

Monthly Updates – from the Mayor – October 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).

Stormwater Resolution - CNYPDB – Storm Water Management Program – a motion was made to approve a Resolution Supporting Participation in the CNY Storm Water Coalition Staff Services and Education Compliance Assistance Program, pertaining to the requirements of the New York State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) Storm Water Phase II General Permit for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4), a copy of which is on file in the Village office for public inspection. The one-year Agreement to participate enables the Village to utilize CNY Stormwater support staff, who will help to expand public education and outreach, maintain a regional stormwater website, as well as provide municipal training and compile data needed to expand the storm sewer mapping system. It will cost the Village of Marcellus \$3,600, a cost that is strongly opposed by the Village Board and will be addressed by the Mayor in his updates.

Re-levy of Unpaid Village Taxes – a motion was made to re-levy all unpaid Village Taxes, as of November 1, 2022, to the County of Onondaga for payment.

CHIPs Reimbursement Request – a motion was made to approve the request for a December payment of \$120,107.38 from NY State for expenditures made by the Village for the construction and repair of highways, bridges, highway-railroad crossings, and other facilities, through November 2, 2022, under the CHIPs (Consolidated Local Street and Highway Improvement Program), PAVE NY, and EWR (Extreme Weather Recovery) Programs.

New Village Signage – a was made motion to approve new welcome signs at each of the four entrances to the Village, provided by donations from the Olde Home Days Committee, Reagan Companies and MRB Group to the Marcellus Betterment Association. The Board is most grateful for the civic response of the community to this endeavor. In addition, new signs are to be located at the Green Gateway entrance, these provided by the Village.

Police Appointment - a motion was made to approve the appointment of Officer Stephen Smolen, presently a School Resource Officer at Onondaga Central School District, to serve as a Marcellus Village Patrolman as well. This appointment will be effective as of October 13, 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 Smolen continued success as a member of the Marcellus Police Department.

Reminder – Closing of First Street for Halloween – a motion was made to again close First Street between the hours of 5:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. on Halloween for trick-or-treating, subject to conditions on October 31st, which is a Monday.

Reminder – No Parking – November 1st to April 1st – the public should be aware of the fact that as of November 1, 2022, there is no parking allowed on any street in the Village of Marcellus from 2 a.m. to 7 a.m. so that the Highway Department can plow snow. This no parking ban will remain in effect until April 1, 2023.

Reminder – Village Polling Places – Please note that polling places in Marcellus changed several years ago. In 2012, the Board of Elections redrew the Town of Marcellus election district lines to create two districts entirely within the Village. Those two districts (ED3 and ED4) will vote at the high school auditorium. Residents living outside the Village will vote at the Fire House. All residents were notified by mail by the Board of Elections, but some may not realize the change is now permanent. Election Day is November 8, 2022, from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m., and we urge all residents to vote. Early voting has already begun, and the nearest polling station for that is at the Camillus Fire Station on Newport Road in Camillus.

Loan Closet Request – the Marcellus Loan Closet, an organization whose origin dates back to World War II, and which group provides medical equipment on loan to residents in the Marcellus community, has found it necessary to relocate its storage facility because of the closing of the Marcellus Pharmacy. The Loan closet has been in discussion with Marcellus Village and Town employees and the latter group has agreed to construct a shed next to the Village DPW Barn to house the Loan Closet equipment. The Loan Closet has agreed to provide all material cost. A motion was made to approve this request of the Loan Closet to work with Village and Town employees to construct a shed to house its equipment on a site next to the Village DPW Barn.

Announce Village Meetings for November 2022 – the Village Clerk has printed copies of future meeting dates for the Village for the benefit of residents. Please make note that First Street will be closed to traffic on Halloween, October 31st, from 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm, that the Village Office will be closed on Friday, November 11th in honor of Veterans' Day and that the Veterans Day ceremonies will take place on Friday, November 11th, at 11:00 a.m. at the Point. In addition, the Village Office will be closed on November 24th and 25th for the Thanksgiving Day holidays and the Workshop Agenda Meeting will take place on November 23rd rather than November 25th. Also, the Village Tree Lighting Ceremony will take place this year on Friday, December 2nd, in the Village, at the Point. This is a change from previous years when the tree lighting took place on a Thursday. Finally, the December meeting of the Village Board will be changed this year to December 19th rather than December 26th, and the workshop will be changed to December 16th from December 23rd because of holiday preparations.

Resolution Authorizing Sale of WWTP Vacuum Trailer – a motion was made approving a resolution that authorizes the sale of the 2001 WWTP Vacuum Trailer by Auctions International

Updates – Mayor and Board

Leaf and Brush Pickup – brush pickup for 2022 is now over and residents may put out leaves from Tuesday, October 11th to Sunday, November 13th. After November 13th, leaf pickup will end, and residents may collect leaves into large brown paper leaf bags and place the bags at the curb for pickup, weather permitting. Only these leaf bags will be picked up after November 13th. Residents may also drop off brush and leaves anytime at the Village compost site, located next to the Village Highway Barn.

Compost Project – continues to be very successful and please remember that composting continues all year round even though the demand obviously lulls through the fall and winter. Some residents might want to secure compost this fall, since it can be stored outside, without cover, through the fall and winter for its intended use next spring.

Green Gateway Project – (handout available) 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).

New Business in the Village – we had expected an early summer opening of a new business in the Village at #2 E. Main Street. An ice cream and deli shop is expected to open soon. We welcome new businesses to the Village and encourage our residents to patronize them.

Trees – some tree removals and plantings are planned, per the DPW Superintendent’s schedule, and pending budgetary considerations.

School’s Open – we continue to ask residents to please watch for school children walking and remember that there are pedestrian crossings on Main Street, as well as 20 mph speed limits in school zones and a 25-mph speed limit on First Street, a route that is heavily traveled by schoolchildren. Please slow down. Tickets will be issued for speeders.

Call 911 – Chief Podsiedlik again reminds residents, especially at this time of year when mischief makers are more active, that it is essential that they report incidents of crime or vandalism in their neighborhoods by calling 911. Sometimes, residents are not making these calls because they feel that an issue might not warrant it. Some might be calling the Police Department and will often listen to an answering machine because the officer is out on patrol. Residents must call 911. If you are still not satisfied, please contact the Village Office during business hours, at 315-673-3112, and express your concern. Residents should also realize that First Street will be closed to

traffic on Halloween, October 31st, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and a number of officers will be on patrol at that time.

Police Report – we would like to compliment our department and its officers for the fine work that they do on behalf of our residents and non-residents. In addition, the Chief continues to encourage residents to call the Police Department if they have any concerns about solicitors or contractors they may employ. The Police Department would be happy to do background checks so as to alleviate these concerns. Also, if there are any snowbirds that would like to have their properties checked while they are out of town, please notify the Police Department.

Veterans' Day – commemoration will take place at 11 a.m. on November 11th, at the Village Point, and we ask residents to take time out and offer thanks to all veterans for the service they have and continue to provide us. Also, there will be no trash delay because of the Veterans' Day holiday.

WWTP News – between Aug 18 and 19, over seven inches of rain fell on Marcellus. HOWEVER, thanks to our Village Residents by previously disconnecting their sump pumps and with the new upgrades at our Wastewater Treatment Plant we successfully handled the increase of flows. We peaked at 2MGD (million gallons per day) for about 12 hours. And yet we were still considerably under our permitted average monthly flow. It could have been a different story without the cooperation of our residents. THANK YOU! The Village has separate systems to convey wastewater and stormwater. Catch basins collect stormwater from rainfall and snow melt from streets, yards and parking lots and then discharge into Nine Mile Creek. Sanitary sewers collect wastewater from toilets, sinks, washing machines, etc. and transport it to our wastewater treatment facility where it is treated. Rainwater and groundwater are considered clean water and do not need to be treated at the wastewater treatment facility. Make sure your sump pump is properly installed. When downspouts and sump pumps are connected to the Village sewer system, their flow is taking up space needed to carry sewage to our treatment plant. These incorrect and illegal connections can cause sewage to back up into your basement as well as water pollution and higher taxes. Reminder: Compost is still available for pickup. Please call the Treatment Plant at 315-673-4491 to make an appointment with one of the operators. We encourage Village residents to take advantage of this opportunity and visit the plant to obtain free compost. Normal hours are between 8am-3pm.

Tefft Meadows Senior Apartments at 8 Paul St in the Village of Marcellus – (handout available) 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 storm water facility on the same parcel at 8 Paul St. in the Village of Marcellus. On the Village website at <https://www.villageofmarcellus.com/tefft-meadows.html> the plans and other detail on the proposed Tefft Meadows project can be found.

Baltimore Ridge Development – has moved along quite nicely, 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 a number 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, are being met and the installation of utilities (water, sewer, cable, telephone, electric and gas) forthcoming. Construction of two houses has also begun

Storm Water Management Program - Participation in the Storm Water Management Program offered by the CNY Regional Planning Board costs the Village \$3,600 each year. The one-year Agreement to participate costs the Village of Marcellus \$3,600, a cost that is strongly opposed by our Village Board. There are 31 municipalities participating, including the Town of Clay with over 60,000 people and the Village of Marcellus with under 2,000 people. Yet, all 31 municipalities pay the same \$3,600. That amounts to about .02 cents for every resident of the Town of Clay and about \$2.06 for every resident of Marcellus. We have protested this seemingly unfair agreement in the past, and we will continue to object to the fee in the future, but we are, at present, somewhat obligated.

Village Taxes – most have been paid, while the amount of unpaid taxes at present, including penalties, totaling about \$19,878 from 9 property owners, a figure significantly smaller than in previous years. The Village will eventually be reimbursed by the County for these tax evaders but must wait a year before that reimbursement happens. In the meantime, the responsible taxpayers in the Village will continue, as they have in the past, to be responsible for the irresponsible. Property owners may continue to pay unpaid taxes to the Village until October 31, 2021, when they will be turned over to the County for reimbursement.

Parking - as we approach the winter months, we again remind residents that there is no overnight parking (from 2:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m.) on Village streets from November 1st to April 1st. If ticketed by Village Police, the fee will be \$35.00. We urge residents to use the Village parking lots for any overnight parking situations.

Christmas Tree Lighting – this year is being planned for Friday, December 2, 2022, at the Point. This is a change from previous years, when the lighting was on a Thursday, and is a request from local merchants. We also are on board with this especially since this is not a school night, and more residents will be able to participate. There will be a Christmas Tree at the point this year, a Marcellus tradition that dates back to 1916.

ZBA Meeting – since no requests have surfaced in recent months, the ZBA has not met.

Marcellus Chamber of Commerce – it has been over a decade since Marcellus has had an operating Chamber of Commerce. Thanks to the efforts of businessman, Chad Clark, an attempt has been made to re-establish the Chamber, the most recent having been a Haunted Halloween celebration in Marcellus Park on October 22nd. The Chamber of Commerce only functions with local support and involvement and the Village Board enthusiastically supports this effort.

Other – discussion took place regarding a Brewfest proposed for November 12, 2022, from 3 pm. to 8p.m., by VT owner, Chad Clark. Comments from members of the Board, Police Chief Podsiedlik, Attorney Jeff Brown

included insurance concerns, parking, security by promoter Clark and Village police, layout, and design, among others. A motion was made to approve the Brewfest, subject to several concerns, as follows:

- Applicant insurance certificate needs to include waiver of subrogation and be approved by Reagan Insurance
- ensure safety of pedestrians and discourage foot traffic from entering roadway by utilizing tents, barriers, and blinking lights if necessary
- coordinate with Marcellus Police Department on security measures

A motion was made to allow the Village Tavern proprietor, Chad Clark to conduct a Brewfest on November 22, 2022, from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m., as outlined in the accompanying illustration and diagram, as well as addressing those concerns about security and insurance proposed by the Police Chief and Village Attorney.