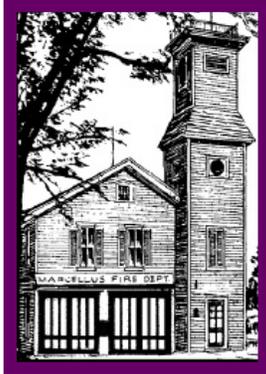


*Marcellus Village
Newsletter
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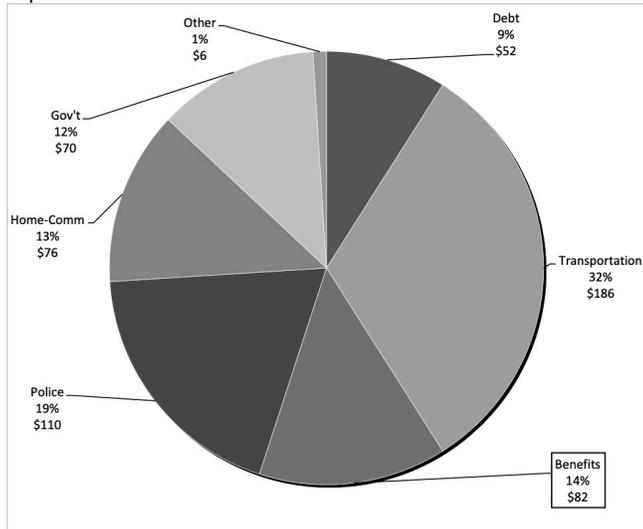


Dear Village Residents,

The Annual Meeting of the Board of Trustees will take place on April 4, 2022, and includes appointment of officials, establishing meeting dates, as well as designating official newspapers and depositories. Also, a public hearing to consider the tentative budget of the Village for the next fiscal year will take place on April 44, 2022. Approval of the final budget is scheduled to take place at the next regular Board meeting on April 25, 2022.

The Budget

During the past year, the Town of Marcellus performed a reassessment of all properties in the Town, including all Village of Marcellus properties. The end result to the Village was an overall 20% increase in the Taxable Value of all Village tax parcels, effective for the Village's 2022-23 property tax levy year. This will enable the Village to in turn lower its tax rate from the current rate of \$6.85 per \$1,000, down to a proposed tax rate of \$5.82 per \$1,000, and still generate at least the same amount of Property Tax Revenue as before. Once again, this proposed Village tax levy will also not exceed the NYS Tax Cap Limit. The single largest percentage of expenditures in the



proposed General Fund Budget continues to be Transportation, for it is essential that the Village continues to invest in improving and maintaining its network of Village streets and storm water drainage on an ongoing basis. As such the Village is grateful to Onondaga County for extending the Village Infrastructure Improvement Program (VIIP) agreement between Onondaga County and the Village through at least the year 2030. The Village greatly values the work performed by its employees and will be giving employees a 3% raise in this new budget. Through the continuing efforts of the Village departments to operate as fiscally conservative as possible each

budget year, departmental costs have been controlled. This has continued to benefit the Village in offsetting the cuts in State funding, as well as the increasing costs of unfunded mandates by NYS such as pension costs and health insurance. As such, the proposed General Fund budget for the Village's fiscal year ending May 31, 2023, shows a budget surplus of \$68,880.

Compost

Compost is available at the Village of Marcellus Wastewater Treatment Plant! The Village of Marcellus Compost is produced from wastewater biosolids, through the controlled biological process of composting. At the WWTP, natural decomposition is accelerated enabling us to produce a high-quality product. By controlling the composting process, biosolids are sanitized through the generation of heat, then stabilized to allow for versatility of end use. Through this process, valuable organics generated from the Village WWTP are naturally recycled into a product which is beneficial to plants and the environment. We are able to transform waste into a beneficial product and continue to divert material from landfills.

Our compost is safe, and quality tested. The compost has been treated by a process to further reduce pathogens. This process is defined by the EPA & DEC. The Village has analyzed the compost in accordance with the requirement of the EPA & DEC. Compost is hygienically and environmentally safe if it is used properly. Village residents can use the compost on new or established lawns, flower boxes & house plants, flower gardens, and vegetable gardens.

All Village residents can bring a container(s) to the WWTP at 6 Mille High Drive weekdays 8am-3pm. First come first serve. If you would like confirmation of availability, please leave a message at 315-673-4491.

Sewer Fund budget

This proposed Sewer Fund budget will be the fourth full budget year which includes the increase in the minimum sewer rate per unit per 1,000 gallons from \$75 to \$100 for Village sewer users. That being said, total sewer usage revenue from Village users, as well as from School and Town users, is projected to be the same as the previous budget year. Upon the recent completion of the Village's Wastewater Treatment Plant Facility Upgrade Capital Project, monies remaining in this Capital Project Fund were transferred back to the Sewer Fund in anticipation of paying for much delayed repairs and other maintenance items for which there were previously insufficient funds available. These items include rebuilds to digester and aeration blowers, stockpiling of parts necessary for anticipated repairs to pumps and other equipment, and the purchase a replacement JCB Skid Steer, which is long overdue. This new budget year will also be the third year of repayment on the 30-year interest free loan from the NYS EFC, which financed a substantial portion of the Capital Project. The annual debt service payment on this loan is \$173,420. Another full fiscal year of increased revenue from all sewer users, coupled with the anticipated decrease in total debt service, has resulted in the Village's proposed Sewer Fund budget showing a \$81,185 budget surplus for the fiscal year ending May 31, 2023.

Property Tax Cap

The property tax cap of 2%, another State mandate, complicates our budget and at its March meeting, the Board voted to override the tax cap, despite the fact that we expect to stay under the property tax cap. However, the tax cap compounds the budget process and makes it difficult to plan ahead.

Board Appointments

At its Annual Meeting, the Village Board will reappoint Peter Chapman to another 5-year term as a member and Chair of the Village Planning Board – from April 1, 2022, to March 31, 2027. In addition, the Village Board will appoint Chad Clark to a full 5-year term as a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals – from April 1, 2022, to March 31, 2027. We are very grateful to Peter and Chad for their willingness to serve, without compensation, on these Boards.



Trash Transfer Site

The trash transfer site for Village and Town residents will take place on Fridays, April 29th, May 6th, and May 13th, from 8 am to noon and on Saturdays, April 30th, May 7th and May 14th from 8 am to Noon. The fee schedule remains the same as last year. A permit is required and obtained at the Town office. Tires as well as items with Freon, such as refrigerators, air conditioners or dehumidifiers require an additional fee. Some items are not accepted including garbage, recyclables, hazardous waste, and contractor debris. There will also be an Electronics Waste Disposal with trash days this year, which will require a special fee, as well as a Shred Day. There will be no cost to the residents for the shredding, but there is a limit of five boxes per auto.

Clean The Village For Earth Day

The Village of Marcellus hopes to again participate in an Earth Day Clean Up on Friday, April 23, 2021. KCH Elementary School will participate in this event and we welcome any individuals or groups to join us in helping clean the Village of litter lying along the roadsides. If interested in participating, we will meet in front of the Village Hall (about 1:30 p.m.) to distribute bags and gloves. This annual event is subject to change or cancellation because of the current health crisis and the many concerns that the school district will have.



Brush Pick-up

With the arrival of spring and a need to clean up before Memorial Day, brush pick-up will start soon. With Board's approval, the DPW is going to continue a policy initiated in 2018. Brush may be placed at the curb on Saturdays and Sundays for pickup on Mondays from April 4th to May 9th. Also, during 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.



From the Mayor

Tim Manahan and I would like to thank the voters of the Village for our election as Mayor and Trustee on March 15, 2022. It is our hope that we are able to maintain the Village infrastructure, stabilize the tax rate and the sewer rates, although the latter is always challenging because of DEC mandates.



Utility Bills

The utility bill that residents receive this month is the last bill for our fiscal year. Please note that if a resident's bill is not paid by April 30, 2022, it will be re-levied to the tax bill for June 1, 2022. If those bills for tenants who pay their own utilities are not paid by April 30, 2022, these will be re-levied onto the property owner's taxes for June 1, 2022.

Notice of Sign Placement



Soon, the Highway Department will re-install pedestrian crossing signs on Main Street in the Village. The signs are 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.

Planning Board – Baltimore Ridge

The Baltimore Ridge Project continues to move along quite well, and as of this date, all permits have been issued, and development of the site has begun with the construction of an entrance road, the clearing of several trees, and the building of the required storm water detention pond. In addition, sight distance conditions on South Street Road, as required by Onondaga County DOT, have been met and the installation of storm and sanitary sewer pipes are complete. Other utilities, water, cable, telephone, electric and gas, are now in the process of being installed. Home construction may begin in the spring.

Tefft Meadows Senior Housing Project

Last fall and continuing into the winter months of 2022, members of the Planning Board and Village Board met to discuss and then approve a senior housing development at 8 Paul Street, currently an old lumberyard. Representatives from Christopher Community presented their concept for the project at the site at several public hearings and listened to comments that residents of the community expressed. The minutes of all meetings and public comment can be found on the Village website and we encourage residents to visit that site.



Slocombe Ave

This summer, the Village is proposing a project that will include a new storm water collection system on Slocombe Ave while also reconstructing the road with new base material, asphalt, and gutters. The design will also look to flatten the current high crown on this road in order to improve the overall drainage and future maintenance of this road.



Low Income Household Sewer Assistance Program

The Village has registered as a LIHSAP vendor, which will help low income households pay the cost of sewer services. Those interested should go to the LIHWAP webpage (<https://otda.ny.gov>) to learn more and apply online for more information and helpful resources. A similar service is also provided by OCWA to help households pay for the cost of water service.

Some Reminders

The Village Office is closed on Good Friday, April 15th and will be closed on Memorial Day, May 30th



There will be a one-day delay

for trash collection because of Memorial Day. Thank you for taking the time to read this letter and we hope you enjoy a beautiful spring and summer.

John P. Curtin,
Mayor
Timothy P. Manahan, Trustee
John J. Murphy,
Trustee
Charles A. Abbott