

Regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Brockport was held in the Village Hall Conference Room 49 State Street Brockport, New York, February 12, 2013 at 7:00pm.

PRESENT: Mayor M. Connie Castañeda, Trustee William G. Andrews, Trustee Margaret B. Blackman, Trustee Kent R. Blair, Trustee Carol L. Hannan, Clerk Leslie A. Morelli

ALSO PRESENT: Sriram Bakshi, Pam Ketchum, Kristina Gabalski, Norm Giancursio, Fred Webster, Joan Hamlin

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

MOMENT OF SILENCE: to honor those that serve our Country, enforce our laws, & respond to emergencies

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Sriram Bakshi of Evergreen Road read the following prepared statement:

Probably you all know by this time that Trustee Blackman is organizing an ambitious program during the first week of May 2013 to celebrate the opening of the Erie Canal waters. It is called “Low Bridge, High Water,” sometimes we also call it “the marriage of waters.”

During these celebrations, Ms. Donna Winters, a native of Brockport and author of *The Bluebird of Brockport*, a novel of the Erie Canal, will be in Brockport visiting schools and libraries and discussing her book. Dr. William Andrews, Village Trustee and Historian Emeritus, authored several books about Brockport history, and his latest book about the soldiers from this area who fought in the Civil War will be forthcoming. Dr. Andrews writes: “Donna Winters tells a rollicking good story, full of action, romance, and mystery that conveys a very pervasive feeling of authenticity for Erie Canal life in the 1830s. She is especially good developing credible, likable characters and describing family dynamics.”

We request that, the Village Board of Brockport, issue a proclamation that “all Brockport reads *The Bluebird of Brockport* in April 2013.”

Clerk Morelli will draft a proclamation for Board consideration at a meeting in March.

CERTIFICATES & PROCLAMATIONS:

- BCSD – National School Counseling Week –

→ Trustee Blair moved, Trustee Blackman seconded, carried 5/0 to adopt the following proclamation (which was previously signed by VB and provided to BCSD):

VILLAGE OF BROCKPORT
PROCLAMATION
NATIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELING WEEK

WHEREAS, school counselors are employed in public and private schools to help students reach their full potential; and

WHEREAS, school counselors are actively committed to helping students explore their abilities, strengths, interests, and talents as these traits relate to career awareness and development; and

WHEREAS; school counselors help parents focus on ways to further the educational, personal and social growth of their children; and

WHEREAS; school counselors work with teachers and other educators to help students explore their potential and set realistic goals for themselves; and

WHEREAS; school counselors seek to identify and utilize community resources that can enhance and complement comprehensive school counseling programs and help students become productive members of society; and

WHEREAS, comprehensive developmental school counseling programs are considered an integral part of the educational process that enables all students to achieve success in school;

NOW, THEREFORE, citizens are encouraged to join with the Village Board in this salute to the

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I Maria Connie Castañeda, Mayor of the Village of Brockport do hereby proclaim February 4-8, 2013 as National School Counseling Week. We hereby set our hand and cause the Corporate Seal of the Village of Brockport to be affixed this 29th day of January, in the year 2013.

- Employee recognition – 25 years of service – Deborah Herzog – Mayor Castañeda said she commends Deputy Clerk Debbie Herzog for 25 years of service to the Village. This is quite an accomplishment.

→ Trustee Blair moved, Trustee Blackman seconded, carried 5/0 to adopt the following certificate of recognition (which was previously signed by VB and provided to the recipient):

Certificate of Appreciation
Presented to
Deborah C. Herzog
in recognition of 25 years of service
to the Village of Brockport
since 02/08/1988.
With gratitude and congratulations.
Presented in the year 2013

CONSENSUS ITEMS:

- **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

→ Trustee Blackman moved, Trustee Hannan seconded, carried 5/0 that the minutes of the 01/22/13 meeting be approved as amended.

→ Trustee Blair moved, Trustee Andrews seconded, carried 5/0 that the minutes of the 02/5/13 meeting be approved as written.

- **APPROVAL OF BILLS TO BE PAID**

→ Trustee Blair moved, Trustee Blackman seconded, carried 5/0 that the bills be allowed and paid upon audit.

A/P Clearing Account

	<u>Abstract Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>
FUND (A): <u>General</u>	01/29/13	\$32,704.29
	02/08/13	\$49,054.43
FUND (F): <u>Water</u>	02/08/13	\$43,814.11
FUND (G): <u>Sewer</u>	02/08/13	\$718.50
FUND (H): <u>Capital</u>	-	-
FUND (T): <u>(Trust & Agency)</u>	02/08/13	\$100.00
		\$126,391.33 grand total

- **CLERK REPORT:**

- Clerk – Leslie Ann Morelli
 - 2013 Events Schedule – items due by 3/1 – Clerk Morelli reminded of the letter sent to officials and community organizations calling for events details by 3/1 for the 2013 events schedule.

- Notice for Electing Village Officers – Clerk Morelli reported the following notice in Suburban News and on the Village website.

VILLAGE OF BROCKPORT
NOTICE FOR ELECTING VILLAGE OFFICERS

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

That the Annual General Village Election in and for the Village of Brockport will be held on Tuesday, June, 18, 2013 from Noon to 9pm with the following officers to be chosen: One (1) Mayor and Two (2) Trustees each for a four-year term of 07/01/13 to 06/30/17, and

That the first day to circulate independent nominating petitions is Tuesday, April 2, 2013, and the last day to file said petitions at Monroe County Board of Elections is Tuesday, May 14, 2013. Petitions must indicate the office(s) and term thereto, for which it is filed, and

That the applications for absentee ballots will be accepted by Monroe County Board of Elections

applications to be mailed or Monday, June 17, 2013 for personal applications by applicant or his/her agent.

That questions should be directed to Monroe County Board of Elections at (585) 753-1550.

Leslie Ann Morelli
Village Clerk
Village of Brockport

DATED: 2/7/13

- Website - Clerk Morelli shared that the Webmaster occasionally gets the suggestion to link to various websites of local churches, organizations, businesses. In the past the Village has been reluctant to link to anything whose web addresses change and the Village didn't want to be responsible for linking to something inappropriate. She asked the Board if they wished to revisit this. Board concurred that they prefer we stay as is and not link to websites of those who we are unsure of content. It is okay to link to official websites of other municipalities, county/state/federal government agencies, professional associations and the like.

Clerk Morelli will advise the Webmaster of such.

- **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Bid results from Auctions International for sale of 2000 Dodge Ram 3500 Truck –

→ Trustee Blair moved, Trustee Hannan seconded, carried 5/0 to accept the high bid of \$2,850 via Auctions International, Inc. for the sale of the 2000 Dodge Ram 3500 Truck with plow and 1-ton dump box VIN#3B6MF3658YM213800. Should the high bid fall through, the next highest bids from different bidders of \$2,800 then \$2,400 shall be accepted.

- SEQR – Monroe Avenue storm sewer project –

→ Trustee Blair moved, Trustee Blackman seconded, carried 5/0 to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that in accordance with the New York State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) procedures, the Village Board of the Village of Brockport has reviewed the significance of and potential environmental impact of the replacement of the existing storm sewer system and appurtenances along Monroe Avenue between Main Street and Utica Street.

RESOLVED, that the Village Board hereby concurs with Chatfield Engineers, P.C. that the Project is considered a Type II Action in accordance with 6NYCRR Part 617.5(c)(2): a replacement, rehabilitation or reconstruction of a structure or facility, in kind, on the same site

RESOLVED, that the Village Board hereby accepts the Environmental Assessment of this project, prepared by Chatfield Engineers, P.C. The Village Board further declares that, based on the Environmental Assessment, it finds that the project will result in no significant adverse impacts to the environment and requires no further action.

- Concur - Town Board as Lead Agency under SEQR re vacant land – Sweden Walker Road -

→ Trustee Hannan moved, Trustee Blair seconded, carried 5/0 that the Village of Brockport Village Board has no objection to the Town of Sweden Town Board assuming SEQR Lead Agency status for a project involving vacant land Sweden Walker Road.

Clerk Morelli said she would return the appropriate form to the Sweden Town Clerk.

- Proposed resolution from Assemblyman Kearns re foreclosure bills A.88 & A.824 in NYS Assembly –

→ Trustee Andrews moved, Trustee Blair seconded, carried 5/0 to adopt the following resolution:

SUPPORT FOR NYS-CONTACT INFORMATION FOR VACANT STRUCTURES

Resolved to support New York State regarding the proposed laws concerning contact information for vacant structures.

WHEREAS, vacant, abandoned and foreclosed homes and structures have proliferated throughout New York State over the last five years; and
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WHEREAS, vacant structures that are not maintained for months at a time degrade and depreciate the value of the vacant structure as well as the value of surrounding properties; and

WHEREAS, lending institutions that hold mortgages on said vacant structures do not always provide the contact information of a responsible party; and

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill A.88 and Assembly Bill A.824, currently pending, would make it mandatory for lending institutions to provide contact information of responsible parties regarding vacant structures; and require good faith in obtaining a foreclosure; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Brockport Village Board supports the passage of said Bills.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Village of Brockport hereby supports the passage of said Bills and respectfully requests that the State Representatives who represents constituents in the Village of Brockport support the passage of said Bills.

Trustee Andrews said it is good for the Village Board to take a position as it has direct implications on the Village of Brockport.

○ Proposed resolution from Freshwater Future re keeping Asian Carp out of the Great Lakes –

→ Trustee Blackman moved, Trustee Blair seconded, Trustee Andrews opposed, carried 4/1 to adopt the following resolution:

Keeping Asian Carp Out of the Great Lakes

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence represent the largest body of surface fresh water in the world and are a vibrant, diverse ecosystem that is critically important to the economic well-being and quality of life of the Canadian and U.S. populations in the region;

WHEREAS, over 180 invasive species have entered the Great Lakes and its connecting water ways over the years and caused widespread damage and disruption to the natural balance of the system, as well as significant economic damage;

WHEREAS, one of the most serious threats ever presented by invasive species currently comes from Asian carp, including silver, bighead, and black varieties;

WHEREAS, these varieties of carp were introduced to the southern United States for use in fish farms for algae control in the 1970's and escaped into the Mississippi River system.

WHEREAS, invasive species have already inflicted hundreds of millions in damage across the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence, and invasive carp pose a serious threat to the \$7 billion sport and commercial fishery that support the economy and help define the culture of the entire region;

WHEREAS, the invasive carp have migrated northward through the Mississippi River system as far north as Wisconsin, Minnesota, Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio, reducing significantly or eliminating populations of the more desirable species of fish because of their voracious food consumption and prolific reproduction;

WHEREAS, the invasive carp are threatening to enter the Great Lakes at a number of points across the region;

WHEREAS, many federal, state, provincial, and local government agencies in the United States and Canada have worked diligently and expended tens of millions of dollars over the past 10 years on a variety of projects to keep invasive carp out of the Great Lakes;

WHEREAS, including the invasive carp, there are 39 invasive species in the two basins that present a threat to cross over into the other basin in the near future;

WHEREAS, once an invasive species establishes itself in an ecosystem, it is exceedingly difficult, if not impossible, to eradicate it, and it often inflicts serious damage on the ecosystem and imposes major costs in efforts to control it;

WHEREAS, Asian carp pose a dangerous risk of injury to recreational users on waters infested with Asian carp;

WHEREAS, Canadian and U.S. citizens across the basin have expressed serious concern about the invasive carp and other invasive species, and are demanding prompt action;

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WHEREAS, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is conducting a multiyear, comprehensive study across the U.S. side of the Great Lakes basin called the "Great Lakes and Mississippi River Interbasin Study" (GLMRIS) that examines 19 separate locations where invasive carp could cross from the Mississippi River Basin to the Great Lakes Basin, and considers a large number of potential ways to stop the further migration;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the invasive carp in the Mississippi River system pose one of the greatest threats to the integrity and well-being of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence ecosystem, including the 40 million Canadians and Americans who live there;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that preventing the invasive carp from entering the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence ecosystem needs to be approached with the greatest sense of urgency by all those responsible for dealing with this matter;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that physical separation is the most effective way to keep invasive carp from entering Lake Michigan through the Chicago Area Waterway System, and such barriers would also prevent the movement of many other invasive species from one basin to the other;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that physical separation is feasible and can be done in a way that maintains or enhances water quality, flood control, and transportation in the system;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that additional steps must be taken in the interim to keep invasive carp out while the long term solution is put in place;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the (municipality name here) strongly urges all parties involved to identify a preferred solution to the invasive carp issue and move forward to implement that solution with the greatest sense of urgency.

Trustee Andrews said he is opposed to the Village Board taking a position as it does not have direct implications on the Village of Brockport, nor are the Board experts to purport what is the best method to deal with the problem.

Mayor Castañeda said Freshwater Future has asked for municipalities support.

Trustee Andrews said the resolution has municipalities taking a position. As this is not directly related to the Village and the Board are not experts on this, it is setting a precedent.

Trustee Blackman said with a Great Lake (Lake Ontario) just 10 miles away, it is a concern.

Trustee Hannan said from her understanding Asian Carp are quite a menace and governmental and environmental agencies have been working on this for some time. She said she does not believe it is wrong to agree that we don't want Asian Carp.

VILLAGE BOARD REPORTS:

o Mayor M. Connie Castañeda

▪ Budget Prep – Mayor Castañeda reported that at the 2/5 work session, the Board met with the Treasurer and Department Heads who presented their budget requests. She said on the revenue side we are budgeting conservatively in sales tax, so we should see an increase in sales tax revenues. Based on the expenses, it appears we can easily be within the Governor's 2% tax cap. The fund balance is very good mainly due to reducing expenses and budgeting revenues conservatively. We have achieved a surplus in revenue and expenses. We need to continue to manage both so we are

not where we were 3 years ago. Mayor Castañeda said during budget prep last year many asked if we would reduce our budget by the amount we collected for fire protection seeing as the Fire Department was going to be a District. In last year's budget we included \$89,115 for fire service because we were still receiving fire protection. For this year's budget, the fire budget has been totally taken out. Therefore, taxpayers will only be taxed for fire through the Fire District.

▪ Local Government Citizens Reorganization Empowerment Grant – Mayor Castañeda said many will recall that at the last meeting she asked the Board to authorize applying for a Local Government Citizens Reorganization Empowerment Grant. She said her motion did not receive a second, but was discussed. She said one of the main reasons she asked for the Board to approve

applying for this grant was to help find ways to achieve savings and improve Village efficiency, thereby reducing government costs and saving taxpayers money. Reducing the tax burden for our Village families and businesses while maintaining the quality of services must be our top priorities.

Mayor Castañeda said she wants to correct some misinformation. She said Trustee Blackman noted the Village would need to provide information on what services they would like to consolidate and that if
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a study recommended consolidation, that the Village would have to adopt the recommendations if it received grant money for the study. This is not true. Mayor Castañeda said per Gary J. Rouleau at J. O'Connell and Associates, Inc (the Village's grant writers):

"CGR as the independent consultant conducting the independent study would through its study process make the finding and recommendations for the study that would be included in the final document. Please note that part of the CGR process will be to form a study committee which normally will include members appointed by the Village Board and the Town Board to be included in the study process. CGR works with the localities and stakeholders involved in the communities as part of their process as they gather information and data needed for the study. You can go to CGR's website and review other completed work they have done on these types of studies, website link is:
http://www.cgr.org/research_shared.aspx

The Village if awarded the grant would only be obligated for the spending of the grant money, reimbursing the consultant and close out of the grant paperwork. The Village is not obligated to follow through on any of the findings of the study. You will see on the CGR website as an example a Village did not proceed with any findings and also the voters ended up petitioning for a vote and voting no on dissolution. (See: **Painted Post Voters Say 'No' to Dissolving Village**)
http://www.cgr.org/research_shared.aspx

Again though as I have pointed out previously in order to be able to move forward with any application to the Department of State for this type of grant you have to include an approved Village Board Resolution in the application otherwise the Village cannot move forward with an application.

I hope this answers your questions. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact me."

- Suburban News Article: Police Department costs decrease, chief reports – Mayor

Castañeda referred to an article in the recent Suburban News and wished to comment and correct some misinformation. In it Chief Varrenti comments "the mayor does not support the Village and/or the Police Department. He further commented "The mayor has and continues to use numbers that fit her own agenda...elimination of the Police Department. The mayor also said the village was going to have an 18 percent tax increase during the dissolution vote and that never occurred..." Mayor Castañeda said as Mayor it is her job to represent the best interest of all the Village residents and taxpayers. As far

as not supporting the Police Department, she said it has been no secret that she is against the cost of the Police Department. She said the numbers she used can be verified by past and current Treasurer. She said does not pull numbers out of thin air. It is not up to the Mayor or the Board to decide if the Police Department should be eliminated. She said she has called for a referendum to let Village voters decide. She hasn't gotten Board support to bring it to a referendum. The 18% tax increase was really

a
21% tax increase projected by Bernard P. Donegan Municipal Finance at the time.

- Rochester Business Journal articles – Mayor Castañeda referred to some information in the recent edition of RBJ that Clerk Morelli copied for the Board. One was a list of the 25 wealthiest zip codes in the Rochester area. Brockport 14420 is not on the list. The other is a list of Economic Development Agencies in the Rochester area. GBDC is on the list.

- Kids Fun Fair and Traveling Zoo – Mayor Castañeda shared that the Village received a number of free tickets to a Kids Fun Fair and Traveling Zoo to be held 2/23 & 2/24 at the Dome Center in Henrietta. They are in the Village Hall lobby should anyone be interested.

- Well Wishes – Mayor Castañeda wished everyone a Happy Valentine's Day and Presidents Day.

- Trustee William G. Andrews

- 4/20/13 Landmark Society Conference – partnership opportunities – Trustee Andrews shared that the Landmark Society is soliciting partnership with various entities in the community to establish a broad base of support to promote the upcoming conference to be held in Brockport. A financial commitment is not necessary on the part of the Village. Trustee Andrews said

GBDC has agreed to be a partner.

→ Trustee Andrews moved, Mayor Castañeda seconded, carried 5/0 to become a partner for the upcoming Landmark Society conference.

- Summer Serenades – Trustee Andrews reported that GBDC has agreed to once again undertake coordination and sponsorship solicitation for the concert series to be held each Thursday evening in July and August.

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- Town of Sweden Bicentennial – Trustee Andrews reported that he attended the organizational meeting of the Town of Sweden Bicentennial Celebration Committee. More information will be forthcoming.

- 2/26 meeting - Trustee Andrews reported that for the first time he will miss a Village Board meeting (2/26) as he will be out of the country.

- Trustee Margaret B. Blackman

- NYCOM – Trustee Blackman reported that she did not register and attend the NYCOM Winter Legislative Meeting in Albany 2/10-2/11 due to a broken foot. Therefore, she did not spend the \$220 registration fee previously approved by the Board.

- Chamber of Commerce – Trustee Blackman shared that she attended the 1/31 Chamber of Commerce dinner. She had the opportunity to talk to many about the Canal season opening celebration being planned.

- Canal Season Opening Celebration – Trustee Blackman shared that plans are progressing. She met with Brockport Merchants Association 2/6, with the committee 2/8, and will be meeting with Spencerport Mayor Lobene and NYSCC reps 2/15 and with the committee 2/22.

- Village Boards and Committees – Trustee Blackman read the following prepared statement:

More than three months have passed since the deadline for individuals to file applications for vacancies on village boards and committees. More than three months since 4 individuals wishing to serve on committees that need and want them have been waiting for word to see if they can do so. The matter was on the agenda for the last meeting, but the mayor did not bring it up. It is not even on the agenda for tonight's meeting.

When the village board voted to accept the code revisions to Chapter 46, the tree ordinance, one of those revisions expanded the membership of that board. Two of the four current applicants are for the tree board.

It is the mayor who has the sole right and responsibility to bring names forward for appointment to village committees and boards. The trustees can only vote to approve or disapprove the mayor's appointments. It is a sad commentary that capable people eager to serve this village are turned away or ignored, and that they, and the boards who want them, have been made to wait more than three months for a decision that still has not been made.

- Trustee Kent R. Blair

- 1st quarter 2013 newsletter – items due today – Trustee Blair said he has received items from the Department Heads and Village Clerk. The Clerk-Treasurer staff at Village Hall took photos today. He suggested the Village Board stay after tonight's meeting to take their photo. He also suggested the Mayor and Board collaborate on an article for the front page. He said he'd have a draft of the newsletter ready for Board review at the 3/5 work session.

- Parks – Trustee Blair said the parks signage plans need to be wrapped up by the end of March as it involves a grant regarding smoke free zones. However, some members of the Parks Committee disperse for the winter. He said he'd have the vendor create a couple of drafts made up that

includes the park name, park hours, smoke free zone, and maybe no open alcohol containers. He said he'd have these ready for Board and Parks Committee review in March.

- Paper – Trustee Blair mentioned having signed an office supply bill for copy paper and noted that we use way too much paper. He suggested the Board consider relying on the scan to e-mail and website version of the meeting packets and minutes Clerk Morelli does and not having her take the time and paper to hard copy the Board, Treasurer and Department Heads on all of

it
as well. If a copy is needed at Board meetings, maybe technology could be further utilized.

(Clerk Morelli will place this as an item for the July organizational meeting.)

- Brockport Ambulance – Trustee Blair expressed concern that the Town of Sweden and Town of Clarkson thus far remain with Monroe Ambulance and have not re-contracted with Brockport Ambulance as had been hoped. He said he recently joined Brockport Ambulance and has one more class to complete. When being interviewed he was asked why he wanted to join. He said Brockport Ambulance is not being treated fairly and has suffered greatly by the loss of calls since Sweden and Clarkson have contracted with a commercial ambulance agency. He said he hopes to help

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them prove to the Towns that their local ambulance is a viable service.

- Canal/Pond Hockey Tournament – Trustee Blair shared that Kevin McCarthy has been doing more research on having such within the Village. However, it is tough to rely on Mother Nature when it comes to the Canal and the remaining water being frozen. Consideration may need to be given to finding a location in the Village other than the canal. It is doubtful for this season.

- Trustee Carol L. Hannan

- Museum – Trustee Hannan shared that some artifacts from the project house at 65 Fayette Street have been turned over to the museum. SUNY students are assisting with cataloging items and preparing exhibits.

ADJOURNMENT:

→ At 7:45pm, Trustee Blackman moved, Trustee Blair seconded, carried 5/0 that the meeting be adjourned.

Leslie Ann Morelli, Village Clerk