

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE VILLAGE BOARD
OF THE VILLAGE OF MARCELLUS HELD ON
MARCH 26, 2012 AT THE VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT: John P. Curtin, Mayor See List
Mary Jo Paul, Trustee
Patrick W. Cox, Trustee
Jeff Brown, Attorney

ABSENT: None

Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Curtin opened the regular board meeting at 7:09 p.m.

**ADOPT LOCAL
LAW #1 OF 2012-**

TAX CAP: Trustee Cox made a motion to Local Law #1 authorizing a property tax levy in excess of the limit established in General Municipal Law Section 3-c. The motion was seconded by Trustee Paul. Mayor Curtin asked if there was any discussion on approving the local law. Hearing none, Mayor Curtin called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the motion carried.

**RESOLUTION-
COMMUNITY**

DEV.: Trustee Paul made a motion to approve the following resolution: WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Marcellus is resolved to further enhance the Village with improvements of sewers, roads, drainage and sidewalks; and NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Village of Marcellus is enthusiastic about participating in the 2012 Onondaga County Community Development Grant Program; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Marcellus have previously authorized Barton and Loguidice, P.C. to apply for 2012 grant funding through the Onondaga County Community Development Grant Program on behalf of the Village for sewer rehabilitation on Scotch Hill Road. The motion was seconded by Trustee Cox. Mayor Curtin asked if there was any discussion regarding the resolution. Hearing none, Mayor Curtin called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the motion carried.

CONSENT

AGENDA: The Village Clerk submitted the special minutes and the minutes of the last regular board meeting for the month of February 2012. The bills on Abstract Sheets #010 for General Fund in the amount of \$19,561.49, Water Fund in the amount of \$1,853.44, Sewer Fund in the amount of \$190,964.97, and Capital Funds in the amount of \$284.00 were audited. The bills totaled \$212,663.90. The Board received the Police Report from Chief Robert Wicks for February 2012. The Board also received the Building Inspectors report for the month of February 2012 from Building Inspector Bill Reagan. The Board acknowledged receipt of the minutes of the Town Board meetings for February 2012. The financial statements as submitted by the Village Treasurer for February 2012 were also given to the Board for their review. Trustee Cox made a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Trustee Paul. 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.

**ATTORNEY PROPOSAL/
LETTER OF**

ENGAGEMENT: Trustee Paul made a motion to approve to the Letter of Engagement or proposal from Mackenzie Hughes, authorizing Mackenzie Hughes LLP to pursue all steps deemed advisable to secure grant funding for the Village of Marcellus, and to undertake this work on a contingent fee basis, said contingent fee being an amount equal to 10 percent (10%) of any grant award made to be paid by the Village within 60 days of notification of the grant. In the specific case of the 2012 Local Government Efficiency Grant Program, which hopes to address inflow and infiltration into the Village sanitary system as well as the eventual consolidation of the entire system under the ownership and responsibility of the Village, the Village agrees to pay the entire 10% fee with the understanding that Mackenzie Hughes LLP will enter into a letter of engagement with the Town of Marcellus whereby the Town will reimburse the Village for its share of the fee, proportionally based upon the number of sewer units in the total system. The motion was seconded by Trustee Cox. Mayor Curtin asked if there was any discussion on authorizing B & L to complete the attorney proposal. Hearing none, Mayor Curtin called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the motion carried.

RESOLUTION-**NYS DOT:**

Trustee Cox made a motion to authorize a resolution submitting a Perm 1 Undertaking to the NYS Department of Transportation allowing the Village of Marcellus to conduct activities and operations upon highways and/or within right-of-way controlled by the State of New York for such purposes as the obstruction, installation, construction, maintenance and/or operation of facilities, which Undertaking is conditioned upon compliance with all applicable rules, regulations and conditions that may be required by NYSDOT in connection with such permitted activity or operations. The motion was seconded by Trustee Paul. Mayor Curtin asked if there was any discussion regarding the resolution. Hearing none, Mayor Curtin called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the motion carried.

SPRING BRUSH**PICKUP:**

Trustee Paul made a motion designating Spring Brush Pickup Dates – the Highway Superintendent announced that the first day for brush pickup in the Village will be from Monday, March 26, 2012. The last day to put brush out to the curb for pickup will be Sunday, April 29, 2012. In addition, Trustee Paul let everyone know that the Town of Marcellus announced dates for the Trash Transfer Stations and they are: Fridays, April 27th and May 4th, and May 11th, from Noon to 3 p.m. and Saturdays, April 28th, May 5th, and May 11th, from 8 a.m. to Noon. Permits are required and are issued through the Town of Marcellus Clerk's Office. There is also an opportunity for residents to drop off electronic waste, including computers and printers. They are accepted free of charge, but must be separated from other trash. Tires require an additional permit, starting at \$2.00, as well as items that contain freon, such as refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners or dehumidifiers - these require another permit that costs \$30. Some items are not accepted including garbage, OCRRA recyclables, liquids or hazardous waste including paint, oil tanks, fuel tanks, motor vehicles, roofing shingles and brush over 6 inches in diameter. The motion was seconded by Trustee Cox. Mayor Curtin asked if there was any discussion on the spring brush pickup. Hearing none, Mayor Curtin called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the motion carried.

PROCLAMATION- 100th ANNIV.**GIRL SCOUTS:**

Mayor Curtin announced that the Village Board had approved the following proclamation at a previous workshop meeting but feels that this bears repeating at a regular board meeting. Trustee Cox made a motion that the following proclamation be read: WHEREAS, on March 12, 1912, the first Girl Scout meeting was held in Savannah, Georgia; and WHEREAS, today there are nearly 3.2 million girl and adult members in the Girl Scouts of America; and, WHEREAS, Girl Scouts develops girls of courage, confidence and character who make the world a better place in accordance with its mission; and, WHEREAS, we are very proud of the outstanding members of the Girl Scouts of America in Marcellus for their exceptional service to the Marcellus Community and beyond; and NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board of Trustees of the Village of Marcellus is proud to join the Girl Scouts of America, and proclaim March 12, 2012, the 100th Anniversary of Girl Scouts of the USA. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Marcellus, and on behalf of its grateful citizens, extends a wealth of congratulations and thanks to the Girl Scouts of America. The motion was seconded by Trustee Paul. Mayor Curtin asked if there was any discussion on the proclamation. Mayor Curtin called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the motion carried.

BUDGET**MODIFICATIONS:**

Trustee Paul 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. Mayor Curtin called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the motion carried.

ANNOUNCE**ANNUAL MEETING/****TENTATIVE BUDGET****HEARING:**

Trustee Cox announced that the Annual Meeting will take place on April 2, 2012 and includes the appointment of non-elected officials, establishing regular meeting dates, as well as designating official newspapers and depositories. In addition, a Public Hearing will take place on April 2, 2011 to consider the tentative budget for the Village for the next fiscal year. Approval of the final budget will probably take place at the next regular Board meeting, on April 23, 2011.

ANNOUNCE**VILLAGE****MEETINGS:**

Trustee Paul announced that a list of meetings scheduled for April 2012 had been prepared for those interested and noted that the Village Office will be closed on Good Friday, April 6th, and on Memorial Day, May 28th. Also, the Olde Home Days Committee continues to meet the first Thursday of every month, in the Village Board Room and the next such meeting is planned for April 5, 2012.

Updates by the Mayor:

Mayor Curtin provided updates on the following subjects:

- a. No Parking – regulations during the winter months, which calls for no parking on any Village streets from 2 a.m. to 7 a.m., ends on April 1st.
- b. Village Earth Day Participation – the Board would like to announce that the Village will again participate in an Earth Day clean up on Friday, April 27, 2012. Second grade students from Heffernan Elementary School will participate in this event and the board welcomes any individuals or groups to join in helping clean the Village of any litter lying along the roadside and village rights of way. Everyone will meet in front of the Village Hall and bags and gloves will be distributed. Interested individuals or groups may show up about 1 p.m. and contact the Village Clerk at 673-3112 for more information.
- c. Village Banners – and the Village Entrance Sign on South Street, which was vandalized in the fall, will be repaired and/or replaced in the spring, hopefully.
- d. Utility Bills – the utility bill that residents receive the first week of April will be the last bill for the fiscal year. Residents should note that if the bill is not paid by April 30, 2012, it will be re-levied to the village tax bill for June 1, 2012. If those bills for tenants who pay their own utilities are not paid by April 30, 2012, those too will be re-levied onto the owner's taxes for June 1, 2012.
- e. Notice of Sign Placement – the highway department re-installed the pedestrian crossing signs on Main Street in the Village. The signs are again placed in the road, near the crosswalks, warning motorists that all vehicles must yield to pedestrians who are walking in the crosswalk – a New York State law. It is hoped that the signs will make it easier for pedestrians, particularly schoolchildren, to cross Main Street safely as well as cause motorists to slow down as they approach these crosswalks.
- f. Creek Walk – for a number of reasons, it may become necessary for the Village to abandon its plans for a Village creek walk. Mayor Curtin explained that he is in the process of composing a letter to the NYS DOT, under whose auspices monies for the creek walk were first granted in 2002. That letter will stress the fact that, due to economic hardship, including the loss of sales tax revenue and the recently passed NYS 2% property tax cap legislation, rising construction costs, new wetlands identified along the trail corridor which will require specialized treatment, right of way costs, and an increase in lack of support for the trail from some property owners along the corridor, the Village will be forced to cancel any further work on the project. The Village has some preliminary designs, if, in the future, economic realities and an increase in support for its construction, make it possible to resume the project.
- g. SRO Earl Smith – Mayor Curtin wanted to announce that School Resource Officer Sgt. Earl Smith had been chosen by members of the 2012 Graduating Class at MCS to be its commencement speaker. On behalf of the Village Board, Mayor Curtin extended congratulations to Sgt. Smith for an honor that is received by few others. He is certainly an excellent representative of the professional police force.
- h. Sewer Consolidation Grant – the Village Board recently made application for a NYS Local Government Consolidation Grant so as to improve the Village sewage collection system. Supported by the Town and the School District, the Village will request funding of \$600,000 to make repairs to those portions of the collection system that are jointly used by the Village, the Town and the School District, effectively addressing the inflow and infiltration of storm water into the treatment plant, as well as address a new DEC requirement for phosphorus removal at the plant. Eventually, it is expected that the operation, maintenance, repair and billing of the entire sewage system will lead to a consolidated arrangement, under the sole ownership and responsibility of the Village.
- i. Budget – the Village Board is working to finalize the 2012-13 Village Budget in preparation for the Annual Meeting. In January, Village residents received their County and Town tax bill and that bill reflected a tax reduction for Village residents, on average about \$25 for a house valued at \$100,000 in the Village. The County, similar to last year, had been able to drop that tax because, having slashed by more than half the sales tax revenue that used to go to the Village, the County was then able to pass on the tax savings to Village property owners in the form of reduced County taxes. Ever since, the Village has had to make up for the revenue taken by the County and then passed onto Village property owners in the form of reduced County taxes. This year will be no different, and the savings that Village residents saw in their County tax bill will, most likely, be offset by an increase in Village taxes – about \$25 for a house valued at \$100,000 in the Village.
- k. Compost Project – the Village's Water Pollution Control Plant has begun composting its first pile of bio-solids/wood chips on-site. There is still some work to be completed by the general contractor, but the public is welcome and encouraged to view the new facilities. To educate the community about the composting process, an official open house is being planned for May 19th, from 9 to Noon, at which time compost will also be ready for pick-up by residents. The Village flower boxes will also be planted with the new compost as a demonstration of its value as a soil enhancer. Please refer to the enclosed brochure and join us in the spring and replace your petroleum-based fertilizer needs with a green, healthy and FREE alternative for your lawns, tree plantings and flowerbeds.

- l. Disconnect Illegal Sump Pumps, Roof Downspouts, Exterior Drains – in a continuing effort to eliminate high flows at the Village Treatment Plant, and continuing demands from the DEC to prevent high flows, the Village is asking all sewer users to disconnect any sump pumps, roof downspouts, exterior foundation drains, or areaway drains that in any way are directly or indirectly connected to the Village sanitary system. This summer, the Village will conduct inspections to homes and businesses within the entire collection system (Village, Town, School District) to verify compliance and correction of any illegal connections to the sanitary system. More information on this program will be forthcoming in a future newsletter this summer.
- m. Election Results – congratulations are extended to Sara N. Tallman on her election as Trustee on March 20, 2012. Elected to a four-year term, Sally will serve until 2016. In addition, many thanks are extended to Trustee Mary Jo Paul, who chose not to run for re-election, for the very dedicated service that she provided to the Village during her 4-year term as Trustee. On behalf of the residents of the Village, and the Marcellus Village Board, Mayor Curtin presented the plaque, which read: “Mary Jo Paul, Trustee, 2008-2012, in appreciation of your very valuable leadership and in grateful acknowledgement of your time, talents and service so freely and unselfishly given.

After concluding with his updates, Mayor Curtin asked if there were any comments from the Board.

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. Hearing none, Mayor Curtin made a motion to adjourn. Trustee Paul seconded the motion. 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 7:32 p.m.

Dawn M. O’Hara, Village Clerk