

Monthly Updates – from the Mayor – April 2017

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 2017-2018 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 3, 2017, a motion was made to approve the 2017-2018 Village budget and to set the Tax Rate at \$6.85 /\$1,000 assessed valuation.

Salary Adjustment – Motor Equipment Operator – a motion to approve a salary adjustment for the Village Motor Equipment Operator, from \$20.57 to \$22.76 per hour was accepted. This adjustment was proposed so as to bring that salary in line with others in the Department of Public Works and because requirements and conditions required for the position have been met.

Resident Request to Waive Sewer Penalty – a resident requested and the Board approved a request from a resident to waive the penalty of \$21.90 assessed to his January-March utility bill because the resident's bank neglected to send the payment when the resident asked that it be done.

Award Bid for Remaining Work on Creek Walk – following the opening of bids on April 12, 2017, a motion was approved to award the bid completing the remaining work on the construction of the Creek Walk to JL Excavation of Chaumont, New York with a base bid in the amount of \$113,328 and a Alternate Bid #2 in the amount of \$9,502 for a total of \$122,830.

Proclamation – Ryan Riefler – the Board approved a Proclamation and Certificate of Excellence honoring Village of Marcellus employee, Ryan Riefler, for outstanding performance and dedicated service to the Village of Marcellus. In recent weeks, Ryan has given tirelessly of his time and effort as he spearheaded a Clean Energy Communities project that is part of a \$16 million initiative to help local governments across the state reduce energy consumption and drive clean energy use in their communities. By completing four out of ten identified High Impact actions, Marcellus will, hopefully, earn the Clean Energy Community designation and access to grant funding up to \$100,000, with no local cost share to implement additional clean energy projects. Without Ryan's efforts and persistent drive, this project would not have been completed and the Board of Trustees and the residents of the Village are most grateful. Ryan also asked that Village Office Staff, as well as his fellow Public Works employees, along with several individuals from MRB Group, Myriad Electric and EV Connect be recognized as well for their efforts in helping him to complete the applications in a timely manner.

Resolution – Auctions International – a motion was made to authorize the sale of several pieces of highway equipment, including the International Truck (2000), the Backhoe (1979) and the Roller (c1960), through the Auctions International site. There are several reasons for selling this equipment including the fact that they are outdated, in great need of repair and are no longer of any use to the department.

Proposal – W-M Engineering for Annual Storm Water Report – the Mayor was authorized to sign a proposal from W-M Engineering to prepare the Annual Storm Water Report at a cost not to exceed \$500.

Annual Storm Water Report – in addition, the Annual Storm Water Report was tabled until the May Board Meeting, when W-M Engineering will have completed it.

Charter Communications Cable Franchise Agreement – the Charter Communications Cable Franchise Agreement was again tabled until the Village Attorney has been able to negotiate successfully, the terms of the agreement, with Charter Communications.

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 28, 2017, it will be re-levied to the tax bill for June 1, 2017. If those bills for tenants who pay their own utilities are not paid by April 28, 2017, these too will be re-levied onto the owner's taxes for June 1, 2017. 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 – fire inspections and rental inspections continue, along with vacant house registrations, code violations being issued for litter and rubbish piles, proposed new library parking along with change of occupancy at several sites as well

Pedestrian Signs and Benches – have been re-installed on Main Street and elsewhere by the Highway Department. The flags will soon be displayed in time for Memorial Day.

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 hope to schedule a public hearing or informational meeting notifying the public of the necessity of the Village to draw up to \$6,000,000 from a line of credit authorized by the Environmental Facilities Corporation in order to upgrade the Village's Waste Water Treatment Plant. We have spent over \$300,000 on engineering fees to design the upgrades to the plant, and this was paid for following two significant increases in sewer rents. The actual upgrade mandated by the NYSDEC, to remove phosphorus from the plant's effluent but will cause sewer rents to rise dramatically. We also hope to send out a letter soon to residents to explain what they might be able to do, in order to help the Village address this issue.

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

Sidewalks – new sidewalk is being planned for the north side of Paul Street, from North Street to Austindale Avenue, funding for which is part of a grant secured through the offices of Sen. John DeFrancisco, and for which the residents are most grateful. Also, per the DPW Chief's schedule, some new sidewalk will be installed on South Street, pending budgetary considerations.

Creek Walk Project – We expect the remaining part of the project to be completed sometime during the month of May. 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 have been made to parts of South Street, and will be made on Dunlop Avenue and Wilson Drive, as well as the corner of First and Slocombe, pending budgetary considerations.

Tree Removals – per the DPW Chief's schedule, some trees on South Street need to be removed, pending budgetary considerations

Flower Boxes – the new flower boxes have been constructed by Kyle Denka as part of his Eagle Scout project, and will soon be installed. They 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 is scheduled for April 27th 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. A rain day of April 28th is also planned.

Spring Brush Pickup Dates – as was mentioned last month, the Village Board and DPW are going to try something new for the 2017 Brush Pickup. Brush may be placed at the curb on Saturdays and Sundays for pickup on Mondays from April 3rd to May 8th. In addition, during the summer months (June, July and August), brush may also be placed at the curb on Saturdays and Sundays for pickup on the first Monday of each month during those summer months.

Town of Marcellus – has announced dates for the Trash Transfer Stations and they are: Fridays, April 28^h and May 5th, and May 12th, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Saturdays, April 29th, May 6th, and May 13th, 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, OCRRRA recyclables, liquids or hazardous waste including paint, oil tanks, fuel tanks, motor vehicles, roofing shingles and brush over 6 inches in diameter. Also, there will be an Electronics Waste Disposal Day included with the trash days this year and that will require a special permit. A shredder truck will also be scheduled for one morning – May 6, 2017 – from 9 to Noon and the shredder truck will be at the Town Hall, not at the dumpsite on Lee Mulroy Road. Times and dates will also be posted on the town's website.

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.

Announce Village Meetings for May 2017 – 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 Trash Days. Also included is a notice that the Village Office will be closed on Monday, Memorial Day, May 29, 2017, and that the Olde Home Days Celebration is planned for June 2nd, 3rd, and 4th 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 8th.