

Monthly Updates – from the Mayor – April 2016

Since the minutes from our regular monthly Board meeting are not formally approved and posted on the Village website until the following month, it seems that our residents might be more fully informed of Village affairs by having regular updates posted on our website sooner, rather than later. To that end, it has been decided to provide our readers with some monthly updates, and if there are any concerns or a need for more information, please call (673-3112) or email (marboard@twcny.rr.com) the Village Office.

Adopt 2016-2017 Budget and set the Tax Rate – since there were no changes made to the tentative budget that was approved at the Annual Meeting on April 4, 2016, the Board approved the 2016-2017 Village budget and set the Tax Rate at \$6.85 /\$1,000 assessed valuation.

Annual Storm Water Report Proposal – the Board approved a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign a proposal from W-M Engineering to prepare the Annual Storm Water Report at a cost not to exceed \$450.00. That report should be completed within the month and ready to be approved at the Board's regular meeting in May.

Volunteer Agreement – the Board also approved a Volunteer Agreement with the Village of Marcellus whereby any individuals who agree to work on a volunteer basis for the Village, also agree sign a general liability release form to that effect. This agreement was originally designed for an individual who wished to do some volunteer work at the Water Pollution Control Plant, thereby gaining experience in anticipation of entering this field of work.

Resolution to Approve Membership to NYS Workers Compensation – the Board approved a resolution authorizing membership of the Village of Marcellus in NYS Workers Compensation. The resolution reads as follows:

“**RESOLVED**, that the Village of Marcellus hereby elects, pursuant to Subdivision 3-a of Section 50 of the Workers' Compensation Law, to become a self-insurer as to Workers' Compensation claims against this Municipality; and be it further

“**RESOLVED**, that pursuant to Section 50 Subdivision 3-a of said Workers' Compensation Law, notice of such election shall be filed forthwith with the Chairman of the Workers' Compensation Board, Self-Insurance Section; and be it further

“**RESOLVED**, that this election shall become effective on June 1, 2016.

NYS Workers Compensation Alliance Agreement – Workers Comp Agreement – following approval of the above resolution, the Board approved a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign a Workers Compensation Agreement with the NYS Workers Compensation Alliance for the time period, June 1, 2016 to July 1, 2016 at a cost of \$2,352.00. It might be noted that this agreement is for one month only, and that a full one-year Agreement will be presented at the Regular meeting of the Board in May.

Trucks in the Village – we have again received complaints that a great many trucks, loaded with gravel, stone and dirt, have been coming through the Village in recent weeks, often spilling some of their loads on Main and North Streets and sometimes leaving a mess for our Highway Department to clean. For the previous three years trucks have been hauling muck through out Village to Onondaga Lake in an attempt to create a new lake bottom by covering acres of contamination. The attempt did not succeed, the stuff basically sliding downhill like a landslide or avalanche. Now, it appears that the capping has to be redone. Last year, our Highway Chief was able to convince the truck dispatcher to have the trucks take a Scotch Hill Road route, but residents on that road registered complaints to the County and the trucks are back in the Village, using North Street, which is a State road – the trucking company has a state permit, and if they are overloaded, they must use a state

road. We have registered our complaints to the County DOT, which has forwarded our concern to Honeywell, the company behind the cleanup of Onondaga Lake and to the State DOT, but we have not heard back.

Utility Bills – the utility bill that residents receive this month is the last bill for our fiscal year. Residents should note that if the bill is not paid by April 29, 2016, it will be re-levied to the tax bill for June 1, 2016. If those bills for tenants who pay their own utilities are not paid by April 29, 2016, these too will be re-levied onto the owner's taxes for June 1, 2016. **Please note that, unlike previous utility bills, payment for this final bill for the year must be made within the month of April**

Code Officer and Fire Inspection – the new rental registration and inspection law has been implemented and this is the fourth year for the inspection of rental units, which are spread out over a three-year cycle. The inspection fee continues to be \$25 per rental unit for a three-year period, and the Board is very pleased with the positive results that have resulted from the implementation of this law.

Pedestrian Signs and Benches – have been re-installed on Main Street and elsewhere by the Highway Department.

Compost Project – at the Treatment Plant, residents are able pick up compost and will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Phosphorus limit at WWTP – is an issue that continues to complicate sewer matters and at the moment, we are still working on how to adequately address the issue. We will meet with some State officials to discuss funding, and we are in conversation with our engineers regarding the cost of preparing a design.

Olde Home Days – banners, placemats will be ready for installation and distribution during the first week in May

Sidewalks – per the Highway Chief's schedule, some new sidewalk will be installed on First Street, South Street and Bradley Street, pending budgetary considerations

Creek Walk Project – we continue to consult with our engineers and NYSDOT to determine if part of the trail could be constructed at this time, and the remainder constructed when more funds become available. We are also looking into having some of our highway department members complete some of the clearing involved. We are still hopeful that construction of the trail can begin this spring and summer. If some residents are not familiar with the project, we urge them to click on the home page of the Village website <http://villageofmarcellus.com/> and then on Village News

Street repairs – per the Highway Chief's schedule, repairs will be made on Orchard Street and Austindale Avenue, and, pending budgetary considerations, South Highland Drive as well

Tree Removals – per the Highway Chief's schedule, some trees on Meadow Street, and First Street need to be removed, pending budgetary considerations

Flower Boxes – will be filled again this year, using compost from WWTP, giving a good indication of the value of the compost. Kathy Welsh will again be instrumental in the plantings in these boxes using flowers that she has both grown from seed as well as some that she will or has purchased.

Earth Day Cleanup – in the Village was canceled by school officials because of inclement weather on April 22nd – hopefully, the cleanup will be rescheduled for May 6th or May 7th and the 2nd graders at Heffernan Elementary School will be able to spread out across the Village to help in this cleanup, beginning at 1:30 p.m. The Village provided gloves and bags for the cleanup and we would like to thank, once again, Nojaims Grocery Store for providing some refreshments for the students. We sincerely thank in advance the students as well as the staff and faculty at KCH for all of their help in making this annual event so successful.

Spring Brush Pickup Dates – the last day to put brush out to the curb for pickup will be Sunday, May 8, 2016. After that date, residents are welcome to bring brush to the compost pile in back of the Village Hall. Please make sure that brush or grass clippings are loose, not bagged, when using the Village site.

Trash Transfer Stations – the Town of Marcellus has announced dates for the Trash Transfer Stations and they are: Fridays, April 29^h and May 6th, and May 13th, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Saturdays, April 30th, May 7th, and May 14th, from 8 a.m. to Noon. Permits are required and are issued through the Town of Marcellus Clerk's Office. Tires require an additional permit, as well as items that contain Freon, such as refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners or dehumidifiers - these require another permit. Some items are not accepted including garbage, OCRRR recyclables, liquids or hazardous waste including paint, oil tanks, fuel tanks, motor vehicles, roofing shingles and brush over 6 inches in diameter. Is there a second? Is there any discussion? All in favor – All opposed –

SRO Contract – with the Marcellus Central School District has been completed and is in the hands of the Marcellus School Board. Details of the contract, which will provide Village police officers (SRO) on the Marcellus Central School Campus, are provided in the agreement, and may be subject to change before final approval by both parties.

Time Warner Cable Is Going All-Digital on April 12, 2016 – those residents who are subscribers to Time Warner Cable TV should be advised that, by April 12, 2016, they will need a digital set-top box or digital adapter to avoid losing their television picture. Adapters will be free of charge for 24 months, after which, each adapter will be billed at the prevailing monthly rate at that time.

Time Warner Cable Franchise Agreement – was again tabled until legal details are negotiated successfully.

Village Meetings for May 2016 – a list of Meeting Dates for the month of May has been published. Included is a list of dates for the meeting of the Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals, as well as an announcement of the Town Dump Days. Also included is a notice that the Village Office will be closed on Monday, Memorial Day, May 30, 2016, and that the Olde Home Days Celebration is planned for June 3rd, 4th, and 5th in the Village and in Marcellus Park. Also, so that it can be given proper advertisement, the Village Board has decided that the annual Village-wide Garage Sale will be scheduled this year for July 9th.