

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE VILLAGE BOARD
OF THE VILLAGE OF MARCELLUS HELD ON
AUGUST 28, 2017 AT THE VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT: John P. Curtin, Mayor See List
Sara N. Tallman, Trustee
Patrick W. Cox, Trustee
Jeff Brown, Attorney

ABSENT: None

Mayor Curtin asked for a motion to open the regular board meeting at 7:00pm. Trustee Cox made the motion, seconded by Trustee Tallman. Mayor Curtin called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the motion carried.

**CONSENT
AGENDA:**

The Village Clerk submitted the minutes of the regular board meeting for the month of July 2017. The bills on Abstract Sheets #004 for General Fund in the amount of \$45,543.63, Sewer Fund in the amount of \$21,900.60, Capital Funds in the amount of \$37,120.21 and Trust & Agency in the amount of \$1,042.85 were audited. The bills totaled \$105,607.29. The Board received the Police Report for the months of July 2017 from Police Chief Robert Wicks. The Board also received the Building Inspectors Report for the month of July 2017 from Building Inspector Bill Reagan. The Board acknowledged receipt of the minutes of the Town Board meetings for July 2017. The financial statements as submitted by Village Treasurer Nino Provvidenti for July 2017 were given to the Board for their review. Trustee Cox made a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Trustee Tallman. Mayor Curtin asked if there was any discussion on the consent agenda. Hearing none, Mayor Curtin called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the motion carried.

HAZARD COMMUNICAITON WRITTEN

PROGRAM: Trustee Tallman made a motion to approve a Hazard Communication Written Program for Village employees. The written program includes specific methods used to achieve compliance with the OSHA Hazard Communication Standard. Each employee will be apprised of the Hazard Communication Standard, hazardous properties of chemicals they work with, and measures to take to protect themselves from the chemicals. A copy of the Written Program was provided to all Village employees. A copy is also on file in the Village Office. The motion was seconded by Trustee Cox. Mayor Curtin asked if there was any discussion on the program. Hearing none, Mayor Curtin called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the motion carried.

CLOSE ON EFC FUNDING FOR PHOSPHORUS

REMOVAL: Trustee Cox made a motion authorizing the Mayor to close on EFC Financing for the mandated phosphorus removal and Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrades. Paul Reichel, Bond Counsel for the Village, coordinated with the Environmental Facilities Corporation, in preparing documents for the funding, which will need to close by September 14, 2017. The closing date guarantees that the Village will be able to secure interest-free financing for a 30-year loan in the amount of \$4,220,100, as well as an EFC grant in the amount of \$1,379,900, for a total of \$5.6 million. The motion was seconded by Trustee Tallman. Mayor Curtin asked if there was any discussion on the funding. Hearing none, Mayor Curtin called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the motion carried.

RESIGNATION – WPCP OPERATOR

P/T STATUS: Trustee Tallman made a motion accepting the resignation of Ryan Riefler as a full-time Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator. Ryan offered to stay on as a part-time Village employee to assist in completing projects that he is presently working on, and while a replacement is trained. Ryan's part-time hourly rate will remain at \$22.76 per hour. The motion was seconded by Trustee Cox. Mayor Curtin asked if there was any discussion on accepting the resignation and change to part-time status of Ryan Riefler. Hearing none, Mayor Curtin called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the motion carried.

MRB PROPOSAL – GRANT ADMIN

DASNY APPL.: Trustee Cox informed the public that through the efforts of Senator John DeFrancisco, the Village was awarded a State and Municipal Facilities Program ("SAM") Grant for upgrades to the Village Wastewater Treatment Plant Facility in the amount of \$250,000. Due to the complexity of completing the application and the filing of documents with the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York, the Board procured the services of MRB Group for grant administration of DASNY funding. Trustee Cox made a motion to approve MRB's proposal for grant administration of DASNY funding in the amount of \$4,500. The motion was seconded by Trustee Tallman. Mayor Curtin asked if there was any discussion on the proposal. Hearing none, Mayor Curtin called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the motion carried.

SPECTRUM CABLE FRANCHISE

AGREEMENT: Attorney Brown informed the Board that he had again spoken with representatives from Spectrum and is still in the process of trying to finalize the franchise agreement. Attorney Brown anticipates presenting a final draft to the Village Board in the near future. Trustee Tallman made a motion to table the Spectrum Franchise Agreement until the Village Attorney has been able to negotiate successfully the terms of a new agreement with

Spectrum. The motion was seconded by Trustee Cox. Mayor Curtin asked if there was any discussion on tabling the agreement. Hearing none, Mayor Curtin called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the motion carried.

BUDGET MODIFICATIONS:

Trustee Cox made a motion to approve budget modifications to the General and Sewer Funds. The motion was seconded by Trustee Tallman. Mayor Curtin asked if there was any discussion on the budget modifications. Hearing none, Mayor Curtin called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the motion carried.

ANNOUNCE VILLAGE MEETINGS:

Trustee Tallman announced that the Village Clerk had printed copies of future meeting dates for residents. She asked residents to please note that the Village Office would be closed for Labor Day, September 4th, and there will be a one-day delay in trash pickup, due to the holiday. Trustee Tallman announce that a community-wide celebration is planned for September 16, 2017, in back of the McClurg Building parking lot, from 1 pm to 3:30 pm to commemorate and dedicate the completed creek walk trail. The celebration will have live music, free ice cream and food for sale. The Board urged the community to park in the Village, or at the Marcellus Library, or Marcellus Park, and walk the trail to the McClurg Building. A ceremony will take place at 2:30 pm, dedicating the trail to the memory of Mayor Fred Eisenberg, the person who initiated the trail, and whose vision has now been realized. The Board also mentioned that the Fall Trash Days would take place the last two weekends in September, from 8 am to 3 pm each day.

Updates by the Mayor:

Mayor Curtin provided updates on the following subjects:

- a. Police – Chief Wicks is in the process of hiring a new police officer for the department. The announcement should be finalized for next month's board meeting.
- b. Creekwalk – despite setbacks, the Village Creek Walk is finally complete, 15 years after the initial plans proposed by former Mayor Fred Eisenberg. While the Village Board at one time considered abandoning the project, a decision was made to go ahead with the project, even though it was not as complete as originally envisioned. Delays continued, but the Village and Town of Marcellus negotiated and signed an Intermunicipal Agreement in late September 2016 and some construction took place in October 2016. The Village Board is grateful, not only Village D.P.W. employees, but also to the Town of Marcellus Supervisor, Town Board Members, the Town Highway Superintendent and the Town Highway Department for all of the help that had been extended. This helped reduce the cost of constructing the trail and also served as another example of inter- municipal cooperation between the Town and the Village. Mayor Curtin expressed that the spirit of cooperation has always been evident, but often unrecognized. On behalf of the Village of Marcellus and Village residents, the Board offered continued appreciation to Village and Town employees for the collaboration between the two municipalities created during the creek walk project. The final construction phase, which required a retaining wall to be built, along with asphalt paving, concrete work, sidewalk reconstruction and pavement striping, was competitively bid in the spring of 2017. At the regular Board Meeting in April, the Village Board of Trustees awarded the bid for the final phase of the creek walk project to JL Excavation of Chaumont, NY. In early June, the contractor began final construction of the creek walk project. Over the next four weeks, JL Excavation Co. hauled in blocks of limestone for the retaining wall, and began the excavation that was needed to install the block along the creek side. In laying out the trail to the required width, massive amounts of vegetation, tree stumps, rocks and boulders were removed, soil was exposed, construction fabric laid, and followed with gravel stone, which was compacted. The new retaining wall was then tied into the existing wall as the trail was again excavated to a width of ten feet around the McClurg Building to the bridge on East Main Street. The next phase called for the entire length of the trail around and behind the McClurg Building to be covered with asphalt, compacted and rolled and connected to the stone dust trail that had been earlier completed. In addition, because some of the McClurg parking lot was disturbed during construction of the trail, the contractor completely restored those areas. McClurg Company employees were very cooperative during this phase of the construction and also articulated the professional manner with which JL Excavation Company conducted its operations. The project also called for some sidewalk restoration on the south side of the Main Street bridge, including new warning pads and striping, as the trail crossed the highway at Station Lane to Limerick Street, and then west along the north side of the bridge to Orange Street, using existing Village sidewalks, and following trail signs that had been earlier installed, to Maple Street and its terminus at the Marcellus Free Library. The installation of wooden railing posts on the creek side and wooden bollards on the parking lot side now clearly define the project, along with the installation of wire mesh on the wooden railings, and reflectors on the wooden bollards, providing a safety factor for walkers on the creek side and vehicles on the parking lot side, as well as an appealing addition to an already well-designed trail. Throughout the final phase of construction, as in the initial phase, the Village D.P.W. employees were very much involved and

their dedication to the task was outstanding. The department actively assisted the contractor in providing needed labor and equipment and also installed all of the ground mounted sign panels that identified the trail route. The department was also very busy adding some finishing touches to the trail, including the installation of attractive wooden fencing at two critical places along the trail - at its southern terminus from the Park to the Village, and at the point where the stone dust meets the asphalt, the site of a potential historic overlook, showing the ruins of Baker's Dam. The Village DPW crew also provided top soil and turf establishment for lawns, and installed 45 evergreen shrubs to again define the trail, separating it from private property as well as providing an attractive screening device for a nature walk. The Board extended immense gratitude to the Village D.P.W., who will provide maintenance and upkeep for the trail and to the Village Police Department, who will patrol the trail. To commemorate and dedicate the completed trail, a community-wide celebration is planned for September 16, 2017 in back of the McClurg Building parking lot, from 1 pm to 3:30 pm, complete with live music, free ice cream and food for sale. The Board again urged the community to park in the Village, at the Marcellus Library, or Marcellus Park and walk the trail to the McClurg Building. A ceremony will take place at 2:30 pm, dedicating the trail to the memory of Mayor Fred Eisenberg, the person who initiated the trail, and whose vision has now been realized. For residents unfamiliar with the now-completed project, click on the Village website <http://villageofmarcellus.com/> and then on News, then Village News, then Creek Walk News.

- c. Striping of Crosswalks – The Board announced that the NYSDOT has recently completed striping of crosswalks on North Street (Rte. 174), prior to the start of school. Also, a new pedestrian crosswalk was installed on the east side of the Main Street Bridge. This will help provide pedestrian safety for the creek walk, from Station Lane to Limerick Street, and has also help slow down traffic entering the Village from East Hill. In addition, the Village received a request from a village resident asking for a crosswalk on West Main Street, from the Methodist Church driveway to the Grange Parking Lot. Because it is a County road (Rt. 41), the request was forwarded to and reviewed by the Onondaga County DOT Commissioner. Mayor Curtin received a response letter from the County DOT stating that the request had been denied because a crosswalk in the requested area would be mid-block connecting two driveways and would not be located at an intersection with appropriate pedestrian accommodations.
- d. Code Enforcement and Officer - several properties were cited for lack of property maintenance including some buildings on Main Street.
- e. Compost Project - compost continues to be available for residents. Residents who are unable to pick up compost during normal business hours may 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.
- f. Sidewalks - per the D.P.W. Chief's recommendations, repairs have or will be made to selected areas on South Street, Bradley Street and First Street, pending budgetary concerns
- g. Street repairs - acting upon the D.P.W. Chiefs recommendations, asphalt repairs to Wilson Drive and Dunlap Avenue will be completed in September, as well as selected portions at the corner of First and Slocombe and Meadow Street, and parts of the Village parking lot. Budgetary constraints have limited the Village Board's desire to add other street repairs in the budget.
- h. Trees - some tree removals and stump 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 also expected to take place in early fall, but the locations have not yet been determined.
- i. School begins – on September 5th this year. The Board informed residents that students will again be walking to school, particularly on First Street. The New York State DOT will also resume operation of the flashing lights on North Street in the school zone. Village Police Department will continue to be vigilant in enforcing the traffic laws.
- j. Village Taxes - most have been paid. The current amount of unpaid taxes, including penalties, totals close to \$127,000, from 30 property owners. The figure is larger than last year, due to demolition costs associated with the lower Crown Mill being relevied to the Village taxes. The demolition costs alone totaled over \$93,500. Residents may continue to pay taxes to the Village until October 31, 2017. After that, they will be turned over to the County for reimbursement.
- k. 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 \$180,450 this year – with no increase, similar to last year. This amount represents about half of what the Village used to receive, until the County took the sales tax revenue from the Villages in 2010. Mayor Curtin expressed that half is better than nothing.

- l. Paul Street Project sidewalks - at the June regular board meeting, the Board awarded the bid for completion of the Paul Street Sidewalk Project to Salt Springs Paving Corporation, at a cost of \$35,800.00. The contractor was supposed to begin the project soon after the bid was awarded, and the work was expected to be completed within a few weeks. However, the Board is still waiting for the contractor to begin sidewalk construction but expects it will be completed within the next few weeks. The project includes the construction of 450 feet of new concrete sidewalk along the north side of Paul Street, between North Street (NYS 174) and Austindale Avenue. Minor drainage improvements, such as cleaning existing drainage pipes and replacement of catch basin grates, are also included in the construction. The new sidewalk will eliminate a gap in the existing Village sidewalk system by connecting to existing sidewalks at North Street and Austindale Avenue. Pedestrians, including senior citizens, who live at Nine Mile Landing, and school children, must currently walk on the pavement of the roadway.
- m. Highland Flooding - the Board is aware of flooding issues on Highland Drive and areas below after some severe rains this past summer. The Board is also conscious of the potential for more flooding in the area. In an effort to deal with this problem, the Board enlisted the services of MRB Group to work on a plan that mitigate the problem. MRB Group has been in contact with local FEMA agencies, the Syracuse-Onondaga County Planning Agency and the NYS Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Services for projects and plans that will reduce or eliminate long-term risk of flood damage to structures insured under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The Board hopes that funding will become available in order to address what has been an on-going concern for decades for those living on Highland Drive as well as properties affected below.
- n. Clean Energy Community – As was mentioned in previous month’s updates, the Village of Marcellus has been designated a Clean Energy Community by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) – recognizing the Village’s leadership in reducing energy use, cutting costs and driving clean energy locally. After outstanding efforts by Village employee Ryan Riefler, with the assistance of other employees and MRB Group staff, the Village completed four high impact action (Unified Solar Permit, Benchmarking, Clean Fleets, Clean Energy Upgrades) items and joined the Village of Minoa and Town of DeWitt as designated Clean Energy Communities in CNY. Two \$100,000 grants for small/medium-sized municipalities have been reserved for the Villages of Canastota and Marcellus to implement additional clean energy projects. The grant money has been earmarked for clean energy projects this fall, which 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 have occurred in the Village Hall, the Village garage and the Water Pollution Control Plant. The Village Board is delighted with the designation and is very appreciative of the tireless efforts of Ryan Riefler and others in securing additional funding.
- o. NYSDEC Grant - \$16,000 - also mentioned at an earlier Board meeting, the Village was notified by the Commissioner of the NYSDEC that it has been awarded a rebate of \$16,000 for an infrastructure application relative to the 2016 Municipal Zero-emission Vehicle Rebate Program and the installation of an Electric Vehicle charging station in the Village parking lot. The grant money enabled the Village to install an EV charging station in the lot, and also allowed for the addition of lighting, cameras and asphalt paving to the site. Since the rebate is a 20% match, the Village will accomplish approximately \$20,000 work of work for \$4,000. The Board again credited and congratulated Ryan Riefler for his continued efforts on behalf of the Village and village residents.
- p. Planning Board - met in mid-August to discuss and approve Site Plan Review, as well as approval of Onondaga County Planning Board Review of the new parking lot for the Marcellus Free Library.

After concluding with his updates, Mayor Curtin asked if there were any comments from the Board. There were none.

Items from the Floor:

Mayor Curtin asked if there were any items from the floor. Hearing none, Mayor Curtin asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Tallman made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Cox. Mayor Curtin called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the motion carried.

The Regular Board Meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m.