaires." Most NYS residents will pay lower federal taxes, especially upstate. Presenters could not answer how the proposed changes to taxation would affect social security deductions and the retirement system; those "will have to be worked out."

Charitable deductions can be deducted from state tax. But with any proposals there is nothing to prevent Congress from trying to act to revise the IRS codes.

My takeaway from this—there seems to be no reason for municipal employers to get involved in the payroll tax deduction portion of the governor's proposal.

Regulating "Small Cells" (Annie)

Session was presented by Rebecca Ruscito, a young, tech savvy NYCOM lawyer. She loves her cell phone. She is livid about the proposed regulations for these devices.

These Small Cells range in size from the size of a small home router to the size of a small refrigerator. They will be, and in some places already are being, installed on streetlight poles and other structures, many in the public right of way.

Here is the problem: The regulations proposed severely limit local control. The proposed regulations come out of an FCC committee, composed mostly of Telecom industry personnel, with only three members from municipalities, one of whom quit in disgust.

Application fees to put these devices on a municipally owned structure is limited to "actual and reasonable costs" and capped at \$50. There is also a short time limit on applications, if not granted within time limit, it is automatically granted.

The cost to have them on a municipally owned structure once the application has been granted is capped at \$200 for a non-wooden structure, \$20 for wood. In Connecticut, where they are currently being installed on privately owned structures, fair market price seems to be about \$2000.

Once the application has been granted, they have the right to put as many as they want on a structure. The word barnacles was used.

It will be similar to franchise agreements, but exclusive agreements are prohibited. No gross revenue fee. It will eventually make the cable franchises obsolete.

No moratoria allowed.

There are public safety and aesthetic problems. They are ugly and noisy (each has a fan). They are currently being installed in the City of Rye. The city is suing.

This is currently in the Governor's budget, where it doesn't belong. Hopefully, it will come out.

It will not speed up bringing broadband access to rural and poor areas of the state, as it will go in those places last.

This technology will be coming. It will be needed to support self-driving cars and smart home systems. Regulations need to be better than this. There is hope in the New York State Constitution. It could be argued that extremely low fees are the equivalent of a gift, and governmental gifts are prohibited. There is also an argument that these regulations are not in the public interest.

"Smart Street Lighting" Conversations for Municipalities (Margay)

A very helpful session put on by Brad Tito, Program Manager, Communities and Local Governments, NYSERDA and Jesse Scott, Municipal Program Manager of NYPA. Brockport is already partway through this process. Most municipalities downstate already own their streetlights. Not so upstate.

Streetlights are unmetered; billing is based on the wattage of bulbs. LEDs are lower wattage which brings electric costs down. Presenters noted, "someone will buy your old incandescents." Current LED streetlights are not the bright blue lights that people complained about but similar in color to current incandescent ones. These are the 2nd or 3rd generation of LEDs and are 30-40% of the cost of LEDs a couple of years ago; they should not have to be replaced for 25 years.

NYPA can assist with procurement of LEDs at lower cost and with financing.

The session organizers are also familiar with the settlement recently reached by National Grid re rate change and streetlight buyback as, along with Albany, Syracuse and Buffalo they were a party to that settlement. Accordingly, we have set up a conference call with NYPA.

The Mayor of Upper Brookville on Long Island, which received a \$100,000 NYSERDA clean energy grant (like the \$50,000 one Brockport is receiving), had an innovative and smart public relations plan for \$4000 of that grant. Every village household received an LED with a letter from the village explaining the grant, the cost savings of LED lights, and the offer of 8 more lights per household, courtesy of the grant.

Tackling the Vacant and Abandoned Properties Problem: Innovative Approaches from Local Officials (Annie)

Session had three speakers, emceed by Wade Beltramo

The first speaker was Sam Wells from the City of Albany who is using expensive (\$20-40K) cloud based data mapping program called Building Blocks to collect and sort data. Impressive and powerful software. Can use data from many sources. Consolidates lists of property. Using it to rate every property in the City from 1 (appears to be occupied) to 5 (demolition recommended). Will use information to determine next steps. (Shared Service possibility- County buys software, shares information with Towns, Cities and Villages?)

Second speaker—Christine Marino from Niagara Falls—Wants Sam's software. Some growing pains with new zombie law but, it's working. Compiled list of Zombies from crowd-sourcing, basically public reporting of zombies. When she finally got access to the State's registry she found good matching with her list. After identifying banks that own zombies, sending documentation with pictures of problem-photos made banks take action. One bank owned 20 zombies. Sent info and all at once bank took action on all 20 properties in four days. The banks are not the enemy, but they need information and persistence. Encourage banks to use the expedited foreclosure process.

Third speaker topic Land Banks —cut short, out of time.

Tuesday Morning meeting with Canal Corp Officials

We met with Canal Corp Director Brian Stratton, Communications Director Jacqueline Schillinger, and NYPA Legislative Affairs Manager Steve Ramsey to discuss an upcoming public meeting in Brockport (March 6th, Middle School auditorium, 6-8pm) focused on remediation of the canal embankment in Brockport following the clear cutting of trees. We reiterated Brockport's demands for remediation of the canal embankment and discussed meeting format. We agreed to supply the Canal Corp with questions to guide their presentation prior to the Q and A session, which we have since done.

Visit to State Capitol to meet with Assembly Leader Joe Morelle

Unfortunately, Assemblyman Morelle was not available due to a conflicting meeting, so we met with his legislative aide to promote the addition of Brockport to an already established pilot program involving Oneonta and Cortland.

- o FYI - NYS Canal Corp embankment maintenance – public meeting 6pm 3/6/18 – Middle School Auditorium – Per the letter included in the packet and on the Village website that the NYS Canal Corporation mailed to property owners that about the canal:

February 19, 2018

Dear Brockport Resident,

As you are likely aware, the Canal Corporation is engaged in a concerted effort to improve the structural stability and safety of elevated Erie Canal embankments in your area, which has begun through the removal of trees and other vegetation with root structures which weaken embankments, and hinder or even prevent important structural inspections.

The removal of this vegetation is only the first step, however, as it allows crews to access the embankment, where regrading, strengthening, repairing, and enhancing can occur where necessary, with appropriate erosion control such as grass added as a last step.

The Canal Corporation will conduct this work under a "Phase 2" of the current embankment maintenance effort, as well as subsequent phases designed to closely monitor, and properly maintain, these embankments.

The Canal Corporation wishes to incorporate input from residents along the Erie Canal in this Phase of the work to the extent possible. We are also seeking ideas on new vegetation screening to mitigate privacy issues exacerbated by this work, new access improvements, final embankment treatment (appearance, type of grass, etc.) and other measures that the Canal Corporation can pursue to ensure residents continue to enjoy the important quality of life benefits that living along our iconic Erie Canal has traditionally afforded.

To that end, the Canal Corporation is hosting a public meeting at the A.D. Oliver Middle School auditorium in Brockport on Tuesday, March 6, from 6:00 to 8:00pm.

We hope you will take time out of your schedule to visit with us at this meeting, learn more about the scope and status of this project, and share your thoughts with us about how we can make it better.

For more information about this event, and the project generally, please visit www.canals.ny.gov and click on "Embankment Maintenance Project."

I look forward to meeting and hearing from you on March 6.

Sincerely,
Brian U. Stratton
Director

- o FYI – SEQR information from Town of Sweden Planning Board – re Townhomes at Stonebriar Glen – Clerk Morelli shared she followed up with Phyllis Brudz at the Town of Sweden and confirmed that it's just for the Village Board's information. There is no SEQR Lead Agency response form or resolution needed.

VILLAGE BOARD REPORTS:

- o Mayor Margaret B. Blackman
 - Mayor Blackman provided the following report:

NYCOM conference and report—Feb 11-13. Always an informative conference and excellent networking opportunity. Attended with Trustee Crane which provided more opportunity to take advantage of simultaneous sessions. That networking led to a call with NYPA upon our return to learn more about our held-up streetlight buyback and how NYPA can facilitate some of this, and a meeting with the canal corp in Albany to plan tomorrow's public meeting in Brockport with the Canal Corp. Our detailed report is included in the packet and available on the village website. It includes reports on sessions attended, NYCOM's response to the legislative budget, what the comptroller had to say re the financial status of the state. Our visit was to conclude with a meeting at the capitol with Assembly leader Joe Morelle re Aid to SUNY municipalities; unfortunately, he was held up with another meeting and we instead had a repeat meeting with his legislative aide.

Re aid to SUNY municipalities, I have made follow up calls to the legislators or their staff we met with (Ortt, Hawley, Robach, Morelle) asking where our budget request stands in the legislative budget. Responses have been promised, but no word yet.

Mayors Dinner East Rochester 2/15— Bill Carpenter, RTS (Rochester Regional Transit Service). Discussed Reimagine RTS. They have several great guiding principles like decrease customer wait and travel times, increase diversity of services available to customers, and ensure sustainability. The last one is particularly interesting as the RTS is heavily subsidized and costs way more per passenger than the fares people pay.

Ongoing committee work—Planning for LBHW (May 10-12) and RPO (July 26).

Tree Board—Arbor Day will be in front of Allied Frozen Food where we will be planting 15 Eastern Red Cedars. Students from computer science presented their work from last fall semester re a different database for our tree inventory, which would replace the not so user friendly one we have been using.

Feb 22—I was the guests of honor/the mayor in the hot seat at a Journalism news writing class. Students are working on an online newsletter called Canalside Chronicles and have produced some very nice articles, including a series "Day in the life of ..." They asked good questions, including: what are your immediate goals, your long-term goals, what mistakes have you made, do you acknowledge your mistakes. A thoroughly enjoyable hour and 15 minutes.

That same afternoon was the town gown meeting.

Feb 28th—one for the record books. It marked the first, during my time as mayor, meeting of both town supervisors and the mayor and it was very productive: we shared upcoming events, talked at great length about the library budget and the future funding of the library, discussed holding a meeting of all three boards once a year, maybe the first one to focus on the library, and talked about grant funding for projects. We will be meeting for lunch monthly.

That same day I met with Allison Parry-Gurak, the College Prevention Coordinator (prevention of alcohol and drug abuse). She is directing a large 5-year grant that the college received and will be working with various components of the Brockport community.

Finally, a reminder that tomorrow evening, March 6, is the public meeting with the canal Corporation who we asked to return to Brockport to discuss the remediation of the canal embankment following the removal of trees. We anticipate a very large turnout, not just from Brockport, with a significant media presence. 6-8pm, Brockport Middle School auditorium.

- Trustee/Deputy Mayor William G. Andrews
 - Trustee Andrews provided the following report:

On February 7, I helped tend the display of the Brockport Community Museum at the open house at the Seymour Union on campus and chaired a meeting of the Canalfront Management Committee that made a number of decisions about the Welcome Center for the coming season. On February 8, I attended a meeting of the Nominating Committee of the Western Monroe Historical Society at which was agreed on nominees for the Society's Board. On February 13 and 27, I attended meetings of the Sweden and Clarkson Town Boards. On February 15, I attended a meeting of the Low Bridge High Water committee at which I secured inclusion of an Open House for the Welcome Center as part of its Saturday program and a meeting of the Off-Campus Housing sub-committee of the Town/Gown Committee. On February 21, I attended a meeting of the Walk! Bike! Brockport Action Group. On February 22, I attended a meeting of the Town/Gown Committee and the regular monthly meeting of the Historic Preservation Board at which we agreed to apply for a CLG grant. On February 28, I attended a meeting of the Emily L. Knapp Museum Board at which I was asked to contact the college president about accepting the donation of the stuffed golden eagle that the museum has. Earlier today, Kevin McCarthy and I conferred by telephone with the State Historic Preservation Office about our

pending CLG grant application and I attended a meeting of the Board of the Greater Brockport Development Corporation. Finally, this past weekend I attended the NYS high school track and field meet in NYC where my grandson, Alec Andrews, set a Brockport High School record in the 1,000-meter run. And that is my report.

- o Trustee Annette M. Crane
 - Trustee Crane provided the following report:

2/11-2/13 NYCOM Sessions attended: Energy and Environment Policy Committee meeting, Health Insurance Cooperatives, Regulating "Small Cells" which relates to new technologies in internet access, and Tackling Vacant and Abandoned Properties.

2/19 Attended Code Review Committee meeting. Last revisions to Sign Law, except for insurance issue being discussed.

We had a resident approach the Code Review Committee about parking on Fair Street. The resident's concern was about congestion on that very narrow street especially where Fair Street intersects with Main Street, resulting in a few near accidents. The resident was requesting that the "No Parking Here to Corner" sign on Fair Street be moved east, further from Main Street. I contacted both DPW Superintendent Harry Donahue and Police Lieutenant Mark Cuzzupoli inquiring if their departments considered that corner a problem. Spt. Donahue indicated that the DPW does not have a problem. They use the smaller snowplow on Fair Street because of its narrowness, and work their way around parked cars. He would be glad to move the sign if we wished. Lt. Cuzzupoli's response was that the corner is "an accident waiting to happen" and moving the sign should be done, along with further restrictions on Fair Street parking being discussed in the Code Review Committee. Moving the sign does not require any change of code, therefore, I would like to suggest to the Board that we ask the DPW to move the sign east to a location the police deem appropriate.

→ Trustee Crane moved, Trustee Kristansen seconded, carried 4/0 to direct the DPW Spt. to move the "No Parking Here to Corner" sign on Fair Street near Main Street to the location recommended by PD Lt. Cuzzupoli noting that this does not require a change to the Village Code parking chapter.

- o Trustee Katherine J. Kristansen
 - Trustee Kristansen provided the following report:

On **February 6th** I attended the BISCO meeting...topics of discussion included end of year financials and arts festival items.

On **February 7th** in the afternoon I participated in the Brockport Community Fair held on campus for the purpose of recruiting college students to volunteer at the Arts Festival.

Later that day, I participated in the BPD negotiations with Mayor Blackman and Treasurer Hendricks.

In the evening I attended the Brockport Merchants Association meeting to discuss the Wine Walk which is this coming Saturday from 6-9PM. Also discussed was a proposal from the BSG regarding student discounts offered by the merchants.

On **February 12th** I met and discussed Brockport Arts Festival with Co-Chair Art Appleby.

In the evening I attended the planning board meeting...two approvals were granted.

On **February 13th** I met with Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Linden to discuss the RFP for the Comprehensive Plan.

On **February 15th** I attended the WalkBikeBrockport! Meeting. Spring projects were discussed as well as Earth Day which April 22nd this year.

On **February 19th** Code Review Committee met and approved sending the new sign law onto the lawyer for final review and approval. Next step is for VB to pass resolution for public hearing regarding sign chapter.

On **February 20th** I attended an HR training at the college to prepare me for participation on the college search committee given the task of filling the Coordinator of Service and Community Building position. I will be serving on the committee as a community member. The search committee came together to meet for the first time on **February 23rd**.

In the evening of **February 20th**, The Brockport Arts Festival committee met to continue with the planning of the festival.

On **February 21st** I attended the Seymour Library board meeting. Chris Daily's retirement is on March 29th at 6 PM... open to the public, stop by and wish her well! Chris has served at our library for 28

years, the last 10 or so as Teen Librarian. The marketing sub-committee has, with the help of a college intern, put together a Library survey for patrons and residents to complete. This survey can be found on the library website. Lastly, the book sale at the library is scheduled for April 11-14th.

On **February 26th**, I attended a meeting of friends and family of Megan Dix along with garden club representatives, high school and college representatives to discuss the memorial that will be built this spring in Megan's memory of South Ave, extension. The plan this year is to get the garden, walkway and bench in place and maintained with a dedication later in June. Megan's parents, her sister and her husband asked that I share with the board their appreciation and thanks for all that the community (individuals, BPD, the village board) have done for them.

Later in the day I attended the Greater Brockport Chamber of Commerce meeting. A question from the chamber...can the Village Facebook "like" the chamber page and then the two will be linked together.

On **March 1st** I discussed with Patty Kutz representative of Pro-Brockport the tree surrounds in the Brockport business district. This year the tree surrounds will be prepped and planted on June 2nd at 9 AM. The Brockport Garden Club has joined and agreed to plant and maintain 12 of the surrounds...the remainder will be planted and maintained by individuals and Pro-Brockporters who have offered to help. The plants are ordered, the planting date is set, now Spring has to get here! After the tree surrounds are planted, there will be markers placed in each surround designating who has "adopted" and is caring for it. We are making the planting an event...there will be coffee available and probably some goodies too...join us in making our downtown district beautiful-many hands make for light work. Later in the afternoon, I attended a meeting of the BAF Advertising and Communications team (all college interns) at the college to discuss various media's that we will use to advertise the festival.

On **March 5th** the village BPD negotiations team met with members of the Stetson Club.

- o Trustee John D. LaPierre (excused)

EXECUTIVE SESSION: none

ADJOURNMENT:

→ At 8pm, Trustee Kristansen moved, Trustee Andrews seconded, carried 4/0 that the meeting be adjourned.

Leslie Ann Morelli, Village Clerk