



Village of Brockport



2022

www.brockportny.org

Issue 13

From the Mayor's Desk



Are we back to normal yet? Closer, if we measure by the return of the full complement of Brockport's upcoming warm weather festivities. Low Bridge High Water, our canal opening celebration at the Welcome Center, last held in May 2019, has moved to a warmer Saturday (June 11) with kayaking, live music, a picnic lunch on the lawn, and family friendly activities. The Old Fashioned 4th of July at the Morgan Manning returns in full force this year and on July 23, Shake on the Lake brings Shakespeare's MacBeth to the Morgan Manning House lawn. After a 2-year hiatus, the Brockport Arts Festival returns to Main Street the second weekend in August with many new arts focused vendors.

The Sidewalk Sale, July 7 to 9th, brings Brockstock with it this year. And it wouldn't be summer without the popular Thursday night Summer Serenades at the Welcome Center. In August and September we are offering "On the Canals" kayaking and biking excursions from the Welcome Center again.

On April 18, the Village Board passed the 2022-23 budget, which shows the effects of inflation in several expenditure categories, but which remains under the 2% tax cap as it consistently has since the inauguration of the cap.

The budget was helped by healthy quarterly sales tax returns and by the Federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds distribution to municipalities. ARPA funds came to the rescue of our DPW building, which sprung serious leaks in the roofs of the office building and the truck bays this past winter. ARPA funds are also earmarked for major sidewalk repairs throughout the village, and in kind required matching funds for a rehab of the Smith Street bridge pedestrian and cyclist access.

I'm pleased to report that a cost savings initiative by the village begun in 2016 has finally come to fruition. We completed the buy-back of our streetlights from National Grid this year and had them outfitted with new "cobra heads" with lower wattage but brighter LED lights. The projected cost savings of 59% in street lighting from 2020-21 (\$255,848) to 2022-23 (\$105,000) are substantial. Additionally, better lighting improves safety for people and property.

Some technical upgrades: A much awaited and needed village website overhaul is well underway and should be completed by July. Large flat screens, mounted on the wall of our village hall conference room and in our village board meeting room at village court will greatly improve hybrid meetings and the projection of visual materials.

Happily, we have grants to report. After three unsuccessful tries we received a NYS Parks and Recreation grant for upgrades to Corbett Park. The park will see a state of the art fitness court for outdoor fitness training, new ADA compliant paths, parking lot repaving, tennis court resurfacing, and pond dredging. These upgrades will take place over two years. A Canalways grant funds an ADA compliant access path up the embankment to the Canal on the northwest side of the village at McCormick Place. We await news sometime early this summer about two pending grants to provide safe cycling and pedestrian travel across the Smith Street bridge.

In closing I want to acknowledge Erica Linden's two year anniversary as village manager/clerk. Not only does Erica oversee the day to day operations of village hall and all its employees, but she serves as grants administrator, tax collector, and records manager. Through Erica's tireless, smart, and almost always cheerful, efforts I realized how much Brockport village government and the public have benefitted from the organizational skills of a fulltime village manager. Thank you, Erica!

Read on for departmental news, a review of the budget and the relationship between the tax levy and assessment, Brockport's selection as a Pilot Trail Town by Parks & Trails NY, information on the upcoming 18-month closure of the Main Street bridge, and more.

Margay Blackman, Mayor



Bridging the Closure

This community committee of some 20 persons has been meeting since May of 2021 to plan for the 18-month closing of the Main Street bridge now scheduled for spring of 2023. Our four subcommittees are tackling the thorny issue of vehicular

through traffic into and out of the village, active transportation (bicycle and pedestrian traffic), marketing the closure and our downtown merchants, and event planning. Public information on the activities of the committee have unfortunately been restricted due to our website upgrade. Committee meeting minutes and other documents, along with the Zoom recordings of our meetings, will be available on our website as soon as its upgrade is completed. We apologize for the inconvenience and will make these materials accessible as soon as possible.

We will continue to update the public on our website and Facebook page as the schedule for the bridge rehabilitation is finalized. Closer to the actual time of the bridge closure, the DOT will host a public meeting in Brockport regarding the closure. In the meantime you can direct questions about the closure to committee co-chairs Margay Blackman (mblackman@brockportny.org) or Kathy Kristansen (kkristansen@brockportny.org), or to village manager Erica Linden (elinden@brockportny.org).

Kari Pardun, More Than a Friendly Face!

Welcome, Kari Pardun, clerk treasurer and our newest village hall staff member. Kari has brought a cheerful vibe to village hall in collaboration with her partner in crime, deputy clerk treasurer Barb Krizen. They adorned village hall office doors with decorations for every conceivable holiday this year and made sure there was a birthday cake on April 6th to celebrate Brockport’s 193rd birthday.

But mostly Kari is about serving the public. She handles payroll and is working with Treasurer Dan Hendricks to transition the payroll system to digital. She is learning everything she can from Dan about the treasurer’s position which she is in training to assume when Dan decides to retire. Meantime Kari has also been redesigning and upgrading our village website and maintaining our new village app, “My Brockport Village.”

Kari has a strong background in non-profits focused on children—the Salvation Army, and Hillside in particular, and for 16 years she ran her own childcare service from her home. Her experience in managing non-profit budgets has paid off in her new job and also given her an appreciation for the comparative transparency and accountability of a municipal budget.

While Kari is laser focused on the budget, her job has also immersed her in the community. She has lived in Brockport for 20 years and, with her husband, raised her four children here. A tireless cheerleader for Village life, Kari is quick to rave about what a vibrant, supportive community Brockport is. Accordingly, she’s found herself deeply involved in the arrangements for the Brockport Arts Festival, coordinating vendors and entertainment. She joined the Bridging the Closure committee preparing for the Main Street bridge closure, and is helping plan the return of Low Bridge High Water, our canal opening celebration. Every time I speak with her she’s meeting with a different village committee to share ideas.



Mayor Blackman, Deputy Clerk Treasurer Barbara Krizen, Clerk Treasurer Kari Pardun



The village is a business, Kari concludes, but the business of the village is relationships.



Brockport Police Department

“Strong community partnerships will enhance the quality of life all.”

As we all look forward to entering into the spring and summer seasons, the Brockport Police Department looks to increase our community engagement even more! You will see us at community events, out on foot, and out on bicycle patrol throughout the village.

This year brought a new hire to the police department, and two promotions. Officer Ryan Kelly, formerly with University Police, joined the BPD. Sergeant Paul Wheat is now Lt. Wheat, replacing Steve Mesiti who retired last year, and officer Scott Korn has been promoted to Sergeant.

I want to thank the men and women of this police department for their dedication and commitment to the residents of this village and to all who visit our community. All of our officers, with the exception of myself, belong to the “Stetson Club”, the police union. Through this organization, officers volunteer their time and donate their money to support community engagement initiatives. These events include but are not limited to: The Hometown Heroes Banners, a blood drive in memory of the Honorable Judge Cody, the Challenger Baseball Ice Cream Social, the Camp Abilities Lunch, the Sgt. Clifton Rife II Memorial Scholarship Award, the Holiday of Lights Parade as well as Shop with a Cop. Few communities have such engaged police unions – Brockport is a special place, enhanced by these dedicated individuals.

I would kindly ask that you take an extra minute to view our annual report, which will give you a snapshot of BPD’s services and community engagement. The report can be found at: <http://www.brockportny.org/departments-services/bpd> We are proud of our work and believe strong community partnerships will enhance the quality of life for all.

As we strive to provide the best service possible, I encourage your comments, questions and feedback. I have an open-door policy so feel free to stop by, or I can be reached at (585) 637-1020 ext. 141 or chiefcuzzupoli@brockportpolice.org.

Your Chief of Police,
Mark T. Cuzzupoli



Lt. Wheat and Chief Cuzzupoli after Lt. Wheat’s swearing in as the new second in command.



Village Court

With the effects of the pandemic waning to some degree, the Court is seeing a higher level of activity. People are getting out and about more, and we are seeing an uptick in cases as a result of this.

We would like to welcome our new court clerk; Danielle Duthoy. Danielle brings much life experience to the job with her which we believe will benefit the team. She was previously employed by the City of Rochester where she worked at the Emergency Communications Department before transferring to the Rochester Police Department as an Evidence Technician. Her previous roles exposed her to courtroom operations which provided knowledge she can apply in her daily duties as a court clerk. We wish her well, and hope she enjoys her new role in village government.

Find payment links and information online <http://www.brockportny.org/departments-services/village-court>

Pilot Trail Town — Brockport!



Parks & Trails New York (PTNY) and the New York State Canal Corporation (NYSCC) developed the Empire State Trail Town program to demonstrate the value of the 750-mile Empire State Trail as an economic driver for upstate communities. With the trail’s completion in 2020, the Erie Canalway Trail—the east-west leg of the statewide system—is poised to serve as one of the state’s premier recreation destinations. Inspired by the Great Allegheny Passage (GAP) Trail Town Program, and building on successful efforts by New York State to invest in the Canal

Canal Corporation



corridor through the Reimagine the Canals Initiative, the Empire State Trail Town program will evaluate/assess how the Erie Canalway Trail can support and enhance economic development along the canal corridor and find new opportunities to enhance recreation and tourism.

This year, the Village of Brockport was selected as the first Empire State Trail Town. The “Victorian Village on the Erie Canal” has a strong community identity tied to the Erie Canal and the Erie Canalway Trail. Brockport boasts a dedicated network of local stakeholders invested in improving access to nearby recreation opportunities, creating safe routes for pedestrians and cyclists, and engaging with local leaders to increase the visibility of the canalway trail system as a recreation destination. A core team of community stakeholders, working with PTNY and the NYSCC, will build on these efforts to develop a long-term action plan for attracting and supporting local tourism and the outdoor recreation economy. The pilot program will involve:

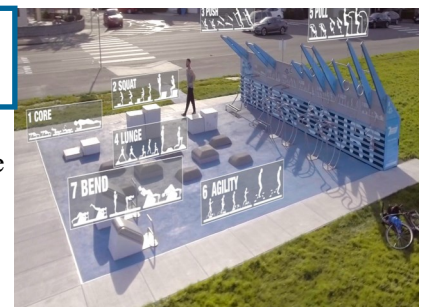
- Conducting background research and doing a community wide assessment
- Developing a visitor survey and collecting trail user information
- Hosting a public listening session, May 23, to solicit public input on accessibility, equity, community engagement, promotion, beautification, and infrastructure related to the project
- Working collaboratively with municipal staff, elected officials? Walk!Bike!Brockport, the Welcome Center, and the Merchants Association
- Creating a more welcoming presence along the Canalway Trail by recruiting “trail adopters” and “ambassadors” to perform/provide routine maintenance along the Erie Canalway Trail throughout the season
- PTNY and the Village collaborating to create a roadmap for future “shovel-ready” projects, associated funding sources, and programming that can further the goals of the Trail Town program.

By the end of the year, PTNY and the NYSCC will provide the Village with an action plan offering short and long-term recommendations to help local stakeholders attract and profit from the growing bicycle tourism market. The plan will ensure that the Village can build upon the strong partnerships developed during the year, create safer streets for bicyclists and pedestrians during the Main Street bridge closure, and drive trail users to Main Street businesses.

For more information about the Trail Town program visit www.ptny.org/EmpireStateTrailTowns. To get involved in Brockport contact Erica Linden (elinden@brockportny.org), Rebecca Murray (rmurray@ptny.org), and Sasha Del Peral (Sasha.DelPeral@canals.ny.gov).

National Fitness Campaign Fitness Court Coming to Brockport—Funded by MVP HealthCare Grant & NYS Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation Grant

The Corbett Park Improvement Project will take two years to implement; the first upgrade will be to add the National Fitness Court. Installation is planned for the end June and will be located between the tennis courts and the sidewalk on the north side of the park. A full press release, launch date, and opening day events will be advertised. To learn more about these fitness courts visit www.nationalfitnesscampaign.com.



Department of Public Works

To Do In 2022

The DPW has a long list of projects we will work on this year:



- Complete reconstruction on Market St.
- Top soil and seeding from plow sod damage
- Tree stump grinding
- Sweeping village streets throughout the year
- Repairing road damage
- Painting cross walks
- Repairing and replacing sidewalks

Milling, Paving & Curb Installation

The following streets are scheduled for milling, paving and curb installation:

- Market Street
- Clark Street (Main to Smith)
- Corbett Park Improvement - Parking Lot

Depending on additional state aid, more streets could be added.

DPW Renovation

The Department of Public Works is busy working on renovations to our building. A much needed roof replacement is underway, office/training room construction, and the addition of an accessible bathroom.



Market Street Reconstruction Project



The Department of Public Works has resumed our Market Street reconstruction project, started last year. We have replaced old water mains and sewer mains with new. During the excavation process we found old wooden, abandoned water mains from the late 19th century made from black locust wood. This was an exciting find for the crew working on this project! We will send these finds over to the E.L.K. Museum to preserve Brockport history.

We also poured new concrete sidewalks, and will continue this work as good weather permits, along with installation of new curbing. Milling and paving work to follow.



We anticipate the Market Street reconstruction project will be completed by July.

Spring Exterior Maintenance

We will be in your neighborhood this April and May. Property values and ownership satisfaction depend on structures and yards that are maintained in good repair. We'll be enforcing minimum requirements outlined in the NYS Property Maintenance Code and the Village of Brockport Code.

The items listed below are among the most common infractions:



General Exterior Maintenance

- **Grass and weeds:** High grass and weeds must be cut, trimmed, or eliminated. Hazardous plant growth and leaves must be removed.
- **Yards and lots:** Yards, courts, and open areas must be kept clear and free of hazards, refuse, dead or dying trees, and the accumulation of brush.
- **1 Drainage:** Standing surface waters are to be properly drained and drainage swales maintained.
- **Buildings:** Exterior surfaces must be maintained in good condition. Paint or other suitable protective coating shall be applied and/or repaired. Additional exterior building elements and accessory structures shall be maintained.
- **Building numbers:** All principal buildings shall have a prominently displayed address number visible from a public street. The numbers must be located on the primary building or store location, be 4 (four) inches in height, read horizontal, no script font and be colored on a contrasting background.
- **Driveways, parking areas** and similar areas shall be maintained so as to afford dust free, safe passage. Potholes and/or hazards shall be repaired.

Additional Code Requirements

- **Furniture:** The outdoor use of furniture designed for indoor use is prohibited. These items include couches, chairs, sofas, bed frames, box springs, and mattresses. These items CANNOT be used, placed, or stored on any open porches, balconies, decks, roofs, fire escapes, landings, yards, or driveways.
- **Swimming pools:** Must be kept clean and in a sanitary condition. Gates, railings, doors, and safety fencing must be maintained in good repair.

Refuse, & Recycling

- **Trash/ Refuse:** Refuse shall be stored in containers with adequately sealed lids. Refuse shall be stored between collection days so as not to pose a health hazard or unsightly condition. Trash cans, totes, and recycling bins must be screened from public view while being stored between collections. Refuse may not be placed curbside more than 24 hours prior to scheduled collection. Trash cans, totes, and recycling bins shall be removed from curb by day's end after collection.
- **Brush:** Brush and limbs are collected by the Village DPW generally on the last Monday of April and October (contact DPW for dates.) Place brush curbside no earlier than the weekend before. Brush shall be no longer than 6' in length with butt ends outward. Loose, raked leaves are removed in the fall. Curbside placement of leaves must not cause a traffic hazard.

Storage & Parking of Motor Vehicles & Trail-

- **Storage:** Not more than one unregistered vehicle may be stored out of doors unless said vehicle displays a current NYS inspection. Wrecked, abandoned, or dismantled motor vehicles are not permitted to be stored or parked outdoors or left visible to public view.
- **Parking:** Motor vehicles shall not park or stop on any public sidewalk, lawn, yard, or on any non-approved area.
- **Trailers** of any type shall not be parked or stored closer than 15 feet from a street or public sidewalk.
- **Trailers** shall not be stored or parked closer than four feet from a side or rear property line.

Welcome Center

Would you like to become an Ambassador for Brockport?

We have an international port, right here in the Village of Brockport on the Erie Canal! At the Brockport Welcome Center, you can meet people from all over the world along with members of our community. Our mission is to encourage guests to enjoy the Village of Brockport’s hospitality and the amenities our facility has to offer.

Brockport Ambassadors, our frontline of volunteer greeters to our community, are typically the first to welcome visitors who come by boat, bike, car, or on foot. They serve as greeters for time slots of their choosing. Many of them work in pairs and volunteer season after season because they find greeting fun!

The Welcome Center is open mid-May to mid-October, following the canal navigation season. When Ambassadors are available, we are open seven days a week, 12pm-6pm with the prospect of expanding our hours.

Volunteers are fully supported and training is provided. Shifts are in two hour blocks of time and can be scheduled on a weekly or biweekly rotation, with flexibility for summer plans.

Brockport Ambassadors are required to:

- be fully vaccinated and provide proof of COVID-19 vaccines and boosters, following NYS Health Guidance
- have an email account that is frequently checked for important communications
- be willing to use an iPad, accept credit card, and cash payments

I would be glad to meet with you and explore the possibilities. Let’s get started with a Position of Interest form, <http://bit.ly/villageform>. You can also contact me at welcomecenter@brockportny.org or 585-637-1000. Follow us on Facebook & Instagram!

Looking forward to meeting you on the Erie Canal!
Susan Smith, Director, Brockport Welcome Center



“Famous” Brockport Ambassadors include:



Brockport Ambassador Merrill



Brockport Ambassadors Seip & Andrea



Brockport Ambassadors Ray & Ute Duncan



Brockport Ambassador Brittany

Village Hall Interns

Through a partnership with the SUNY Social Work Department, Village Manager Linden provided internship opportunities in a “macro” environment to two senior students, McKenzie Stein and Tanajah “Tee” Malachi. The year-long internships began with the students learning about local government, rotating to different departments, joining in on stake holder meetings with community and state level partners, and visiting agencies within Brockport. They served as greeters at the Welcome Center, shadowed a judge on the bench, joined meetings with police officers, and provided valuable feedback on community planning. They also created a short online training course for village employees and



volunteers on cultural humility, leaving the village with resources that will last beyond their time with us. **Congratulations** on graduation—come back and visit us in Brockport!

WALK! BIKE! BROCKPORT! Is a town-gown committee supported by the college, village and surrounding community. If anyone is interested in working towards improving accessibility and to alert those around us about the positive physical and emotional benefits of walking and biking, we would welcome you at our next meeting. We meet monthly and membership is open to all members of the greater Brockport community. We are looking for active individuals to join our group. If interested, contact BoB LeSuer at rlesuer@brockport.edu.

Community Recognitions & Celebrations

The Monika Andrews Creative Leadership award is given annually to one or more citizens of Brockport, Sweden, or Clarkson “who have demonstrated outstanding leadership in volunteer work by undertaking important innovative activities or creating significant new ways to serve the greater Brockport community.” Three very worthy candidates were nominated this year, including Kristy Hart, Chet Fery and winner Scarlett Aeckerle.

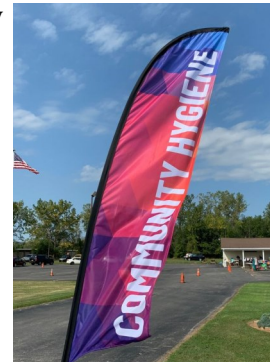
Jackie Smith, Kevin Johnson, Christa Filipowicz, Robert Colby and Emelio Sebastian submitted letters citing Ms. Aeckerle’s work in establishing a Community Hygiene Bank (CHB). A group of volunteers headed by Scarlett established the first bank of this type in our area in March 2017. Each family receives a bag with hygiene products, cleaning products and paper products. During the pandemic they also received food boxes. This March will be the five-year anniversary for this service to those in need. The program is designed to help people who receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits because they are not able to purchase things such as toilet paper, diapers, shampoo, etc. Ms. Aeckerle also has two supplemental outreach programs to help Brockport School District students and rural farm workers to receive hygiene kits.



Jackie Smith, Scarlett Aeckerle, Bill Andrews (award founder), Christa Filipowicz, and Emelio Sebastian

Scarlett demonstrates a deep connection to the community to create such a responsive program. She writes grants and runs fundraisers to secure monies for the hygiene products she also shops for. This sort of compassion is closely related to Monika Andrews’ work in helping to establish the Brockport Food Shelf. Scarlett gives freely of her time as Monika did.

The CHB has found a new home at the Jubilee Christian Church on Lake Road thanks to Jackie Smith introducing Scarlett to Pastor Emelio Sebastian. It turned out they shared a similar vision of community outreach and Scarlett has been an inspiration to the members of that church to get more involved in the community. This is what volunteer leadership is all about. In the last two years, American civil society has been sorely tested by the COVID pandemic, even in communities such as ours with a vibrant volunteering tradition. We have become even more aware of how lucky we are to have fellow citizens such as Scarlett Aeckerle to help us weather such storms.



The CommUNITY award will call for nominations for members of Brockport, Clarkson, Hamlin, and Sweden communities. Information will be on our website and in the Suburban News in June. You can also call or email Manager/Clerk Erica Linden at (585) 637-5300 x110 or elinden@brockportny.org.

The Brockport Arts Festival is BACK!



The Village of Brockport is proud to announce that they are partnering with Brockport Integrated Service Club Organization (BISCO) to produce this year’s Brockport Arts Festival on August 13 & 14 from 10am-5pm. After a two-year hiatus, The Brockport Arts Festival is back and celebrating its 26th year! Registration of vendors and volunteers has begun and is ongoing! Please visit brockportartsfestival.com for additional details. Featuring over 100 artists and crafters, the Brockport Arts Festival has been a staple on the Western New York festival scene for over a quarter of a century. We are so pleased to be back offering traditional favorite features and to shine the light on our amazing community.

Please note that booths run by artists, specialty food vendors, on-site food vendors, and non-political non-profits and community organizations are encouraged to apply. Political organizations and groups will not be accepted to the festival.

A new element to this year’s festival will be “Arts Festival After Dark”, a street concert on Saturday night featuring a local crowd favorite, “North of Forty”. Details are still in development, but plan on celebrating our community until the sun goes down!

Recognizing Sue Savard, Curator of the Emily L. Knapp Museum, On Her Retirement

This coming summer a fixture in the Brockport community and a treasured asset, Susan Savard, will be stepping down from her position as Director and Curator of the Emily L. Knapp Museum. The Village of Brockport, along with the larger museum community, would like to acknowledge the Sue's contributions during her tenure at the museum and thank her graciously for her invaluable contributions to preserving Brockport's past, while securing its the future.

Sue Savard has demonstrated and lived her dedication to the mission of the Emily L. Knapp Museum (E.L.K.) Museum. Seeing it as "an educational institution...to collect, preserve, and provide access to the heritage and history of the greater Brockport community." During her decade of service to the E.L.K Museum she has transformed the museum's contents from a collection to a SHOWCASE. Sue has worked in every facet of museum curatorship from physical restoration and exhibits, fund raising, programming, interpretive programs, community partnerships, volunteer administration, to even writing books that shine a greater light on the treasures protected at the E.L.K. Museum, all while receiving no monetary compensation, not even royalties from the books she has written.

During her 10 years with the E.L.K. Museum Sue has developed the museum in such a way that the people of Brockport and surrounding communities can clearly recognize and take pride in its tangible history of merchants, artists, military, agricultural industry, and contributing residents and businesses.

A decade of full-time volunteer service can't be done justice in a newsletter article and really should be seen to be appreciated. Please consider visiting Sue at the Emily L. Knapp Museum. Current museum hours can be found at Knappmuseum.org.



Sue Savard, in period dress, giving an historic tour of Brockport to visiting seniors from the Highlands of Pittsford.

Village Manager/Clerk—Housekeeping Items

Village Board Minutes and Agendas will be available on ecode360, where the text is searchable. Minutes will no longer be in a separate document folder on our website. Ecode360 is accessible on our homepage by clicking on Village Code. This is a more efficient and user friendly way to provide these documents to the public. The current meeting agenda (only) will be available on the homepage of our website for easy logging in to hybrid meetings.

Volunteer Opportunities—Numerous open positions are available on village committees such as the [Parks Committee](#), [Historic Preservation Board](#), [Tree Board](#), and [Ethics Board](#). This fall we anticipate the start of the Law Enforcement Community Partnership and a Citizen Police Academy. Please fill out a Position Interest Form under Forms/Applications at www.brockportny.org and/or call (585) 637-5300 x112 with any questions. **Village Historian/E.L.K. Museum Director Position**—this newly combined position is taking applications and comes with a small stipend. Please visit www.brockportny.org for the full position description.



Sign up for our **App—My Brockport Village**—free on any app store. Simply search on "Brockport" or sign up for email notifications at:

<https://app.govoutreach.com/brockportvillageny/public/communications/subscribe>

This is a fast way for us to notify you of emergencies, events, and critical village updates.

Village Tax Collection Notice

The Tax Roll and Warrant for the collection of Village Taxes for fiscal year June 1, 2022 – May 31, 2023 have been filed in the Village Clerk's Office. **TAX BILLS WILL BE MAILED ON THE LAST BUSINESS DAY OF MAY.**

Check or money order for the exact amount should be made payable to the Village of Brockport and mailed with the payment stub or deposited into the drop box near the front entrance to Village Hall. Cash payments also accepted. Payments may be made in person at Village Hall, 8:30a-4:30p, 127 Main St., Brockport, NY 14420.

The Village of Brockport is one of only a few villages that accepts payments in two installments. This is offered as a way to lessen the burden of one payment all at once. The Village must adhere to NYS Real Property Tax Law in its collection, which prescribes deadlines and penalties, these are not set by the Village Board.

PAYMENT OPTION #1

Payment is due in full by July 1st, 2021 with no penalty.

PAYMENT OPTION #2

Payment may be made in 2 equal installments:

MUST make 1st installment by July 1st 2021 with no penalty.

Then make 2nd installment by August 1st 2021 with no penalty.

November 1st – Village taxes remaining unpaid will be turned over to Monroe County to re-levy onto the January 2023 County/Town tax bill with additional penalties.

Not receiving your tax bill does not absolve you of your obligation to pay your taxes in a timely fashion. If your taxes are not escrowed in your mortgage and you do not receive your tax bill, please call Village Hall at (585) 637-5300.

Village tax bills are also available on our website under Quick Links/Property Taxes at www.brockportny.org



New York State Low Income Water Assistance Program

Do you need help paying for overdue water and sewer bills?

You may qualify for help through this state program! We encourage you to apply, regardless of income, it's worth a try! Applying is an easy process. In our experience people are being approved within 24 hours. It is supported with federal funds through the state. There is a hotline you can call to apply or see the link below. The phone number is 1-800-342-3009.

Benefits are based on the amount of unpaid water and sewer bills owed by applicants, up to \$5,000 combined water and sewer arrears. Benefits are paid directly to the utility and credit your accounts, in our case, to the Village of Brockport Water Department.

Eligibility and benefits based on:

- ◇ **Income**
- ◇ **Household size**
- ◇ **Household includes a US citizen, US national, or qualified alien**
- ◇ **Amount owed to water/sewer provider**

Primary applicants must provide:

- ◇ **Proof of ID**
- ◇ **Proof of residence**
- ◇ **Documentation of earned and unearned income**
- ◇ **Water/Sewer bill listing their permanent and primary residence**
- ◇ **Social Security Number**



The Village Budget for 2022-2023 includes an increase in water and sewer rates of 3%.

This increase will take effect with the June 1st billing.

Unfortunately, the increase is needed to keep pace with the cost of water purchases from Monroe County Water Authority and with infrastructure maintenance costs.

For more information visit <https://otda.ny.gov/LIHWAP>

Understanding Property Assessments —from the Village Treasurer

The Town of Sweden recently updated assessed values for all Village of Brockport properties. The new assessed values will be used for the 2023-24 village tax levy. *Does an increase in assessed value automatically result in an increase in property taxes paid by Village homeowners?*

The answer is unequivocally no. The tax levy is the determining factor in this calculation. The tax rate is the result of distributing the levy over the total assessed value. If a homeowners percentage increase in assessed value exceeds the overall percentage change in assessed value, they may experience an increase in their taxes, if their percentage increase in assessed value is less than the overall percentage increase in assessed value, they may see a decrease in taxes.

The change in assessed valuation does not increase revenues collected by the Village. The tax levy, which is set by the Village Trustees during the budget development process, will increase in the 2022-23 fiscal year by \$65,000. This represents a 2.12% increase over the prior year's tax levy. The tax rate for 2022-23 will increase by 0.91%, less than the levy % increase, due to a change in the total assessed valuation.

The tax levy for the 2022-23 fiscal year complies with the New York State Tax Cap. The Trustees hope to be able to comply with future tax cap calculations but recognize that due to projected inflation rates in the future, this may be difficult.

The following are examples of the impact assessment changes have on property taxes:

2022-23 Tax Levy – \$3,130,000, divided by assessed value - \$266,364,758 = \$.01175 X \$1,000 = \$11.75 tax rate, per \$1,000 of assessed valuation.

Home Assessed Value - \$100,000 X \$11.75, Village tax rate per \$1,000 = \$1,175 for Village taxes

Example 1 - Assumption for 2023-24 budget - assessed values for the Village increase by **20%**. Tax levy increases by **2.00%**, Home assessed valuation increases by 15%.

2023-24 Tax Levy - \$3,192,600, divided by assessed value - \$319,637,710 = \$.09988 X \$1,000 = \$9.99 tax rate, per \$1,000 of assessed valuation.

Home Assessed Value - \$115,000 X \$9.99, Village tax rate per \$1,000 = \$1,149 for Village taxes.
A decrease of 2.30%.

Example 2 - Assumption for 2023-24 budget - assessed values for the Village increase by **20%**. Tax levy increases by **2.00%**, Home assessed valuation also increases by **20%**.

2023-24 Tax Levy - \$3,192,600, divided by assessed value - \$319,637,710 = \$.09988 X \$1,000 = \$9.99 tax rate, per \$1,000 of assessed valuation.

Home Assessed Value - \$120,000 X \$9.99, Village tax rate per \$1,000 = \$1,199 for Village taxes.
An increase of 2.00%.

Example 3 - Assumption for 2023-24 budget - assessed values for the Village increase by **20%**. Tax levy increases by **2.00%**, Home assessed valuation increases by 30%.

2023-24 Tax Levy - \$3,192,600, divided by assessed value - \$319,637,710 = \$.09988 X \$1,000 = \$9.99 tax rate, per \$1,000 of assessed valuation.

Home Assessed Value - \$130,000 X \$9.99, Village tax rate per \$1,000 = \$1,299 for Village taxes.
An increase of 10.5%.

Hopefully this attempt clarifies how changes in assessments impact property taxes on Village properties.



Low Bridge BROCKPORT, NY Canal Opening Festival High Water *A Village of Brockport Signature Event*



~ Saturday, June 11, 2022 ~

Festivities at The Welcome Center 11am-3pm, Water Street

~ Music performances by Cooper Scotti Music ~ GypsyLand ~

4th Grade Poster Contest Winners ~ winning posters on display

Dedication: Phebe the Mule ~ statue designed & painted by local high school artists

~ On the Water Events ~

~ Kayak Rentals and Demos of Adaptive Kayak Launch ~

with Erie Canal Boat Company and Rochester Accessible Adventures

~ Water Rescue Demos on the canal ~

by Monroe County Sheriff Department and Brockport Fire Department

~ On Land Events ~

~ Bikes & K9's ~ by Brockport Police **~ Touch a Truck ~** by Brockport DPW

~ Conference Bike with Walk! Bike! Brockport! Action Group ~

~ Native Plant & Pollinator Garden Tours ~ Strawberry

Shortcake Kiwanis Club sale ~ Seymour Library Kids Activities ~

~ Arts Festival T-Shirt Design Contest ~ and much more!

Bring a blanket and picnic lunch!

Thank you to our Sponsors:



In partnership with the National Park Service



Canal Corporation



Wegmans



For more information, visit: www.facebook.com/LowBridgeHighWater