

Regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Brockport was held in the Conference Room, Municipal Building, 49 State Street, Brockport, New York, April 21, 2003 at 7:30pm.

PRESENT: Mayor Josephine C. Matela, Trustees Morton Wexler, James E. Whipple, Norman J. Knapp; and Peter C. DeToy, DPW Superintendent Bradley B. Upson, Building/Zoning Officer Scott C. Zarnstorff, Police Chief Daniel P. Varrenti, Treasurer Scott D. Rightmyer, Clerk Leslie A. Morelli.

EXCUSED: Village Attorney Edward W. Riley, Fire Chief Gregory B. Wing

ALSO PRESENT: Planning Board Chair / Economic Development Coordinator Scott Winner, Jim & Joan Hamlin, Jackie Morris, Bob Jones, Fred Webster.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Matela called the meeting to order and led the Pledge to the Flag.

REVIEW OF MEETING MINUTES: Mayor Matela called for any additions or corrections to the minutes of the regular meetings held March 17 and April 7, 2003.

- ➔ Trustee Knapp moved, Trustee Wexler seconded, unanimously carried that the minutes of the meeting held March 17, 2003, be approved as written.
- ➔ Trustee DeToy moved, Trustee Wexler seconded, unanimously carried that the minutes of the meeting held April 7, 2003, be approved as written, noting that Treasurer Rightmyer is to provide the Board with an updated resolution per Civil Service rules regarding the transfer of two full-time dispatchers to 911. Treasurer Rightmyer agreed to do so and will have this ready for adoption at the next meeting.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETINGS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

GUESTS: None

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

A. PUBLIC WORKS – Superintendent Bradley B. Upson

1. Spring Clean Up – started today.
2. Authorization to hire part-time dispatchers – B. Upson said pursuant to the resolution passed at the April 7th meeting, a committee was formed to review applications and interview potential applicants to fill the newly created positions of Dispatcher/Laborer in the reorganized Brockport Communications Center. Committee members included Personnel Clerk Coopenberg, Communications Coordinator Zimmer, Police Chief Varrenti and himself. The committee determined that a minimum of 15 candidates would be needed to allow for attrition during training to ensure an adequate pool of dispatchers available to provide 24 hour / 7 day coverage. After carefully reviewing and screening the 53 applications for these positions, the committee selected 22 qualified applicants for interviews.

Following the interviews and follow-up discussions, the committee recommended the following individuals for the positions: Daniel J. Azzolina of Spencerport, Dawn M. Basinait of Albion, Andrew J. Burkhartzmeyer of Brockport, William A. Carter of Hilton, James R. Coopenberg of Brockport, Paul S. Dentino of Rochester, Jeffrey R. Eisenheimer, Jr. of Medina, Kenneth R. Keim of Brockport, Heather M. Luczak of Albion, Keith J. Mitchell of Brockport, Mark B. Porter of Holley, Peter C. Smith of Brockport, Scott R. Smith of Hamlin, Craig M. Spade of Brockport, Lucas R. VanDervort of Brockport.

Hiring of these individuals would have to be subject to Monroe County Civil Service Commission classifying the positions and the candidates successfully completing the appropriate training and probationary periods. Training of these part-time dispatchers can take anywhere from 2 to 4 weeks (depending upon their experience.) With the elimination of the two full-time positions effective Saturday, May 31, 2003, the Village needs to get replacement part-time dispatchers into the training cycle immediately. Therefore, B. Upson requested the Village Board authorize him to offer to, and hire as needed, a part-time position as Dispatcher/Laborer, at an hourly rate of \$10.93 to the individuals listed above.

➔ Trustee Whipple moved, Trustee DeToy seconded, unanimously carried authorizing Superintendent Upson to offer and hire as needed the individuals named to part-time positions as Dispatcher/Laborer at an hourly rate of \$10.93.

- B. POLICE / COMMUNICATIONS CENTER – Chief Daniel P. Varrenti
1. SUNY “50 Cent” Concert – Chief Varrenti reminded the Board of the concert scheduled on the SUNY campus April 24th at 7:30pm at Tuttle Ice Arena. The musical artist claims to have been shot 9 times and wears a bulletproof vest. Approximately 3,000 students are planning to attend. There will be 35-40 police officers on duty including SUNY University Police, Monroe County Sherriff’s Department, New York State Police and 8 from Brockport Police Department. Each agency will compute the hours spent and forward their reports to SUNY University Police Chief Kehoe. Brockport Student Government will pay \$40 per hour of the \$43 per hour for Brockport Police Officers to recoup the majority of the costs. Coverage will begin with a 5pm briefing until 3am since some of the local bars are offering 50-cent beer specials.

Trustee Knapp asked if there are any Union issues in utilizing other resources. Chief Varrenti said no unless a Brockport Police Officer were precluded from working the detail, which is not the case. Chief Varrenti said they are on solid ground and the Union welcomes the opportunity. Trustee Knapp asked if other agencies would be reimbursed the \$40 per hour. Chief Varrenti said yes.

- C. BUILDING / ZONING / CODE ENFORCEMENT - Scott C. Zarnstorff
1. Monthly Report – S. Zarnstorff referred to his recent report with permit and inspection numbers similar to this time last year.
 2. Laundry Time – S. Zarnstorff reported that Laundry Time on Main Street has re-opened after much clean up and improvements after their fire. Trustee Knapp asked if they have upgraded their fire protection. S. Zarnstorff said they now have it interconnected, although unmonitored, throughout the entire building. It is geared as a life safety system, not a building preservation system. Trustee Knapp asked if it had outside audible. S. Zarnstorff said yes. Trustee Knapp questioned a flow switch. S. Zarnstorff said the two systems need to go hand in hand.

D. FIRE - Chief Gregory B. Wing (excused)

E. TREASURER - Scott D. Rightmyer

1. Budgetary Changes – Treasurer Rightmyer asked for authorization to move \$80,576 from contingency into various other line items including snow removal of \$29,742.

→ Trustee DeToy moved, Trustee Whipple seconded, unanimously carried approving the budgetary changes as presented.

Mayor Matela asked DPW Superintendent Upson about the possibility of recouping some of the costs of the recent April 2003 ice storm. B. Upson said he has already filed a preliminary estimate for \$18,000. The Village may be eligible for 50-75% of its costs. He will also be filing with NYS DOT and Federal Highways.

F. CLERK - Leslie A. Morelli

1. Sidewalk Use Permit Applications – Mythos Café & Jimmy Z.’s –

→ Trustee DeToy moved, Trustee Whipple seconded, unanimously carried approving the sidewalk use permit for Mythos Café.

→ Trustee DeToy moved, Trustee Whipple seconded, unanimously carried approving the sidewalk use permit for Jimmy Z.’s.

2. Hawking & Peddling Application – Clerk Morelli said Tawanna Harrington filled out an application and spoke with Treasurer Rightmyer in her absence about getting permission to go door for 6 months to a year selling clothes, shoes, belts, kids things and toys to help the Church and herself. She indicated on the application that she is a disabled mother of three. Mayor and Board commented that this is an unusual door-to-door application since most are to sell a specific item and go door to door for a two-week period of time. Clerk Morelli said she has not yet paid any application fees. Board further discussed the need to take a good look at this section of the Village Code and benchmark other communities. Clerk Morelli agreed to canvas the other Village Clerks in Monroe County regarding their codes related to soliciting, handbills, and parks use.

→ Trustee Knapp moved to table the application until our code is reviewed in detail and legal counsel is consulted. Second by Trustee Whipple. Unanimously carried.

3. Items for June newsletter – Clerk Morelli announced that the next Village newsletter is due to come out in June. Any items from officials, department heads, or staff are welcome and

encouraged between May 1st through 12th.

G. ATTORNEY – Edward W. Riley / DEPUTY ATTORNEY – Frank A. Aloi (excused)

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H. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – Coordinator R. Scott Winner

1. Western Erie Canal Heritage Corridor Commission – S. Winner reported that he had sent out 17 letters of support regarding this. 1.4 million dollars is earmarked for Phase III of Brockport's Canal plan. He encouraged all to write their local officials requesting funding.
2. Marketing Campaign – S. Winner reported that a 6-month broadcast campaign promoting Brockport is in the works. SUNY Business Department students are working to develop market surveys of residents and businesses perceptions, needs and wants. Fairport has done something similar with U of R and St. John Fisher students.
3. Sports to the Max – S. Winner reported that this new store would be opening on Main Street. He worked hard to convince them to open here. Otherwise it is 20 miles to the closest sporting goods store. They will specialize in hockey, soccer and lacrosse.

SUPPORT BOARDS REPORTS:

A. PLANNING BOARD – Chair R. Scott Winner

1. Updates – Remington Woods (remaining Farash property West Avenue to Redman Road) has gotten through the SEQR process, DEC and SHPO. Their engineer is working closely with the Village Engineer and they should be ready for preliminary approvals in May. Meli Enterprises (East Avenue property) has again applied for a fill permit. They were rejected last year.

More information is required and need must be demonstrated. Trustee DeToy said last year's application was for fill to come from the Ridge Road project (years of vehicles, chemicals, and salt near Kodak plants). Brockport does not need to import pollution problems. S. Winner agreed and said the Board will again do due diligence with this application. Regarding Champion Moving and Storage, S. Winner said they and their engineer and landscape architect do not seem to be communicating fully. The Board hopes to see them soon. Regarding Havenwood Meadows Section III, Developer Hibsich has so far been unsuccessful in obtaining easements from adjoining property owners whose land they mistakenly encroached on for the entry road and ponds. B. Upson confirmed that they are under a stop work order until the matter is resolved. It is not a matter for the Village to become involved with. They either need to obtain the easements or remove the pipe and reset it properly.

B. LIBRARY BOARD – President Sean Wilcox (absent)

C. ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS - Chair Jennifer Skoog-Harvey (absent)

VILLAGE BOARD REPORTS:

A. Vice Mayor Wexler – No report.

B. Trustee Whipple

1. Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program – Trustee Whipple shared that the Village of Brockport is working in cooperation with the Town of Sweden as discussed at the last meeting. A work session was held and had a cast of many.

C. Trustee Knapp – No report.

D. Trustee DeToy – No report.

E. Mayor Matela

1. Budget Adoption – Mayor Matela began by reading a question and answer sheet that was put out after the April 9th budget hearing. It was as follows:

Dispatch cost savings:

The original projected cost savings of \$250,000, was based on the premise of the total elimination of local dispatch service. Responding to public opinion and the considered recommendation of the Blue Ribbon Panel, the Village chose to modify the service rather than completely eliminate local dispatch capability. This decision lead to reduced savings in this area.

Capital Reserves:

Previous administrations did well to establish funds that experienced significant growth in good economic times. All funds used from the capital reserve funds were expended on capital projects such as the Clinton Street Police Station, the Village Hall, and soon, the renovation and expansion of the aging DPW building.

Bankruptcy:

The Village of Brockport is not now or in the foreseeable future in any danger of slipping into bankruptcy. In fact, the Village of Brockport currently maintains a balance of nearly \$4 million in various savings accounts.

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Economic Development:

The economic development/marketing position is not new to the village with this administration. It was previously one of the many responsibilities of former Building and Zoning Officer/Fire Marshall/Assessor, Bill Weber. The current position is classified by Civil Service as a non-competitive, part time position that does not provide health benefits to the employee.

Mayor Matela stated that the Board of Trustees did a very good job with the budget considering the \$200,000 increased payment to NYS Retirement. The Village, just like all other municipalities in New York State had no control over this. Mayor Matela said for every \$17,629 change the tax rate changes by 10 cents. Mayor Matela called for adoption of the budget.

→ Trustee DeToy moved, Trustee Whipple seconded adopting the tentative budget for the fiscal year 2003-2004.

Discussion:

Trustee Wexler said he is against the budget the way it exists. He said we are spending money so we can stop spending money. He is disappointed that the negotiations for the Stetson Club (Police) and CSEA (DPW) contracts have not started. The start date is May 13th and those contracts expire May 31st. He said there is no way that negotiations will take place to have new contracts in place June 1st. He further expressed concern of letting go (transferring to 911) two full-time dispatchers with 30+ years each with the Village. He commented that the DPW has less people now than previously.

He suggested the Police Chief not hire 2 additional police officers yet. Trustee Wexler said he, Mayor Matela and Police Chief Varrenti inherited, the current Stetson Club contract with its shortcomings. One of which mandates a minimum of 2 full-time officers on at a time. That provision has cost the Village \$875,000 in overtime pay over the last 5 years. He said that clause has hurt the Village tremendously. Therefore, before hiring 2 new full-time officers, let's see if we can change that clause. Trustee Wexler said he understands the negotiations process very well. He was involved with it for many years at the School District. He believes the process should run its course before the hiring of 2 additional officers. He said no other municipal police agency (East Rochester, Fairport, Gates, Greece, Ogden, Webster) have this minimum staffing clause. The Union should not tell US. Trustee Wexler said it is unfortunate that there are 3 full-time officers out on disability or compensation and the Village has to pay their replacements time and a half. The average of \$175,500 per year in overtime needs to change. He said he has a proposal, but would not think of bringing it forward until the right time in the negotiations process. He said there are options of mediation or arbitration at a cost of \$6,000 to \$7,000 to be paid by both parties. In summary, he said he would vote no on the proposed budget.

Trustee Knapp said he is not pleased with an 8% Village tax increase. He thinks the Board could have done better. He said he concurs with some of Trustee Wexler's comments. He said he and his wife are fortunate that they are gainfully employed and can handle the increase. Not everyone is as fortunate.

Chief Varrenti responded to Trustee Wexler's comments and said he has no intention of hiring the two police officers prior to the new contract being ratified. Otherwise, he can't effectively save the Village money. Only when there is proper staffing (bringing the department back to where it once was) and new management policies can he work toward saving money. Chief Varrenti said he has cut his portion of the budget to bare bones – even lower than two years ago.

Trustee Wexler said the existing contract is flawed. You don't fix the dam simply by hiring more people to plug it.

Trustee Whipple said he is also disappointed in an 8% tax increase, but the Village is no different than other municipalities and school districts throughout the state trying to pass budgets when the State has not yet passed its budget. We need to use the best information we have and go with the worst-case scenario so as not to run the risk of a shortfall when the final numbers do come in. The state could say that municipalities do not have to pay the full retirement amount this year. Trustee Whipple said he is not happy with the concept of

Varrenti additional police officers, but mathematically it works. The Village is counting on Chief to manage overtime. Overtime, anywhere, is ugly.

Trustee DeToy said in his 9 years on the Village Board, the Police Department has consistently been over budget on overtime. The Village has not heard complaints of unresponsiveness of the department. It is vital to maintain the level of service people have come to expect from the Brockport Police Department.

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Trustee DeToy said overtime has to be managed and Chief Varrenti has demonstrated that by adding one full-time officer to one shift cut overtime dramatically. The Board cannot look into a crystal ball, but if you fail to plan, you plan to fail. The Board needs to support their departments and employees and work together to do the best job possible for the citizens, not just to make the Village Board look good. Trustee DeToy said he is not happy with an increase. He pays taxes too. However, local government does not have the luxury like state government of procrastinating several months, taking the taxpayers money and not doing their job by bringing in a state budget by April 1st. They could be considered crooks and thieves. Trustee Wexler said he does not think our state legislators are crooks and thieves.

Mayor Matela said she is tired of the Police Department always taking the hits. Chief Varrenti has demonstrated strong leadership and management skills and should be afforded the opportunity to fully work toward the goals for the department.

→ Trustee DeToy moved, Trustee Whipple seconded, Mayor Matela in favor, Trustee Wexler opposed, Trustee Knapp opposed, carried 3 to 2:

RESOLVED: that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Brockport (in a 3 to 2 vote) hereby adopts the tentative budget for the fiscal year 2003-2004:

General Fund Purposes.....	\$4,629,778
Water Fund Purposes.....	\$1,061,257
Combined Capital Reserve Purposes.....	<u>\$1,440,908</u>
TOTAL.....	\$7,131,943

RESOLVED: that there be levied and assessed upon the real property of the Village of Brockport the following sums for the Village of Brockport the following sums for the Village of Brockport and other charges for the fiscal year June 1, 2003 to May 31, 2004 with a tax rate of \$8.10 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation:

General Fund.....	\$1,427,982.00
Omitted Taxes (Loss of Exemptions).....	499.31
Delinquent Special Accounts.....	<u>8,453.62</u>
TOTAL.....	\$1,436,934.93

AUDIT:

→ Trustee Knapp moved, Trustee DeToy seconded, unanimously carried that the bills be allowed and paid upon audit.

<u>Village</u>	Check #	Amount
Date		
4/21	167506-561	31,515.28
<u>Fire</u>		
4/11	167479	60.00
4/21	167484-505	24,298.02
<u>Ambulance</u>		
4/21	167481-483	489.32
<u>Capital Projects</u>		
4/21	1569-70	236,395.17
<u>Third Party Billing</u>		
N/a		

ADJOURNMENT:

→ Trustee Knapp moved, Trustee Wexler seconded, unanimously carried that the meeting be adjourned at 8:45pm.

Leslie Ann Morelli, Village Clerk