

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE VILLAGE BOARD
OF THE VILLAGE OF MARCELLUS HELD ON
OCTOBER 28, 2013 AT THE VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT: John P. Curtin, Mayor See List
Patrick W. Cox, Trustee
Sally Tallman, Trustee
Jeff Brown, Attorney

ABSENT: None

Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT

AGENDA: The Village Clerk submitted the minutes of the special meeting and regular board meeting for the month of September 2013. The bills on Abstract Sheets #005 for General Fund in the amount of \$34,144.41, Sewer Fund in the amount of \$50,978.34, Capital Funds in the amount of \$125,329.05 were audited. The bills totaled \$210,616.71. The Board received the Police Report for September 2013 from Police Chief Robert Wicks. The Board also received the Building Inspectors report for the month of September 2013 from Building Inspector Bill Reagan. The Board acknowledged receipt of the minutes of the Town Board meetings for September 2013. The financial statements as submitted by Village Treasurer Nino Provvidenti for September 2013 were given to the Board for their review. Trustee Cox made a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Trustee Tallman. Mayor Curtin asked if there was any discussion on the consent agenda. Hearing none, Mayor Curtin called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the motion carried.

RELEVY OF UNPAID

TAX BILLS: Trustee Tallman made a motion to re-levy all unpaid Village taxes, as of November 1, 2013, to the County of Onondaga for payment. The motion was seconded by Trustee Cox. Mayor Curtin asked if there was any discussion on the relevy of unpaid tax bills. Hearing none, Mayor Curtin called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the motion carried.

ELECTION LEGAL

NOTICE: Trustee Cox made a motion to publish a legal notice that the Offices of Village Mayor and Village Trustee are to be filled at the General Village Election to be held on March 18, 2014. The terms of the Offices are four years each. The motion was seconded by Trustee Tallman. Mayor Curtin asked if there was any discussion on publishing the election legal notice. Hearing none, Mayor Curtin called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the motion carried.

**REQUEST WAIVE FEE –
ST. JOHN’S**

SUBDIVISION: Trustee Tallman explained that St. John’s Episcopal Church had requested a fee waiver for the subdivision application recently filed with the Village for its property at 11-15 Orange Street. Trustee Tallman also mentioned that as with other non-profit groups in the Village, the Board is inclined to grant such requests and made a motion to approve the fee waiver for St. John’s Church. The motion was seconded by Trustee Cox. Mayor Curtin asked if there was any discussion on approving the request. Hearing none, Mayor Curtin called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the motion carried.

CREEWALK

RESOLUTION: Trustee Cox made a motion to approve a resolution authorizing the Village to accept from the NYSDOT the creek walk rights of way that will be secured in the coming months by the NYSDOT. The motion was seconded by Trustee Tallman. Mayor Curtin asked if there was any discussion on the resolution and also mentioned that bids for the project would not be opened until September 2014, pushed back from the originally scheduled date of May 2014. Hearing none, Mayor Curtin called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the motion carried.

BUDGET

MODIFICATIONS:

Trustee Tallman made a motion to approve budget modifications requested by the Village Treasurer transferring revenues and appropriations in the General and Sewer Funds. The motion was seconded by Trustee Cox. Mayor Curtin asked if there was any discussion on the budget modifications. Hearing none, Mayor Curtin called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the motion carried.

REMINDER – FIRST ST.

CLOSED: Trustee Cox wanted to remind residents that First Street will again be closed between the hours of 5:00 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. on Halloween for trick-or-treating, subject to conditions on October 31st, which is a Thursday.

**REMINDER –
NO PARKING:**

Trustee Tallman announced that the public should be aware of the fact that as of November 1, 2013, there is no parking allowed on any street in the Village of Marcellus from 2 a.m. to 7 a.m. so that the Highway Department can plow snow. The no parking ban will remain in effect until April 1, 2014.

**ANNOUNCE
VILLAGE:
MEETINGS:**

Trustee Cox announced that the Village Clerk had printed copies of future meeting dates of the Village for the benefit of residents and asked them to please make note that the Village Office would be closed on Monday, November 11th in honor of Veterans' Day and in addition, the Village Office would be closed on November 28th and 29th for the Thanksgiving Day holidays. He also made known that the Village Tree Lighting Ceremony would take place on Thursday, December 5th, in the Village, at the Point.

**REMINDER –
POLLING PLACES:**

Trustee Tallman wanted to remind residents that polling places in Marcellus had changed last year. In 2012, the Board of Elections redrew the Town of Marcellus election district lines to create two districts entirely within the Village. She explained that those two districts (ED3 and ED4) would vote at the high school auditorium. Residents living outside the Village will vote at the Fire House. All residents were notified by mail by the Board of Elections of the change but may not realize that the change is now permanent. Election Day is November 5, 2013 from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m., and the Board urged all residents to vote.

**Updates by the
Mayor:**

Mayor Curtin provided updates on the following subjects:

- a. Sewer Consolidation Project – certain elements of the Project were completed this summer, including Scotch Hill and Meadow Streets, while others, such as relining some of the sewer infrastructure, are in the process of being completed. At a Special Meeting held on October 9, 2013, the Board met to open bids for another part of the sewer reconstruction project, which consists of replacement of 8-inch diameter sanitary sewer with approximately 1,000 feet of new 12-inch and 300 feet of 15-inch diameter sewer, as well as replacement of a duplex grinder pump station off Orange Street. Unfortunately, the bids were much too high. This can be attributed to a limited number of responses (3), due to construction timeframe and the Board's aggressive schedule to finish by the end of this year. It was decided to rebid that part of the project in January or February 2014, with construction scheduled for early spring. It will also provide time for the Town to secure the easements in the Town Sewer Districts that are necessary before consolidation of the system can take place.
- b. Village Infrastructure Program – the recent Onondaga County budget increased the amount of infrastructure monies allotted to each of the Villages. The program came about as a result of larger-than-anticipated sales tax revenue (much of which had been taken from the Villages back in 2010) that the County has collected. This year-by-year increase has resulted in an additional \$20,000 to the Village of Marcellus for the coming year.
- c. Save the Rain Program – because the Village of Marcellus and four other Onondaga County villages have their own water treatment facilities, they have not been allowed to participate in the Save the Rain Program. In its recent budget, however, the Onondaga County Legislature altered the policy by allocating certain monies to the five villages affected. Mayor Curtin thanked 6th District County Legislator, Michael Plochocki, for his efforts in helping to secure the Village of Marcellus' participation in the program. It was a lengthy process, but the Village was well rewarded in the end. Details of the program, including application procedures, have yet to be provided to the Villages. It is hoped that they will be forthcoming soon.
- d. Compost Project – continues to be very successful and reminded residents that composting continues all year round even though the demand obviously lulls through the fall and winter. Some residents might want to secure compost this fall, since it can be stored outside, without cover, through the fall and winter for its intended use next spring.
- e. Village Signs – two new signs providing direction to the Marcellus Historical Society and Steadman House have been approved and will be placed on Main Street. Mayor Curtin thanked Bob Wilson on behalf of the Board for his generous contribution in making the signs possible.
- f. Tree Removals and Plantings – several diseased or dying trees on Meadow and Bradley Streets will be removed soon. Another on Maple Street will be removed pending budget considerations. New trees will also be planted on Main and Chrysler Streets.

- g. Leaf and Brush Pickup – brush pickup ended on October 14th and if any resident missed the deadline, they are welcome to utilize the Village composting site behind the Village Hall. Leaf pickup extends from October 15th to November 11th. Weather permitting, the Highway Department may continue leaf pickup beyond the November 11th deadline, since many trees have not yet dropped their leaves. Mayor Curtin asked residents to please remember to keep leaves in the Village right of way, between the sidewalk and the road, and out of the street where they sometimes end up clogging the catch basins.
- h. School's Open – the Board continues to urge residents to watch for school children walking and remember that there are pedestrian crossings on Main Street, as well as 20 mph speed limits in school zones and a 25 mph speed limit on First Street, a route that is heavily traveled by school children. Please slow down. Tickets will be issued for speeders.
- i. School Evacuation – in early October, an evacuation of all school buildings took place under the direction of the Village Police Department and the School Resource Officers. All students were escorted out of each of the school buildings by their teachers to safe sites in the Village and then returned to their classes following the drill. The exercise was an unqualified success and one that continues to be part of the training and preparedness that the Police Department has brought to the school district.
- j. Notify the Police – Call 911 – Chief of Police Robert Wicks reminds residents, especially at a time of year when mischief makers are more active, that it is essential that they report incidents of crime or vandalism in their neighborhoods by calling 911. Sometimes, residents are not making these calls because they feel that an issue might not warrant it. Some might be calling the Police Department and will often listen to an answering machine because the officer is out on patrol. Residents must call 911. If still not satisfied, a resident may contact the Village Office during business hours, at 673-3112, to express concerns. The Chief also encourages residents to call the Police Department if they have any concerns about contractors they may employ. The Police Department will perform a background check so as to alleviate these concerns. Residents should also be aware of the fact that First Street will be closed to traffic on Halloween, October 31st, from 5 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
- k. Coon's Pond Outfall Pipe – The highway department finished with the installation of a new outfall pipe for the Coon's Pond Retention Basin. The clay pipe, which takes water from Coon's Pond to the drainage structure on South Street, was first installed a number of decades ago. It had deteriorated to the point where a replacement, using PVC pipe was necessary. Easements were secured from three property owners in order to do the work and the Village will be responsible for its maintenance. Final restoration of the properties involved will take place in the spring, following the settling of the ground during the winter.
- l. Health Care Costs – information for Village employees seems to be on hold since the Exchanges cannot be accessed, and Excellus has not mapped over the groups. With the delay, it appears that meetings with Village employees will be pushed back to mid or late November, since the agent for the Village remains several weeks away from being able to present all of the options that need to be analyzed. Last year, the Village budgeted an increase of 12%, but is unable to project what it may be for the new year.
- m. Pension Costs – for next year have not yet been released by the NYS Retirement System. It is expected that figures will be available by mid-November.
- n. Creek Walk – The Board continues to work on the proposed creek walk, and B & L engineers recently met with the NYSDOT regarding the right of way (ROW) acquisitions for the project, which will possibly be a combination of permanent easement (PE) or Fee Acquisition (Fee). The Village will end up owning the ROW after acquisition by the NYSDOT, which will soon order a title search for the affected properties. The schedule for the project has been extended and now calls for Design Approval to be finalized by January 15, 2014, all ROW acquired by August, 2014, and the project being put out to bid in September 2014.

After concluding with his updates, Mayor Curtin asked if there were any comments from the Board. Trustee Cox informed residents that the Veterans Day commemoration will take place at 11 a.m. on November 11th, at the Village Point, and asked residents to take time out and offer thanks to all veterans for the service they have and will continue to provide us.

Items from the floor:

Mayor Curtin opened up the floor to the public and asked if there were any comments or questions from the audience. Mary Jo Paul informed the Village Board that at a recent town board meeting it was mentioned that the Town had investigated the situation with town sewer easements – those that will become part of the sewer consolidation project. Some random samplings of what appear to be temporary easements in District #2 indicate that they were converted to permanent easements. It remains to be seen whether all of the easements have been converted to permanent status. The Village Attorney will be in contact with the Town Attorney to determine what the proper course of action regarding the easements should be, before consolidation of the sewer system can be completed. Mayor Curtin asked if there were any further questions or comments from the public or the Board. Hearing none, Mayor Curtin asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Cox made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Tallman. Mayor Curtin called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the motion carried. Mayor Curtin thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

The Regular Board Meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Dawn M. O'Hara, Village Clerk