SPECIAL MEETING OF
THE VILLAGE OF MARCELLUS
HELD ON JUNE 24, 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.

Trustee Cox made a motion to open the public hearing at 7:00pm, seconded by Trustee Tallman. Mayor Curtin called for a vote. All members voted aye and the public hearing was opened.

Village Clerk Dawn O'Hara read the legal notice to those in attendance.

Trustee Cox explained that the reason for the public hearing was to enact proposed Local Law No. 2 of 2013, amending Article I (Animals and Fowl) of Chapter 37 of the Code of the Village of Marcellus, which would remove the authority of the Village Board to issue permits for keeping certain animals.

The law would prohibit the keeping or housing of any animals or poultry other than household pets, or operate a kennel of four (4) or more dogs within the limits of the Village of Marcellus

Trustee Cox went on to say that the Village Board received a request to house chickens in the Village, and after some deliberation has come to the unanimous decision that the keeping of such animals is not in character with Village life. While the law allowed the Village Board to issue a special permit for the keeping of certain animals, the Board decided that the banning of all animals, other than household pets, was the proper course to take. The Board's concern is reflected in the feedback that it received from a number of residents, virtually all of whom are worried about the smell from chicken waste, that chickens would attract predators (skunks, opossums, rats and foxes to name a few) to the village and that allowing chickens would lead to requests to house other animals – goats, pigs, snakes, etc.

Rather than allow one type of animal, other than household pets, to be housed in the Village, the Board decided to prohibit all – except household pets.

Trustee Cox wanted to inform the public that property owners who presently house chickens in the Village will be grandfathered by the amendment to the law.

Mayor Curtin then asked for comments from the public on the proposed local law. There were no comments from the public.

Mayor Curtin asked for a motion to adjourn the public hearing. Trustee Cox made a motion to adjourn the public hearing, seconded by Trustee Tallman. Mayor Curtin asked in there was any discussion. There was none. All members voted aye and the hearing was closed.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

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Dawn M. O'Hara
Village Clerk