

**Regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Brockport was held in the Village Hall Conference Room 49 State Street Brockport, New York, October 20, 2014 at 7:00pm.**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Margaret B. Blackman, Trustee/Deputy Mayor William G. Andrews, Trustee Valerie A. Ciciotti, Trustee John D. La Pierre, Clerk Leslie Ann Morelli

**EXCUSED:** Treasurer Daniel P. Hendricks, Police Chief Daniel P. Varrenti, DPW Superintendent Harry G. Donahue, Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer David J. Miller, Jr., Attorney Daniel J. Mastrella, Esq.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Village Justice William G. Andrews, Jr., Village Justice Kent R. Blair, Clerk to Village Justice Lynette C. Lemcke and family and friends, Clerk to Village Justice Justice Corey L. Stepanek and family and friends, Andrew Saul, Pam Ketchum, Joan Hamlin, Fred Webster, Kristina Gabalski, several students from Spencerport High School

**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:

Last Saturday, we celebrated the heroism in Afghanistan of Brockporter Staff Sergeant Nicholas Reid with the renaming of our post office in his honor. So, this may be an appropriate occasion to remind ourselves that he is only the latest of Brockport's war heroes. The Civil War produced several others. I have already described the exploits of Major Milo Starks, Brockport's greatest hero in that war. But he was not alone in bringing honor to this community for service in the Union Army. Here are three others;

Nathan P. Pond was born and reared on Brockport's Park Avenue as the son of Levi Pond, a prominent business and civic leader, including membership in the NYS Assembly. Nathan was in the lumber business at the outbreak of the war. In August 1862, he recruited and organized Company M of the 3<sup>rd</sup> New York Cavalry regiment. That regiment had one of the longest lists of engagements of any in the Union Army, 126. They were mostly raids. It had an exceptionally high casualty rate with 308 killed or wounded and 46 officers and men killed or died of wounds. In January 1864, Pond transferred to the 3<sup>rd</sup> U.S. Colored Cavalry regiment as a lieutenant colonel and second in command. He served in that capacity until the end of the war. After the war, he was a harbor master in Brockport, but by 1870, he had moved to Rochester where he and a partner founded the Democrat & Chronicle, which he owned until his death at 88 in 1921.

Stephen Randall Stafford was born in Stafford, NY, but was reared in a house on the southeast corner of College and Utica Streets that still stands, the son of a faculty member at the Collegiate Institute. He enlisted in the 13<sup>th</sup> NYVI regiment on April 30, 1861, 15 days after the firing on Fort Sumter, but was discharged on September 18 "for minority", although he was 18. However, on August 17, 1862, he was commissioned a second lieutenant in the 129<sup>th</sup> NYVI, which became the 8<sup>th</sup> NY Heavy Artillery regiment. He was promoted to first lieutenant on January 27, 1864, to captain on November 5, 1864, and to "major, by brevet, for faithful and meritorious services during the war" on March 13, 1865. He had been wounded in May 1864, but led "a desperate charge at Hatcher's Run on October 27, 1864, for which General Gibbon—his divisional commander—tendered him high praise and honor in the presence of the entire command". After the war, he became a professional officer, fought in the Indian wars, and commanded Fort Sheridan. He retired in 1898 for physical disability and returned to Brockport, where he engaged in the insurance business. He died at his desk on May 31, 1902.

Morton A. Read was born and grew up in Brockport. His father, Resolved was a carpenter and he was a printer. He enlisted in the 8<sup>th</sup> New York Cavalry as a private on October 14, 1861, giving his age as 18, though in the 1860 census his age is 14. He became a corporal on June 16, 1863, sergeant on August 1, 1863, first sergeant on April 9, 1864, and was commissioned a first lieutenant on February 6, 1865. He was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for having captured the battle flag of the 1<sup>st</sup> Texas Infantry regiment at the battle of Appomattox Station on April 8, 1865. The capture of the battle flag of an enemy unit was considered an especially heroic feat because a unit's battle flag was its rallying point. To capture such a flag threatened to throw the enemy into disarray and destroy its cohesion as a fighting force. As the

battle flag held the central position in the unit, its bearer was, at least theoretically, in the least vulnerable location. After the war, Read moved to Cincinnati. However, his son, Morton G., returned to Brockport. Some of you may remember the architect, Edwin Read, Morton's grandson, who lived in the house on Main Street next to the Morgan Manning House. Morton was Brockport's only Congressional Medal of Honor winner in the Civil War.

**OATH OF OFFICE:**

-Village Justice William G. Andrews, Jr. administered the oath of office ceremonially to Clerk to Village Justice Lynette C. Lemcke

-Village Justice Kent R. Blair administered the oath of office ceremonially to Clerk to Village Justice Corey L. Stepanek –

The Justices presented flowers to their Clerks and a short recess was taken to take photographs and enjoy refreshments.

**7:22pm**

**CERTIFICATES & PROCLAMATIONS:**

- Retirement proclamation – DPW Laborer James F. Clark, Jr.

→ Trustee Andrews moved, Trustee La Pierre seconded, carried 4/0 to adopt the following proclamation:

***PROCLAMATION***

WHEREAS; James F., Clark, Jr. has been employed by the Village of Brockport Department of Public Works for 36 years; and

WHEREAS; he has worked devotedly on behalf of the people of the Village of Brockport, regardless of the peril or hazard to himself; and

WHEREAS; he has helped to safeguard lives, property, and infrastructure; and

WHEREAS; the Village of Brockport acknowledges the dedication and talent James F., Clark, Jr. has invested in the community; and

WHEREAS; November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014 marks the occasion of his retirement;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Margaret B. Blackman, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor, and on behalf of the Village Board, do hereby tender this certificate of recognition, and congratulate James F. Clark, Jr. on his retirement and encourage all our citizens to extend to him their best wishes.

ADOPTED by unanimous vote of the Brockport Village Board on October 20, 2014.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have here unto set our hands and caused the Corporate Seal of the Village of Brockport to be affixed.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:** none

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- Andrew Saul of Main Street – commented on having noticed a distinct improvement in how the Village looks and acknowledged the work of the BI/CEO team beginning work on property maintenance. He said it is nice to see new paint and porches on many properties. He shared that BI/CEO Miller had stated to him that you should not be able to distinguish between an owner-occupied single family home and a rental property. He agrees wholeheartedly with that statement. A. Saul thanked the Village Board for leading by example, some even acquiring and fixing up houses on their own. He commended the Police Department for their work and commented that he believes the College's Homecoming weekend was handled with professionalism and dedication. He said he was a student in 1970 and knows that Village and College relations have long been at odds. He said students are not necessarily the problem. Alcohol is the problem. He shared that he took a police ride-along 10pm to 2:30am some time before that. He said police ride-alongs are open to officials and citizens who want one. It is a good way to see them and the Village's tax dollars at work. A. Saul shared a publication he put together about neighborhood safety, the importance of calling 911 and stressed that 911 is not just for emergencies.

**GUESTS:** none

**CONSENSUS ITEMS:**

- **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

→ Trustee Andrews moved, Trustee Ciciotti seconded, carried 4/0 that the minutes of the 10/6/14 meeting be approved as amended.

- **APPROVAL OF BILLS TO BE PAID**

→ Trustee La Pierre moved, Trustee Ciciotti 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>	10/20/14	\$164,362.26
FUND (F): <u>Water</u>	10/20/14	\$116,477.78
FUND (G): <u>Sewer</u>	10/20/14	\$792.17
FUND (H): <u>Capital</u>	-	-
FUND (T): <u>Trust &amp; Agency</u>	-	-
		\$281,632.21 grand total

**CLERK REPORT:** Clerk – Leslie Ann Morelli

- Annual notices to retirees on Medicare – Clerk Morelli referred to the information in the packet – required annual notice to retirees on Medicare of creditable coverage regarding prescription drugs and of the upcoming year’s premiums. The Village’s MVP Preferred Gold policy will be increasing from \$203 per month per person in 2014 to \$240.20 per month per person.

- Tax Collection Update - Clerk Morelli reported that on October 10<sup>th</sup> she sent out a 2<sup>nd</sup> notice (a courtesy as only one notice in September is required) regarding 2014 delinquent taxes. As of today 97% of the warrant monies have been collected and 68 parcels remain unpaid. Collection ends October 31<sup>st</sup>. She will prepare the tax surrender for the November 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

- **DEPARTMENT REPORTS:** (VB meeting the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month – all excused)

- Treasurer – Daniel P. Hendricks (excused)
  - Financial reports for period ending 9/30/14 – included in the packet.
- Building / Zoning / Code Enforcement – BI/CEO David J. Miller, Jr. (excused - training)
  - Update – Mayor Blackman shared an e-mail from BI/CEO Miller who is in Albany for training with PT BI/CEO Rearick: “Certificate of occupancy and fire inspections are ongoing and numbers will be calculated for the next meeting. I spoke with David Rearick and will be speaking with Tim McElligott when I get back, and we will be picking up garbage patrols immediately. Both will be making a daily round of the village looking for sanitation issues. As we spoke about on Friday, I began looking into the garbage code (Chapter 21). Anyone found to be illegally transporting garbage in an unapproved vehicle to an offsite location, is in violation of village code.”

- Police – Police Chief Daniel P. Varrenti (excused)
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- Public Works – Superintendent Harry G. Donahue (excused - training)
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- **PERSONNEL ITEMS:**

- Resignation – Carol L. Hannan as Trustee effective 10/14/14 – Mayor Blackman announced that Carol L. Hannan resigned 10/14/14 effective immediately. Mayor Blackman said Carol’s mark on the Village included but was not limited to spearheading the committee that re-established the sewer user fee, working with the Mayor and Police Chief researching the feasibility of a Village Court, being an active Village Board liaison to the Code Review Committee. Her most notable and valuable contributions have been in housing: reviewing all the property files, highlighting expired C of O’s and helping the new BI/CEO office, researching and publishing house histories on all the homes in the proposed National Register historic district, and most importantly on or off the Village Board, rehabbing and revitalizing several Village homes which have sold to single families. Though no longer a Trustee, she is sure

Carol will continue to work for the betterment of the Village of Brockport.

→ Trustee Andrews moved, Trustee La Pierre seconded, carried 4/0 to accept Carol L. Hannan’s resignation effective 10/14/14 with great regret.

Trustee Andrews shared the following:

I moved that we accept Trustee Hannan’s resignation with great regret, because that accurately reflects my feelings. I do greatly regret her departure from our team. We were elected as a team and have functioned very well as a team, accomplishing much in a relatively short time. Her resignation is a great loss to our team. We have not always agreed, but I never doubted that she always acted in what she believed were the best interests of this community. She was the senior member of our team, having had more experience dealing with our village’s problems than any of the rest of us, including wrestling with the financial problems of an earlier administration and contributing to their solution. Also, she brought to this Board a quality that none of the rest of us has, the legitimacy of being “old Brockport” and living in her grandfather’s house. However, I am confident that this community has not lost Carol’s devotion and services. She has conducted a one-woman campaign to rescue houses from the depredations of the student rental blight and I believe and sincerely hope that she will continue that campaign. Secondly, she has done a truly magnificent job of documenting the histories of the 72 houses being included in the nomination of the eastside residential district for the State and National Registers of Historic Places. With her commitment to historic preservation, she would be an ideal member of our Historic Preservation Board, which would give her a golden opportunity to continue to contribute to her community, doing the sort of thing that she loves. In any case, I look forward to continuing to work with her for the betterment of this community in whatever capacity she chooses. Good luck, Carol, and au revoir, but not good-bye.

**OLD or NEW BUSINESS:**

- 06/01/15-05/31/16 Proposed Budget Prep Schedule –

→ Trustee La Pierre moved, Trustee Andrews seconded, carried 4/0 to adopt the following 06/01/15-05/31/16 budget preparation schedule:

**Budget Preparation Calendar  
Village of Brockport  
Fiscal Year June 1, 2015 – May 31, 2016**

Monday, November 3, 2014	Treasurer to notify Department Heads, and Village Justices (via memo with templates) of the necessity for expense estimates
Monday, December 15, 2014	Department Heads to submit expense estimates to Treasurer
Monday, January 26, 2015- 7 PM	Village Board work session with Treasurer and department Heads – discuss department budget requests
Monday, February 23, 2015 – 7 PM	Village Board work session with Treasurer – discuss and make revisions to budget requests (if necessary)
Monday, March 2, 2015 – 7 PM	Village Board meeting, Treasurer will provide updated information regarding budget development
Monday, March 16, 2015 – 7 PM	Village Board meeting, Treasurer will provide updated information regarding budget development
Wednesday, March 18, 2015	Treasurer to file tentative budget with Clerk (must be filed by March 20th)
Monday, March 23, 2015 – 7 PM	Village Board work session with Treasurer– discuss and make revisions to tentative budget (if necessary)
Wednesday, March 25, 2015 for March 29, 2015 edition	Clerk to publish notice of public hearing on tentative budget
Monday, April 6, 2015 – 7 PM	Treasurer to present budget to public - public hearing on preliminary budget (Middle School L.G.I.)
Monday, April 20, 2015 – 7 PM	Village Board meeting – adopt budget (must be done by May 1 <sup>st</sup> )

- Accept & authorize Mayor to sign Chatfield Engineering proposal re West Avenue water main project –

→ Trustee La Pierre moved, Trustee Andrews seconded, carried 4/0 to approve and accept and authorize the Mayor to sign the Chatfield Engineering proposal regarding the West Avenue Water Main Replacement project between Smith Street and #33 West Avenue involving the replacement of approximately 1,350 linear feet of the existing water main and water services at a cost of \$7,650. This is a Monroe County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) project.

- FYI – Brockport Fire District public hearing on proposed 2015 budget – Tuesday, 10/21/14 7pm – Mayor Blackman referred to the notice and proposed budget included in the packet and encouraged those wishing to hear the presentation or that have questions to attend. The public doesn't vote on a Fire District budget, but can comment at the public hearing.

#### **VILLAGE BOARD REPORTS:**

- Mayor Margaret B. Blackman
  - Town/Gown – Mayor Blackman shared that she, Trustee Andrews, Chief Varrenti and BI/CEO Miller attended a meeting at SUNY College at Brockport President Halstead's home 10/16. Discussion items included issues of communication, off campus housing, and the aftermath of homecoming that Chief Varrenti explained very well. It was cordial though certainly not warm. The most important thing is that they agreed to meet again in November. There is an International Town/Gown organization which has good resources on its website regarding municipalities and colleges working together.
  - Association of Monroe County Villages - Mayor Blackman shared that she attended the bi-monthly dinner meeting of this group of 10 Mayors on 10/16. This is always a worthwhile meeting and networking opportunity. It included a tour of the impressive new East Rochester facilities. East Rochester is a Town/Village. The Eyer Building was donated to them and they spent \$9 million (\$1 million grant and \$8 million bonded) to house all municipal functions plus some retail space. They utilized Harris Beach as the "go-to" person for bonding. Hilton bought back all their lighting from RG&E 7 years ago and they have been able to save up to \$50,000 annually in lighting tariff fees. She said other Mayors suggested negotiating free internet for Village buildings in the Time Warner Cable franchise agreement. She said Fairport has a canal district zone. She got the name of Fairport's I.T. vendor to have Brockport's I.T. vendor speak with about webcams for Village Board meetings.
  - Performing Weddings - Mayor Blackman shared that she was honored to be asked by a colleague at the college to do so at Artisan Works in Rochester. She thanked Clarkson Town Justice Al Hammel who helped prepare her. (Domestic Relations Law §11 authorizes Mayors to perform marriages.)
  - After Hours at the Library - Mayor Blackman reminded the Trustees to drop off their personal \$50 donation to Clerk Morelli for the Village Board's sponsorship of the event. She further shared that she is putting together the Village basket (bag) for the raffle. It will be a theme of "Get to know the Village of Brockport" and will include a selection of winter vegetables and apples from the Farmers Market vendors, and certificates for personalized tours of the DPW campus and the Emily L. Knapp Museum and Library of Local History and lunch at the Red Bird Café with Village Historian Jackie Morris, lunch with the Police Chief and tour of BPD, a ridealong with police, pizza and wings at Village Hall with the BI/CEO department to learn about why they do and get questions answered.
- Trustee/Deputy Mayor William G. Andrews
  - Welcome Center – Trustee Andrews reported that the Welcome Center closed for the season 10/15. They had 293 boat nights in 2014 compared to 271 in 2013. They had 463 bicycle loan outs – mostly to young locals. Welcome Center Management Committee member Doug Wolcott assisted greatly with the greeter program.
  - Various - Trustee Andrews reported having attended the recent Clarkson Town Board meeting where they voted 3/2 with Supervisor Kimball in the minority against the proposed Development on Sweden Walker Road. Trustee Andrews reported having attended the recent Sweden Town Board meeting where they added \$25,000 to the proposed budget to restore the hours of the Sweden Senior Center and hire a part time Director. Credit goes to Lori Skoog and committee for their work. Trustee Andrews reported having attended the recent renaming of the Brockport Post Office in honor of Staff Sgt. Nicholas Reid whose Commander gave a detailed account of his service.

**7:50pm** – Trustee Ciciotti left not feeling well

Trustee Andrews also reported on having attended the Empire State Games of 300 physically challenged children as competitors and 400 volunteers. He worked with the Village's grant writer on the application to the Erie Canalway Heritage Corridor for funding regarding the proposed Sagawa Park mural. He referred to the Landmark Society having placed 60 Clinton Street Brockport on the list of "5 to revive". He mentioned having attending an R.I.T. dedication of a printing press owned by William Morris and Frederick Gowdy. He shared that the High Street Cemetery tour he led had 20 participants. He mentioned the Wartime Romances part of the program at the upcoming After Hours at the Library event. He mentioned that he has arranged for a graduate student to restore the Mary Jane Holmes sign that DPW removed. He mentioned having attended with the Mayor, Chief and BI/CEO the meeting at College President Halstead's house. He shared that the recent Historic Preservation Board meeting was cancelled, but that he provided a status report to the members on various projects. Trustee Andrews announced that his 5<sup>th</sup> local history book on Brockport is ready for mailing to the publisher. It will be titled "Brockport Through Time" and contain images of early 20<sup>th</sup> century Brockport compared to today.

Mayor Blackman asked Trustee Andrews if the Seymour Library budget was discussed at the recent Clarkson Town Board meeting he attended. He said no.

- Trustee Valerie A. Ciciotti
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- Trustee John D. La Pierre
  - Post Office Renaming – Trustee La Pierre shared that he attended the 10/18 renaming of the Brockport Post Office in honor of Staff Sergeant Nicholas Reid.
  
  - Police Department – Trustee La Pierre shared that Chief Varrenti indicated the 2 recruits in the Police Academy are doing as well as can be expected and have a few months to go and that the lateral transfer is nearing completion of his field training and will soon be able to be on his own.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

→ At 7:55pm, Trustee La Pierre moved, Trustee Andrews seconded, carried 3/0 that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Brockport enter into executive session to discuss a personnel matter – candidates for the Mayor's appointment consideration for the vacant Trustee seat.

→ At 8:32pm, Trustee Andrews moved, Trustee La Pierre seconded, carried 3/0 that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Brockport re-enter the regular meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

→ At 8:32pm, Trustee La Pierre moved, Trustee Andrews seconded, carried 3/0 that the meeting be adjourned.

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Leslie Ann Morelli, Village Clerk