

## Monthly Updates – from the Mayor – August 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](mailto:clerk@villageofmarcellus.com)).

**Slocombe Ave and Kinderwood Drive Paving** – these projects, to provide road improvements to the Slocombe Ave and Kinderwood Drive areas, 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 expect that a pre-construction meeting will take place in August or September in the Village Office, with work expected to begin sometime after that.

**Police Rehire** – a motion was made to re-appoint a former Police officer to the Marcellus Police Department. Officer Pat Di Castro who resigned several months ago so as to take a security position with another agency and was required at that time to resign from the MPD, is requesting a return to the MPD because the agency no longer requires that resignation. The Village Board is pleased to rehire Officer Di Castro, who will resume his position with the MPD, and serve as a Village Patrolman. This appointment was 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 Di Castro continued success as a member of the Marcellus Police Department.

**IMA with Marcellus CSD for Shared Services, Equipment, Materials for Green Gateway Project** – a motion was made to approve an Intermunicipal Agreement with the Marcellus Central School District 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 Marcellus Central School Superintendent, to offer assistance in the form of Village personnel, materials and/or equipment. This Agreement had a term commencing on August 23, 2021 and ending on June 30, 2022 ("initial term"). The Agreement shall automatically renew for additional one (1) year terms; provided, however, that if either Party wishes not to renew, such Party must notify the other Party in writing, not later than ninety (90) days prior to the expiration of the term of the Agreement. Either Party may terminate this Agreement upon sixty (60) days prior written notice. Further details of the IMA are available for public inspection in the Village Office.

**Autumn Curbside Brush and Leaf Pickup** – an announcement was made to approve the Autumn Bush and Leaf Pickup Dates, as requested by the Village DPW. The time for fall pick-up of leaves and brush is here and the Highway Department would like to remind everyone of its schedule. Fall brush pickup will take place on Mondays, September 19th, September 26th, and October 3rd. Fall leaf pickup will take place weekly, on Mondays, beginning October 11th (Tuesday, due to holiday) through November 14th. Please remember to put brush and leaves on the grass between the sidewalk and the road. Please, do not rake leaves or brush into the street, but keep them in the Village right of way. 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 14<sup>th</sup>, residents may collect leaves into large brown paper bags (NO PLASTIC) and place the bags at the curb for pickup, weather

permitting. Only leaves bagged in paper leaf bags will be picked up after November 14<sup>th</sup>. Residents may also drop off brush and leaves anytime (NO PLASTIC BAGS) 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).

**Brush Grinding Contract** – a motion to announce that the three-year contract with Green Renewable of Manchester, NY whereby Green Renewable will grind and process yard waste that the Village and the town of Marcellus accumulate for the period 8/1/2021 to 8/1/24. The three-year contract total is \$5,400.00, which is to be split between the Village and Town, at a cost to the Village and Town of \$2,700.00 each. This is another excellent example of the cooperation that exists between the Village and the Town. Further details of the contract are available for public inspection in the Village Office.

**Village Hall Siding** – having advertised several times in recent months for a qualified contractor to provide services for exterior siding replacement on the Village Hall, 6 Slocombe Ave, Marcellus NY 13108, and having received no bids from any contractor, the Village responded to a suggestion from the Onondaga County Development Office that we reach out to a vendor on the County list, one who has already been vetted, knows the process and there is no need to go out to bid. In early August, a proposal was received from JK General Contracting, and a motion was made to award the contract in the amount of \$88,500.00, to JK General Contracting, a substantial part of which amount to be reimbursed to the Village from the Onondaga County ARP Municipal Grants Funding Program. We expect that a pre-construction meeting will take place in late August or September in the Village Office, with work expected to begin sometime after that.

**Budget Modifications for July 2022** – a motion was made to approve budget modifications requested by the Village Treasurer transferring revenues and appropriations in the June and July 2022 General and Sewer Funds.

**Set Dates for Fall Trash Days** – the Town Board has approved the schedule for the Fall Trash Day, as follows: Fridays September 23<sup>rd</sup> and September 30<sup>th</sup> and Saturdays September 24<sup>th</sup> and October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022. The times for Friday are 8:00 am – 12:00 noon. The times for Saturday are 8:00 am – 12:00 noon. A motion was made to publicize the trash days schedule and encourage Village residents to take advantage of this annual opportunity. There is also a handout that provides more information regarding the fall trash days. There is no electronic waste or shred day planned.

**Announce Village Meetings for September 2022** –the Village Clerk has printed copies of future meeting dates for the Village for the benefit of residents. There are also several other handouts including the Brush and Leaf Pickup dates, the Fall Trash Day schedule, and an update regarding the Green Gateway Park. Please note that the Village Office will be closed for Labor Day, September 5<sup>th</sup>, and that there will be a one-day delay in trash pickup that week. We also remind residents that a series of summer concerts have been held during July and August at Marcellus Park Annex Pavilion. The last concert was Friday August 12, 2022. At present, no Planning Board and Zoning Board Meetings are scheduled for August or September.

#### **Updates – Mayor**

**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, several 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. In addition, the facade of the Laundromat has been modified with the addition of pavers and a wrought iron fence in the front, and a controlled demolition of the house at 25 North Street has taken place as well.

**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 South 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.

**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, and 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.

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

**Call 9-1-1** – the Police Department reminds residents that they should call 911 if they have any concerns or any questions of what appear to be criminal or other suspicious activity in the Village. By using 9-1-1, our local officer will be notified, dispatched as quickly as possible. Given the fact that our police officers are not on duty 24 hours of every day, using 9-1-1 will cause other police agencies to respond to problems in the Village. In addition, if any resident happens to encounter a door-to-door salesman, please ask that individual to show you the permit that any peddler has to obtain before being allowed to solicit in the Village. If there is no permit, please direct them to the Village Hall and please call the Village Hall to alert our staff.

**Another Police Update** – Chief Podseidlik would like to make sure that all residents continue to lock their autos and houses. Recently, both in the Village, but also on the outside, on the periphery of the Village in particular, there have been burglaries – particularly into unlocked automobiles, and property (GPS, other electronics, and pocketbooks) has been stolen. Virtually all of these thefts have taken place because autos have been left outdoors and unlocked. If the cars are locked, the thieves usually move on. Please lock your car doors! Also lock your house!

**Village Gateway Project** – (handout) is one that the Village, in cooperation with the Town and the School District and others have been working on since 2016 – a project that we hope will result in an environmentally positive gateway to our Village. Printed copies of this updated summary are provided for the benefit of residents and are available in the Village office,

as well as on the Village website (click on <http://villageofmarcellus.com> and then on News, then Village News, then Village Gateway Project. The Green Gateway Project is a constant work in progress, and it is expected that it will continue as students return in the fall.

**Striping of Crosswalks** – we would note that crosswalk striping on North Street (Rte. 174), and Main Street have not been completed by the State or the County (Rt. 41) prior to the start of school. Village pedestrian crosswalk signs remain in place on the east side of the Main Street Bridge, as well as at the intersection of Main and South Streets and on Reed Parkway near the DMS School in order to provide pedestrian safety and slow down traffic in the Village. Our DPW has also installed two flashing speed limit signs on Main Street in order to slow traffic down entering the Village, and the Village DPW has painted its own crosswalks and parking spaces, prior to school opening.

**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** – did not meet in August.

**School begins** – begins soon and we urge residents to be aware of the fact that there will probably be more students walking to school because of changing bus schedules, particularly on First Street. Also, the State DOT will begin operation of the flashing lights on North Street and the Village Police Department will be even more vigilant in their enforcement of the traffic laws on that street.

**Village Taxes** – most have been paid, while the amount of unpaid taxes at present (as of August 8, 2022), including penalties, totals \$29,646.29 or 4.43% from 21 property owners, a figure much smaller than previous years. Property owners may continue to pay unpaid taxes to the Village until October 31, 2022, when they will be turned over to the County for reimbursement.

**V.I.P. Monies** – infrastructure grant payments received by the Village of Marcellus from Onondaga County, as part of the Village Infrastructure Improvement Project have totaled \$208,520 this year, with no increase, as was the case last year. While this represents about half of what the Village used to be provided, until the County took the sales tax revenue from the Villages back in 2010, half is better than nothing. What is of more concern is the fact that the V.I.P. ten-year program, which was to end for the Villages in 2020, was renewed for another ten (10) years, until 2030. For this, we are grateful that the County Legislature and County Executive Ryan McMahon have agreed to continue the program.

**Tefft Meadows Senior Apartments at 8 Paul St in the Village of Marcellus** – (handout) 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 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>

**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 has already begun. 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>.

**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.

**Fall Trash Days** – check handout