

TOWN OF CLARKSON  
SPECIAL INTERMUNICIPAL MEETING  
September 7, 2010

The Town Board of the Town of Clarkson attended a special intermunicipal meeting on Tuesday, September 7, 2010 at the Sweden Senior Center 133 State St. Brockport NY at 6:00 PM

PRESENT:

Paul Kimball	Supervisor
Allan Hoy	Councilperson
Sheldon Meyers	Councilperson
Sharon Mattison	Town Clerk
** Patrick Didas	Councilperson
** Christa Filipowicz	Councilperson

ALSO:

John H. Milner	Supervisor, Town of Sweden
Michael C. Meyers	Councilperson, Town of Sweden
Robert A. Carges	Councilperson, Town of Sweden
Danielle Windus-Cook	Councilperson, Town of Sweden
Patricia P. Connors	Councilperson, Town of Sweden

Clarkson/Sweden Fire Protection District Study Committee Members

<u>Clarkson</u>	<u>Sweden</u>
Jim Gillette	Mike Ferris
Joe Indelicato	Debra Finkle
James Sauberan	Doug Hickerson
Al Smith	Charles Sanford
** Bob Rejewski	Harold Mundy

\*\*excused

Supervisors Milner and Kimball thanked the committee for all their hard work. Committee Member, James Sauberan distributed to all present the committee's final report and Proposal for the Fire and Medical Emergency Advisory Committee and reported as follows;

The Clarkson/Sweden Fire Protection District Study Committee first met in March 2010 and met twice a month through the end of August. The mission of the committee was to explore the options and to recommend a plan to provide an efficient, effective, and financially responsible method for delivering fire protection and EMS services for the Towns of Clarkson and Sweden presently and in the future.

The committee examined many options and it was determined that dividing the current fire protection district into smaller areas or giving portions of the district to surrounding districts was not feasible. It was determined that the creation of a combined Clarkson/Sweden Fire Protection District is the best possible option for maintaining the high quality protection that the towns' residents have come to expect. This solution would have to be addressed as a long term project as the process to create this district is very time consuming.

The committee recommended the creation of a Fire and Medical Emergency Advisory Committee as a way to plan for the future and provide for the present. (See attached proposal)

A lengthy discussion between Committee members and Towns of Clarkson and Sweden Councilpersons took place. Questions and comments from the audience were addressed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sharon S. Mattison  
Town Clerk

**APPROVED 10-12-2010**

## **Proposal for the Fire and Medical Emergency Advisory Committee**

This proposal would have the Village of Brockport, the Brockport Fire Department, and the Towns of Clarkson and Sweden create a **Fire & Medical Emergency Advisory Committee** to oversee the Fire and Ambulance services in the three municipalities. This would allow the Town Boards the opportunity to exhibit more direct ownership of Fire and Ambulance protection for the residents of the Towns of Clarkson and Sweden. This committee would be comprised of two Town of Clarkson residents, two Town of Sweden residents, two residents of the Village of Brockport, two Brockport Fire Department members, and one at large member. The respective boards would appoint the members from the municipalities. The Fire Department members would be selected by the Chief's Office, and the committee members would select the at large member.

Responsibilities of this Committee would be:

- Draft the contract between the Towns of Clarkson and Sweden and the Village of Brockport for Fire and Ambulance protection
- Develop the budget for spending tax revenue on services.
- Plan for the long term for Emergency Services to ensure that resources are in place for effective response and prevention
- Prioritize Recruitment and Retention initiatives to keep the tradition of volunteerism alive.
- Ensure fiscal responsibility and transparency of finances.
- Solicit concerns from the community to improve service

### Pro's of this proposal

1. The Ambulance Corp and the Fire Department would remain status quo.
2. This would still allow the advantage of third party billing for the ambulance service.
3. Membership in both public safety organizations would remain strong. Members would be shared.
4. This will not add another level of government or another taxing authority.
5. There will still be control remaining at the municipal level.
6. The current infrastructure and equipment would stay in place.
7. This would create increased transparency for the public and the boards in regards to fire protection monies and issues.
8. Long range planning would now be centralized.
9. No legislation would be needed to create this board.
10. Municipalities would still be able to set their own fire tax rate
11. Would encourage increased cooperation between all three municipalities.
12. Taxpayers of all protected districts would now be represented
13. Reduce administrative burden on village
14. Expenditures could be spread across all municipalities, with all carrying their fair share of load

### Cons to proposal

1. All tax monies collected would still pass through the three municipalities.
2. Would require cooperation between the governing boards of the Village of Brockport, the Town of Clarkson, and the Town of Sweden.

