

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 27, 2009 at 7:00pm.

PRESENT: Mayor Morton Wexler, Trustee/Vice Mayor Maria C. Castañeda, Trustee David J. Wagenhauser, Trustee Scott W. Hunsinger, Trustee Hal S. Legg, Clerk Leslie A. Morelli, Treasurer Gina M. Tojek, DPW Superintendent Harry G. Donahue, Police Chief Daniel P. Varrenti

EXCUSED: Building/Zoning Officer Scott C. Zarnstorff, Village Attorney David F. Mayer

ALSO PRESENT: Deputy Fire Chief Mike Henry, Assistant Fire Chief Don Marenus, EMS Chief Lucas VanDervort, Village Engineer Jason Foote, Bill Andrews, Pete Apicella, Bob Chapin, Lisa Rivera, Jim & Joan Hamlin, Bill & Hanny Heyen, Carrie Maziarz, Kelly Smith, Kent Blair, Art Appleby, Mark Kristansen, Robin Waller, Fred Webster, Norm GianCursio, Andy Burkhartzmeyer, Mike LaDue, Ryan Markle, David Rice, Michael Dorgan, Fire Chief Scott Smith

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

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

REVIEW OF MEETING MINUTES: Mayor Wexler called for any additions or corrections to the minutes of the last meeting. The April 15th meeting minutes are not yet typed.

- ➔ Trustee Hunsinger moved, Trustee Wagenhauser abstained due to absence, carried 4/0/1 that the minutes of the meeting held April 20, 2009, be approved as written.
- ➔ Mayor Wexler moved, carried 5/0 that the minutes of the meeting held April 22, 2009, be approved as written.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETINGS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Bill Andrews of College Street commented, as coordinator of the Welcome Center that he realizes the Board has many factors to consider in a Trustee's recent proposal to eliminate local dispatch and that his concern may be a small one. However, the Canalfront Greeter Program uses the dispatch office, as the first greeter on at 8am picks up the cash box and keys and the last greeter that closes at 8pm drops off the cash box and keys. He said he does not see any alternative. He said this is far from the most important concern, but asked that it be taken into account.

B. Andrews shared that the Village's CDBG applications were both approved. This includes \$40,000 for the downtown façade improvement program and \$8,700 for the Clinton Street rehabilitation study. Mayor Wexler concurred that the Village received award notification and that he will forward a letter of thanks to County Executive Brooks.

B. Andrews shared that the Village is one of three finalists for the Erie Canalway Heritage Award of Excellence. The judging panel will be here tomorrow for a visit and interviews. Mayor Wexler has agreed to be interviewed at 1pm. Trustees are encouraged to sit in on the 4pm interview.

2. Assistant Fire Chief Don Marenus read the following letter into the record from Fire Chief Scott Smith who will be late this evening due to his son's graduation from firefighter one class.

To: Mayor Wexler, Vice Mayor Castaneda, Trustee Hunsinger, Trustee Legg and Trustee Wagenhauser

From: Scott R. Smith, Fire Chief

Date: April 27, 2009

Re: Proposed Village Budget

It came to my attention last night (Sunday, April 26) that a budget proposal was submitted by Trustee Wagenhauser to the remainder of the Village Board without any consultation from me regarding the fire department budget as it relates to my dispatch office.

After spending much time researching this issue so as to find an amicable resolve for all involved, I propose the following solution. Before I begin I would like to point out that Third Party Billing funds

can not be used for anything other than EMS related expenses. Therefore, those funds can not be used in the village's general fund or any other fund unless it directly relates to EMS.

In the current budget structure, no third party billing funds are used to offset the cost of dispatch office however EMS accounts for approximately 68% of the function of the office. That being said, it is my opinion that third party billing funds should be used to offset that percentage of the cost of the operations of that office. With a salary compensation of roughly \$143,000 to run the dispatch office 24 hours a day, seven days a week, third party billing funds would offset \$97,240 of that expense. Walker Fire Department already contracts services with us at a cost of \$3,000, bringing a total income to offset the cost of dispatch to \$101,240, leaving a balance of \$41,760.

I would also recommend that 68% of the cost of utilities at the Market Street firehouse be paid from third party billing.

I understand, too, that there is a misconception as to the cost and timing of the communications equipment that will be needed for the dispatch office. Regardless, third party funds can be used for 68% of that cost as well. The total cost of that project is roughly \$45,000 however the cost to the village would be about \$14,400. The timing of this project is likely to be in about 3 to 4 years; therefore that \$14,400 can be budgeted for over the next 3 budget cycles.

Finally, if the Board in fact decides to do away with the dispatch office, I am going to respectfully request that you add a line into the budget for a full time secretary, with benefits, who will take the responsibility of handling all of the mandated paperwork that our dispatchers currently handle for us. I expect that that expense will far exceed any savings you think you are going to realize by eliminating the dispatch services. The Mayor himself reported during an open Village meeting that he spoke with Bud Phillips at Greece Ridge FD who stated that when they switched to 911 dispatch services they had to hire two administrators at a cost of \$50,000 each to handle the administrative duties that the dispatchers previously handled.

I am available on my cell phone, as I always am, at 749-3669.

GUESTS:

1. Any sidewalk café permit applications – Pete Apicella of Java Junction and Bob Chapin of Main Street Pizza were in attendance to review their sidewalk café permit applications. No changes from last year.

→ Trustee Castañeda moved, carried 5/0 to grant a sidewalk café permit to Java Junction at 56 Main Street for 2 tables and 8 chairs daily from 6am to 11pm as requested.

→ Trustee Castañeda moved, carried 5/0 to grant a sidewalk café permit to Main Street Pizza at 82 Main Street for 2 tables and 8 chairs and 1 trash receptacle daily from 11am to 10pm as requested.

→ Trustee Castañeda moved, carried 5/0 to grant a sidewalk café permit to Mark's Pizzeria at 121 Main Street for 2 tables and 8 chairs daily from 10am to 8pm as requested.

2. Art Appleby – CROP Walk procession permit & proclamation – Art Appleby was in attendance to accept the following proclamation and review the CROP Walk procession application to be held Sunday, May 3rd beginning at 1pm. The route has changed from last year, will be only in the Village, and will remain on sidewalks, not requiring any street closures.

→ Trustee Castañeda moved, carried 5/0 to grant the procession permit as requested.

→ Mayor Wexler moved, carried 5/0 to adopt the following proclamation:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, on Sunday afternoon, May 3rd, many area residents will "Walk With the World" in the 27th Annual CROP WALK in Brockport; and

WHEREAS, this is done to help provide seeds, tools, water resources, vocational and literacy training and other self-help skills needed overseas through Church World Service; and

WHEREAS; women, men and children throughout the world must walk long distances every day to get water, food and shelter in order to survive; and

WHEREAS; twenty-five percent of CROP WALK funds raised will assist hungry people right in our own area through the Brockport Food Shelf; and

WHEREAS; there have been 26 walks between 1983 and 2008, which have raised the total of \$205,320 of which \$51,330 has stayed in Brockport; and

WHEREAS; there continues to be a growing number of people who need assistance at our local food pantry and a need for education regarding poverty and hunger in the world;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Morton Wexler, Mayor of the Village of Brockport do hereby proclaim May 3rd, 2009 to be CROP WALK Day in the Village of Brockport and encourage all our citizens to ‘Walk With the World’ by walking, sponsoring a walker or making a gift to ‘CROP.’

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I do hereby set my hand, and cause the Corporate Seal of the Village of Brockport to be affixed this 27th day of April, in the year 2009.

3. Lisa Rivera of Clarkson was in attendance as Vice President of Twisted Sister, a motorcycle club that is doing an upcoming fundraising run in the area. She had already spoken with Police Chief Varrenti who foresees no problems.
4. Jason Foote – Chatfield Engineers – Main Street sanitary sewer and water main replacement – J. Foote provided a project status report. The Village Engineer has completed design of the project. They will make submission to NYS DOT, MC DOT, MC DOH and other involved agencies for final approval this week. The project schedule: bid project: May 2009, award contract: June 2009, (June 15th Board meeting) construction: late – June to November 2009.

Village ownership of MCWA water mains:

J. Foote referred to his March 31st letter regarding MCWA asking whether the Village would be willing to take ownership of the MCWA owned water mains located along Main Street and Park Avenue. There would be no charge. Advantages are numerous: savings of almost \$120,000 toward the water main work for the Main Street project, general increase in fire flows along Main Street by creating more loops within the water system, elimination of “separate” water system entities along Main Street, reduction in the number of service interruptions to water customers, less disruption and impact to residents by not having to install new water main. Village Engineer as well as DPW Superintendent Donahue and Water Superintendent Herzog recommend the Village take ownership for these reasons. Although the MCWA water main is over 60 years old, it has had very few breaks over the years and is in very good condition. As part of the Village’s Main Street project, the main would be cleaned and relined to extend its service life. An agreement would be drawn up.

DPW Superintendent Donahue concurred with J. Foote’s explanation.

Trustee Castañeda said their main is 60 years old and ours is 100 years old. H. Donahue said theirs is a heavier pipe, low break history and kept maintained. She asked what happens if we don’t take it. J. Foote said there would not be the \$120,000 savings. Trustee Castañeda said the immediate savings sound good, but wondered what any future expenses there might be. J. Foote said cleaning and relining would extend the life for many decades, but they certainly won’t last forever.

→ Trustee Wagenhauser moved, carried 5/0 to take ownership.

Authorization to bid Main Street sanitary sewer and water main replacement project:

J. Foote said he could have the ad to Clerk Morelli tomorrow for May 4th publication with plans and specifications available through Clerk Morelli, for a June 11th bid opening and June 15th Board award. Only one contract will be awarded for all sanitary sewer and water main work.

→ Trustee Castañeda moved, carried 5/0 granting authorization to bid.

Additional water main work for the MCWA:

J. Foote referred to his recent letter indicating that NYSDOT has inquired whether the Village would be willing to complete some additional non-Village water main work, located outside of Village limits, as part of the Village’s project. The water main facilities in question are owned and operated by MCWA and have been determined to be in conflict with the State’s proposed work. Work involves abandoning the existing meter vault located under the pavement of the proposed round-about and abandoning an existing 6 water main located along Lake Road from the Mormon Church to the meter vault. A new 8” water main will need to be installed across Lake Road to serve the remaining portion of the 6” main. A total of 4 existing water services will be transferred to an existing 14” water main. Total construction cost is estimated at \$30,000. The Village would be 100% reimbursed for all expenses through an agreement

→ Trustee Hunsinger moved, carried 5/0 granting authorization to proceed.

J. Foote suggested the Village hold an informational meeting on the project after awarding the bids, but prior to construction. He said he will do what he can to keep the public informed through a newsletter for the local paper and Village website.

Mayor Wexler asked J. Foote if he had spoken to NYSDOT's Dan Schwind recently, as apparently the Smith Street Bridge rehabilitation has been delayed to begin in September or October and then continue once the water has been drained from the canal. Trustee Castañeda asked if this impacts the Village's project. J. Foote said no.

Mayor Wexler shared that he received a call from Senator Maziarz' office who indicated that they are, indeed, hoping to secure some funding for the Village's water and sewer project.

VILLAGE BOARD REPORTS:

A. Mayor Morton Wexler

1. Accept resignation of Christine Mazzarella from Board of Ethics –

→ Trustee Legg moved, carried 5/0 to accept the resignation of Christine Mazzarella from the Board of Ethics.

2. Appoint to fill vacancy on Parks Committee – term to expire 6/30/2010 –

→ Trustee Hunsinger moved, carried 5/0 to appoint Sandi Henschel to the vacancy on the Parks Committee to complete a term to June 30, 2010.

3. Adopt proclamation – Paint the Town Purple Day 5/1 – American Cancer 6/5 Relay for Life -

→ Trustee Hunsinger moved, carried 5/0 to adopt the following proclamation:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, many area residents will participate in the annual American Cancer Society's Relay for Life to be held June 5th; and

WHEREAS, this is an overnight event where teams raise money for the American Cancer Society and then walk together all night; and

WHEREAS; in an effort to raise awareness for the Relay, the Hamlin Clarkson Mom's Club will "Paint the Town Purple" on May 1st by tying purple ribbons around trees and encouraging people to wear purple shirts;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Morton Wexler, Mayor of the Village of Brockport do hereby proclaim May 1st, 2009 to be Paint the Town Purple Day in the Village of Brockport and encourage all our citizens to support the American Cancer Society's upcoming Relay for Life.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I do hereby set my hand, and cause the Corporate Seal of the Village of Brockport to be affixed this 27th day of April, in the year 2009.

B. Trustee / Vice Mayor Maria C. Castañeda – no report

C. Trustee David J. Wagenhauser – no report

D. Trustee Scott W. Hunsinger – no report

E. Trustee Hal S. Legg – no report

BUDGET:

Need to adopt a Final Budget for 6/1/09 – 5/31/10 by May 1st

Trustee Wagenhauser read the following statement:

Choices. We make choices in our everyday lives that impact our families, friends and jobs. As Trustees, our fiscal decisions affect every business, family and fixed income senior who resides in the village. Our choices impact how well they live and even whether they remain in this village as our neighbors. The village board is presented with such a decision tonight: whether to make fundamental changes to how Brockport does business, or to accept the status quo, its sacred cows and double digit tax rate increases - all of which only postpone inevitable change.

Brockport faces serious fiscal challenges in the near and far term:

MINUTES OF VILLAGE BOARD MEETING HELD April 27, 2009 continued.....page 5

- ✓ Escalating health care costs, union contracts, unfunded state mandates and state retirement costs challenge any municipality, even in good times.
- ✓ Our aging infrastructure - including 100 year old water and sewer lines that will require \$180,000 yearly bond payments for years – is a problem that can't continue to be ignored, as has long been done by past administrations.
- ✓ The recession has a direct effect on Brockport's finances. Like other municipalities, the village relies on State and County aid. Unlike past years, direct State aid has not kept up. Combine that with the fact that consumers are not spending money and municipalities will likely find reductions in one of their largest revenue streams – sales tax (Brockport receives almost \$1.5 million annually in sales tax). Brockport will not be the only municipality affected. Mayor Duffy and Governor Patterson recently noting similar concerns and tentative plans to lay off employees. They will not be alone.
- ✓ Lastly, and most concerning to me, is the inability of some departments to stay within their budgets. Certainly, we must end the mentality that "if there are checks left in the checkbook there must be money in the bank." A review of the budget bears that out – the DPW, for example, was tens of thousands over budget last year, and are a projected \$80,000 over budget this year. Eighty-thousand dollars? That is unacceptable. That is a leadership issue. While I am frequently reminded that it is the mayor's power to direct department heads, I am also concerned that recurring comments from the vice mayor, that DPW is "stripped" have lead to a "if you're not going to budget the money, I'll spend it anyway" attitude. I certainly would have hoped that the vice mayor, as DPW liaison, would have acted or spoken out. I have brought up this concern privately and publically for the last year and recently noted that I will not sign any non-emergency vouchers for those departments significantly over budget.

In light of all these factors, about a month ago I spoke to the board about the need for "significant changes" to ensure some semblance of affordability for our taxpayers.

I presented a plan that would cut over \$400,000 in costs from the mayor's budget. While certainly painful, these changes would reduce the mayor's proposed tax increase from over 22% to (with recent adjustments) less than 3%. As important, it would result in lower expenses than the current year. Frankly, this village can no longer afford to frost everyone's cupcake.

In my plan, the pain would be felt by all Departments, and many programs:

- ✓ DPW would see little increase in payroll or discretionary spending and would not have their large requests granted. It should be noted, however, that the budget I submitted does fund \$180,000 in water and sewer upgrades above and beyond the DPW budget.
- ✓ About \$70,000 cut from the police department's overtime payroll line, resulting in an overall Departmental cost reduction of 2.5% over current year's numbers.
- ✓ Elimination of the Fire Department's dispatch service, joining Hamlin and Spencerport (and the majority of area departments) relying exclusively on 911 service. Annual savings to village residents would total about \$55,000, not including six figure expenses needed soon for equipment upgrades.
- ✓ Non-union wages would be frozen, some employee hours would revert back to 2008 levels and our generous longevity payouts would be eliminated for the near term.

While a needed first step, more changes will be needed, especially if the economy continues its freefall. Regardless of the economy, I believe this, or the new board elected in June, will find that our overpriced water department needs to be eliminated, with service transferred to Monroe County Water Authority. It is clear why the overwhelming majority of municipalities have found that services such as dispatch and water are simply too burdensome for taxpayers.

I realize there will be people lining up to attack my budget proposal and the tough choices I believe the board – in good conscience – must make. Threatening sacred cows and a way of life will bring such furor. To those, I say simply, ignore at your own peril.

We are presented with choices. One choice is a double digit tax rate increase. That proposal would keep the status quo, spare the sacred cows, and make no changes needed for the future. It would hand the problem off to a "yet to be determined" board to be elected in June. While postponing this type of decision may be the "politically expedient" solution – like kissing babies or a handshake with a wink - it doesn't face the real challenges nor act in the best interests of village taxpayers.

During my tenure the past few years, I have heard the mayor and vice mayor note the tax burdens on our residents. I have heard other Trustees speak of “belt tightening” and empathy for our neighbors who have recently been laid off. Well, I say to all of you: talk is cheap. What’s proposed for village homeowners is not.

We are in a recession. Unemployment is very high, people are getting laid off – including government employees. Our fixed income seniors are struggling to make ends meet. Those same seniors and our young families have also witnessed their retirement funds disappear. I will not put an additional \$100-150 burden on our homeowners. I will not support these unacceptable tax increases. It is time to acknowledge that the status quo must go. We must reduce our costs, we must reduce services, we must make systematic changes to make Brockport more affordable. This is not an insurmountable challenge. It just requires us making the right choices.

→ Trustee Wagenhauser moved to accept the budget version he submitted which equates to a 2.97% tax increase.

Discussion:

Board members and Treasurer reminded Trustee Wagenhauser of which version of the budget (preliminary with revisions) the Board had gotten to in his absence at the last couple of meetings and that various line items have to be voted on line by line.

Trustee Castañeda read a statement indicating the Village’s financial history over the last 8 years and that the past few years there has been a false sense of security. She has been ridiculed and alienated by fellow Board members who seem to meet behind closed doors. She commended the Village’s new Treasurer as being very knowledgeable and having provided recommendations. No one wants to raise taxes. It would have been for Village Boards to raise taxes a little bit each year, rather than promising flat or decreased taxes. Board members shouldn’t accuse Department Heads of not living within their means when they haven’t been given what they need to provide services. There has been no consideration for future planning and the Village has only gotten in a deeper hole. The Board needs to go to the taxpayers with the real costs of the services and see what they want. She said she is not in favor of Trustee Wagenhauser’s changes and is distressed with the budget process the last couple of years and the lack of working with the Department Heads.

Trustee Legg commented that he has heard Trustee Castañeda’s continued criticisms of the process that led us here. Be that as it may, if you look at the meeting minutes over the last 2 years, by comparison, this year has been relatively open and straight forward. He regrets that this is still being talked about. The Village is down to the last few days. It must adopt a final budget by May 1st. He nor Trustee Hunsinger can improve on history as they were not on the Board until this year. However, they can help write history today. The Village does not have a lot of money to work with and the forecast for next year is unfavorable, as no big financial gains are expected. Put simply: if the Village doesn’t have money to spend, it ought not spend it. He said he has received many calls the last few days. The tentative budget started with a 22% tax increase. That would be unconscionable, particularly for people hit hard in the global economic downturn. He suggested the Board look at some of Trustee Wagenhauser’s budget suggestions.

Trustee Castañeda said she knows they can’t improve or change history, but they can learn from it. She said it is important that the Board look at all services and cut equally and fairly. She said members of this Board recently voted on hiring 2 additional full time police officers – maybe they shouldn’t have. All this will do is shift overtime costs to paying new officers. However, the costs associated with hiring stays with us forever and ever.

Trustee Wagenhauser said that is not true and challenged Trustee Castañeda to look at the numbers which show a 2.5% decrease. Chief Varrenti concurred.

Mayor Wexler said he is the only member of the Board on a fixed income, and while he is not claiming poverty, he understands what it means to have to live within your means. He said it is true that the hiring of 2 new officers will be a wash the first 2 or 3 years, as they don’t get on 100% of base pay until after their third year. However, it will then cost more than what would have been spent on overtime – thereby costing more overall down the road. He said some of this is due to provisions in the contract that Chief Varrenti inherited. As to the budget process, he said there has been more Board interaction and discussion on the budget in the last 2 weeks than in the last 2 months. He urged whoever is sitting on the Board come July to work together and to work with Department Heads. No doubt, choices aren’t good. There is no light at the end of the tunnel. These are not good economic times and next year doesn’t look any better. Costs of everything keep going up. The Board should be fair and equitable when it comes to wages and benefits for union and non-union employees. It will need to re-negotiate both Union contracts in the next year.

MINUTES OF VILLAGE BOARD MEETING HELD April 27, 2009 continued.....page 7

Mayor Wexler said he has changed his mind on several things during this budget process, has spoken with many taxpayers, employees and volunteers. He said he appreciates the job all do for this community. He said if he has to be the deciding vote on a budget, he would break a tie.

Mayor Wexler said not only are the reserves not being funded, the Board has already made a lot of cuts to a lot of budget lines. He said he is not sure getting to a 2.97% tax increase is deserving of the community as it cuts too much.

Trustee Hunsinger agreed that there are hard decisions to be made – some unpopular. He said he stands by the recent decision to hire 2 additional full time officers and has faith in Chief Varrenti who promised to keep costs down.

→ Trustee Wagenhauser amended his motion to accept the budget version he submitted to add 1% to contingency not to be used which equates to an approximate 4% tax increase.

Discussion:

Trustee Legg suggested it may be more productive to remove from Trustee Wagenhauser's proposal to eliminate dispatch service. The Village just received additional information from the Fire Chief today who is trying to preserve dispatch. However, he said he needs more time to consider the information and how the Fire Chief's proposal would impact the Village's budget. Therefore, he suggested considering this separately.

Mayor Wexler said he has looked at the numbers and Chief Smith's proposal and keeps changing his mind. He said although there will be some savings by eliminating dispatch services, once it is divided by the 3 municipalities, the savings aren't as great.

There was confusion as to which version of the budget the Board was to refer to. Treasurer Tojek reminded the Board that the tentative budget was dated March 20th, the Board adopted revisions to that on April 15th and 22nd and asked her to prepare 2 versions – one that included dispatch and one that eliminated dispatch.

Trustee Wagenhauser said he made changes April 24th to his budget version of March 30th. Trustee Castañeda responded to Trustee Wagenhauser that it is not his budget and that his April 24th proposals should be compared to where the Board currently stands – the April 22nd version.

Treasurer Tojek made copies of her notes that compare Trustee Wagenhauser's latest version to the Board's latest version.

Trustee Wagenhauser reminded the Board that there is a motion on the table.

Call to Question:

→ Trustee Wagenhauser moved, Trustees Legg, Hunsinger, Castañeda, Mayor Wexler opposed 1 to 4 to accept the budget version Trustee Wagenhauser submitted which equates to a 2.97% tax increase. Defeated.

Deputy Fire Chief Henry questioned where the ambulance revenue goes since it seems it can't be used for much of anything. Trustee Wagenhauser responded that it pays for expenses related to ambulance operations. Deputy Chief Henry said money is being made from providing ambulance services. Treasurer Tojek clarified that the Village's funds and 3rd party funds are segregated. Trustee Wagenhauser said there are a lot of questions regarding Chief Smith's letter received today and now is not the time. Deputy Chief Henry asked why not. Trustee Wagenhauser said Chief Smith contends ambulance accounts for 68% of the dispatch budget, but 68% of what? Deputy Chief Henry said the workload / call load. Trustee Wagenhauser said this is in contradiction to correspondence previously received from the Fire Department. It costs the Village \$65,000 to run dispatch. If paid for in part through 3rd party billing, patients using the services will be paying more. Previous correspondence listed duties and functions of the dispatch office and nothing cited ambulance. Deputy Chief Henry cited the 2,000+ call volume for ambulance.

Trustee Castañeda commented that 4 of the 6 calls received just this afternoon were ambulance calls. Trustee Wagenhauser said he doubts 68% of dispatchers time relates to doing ambulance duties.

Chief Smith commented that it is unfortunate that he heard about this proposal through the grapevine on Sunday afternoon. He said it would have been nice for the Department Head to be notified by the Board that the dispatch office was being considered on the chopping block again. Trustee Wagenhauser said he has stuck by his proposal dated March 30th that he had contacted him about. He had solicited Chief Smith's opinion some time ago. Yet, now he's shocked and dismayed. He said he can't understand why services of the Village are provided to give direction and stand desk duty. He said it's nice that they're there, and he doesn't want it to be a personal affront, but times are tough and

savings need to be realized. Chief Smith said he'd be happy to turn his paycheck (volunteer) in.

MINUTES OF VILLAGE BOARD MEETING HELD April 27, 2009 continued.....page 8

Trustee Castañeda said it appears that Chief Smith's proposal is a win/win solution. Trustee Wagenhauser said it will cost \$65,000 to keep dispatch and rates will probably have to change. Trustee Wagenhauser said Board members seem to want to keep dispatch, so let's not continue with questions and answers on it.

Treasurer Tojek suggested taking a step back and looking at the whole issue. Trustee Castañeda asked the Board if they were willing to accept Chief Smith's proposal. Trustee Legg said he is not ready, as it would be reckless. Trustee Castañeda said what is reckless is the Board not properly researching the implications of eliminating services. Trustee Legg said the Board needs to know what the result would be.

→ Trustee Hunsinger moved to table decision on Chief Smith's proposal until further numbers have been put to it.

Chief Smith said he appreciates the Board getting some conversation going on this and not washing it under the bridge. Trustee Legg said it is clear he has tenacity and is a strong advocate for the service.

Treasurer Tojek said the only data she has is what Chief Smith provided. She questioned how else costs would be apportioned other than based on calls. Trustee Castañeda said the Village's portion is estimated to be \$8,000 to run dispatch. Treasurer Tojek commented that it also affects the fire contracts with the Towns of Sweden and Clarkson.

<u>Account #</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Trustee Wagenhauser's</u>	<u>Revision</u>
A2401	Interest Earnings	\$10,500	stays at \$8,000
A2701	Refund prior year expense	\$7,500	stays at \$6,000
→ Trustee Legg moved, carried 5/0:			
A3005	State Aid – mortgage tax	\$34,000	\$37,000
A3089.1	State Aid – CHIPS	\$62,000	stays at \$67,000
A9999	Transfer Reserve 30		hold
A1210.4	Mayor-CE	\$500	stays at \$1,000

Clerk Morelli referred to her memo dated today and commented that similar to Chief Smith's earlier comment, it would have been nice had the Trustee discussed with the Department Heads the proposal to decrease the Deputy Clerk-Treasurer's hours from full time to part time. This was a full time position when Betty Coopenberg held the job for many years. Although Kari Olson was hired part time (30 hours) in December 2007, it was against staff advice. It was proven within 6 months of her employment that it is, indeed, a full time (40 hour) job. The Board authorized so last July. Neither Treasurer Tojek or Clerk Morelli were consulted as to their Department's needs or for their feedback. Cutting Village Hall staff hours only means remaining staff having to pick up the uncovered workload. Clerk Morelli urged the Board to not downgrade the Deputy Clerk-Treasurer's hours and commented that K. Olson is a very valuable member of the team.

→ Trustee Legg moved, Trustees Wagenhauser & Hunsinger in favor, Trustee Castaneda & Mayor Wexler opposed, carried 3/2:

A1325.1	Clerk-Treasurer	reduce from \$94,993 to \$84,187	reduce to \$84,187
---------	-----------------	----------------------------------	--------------------

Treasurer Tojek concurred with Clerk Morelli and opined that cutting the Deputy Clerk-Treasurer from 40 to 30 hours per week is not a wise decision. Trustee Wagenhauser responded that it's not like cutting her from 40 to 10 hours.

Treasurer Tojek asked that the Board skip over the remaining .1 lines and reminded them that it includes a 1.5% non-union employees wage increase.

Mayor Wexler asked if the Board wished to keep or eliminate the 1.5% non-union employees wage increase.

→ Trustee Legg moved, Trustee Hunsinger in favor, Trustee Castaneda & Mayor Wexler opposed, Trustee Wagenhauser abstained, 2/2/1 to rescind the 1.5% non-union employees wage increase. Motion defeated. Remains in the budget. All .1's stay as is.

A1420.4	Law-CE	\$65,000	stays at \$60,000
---------	--------	----------	-------------------

MINUTES OF VILLAGE BOARD MEETING HELD April 27, 2009 continued.....page 9

→Trustee Legg moved, Trustee Hunsinger in favor, Trustee Castañeda & Mayor Wexler opposed, Trustee Wagenhauser abstained, 2/2/1 to reduce A1490.4 from \$2,500 to \$1,500. Motion defeated.

A1490.4	Public Works Admin-CE	\$1,500	stays at \$2,500
A1620.4	Buildings-CE	\$29,500	stays at \$37,500
A1640.4	Central Garage-CE	\$16,000	stays at \$20,000
A1680.4	IT Hardware/software	\$3,500	stays at \$5,355
A1910.4	Unallocated insurance	\$58,000	stays at \$59,000

→Trustee Legg moved, Trustee Hunsinger in favor, Trustee Castañeda & Mayor Wexler opposed, Trustee Wagenhauser abstained, 2/2/1 to reduce A3310.4 from \$8,000 to \$5,000. Motion defeated.

A3310.4	Traffic control-CE	\$5,000	stays at \$8,000
A3620.4	Safety inspections-CE	\$4,000	stays at \$6,600

→Trustee Legg moved, Trustee Hunsinger & Mayor Wexler in favor, Trustee Castañeda opposed, Trustee Wagenhauser abstained, carried 3/1/1 to reduce A5110.4 from \$162,000 to \$154,000.

A5110.4	Street Maintenance-CE	\$150,000 vs \$162,000	reduce to \$154,000
---------	-----------------------	------------------------	---------------------

→Trustee Legg moved, Trustee Hunsinger & Mayor Wexler in favor, Trustee Castañeda opposed, Trustee Wagenhauser abstained, carried 3/1/1 to reduce A5182.4 from \$82,000 to \$80,000.

A5182.4	Street Lighting-CE	\$74,000 vs \$82,000	reduce to \$80,000
---------	--------------------	----------------------	--------------------

→Trustee Legg moved, Trustee Hunsinger & Mayor Wexler in favor, Trustee Castañeda opposed, Trustee Wagenhauser abstained, carried 3/1/1 to reduce A5650.4 from \$820 to \$400.

A5650.4	Off Street Parking-CE	\$0 vs \$820	reduce to \$400
---------	-----------------------	--------------	-----------------

A6410.4 Economic Development \$3,000 Treasurer Tojek had added line for \$2,000 Farm Market Manager stipend

→ Trustee Legg moved, Trustees Hunsinger & Castañeda & Mayor Wexler in favor, Trustee Wagenhauser abstained, carried 4/0/1 to reduce A7145.4 from \$12,000 to \$6,000.

A7145.4	Senior Program	\$2,000 vs. \$12,000	reduce to \$6,000
---------	----------------	----------------------	-------------------

→ Trustee Legg moved, Trustees Hunsinger & Castañeda & Mayor Wexler in favor, Trustee Wagenhauser abstained, carried 4/0/1 to reduce A7450.4 from \$1,300 to \$650.

A7450.4	Museum-CE	\$650 vs \$1,300	reduce to \$650
---------	-----------	------------------	-----------------

A7550.4	Celebrations	\$4,000 vs \$3,000	stays at \$3,000
A8140.4	Storm Sewer-CE	\$9,000 vs \$10,000	stays at \$10,000
A8170.4	Street Cleaning	\$3,500 vs \$5,500	stays at \$5,500
A8510.4	Community Beautification	\$1,500 vs 0	stays at 0

→ Trustee Legg moved, Trustees Hunsinger & Castañeda & Mayor Wexler in favor, Trustee Wagenhauser abstained, carried 4/0/1 to reduce A8560.4 from \$6,200 to \$4,500.

A8560.4	Shade Trees	\$4,500 vs \$6,200	reduce to \$4,500
---------	-------------	--------------------	-------------------

A8989.4	Educable	0 vs \$1,800	stays at \$1,800 to finish out 2009 contract.
---------	----------	--------------	---

Treasurer Tojek asked that the Board skip over the remaining .8 lines (retirement, social security, employee insurances). stays as is

A9950.9	Building Capital Reserve	\$2,000 vs \$3,000	hold
A9950.9	Comm Equip Reserve	0 vs \$12,000	hold

Trustee Legg said by his calculations they're down to 13.5% increase compared to 14.89% 3 hours ago. Treasurer Tojek said the Board has whittled down line by line further and further and still doesn't like the tax rate it generates. However, if the Board feels the expenses are legitimate then go with the resulting tax rate increase.

Trustee Castañeda said the next board would inherit this budget. The Board needs to vote their convictions and take advantage of its knowledgeable new Treasurer. As Chief Varrenti has said, the Board needs to determine what are essential services or find ways to bring in more revenue. If we keep services, it will equate to a tax increase.

Trustee Legg said it's a matter of spending money or not spending money.

MINUTES OF VILLAGE BOARD MEETING HELD April 27, 2009 continued.....page 10

Trustee Castañeda commented that it is not entirely this Board's fault, as the Village's economic woes did not happen overnight. In the past 8 years administrations have spent and spent.

Mayor Wexler said there is no indication from people that they want services cut. The Board has done its best to nickel and dime the savings, but not eliminate services.

Trustee Wagenhauser said putting out a large tax increase might prompt people to call for cuts in services.

Board agreed to meet Wednesday, April 29th 8am to adopt a final budget by May 1st.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

A. PUBLIC WORKS – Superintendent Harry G. Donahue – no report

B. POLICE DEPARTMENT – Chief Daniel P. Varrenti

1. Accept resignation of part time officer Samuel Cubiotti – Due to obtaining a full time position elsewhere, S. Cubiotti submitted a letter of resignation effective May 15th.

→ Trustee Wagenhauser moved, carried 5/0 to accept the resignation of part time officer Samuel Cubiotti effective May 15th with regrets.

2. Part time officers – Chief Varrenti stated that unless directed by the Village Board, he would not pursue the hiring of part time police officers until a provision is added to the contract that requires the hires to reimburse the Village the cost of training, equipment and uniforms. There has been a revolving door of part time officers at great cost, which he has previously outlined.
3. Elimination of services – Chief Varrenti commented that while he knows the Board does not want to impose a large tax increase, they should do their due diligence researching the elimination of services, because once a service is gone, there is no bringing it back. Further, if someone gets hurt due to the elimination of a service, the consequences may be difficult to live with.

C. BUILDING / ZONING / CODE ENFORCEMENT - Scott C. Zarnstorff (excused)

D. FIRE /AMBULANCE / COMMUNICATIONS - Chief Scott Smith / Deputy Chief Mike Henry

1. Membership Drops & Adds – Deputy Chief Henry asked the Board to consider approving the following drops: none, the following adds: Ashley Juby from Explorer to Fire, Natasha Nellis to Ambulance, Steven Ray to Fire and Ambulance, the following exempt certificates: none.

→ Trustee Castañeda moved, carried 5/0 to approve the previously mentioned drops, adds and exempt certificates.

2. Bid Results – re sale of ambulance and stretcher – No bids were received. Deputy Chief Henry said they are looking at other options for marketing the ambulance with stretcher as well as the old pumper.

E. TREASURER – Gina M. Tojek – no report

F. CLERK - Leslie A. Morelli – no report

G. VILLAGE MANAGER - vacant

H. VILLAGE ATTORNEY – David F. Mayer, Esq. (excused)

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

AUDIT: None

ADJOURNMENT:

→ Trustee Hunsinger moved, carried 5/0 that the meeting be adjourned at 10:25pm.

Leslie Ann Morelli, Village Clerk