

## VILLAGE OF BROCKPORT

“To provide a high quality of life for all residents, exercising fiscal responsibility and preserving Brockport’s unique heritage and historic character.”

### VILLAGE BOARD - MEETING MINUTES 6/15/2020

49 State St. / Meeting closed to public, available on Facebook Live & website post meeting  
Public Comment or Questions to [mblackman@brockportny.org](mailto:mblackman@brockportny.org) during the meeting

**CALL TO ORDER** – Meeting called to order at 7pm

**MOMENT OF SILENCE:** to honor those who serve our Country, enforce our laws, & respond to emergencies and our health care workers still on the front lines with Covid-19.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Comments and questions will be accepted via email and can be sent during the board meeting to [mblackman@brockportny.org](mailto:mblackman@brockportny.org)

#### CONSENSUS ITEMS:

Trustee Kristansen moved, Deputy Mayor LaPierre seconded, to approve the minutes from 5/4/2020. Approved 5/0.

Deputy Mayor John LaPierre moved, Trustee Halquist seconded, to approve the bills to be paid. Approved 5/0.

A (General Fund)	\$264,720.49	June 8, 2020
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$264,720.49</b>	

A (General Fund)	\$28,294.89	May 28, 2020
F (Water Fund)	\$15,525.27	May 28, 2020
G (Sewer Fund)	\$13,270.27	May 28, 2020
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$58,178.66</b>	

#### CLERK/MANAGER REPORT:

Clerk/Manager – Erica L. Linden

- State Liquor Authority granted approval of applications on behalf of 5 restaurants using municipal property to serve alcoholic beverages in café seating: Red Bird Tea Shoppe, 58 Main, Piccolo Fazool’s, The Rooster, Barber’s
- Village Hall opening – only two people at a time in the lobby, appointments still encouraged, drive-up window and mail payments still encouraged. Masks required.
- Reminder no election tomorrow 6/16/20 – Village Hall open tomorrow, elections rescheduled for September.

#### DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Treasurer – Daniel P. Hendricks, excused

- Mayor Blackman noted the board still needed to approve a transfer from the budget for Village Liability for Compensated Absences, including sick time and vacation time. There was not quite enough in the budget so we need to transfer \$64,638.98 from unassigned fund balance and the water fund. Trustee Kristansen moved Deputy Mayor LaPierre seconded.

Per Treasurer Hendricks’ note, this is an annual requirement to reflect the liability at year end, May 31, 2020 for accumulated sick, vacation, comp and personal time, per our two union contracts, and full-time nonunion employee benefits. We have sufficient fund balance to accommodate this request. Transfer information attached to minutes.

Brief discussion followed. Trustee Crane asked if this amount of transfer is in line with what we had to do in the past? Mayor Blackman noted that is a good question to ask Dan.

Motion passed 5/0.

Building / Planning / Zoning / Code Enforcement – Chad H. Fabry

- Exterior Property Maintenance – There is an issue that is exacerbated at this time every year when college students are moving out. This year people got caught with lawn mowing this year due to weird weather. Issued

40-42 orders to correct, with a week to do so, everyone but 2 corrected. It is not all landlords; they were the ones who came into compliance the fastest. Actionable is 10 inches.

Discussion of streets with houses out of compliance based on board observations.

BICEO Fabry said exterior property maintenance- we'll start in the northeast corner of town, will start tackling the worst 5-6 on every street and work in layers.

Discussion of process, request to act, order to correct, appearance ticket. Explanation that the state does regulate time periods to correct to eliminate unequal treatment. Good news is we had 98% compliance by asking politely.

#### Public Works – Harry G. Donahue

- We advertised for summer laborers, agreed to hire 2, possibly 4. David Rettick was interviewed this morning, recommended for hire and a returning summer laborer, Jacob Bonisteel, this will be his third year. David is \$13 / hour for Jacob it would be \$14 / hour for returning.

Trustee Kristansen moved, Deputy Mayor LaPierre seconded to appoint these two summer laborers. Motion approved 5/0.

#### Police – Chief Mark T. Cuzzupoli

- Executive Order “New York State Police Reform & Reinvention Collaborative” – we talked about this this morning. As Chief, I want to make it clear I am very proud of our police department the way it is. We just went through New York State accreditation, where we met 119 different state standards. It doesn't mean we can't be better, because we can. The state says we have to have 21 training hours per year, we exceed that, we try to be progressive. The list of training is too long to go through here, maybe a workshop or this new initiative. We have been involved with the student group at the college, Men of Color, for the last three years. We appreciate building relationships and learning together in this type of real-world experience.
- 11 items under this executive order – the only surprise was 50A Civil Rights Law, which allows personnel records to be released, but it is still unclear what is releasable and what must be redacted.
- June 8<sup>th</sup> we had nice ceremony here, limited to ten people, Tyler Dawson was sworn in as a Criminal Investigator. He will still be on a regular wheel, still be a road officer, but will help with coordination and communication on investigations.

#### Village Attorney – Daniel J. Mastrella, Esq., excused

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- “New York State Police Reform & Reinvention Collaborative” -- This is detailed in Executive Order 203 issued June 12: NYS Police Reform and Reinvention Collaborative. Involves a comprehensive review of police policies/procedures to address community needs, promote community engagement to foster trust, fairness, legitimacy, and to address any racial bias and disproportionate policing of communities of color. Local government working with the police in consultation with the public. The result is a plan, adopted by local law no later than April 1. Lists topics to be considered.

What happened with the murder of George Floyd and now the killing of Rashad Brooks has an impact on all of us, including the police, the local government, and the residents of villages like ours.

What I would like to do, and I spoke this am with Chief Cuzzupoli and have notified the Board, is to set up a citizens committee that would include representatives of the major stakeholders to come up with the plan. Meetings would be structured around the required topics with the mission of education, understanding different points of view, building trust, and transparency.

I view this executive order as an opportunity for our local government, our police, and the public to have an informative, productive, and honest discussion about the recent police killings of black people. And for all of us to learn something in the process.

- Breaking Down Barriers Training—what village board and village employees are beginning with. Optional. By Kerry Gant, Diversity Officer for BCSD scheduled for June 25th.

- Property Tax Penalty Extension for village taxes—to July 22. We lobbied the governor to offer this extension which could only be done by executive order. It extends the penalty free period by 21 days.
- County Sales Tax—although we mentioned this at the last meeting it is worth noting May sales tax revenue is down 32% as announced by the State Comptroller.
- RGTA Bike Share Program—letter attached to the minutes. Funded by a grant through RTA, we are interested in doing this in conjunction with the college.
- Earthen Integrity Embankment Program—SEQRA Draft Scoping document, 13pages. This is for the work going eastward from Brockport. Public comment open till July 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## **VILLAGE BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Mayor Blackman: Correction to VB minutes from 4/20/20 in which I announced a change in grant writing firms. I mistakenly quoted that our success rate with J O'Connell was 30%. It was 63%. That does not change our decision about contracting with a different grant writing firm.

Trustee Crane: Our Farmer's Market opens for the season this Sunday, June 21st. Every Sunday 8am until 1pm. Erica and I have been working with the Market coordinators, who have been working with the Cooperative Extension on farmer's market guidance this year. All our food vendors will be back. This year there will be no entertainment or crafts. There will be hand sanitizer at each vendor's table. The vendor's tables will be organized for shoppers to point to the produce and the vendors will hand over the bagged produce. No tasting or sampling this year. Masks will be required. There will be wonderful produce. Enjoy it in good health.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Trustee Kristansen moved, Deputy LaPierre seconded, to suspend the regular meeting and enter Executive Session for purposes of discussing a personnel matter. Chief Cuzzupoli and Manager Linden were invited to attend. Motion passed 5/0, Executive Session began at 7:45pm.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Trustee Kristansen moved, Trustee Crane seconded, to come out of Executive Session and reenter the regular meeting at 8:00pm.

Trustee Kristansen moved to adjourn at 8:06 pm. Trustee Crane seconded. 5/0 Motion passed.