

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Brockport was held September 18, 2023, at 7:00 pm. Village Board and members of the public in person at 49 State St, Village Court, and remote location through Zoom.

PRESENT: Trustee/Deputy Mayor Annette Crane, Trustee John LaPierre, Trustee Shawn Halquist, Building Inspector /Code Enforcement Officer Chad Fabry, Chief Mark Cuzzupoli, Superintendent Dan Verace, Recorder Susan Smith

ALSO PRESENT: Fred Webster, Lt Wheat, Officer Sime, Officer Blodgett, Invs Dawson, Sgt Korn, Officer Vadas, Officer Catlin, Sgt Korn, Officer Catlin, Officer McCracken, County Leg Jackie Smith, Melanie Schwab, Zach Wood, Morgan Blodgett, George Stone, Linda Stone, Karen Blodgett, Jon Sime, Debi Sime, Don Sime, Donna Sime, Amelia Maggio, Danielle Schwab, James Schwab, Tabitha Carithers, Clarence Carithers, Molly Gaudio, Matthew Jaeger.

VIA ZOOM: Attorney Dan Mastrella Joan Hamlin, Chris Hamlin, Kevin Jenkins

EXCUSED: Mayor Margaret Blackman, Trustee Katherine Kristansen, Manager/Clerk Erica Linden, Clerk/Treasurer Kari Pardun

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE: Trustee/Deputy Mayor Blackman called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

CERTIFICATES AND PROCLAMATIONS: Chief Cuzzupoli to present Officers Evan Blodgett and Josh Sime with Life Saving Awards, and to present Clarence Carithers and Melanie Schwab with Citizen Commendation Certificates.

- Chief Cuzzupoli thanked the Village Board for allowing him time to recognize some heroes during the meeting and read the following press release into the record: On September 10th, 2023 at 12:52 AM, The Brockport Police Department was dispatched to the area of Queen Street and Clinton Street for the report of someone who had fallen into the canal. Brockport Officer Evan Blodgett and Officer Joshua Sime arrived on scene in less than a minute after being dispatched and could hear screaming coming from the south side of the canal just east of 48 Merchant Street. This is an area of the canal that has a concrete wall for an embankment. Officers rushed to the canal bank and observed a 34 year old woman, later identified as Melanie Schwab of Brockport who was struggling to swim while screaming for help and yelling that her friend couldn't swim. Officers observed a motionless 33 year old male in the canal face down. This male was later identified as Jason Newcomb of Rochester. Officers Blodgett and Sime were able to pull Newcomb out of the water and over the embankment with the assistance of a helpful citizen, Clarence Carithers of Albion. After extracting Newcomb from the canal Officer Blodgett immediately began CPR while Officer Sime and additional responding Officers removed Melanie Schwab from the canal. Both victims were transported to Strong Memorial Hospital. Newcomb was in critical condition but expected to live. Schwab had a head injury and possible concussion. Through follow up investigations Officers were able to learn that Newcomb and Schwab had walked over to the edge of the canal and were having a conversation. While standing on the concrete embankment Newcomb lost his balance and fell into the canal. Schwab knew that her friend could not swim and began screaming for help as Newcomb struggled to stay afloat. At this point Schwab jumped in the canal to try and save her friend. Schwab struck her head on the concrete embankment while attempting to push her friend out of the water and over the wall. As of this writing both Newcomb and Schwab have been released from the Hospital and have made full recoveries. The Brockport Police recognize the bravery of Melanie Schwab and are grateful to Clarence Carithers for his help in removing Newcomb from the canal and saving a life.
 - The Citizen Commendation Award Certificate was presented to Melanie Schwab – Chief Cuzzupoli read the following into the record: On the evening of September 10, 2023, citizen Melanie Schwab, was enjoying a night out in downtown Brockport. At approximately 12:52 a.m. Melanie's friend Jason Newcomb, fell into the canal and was not alert. Melanie had knowledge that Jason could not swim and immediately jumped into the canal in an attempt to save him. While doing so, Melanie struck her head on the concrete canal embankment resulting in a concussion. Melanie was screaming for help while keeping Jason afloat who was now face down in the water, not alert. Officers arrived on scene and provided Melanie with rescue floatation devices and managed to pull Jason from the water. Melanie was also removed from the water while life saving measures were taking place to resuscitate Jason. Both Melanie and Jason were transported to Strong Memorial Hospital. Jason was transported in critical condition, and Melanie was suffering from a concussion. Melanie's swift, heroic, and selfless actions led to a successful rescue. Jason, who was removed from the canal, not conscious, and not breathing was transported to Strong Memorial Hospital where he later made a full recovery.
 - The Life Saving Award Pins and Certificates were awarded to Officer Blodgett and Officer Sime – Chief Cuzzupoli read the following into the record the nominations for these awards.
 - Office Cave wrote: "I am nominating Officer Sime and Officer Blodgett for the Life Saving Award. On 9/10/23, Officer Sime and Officer Blodgett were dispatched to the Erie Canal for the report of

someone who had fallen into the canal. Both Officers arrived on scene and located an unconscious male floating face down in the canal, and a female in the water attempting to save the male. The Officers were able to remove both persons from the canal, however, they determined the male patient did not have a pulse and was not breathing. Officer Blodgett began CPR, as well as administered NARCAN to the male patient, which led to the male ultimately regaining a pulse and breathing on his own. The male was transported to Strong Memorial Hospital and did survive the incident. I reached out to Dr. Alexander Chacon in order to obtain a statement on whether the Officers' actions and first aid rendered did sustain these patients (as required by the BPD Life Saving Award.) Dr. Chacon's immediate supervisor, Dr. Nicole Stassen, responded to me and provided a statement via email affirming that the Officers' actions and medical aid rendered did assist in the Patient surviving this incident. Had it not been for the immediate response and life saving measures taken by Officer Sime and Officer Blodgett, it is very likely that this incident would have resulted in one, if not two, deceased drowning patients.

- Officer Korn wrote: "This memorandum is in response to the Life Saving Award Nomination for Ofc. Blodgett for his actions on 9/10/2023 as detailed in the nomination cover page. Ofc. Blodgett was truly the epitome of a first responder in this incident. Ofc. Blodgett was the first officer to pull up to the scene, the first to take action, help pull a patient from the water, give CPR, give NarCan, and the first to update EMS crews with the patient status just before the ambulance sped off to the hospital. I'm sure Ofc. Blodgett was the first officer to get back to work also, shrugging this heroic act off as, "just another call." Well let me be the first to say that this was not just another average call and Ofc. Blodgett is not just another average cop. Ofc. Blodgett is a man with many talents and skill sets that make him perfectly equipped to handle a situation like this one; he has EMT training, is a former ARMY soldier, has instructed CPR classes, dispatched ambulance crews, and worked with every emergency service field you can think of. Ofc. Blodgett brought all of his experience and training to the right place at the right time that night. Because of Ofc. Blodgett's unselfish and heroic act, a young man's life was saved.
- The Citizen Commendation Award Certificate was presented to Clarence Carithers – Chief Cuzzupoli read the following into the record: On the evening of September 10, 2023, citizen Clarence J. Carithers, was enjoying a night out in downtown Brockport. At approximately 12:52 a.m. Clarence heard a commotion which turned out to be multiple bystanders calling for help after witnessing Jason Newcomb, fall into the canal and was now not alert. Struggling to assist Jason Newcomb was Melanie Schwab who was also in the water in distress after striking her head on the concrete canal embankment. As Officer Sime and Officer Blodgett arrived on scene, Clarence immediately jumped into action. Without request or hesitation, Clarence assisted Officer Sime and Officer Blodgett by pulling Jason Newcomb out of the canal over the concrete embankment. First responders began life saving measures on Jason who was not conscious. Melanie Schwab was still in the canal clinging to a life buoy. Clarence, Officer Sime, and Officer Vadas jumped back into action and began to pull Melanie from the water. Both Melanie and Jason were transported to Strong Memorial Hospital. Jason was transported in critical condition, and Melanie was suffering from a concussion. Clarence's swift, heroic, and selfless actions led to a successful rescue which resulted in both patients making a full recovery.
- County Legislator Jackie Smith presented Officer Sime and Officer Blodgett with a proclamation from the Monroe County Legislature to recognize their dedication to place themselves in harm's way and putting the safety of others above all else when they saved the lives of two citizens.
- Trustee/Deputy Mayor Crane read a statement from Mayor Blackman: "Over the years Brockport has suffered a number of drownings in the Erie Canal. On the night of September 10th, were it not for the quick response and heroic efforts of Officers Blodgett and Sime, we would have lost two more. They rescued an unconscious male and his friend who jumped into the water to try and save him. The Officers' quick lifesaving actions and administration of first aid earned them the Brockport Police Departments Life Saving Award. We congratulate them on this deserved award and remind ourselves that our Brockport Police routinely go above and beyond to keep our community safe."
- Trustee/Deputy Mayor Crane read a statement from Statement from Manager Linden: "I'm sorry I cannot be in attendance for the awards, certificates, and proclamations being bestowed tonight. As Village Manager, I'd like to say how proud I am of Officers Blodgett and Sime, and how truly grateful I am for our entire Brockport Police Department. It is a privilege to work with each and every one of you. Thank you for your heroic efforts every day."
- Trustee/Deputy Mayor Crane added her personal thanks to Mr. Carithers, Ms. Schwab, and all of the officers. To the kids, we are proud of your dads.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Comments/questions Policy for Public Comment: 5 min/per person/ state name and address for record / clearly address the Board / submit copy of remarks to Clerk the following day for the record will be accepted during the meeting at this time. Virtual participants can raise their hands and will be called on to speak.

- No public comment received

CONSENSUS ITEMS:

- Minutes: 08/21/2023 & 08/28/2023

→ Trustee LaPierre moved, Trustee Halquist seconded, to approve the 08/21/2023 and 08/28/2023 minutes. Motion carried 3-0.

- Bills Abstract 08/09/2023
 - A (General Fund) \$40,842.06
 - **TOTAL \$40,842.06**
- Bills Abstract 9/14/2023
 - A (General Fund) \$176,475.45
 - F (Water Fund) \$47,662.06
 - G (Sewer Fund) \$473.32
 - **TOTAL \$224,610.83**

→ Trustee Halquist moved, Trustee LaPierre seconded, to approve the Bills Abstracts 08/09/2023 and 09/14/2023. Motion carried 3-0.

MANAGER/CLERK REPORT:

Manager/Clerk – Erica L. Linden (Excused/NYCOM)

- Taxes accepted until Oct 31st. An additional late fee gets applied after October 2nd.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Clerk Treasurer Kari Pardun (Excused/NYCOM)

- August financials (any questions can be submitted to Kari via email)

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

- Request to approve pricing proposal from Cloud Permit -

→ Trustee LaPierre moved, Trustee Halquist seconded, to approve the Cloud Permit Pricing Proposal for software and implementation/data import at the cost of \$11,000 and the annual subscription at the cost of \$9,600 and to authorize the budget adjustments necessary to complete the transaction. Motion carried 3-0.

- Request to approve the new form “Application for Permit for Work in Right of Way (ROW)” - The right of way includes all village streets, street pavement, curbing, sidewalks, the area between the curb and the sidewalk, and in most residential areas it generally includes land between the sidewalk and the home. The application will allow the village to review necessary documents, insurance, and scope of work. The new form has been reviewed by Village Attorney Mastrella.

→ Trustee/Deputy Mayor Crane moved, Trustee LaPierre seconded, to approve the new form “Application for Permit for Work in Right of Way (ROW)”. Motion carried 3-0.

- Request to amend the Fee Schedule with a new category, “Permit for Work in Right of Way (ROW)” with fees.

→ Trustee/Deputy Mayor Crane moved, Trustee Halquist seconded, to amend the Fee Schedule with a new category, “Permit for Work in Right of Way (ROW)” with fees: “Additions/Changes \$1,500 and/or New Construction, \$2,500”. Motion carried 3-0.

- Fee Schedule Updates – In anticipation of the adoption of the new Village Code and new Fee Schedule later this year, the board will consider an “Annual fee for approved electrical inspection agencies, \$500/year” to ensure electricians operating within the village have the proper certifications and insurances. Additionally, the Village Board

will have the authority to terminate approval, based on the recommendations of the Building Inspector. No action was taken at this meeting.

Police – Chief Mark T. Cuzzupoli

- SUNY Brockport Night Out – This annual event brings minorities together with law enforcement to improve issues within our community. Participants included Brockport Police Dept, University Police Dept, Men of Color and SUNY Brockport students.

Public Works – Superintendent Dan Verace

- Request to Approve the Keable Court Water Main Replacement MRB Group Proposal – The project is planned for spring of 2024. Funding for this project will be the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) which has already been awarded.
- Trustee/Deputy Mayor Crane moved, Trustee LaPierre seconded, to approve the MRB Group proposal of \$19,500 for the Keable Court Water Main Replacement project.
Motion carried 3-0.
- DPW update on current work – Street sweeping is 75% complete; tree trimming and dead tree removal is underway; assisting the Town of Sweden with the county project paving East Ave; replacing some concrete sidewalks on Water St and installing ADA compliant detectable plates.
 - Water Main Flushing – will take place October 10-12 and the notice will be published on the village website and Westside News.

Village Attorney – Daniel J. Mastrella, Esq. – no report

OLD or NEW BUSINESS:

- Events Application – Total Eclipse of the Port (SUNY Brockport) – Brockport University Police are requesting, on April 8, 2023 from 8am to 8pm, authorization to make Holley St one way – westbound only - from the intersections of Monroe Ave to Commencement Dr to allow for better control of the traffic during the event.
- Trustee Halquist moved, Trustee LaPierre seconded, to approve the Total Eclipse of the Port Event Application for April 8, 2024, 8 am – 8pm, to make Holley St, one way, westbound only, from the intersections of Monroe Ave to Commencement Dr.
Motion carried 3-0.
- Events Application – Midnight Madness (Brockport Merchants Association) – The annual costume parade will be held on Friday, October 27, 2023, 6 pm – 8 pm. Closure of Main and Market Streets will ensure the safety of participants. “Trunk or Treat” will be held in the parking lot by the First Baptist Church.
- Trustee LaPierre moved, Trustee Halquist seconded, to approve the closure of Main and Market Streets during the event on October 27, 2023, from 5:30pm to 8:30 pm.
Motion carried 3-0.
- Events Application – Holiday of Lights Parade (Stetson Club) – The annual event will take place on Sunday, December 3, 2023, 5-8 pm, on Main Street. With the Main Street Lift Bridge out, the parade has been re-routed south to north, beginning at SUNY Brockport P Lot, north onto Utica St, east onto College St, north onto Main St, west onto Clinton St, south onto Utica St and end going west onto Monroe Ave. Possible fireworks will be held after the parade.
- Trustee LaPierre moved, Trustee Halquist seconded, to approve the Holiday of Lights Parade Event Application and road closures from 3pm – 9 pm, during the event on December 3, 2023, 5-8 pm.
Motion carried 3-0.
- Authorize NY Forward grant application – submission deadline is September 29, 2023.
- Trustee/Deputy Mayor Crane moved, Trustee Halquist seconded, to authorize a NY Forward application for either \$4.5M or \$2.25M in funding to enhance the Village’s historic downtown corridor and canalfront by completing a variety of transformative project opportunities that align with the NY Department of State’s NY Forward priorities, as well as priorities noted by the local Brockport community.

Motion carried 3-0.

- Appoint Meghan Matthews to the Parks Committee

→ Trustee/Deputy Mayor Crane moved, Trustee LaPierre seconded, to appoint Meghan Matthews to the Parks Committee.

Motion carried 3-0.

- Appoint Molly Gaudio to the Planning/Zoning Board of Appeals

→ Trustee/Deputy Mayor Crane moved, Trustee Halquist seconded, to appoint Molly Gaudio to the Planning/Zoning Board of Appeals.

Motion carried 3-0.

VILLAGE BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- No Announcements

ADJOURNMENT

→ Trustee LaPierre moved, Trustee Halquist seconded, to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:57 pm.

Motion carried 3-0.

Upcoming Meetings: Sept. 25 Workshop, October 2, Oct 16 w/ dept. heads, Oct 23 Workshop