

Monthly Updates – from the Mayor – April 2022

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).

Adopt 2022-2023 Budget and set the Tax Rate – there have been no changes made to the tentative budget that was approved at the Annual Meeting on April 4, 2022 and a motion was made to approve the 2022-2023 Village budget and to set the Tax Rate at \$5.82 /\$1,000 assessed valuation.

Proposal – W-M Engineering for Annual Storm Water Report – a motion was made to authorize the Mayor to sign a proposal from W-M Engineering to prepare the Annual Storm Water Report at a cost not to exceed \$600

Intermunicipal Agreements with Onondaga County – a motion was made 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.

Annual Storm Water Report – a motion was made to table the Annual Storm Water Report until the May Board Meeting, when W-M Engineering will have completed it.

Utility Bills – the utility bill that residents received this month is the last bill for our fiscal year. Residents should note that if not paid by April 30, 2022, the bill 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 too will be re-levied onto the property owner's taxes for June 1, 2022. Please note that, unlike previous utility bills, payment for this final bill for the year must be made within the month. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please call the Village Office at 315-673-3112.

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, the Onondaga Central School District and the Tully Central School District

Inter-municipal Agreement with Town of Marcellus – a motion was made to continue the Inter-municipal Agreement with the Town of Marcellus whereby the Marcellus Police Department would provide security services at the Marcellus Town Park on certain days of the week during the summer months. This agreement will continue on an annual

basis without the necessity of renewal unless terminated by either party. A copy of the agreement, first initiated in 2021, is on file in the Village Office for public inspection.

Announce Village Meetings for May 2022 – 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 schedule. Also included is a notice that the Village Office will be closed on Monday, Memorial Day, May 30, 2022, and there will be a Memorial Day ceremony at the Point on this date, beginning at 11 a.m. The Olde Home Days Celebration are planned for June 3rd, June 4th, and 5th in the Village and in Marcellus Park. Finally, 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 9th.

Updates – Mayor

a. Utility Bills – If you have any questions regarding this matter, please call the Village Office at 315-673-3112.

b. 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, as well as change of occupancy at several sites.

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

d. WWTP Monthly Updates for Village and Town Board Meetings – Last month's average daily flow at the wastewater treatment plant was a bit elevated at 0.407MGD. With the spring rains and snow melts, the treatment plant operators would like to remind all Village and Town sewer users to disconnect any and all sump pumps from their sanitary sewer. Instead, connect them to a storm sewer, drainage ditch, or dry well. There is also compost available at the treatment plant. Please bring your container(s) to the plant at 6-Mile-High Drive weekdays 8am-3pm. First come, first serve. For confirmation on compost availability or if you have questions regarding sump pump connections, please leave a message for us at 315-673-4491

e. Memorial Day – Olde Home Days – American Legion Post 297 is planning to resume a public Memorial Day Commemoration in the Village on Monday, May 30, 2022, beginning at 11:00 a.m. at The Point. It is a tradition unbroken since 1926, prior to 2020, the pandemic year. We welcome the return of this great tradition. Olde home Days will also return on June 3rd, 4th and 5th and we welcome that great celebration as well.

f. New Business in the Village – look for an early summer opening of a new business in the Village at #2 East Main Street. Details are still being planned for an ice cream and deli shop on this site. We welcome new businesses to the Village and encourage our residents to patronize them.

g. America Rescue Plan – The Village of Marcellus was awarded a total of \$176,102.03, half of which has been received by the Village Treasurer as of this date. The Village has utilized the ARP funds for a road, stormwater, and drainage project in the Village to alleviate flooding and other issues for residents. These are services normally provided by the Village and qualify as government services. The Meadow Street project made improvements to drainage and the street in the Village of Marcellus. The project consisted of installation of new Storm Sewers to address frequent flooding, which was a result of absent sewers or existing sewers in very poor condition. The project scope included the installation of approximately 860 linear feet of new storm sewer pipe in the 12" to 24" diameter range, and approximately 11 pre-cast concrete catch basins. The project also included street improvements to address existing deteriorated conditions, including full depth reconstruction of the existing roadway. Full depth reconstruction included installation of concrete gutter and street under drain.

h. Streets, Sidewalks, Trees – monies have already been set aside from the budget to complete some highway resurfacing, particularly Slocombe Ave, and spot repairs on Kinderwood as well as to share in the cost of brush and tree removal and street sweeping with the Town of Marcellus. The DPW budget also calls for starting a design for capital improvement project on Paul St, along with sidewalk repairs to Orchard St and other various 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 working with students on a design for Flower Lane improvements. Also, tree and stump removals are planned, per the DPW Superintendent's schedule, pending budgetary considerations.

i. Village Parking Improvements – we again mention the changeover of the parking situation in front of 2-6 East Main Street (Reagan Building and Village Tavern) from a perpendicular to a parallel configuration. This was the final spot in the Village that had perpendicular parking, and was a dangerous traffic hazard, trying to park and then back out onto Main Street. There was 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 agreed to the change. Several of the businesses in this area have applied for and received a special permit to operate a sidewalk café for outdoor seating in front of their establishments when the weather turns favorable. We encourage residents to patronize these businesses and we again applaud the efforts of MCS students and their mentor, TDK Engineer Joe Durand, who created a most appropriate design for this area on East Main.

j. Earth Day Cleanup – the Village was hopeful that an Earth Day clean up of the Village in April, an annual event that involved students from Heffernan Elementary School would again take place. Fortunately, this event took place, and we thank KCH students and their teachers for helping to clean up the Village on April 22, 2022. Employees at Reagan Insurance also

participated in helping to clean up the Village for Earth Day and we thank them as well for their involvement on this annual event.

k. Spring Brush Pickup – the Village Board and DPW are going to continue the policy from last year for the 2022 Brush Pickup. Brush may be placed at the curb on Saturdays and Sundays for pickup on Mondays from April 4th thru May 9th. Also, during the summer months brush may also be placed at the curb on the first Saturday and Sunday for pickup on the following Mondays of each month – June 6th, July 5th, and August 1st.

l. Spring Town Trash Dates – the Town of Marcellus announced that the Town has scheduled the 2022 dates for the Trash Transfer Stations as follows: Fridays, April 29th, May 6th, and May 13th, from 8 a.m. to Noon, and Saturdays, April 30th, May 7th, and May 14th, from 8 a.m. to Noon. Permits are required and issued through the Town of Marcellus Clerk's Office. The rates are \$20 for a passenger vehicle, \$35 for a pickup truck, \$50 for a larger vehicle, \$45 for a trailer, \$10 for a one-time passenger car, \$3 for tires and \$15 for anything with Freon (such as refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners or dehumidifiers). The Town Board agreed to also have a shred day during the Spring Trash Days on May 14th and the Village will share in that cost. There will be no cost to the residents for the shredding, but there is a limit of five boxes per car. There will also be an Electronics Waste Disposal Day included with the trash days this year and that will require a special fee. The cost will be \$40 for televisions and monitors over 27", \$20 for televisions and monitors less than 27" and a \$5 fee per load for all other electronics. Some items are not accepted including garbage, OCRRA recyclables, liquids or hazardous waste including paint, oil tanks, fuel tanks, motor vehicles, and contractor debris (home projects only). All items must be secured and covered when transporting to the Town Transfer Station.

m. SRO Contracts – with the Marcellus Central School District, the Lyncourt Union Freed School District, the Onondaga Central School District, and the Tully Central School District have been tabled and will be approved at a later Board meeting.

n. Planning Board – the Planning Board met recently to approve two site plan applications. The property owner at 16 East Main Street proposed renting space along the driveway and in back beyond the parking lot, to provide a place for people with cottage businesses to sell their products, hopefully attracting more people to the Village Center. In addition, the Marcellus Free Library has proposed a project which will include outdoor improvements to that site – a creek side patio to be built which would enhance the existing creek path, and a modular concrete seating wall along the patio, with new plantings.

o. The 2022 Main St Grant Program – the Village Board is again pleased to announce that the Village was awarded almost \$500,000 for the 2021-2022 Main St Grant Program. There are 18 projects included in the Village Center and this is sure to make a significant impact on the community. These projects will have to follow all normal application and permitting requirements, and some may be referred to the Planning Board as the process unfolds. The Village is most grateful to County Executive Ryan McMahon and the Office of Community Development as well as the Onondaga County Legislature for

providing funds to help revitalize and beautify many parts of the Village of Marcellus, as they did last year when 14 Village properties were awarded almost \$300,000 under the County Main Street Façade Grant program.

p. Baltimore Ridge Development – 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. While the roads into the development have been stoned, and some asphalt installation has been done, the latter is not yet complete. We might note that all of the lots have been sold and building construction might begin this summer.

q. Tefft Meadows Senior Apartments at 8 Paul St in the Village of Marcellus – is a proposed project that will offer affordable living for those 62+ years of age. The project calls for the construction of a new 60-unit senior apartment building with all site amenities including a 60-space parking lot and stormwater facility on the same parcel at 8 Paul St. in the Village of Marcellus. The property amenities include a community room, elevator service, laundry facilities, and a secure entry and is convenient to shopping, restaurants and local businesses. Tefft Meadows Senior Apartments will be professionally managed and maintained by Christopher Community. The Village of Marcellus is in full support of this project. Not only does it provide affordable senior housing in the Village on a site that is dilapidated and in desperate need of repair, but the site will also provide a 20-foot-wide walkway easement that extends from Paul Street to Tefft Meadow's property line adjacent to the creek to connect to the existing Creek Walk. In addition, this \$19M development will not only address a critical housing need for seniors in Onondaga County but also provide an economic boost to the entire Marcellus community. The easement will also provide a more community-oriented project given the close proximity of community assets. No zone changes were needed, SEQR long form review and site plan approvals were completed, and the Village supports a Tax Exemption Agreement and a shelter rent calculation that will provide affordable senior living. The plans and other detail on the proposed Tefft Meadows project can be found on the Village website at <https://www.villageofmarcellus.com/tefft-meadows.html>

r. From the Marcellus Police Department: Please be advised that there is a nationwide trend where scammers contact the elderly via disposable cellphones and attempt to trick people into giving out their personal information (D.O.B., SS#, etc.). Sometimes, they tell people that they are potentially the victim of fraud and attempt to persuade them to purchase gift cards from stores such as Target or Walmart and provide them with the activation codes. Unfortunately, there have been several recent cases of this type of fraud in Onondaga County. Please speak to your elderly family members and neighbors to warn them of this scam. If anyone has any questions, feel free to contact the Marcellus Police Department at (315) 673-2079.