

Work Session of the Village Board of the Village of Brockport was held in the Village Hall Conference Room 49 State Street Brockport, New York, January 23, 2017 at 7:00pm.

PRESENT: Mayor Margaret B. Blackman, Trustee/Deputy Mayor William G. Andrews, Trustee Annette M. Crane, Trustee Katherine J. Kristansen, Trustee John D. LaPierre, Treasurer Daniel P. Hendricks, DPW Spt. Harry G. Donahue, Police Chief Daniel P. Varrenti

ABSENT: BI/CEO David J. Miller, Jr.

ALSO PRESENT: Police Lt. Mark Cuzzupoli, Joan Hamlin, Fred Webster

This was a work session, not a regular meeting. No public comment.

- **CALL TO ORDER:**
- **ACTION ITEMS** (time sensitive):
 - Approval of minutes 12/19/16:

→ Trustee Kristansen moved, Trustee Andrews seconded, carried 5/0 that the minutes of the 12/19/16 meeting be approved as amended.

- Approval of bills

→ Trustee LaPierre moved, Trustee Kristansen seconded, carried 5/0 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>	12/28/16	\$182,879.68	
	1/13/17	\$31,692.82	
FUND (F): <u>Water</u>	12/28/16	\$20,415.50	
	1/13/17	\$46,264.03	
FUND (G): <u>Sewer</u>	12/28/16	\$174.22	
	1/13/17	\$254.41	
FUND (H): <u>Capital</u>	-	-	
FUND (T): <u>Trust & Agency</u>	-	-	
			\$203,469.40 12/28/16 total
			\$78,211.26 1/13/17 total
Online payment – National Grid	1/17/17	\$4,667.50	
Wire transfer – Constellation	1/17/17	\$6,393.10	
			\$11,060.60 1/17/17 total

- Authorize budget amendments & transfers -

→ Trustee Crane moved, Trustee LaPierre seconded, carried 5/0 that the following budget amendments and transfers be authorized:

Amendments

Expenditures

Account

#	Description	Amount	Purpose
A3120.4120	Police – Life/Safety Supplies	\$10,000.00	(1)
A5110.2080	Street Maintenance Equipment – General Fund	\$120,734.00	(2)
F8340.2020	Vehicles – Water Fund	\$120,734.00	(3)

Revenues:

Account

#	Description	Amount	Purpose
A3089.7000	State Aid – Other	\$10,000.00	(1)

Purpose:

- (1) Increase General Fund expense and revenue budget to reflect expenditures for state grant from

Division of Criminal Justice Services.

(?) New street sweeper – revenues will be updated once old street sweeper is sold via auction, net balance from available fund balance.

Transfers Account #	From	Account #	To	Amount	
A1990.4000	Contingency	A3120.4080	Police – Qtr. Mstr.	\$1,000.00	(1)

Purpose:

(1) Uniforms for Police Dept.

- o Accept & authorize Mayor to sign Chatfield Engineers Idlewood Drive water main replacement engineering services proposal -

→ Trustee Kristansen moved, Trustee LaPierre seconded, carried 5/0 to accept and authorize the Mayor to sign the Idlewood Drive water main replacement engineering services proposal in the amount of \$8,790.

- o Resolution – corporate authority certificate and trading authorization for brokerage accounts –

→ Trustee Kristansen moved, Trustee LaPierre seconded, carried 5/0 to authorize the corporate authority certificate and trading authorization for brokerage accounts.

- o Authorize Mayor to attend NYCOM Winter Legislative Meeting in Albany 2/12-2/14/17 -

→ Trustee LaPierre moved, Trustee Crane seconded, carried 5/0 to authorize the Mayor to attend the NYCOM winter legislative meeting in Albany 2/12-2/14/17.

- o Clerical – the 2 temporary part time clerks have been reclassified as “Substitute On Call” – authorize including in 6/1/17-5/31/18 budget on an as needed basis -

→ Trustee Kristansen moved, Trustee Crane seconded, carried 5/0 to authorize including the 2 temporary part time clerks as Substitute On Call in the budget on an as needed basis.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION / REVIEW:

- o Brockport Volunteer Ambulance Corps, Inc. tax exemption support letter sent 1/11/17

January 11, 2017

Hon. Robert Ort
62nd Senatorial District
175 Walnut Street
Suite 6
Lockport, NY 14094

Via email: ortt@nysenate.gov

Hon. Steve Hawley
121 N. Main Street
Suite 100
Albion, NY 14411

Via email: hawleys@assembly.state.ny.us

Re: Tax exemption support for Brockport Volunteer Ambulance Corps, Inc.

Dear Senator Ort & Assemblyman Hawley:

Please let this letter serve as support for extending Brockport Volunteer Ambulance Corps, Inc. tax exempt status back to the time of their closing on the Burroughs Terrace property in the Village of Brockport. They purchased the property after the taxable status date for 2016.

While taxing jurisdictions establish their budgets based on the final assessment roll, and the Village will lose a small amount of tax revenue, I believe that retroactively granting the exemption is offset by keeping Brockport Ambulance in the community as it provides a very valuable service to our residents. I support state legislation to accomplish this.

Please let me know if there is anything further I can do to support this effort. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Margaret B. Blackman
Mayor
Village of Brockport

Xc: David Rice, President - Brockport Volunteer Ambulance Corps, Inc.
Robert Carges, Supervisor - Town of Sweden
Tammy J. Baker, IAO, Assessor – Town of Sweden

- o SUNY Impact Aid support letter sent 1/19/17 –

January 19, 2017

Village of Alfred - Mayor Justin Grigg
Village of Canton – Mayor Michael Dalton
Village of Delhi – Mayor Richard Maxey
Village of Farmingdale – Mayor Ralph Ekstrand
Village of Fredonia – Mayor Athanasia Landis
Village of Geneseo – Mayor Richard Hatheway
Village of Morrisville – Mayor Mark Shepard
Village of New Paltz – Mayor Tim Rogers
Village of Potsdam – Mayor Reinhold Tischler
City of Binghamton – Mayor Richard David
City of Oswego – Mayor William Barlow, Jr.
City of Plattsburgh – Mayor Colin L. Read

Dear Mayors:

I am writing to you in regard to the SUNY Impact Aid Assistance Act [S4643, A6416 in the last legislative session] and its importance to SUNY municipalities.

The Brockport Village Board has followed the status this legislation since these bills were introduced into the Senate and Assembly in the 2015-16 legislative session. We are also following the two pilot programs related to this legislation that have been established this year in Oneonta and Cortland. Passage of the SUNY Impact Aid bill in the 2017-18 State Budget would make an enormous difference to the Village of Brockport and, by extension, to the SUNY College we host within our village boundaries. I'm presuming passage would make a great difference to your municipality as well.

The Village of Brockport has faced two referendum votes to dissolve in the last 6 years, most recently this past May. Both were defeated by a reasonable margin. High taxes were the overriding driver of both referenda. Although our tax levy has been under the tax cap each year, we have no reason to believe that our high tax rate (\$11.87/1,000) won't lead to another dissolution referendum four years from now. The possibility of dissolution impacts the college as well as the village. The College at Brockport benefits from the village's strong community policing and our effective code enforcement office that monitors off campus housing. Both departments comprise a significant portion of our public safety budget and both departments would be severely diminished or eliminated with dissolution. Passage of the SUNY Impact Aid Assistance Act would reimburse some of those public safety services and would lighten our tax burden.

Brockport's high tax rate is attributable to several factors—the loss of most manufacturing over the years and low assessments of the many college rentals in the village are two of them. But the primary contributor to our tax rate is the 65% of village property that belongs to the College at Brockport and is tax exempt. The owners of 35% of the property in Brockport carry the tax levy for the entire village.

To give an idea of the impact of the college's tax exempt status (which is highly unlikely to ever change), were the college property to be taxed, our tax rate would fall from \$11.87/1,000 to \$4.30/1,000 with the college paying \$1.7 million of our \$2.6 million property tax levy. You may have seen the October 30th article, "Taxed Off: SUNY Schools Stress Town Budgets" which ran in the *Rochester Democrat and Chronicle* and in several other NYS papers. There is a link to it from our village website home page, www.brockportny.org.

Many of the SUNY municipalities have high tax rates like ours (some even higher) for precisely the same reasons. The health of SUNY host communities and the well-being of SUNY institutions depend in no insignificant part on the services each host community offers to its SUNY partner. The sheer amount and value of tax exempt SUNY property severely hampers this effort and burdens municipal

taxpayers. At a current proposed cost of under \$10 million, SUNY Impact Aid is not a big ticket budget item, but it's a very important one to the villages, towns, and cities with SUNY institutions.

Both our Senator, Robert Ort, a co-sponsor of this legislation, and our Assemblyman, Steve Hawley, are advocating for passage of this legislation on our behalf. The College at Brockport stands with us in urging passage of the SUNY Impact Aid Assistance Act.

Senator Seward and Assembly woman Lifton will be re-introducing this legislation in the upcoming session. Please write and call your representatives and urge them to support this legislation. Better yet come to the NYCOM legislative meeting in Albany and schedule a meeting with your senator and assembly representative to push for passage of this legislation. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Margaret B. Blackman, Mayor
Village of Brockport

Also copied to Senator Ort, Assemblyman Hawley, NYCOM's Barbara VanEpps, Oneonta & Cortland

- o 3/27/17 Village Board work session – with Treasurer & Department Heads
 - o Guests: 7pm Assessor & 8pm Emergency Operations Planning
- o 6/1/17-5/31/18 Budget preparation – with Treasurer & Department Heads
 - o Financial reports for period ending 12/31/16
 - o Shafer Trust – status for period ending 12/31/16
 - o Farmers Market – statement of revenues & expenditures 12/31/16
 - o Welcome Center – statement of revenues & expenditures 12/31/16
 - o Wages & Benefits
 - o Departmental budget requests

OTHER:

- o Authorize BI/CE/PB/ZBA Clerk to attend NYPF conference in Saratoga Springs 3/26-3/28/17 -
- Trustee Kristansen moved, Trustee LaPierre seconded, carried 5/0 to authorize BI/CE/PB/ZBA Clerk Katie Brown to attend the NYPF (New York Planning Federation) conference in Saratoga Springs 3/26-3/28/17.

- o Authorize water rates increase -

→ Mayor Blackman moved, Trustee LaPierre seconded, carried 5/0 to authorize water rates increase by 15 cents per 1,000 gallons effective with the March 1, 2017 billing as follows:

Village of Brockport

Water Rate Schedule – Effective March 1, 2017 Billing

As Adopted January 23, 2017

Rates for the sale of water to all customers of the Board of Water Commissioners.

QUARTERLY METERED SERVICE WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF BROCKPORT:

All Water Usage	\$4.81 per M gallons
Minimum Billing	\$20.00 per quarter

QUARTERLY METERED SERVICE OUTSIDE THE VILLAGE OF BROCKPORT:

All Water Usage	\$6.14 per M gallons
Minimum Billing	\$25.00 per quarter

MONTHLY METERED SERVICE WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF BROCKPORT:

All Water Usage	\$4.81 per M gallons
Minimum Billing	\$20.00 per month

MONTHLY METERED SERVICE OUTSIDE THE VILLAGE OF BROCKPORT:

All Water Usage	\$6.14 per M gallons
Minimum Billing	\$25.00 per month

UN-METERED WATER

The rate for un-metered water sales shall be \$6.15 per 1,000 gallons.

TERMS AND PAYMENTS:

All bills and charges of the Water Commissioners are payable net cash within thirty (30) days. A delinquent charge of 10% will be added to the bill for non-payment by due date.

Village Clerk Morelli will amend the fee schedule to reflect this and publish notice in Suburban News and on the Village website. Deputy Clerk Herzog will make the necessary adjustments on the water billing software.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

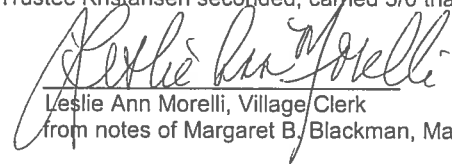
→ At 9:05pm, Trustee Crane moved, Trustee Kristansen seconded, carried 5/0 that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Brockport enter into executive session to discuss potential litigation.

Treasurer Hendricks and DPW Superintendent Donahue were invited to sit in.

→ At 9:17pm, Trustee LaPierre moved, Trustee Kristansen seconded, carried 5/0 that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Brockport re-enter the regular meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

→ At 9:17pm, Trustee LaPierre moved, Trustee Kristansen seconded, carried 5/0 that the meeting be adjourned.


Leslie Ann Morelli, Village Clerk
from notes of Margaret B. Blackman, Mayor

