

Monthly Updates – from the Mayor – June 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.

Public Hearing – A public hearing was held on June 27th before the regular June Board meeting to consider the demolition and disposal of the remaining portions of the former Crown Mill located at 71 North Street. The Code Inspector issued a report at the Board's May meeting in which he stated that the north and south wings of the remaining mill building, in his opinion, have become dangerous and unsafe to the public due to age, lack of maintenance, being open to the elements and general deterioration. It was the recommendation of the Code Officer that the building be demolished as soon as possible. At its July meeting, the Board will probably, because of the emergency nature of the situation, pass a resolution to bypass the usual procurement policy of the Village in order to demolish the structure as soon as possible. We will then assess the demolition costs against the property at 71 North Street. If the Village tax bill, along with the re-levied expenses of the demolition are not paid, the Village taxes will be re-levied to the Town and County taxes. If those Town and County taxes are not paid, the County of Onondaga will make the Village whole in a year. It is unfortunate, but the Village will have to wait to be reimbursed because of the negligence of the building owner.

Final Building Inspector's Report – the Board approved the Final Report of the Building Inspector on the lower mill, listing the conditions that constitute violations of the Village of Marcellus Code of Ordinances and stating that in his opinion, the external and internal conditions of this building pose an imminent threat to the health, safety and welfare of the community including the general and emergency responders. He concludes with the statement that the building should be demolished as soon as possible.

SEQR Resolution and Negative Declaration for Demolition Project – the Board also approved a resolution determining that the demolition of the unsafe structures at 71 North Street in the Village of Marcellus will not have a significant effect on the environment.

Village Insurance Proposals – the Board has decided to renew the Village Insurance proposals with the Reagan Companies of Marcellus. A motion was made to award the contract for Village Insurance in the amount of \$26,961.00 to the Reagan Companies, representing an increase of \$19.00 or about 0.07 %, over last year. This is primarily due to a 4% upgrade on property values including the addition of the Platt Road Pump Station, now a responsibility of the Village. In addition, the Village's 3-year crime coverage policy to the Reagan Companies is locked in for an additional year. That three-year policy increased two years ago to \$386.00, a \$17.00 increase.

EJDC Agreement – TMDL – Phosphorus Removal at WWTP – the Board authorized the Mayor to sign the EJDC Agreement (Engineers Joint Contract Documents Committee) as required by NYS EFC. This is the same agreement that was approved last month for WWTP Improvements as submitted by MRB Group. This new agreement is one that is in the format required by NYS EFC in order to qualify for funding. The proposed design will begin to address the DEC mandate to remove phosphorus from the WWTP effluent to a 1.0mg/L (12 month rolling average) limitation, which will require extensive and very expensive upgrades to the existing WWTP. In anticipation of this expense, the Village Board has increased the sewer rents significantly within the last year. It is expected that the sewer rate increases will begin to offset the cost of design while the Village continues to search for new funding).

Williamson Software Contract – the annual software support contracts with Williamson Law Book Company for municipal accounting (\$998.00), tax billing (\$425.00), refuse/sewer billing (\$930.00), and payroll (\$930.00), totaling \$3,283.00, were approved – a 10% increase over last year, and the first in five years.

Website Design Contract – North Shore Solutions – the Mayor was authorized to sign a contract with North Shore Solutions, which company designs, set up and hosts the website for the Village of Marcellus, as well as provide training for Village office staff to operate the website once it goes live. There is no increase in the software leasing part of the contract, which costs \$455.00 per year.

Update Attorney Resolution – NYSERS – a motion was approved to update the resolution appointing Jeffrey D. Brown as Village Attorney, a public officer of the Village, a copy of which is on file in the Village Office.

Proclamation – honoring Joyce Doig for her 52 years of service to the Marcellus Free Library was approved and will be presented by Deputy Mayor Sally Tallman to Mrs. Doig at a reception hosted by the Friends of the Library on June 28, 2016. We congratulate Joyce for such dedicated service and have declared June 28, 2016 as “Joyce Doig Day” in the Village of Marcellus.

School Resource Officer Contract – the Mayor was authorized to sign the School Resource Officer Agreement between the Village of Marcellus and the Marcellus Central School District, whereby the School District and the Village have determined that it is in their mutual best interests to enter into this Agreement to continue to provide for the assignment of three officers of the Marcellus Police Department to serve as School Resource Officers in the Marcellus Central School District. A copy of the agreement is on file in the Village Office for public inspection.

Time Warner Cable Franchise Agreement – this agreement was again tabled until the Village Attorney has been able to negotiate successfully, the terms of the agreement, with Time Warner Cable, which company has recently been sold to Charter Communications, requiring a new agreement.

Boy Scout Troop 66 Thank You – On behalf of the Village Board, I would take this opportunity to publically thank Marcellus Boy Scout Troop 66 and its troop members, for their efforts at cleaning up Main Street after the Olde Home Days Parade on Saturday June 12th. Organized by Edward Plogman, the event was part of a community service project. The trash pickup covered all of the village streets and when finished about 50 pounds of trash was collected. The efforts of the scouts in completing this project are most appreciated by the Village of Marcellus and its residents.

Olde Home Days – was not as successful this year, primarily due to the lousy weather that was experienced on the last day of the celebration, and compared with last year, the Celebration suffered a significant loss of revenue. Last month we thanked a number of people for their efforts in helping to beautify the Village flower boxes in time for Memorial Day and Olde Home Days. We also thank our Highway Department for the work they did in helping to beautify the Village in time for these special events, as well as the Village Police Department, to whom we give much credit for no vandalism or other serious problems during the weekend.

Trucks in the Village – We have received complaints about the many trucks, loaded with gravel, stone and dirt, have been coming through the Village for the last several years and residents often ask – when will it end? After speaking with the County DOT Commissioner, we were put in contact with Honeywell, the company behind the cleanup of Onondaga Lake. Craig Milburn of Honeywell responded that the trucks hauling through the Village along North and Main Streets would be decreasing by the end of June 2016. The majority of the trucks will cease, but they will still be working into July. This is good news and one that we have been

anticipating for some time. We are grateful for Honeywell's response and for more information, please call Mr. Milburn at 552-9784. We eagerly wait for the trucks to stop traveling through the Village.

Creekwalk – 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 remain hopeful that construction of the trail can begin this summer. If some residents are not familiar with the project, we urge them to click on the Village website <http://villageofmarcellus.com/> and then on Village News.

Building and Pool Permits – Residents should be aware of the need to obtain permits if any rehabilitation or new construction takes place. This includes the addition of a pool (2 feet and above), or a fence or a deck, or new steps to a residence. Permits are required, as is an inspection by the Code Enforcement Officer. Permits and more information can be found by checking with the Village Office (673-3112) or with Bill Reagan, our CEO (430-7927).

Compost Project – compost continues to be available for residents and if any residents cannot pick up compost during normal business hours, please call the Treatment Plant (673-4491) to make an appointment with one of the operators. The operators are available to answer questions and to help load compost for residents.

Sidewalks – per the Highway Chief's recommendations, repairs will be made to selected areas on South Street, Bradley Street and First Street pending budgetary concerns.

Street repairs – per the highway chief's recommendation, repairs to Austindale Avenue and Orchard Street are in the process of being reconstructed. Budgetary constraints have limited the desire of the Village Board to add other street repairs in this year's budget.

Trees – some tree removals have been or will be done on South, and Bradley Streets, and perhaps another on Orchard Street, along with some trimming. Also, there is a need to grind a number of tree stumps from last year's removals. Some tree plantings are expected to take place in late summer or early fall, but the locations have not yet been determined.

Paul Street Project Sidewalks – Community Development has notified us that our sidewalk project on Paul Street will be eligible for some funding. The project will include the construction of 450 feet of new concrete sidewalk along the north side of Paul Street, between North Street (NYS 174) and Austindale Ave. Minor drainage improvements such as cleaning existing drainage pipes and replacement of catch basin grates are also included. The new sidewalk would eliminate a gap in the existing Village sidewalk system by connecting to existing sidewalks at North Street and Austindale Ave. Pedestrians, including Seniors who live at Nine Mile Landing and school children now have no choice but to walk on the pavement of the roadway. It is expected that design would take place over the winter of 2016 and construction completed by July 2017.

New Business in Town – We would like to call attention to a new business in the Village, which will open soon. The North Street Diner at 3 North Street, under the ownership of Ashley and Zach Hass is most welcome and we urge our residents to patronize this wonderful addition to our Village. In addition, the same building at 3-5-7 North Street houses a number of new apartments, beautifully renovated by McClurg Remodeling and we welcome new tenants that are or will soon occupy the new apartments. They are most welcome.

Summer Community Events – Thursday nights, from 7 to 8:30 p.m., a series of summer concerts are held during June, July, and August at Marcellus Park Annex. There is a full list of concert listings and other events and programs available on the Town website at Marcellusny.com or call the Marcellus Parks and Recreation Department (673-3269, ext. 2) for more information.

Village Meetings for July 2016 – the Village Clerk has printed copies of future meeting dates for the Village for the benefit of residents. I would make special note of the July 4th holiday, which will be celebrated on Monday, July 4th, and on which day, the Village Office will be closed. In addition, there **will** be a delay in trash pickup that week. Also, the *Teal There's A Cure Run/Walk* will take place on the 4th of July, beginning at 9 a.m. in Marcellus Park. The Village-wide Garage Sale will take place on Saturday, July 9th and there is no permit needed on that day for Village residents. A reminder to residents that July is Battery Collection Month. Residents should place old alkaline batteries into special yellow bags and place them on top of a closed trashcan or trash bag. Please, do not place the battery bags in the blue bin.