

Special meeting of the Village Board of the Village of Brockport was held in the Village Hall Conference Room 49 State Street Brockport, New York, July 18, 2016 at 1:30pm.

PRESENT: Mayor Margaret B. Blackman, Trustee/Deputy Mayor William G. Andrews, Trustee Annette M. Crane, Trustee Katherine J. Kristansen, Trustee John D. LaPierre, Police Chief Daniel P. Varrenti, Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer David J. Miller

ALSO PRESENT: New York State Senator Robert G. Ort, SUNY College at Brockport VP Beau Willis, Brockport Fire District Commissioner Laurence Vaughan, Joan Hamlin

- **DISCUSSION ITEM:**

VILLAGE OF BROCKPORT
NOTICE
SPECIAL VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

Please take notice that a special Village Board meeting will be held on Monday, July 18, 2016 at 1:30pm at Brockport Village Hall 49 State Street, Brockport, New York 14420 for the purpose of meeting with NYS Senator Robert G. Ort to discuss the SUNY Impact Aid bill.

The regularly scheduled Village Board meeting that includes the annual organizational component is at 7pm that same day and location.

Leslie Ann Morelli
Village Clerk
Village of Brockport

Dated: July 12, 2016

For publication in Suburban News and posting on Village website and at Village Hall.

July 18, 2016

TO: Senator Robert Ort

RE: Brockport and the SUNY Impact Aid Assistance Act

FROM: The Brockport Village Board

The Brockport village board has been closely following the status of the SUNY Impact Aid Assistance Act [S4643, A6416] and the two pilot programs that have been established this year in Oneonta and Cortland in respect to this piece of legislation. Passage of this legislation in the 2017-18 State Budget, or alternatively, our enrollment in the pilot program next year, would make an enormous difference to the Village of Brockport and, by extension, to the SUNY College we host within our village boundaries.

As you undoubtedly know, the village 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 every reason to believe our high tax rate (\$11.87/1000) will 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 would be severely diminished or eliminated with dissolution.

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 we fully understand and are not protesting), were the college property to be taxed, our tax rate would fall from 11.87/1000 to 4.30/1000 with the college paying 1.7 million of our 2.6 million property tax levy.

In addition, we must mention that, like other SUNY municipalities, a significant portion of our public safety budget is targeted to and directly benefits the SUNY College student population.

Passage of the SUNY Impact Aid Assistance Act would reimburse of some of those public safety services and would lighten our tax burden.

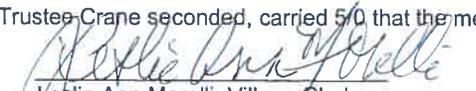
We are asking that you and Assemblyman Hawley strongly advocate for passage of the SUNY Impact

Aid Assistance Act, using Brockport as an example of why it is needed. If the ultimate decision is, instead, to continue the pilot program we are asking that you push for Brockport's enrollment in that program.

Thank you for your consideration of our request and for taking the time to meet with us today.

ADJOURNMENT:

→ At 2:30pm, Trustee LaPierre moved, Trustee Crane seconded, carried 5/0 that the meeting be adjourned.



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