

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, June 7, 2010 at 7:00pm.

PRESENT: Mayor M. Connie Castañeda, Deputy Mayor Christopher R. Martin, Trustee Kent R. Blair, Trustee Hal S. Legg, Clerk Leslie A. Morelli

EXCUSED: Trustee Scott W. Hunsinger, Interim Treasurer Mary Beth Lovejoy, DPW Superintendent Harry G. Donahue, Police Chief Daniel P. Varrenti, Building/Zoning Officer Scott C. Zarnstorff, Fire Chief Scott Smith, Village Attorney Michael Leone

ALSO PRESENT: Bernie LoBracco, Kathy Snyder, Jean Brooks, John Bush, Annie Crane, Bill Andrews, John Sacheli, Libby Caruso, Peggy Sacheli, Toni Ercolano, Mary Ann Giglio, Peter & Susan Smith, Mary Jo Nayman, Frank Sacheli, Daniel Kuhn, Kevin Elliott, JD Brederson, Rob Welch, Norm Giancursio, Francisco & Linda Borrayo, Rich Miller, Christine Hamlin, Fred Webster, Carol Hannan, Harry Snyder, Joanne Marcello, Brian Winant, Margay Blackman, Sal Sciremammano, Kristina Gabalski

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Castañeda 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."

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

➔ Mayor Castañeda moved, Deputy Mayor Martin seconded, unanimously carried 4/0 that the minutes of the meeting held May 17, 2010, be approved as written.

AUDIT – PAY BILLS:

➔ Mayor Castañeda moved, Deputy Mayor Martin seconded, unanimously carried 4/0 that the bills be allowed and paid upon audit.

A/P Clearing Account Check # 753-803

	<u>Date Paid</u>	<u>Amount</u>
FUND (A): <u>General</u>	06/08/10	147,079.02
FUND (F): <u>Water</u>	06/08/10	1,254.75
FUND (H): <u>Capital</u>	06/08/10	37,879.47
FUND (T):		\$186,213.24 Grand Total

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Bernie LoBracco of Adams Street – expressed concern of the cutbacks in the Code Enforcement Office and urged the Board to direct Code Enforcement Officer Zarnstorff to further investigate and recommend how best to implement a points and penalties system. This would help with rental properties and compliance with codes. Points would be assigned for each type of violation. At 5 points the property owner goes to court. At 10 points the property is closed and can't be rented for 6 months. If violations occur again, the property can't be rented for 1 year.
2. John Bush of Barry Street – said he ran for Mayor 13 years ago due to overspending and use of Village funds. If his house was in the Town of Sweden instead of the Village of Brockport, he wouldn't pay over \$800 in Village taxes and he wouldn't lose anything. He'd have police protection through Monroe County Sheriff's Department. He'd have fire protection. His streets would be plowed. He is on one of the Village streets that doesn't even have sidewalks. He said Village taxes are outrageous and just keep going up. He does not see how this Village Board plans to turn the financial situation around. If the dissolution referendum fails, what is the Village plan? He said Dan Kuhn hit the nail on the head in the paper recently when he said there is no plan.
3. Rob Welch owner of the 84 unit Presidents Village Apartments – asked for firm figures of what the Village budget will look like over the next couple of years. Said being a landlord is a difficult business. Expressed concern over a points and penalties system regarding code enforcement. Why should he get shut down if a tenant has marijuana? There are codes in place. There is no need for a points and penalties system. Expressed concern as to possible lawsuit by the Town of Clarkson and Town of Sweden regarding fire service and the Village not returning unused fire contract monies to them.

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4. Mary Jo Nayman of Carolin Drive – commented that it was nice to have the Monroe County Board of Elections at Village Hall today to demonstrate the new voting machines. Said the upcoming vote is very important. Questioned whether the Village had any say in the use of the new voting machines. Mayor Castañeda said it was a mandate for Board of Elections. Mary Jo Nayman expressed concern of the 2-sided paper ballot and that BOE staff didn't instruct on writing in a candidate. Also expressed concern that a marker type pen could bleed through from one side to another and wondered if that would invalidate the ballot. Mayor Castañeda directed Clerk Morelli to follow up with Board of Elections staff on this concern.
5. Dan Kuhn of Utica Street – shared that 7 months ago he first proposed the idea of dissolution to the Village Board hoping they would study the issue and act. Since the Village government did not take steps to produce a study and has not provided a plan. The electors petitioned for a dissolution referendum. Uncertainty is scary and some have really latched on to that. There is uncertainty on both sides of the issue. He said CGR's Charlie Zettek quoted an old saying that the only sure things are death and taxes. D. Kuhn said he goes to church for the first and is here to do something about the second. He thanked the Monroe County Board of Elections for the voting demonstration today. This is the democratic process. He said he met the Village's number 1 blogger at the voting demonstration. The gentleman took the opportunity to use 4-letter words as to what he thinks of him - in front of his 5 year old. This was uncalled for. Regardless of what side of the issue you're on or how the vote turns out, people still need to be neighbors – a community.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETINGS: None

CERTIFICATES OR PROCLAMATIONS:

1. Present proclamation honoring 90th birthday of former Mayor Frank Sacheli -

→ Mayor Castañeda moved, Trustee Legg seconded, unanimously carried 4/0 to adopt the following proclamation:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS; Frank Sacheli was born in Rochester, NY on May 18, 1920; and

WHEREAS; he owned the Landmark Hotel in the late 1940's, and a family onion farm in Orleans County; and

WHEREAS; he served in World War II from 1941- 1943; and

WHEREAS he graduated from Brockport College in 1945, appointed to the Hall of Heritage as distinguished alumni in 1990; and

WHEREAS; he married Patricia Curtin on September 5, 1946 and as a widower became a faithful friend of Antoinette Ercolano.

WHEREAS; he is the father of Kathleen, John, Anne and Elizabeth; and

WHEREAS; he lived in the Village of Brockport and Town of Sweden for 67 years; and Freely shares his expertise in euchre and gin. He continues to enjoy golf and his garlic/ vegetable garden. He remains an avid supporter of his community and church.

WHEREAS; he served as Mayor of the Village of Brockport from 1965 to 1969; and

WHEREAS; May 18th, 2010 marked his 90th birthday and it is fitting that we set apart a special observance in recognition; and

NOW, THEREFORE, on this momentous occasion I, Maria Connie Castañeda, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor, and on behalf of the Village Board and all our citizens, do hereby tender this certificate of public recognition, extending to him our best wishes.

ADOPTED by unanimous vote of the Brockport Village Board on June 7, 2010.

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

Frank Sacheli thanked the Board for the honor of a 90th birthday proclamation. He said it was unexpected. He thanked his family and friends. He said although he lives in Florida 6 months of the year, it never stops being a thrill to enter the Village of Brockport limits. He loves the Village and

considers himself very fortunate to be a part of it.

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2. Present certificates to 8th grade award winners of Bell, Donsky, Hertweck awards – Mayor Castañeda shared that she recently attended the 8th grade awards ceremony at Brockport Central School District. She congratulated Emily Briggs and Ryan Mattison for receiving the Jeff Bell award, Susanna Chhibber and Cory Stamp for receiving the Marilyn Donsky award, Taylor Haug and Isabella Ekeze for receiving the Hertweck award. She had certificates prepared for each. Isabella Ekeze and Ryan Mattison were in attendance for the Village's presentation. The others will be forwarded to BCSD for distribution.

GUESTS:

1. Bill Andrews, Historic Preservation Board Chair – Clinton Street redevelopment plan – B. Andrews referred to the final proposed Clinton Street Master Plan prepared by Clark Patterson Lee, Bero Architecture, Dudley Breed, and Camoin Associates. This study was funded entirely by grants from the Preserve America Communities and Community Development Block Grant programs. It elaborates and develops the Brockport Canal Front Master Plan that was adopted by the Village Board in 1998. The Historic Preservation Board respectfully asks the Village Board to adopt this plan and, when appropriate, to incorporate it in the next version of the Town-Village Comprehensive Plan. Eligibility for outside grants often depends on the proposed project having been included in such an official plan. No applications for such funding are contemplated at present, but might be in the future. However, adoption of this plan does not constitute a commitment by the Village to apply for any such grants. The Greater Brockport Development Corporation is recruiting a developer for 60 Clinton Street and the Village's endorsement of this plan may assist. The process of developing this plan included a presentation to the Village Board and 2 public hearings. In response to comments at the public hearings, the original draft plan was revised and the original is now included as a possible, long-term alternative. Otherwise, the plan seems to have met with general approval. As the study points out, the Clinton Street area is the most underdeveloped neighborhood in the Village and the one with the greatest potential for becoming a major economic asset and for increasing the tax base of the Village. Implementation of this plan would enable the Village to realize that potential.

Mayor Castañeda commented that while there is no monetary cost, this like many grants, come with a cost of having to administer the grants. B. Andrews confirmed there is no cash outlay, but that the Village's in-kind services include a bit of time from him, the Historic Preservation Board, the Village Treasurer and the Village Clerk. He said he believes it to be modest when the Village will be so well rewarded.

B. Andrews said the Historic Preservation Board has no plans to implement. The purpose is to serve as a basis of what might be done in the future. Many grants require such. There is no commitment to apply for any grants or to implement the actual plan. If the plan is adopted, the likelihood of attracting developers (i.e. for 60 Clinton Street) is increased.

Deputy Mayor Martin suggested the Board table decision to its next meeting so each has adequate time to review the materials that were just received a couple of days ago.

Trustee Blair said he understands that this would be saying this is what the Village would like to see happen in that area. B. Andrews said yes. The plan is not set in stone. It can be revised. It is a guide – a tool – a set of ideas that would be useful to the Village and to potential developers. Trustee Blair said not having a plan on the books could prevent the ability to apply for grants. B. Andrews confirmed.

Mayor Castañeda said it is important to keep in mind that staff time is needed to administer grants and the Village is currently short staffed as it is. Further, grants require the municipality to outlay monies and get reimbursed. B. Andrews said almost every grant is the reimbursable type. You spend the money upfront and then get the money back later. That is standard practice.

Trustee Blair asked about 60 Clinton Street. B. Andrews said GBDC received a sizeable grant. Part of the money was to purchase 60 Clinton Street. Part of the money was to repair it. The rest is to rehab it. They have an RFP (request for proposals) out for a developer to restore and make it a community asset and get it back on the tax rolls.

Trustee Legg asked the RFP date. B. Andrews said it was approved by GBDC last week and they expect responses in the next 2 months. Trustee Legg asked if the Village Board tabling decision until the next meeting would be problematic. B. Andrews said no. They can indicate that they expect soon to get Village Board approval.

Mayor Castañeda commented that it seems that if GBDC wanted Village Board approval on the plan, they would have waited. B. Andrews said the Historic Preservation Board, not GBDC is not requesting Village Board approval.

→ Deputy Mayor Martin moved, Trustee Legg seconded, unanimously carried 4/0 to table decision on the plan until the next Village Board meeting (June 21st).

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DEPARTMENT REPORTS: (All Department Heads are in attendance the 2nd meeting of each month)

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

1. Acknowledgement of retirement of Water Department's Kevin Swartout effective 6/4 -

→ Mayor Castañeda moved, Deputy Mayor Martin seconded, unanimously carried 4/0 acknowledging the retirement of Kevin Swartout of the Water Department effective June 4th.

Mayor Castañeda shared that K. Swartout will be invited to the next meeting to receive a retirement proclamation.

2. Authorization to fill and advertise for Water Department vacancy created by retirement –

Mayor Castañeda asked that this personnel matter be discussed in executive session.

3. Authorization to hire 2 individuals to fill DPW Seasonal (summer) Laborer positions -

Mayor Castañeda asked that this personnel matter be discussed in executive session.

B. POLICE DEPARTMENT – Chief Daniel P. Varrenti (excused)

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

D. FIRE / AMBULANCE / DISPATCH - Chief Scott Smith (excused)

1. Membership Drops & Adds – On behalf of Chief Smith Clerk Morelli asked the Board to consider approving the following drops: James Frost, Jacob Latter.

→ Mayor Castañeda moved, Deputy Mayor Martin seconded, unanimously carried 4/0 to approve the previously mentioned drops.

2. Authorize 8/26-8/29 Vital Signs conference Transportation -

→ Trustee Blair moved, Trustee Legg seconded, unanimously carried 4/0 to table decision until receipt of additional information from EMS Chief VanDervort.

E. INTERIM TREASURER – Mary Beth Lovejoy (excused)

F. CLERK - Leslie Ann Morelli

1. SUNY Homecoming Parade – Saturday, 9/25 – time change to Noon start -

Village Board confirmed receipt of information from SUNY Brockport as to change the start time of the Homecoming Parade Saturday, September 25, 2010 from 11am to Noon.

2. Liberty Mutual Bring Back the 4th Grants – Clerk Morelli shared information and encouraged residents to visit www.BringBackThe4th.com and take a brief multiple choice quiz on "Responsible Moments in U.S. History." Each completed quiz counts as one credit toward our municipalities total score. Municipalities with the highest quiz participation will be eligible for one of ten \$10,000 grants to help support the municipality's official July 4th festivities. She said she knows the Western Monroe Historical Society is having its annual Old Fashioned 4th of July and that \$10,000 to enhance that could go a long way.

G. VILLAGE ATTORNEY – Michael Leone, Esq. of Harris, Chesworth, O'Brien, Leone (excused)

VILLAGE BOARD REPORTS:

A. Mayor M. Connie Castañeda

1. Appoint to Welcome Center Greeter Program –

→ Mayor Castañeda moved, Trustee Blair seconded, unanimously carried 4/0 to appoint the following as Welcome Center Greeters: Samantha Davis and Richard Hart.

2. NYS Canal Corp – Canalway Water Trail – Mayor Castañeda referred to correspondence from the New York State Canal Corporation.

→ Trustee Legg moved, Deputy Mayor Martin seconded, unanimously carried 4/0 to advise the

NYSCC that they have no issues with the designation of the site at the Brockport Canal Wall (South) to be included as part of the Canalway Water Trail.

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3. Budget transfers & amendments -

→ Mayor Castañeda moved, Deputy Mayor Martin seconded, unanimously carried 4/0 to authorize the following budget transfer / amendments.

<u>Account From:</u>	<u>Account To:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
	A5182.4040	4,403.04
	A2680.0000	4,403.04

Purpose: to allocate insurance recovery money to budget code expense will be paid from – Total expense is \$5,445.00 and to increase the Insurance Recovery revenue code (A2680.0000) by the recovery as well for 2009-2010 fiscal year.

4 Authorize Pay Estimate #7 – Main Street Sanitary Sewer & Water Main Improvements –

→ Trustee Blair moved, Deputy Mayor Martin seconded, unanimously carried 4/0 to authorize Pay Estimate #7 in the amount of \$35,893.47.

The project is considered 99% complete as of May 14th. DPW Superintendent Donahue met with Village Engineer Foote and generated a punch list of the items to be taken care of by Villager Construction.

5. Accept official statement related to BAN –

→ Mayor Castañeda moved, Trustee Legg seconded, unanimously carried 4/0 to accept the official statement related to the Bond Anticipation Notes (BAN) renewal for the Main Street Sanitary Sewer and Water Main Improvements.

Mayor Castañeda reminded the Board that the interest rate came in at 1.23%. The Village had budgeted 5.5%, so this is very good.

6. Adopt response to NYS OSC review –

→ Mayor Castañeda moved, Trustee Legg seconded, unanimously carried 4/0 to adopt the following response to the Office of the State Comptroller's technical review of the budget prepared by Interim Treasurer Lovejoy.

Village of Brockport
Corrective Action Plan
Office of the State Comptroller
Report dated April 15, 2010
Adopted by Village Board June 7, 2010

“Good management practices require that Village officials take prompt action concerning our recommendations prior to adopting a budget for the ensuing year. We believe that prompt action by Village officials will help improve the Village's financial condition.”

We cannot correct all situations within one year but we have made significant strides to address the issues raised by the Office of the State Comptroller.

Financial Condition

The Board has taken steps in preparation of the 2010-2011 budget to ensure that there are sufficient revenues to cover the appropriations. We have established a practice of approving budget amendments/transfers that will assist us in keeping track of our budget; we receive cash flow projections timely along with various financial reports from our interim treasurer. We did not need to borrow funds to cover a shortage of cash at fiscal year end. Although we have not closed our books for the fiscal year it does appear that we will improve our fund balance position in both the General Fund and Water Fund.

Retirement Contributions

Retirement Appropriations have been properly funded – we needed to add approximately \$131,000 to the two lines. This situation has been corrected by moving the savings from the disability retirement of

a police officer and a portion of the “payback” of loan as well as recognizing the portion paid by the Library. We will look for our retirement bills and will adjust our budget as necessary.

General Fund Police Overtime

We recognize the area of concern is actually the payment of compensatory time. We will be monitoring and adjusting our budget to address the concern raised by the Office of the State Comptroller.

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Collective Bargaining Agreements

We have successfully negotiated a 2% decrease in the base pay of the members of the Stetson Club (Police Officers). We are still negotiating with the CSEA bargaining unit. We have capped our non-union member salaries at the current level and reduced time for some of our part-time employees.

Contingency Appropriation

Our budget currently contains a contingency expense line of approximately \$112,000. This was realized by raising our original tax levy, properly accounting for our PILOT agreements and adding those additional funds to the contingency expense line of appropriations.

Estimated General Fund Revenues

We have established a budget with reasonable revenues and will monitor them on a monthly basis to ensure receipt. We will adjust our budget as needed in a timely fashion.

Estimated Water Fund Revenues

We have established a budget that reflects our Water Fund Revenues to the best of our ability. We recognize the situation with the SUNY Brockport moving toward providing their water from the county.

We are trying to adjust the expenditures by properly accounting for personnel in the proper proportion and proper fund. We will monitor on a regular basis.

It is the intention of this Board to initiate various practices and procedures that will help to better monitor both the revenues and appropriations of this budget.

We appreciate the comments and direction provided by the Office of the State Comptroller.

Deputy Mayor Martin said the response speaks for itself and that he hopes it addresses some concerns raised earlier.

Trustee Legg said a significant amount of work was done. He stressed that the Village did not need to borrow funds to cover a shortage of cash at fiscal year end.

Mayor Castañeda commented that the Village is not out of the woods yet. She reiterated that the Village Boards over the past few years didn't work together on the budget and continued to overestimate revenues and underestimate expenditures. This Village Board was faced this year with challenges. The last Village Treasurer called for a 22% tax rate increase for 2009-2010 to continue with all services. The Board all said the public wouldn't stand for it. The Board made many small cuts and moved monies around, but made no substantial cuts or savings. She said she was faced with voting for a substantial tax increase or only a 3% tax increase suggested by a Trustee. The fiscally responsible thing to do would have been the 22% increase which would have covered costs. The 3% increase would have only worsened the situation. So they went somewhere in the middle at 12%. She said in her first 3 years as Trustee she voted no on the budget. Last year she was between a rock and a hard place. She believes the Board is now trying to do the best they can. However, they have a long way to go in this organization – not just financially. Some can say the 18% tax rate increase for 5 years was a lie, but just look at the plan Bernard P. Donegan Municipal Finance Consultants prepared to help the Village Board. That figure is correct if the Village does not eliminate services and purchases all needed equipment for its departments. This year's budget included no monies for equipment, nor did it make any substantial cuts in services. Collective bargaining with the Unions was a give and take and some concessions were made. But the Board needs to work harder and use its tools – the reports from the independent auditor, the financial consultants, the Comptroller's Office. The decisions won't be easy and not everyone will be happy.

- 7. Police Chief 211 Waiver – Mayor Castañeda reported the 211 waiver for Police Chief Varrenti was granted by the State through December 31, 2010. They are requiring reapplication and recanvassing of eligibles before then. She shared that she has requested a certification of eligibles from Monroe County Civil Service and that Clerk Morelli will be recanvassing this summer.

8. Brockport Merchants Association – Downtown Flower Baskets – Mayor Castañeda referred to email from Pat Kutz of the Brockport Merchants Association. The Village Board had previously made clear that it would not be appropriating monies for the purchase or watering of flower baskets in the downtown commercial district this year. The BMA indicated an interest in paying for the time and equipment of DPW to do the watering. Mayor Castaneda said she asked DPW Superintendent Donahue for an estimate. He provided the results of labor and equipment expenses using regular DPW employees versus lower paid seasonal laborers. Labor and equipment to water Monday through Friday no holidays and no overtime with seasonal help is estimated at \$558.34 per week. Labor and equipment to water Monday through Friday no holidays and no overtime with regular DPW help is estimated at \$796.86 per week.

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Trustee Blair asked if this had been presented to BMA. Mayor Castañeda said not yet. She wished to present it to the Village Board for a decision on how to proceed. Trustee Blair said he knows that BMA worked to fund the monies for the purchase of the flower baskets and that they have been purchased. He said he also knows the Village only has what seasonal laborers it may hire until the end of August. Trustee Blair said he recalls that last year BMA researched and proposed a watering device called Aqua Mate and suggested it may make more financial sense for them to purchase that and take turns doing the watering.

Deputy Mayor Martin said he believes this is a matter for BMA to take on themselves and said he feels there is no need for Village Board action, as the Board has made painfully clear that it would not be funding the purchase or watering of flowers this year.

Mayor Castañeda directed Clerk Morelli to forward the estimates and such response to the BMA.

9. Interim Treasurer Lovejoy – Mayor Castañeda read the following letter dated June 3rd from Interim Treasurer Lovejoy into the record:

“I am sorry that I cannot be present at the board meeting to express my concern verbally but a prior commitment prevents me from being there. I request that you read this letter in open session to the entire board at your meeting on June 7, 2010.

I cannot express how deeply disappointed and disturbed I am by the actions of one or more members of the Village Board. At the last meeting of the board, Trustee Legg spent some time explaining to the public the reasons for executive session and why the board has spent a good deal of time in executive session during the past several meetings. He was clear that it was to discuss contract negotiations prior to board approval so that the information was kept confidential. Well...I guess that doesn't apply to all contract discussions since the information shared with the board regarding my proposal to continue working for the Village is on a website in detail...

To quote the post:

Anti overspending says:

“Re: interim treasurer. You are correct Commie and Mary Beth need to go. The newest on Mary Beth is her proposal to stay as the treasurer at \$60,000+ for 24 hrs a week, with ½ of her medical paid and Holiday pay. Are you kidding me. Wow I than she may actually make more than anyone in the village.”

This proposal was discussed by the Board in executive session...when I was brought into executive session...no one even questioned me about the proposal only to say they were extending my appointment until June 30, 2010, which was done unanimously when returning to open session...but yet here it is on a blog! I have a great deal more I would like to say regarding the comment posted but since the individual chooses to remain anonymous, I will not comment publicly.”

10. Mayor's Statement – Mayor Castañeda read the following prepared statement:

When I ran for the position of Trustee and now Mayor, I only wanted to serve our community, the whole community, to the best of my ability. I have sat at this table and listened to individuals belittle and blame me for many things that have occurred within the past few years. I have not responded, but based on the issues that have bubbled up since the last Board meeting; I can no longer hold my tongue.

I think I will start by saying that I am trying to support our Board decision and move forward as a Board working together. However, there seem to be a lot of reasons to believe that we are not all on the same page. If our Board, our Department Heads, and our Union leadership does not get these issues resolved immediately, we will not have to worry about dissolution. We will self destruct.

Let me first start by my concern over our financial situation. We continue to be a Village in fiscal

distress. As we have learned over the past few months, it is not just our budget that has created our financial problems but our actual accounting practices. This has taken a great deal of time for our Interim Treasurer to review and adjust and her work is not done. I am baffled by the information presented by the Stetson Club regarding our year-end financial position. The Interim Treasurer has not even finished posting expenditures as she just prepared vouchers for payments for the months of April and May. How can they have our year-end information if she has not even finished correcting the accounting and posting the expenditures? I encourage our public to contact the Mayor's office for the truth regarding our financial position and issues. I will, in turn, request the Interim Treasurer to provide the actual answers that are available at the time.

Secondly, I will speak to the issue of communication. It has become common practice that Village business is being done via email. This is not appropriate. Unfortunately, email continues to be shared with the public, with some but not all Board members, with some but not all Department Heads, with some but not all employees, and more often than not the Mayor is not included until the issue has escalated. It is also common practice that members of the public will contact a
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Department Head or a Board member with a request. It is even more difficult when the information is shared with the Village Attorney. Per a Board decision, no one is supposed to incur legal fees without the Mayor's authorization. How could all of this happen? How does the Village Attorney's response get forwarded to a member of the public without breaching Attorney/Client privilege? That privilege works to protect both parties. I sent out a directive on March 18th to Department Heads and copied to Village Board that all intra-office communications be kept intra-office and that questions or concerns that require Village Attorney involvement go through the Mayor.

I respectfully ask that requests or complaints by residents to Trustees or Department Heads be brought to my attention. The Mayor has the responsibility of directing Department Heads and employees. I wish to relieve our staff from feeling they are being directed by various parties.

Lastly, I will speak to the confidentiality of executive session. Our Interim Treasurer presented a proposal to me which I in turn shared with the Village Board. This proposal was discussed in executive session as is appropriate. How did the details of this proposal end up on a citizen blog? The only ones with this information are the Village Board and the Interim Treasurer. If executive session cannot be kept confidential, there is no reason to have it. I cannot point the finger to any one person, but you know who you are and you are not upholding your responsibility as a Trustee by leaking information discussed in executive session.

I will end by saying that I was elected to the position of Mayor by a democratic process. The position does not come with directions. I have made mistakes and will more than likely make some more, but I continue to proudly work for what is best for our community.

B. Deputy Mayor Christopher R. Martin

1. Meetings and Ceremonies – Deputy Mayor Martin shared that he and Mayor Castañeda attended the following: Oliver Middle School Memorial Day Ceremony and the Vets Club Memorial Day Ceremony. They have been invited to the Navy Club's National Convention and he plans to make an appearance.
2. Voting – Deputy Mayor Martin said he was pleased with the turnout of over 100 voters to the voting machine demonstration provided by Monroe County Board of Elections today at Village Hall. The new machines were an ADA dictate over 15 years old. A couple of other municipalities were the first to use the machines in the last election. He said he was impressed with the privacy shields and privacy sleeve so that no one sees ones selections on the ballot. They should know the basic results Tuesday night with the exception of the absentee ballots. They will confirm write ins and absentee ballots at BOE headquarters the next day. They said they have issued about 100 absentee ballots. They can recount the paper ballots if needed. In all, Deputy Mayor Martin said he was comforted by the demonstration and is confident it will work just fine. The process can handle many at once, so voting should go quickly.

C. Trustee Kent R. Blair

1. Election Day Parking – Trustee Blair shared that Police Chief Varrenti suggests suspending the 2-hour parking regulation for streets near Village Hall on Election Day and implementing 30-minute parking. Clerk Morelli pointed out that the 2-hour parking regulation only exists on Main Street in the Downtown Commercial District.

Mayor Castañeda said she feels it would be inappropriate for the Brockport Police Department to put up special parking signs or be seen talking to voters on Election Day as they have a vested interest in the result of the referendum on dissolution. She further expressed concern of how vocal and involved the Unions have been on the dissolution matter.

D. Trustee Scott W. Hunsinger (excused)

In Trustee Hunsinger's absence, Clerk Morelli gave his report:

1. I wish to thank all the downtown merchants and those that helped plant flowers around the trees a couple of weeks ago. This was a great community effort and Main Street looks great. I think going forward it is important to make the downtown area look as nice as feasibly possibly using whatever means can be used. A thriving and attractive downtown area is something that is important to all of us and we should continue to work together as best we can.
2. I hope that everyone gets out to vote next week. This is a historic vote, not just for the Village of Brockport, but for New York State Villages in general.

E. Trustee Hal S. Legg

1. Tree Board – Trustee Legg shared that the Village has received renewal of its Tree City USA status by the Arbor Day Foundation. He said it was his privilege to represent the Village at the Tree Board’s annual Arbor Day planting event. He commended the Tree Board and its Chair Margay Blackman for their efforts and their continued commitment to the Village’s urban forest.

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2. Farmers Market – Trustee Legg shared that the Farmers Market season opens Sunday, June 20th and runs through Sunday, October 31st from 8am to 2pm in the parking lots on Water Street along the Canal near the Welcome Center.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

⇒ At 8:25pm, Deputy Mayor Martin moved, Trustee Legg seconded, unanimously carried 4/0 that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Brockport enter into an executive session to discuss collective bargaining negotiations with CSEA and personnel matters involving Village Hall, Police Department, DPW.

⇒ At 9:45pm, Mayor Castañeda moved, Trustee Blair seconded, unanimously carried 4/0 that the Board of Trustees re-enter the regular meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

➔ Mayor Castañeda moved, Trustee Blair seconded, unanimously carried 4/0 that the meeting be adjourned at 9:45pm.

Leslie Ann Morelli, Village Clerk