

Monthly Updates – from the Mayor – July 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).

Authorize Agreement Between the County of Onondaga and the Village of Marcellus – a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign an Agreement between the County of Onondaga and the Village of Marcellus, for the purpose of waiving Onondaga County Planning Board referrals where there is no inter-community or county-wide impact. Such agreement would further streamline the Onondaga County Planning Board and local planning review processes. A copy of the agreement is on file in the Village Office for public inspection.

Police Appointment – a motion to appoint another officer to the Marcellus Police Department. Officer Darren McLaughlin, presently a School Resource Officer at Onondaga Central School District, will also serve as a Village Patrolman as well. This appointment will be effective on August 1, 2022, and his salary as a Marcellus Village Patrolman will be \$21.33 per hour. The Board is pleased to make this appointment and wishes Officer McLaughlin continued success as a member of the Marcellus Police Department.

Fixed Monthly Cell Phone Stipend – a motion to continue to offer a fixed monthly cell phone stipend, for full-time employees only, in an amount to be determined per month. The reasoning behind this motion is to have full time employees of the Village carry one phone rather than carry two phones, one for the Village and one for personal use.

Budget Modifications for Fiscal Year End 2021-2022 – a motion to approve budget modifications requested by the Village Treasurer transferring revenues and appropriations in the General and Sewer Funds and for the Fiscal Year End 2021-2022 Financial Statements.

Announce Village Meetings for August 2022 – the Village Clerk has printed copies of future meeting dates for the Village for the benefit of residents. A reminder to residents that July is usually Battery Collection Month. However, OCRRA has decided to end this program without informing us. Consequently, we have been telling residents that our trash hauler will collect batteries. They will not be collected, but it has been determined that batteries can be dropped off locally at Nightingale's Mills on South Street Road without charge. We are grateful that Nightingales is providing this service to the community and applaud the company for its community spirit. A series of summer concerts held during June, July and August at Marcellus Park Annex Pavilion, Thursday nights from 7 – 8:30 p.m., are free and appropriate for the entire family. Please note that the Village Office will be closed on Monday, September 5th for Labor Day. There is also a regularly scheduled Planning Board Meeting scheduled for August 17, 2022, in the Village Hall.

Updates – Mayor

Brush Pick-up – as was mentioned at earlier meetings, the Village Board and DPW are going to continue the policy established previously for Brush Pickup. Spring brush pickup has ended. 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 of those summer months. Village residents should not put yard waste out to the curb for pick-up until then. They are welcome to bring yard waste to the compost pile next to the Highway garage. Also, please do not sweep yard debris into the road. This often causes storm sewers to become obstructed and creates a serious danger for motorcyclists.

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.

Streets, Sidewalks, Trees – monies have already been set aside from the budget to complete some highway resurfacing, particularly Slocombe Ave, and 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 on 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.

New Business in the Village – we welcome new businesses in the Village at #14 West Main, a bakery called Kelli's Custom Cakes and a diner at #3 North Street, called Boisey's Cafe. We encourage our residents to patronize them.

SRO Contracts – with the Marcellus Central School District, the Onondaga Central School District, the Tully Central School District, and the Lyncourt Union Free School District have been completed and signed by all parties concerned. \

Code Enforcement and Officer – inspections continue for house renovations, sheds and decks and unlicensed vehicles. In addition, several properties have been cited for lack of property maintenance including uncut grass, unsanitary dog deposits as well as some buildings in need of repair or painting.

Compost Project – compost continues to be available for residents, on a first-come-first served basis, and if any residents cannot pick up compost during normal business hours, please call the Treatment Plant (315-673-4491) to make an appointment with one of the operators. The operators are available to answer questions and to help load compost for residents.

Planning and Zoning Boards – the ZBA is not scheduled to meet in August. The Planning Board may meet at 7 p.m. on August 17th at the Village Hall to review revised plans for the Marcellus Free Library which has proposed a project to 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.

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. So far, 17 commercial projects have been initiated and 1 has been completed – the former AOK Gas Station at 31 E. Main Street has been transformed into a beautiful Medical Office complex.

Villages Taxes – while most property owners have submitted payment of village taxes, some properties are still delinquent despite the fact that the cut-off was July 1, 2021. It is hoped that those that are still delinquent will remedy the situation soon.

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 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 complete as well. The roads into the development have been stoned, and binder asphalt installation has also been completed. We might note that all of the lots have been sold and building construction might begin this summer. This will be an excellent project for the Village and thanks are extended to everyone for their efforts and input. Copies of all supporting documents are on file at the Village and are available on the Village website: <https://www.villageofmarcellus.com/baltimore-ridge.html>.

Summer Community Events – A series of summer concerts held during June, July and August at Marcellus Park Annex Pavilion, Thursday nights from 7 – 8:30 p.m., are free and appropriate for the entire family. There is a full list of concert listings and other events and programs available on the Town website at Marcellusny.com or call the Marcellus Parks and Recreation Department (315-673-3269, ext. 2) for more information. Friends of Marcellus Park will have food and beverages available for purchase.

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>

Slocombe Ave and Kinderwood Drive – these projects, to provide road improvements to the Slocombe Ave and Kinderwood area, are moving along. Mapping and design have been completed and both NYSEG and OCWA have replaced gas mains and installed valve replacements on the water main. In June, bids were received for the improvements and the bid submitted by Hanson Aggregates NY LLC was awarded the contract in the amount of \$99,445.00. We hope that a pre-construction meeting will take place in August in the Village Office, with work expected to begin sometime after that.