

Regular workshop 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, Monday, November 26, 2007 at 7:00pm.

PRESENT: Mayor Mort Wexler, Trustee Castaneda, Trustee Heyen, Trustee Maziarz, Trustee Wagenhauser, Village Manager Ian Coyle

EXCUSED: None

ALSO PRESENT: Lori Lessord, Lynne Gardner, Norm Giancursio, Linda Borrayo, Joan & Jim Hamlin, Todd Longstreth.

The Board of Trustees heard a brief presentation from Lori Lessord of the Seymour Library Board of Trustees, imploring the Village Board to arrive at a decision on the funding level for the Library for 2008. Discussion ensued on the appropriate level of funding for 2008. Village Manager Coyle explained the discrepancy in relying on percentages. He explained that the Towns have, on paper, committed to an 11% increase but Sweden has stated their 11% increase is to include their portion (\$1,167) for bookkeeping. Village Manager Coyle explained that, thus, the Town's contribution for next year will not be a straight 11% increase in operational funding but more like ~9.5/10% and that if the Village wants to go along with the level of funding from the Town, that they should commit to a similar percentage amount. This is due to the fact that the operational costs are built on a ~40/30/30 split based on assessed value and the bookkeeping arrangement is built on a 33/33/33 split equally amongst the municipalities and formerly paid for through a voucher system. It was explained that the Village would not contribute to its own expense of bookkeeping. There was discussion on the bookkeeping proceeds being utilized as an offset to the expense. Manager Coyle stated that the revenue will come in just like every other general fund revenue. Trustee Heyen stated she favors a single digit increase. Trustee Wagenhauser asked how we can expect other departments to hold the line on spending and then agree to a double-digit increase for the library. He stated that departments are doing more with less and this budget is doing more with more, which is sometimes a good thing, but perhaps should be phased in.

Trustee Castaneda commented that she supports the budget as presented and would make a motion to reflect this position.

- Trustee Castaneda moved, Mayor Wexler seconded, to approve an increase of 9.7% or \$15,584 for the 2008 Library Budget with Sunday hours to remain and property maintenance costs built back into the budget.

Discussion ensued. Trustee Maziarz inquired how a Village Trustee can mandate what a separate Board does with municipal funding. Mayor Wexler replied that these are the funding stipulations but he won't tell them where to cut, just that there probably should be cuts. Mayor Wexler stated that we can all talk about saving money. There are a lot of areas to discuss if that is the case. Trustee Castaneda stated that she attended the Library budget presentation and that it was explained thoroughly and she understands their needs.

Trustees Wagenhauser, Maziarz and Heyen against. Motion fails.

Trustee Heyen presented a resolution for a 7.5% or \$12,050 increase again with property maintenance built into the budget. She stated that this is a responsible figure in her estimation.

- Trustee Heyen moved, Trustee Maziarz seconded, to approve an increase of 7.5% or \$12,050 for the 2008 Library Budget with property maintenance costs built back into the budget.

Discussion ensued. Trustee Castaneda asked how the Village can appropriate \$300 to host a Halloween party and other costs out of the celebrations lines but not fund the library increase. She stated that if we had held the line on these misuses of taxpayer money we would have no problem funding the library. She iterated that this is for the children of our community. Mayor Wexler agreed and stated that this vote is just a disservice to 1000s in our community. Trustee Heyen stated that she realizes expenses will need to be cut here and there, especially with potential costs for testing, etc and she commented that this was one of her most difficult votes she has had to make on the board, as she is an involved member of the Library and Board liaison. She stated that her decision has nothing to do with helping children or not and that she takes umbrage to the notion that this vote is a vote against the children.

Trustees Wagenhauser, Castaneda and Mayor Wexler against. Motion fails.

Trustee Wagenhauser presented a resolution for a 6.5% or \$10,443 increase. Mayor Wexler stated that he though 7.5% was insufficient so likewise he will not vote for this motion.

- Trustee Wagenhauser moved, Trustee Maziarz seconded, to approve an increase of 6.5% or \$10,443 for the 2008 Library Budget.

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Trustees Heyen, Castaneda and Mayor Wexler against. Motion fails.

Discussion ensued. Trustee Maziarz stated that she has compromised twice in these motions in an attempt to agree on a funding level and wondered why others were entrenched in their positions. Mayor Wexler stated this is like the limbo, how low can you go. Trustee Maziarz commented that she recalls the Mayor writing a memo favoring 6% and wonders why all of a sudden he changed positions. Mayor Wexler commented that his position has changed and he announced as such at the last meeting. Trustee Wagenahuser suggested not collecting the bookkeeping costs. Trustee Maziarz asked if other Village departments like the police, fire, DPW, asked for 12% what would the Village Board say? Trustee Wagenhauser reminded the Board that any increase in the Library funding will push our contribution to that service over the dollar amount of our contribution to the fire service, which, in his opinion, speaks volumes. Mayor Wexler stated that the library was hanging on by a thread and this money will go a long way to restoring administrative foundations. Trustee Heyen stated that she is coming from the side of taxpayers.

- Trustee Maziarz moved, Trustee Wagenhauser seconded, Trustee Heyen in favor, Trustee Castaneda and Mayor Wexler opposed, motion carries, to approve an increase of 7% or \$11,246 for the 2008 Library Budget.
- Trustee Maziarz moved, Trustee Heyen seconded, unanimously carried that the Village Board move into Executive Session at approximately 8:32 PM for pursuant to section (d) of Section 105-1(d) of PUBLIC OFFICERS LAW, ARTICLE 7.

I, Ian M. Coyle, Village Manager for the Board of Trustees of the Village of Brockport, do hereby certify that the Board met in an executive session and did discuss the matters as expressed in their motion, and I further certify that no formal action regarding public funds was taken thereon.

- Trustee Maziarz moved, Trustee Castaneda seconded, unanimously carried to go back into regular session.
- Trustee Heyen moved, Trustee Maziarz seconded, unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 PM.

Ian Coyle, Village Manager