

## Monthly Updates – from the Mayor – May 2021

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 (315-673-3112) or email the Village Office (clerk@villageofmarcellus.com).

**Re-levy of Unpaid Sewer and Refuse Charges** – a motion was approved to have the outstanding utility bills (refuse and sewage) re-levied to the Village of Marcellus property tax bills. The amount being re-levied to the taxes is **\$157,321.29** and this is an unusually large number. This is because this is the first re-levy we have had in two years – in 2019, there was a computer glitch and in 2020, the ongoing health COVID crisis delayed a re-levy. The amount re-levied in 2018, by contrast, was \$61,485.74, and in 2017 was \$62,899.08. This motion also includes a motion to re-levy special assessments totaling **\$2,000.00** for unpaid vacant dwelling registration fees (from two separate properties

**Review Driving Policy** – because the safety and well being of our employees, as well as that of our residents is very important to the Village, the Board of Trustees desires to protect employees and community members while on the road and reviews the driving policy each year. A motion was approved to require all employees of the Village who drive Village-owned vehicles to follow the Village of Marcellus Driving Policy, which was updated this year, a copy of which is on file in the Village Office.

**NYS Workers Compensation Alliance Agreement – Workers Comp Agreement** – a motion to table the Workers Compensation Agreement with the NYS Workers Compensation Alliance until the June Board meeting. Is there a second? Is there any discussion? All in favor – All opposed –

**Annual Storm Water Report** – a motion was approved to review the first draft of the Annual Storm Water Report, which should be finalized by the June Board Meeting, following a final review by W-M Engineering.

**Intermunicipal Agreements with Onondaga County** – a motion was approved to table the Intermunicipal Agreements with Onondaga County regarding both the Sanitary Sewer Pump Station Operation and Maintenance Charges and the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System.

**Williamson Software Contract** – a motion was made to approve annual software support contracts with Williamson Law Book Company for municipal accounting (\$1,080.00), refuse/sewer billing (\$1,007.00), and payroll (\$1,007.00), totaling \$3,094.00, a 0% increase over last year.

**Xerox Copier Lease Agreement** – a motion was made to approve the Xerox Copier Lease Agreement, the terms of the agreement with Xerox having been evaluated by the Village Clerk and Treasurer, and a copy of which is on file in the Village Office.

**MRB Proposal for Bidding and Construction Services for Meadow Street, Road and Drainage Improvements** – a motion was made to approve MRB's Proposal for bidding and partial construction services for the road and drainage improvements to Meadow Street in the amount of \$32,000.

**School Resource Officer Contracts** – a motion was made to table until the next Board meeting the School Resource Officer Agreements between the Village of Marcellus, the Marcellus Central School District, the Lyncourt Union Free School District, and the Onondaga Central School District

**Announce Village Meetings for June 2021** – the Village Clerk has printed copies of future meeting dates for the Village for the benefit of residents. I would make special notification that the Marcellus Olde Home Days, sponsored by both the Village and Town of Marcellus, and originally scheduled for June 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> 2021 have been canceled because of the ongoing health crisis. In addition, the Village Office will be closed for the Memorial Day Holiday on May 31<sup>st</sup> and June 18<sup>th</sup>, which is now a State holiday in observance of Juneteenth. Also, a Memorial Day Commemoration will be conducted on May 31<sup>st</sup> at the Village Point. The Village Office will also be closed for the Independence Day Celebration on Monday, July

5<sup>th</sup> and the Village-wide garage sale has been planned for Saturday, July 10, 2021, although this too might be canceled, depending on guidance provided by the County and State

### **Updates – Mayor and Board**

**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, new library parking approval along with change of occupancy at several sites and several building permits.

**Pedestrian Signs, Benches, Banners and new Flags** – have been re-installed on Main Street and elsewhere by the Highway Department. Many thanks to our Department of Public Works employees for doing in time for the Memorial Day holiday.

**Compost at the Treatment Plant** – will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis. However, residents are able to pick up compost but they should also be aware of the fact that construction at the plant, while mostly completed, might hinder their ability to pick it up. It would be best for residents to call the treatment plant ahead of time (315-673-4491) to determine when it would be most convenient to pick up compost.

**Olde Home Days** – unfortunately, has been canceled, but there are plans to possibly have a one-day “Olde Home DAY” in September. More information on this possibility will be provided at a later date.

**New Business in the Village** – look for an early summer opening of new businesses in the Village at #2 and #4 E. Main Street. Details are still being planned for a Nano Brewery and an ice cream and deli shop on these sites. We welcome new businesses to the Village and encourage our residents to patronize them.

**America Rescue Plan** – Funding for State and Local Fiscal Relief is part of this plan. Senator Schumer announced recently “. . . that Village and town governments will be receiving a direct allocation of federal assistance, . . . but village amounts are not included because of the complications of calculating those amounts until a process is put in place to divvy up funds between overlapping governments.” We have been told that the Town of Marcellus has been granted approximately \$660,000, but we do not know anything about the process to divvy up funds between overlapping governments.

**Creek Walk** – Fred’s Trail has reopened officially for the public, and our highway department had to do some limited repair to the trail – it appears to have wintered well. We welcome the spring as well as those who will take advantage of this gem in our community. 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.

**Streets, Sidewalks, Trees** – monies have already been set aside from the previous budget to complete some highway resurfacing, the repair of at least four (4) light poles and to share in the cost of brush and tree removal and street sweeping with the Town of Marcellus. The new DPW budget also calls for resealing Reed Parkway, along with sidewalk repair in several locations in the Village, a continuation of street sweeping and repainting of crosswalks, assisting MCS students in the development of the Green Gateway Project and implementing a changeover from head-in to parallel parking on the south side of East Main Street. A major item in this budget year is a capital improvement project on Meadow Street and this will require a significant investment, not only for reconstruction of the road itself but also for significant sanitary sewer and storm drainage reconstruction. Also tree removals are planned, per the DPW Superintendent’s schedule, pending budgetary considerations.

**Village Parking Improvements** – we again mention the plan for changing the parking situation in front of 2-6 East Main Street (Reagan Building and Village Tavern) from a perpendicular to a parallel configuration. This is the final spot in the Village that has perpendicular parking, and is a dangerous traffic hazard, trying to park and then back out onto Main Street. There will probably be a loss of 4 (four) parking spots as a result of this change, but the businesses that border this area have come to realize the importance of eliminating this dangerous parking situation and have agreed to the change. We had expected this project to be completed last year, but unexpected difficulties have delayed that construction until this summer. The Board applauds the efforts of MCS students who created a most appropriate design for this area on East Main, and all involved in the project and looks forward to its implementation soon.

**SRO Contracts** – with the Marcellus Central School District, the Lyncourt Union Free School District and the Onondaga Central School District have been tabled until a future Board meeting.

**Memorial Day** – an abbreviated ceremony sponsored by Marcellus American Legion will take place on Monday, May 31<sup>st</sup> at the Point at 11 a.m. In addition, the Village Office will be closed on that day.

**Village Web Site** – Village Clerk Charnley Abbott regularly updates our website and she has been most accommodating to our Village and its residents. If there are any items that residents might feel should be included on the site, please contact her at the Village Office (315-673-3112) with your requests.

**Spring Brush Pickup Dates** – the Village Board and DPW will to continue the same policy as last year for the 2020 Brush Pickup. During the summer months (June, July and August), brush may be placed at the curb on Saturdays and Sundays for pickup on the first Monday of each month during those summer months.

**Baltimore Ridge Development** – the Planning Board continued its Public Hearing on May 19, 2021, at St Francis Xavier Parish Hall at 7 p.m. to address revised Site Plans, Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), and engineering reports relative to the Baltimore Ridge Project and listened to comments by area residents. In addition, the Planning Board also granted, by resolution, the Final Sub-Division and Site Plan Approval for the Baltimore Ridge Development to Camex Realty, contingent on the developer having complied with the provisions of Article III, Par. D of the Sub Division Regulations, specifically the Required Improvements and Performance Bond. Meeting information is available on the Village website: <https://www.villageofmarcellus.com/baltimore-ridge.html>. Copies of supporting documents are on file at the Village office

**Meadow Street** – this major project, to provide storm water drainage and road improvements to the Meadow Street area, is moving along. Mapping and design has been completed and both NYSEG and OCWA have been at work replacing gas mains and the installation of new hydrants and replacement of the water main prior to repair of the sanitary sewer line, with cured-in-place relining and improvements to roadside swales and road re-paving. Some improvements will also extend north onto Second Street. While we wait to note what the spring rains will bring, we are cautiously optimistic that our efforts in helping to address the flooding in this area will have been met with some success. The Board wants to make you aware that there will be some inconvenience in the coming months but we are confident that this new project will be most positive. If there are any concerns, please contact DPW Superintendent – Greg Crysler (315-506-9253) or Deputy DPW Superintendent – Jim LaRose ) 315-569-2718).