

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, February 17, 2010 at 7:00pm.

PRESENT: Mayor M. Connie Castañeda, Deputy Mayor Christopher R. Martin, Trustee Kent R. Blair, Trustee Scott W. Hunsinger, Trustee Hal S. Legg, Clerk Leslie A. Morelli, Interim Treasurer Mary Beth Lovejoy, Building/Zoning Officer Scott C. Zarnstorff, Police Chief Daniel P. Varrenti, Fire Chief Scott Smith

EXCUSED: DPW Superintendent Harry G. Donahue

ALSO PRESENT: Village Attorney David F. Mayer, Jim & Joan Hamlin, Norm Giancursio, Francisco & Linda Borrayo, Rachael Blair, Serina Blair, Josephine Matela, Mark Cuzzupoli, Stephen Mesiti, Brian Winant, Bernie LoBracco, Kathy Snyder, Mary Jo Nayman, Daniel Kuhn, Fred Webster, Margay Blackman, Pam Ketchum, Michael Menear, Kelly Smith, Jarl & Doris Boyst, Tom & Darlene Lang, Andy Burkhartzmeyer & several scouts & several SUNY students

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

Mayor Castañeda welcomed the several Boy Scouts in the audience.

Mayor Castañeda introduced and welcomed Mary Beth Lovejoy as Interim Treasurer. She comes to us with many years of experience in finance. She also comes highly recommended by our independent auditors. I would like to stress that her hours here are limited. Her focus must be on cash flow and budget preparation. With all due respect, requests for information from Board members or Department Heads should recognize that. Therefore, requests for information from the Treasurer's office should be directed to my attention and will be responded to in order of priority and as time allows. Furthermore, seeing that the Treasurer reports directly to the Mayor, as Chief Executive officer I will serve as liaison to finance. I thank Trustee Legg for his many hours of work as liaison to former Treasurer Tojek.

Trustee Legg expressed concern of the Mayor gate keeping access to records and why Board members or Department Heads should contact the Mayor if they need information from the Treasurer.

Mayor Castañeda said it is important for all to recognize that the Interim Treasurer has limited part time hours and that her main focus must be on the cash flow analysis and budget preparation. She urged everyone to allow her the time to focus on the tasks at hand. Requests for information will be answered and will be shared with the entire Board.

Trustee Legg said equally important is to recognize that the Board has a job to do. That might just supersede the needs of the Interim Treasurer. Board members need unfettered access to the records contained in the Treasurer's office.

Mayor Castañeda assured that requests for information will be granted. Trustee Legg questioned why he would need to go through the Mayor to get information held by the Treasurer. Mayor Castañeda cited Village Law 4-400 that outlines the duties of the Mayor. The Mayor directs and supervises employees. Trustee Legg questioned how the Mayor gate keeping information best serves the Village. Mayor Castañeda stressed the importance of prioritizing staff time and efforts. Trustee Legg said any member of the public could file a FOIL application to obtain records. Mayor Castañeda concurred and stated that the FOIL law allows a certain amount of time to respond to FOIL requests. Trustee Legg said he agreed to be at special Board meetings regarding the budget. The information he has and will be requesting is budget related. He said it is inconceivable that this process will benefit the Village and that he is stunned by the directive. Mayor Castañeda said the information is not being denied. A process for requesting and receiving that information is simply being put in place.

VILLAGE OF BROCKPORT
BOARD LIAISONS TO DEPARTMENTS / AREAS / BOARDS / COMMITTEES
Through July 2010
Updated 02/17/10

Budget and Finance	Mayor Castañeda
Personnel / Human Resources	Trustee Legg
Building / Zoning / Code Enforcement	Trustees Hunsinger
Public Works	Trustees Hunsinger & Deputy Mayor Martin
Police Department	Trustees Hunsinger & Deputy Mayor Martin
Fire & Ambulance & Dispatch	Trustees Hunsinger & Blair
Seymour Library Board	Trustee Legg
Planning Board	Trustee Blair
Zoning Board of Appeals	Deputy Mayor Martin
Historic Preservation Board	Deputy Mayor Martin
Tree Board	Trustee Legg
Code Review Committee	Trustee Hunsinger
Emily L. Knapp Museum & Library of Local History	Deputy Mayor Martin

Welcome Center Management Committee (William Andrews, Josephine Matela, Chris Marks)	Trustee Blair
Walk Bike Brockport Action Group	Trustee Legg
Economic Development	Mayor Castañeda
Intergovernmental Relations	Mayor Castañeda
Main Street Rehabilitation Committee	Mayor Castañeda
Village Advisory Committee	Mayor Castañeda
Mayor’s Advisory Committee on Budget & Finance	Mayor Castañeda
Farmers Market	Trustee Legg
Summer Serenades	Trustee Hunsinger

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: Mayor Castañeda called for any additions or corrections to the minutes of the last meetings.

- ➔ Mayor Castañeda moved, Trustee Hunsinger seconded, unanimously carried 5/0 that the minutes of the meeting held February 1, 2010, be approved as written.
- ➔ Mayor Castañeda moved, Deputy Mayor Martin seconded, Trustee Legg abstained due to absence, carried 4/0/1 that the minutes of the meeting held February 5, 2010, be approved as written.

AUDIT – PAY BILLS:

- ➔ Mayor Castañeda moved, Trustee Legg seconded, unanimously carried 5/0 that the bills be allowed and paid upon audit.

A/P Clearing Account Check #'s 000341-000382

	<u>Date Paid</u>	<u>Amount</u>		
FUND (A):				
<u>General</u>	2/18/10	\$37,205.72	\$37,205.72	Total General
FUND (F):				
<u>Water</u>	2/18/10	\$29,570.22	\$29,570.22	Total Water
FUND (H):				
<u>Capital</u>	2/18/10	\$9,796.55	\$9,796.55	Total Capital
			\$76,572.49	Grand Total

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Officer Stephen Mesiti – Stetson Club President – read the following statement into the record:

“Mayor Castañeda –

We are here to address the comments you are quoted as saying in the “City” newspaper dated January 27, 2010. In this article you are quoted as saying the following: “It’s time to downgrade or eliminate the police department.” This article further quotes you as saying: “And the police department is another area to consider for cuts.”

Additionally, at the Village Board meeting that took place on Monday, February 1st, you read into the record, a letter written by a South Avenue resident that contains a bold faced lie. In this letter the author states that the Monroe County Sheriff’s Office was the first agency on scene at the Lakeside Hospital shootings.

Well Mayor, I can assure you that the first officer on scene was from the Brockport Police Department, because that officer was me. I was the officer that opened the door for the hysterical woman with a gunshot wound to her arm. I was the officer that notified the dispatcher that there was a shooting at Lakeside Hospital. And I was the first officer on scene to see a sight that will haunt me for the rest of my life.

Assuming that you believe the lies written in this letter, you then asked the Board for a motion to put the Brockport Police Department up for a referendum.

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The Union feels that your public comments and actions are improper and a clear violation of the Public Employees' Fair Employment Act, commonly known as the "Taylor Law", particularly that portion of the Taylor Law that deals with "Negotiating in Good Faith."

Your recent public comments and actions clearly violate this section of law and the Brockport Stetson Club would be well within its rights to file an improper practice charge against the Village.

The last thing this union wants to do is to exacerbate an already bad situation by filing an improper practice charge which will ultimately cause the good people in this room and in this community to spend more tax dollars. Money, that God knows we don't have. Spent on attorney's fees because of a poor decision on your part.

Rather, we want to allow the Chief to propose a contract that has been mutually agreed upon between those of us who sat at the negotiating table in excess of 35 hours. A contract that will ultimately save this Village a considerable amount of money over the next five years. This contract proposal contains terms and conditions that have not or will ever be agreed upon again by any law enforcement union in this county.

The majority of the Police Officers who work for the Brockport Police Department grew up in this community. We care for this Village and are committed to serving this community now and for many years to come as evidenced by this contract proposal and the work ethic of past and present Brockport Police Officers.

Thank you and have a good evening."

2. Daniel Kuhn of Utica Street – said he is an attorney, but is here personally.

He said he considers Mayor Castañeda and Trustee Legg friends. Said most know that he has spearheaded the drive to dissolve Village government. He has collected signatures on a petition and discussed this with many people. Many misconceptions and questions have arisen.

The first is that the dissolution movement is an effort to get rid of the Village Code or sections of it that some do not like. That is incorrect and would not happen as Section 789 of the law cites that upon dissolution of a Village, every Village Code becomes part of the Town Code for 2 years. Then the Town is afforded the opportunity to remove, revise, or change redundant codes. The Village Code would not just go away. Further, the Town of Sweden Code and the Village of Brockport Code are functionally very similar. The Town has residential rentals, commercial, industrial, etc. No one seems to be able to point out specific differences in the Codes that are of concern.

The second is about cutting services. The dissolution movement's concern is to not leave valuable services in the hands of the Village government that has proven over the last 10 years that they cannot manage them effectively. This is evidenced by the Village running out of money and having to borrow money to get to the end of the fiscal year. It is clear that the Village government has not managed money properly.

D. Kuhn shared that they have enough signatures on the petition, so it is not an "if" but a "when" there will be a referendum on dissolving the Village. He said if you value Village services, why keep them in the hands of the Village government who has proven to mismanage them time and again by nickel and diming the Fire Department volunteers and cutting Public Works. The people want services, but they want them to be managed appropriately.

3. Carol Hannon of Main Street forwarded the following statement to be read into the record –

"Dissolution. We're all talking about it. Now, let's think about it – what it might mean to Brockport when the voting is over, and more specifically, what it would mean to the people who live here.

I believe the core group of people pushing for this quick decision are the same people who've been working to control Brockport for many years. I've seen them try to do this by getting themselves and their friends elected to the Board of Trustees, disrupting meetings where they hiss, boo, and scream insults at anyone who opposes what they want, and by filing endless expensive lawsuits which taxpayers have to defend. Now this. Dissolution as a means to their ends. Consider what dissolution would mean to a few landlords.

Brockport is their "cash cow". For decades, our homes have been turned into money-making machines, giving a few people many profits with little risk. Now that the village is flooded with rentals and college students have other options, what's a landlord to do? Think about it. The demise of the village will almost certainly make it easier for landlords to free themselves from zoning, occupancy,

code enforcement and parking restrictions. No more limits on paved yards, the number of people crammed into rentals, or the conditions of the properties themselves. Is there any argument, that while Brockport has many nice rentals, it also has more in terrible condition – properties that degrade their neighborhoods, encourage family flight, and force the rest of us to shoulder their decreased tax payments?

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neighborhoods, encourage family flight, and force the rest of us to shoulder their decreased tax payments?

Public safety isn't a priority for some landlords. Our police department would cease to exist if dissolution becomes a reality. Crime happens everywhere and it can strike your family as it did mine. From that personal perspective, let me say that nothing, nobody, for any price, could take the place of our police force. They maintain a quality of life we absolutely must have to survive as a livable community. Disruptive parties, fights, public intoxication, drug activities, and such are dealt with by our police force as priorities, not something at the bottom of a 'to do' list. Less than a dollar a day is a small price to pay for what we receive in police services. Nothing else would be the same.

Dissolution isn't a solution. Our debts won't go away. Our need for services won't go away. Crime won't go away. What we need is a more affordable, financially sound village, which is what a majority of our elected Board of Trustees is working on right now. They're committed to real solutions and necessary changes. Budget cuts have already been made. Trustees Hunsinger, Legg and Blair are donating their salaries back to the village. Do you think Sweden officials will work long hours without pay to solve our problems and serve our best interests? I don't. I believe we can and will solve our own problems, chart our own future, and improve our village, unless a small group of single-minded people succeed in wiping Brockport off the map forever.

Carol Hannan
Proud Brockport Resident"

Mayor Castañeda said there are many inconsistencies in C. Hannan's letter and referred to information obtained off a New York State website regarding Village dissolution indicating that all local laws, ordinances, rules and regulations shall remain in effect for 2 years and shall be enforced by the Town. It also cites Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals involvement.

4. Joan Hamlin of Park Avenue read the following statement into the record:

"The petition for local government dissolution I signed says: To the Board of Trustees of this Village of Brockport, County of Monroe, State of New York. We, the undersigned, electors and legal voters of the Village of Brockport, New York, qualified to vote at the next general or special election, respectfully petition that there be submitted to electors of Brockport, NY, for their approval or rejection at a referendum held for that purpose, a proposal to dissolve and terminate the Village of Brockport, NY. In witness whereof, we have signed our names on the dates indicated next to our signatures."

This is a petition asking to be given the right to vote yes or no. Do I want to keep my Village? It isn't an idea I take lightly. I've lived here almost 74 years, 52 years in the same house. I love my Village, but we cannot continue spending money like drunken sailors. We must tighten our belts in all departments. We are no longer able to just cut a few thousand dollars here and there. That helps, but we need cuts of 100's of thousands of dollars. We're in great financial difficulty and it will take several years to get in the black. Can I afford my Village any longer? I don't believe I can afford it as it now exists.

I signed the petition in January after attending a Village Board meeting where I again listened to so much misinformation it was mind boggling. Do you really think we don't check your information? I'm here to tell you – don't underestimate the intelligence and resourcefulness of the taxpayers.

Since I signed this petition I've read all kinds of hogwash. They're trying to tell me I didn't understand what I signed, I've been misled, this is a petition against the police, it's a petition for landlords, I'm against Village codes. Anyone who knows me has to laugh at that one.

The last couple of weeks I've read and heard of fellow taxpayers receiving hate mail, people being told by Village employees not to sign the petition, people receiving nasty phone calls and vile, hurtful things being said about people who did sign the petition. The real kicker is people who don't live in the Village or pay Village taxes believe they know better than I do what services I need and how to spend my tax dollars. If you are so enamored with our Village and all it offers, please move here and help us pay our taxes. With 68% of our assessed value being tax exempt, we sure could use your help.

I am not on a crusade to take away anybody's job. I am on a crusade to be given a choice of voting yes or no where I'd like to spend my tax dollars. I'm urging the Village taxpayers to become informed. Do your own research and attend meetings. Don't believe the boogeyman.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETINGS: None

CERTIFICATES OR PROCLAMATIONS:

Proclamation – Brockport Big Read

→ Mayor Castañeda moved, Trustee Legg seconded, unanimously carried 5/0 to adopt the following proclamation:

Brockport Big Read Proclamation
Sun, Stone, and Shadows
February through May 2010

WHEREAS, Drake Memorial Library, Seymour Public Library, and its community partners are dedicated to promoting reading and literacy; and

WHEREAS, the Big Read is an initiative by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) intended to bring communities together through literature; and

WHEREAS, Drake Memorial Library and its community partners have been honored to receive a grant from the NEA for spring 2010; and

WHEREAS, *Sun, Stone, and Shadows: 20 Great Mexican Short Stories*, edited by Jorge Hernandez, has been selected for its themes of diversity, celebration of Mexican culture, and supporting goals of literacy and global understanding; and

WHEREAS, community events, book discussions, and celebrations of reading will be held for all Brockport and area residents;

THEREFORE, we, John R. Halstead, President, The College at Brockport, State University of New York, and Maria Connie Castañeda, Mayor, Village of Brockport, New York, proclaim the 2010 Brockport Big Read Initiative underway from February through May 2010, and urge all residents to read the selected book and engage in Big Read activities throughout the community.

GUESTS: None

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

A. PUBLIC WORKS – Superintendent Harry G. Donahue (excused)

B. POLICE DEPARTMENT – Chief Daniel P. Varrenti

1. Request Executive Session at end of meeting regarding Stetson Club contract negotiations – Chief Varrenti thanked Mayor Castañeda and Deputy Mayor Martin for meeting with him today. He requested a brief executive session with the Board at the end of the meeting so as to update everyone on Stetson Club contract negotiations.
2. Civility vs. Harassment – Chief Varrenti said the issue of Village dissolution is a heated one. No matter what side people fall on, pro-dissolution or anti-dissolution, he urged everyone to be civil and respectful and recognize the laws. He said those writing vile e-mails or mail or contacting people by phone need to be reminded that there are laws in effect about using the mail, internet or phone. This can be considered aggravated harassment. He urged everyone to respect opinions even if you don't agree with them.
3. Public Safety – Chief Varrenti stated that as Police Chief he will continue to uphold his oath as long as there is a Police Department and a Village. He will continue to do his best to educate the public in regards to the Police Department and will speak to the Board and community at large as he works for all.
4. Recent Calls & Response Time – Chief Varrenti cited several examples of recent calls in which Brockport Police Officers were on the scene within 1 to 3 minutes of the call to 911. These included: vice activity at 71 West Avenue where 16 bags of marijuana, a scale, pipe and money was seized that was to be packaged for resale to the Brockport community, a burglar alarm, an assault/rape in progress, a larceny in progress, a motor vehicle accident, a mental hygiene arrest, an annoyance call with crowd dispersed, a fight in progress, a family trouble with weapons, etc. He said he could go on and on, but just wanted to point out some of the recent crimes and the incredible response time.

C. BUILDING / ZONING / CODE ENFORCEMENT - Scott C. Zarnstorff

1. Residential Rental Registration Program – S. Zarnstorff shared that this is the second year of the residential rental registration program which was a result of the Village Code Chapter 36

revision of 2008. There was a 98% return rate in 2009 of the ~330 such properties of ~220 owners. So far this year there is an 80% return rate. Reminders have gone out to those not yet received to seek compliance. S. Zarnstorff shared that the information has been very useful. It provides up to date information regarding property owners and property managers and allows for timely notifications by Code Enforcement or Emergency Services personnel. Collecting e-

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1 mail addresses and creating a database has increased Code Enforcement's efficiency to communicate and send attachments and useful information. This has helped reduce staff time and allows the property owner or manager to receive information within hours of an incident or issue. He said it was well worth all the work. The program comes at little cost and saves time and money while improving efficiency. He shared that few municipal Codes Offices see the volume of activity that we do (2,700 inspections per year with 1 full and 1 part time CEO and part time clerk.)

D. FIRE / AMBULANCE / DISPATCH - Chief Scott Smith

1. Calls for Service – Chief Smith reported 107 Fire calls year to date and 245 EMS calls year to date. Since midnight there have been 4 fire calls and 10 EMS calls. A person with chest pains pulled up to the fire hall at 3:50am and dispatch assisted with getting him in an ambulance and to the hospital.
2. Membership Drops & Adds – Chief Smith asked the Board to consider approving the following drops: Andrea Alberico, Patrick Butler, Shawn Butler, James Coopenberg (inactive life), Charles McCullough (life), Christopher Dollinger, Joy Giardino, Stephen Lillis, Phil Schneider, Jeremy Soehner, Breanne Spade, Robert Weldon, Jeremy Wernick, Craig Urbanke, Nathan Zilak, Nate Bastell from Explorer Post; the following adds: David Berky to Fire and Fire Police, Mark Rennard to Fire and Fire Police, Jacob Latter to fire and ambulance Keith Povich from fire and ambulance to ambulance only, the following exempt certificates: Tasha Borys, Nellie Brice Marshall.

→ Deputy Mayor Martin moved, Trustee Blair seconded, unanimously carried 5/0 to approve the previously mentioned drops, adds and exempt certificates.

Trustee Blair asked Chief Smith to explain exempt certificates and asked if the department tracks the reasons for membership drops. Chief Smith said after 5 years with the department, members can request their exempt certificate which allows them to join the Brockport Fire Exempts Club. It used to get you out of jury duty, but that is no longer the case. There is also life status. As to the drops, some are for personal reasons, some are for moving out of the district, some are for health reasons, some are mutual aid members such as SUNY students who graduate or leave college and the area.

3. EMS Training Request – Board reviewed the training request of Lieutenant Tyler Dawson and recommended by EMS Chief VanDervort. It is titled EMS Officer 1, a new class being offered for the first time in this area. It is unique towards leadership development specialized for EMS. It will be held at Henrietta Ambulance May 10-14 at a cost of \$1,077 from Third Party Billing funds.

→ Deputy Mayor Martin moved, Mayor Castañeda seconded, unanimously carried 5/0 to authorize said training at a cost of \$1,077 from Third Party Billing funds.

Deputy Mayor Martin said this is an unprecedented training and will enable T. Dawson to move up the ranks. Trustee Blair said it comes with National Incident Management Systems (NIMS) 300 certification as well. Chief Smith said NIMS 300 is required for Chiefs.

4. FDIC Training Request – Chief Smith reviewed the memo from Deputy Chief Henry regarding the estimated costs for this year's FDIC training. They will only be sending 4 members at a total cost of \$6,888 of which \$3,160 was already paid out of the 2009 budget and \$3,738 will come from the 2010 budget. Further, they need to know if it is ok to register 4 members for next year's training at estimated registration cost of \$3,476, as it is cheaper to make the commitment a year ahead. He would hate to see the \$3,000 down payment lost.

Trustee Legg asked if anyone gets certified as a result of this training. Chief Smith said no, as it is in Indianapolis and not currently recognized by New York State. However, the classes aren't offered here. Trustee Legg asked Chief Smith if he feels this training is essential. Chief Smith said absolutely.

Deputy Mayor Martin shared that FDIC stands for Fire Department Instructors Conference. It's a train the trainers conference. Therefore, those that attend have the responsibility to come back and teach what they've learned. Each of the 4 members are officers or part of the training program. They used to send 6 each year and that was reduced to 4.

→ Mayor Castañeda moved, Trustee Legg seconded, unanimously carried 5/0 to authorize said training.

5. Fire Police Training Request – Chief Smith reviewed the memo from Fire Police Captain K. Keim regarding the estimated costs for this year’s Fire Police Seminar. They will be sending 6 members at a total cost of \$342. It is held at the State Fire Academy in Montour Falls, NY March 20th. They will take the van.

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Trustee Legg said he does not believe it requires Village Board action as it falls within the parameters of the Village’s purchasing and procurement policy.

Deputy Mayor Martin said in the past approval has been required since it involves out of the Village travel.

→ Mayor Castañeda moved, Trustee Legg seconded, unanimously carried 5/0 to authorize said training.

6. Update on Closure of Dispatch Office – Deputy Mayor Martin suggested Chief Smith provide an update on progress regarding closure of the dispatch office. Chief Smith said to date he has still not formally been informed of the elimination or closure date. He heard March 10th was the target date set by a majority of the Board at meeting held last December in which he was not in attendance. He said they will not be ready by that date. He asked the Board to consider extending the closure date to December 31, 2010 since dispatch remains in the budget and is paid by Brockport, Sweden and Clarkson.

Trustee Blair inquired as to what outstanding items remain to be addressed and shared that his conversations with 911’s John Merklinger did not lead him to believe the March 10th date was unachievable. Chief Smith said there are a list of things including the fact that there is no fire alarm system in the fire hall at 38 Market Street, it has to be put in the County system, issues regarding locks, a mutual aid plan is not in place yet, and lots of little things. Chief Smith said his first meeting with J. Merklinger was 2 weeks ago to learn what was expected and needed.

Trustee Legg suggested meeting with J. Merklinger again soon to come up with a mutually agreeable plan, as waiting until the end of the calendar year is an awfully long extension. Chief Smith said he suggested that since the funding has already been allocated until the end of the fiscal year. Trustee Legg said the Board motion in December indicated March. He suggested working to wrap this up. Chief Smith said he has another meeting set up with J. Merklinger in early March. There are several schedules to work around.

Deputy Mayor Martin said one of the items to be addressed is that of outside phones. There was a checklist of things to be considered when the department shut down/relocated in the past.

Chief Smith promised to have an update for the Board at the March meeting.

E. INTERIM TREASURER – Mary Beth Lovejoy

1. Meet with Department Heads – Interim Treasurer Lovejoy shared that she just began yesterday and will be working 24 hours (3 days) per week. She met briefly with Police Chief Varrenti and Village Hall staff. She will be meeting with DPW Superintendent Donahue when he returns from vacation. She has also arranged to meet with Fire Chief Smith.
2. January Statements – Interim Treasurer Lovejoy distributed to the Board the statement of actual and estimated revenue and statement of expenditures, encumbrances and appropriations for period ending January 31, 2010.
3. NYS OSC – Interim Treasurer Lovejoy shared that she met briefly with Jean Miller of NYS OSC who is doing the risk assessment. They plan to meet on Monday regarding the cash flow analysis.

F. CLERK - Leslie Ann Morelli

1. Adoption of 6/1/10 – 5/31/11 holiday schedule – Clerk Morelli shared that she solicited and received feedback from non-union office staff, Stetson Club Union and CSEA Union representatives as to their preferences for the 3 floating holidays next fiscal year. She reminded the Board that it graciously granted 2 additional paid days near holidays to just full time non-union staff the last 2 years and that would be appreciated should the Board choose to do so again. Once the Board adopts the schedule, it will be distributed to employees.

→ Deputy Mayor Martin moved, Mayor Castañeda seconded, unanimously carried to adopt the 6/1/10 – 5/31/11 holiday schedule as follows:

June 1, 2010 – May 31, 2011

Employees: refer to Employee Handbook or Union contract regarding pay eligibility.

HOLIDAY

OBSERVED ON

Independence Day: Monday, July 5, 2010 (Sunday, 7/4/10 for 24/7 operations)
Labor Day: Monday, September 6, 2010
Columbus Day: Monday, October 11, 2010 (*currently non-Union only*)
Veterans Day: Thursday, November 11, 2010
Thanksgiving Day: Thursday, November 25, 2010
Day after Thanksgiving: Friday, November 26, 2010

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Christmas Day: Friday, December 24, 2010 (Saturday, 12/25/10 for 24/7 operations)
New Year's Day: Friday, December 31, 2010 (Saturday, 1/1/11 for 24/7 operations)
Martin Luther King Day: Monday, January 17, 2011
Presidents Day: Monday, February 21, 2011 (*currently non-Union only*)
Good Friday: Friday, April 22, 2011
Memorial Day: Monday, May 30, 2011

+ 3 FLOATING HOLIDAYS per particular employee groups:

Non-Union: Friday, July 2, 2010 / Friday, September 3, 2010 / Friday, May 27, 2011

CSEA (DPW): Friday, July 2, 2010 / Friday, September 3, 2010 / Friday, May 27, 2011

Stetson Club (Police): Saturday, July 3, 2010 / Friday, December 24, 2010 / Friday, December 31, 2011

+ 2 EXTRA DAYS for Non-Union:

Thursday, December 23, 2010 / Thursday, December 30, 2010

2. 2010 Events Schedule – Clerk Morelli reminded everyone of her January memo requesting information by February 26th regarding events to be held in the Village in 2010.
3. Special Village Board meetings – budget work sessions – Clerk Morelli reminded everyone of the budget work sessions scheduled for Monday, February 22nd at 6pm and Thursday, March 25th at 6pm. The legal notice in the paper and on the website is correct, but the article on the front page was incorrect as it listed February 22nd and February 25th.

G. VILLAGE MANAGER – (vacant)

H. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR – (vacant)

I. VILLAGE ATTORNEY – Harris, Chesworth, O'Brien, Leone, et al.

VILLAGE BOARD REPORTS:

A. Mayor M. Connie Castañeda

1. Accept with regret partial resignation of Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Kari Olson (full time to part time effective 3/8) - Mayor Castañeda referred to the letter of partial resignation from Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Kari A. Olson who is unable to continue full time employment, but is willing to stay on part time (3 days per week) effective March 8th. She will do as much as she can during her three days with her primary focus being payroll and accounts payable.

→ Mayor Castañeda moved, Trustee Legg seconded, unanimously carried 5/0 to accept with regret the partial resignation of Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Kari A. Olson who will go from full time to part time effective March 8th.

Clerk Morelli reminded the Board that the handling of the uncovered work load will need to be addressed appropriately.

2. Commence Village Treasurer Search –

3. Authorize Pay Estimate #5 – Main Street water & sewer project –

→ Mayor Castañeda moved, Trustee Blair seconded, unanimously carried 5/0 to authorize pay estimate #5 in the amount of \$170,493.79 making the contract with Villager Construction 97% complete.

4. Third Party Billing Monies to Water Fund – Mayor Castañeda reminded the Board that at the February 1st meeting the Board authorized a temporary loan in the amount of \$60,000 from the Money Market Account / Third Party Billing to the Water Fund Savings to be repaid by the end of the fiscal year or when cash is available. She said the amount needed turned out to be \$125,000.

→ Mayor Castañeda moved, Deputy Mayor Martin seconded, unanimously carried 5/0 to retroactively authorize the temporary loan in the amount of \$65,000 from the Money Market Account / Third Party Billing to the Water Fund Savings to be repaid by the end of the fiscal year or when cash is available.

5. Mayors Advisory Committee on Budget and Finance – Mayor Castañeda reminded the Board that at the February 1st meeting she appointed Erika Wood, Chuck Switzer, Mary Ann Thorpe, Emily Cokeley, CPA and Senior Accountant and Bob Fox of EFT Rotenberg to the Mayor’s Advisory Committee on Budget and Finance. She said she is pleased to appoint two additional members to the committee: Scott Rightmyer, former Village Treasurer and Sandeep Singh, Professor of Finance for SUNY Brockport. She said she believes taxpayers need to be represented and involved in the budget process and make recommendations to the Board with regards to the services provided to the community. The members will receive budget information and will be invited to attend the budget work sessions. They will bring back recommendations to her and she will bring them before the Board.

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6. SUNY Facilities – Mayor Castañeda shared that on February 16th she and Deputy Mayor Martin met with SUNY officials for a facilities planning meeting to discuss the future of the campus, the facilities on the campus, future expansion of the campus, and how it may impact the surrounding communities. She said it was a very productive meeting with a lot of information shared and they are pleased to be in on the ground floor of their planning process and look forward to future meetings. SUNY officials predict this process will take 14 to 15 months to complete. This is a state-wide initiative affecting all SUNY campuses.

7. Health Benefits – Mayor Castañeda shared that on February 9th she and Deputy Mayor Martin attended the Monroe County Council of Governments Health Care Consortium organized by Pittsford Town Supervisor William Carpenter and held at St. John Fisher College. The meeting was very beneficial and started the ball rolling on further investigating cost saving measures surrounding health care. While the Village of Brockport does not qualify for the benefits of the consortium because it does not insure 50 or more employees or retirees under the age of 65, what we provide while saving the municipality tens of thousands of dollars. Clerk Morelli had outlined much of this in information provided to the Board last month. Mayor Castañeda said she, Deputy Mayor Martin and Clerk Morelli met with the Village’s broker of record today to discuss savings options. They intend to pursue those options as we move forward.

8. NY Government Reorganization and Citizen Empowerment Act – Mayor Castañeda shared that this new law takes effect March 21st, making it easier for a small minority (10%) of voters to force a Village into a referendum on dissolution. Given the changes to the process for a dissolution referendum, she suggested the Board consider being proactive in studying the effects of dissolution and the opportunities for shared services, as there is New York State grant money available with the next deadline being March 17th. There is a lot of misinformation out there and a study would help voters make an educated, informed decision.

9. NYS OSC – Mayor Castañeda that she met again with Jean Miller of the Comptroller’s Office who is completing the risk assessment. She has offered technical assistance and is willing to do a budget training for the Board as well as a budget review to be sure it is a responsible budget.

B. Deputy Mayor Christopher R. Martin

1. Dissolution – Deputy Mayor Martin thanked Chief Varrenti for his remarks earlier and said whoever found it necessary to send anonymous correspondence does not know him. He said the correspondence indicates he has a secret plan, which he does not. He has lived here for 52 years, is proud of the Village, enjoys the benefits of living in the Village, and has no intention of supporting the dissolution of the Village. His goal is to save the Village. He welcomes and encourages calls and e-mails. While not on the Board long, he has spent countless hours attending meetings with the Mayor and looking for ways to save money and save the Village.

Mayor Castañeda encouraged anyone who received such correspondence through the mail to turn it in to the Post Office as they are investigating.

Clerk Morelli said she had not planned on bringing this up, but in light of this evening’s comments, wished to express her frustration with the possible inappropriate use of Village letterhead in an on-line article that was forwarded to her by a citizen questioning how she responded to a FOIL request. While the one quoted line came from the FOIL response, the additional text under the top of the letterhead was not hers.

Trustee Blair commented that he and Chief Varrenti are the subject of a cartoon on a website.

Chief Varrenti said the former Treasurer was also the subject of a cartoon on a website that was in very poor taste. He said she did nothing but work hard for this Village for 13 months and did not deserve that. He said it goes to show the mentality of those responsible. If caught, they could be arrested.

Trustee Hunsinger said he received an envelope but threw it away.

C. Trustee Kent R. Blair

1. Police Department Budget – Trustee Blair referred to a comment made by Mayor Castañeda at the February 1st meeting regarding the cost of the Police Department. He said he wished to clarify that the entire Village budget was \$5.1 million. The Police Department portion was \$1.8 million which is 35.2% of the Village budget. It is not 50% or 80%.

Mayor Castañeda said she referred to the \$2.1 million tax levy, not the overall budget.

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D. Trustee Scott W. Hunsinger

1. Village Court Investigation Findings – Trustee Hunsinger thanked Chief Varrenti for working with him to begin to research establishing a Village Court. They gathered a lot of good information. It could be a good revenue stream. However, right now attention needs to be budget. Continued research has been set aside to the future. Chief Varrenti concurred it is more important to put efforts elsewhere right now.

2. Library – Trustee Hunsinger shared that he redirected this month's pay as Trustee to the Library.

3. Liaison Assignments – Trustee Hunsinger said he has been meeting with his liaison assignments and thanks all for watching their spending. As a liaison to DPW, he will be providing a pizza lunch to the DPW one day next week and encouraged Board participation if they so desire.

4. Capen Hose Company – Trustee Hunsinger shared that the donated computer from Sunnking for the Capen Hose Company Museum is on hold for necessary programs.

E. Trustee Hal S. Legg

1. Treasurer – Trustee Legg referred to the resignation of Gina Tojek as Village Treasurer and the follow up letter of February 11th which he read into the record. He said she left a pretty good sketch of the Village's financial status.

Mayor and Village Board Members,

In anticipation of the need for an orderly transition of responsibilities of the Office of Village Treasurer, I submit the accompanying status report. This report is not intended to replace an in-house transition and is therefore not comprehensive, but rather an overview; in some cases more detailed information was necessary.

Understanding the Village is moving into its budget process and the importance of this year in particular, I have noted in the report that all basic information necessary to complete the budget is readily available in my office. I fully anticipated providing that information during my exit interview, however no such meeting has been requested and upon the Mayor's directive, I have turned in my key to the Village Office. Therefore, if you think it would be helpful, I would be more than willing to answer any budget-related questions, direct you to budget-related information, etc. until such time as my resignation takes effect (February 17, 2010) when I no longer hold the position of Village Treasurer.

Respectfully,
Gina M. Tojek

Trustee Legg noted that Treasurer Search was on the Mayor's agenda, but she did not mention it. He referred to the vacancy ad last used and his suggestions to update it. Mayor Castañeda asked the Board to forward any further recommended changes to her this week.

2. Tree Board – Trustee Legg shared that he redirected this month's pay as Trustee to the Tree Board.

Deputy Mayor Martin thanked the Scouts for attending the meeting and said he hopes they all become Eagle Scouts before they're done. He explained that there are certain reasons why a Board would go into executive (private) session and that they would excuse themselves from the public for a short time. No action is anticipated after executive session other than adjourning the meeting.

Executive Session:

⇒ At 8:25pm, Deputy Mayor Martin moved, Mayor Castañeda seconded, unanimously carried 5/0 that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Brockport enter into an executive session to discuss Stetson Club negotiations.

⇒ At 9:18pm, Trustee Hunsinger moved, Mayor Castañeda seconded, unanimously carried 5/0 that the Board of Trustees re-enter the regular meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

Trustee Hunsinger moved, Trustee Blair seconded, unanimously carried 5/0 that the meeting be adjourned at 9:18pm.

Leslie Ann Morelli, Village Clerk