

## Monthly Updates – from the Mayor – May 2018

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.

**Re-levy of Unpaid Sewer and Refuse Charges** – a motion was approved to have the outstanding utility bills (refuse and sewage) re-levied to the Village of Marcellus property tax bills. The amount being re-levied to the taxes is \$61,485.74. As a point of interest, the amount re-levied in 2017 was \$62,899.08, in 2016 was \$49,248.41, and in 2015 was \$47,954.00. This also includes a motion to re-levy special assessments totaling \$6,000.00 for unpaid vacant dwelling registration fees (from four separate properties), and \$469.12 for unpaid property maintenance fees to Village of Marcellus property tax bills as well. It might also be noted that Onondaga County has reimbursed the re-levy of a special assessment for the cost of the demolition of the Crown Mill last year, in the amount of \$87,733.55.

**Review Driving Policy** – because the safety and well being of our employees, as well as that of our residents is very important to the Village, the Board of Trustees desires to protect employees and community members while on the road and reviews the driving policy each year. A motion to require all employees of the Village who drive Village-owned vehicles to follow the Village of Marcellus Driving Policy, which was updated this year, was approved. A copy of which is on file in the Village Office.

**Award or Reject Bids** – bids for two Village projects were opened on May 16, 2018. The Mayor was authorized to sign the WWTP Improvements Plumbing Contract bid, of \$104,500 to SRG Contracting of Syracuse, New York. The LED Conversion Electrical Contract price, base bid only, from Caccamise Electric of Rochester, New York, of \$57,429, the apparent low bidder, was tabled until the Board's June meeting because the Village is still waiting for a contract to be finalized with NYSERDA.

**WWTP Improvements – Addendum#1** – the Mayor was authorized to sign an amendment to the MRB Group Contract for the Wastewater Treatment Improvement Project, relative to special inspection and structural testing services that are required per the Building Code. MRB has solicited and obtained services from the most qualified competitive bid – that from CME Associates, which is a certified WBE firm. The contract increase will cover the estimated cost for CME on-site special inspections testing for materials and structural testing and is budgeted as part of the project contingency in the overall project budget. It will amend the engineering additional services line item to add an additional \$55,000 for testing services.

**Storm Water Report** – the Annual Storm Water Report, completed by W-M Engineering, was approved and a copy is on file in the Village Office as well as on the Village web site. We thank W-M Engineering, Bill Reagan and Kurt Field for their completion of this lengthy report at a cost of \$500.

**Spectrum Cable Franchise Agreement** – a motion to again table the Spectrum Cable Franchise Agreement was approved until the Village Attorney has been able to negotiate successfully, the terms of the agreement, with Spectrum.

**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, and another review of the proposed new library parking along with change of occupancy at several sites as well.

**Pedestrian Signs, Benches, Banners and Flags** – have been re-installed on Main Street and elsewhere by the Highway Department. Many thanks to our Department of Public Works employees for doing this and to our Banner and Flag Committee, headed by Bob Wilson, and our Village Clerk, Dawn O’Hara, for all of their efforts in helping to beautify the Village.

**Compost at the Treatment Plant** – will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis. However, residents are able pick up compost but they should also be aware of the fact that construction at the plant might hinder their ability to pick it up. It would be best for residents to call the treatment plant ahead of time (315-673-4491) to determine when it would be most convenient to pick up compost.

**WWTP Upgrades** – to the plant have begun and while it will be a year of construction, we do not anticipate any inconvenience or interruption in the plant’s operation.

**Olde Home Days** – is planned for June 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, in the Village and Town, and we urge resident participation. Banners and placemats and posters have been installed installation and distributed during the first week in May. Advanced ride tickets are now available at selected locations including the Village and Town Halls. Two of our health and dental professionals, Dr. Andrew Merritt and Dr. Edward Kantor, are being honored this year and have been selected to be Grand Marshals for the Parade. We offer our sincere congratulations to these long-time professionals in our community for this distinguished honor.

**Clean Energy Community** – having been designated as a “Clean Energy Community,” the Village of Marcellus has been awarded a \$100,000 grant to implement clean energy projects and will include a retrofitting of existing Village lights, including the historic lights on Main, North and South Streets as well as the coach lights on Kinderwood Drive to direct wire LED type fixtures. Other LED lighting retrofits will occur in the Village Hall, the Village Garage and the Water Pollution Control Plant. The Village is delighted with the award, the bid for which has been awarded, but will not be implemented until a contract has been drawn up with NYSERDA (New York State Energy Research and Development Authority), the agency that has awarded the grant.

**Creek Walk** – Fred’s Trail has reopened officially for the public, and our highway department had to do some limited repair to the trail – it appears to have wintered well. We welcome the spring as well as those who will take advantage of this gem in our community. If some residents are not familiar with the project, we urge them to click on the home page of the Village website <http://villageofmarcellus.com/> and then on Village News.

**Street repairs, Tree removals, Sidewalks** – per the DPW Superintendent’s schedule, repairs will be made Dunlap Avenue and Wilson Drive, as well as South Street and Reed Street, pending budgetary consideration. Also tree removals are planned, per the DPW Superintendent’s schedule, pending budgetary considerations. Per the DPW Chief’s schedule, some new sidewalk will be installed on South Street, pending budgetary considerations.

**Flower Boxes** – the new flower boxes that were constructed last year by Kyle Denka as part of his Eagle Scout project have weathered very well. They will be filled again this year, using compost from WWTP, giving a good indication of the value of the compost. Kathy Welsh will again be instrumental in the plantings in these boxes using flowers that she has both grown from seed as well as some that she will or has purchased.

**SRO Contract** – with the Marcellus Central School District has been completed and is in the hands of the Marcellus School Board. Details of the contract, which will provide three (3) Village police officers (SRO) on

the Marcellus Central School Campus, are provided in the agreement, and may be subject to slight change before final approval by both parties.

**Earth Day Cleanup** – in the Village took place on May 3rd and the 3rd graders at Heffernan Elementary School were able to spread out across the Village to help in this cleanup. The Village provided gloves and bags for the cleanup and we would like to thank, once again, Nojaims Grocery Store for providing some refreshments for the students. We sincerely thank the students as well as the staff and faculty at KCH for all of their help in making this annual event so successful.

**Memorial Day** – parade and ceremonies are planned for Monday, May 28th and we urge residents to plan to attend this annual event. The Village Office will be closed on that day.

**Village Web Site** – Village Clerk Dawn O’Hara regularly updates our website and she has been most accommodating to our Village and its residents. If there are any items that residents might feel should be included on the site, please contact her at the Village Office (673-3112) with your requests.

**Village Meetings for June 2018** – the Village Clerk has printed copies of future meeting dates for the Village for the benefit of residents. I would make special notification of the Marcellus Olde Home Days, sponsored by both the Village and Town of Marcellus, and scheduled for June 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, 2018. In addition, the Village Office will be closed for the Memorial Day Holiday and Parade on May 28th and for Independence Day on July 4th. Also, a Village-wide garage sale is planned for Saturday, July 14, 2018 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Garage Sale Permits will not be required on that day.