

Monthly Updates – from the Mayor – July 2016

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 (673-3112) or email (marboard@twcny.rr.com) the Village Office.

Approve Final Resolution-Demolition of Former Crown Mill – 71 North Street – Deemed Dangerous and Unsafe – the Board approved a Final Resolution, authorizing the demolition of the remaining parts of the lower mill on the property at 71 North Street. The resolution also stated that a public emergency exists permitting the Village to immediately retain a contractor to demolish the Crown Mill without conducting competitive bidding, that Scanlon Truck and Excavating LLC is hereby retained to demolish the Crown Mill at a cost of \$85,250.00 and that a third party is authorized to be retained to provide air monitoring at a cost of \$700 per day, not to exceed ten days, that the expenses of such demolition, including all professional fees (legal, engineering, bonding and administrative, mailing, etc. costs) incurred in effecting the demolition, shall be a charge against the land on which it is located and shall be assessed, levied and collected.

Approve Bond Resolution for Crown Mill Demolition – the Board also approved a Bond Resolution authorizing the issuance of \$100,000 serial bonds to finance the demolition of unsafe structures on the property at 71 North Street in the Village of Marcellus. The public should realize that a SEQR Resolution was approved at a public hearing held on June 27, 2016, at which time a negative declaration was issued regarding the demolition. In addition, the public should know that the bond resolution is not subject to permissive referendum because the length of borrowing will not exceed five years. The demolition project should begin quite soon, and should take less than a week to complete. The financing should be available within a month.

Procedure for Re-levying Demolition Expenses – Attorney Brown explained the procedure for re-levying the expenses for the demolition to the property owners' taxes. After the demolition, Village Treasurer Providenti will invoice Vito W. Lucchetti/Crown Mill Restoration, LLC for the cost of the demolition expenses. Attorney Brown recommended that Treasurer Providenti have the invoice delivered in person to Mr. Lucchetti. If Mr. Lucchetti does not pay the invoice, it will be re-levied to his Village property tax bill, which will come out in June 2017. If Mr. Lucchetti does not pay the Village tax bill with the re-levied expenses of the demolition by October 2017, the Village taxes will be re-levied to the Town and County taxes which will be mailed in January of 2018. If Mr. Lucchetti does not pay the Town and County taxes, the County will make the Village whole in April 2018.

North Shore Solutions Contract – Marcellus Historical Society – a motion to approve a contract with North Shore Solutions was approved, whereby North Shore Solutions will provide hosting services for the Historical Society with 99% uptime for \$200 per year as well as provide a maintenance package for 3 hours for \$90 per year and transfer the existing historical site to its server. This is in keeping with a similar contract that was approved last year.

Approve Fence License for 33 East Main Street – a motion was approved to authorize the Mayor to sign a License Agreement with the property owner(s) at 33 E. Main Street, whereby the premises at said property are burdened by a public sewer easement in favor of the Village and the property owner(s) request to encroach upon the easement for the purpose of constructing, placing and maintaining a fence in the approximate location of the easement. The Village will agree to this encroachment by granting a license to construct and maintain the fence,

with the understanding, in writing, that the fence will be constructed in such a manner that the Village shall have full and immediate access to the easement and other such covenants as contained in the agreement, a copy of which shall be filed with in the Village Office and may be recorded by the Village, at Licensee's sole cost and expense, in the Onondaga County Clerk's Office.

Restart Refuse Billing for Vacant Properties – the Board approved a motion to restart billing for refuse for two vacant properties in the Village (16 Paul Street and 31 East Main Street). This action is in keeping with Village policy, which calls for the awarding of one refuse contract for all properties in the Village, unless a specific request, for an approved reason, by a property owner is made to the Board to decline said service.

Charter Communications Cable Franchise Agreement – a motion was approved to table the Charter Communications Cable Franchise Agreement, because of the change in ownership from Time Warner Cable, and until the Village Attorney has been able to negotiate successfully, the terms of a new agreement, with Charter Communications.

Fixed Monthly Cell Phone Stipend – the Board approved a motion 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.

Trucks in the Village – residents should have noticed that there has been a significant decrease in the number of trucks, loaded with gravel, stone and dirt, which been coming through the Village during the month of July. We were informed that this would be the case, and we can only hope that the truck travel through the village ends completely, soon.

Creekwalk – we continue to consult with our engineers and NYSDOT to determine if part of the trail could be constructed at this time, and the remainder constructed when more funds become available. We are also looking into having some of our highway department members complete some of the clearing involved. We remain hopeful that construction of the trail can begin this summer. If some residents are not familiar with the project, we urge them to click on the Village website <http://villageofmarcellus.com/> and then on Village News.

Code Enforcement and Officer – inspections continue for house renovations, sheds and decks, pools and unlicensed vehicles. In addition, several properties have been cited for lack of property maintenance as well as some buildings on Main Street that remain in deplorable condition. We are working to eliminate these eyesores and are hopeful that they will be sold to responsible property owners in the near future.

Compost Project – compost continues to be available for residents and if any residents cannot pick up compost during normal business hours, please call the Treatment Plant (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.

Sidewalks – per the Highway Chief's recommendations, repairs will be made to selected areas on South Street, Bradley Street and First Street pending budgetary concerns.

Street repairs – acting upon the highway chief's recommendations, repairs to Austindale Avenue and Orchard Street have been reconstructed. Budgetary constraints have limited the desire of the Village Board to add other street repairs in this year's budget.

Trees – some tree removals have been or will be done on South, and Bradley Streets, and perhaps another on Orchard Street, along with some trimming. Some tree plantings are expected to take place in late summer or early fall, but the locations have not yet been determined.

Paul Street Project sidewalks – Community Development has notified us that our sidewalk project on Paul Street will be eligible for some funding. The project will include the construction of 450 feet of new concrete sidewalk along the north side of Paul Street, between North Street (NYS 174) and Austindale Ave. Minor drainage improvements such as cleaning existing drainage pipes and replacement of catch basin grates are also included. The new sidewalk would eliminate a gap in the existing Village sidewalk system by connecting to existing sidewalks at North Street and Austindale Ave. Pedestrians, including Seniors who live at Nine Mile Landing and school children now have no choice but to walk on the pavement of the roadway. It is expected that design would take place over the winter of 2016 and construction completed by July 2017.

TMDL and Phosphorus Removal – at its June meeting, the Board approved a motion to address the DEC mandate to remove phosphorus from the WWTP effluent to a 1.0 mg/L (12 month rolling average) limitation, which will require extensive and very expensive upgrades to the existing WWTP. In anticipation of this expense, the Village Board has increased the sewer rents significantly within the last year. It is expected that the sewer rate increases will begin to offset the cost of design while the Village continues to search for new funding for the project.

New Business in Town – we again welcome a new business in the Village. The North Street Diner at 3 North Street, under the ownership of Ashley and Zach Hass is most welcome and we urge our residents to patronize this wonderful addition to our Village. In addition, the same building at 3-5-7 North Street houses a number of new apartments, beautifully renovated by McClurg Remodeling and we welcome new tenants that are or will soon occupy the new apartments. They are most welcome.

Summer Community Events – Thursday nights, from 7 to 8:30 p.m., a series of summer concerts are held during June, July, and August at Marcellus Park Annex. 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 (673-3269, ext. 2) for more information.

Announce Village Meetings for August 2016 – 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 Battery Collection Month. Residents should place old alkaline batteries into special yellow bags and place them on top of a closed trashcan or trash bag. **Do not place the battery bags in the blue bin.** There continue to be a number of Summer Community Events at Marcellus Park – Thursday nights from 7 – 8:30 p.m. at the Annex Pavilion. Concerts are free and appropriate for the entire family.