Marcellus Village Newsletter Volume 23 Issue 3 Autumn 2018 ------

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# Dear Village Residents,

As the summer ends and, as we anticipate a beautiful autumn, we would like to provide you with some information. Our website (<u>www.villageofmarcellus.com</u>) is quite well done and offers much information that is kept current by our new Village Clerk, Charnley Abbott. We urge residents to visit the site for more current information on a variety of Village matters as well as calendar events of interest to all residents and to use the email address above to enter any comments or questions that you may have.

#### Fall and Brush Pickup

The time for fall pick-up of leaves and brush is here and the Highway



Department would like to remind everyone of its schedule. Beginning the week of September 24<sup>th</sup>, and continuing until October 8<sup>th</sup>, the Department will pick up <u>brush</u>. Beginning on October 15<sup>th</sup> until November 19<sup>th</sup>, the Department will pick up <u>leaves</u>.

Please remember to put brush and leaves on the grass between the sidewalk and the road. Please, <u>do not put leaves in the ditch or in the road</u>. Leaves left in the ditches or in the road are very hard to clean up, clog the storm sewers and make the job very time-consuming. After November 19<sup>th</sup>, residents may collect leaves into large brown paper bags and place the bags at the curb for pickup, weather permitting. <u>Only these leaf bags will be picked up after November 19<sup>th</sup></u>. Residents may also drop off brush and leaves anytime at the Village compost site, located next to the Village D.P.W. garage. If you have any questions regarding this, please call the Village Office (315-673-3112).



## School's Open!!!

Please watch for school children walking and remember that there are pedestrian crossings on Main Street, as well as 20 mph speed limits in school zones and a 25 mph speed limit on First Street, a route that is heavily traveled by schoolchildren. Please slow down. Tickets will

be issued for speeders. In other school-related news, the Village and Marcellus Central School District have agreed to continue a contract that provides for three School Resource Officers, one at each of the schools in the district.



## Dog Ordinance

Please remember that a leash law in the Village prohibits dogs from running at large and that barking dogs can violate a noise ordinance. Also, residents must pick up after their animals, a local law "prohibiting unsanitary deposits,"

including "animal excrement".

#### **Clerk Resignation**

At the July Board meeting, the Mayor made a motion, with much great



regret, to accept the resignation, after almost 23 years as full time Village Clerk, of Dawn O'Hara and to accept her request to remain as a part-time employee while a replacement was trained. In addition, the Board adopted a motion and approving s proclamation that recognized the outstanding achievements of Dawn O'Hara during her 23-year

tenure as an employee and as Clerk of the Village of Marcellus. The leadership of Dawn O'Hara has been evident in the many accomplishments that have occurred in the Village of Marcellus during her tenure and the guidance and advice of Dawn O'Hara, during the terms of three Village Mayors and seven Village Administrations, will continue to be evident in many of the projects that have been and will continue to be realized in the Village of Marcellus The Board took the opportunity to recognize the many contributions of Dawn O'Hara to our community, both as a public servant and as a person, and felt this should not go unrecognized in the Village of Marcellus.

#### New Village Clerk Appointment

At its July meeting, the Board approved the appointment of Charnley



Abbott as the full time Village Clerk. Charnley comes to us from the private sector and the Board is most fortunate to have obtained her services. She has worked with Dawn during the month of July, learning the duties of the Village Clerk and transitioning into the position. Her appointment will include a probationary period of 3 to 6 months, as

determined by the Board, after which the position will become a permanent and salaried one, which salary will be determined following the provisional phase. We are delighted to welcome Charnley to the Village and wish her the very best.

### Notify Police - Call 911

Chief of Police Robert Wicks reminds residents that it is essential



that they report incidents that it is essential that they report incidents of crime or vandalism in their neighborhoods by <u>calling</u> <u>911</u>. Sometimes, residents might be calling the Police Department and will often listen to an answering machine because the officer is out on patrol. <u>Residents must call 911</u>. If

you are still not satisfied, please contact the Village Office during business hours, at 673-3112, and express your concern. The Chief would also encourage residents to call the Police Department if they have any concerns about contractors they may employ. The Police



Department would be happy to do background checks so as to alleviate these concerns. Residents should also be aware that <u>First Street will be closed</u> to traffic on Halloween, October 31<sup>st</sup>, from 5 pm to 8:30 pm

### Update on WWTP Upgrades

The almost \$8 million treatment plant upgrade mandated by NYSDEC to remove phosphorus from the plant's effluent is well underway. Construction of two new clarifiers, a new UV tank, a new head works building and modifications to the control building are in progress and on schedule. The financing package includes a \$5,202,600 short term (30 year), interest-free hardship loan and a \$1,379,900 WIIA Grant (formerly called a NYS Water Grant) along with an \$80,000 WQIP #11 grant, a \$1,000,000 WQIP #14 Grant and

an anticipated \$250,000 SAM Grant. In anticipation of this expense, the Village Board has increased the sewer rents significantly within the last two years. Having raised sewer rents to offset the cost of design and construction will enable the Village to meet the mandated requirements for phosphorus removal. However, in January 2019, we anticipate another sewer rent increase of approximately 30%. This will mean a minimum quarterly sewer rate, for Village sewer users, of \$98.25 (from \$75.00) and an annual cost of \$541.39 (from \$413.13). The annual cost for outside users is anticipated to be \$676.74 (from \$516.41). In order to prepare our Treatment Plant for operation well into the 21st century, these increases, while hefty, are unavoidable..

### **New Police Officers**

The Mayor appointed, with Board approval, four new officers to the Marcellus Police Department, including Officer Andrea Bastedo who will serve as a Village Sergeant and as a School Resource Officer at Lyncourt United Free School District, Jerome Pristash and Shawn Broton who will serve on Village Patrol, and as School Resource Officers at Onondaga Central School District, and Karen Munroe who will also serve on Village Patrol and as School Resource Officer at KCH Elementary School in the Marcellus Central School District.

### Clean Energy Community



Clean Energy Community – as was mentioned at earlier Board meetings, the Village of Marcellus

has been designated a Clean Energy Community by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA). A \$100,000 grant has been reserved for the Village of Marcellus to implement clean energy projects. Beginning in October, and for a duration of about five weeks, this will involve a retrofitting of several existing Village lights, including the historic lights on Main, North and South Streets as well as the coach lights on Kinderwood Drive to direct wire LED type fixtures. Other LED lighting retrofits have already or will occur in the Village Hall, the Village garage and the Water Pollution Control Plant. The Village continues to be most appreciative of the NYSERDA award as well as the efforts of our Village employees in helping to both secure this funding and coordinate the construction project itself. The average annual energy savings for the Village as a result of this project is estimated to be in excess of \$20,000.

NO PARKING Between The Hours Of 2 a.m. and 7 a.m. Nov 1 - Apr 1

### Parking

As we approach the winter months, we remind residents that there is <u>no overnight parking (from</u> <u>2:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m.)</u> on Village streets from <u>November 1st to April 1st</u>. If ticketed by Village Police, the fee will be \$35.00. We urge residents to use the Village parking lots for any overnight parking situations

## **Highland Flooding**

Following our public information meeting regarding the drainage on Highland Drive and related streets, the Village's first step will be that recommended by MRB Group – namely, opening the ditches and replacing the driveway culverts along the west side of Highland Drive. This will, hopefully, prevent storm water from jumping the ditches and flooding those properties below and allow storm water to move quickly to the 24" catch basin at Reed Parkway. Property owners should be aware that the ditches <u>must</u> remain open to allow the water to move north to Reed Parkway. At this time, we are unable to address the storm water and natural springs that overflow

into the drainage area behind Meadow Street. Much of this water comes from an area beyond the Village limits and will require a joint effort involving the Village and the Town and town property owners.

### IMA With Town for Highway and Related Services

At its September meeting, the Board approved a motion authorizing an Intermunicipal Agreement with the Town of Marcellus whereby the Village of Marcellus shall, following prior authorization from the Mayor, authorize its D.P.W. Superintendent to make a positive or a negative determination, on a case by case basis, a request made by the Town Highway Superintendent, to offer assistance in the form of Village personnel, materials and/or equipment. This Agreement shall have a term commencing on this date and ending on June 30, 2019 ("initial term"). The parties shall have the right to extend this Agreement for an additional term upon the mutual agreement, in writing, of all parties prior to the expiration of the initial term. Both the Village and the Town reserve the right to terminate this agreement for convenience, at any time, upon thirty (30) days written notice. Further details of the IMA are available for public inspection in the Village Office.

#### Streets and Sidewalks and Trees

Acting upon the D.P.W. chief's recommendations, asphalt repairs to Wilson Drive and Dunlap Avenue have been made, as well as fiber micro paving to Reed Street, Bradley Street and Park Street. Budgetary constraints have limited the desire of the Village Board to add other street repairs in this year's budget. Also, per the D.P.W. Chief's recommendations, sidewalks repairs have been made to selected areas on South Street, and East Main Street and perhaps to Chrisler Street if pending budgetary concerns do not prevent this. Some tree removals have been or will be done on South Street and Kelly Ave, and perhaps another on Chrisler and Reed Streets, along with some trimming. Some tree plantings are expected to take place in the fall, but locations have not yet been determined.

#### Thank You To Our Employees



The Village would like to thank all who participated in the work they did on the flower boxes this year, particularly Village employee Kathy Welsh, and our DPW crew, whose attention to their care all summer was exceptional and enabled all in the community to enjoy their beauty. We call your attention to the

green space on the corner of Scotch Hill and North Street. Village DPW employees continue to showcase the use of compost to the residents and visitors.

#### **Other Reminders**

The Village Office will be closed on the following dates and trash pick-up will vary according to the following schedule: Columbus Day - October 8<sup>th</sup> – normal trash pick-up this week Veterans Day - November 10<sup>th</sup> – normal trash pick-up this week Thanksgiving Day - November 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> – normal trash pick-up Christmas Day - December 25<sup>th</sup> – trash pick-up delayed one day New Year's Day – January 1<sup>st</sup> – trash pick-up delayed one day



John P. Curtin, Mayor Sara N. Tallman, Trustee Kevin F. O'Hara, Trustee Charnley A. Abbott, Clerk Antonino J. Provvidenti, Treasurer Jeffrey D. Brown, Attorney