

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE VILLAGE BOARD
OF THE VILLAGE OF MARCELLUS HELD ON
AUGUST 28, 2023 AT THE VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT: John P. Curtin, Mayor See List
Timothy P. Manahan, Trustee
Jeff Brown, Attorney
Charnley A. Abbott, Village Clerk

ABSENT: John J. Murphy, Trustee

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Curtin made a motion to open the regular meeting at 7:00pm The motion was seconded by Trustee Manahan. Mayor Curtin called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the meeting was opened.

**CONSENT
AGENDA:**

The Village Clerk submitted the minutes of the regular board meeting for the month of July 2023. The bills on Abstract Sheets #003 for General Fund in the amount of \$128,728.04, Water Fund in the amount of \$0.00, Sewer Fund in the amount of \$39,449.76, Capital Funds in the amount of \$44,290.40, and Trust & Agency in the amounts of \$92,985.40 were audited. The bills totaled \$305,453.60. The Board received the Police Report for July 2023 from Police Chief Bernie Posdiedlik, and the Building Inspectors report for the month of July 2023 from Deputy Code Official Paul Stacey, and Code Official Bill Reagan’s final report, including may, June and July 2023 and his career statistics. The Board acknowledged receipt of the minutes of the Town Board meetings for July 2023. The financial statements as submitted by Village Treasurer Nino Provvidenti for June 2023 and FYE 2023 were given to the Board for their review. Trustee Manahan made a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Mayor Curtin. 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.

**POLICE
HIRES:**

Mayor Curtin made a motion to appoint two new Special Patrol Officers/SROs to the Marcellus Police Department to serve as School Resource officers. Officer Jeff Kissock is recently retired from the New York State Police and will serve as an SRO in the Lyncourt Union Free School District. Officer Scott Smith is retired from the Onondaga County Sheriff’s Department and will serve as an SRO in the Onondaga Central School District. The Village Board is pleased to announce these appointments and wish them continued success as members of the Marcellus Police Department. The motion was seconded by Trustee Manahan. Mayor Curtin asked if there was any discussion on the matter. Hearing none, Mayor Curtin called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the motion carried.

**IMA WITH
MCSD:**

Trustee Manahan made a motion 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 DPW 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. The motion was seconded by Mayor Curtin. Mayor Curtin asked if there was any discussion on the matter. Hearing none, Mayor Curtin called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the motion carried.

**AUTUMN CRUBSIDE BRUSH AND LEAF
PICKUP:**

Trustee Manahan made a motion 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 18th, September 25th, and October 2nd. Fall leaf pickup will take place weekly, on Mondays, beginning October 10th (Tuesday, due to holiday) through November 13th. 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 13th, 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 13th. 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). The motion was seconded by Mayor Curtin. Mayor Curtin asked if there was any discussion. Hearing none, Mayor Curtin called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the motion carried.

BRUSH GRINDING

CONTRACT: Trustee Manahan made 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 8/1/2024. 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. The motion was seconded by Mayor Curtin. Mayor Curtin asked if there was any discussion. Hearing none, Mayor Curtin called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the motion carried.

CERTIFICATES OF PUBLIC

SERVICE: Trustee Manahan announced that since 1961, the Conference of Mayors has annually honored public officials who have served a single community for twenty-five years or more by awarding them a “Certificate of Public Service.” This year, two employees of the Village of Marcellus have earned such a certificate and they are Kathy Welsh, who has served as an employee of the Village of Marcellus Highway for the past 40 years and John Curtin who has served as an employee of the Village of Marcellus Highway for the past 25 years. Trustee Manahan made a motion to authorize the Board to present Kathy Welsh and John Curtin, on behalf of the Village of Marcellus and the New York State Conference of Mayors, with a Certificate of Public Service in recognition of their distinguished public service to our community. The motion was seconded by Mayor Curtin. Mayor Curtin asked if there was any discussion. Hearing none, Mayor Curtin called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the motion carried.

**FALL TRASH
DAYS:**

Trustee Manahan announced that the Town Board has approved the schedule for the Fall Trash Days, as follows: Fridays September 29th and October 6th and Saturdays September 30th and October 7th, 2023. The times for Friday are 8:00 am – 12:00 noon, and the times for Saturday are also 8:00 am – 12:00 noon. Trustee Manahan made a motion to publicize the trash days schedule and encourage Village residents to take advantage of this annual opportunity. There is no electronic waste or shred day planned. The motion was seconded by Mayor Curtin. Mayor Curtin asked if there was any discussion. Hearing none, Mayor Curtin called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the motion carried.

VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT

PLAN: Trustee Manahan a motion to continue the Village Infrastructure Program, an agreement whereby the County provides financial assistance to the Village for the construction and maintenance of public improvements, and to submit, as requested, the 2023 Annual Report for the Village of Marcellus of expenditures made using infrastructures grant funds received by the Village as part of the Onondaga County Village Infrastructure Improvement Program. The motion was seconded by Mayor Curtin. Mayor Curtin asked if there was any discussion. Hearing none, Mayor Curtin called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the motion carried.

CIVIC PROPERTIES REGISTRY

RESOLUTION: Mayor Curtin made a motion, seconded by Trustee Manahan, to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Village has fostered a unique and vibrant Village Center through careful preservation of historic resources, reinforcement of streetscapes and other infrastructure, and the cultivation of a strong set of civic assets; and

WHEREAS, in 1998, Village leadership partnered with the State University of New York, College of Environmental Science and Forestry to develop a set of design guidelines, intended to provide property owners and investors, as well as future Planning Boards and other regulatory bodies with a tool to assist in the reinforcement of the Village Center built environment; and

WHEREAS, the design guidelines have served as an excellent tool for communication Village preferences in development of the Village Center; and

WHEREAS, the Village leadership seeks to strengthen the guidelines into an enforceable, binding set of standards, so as to ensure that the future development in the Village Center aligns with the priorities and design elements communicated in the original guidelines; and

WHEREAS, in 2023, the Village Board engaged MRB Group to transform the existing guidelines into a set of codes to be enforced by the Planning Board, Village Board, and other regulatory elements of Village operations; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Board, elected officials, and Village staff guided MRB Group in the formalization of the new codes, which will be refined and presented for our consideration; and

WHEREAS, when adopted, Village Code (Section TBD) will establish regulations for properties identified as Civic Properties; and charges the Village Board with creation of a Civic Properties Registry.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Marcellus, New York hereby, and in due form, does establish the Civic Properties Registry, inclusive of the following properties:

- 1 Slocombe Avenue (United Methodist Church)
- 1 West Main Street (St. Francis Xavier Church and Rectory)
- 22 East Main Street (Marcellus Town Hall)
- 24 East Main Street (First National Bank Building)
- 46 East Main Street (Masonic Temple)

- 13 East Main Street (American Legion)
- 1 East Main Street (First Presbyterian Church)
- 6 Slocombe Avenue (Marcellus Village Hall)
- North Street (Village Cemetery)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the above referenced properties shall be subject to the requirements set forth in Village Code.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call, which resulted as follows:

| | |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Mayor John P. Curtin | Voting Aye |
| Trustee Timothy P. Manahan | Voting Aye |

VILLAGE CENTER DESIGN STANDARDS

RESOLUTION: Mayor Curtin made a motion, seconded by Trustee Manahan, to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Village of Marcellus has fostered a unique and vibrant Village Center through careful preservation of historic resources, reinforcement of streetscapes and other infrastructure, and the cultivation of a strong set of civic assets; and

WHEREAS, in 1998, Village leadership partnered with the State University of New York, College of Environmental Science and Forestry to develop a set of design guidelines, intended to provide property owners and investors, as well as future Planning Boards and other regulatory bodies with a tool to assist in the reinforcement of the Village Center built environment; and

WHEREAS, the design guidelines have served as an excellent tool for communication Village preferences in development of the Village Center; and

WHEREAS, the Village leadership seeks to strengthen the guidelines into an enforceable, binding set of standards, so as to ensure that the future development in the Village Center aligns with the priorities and design elements communicated in the original guidelines; and

WHEREAS, in 2023, the Village Board engaged MRB Group to transform the existing guidelines into a set of codes to be enforced by the Planning Board, Village Board, and other regulatory elements of Village operations; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Board, elected officials, and Village staff guided MRB Group in the formalization of the new codes, which will be refined and presented for our consideration.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Marcellus does hereby endorse the revised design standards, and encourages the Planning Board to endorse these standards as part of the Village Code.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call, which resulted as follows:

| | |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Mayor John P. Curtin | Voting Aye |
| Trustee Timothy P. Manahan | Voting Aye |

BUDGET

MODS: Trustee Manahan stated there were no budget modifications for the month of June 2023 to be approved, and made a motion to approve budget modifications for Fiscal Year End 2023. The motion was seconded by Mayor Curtin. Mayor Curtin asked if there was any discussion. Hearing none, Mayor Curtin called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the motion carried.

ANNOUNCE VILLAGE

MEETINGS: Trustee Manahan announced that the Village Clerk has printed copies of future meeting dates for the Village for the benefit of residents. Please note that the Village Office will be closed for Labor Day, September 4th, 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 Thursday, August 17, 2023. At present, no Planning Board and Zoning Board Meetings are scheduled for August or September.

DEDICATION OF BALTIMORE

RIDGE: Mayor Curtin made a motion to authorize the adoption of all documents necessary to accept dedication of the Baltimore Ridge Development by the Village of Marcellus, subject to the approval of the Village Attorney. The motion was seconded by Trustee Manahan. Mayor Curtin asked if there was any discussion on the matter. Hearing none, Mayor Curtin called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the motion carried.

MAYOR CURTIN

RESIGNATION: Trustee Manahan stated that the Board had received a letter of resignation from Mayor John Curtin with extreme regret, effective August 31, 2023. Trustee Manahan made a motion to accept the resignation of Mayor Curtin, whose 26 years on the Board of Trustees has been recognized for his distinguished public service to our community by the Village of Marcellus and the New York State Conference of Mayors, with a Certificate of Public Service. The motion was seconded by Mayor Curtin. Mayor Curtin asked if there was any discussion.

Hearing none, Mayor Curtin called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the motion carried.

UPDATES BY THE

MAYOR: Mayor Curtin and the Board provided updates on the following subjects:

- a. 2023 Main St Grant Program – the Village Board is again pleased to announce that the Village was awarded almost \$500,000 for the 2022-2023 Main St Grant Program. There are 11 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 in previous years under the County Main Street Façade Grant program.
- b. Streets, Sidewalks, Trees – monies have already been set aside from the budget to complete some highway resurfacing, particularly Bradley and Old North, 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 at various locations in the Village, particularly on First Street between Reed Street and Reed Pkwy, 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.
- c. 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.
- d. 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.
- e. 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 must 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.
- f. 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!
- g. Village Gateway Project – is one that the Village, in cooperation with the Town and the School District and others has been working on since 2016 – a project that we hope will result in an environmentally positive gateway to our Village. One part of the Green Gateway project involves the construction of a pedestrians-only footbridge, crossing the creek from school property to the lower mill site, which is now owned by the Village. A pedestrian steel bridge, 85' length x 6' width, placed on concrete abutments, has provided an easy and safe manner for students to cross directly from the campus to the outdoor classroom. The process started in 2021 with a request for funding from our NYS Senator, John Mannion, who helped to secure a State and Municipal (SAM) capital project grant of \$180,000. After soil testing, design and survey, excavation and foundation work followed, and installation took place last month utilizing a crane and the many efforts of Village and Town workers. The bridge is one more excellent example of intermunicipal cooperation between the Village, the Town, and the Marcellus School District. 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.

- h. 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.
- i. 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.
- j. Planning and Zoning Boards – did not meet in August.
- k. 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.
- l. Village Taxes – most have been paid, while the amount of unpaid taxes at present (as of August 24, 2023), including penalties, totals **\$35,434.01** or 5.27% from **19** property owners, a figure smaller than last year. Property owners may continue to pay unpaid taxes to the Village until October 31, 2023, when they will be turned over to the County for reimbursement.
- m. 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 \$220,550, with a scheduled 3-year increase this year. With these payments, the Village is able to maintain and improve its transportation network of auto and pedestrian highways, as well as encourage growth in the Village, which is already the hub of the entire Marcellus community, thereby discouraging unnecessary sprawl and development where the infrastructure is already on place. These payments assist the Village in paying for contractual costs, materials, supplies, wages and benefits, equipment and appropriate administrative overhead incurred by the Village for the reconstruction of, repair to, and maintenance of streets and roads, sidewalks, curbing and storm sewers in the Village. 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, and for this, the Village and its residents are grateful that the County Legislature and County Executive Ryan McMahon have agreed to continue the program.
- n. Tefft Meadows Senior Apartments at 8 Paul St in the Village of Marcellus – the Village has recently been informed by Christopher Community, Inc. that the Tefft Meadows Project has not been awarded funding from the State of New York and, as a result, will not be moving forward with another resubmission of the project. The plans and other details on the proposed Tefft Meadows project can be found on the Village website at <https://www.villageofmarcellus.com/tefft-meadows.html>
- o. Baltimore Ridge Development – continues to move along quite well, and as of this date, all permits have been issued, and more development at the site continues with building construction on nine lots, with one homeowner having already moved in. In addition, sight distance conditions on South Street Road, as required by Onondaga County DOT, have been met and the Village Board in an earlier vote has authorized the adoption of all documents necessary to accept dedication of the Baltimore Ridge Development by the Village of Marcellus, subject to the approval of the Village Attorney. 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>.
- p. Paving Old North and Bradley – these projects involved the resurfacing of two streets in the Village, which were in need of such repair, at a cost of \$32,000.
- q. Fall Trash Days – Fridays September 29th and October 6th and Saturdays September 30th and October 7th, 2023. The times for Friday are 8:00 am – 12:00 noon, and the times for Saturday are also 8:00 am – 12:00 noon.
- r. Tree Inventory and Tree Legislation – a representative of Cornell University conducted a street tree inventory in the Village of Marcellus in

August 2023, results of which included 473 trees, 107 planting spaces and 6 stumps inventoried. Inventoried trees included 26 different genera, with Maple occurring most often, and 8 different species comprise all inventoried trees with Crabapple and Norway Maple occurring most often. Overall, the report notes that the street trees in Marcellus are generally in good condition, for which the Village should be commended. It is a very thorough inventory that might lead to the future adoption of a local tree legislation by the Village Board. The inventory is on file in the Village Office for public inspection and it presents some interesting analysis and recommendations.

**MAYOR'S
MESSAGE:**

Dear Residents,

In June 1995, I was appointed as a Trustee on the Village Board, following the resignation of Dick Warrender, whose appointment by Governor Pataki to his staff in Albany necessitated that notice. I never realized that I would remain on the Board for the next 26 years - 13 as a Trustee and 13 as Mayor. I thoroughly enjoyed my trustee experience with former Mayor Fred Eisenberg and former Trustees Ed Grant and Bob Wilson as well as my involvement with Village Attorney Jim Dwyer. For those 13 years, the vision of Fred Eisenberg and the yeoman efforts of Bob Wilson helped to transform the Village I have lived in and loved for over 50 years - I treasure that experience.

That experience was such that it enabled me to expand my own vision of the Village and for the last 13 years, I have worked, with excellent Trustees and Village workers, including our Village Attorney, to realize many accomplishments for our Village. With this letter, I have included those accomplishments and I must attribute any success that I have had to our Village employees. Without them, the Village would not be the success I believe it to have been.

As I leave office, I am in the process of composing some notes for my successors, which might serve as guideposts for the future. I thought that you also might be interested in some final thoughts.

- ✓ Preserve the past- those historic places that provide us with memory and vision
- ✓ Maintain Village infrastructure - sewers, streets, curbing, sidewalks need continuous updating
- ✓ Enhance the attractiveness of the Village - with lighting, green space, trees, decorations, facades
- ✓ Beware of development - that leads to sprawl, both commercial and residential
- ✓ Promote cooperation with the Town and the School District - both can be exceptional partners
- ✓ Beware of consolidation - it does not save money and increased efficiency is a falsehood - villages are the government closest to the people, while the Town, County and the State are too far removed by both distance and concern to be involved.

Thank you for your continued support during my 26 years in office.

John P. Curtin, Mayor

A Summary of Projects in the Village of Marcellus – 2010 to 2023
By John P. Curtin

Upon entering office in 2010, we embarked on several projects – what we termed the three “Cs” – compost, code, and creek-walk – they would occupy much of our time, effort, and resources for a number of years.

The Village Creek Walk began with Mayor Fred Eisenberg, who was able to secure funding in 2002. By the time we entered office it had been standing still for a number of years. We were determined to finish at least part of the project, and after many delays, it was finished, partially, from the Marcellus Park to Marcellus Free Library, in 2017. Today, it is fittingly referred to as “Fred’s Trail.”

That first year also witnessed the start of several other projects, including the repair and sale of the old library, the Marcellus Murals Project, which enhanced the character of the Village Business District and provided an opportunity for MCS students to exercise their artistic talents at several locations in the Village Center, and some sanitary sewer relining on Chrysler and Old North Streets.

In 2011, the Reed Street-Reed Pkwy-Highland Drive Reconstruction Project, having begun earlier, was completed, while more sanitary sewer relining took place on Baker, Hillside and Wilson Drive as well as some micro fiber paving on Maple and North Streets. The Police Department was also able to secure grant funding for new entry doors and keyless locks to the Village Hall.

That same year, we were able to continue an ongoing Village Lighting Project, which began, again during the Eisenberg administration in 2005, and continues to the present. This project called for the installation of historical lights in the Village and eventually replacing all HPS lamps with LED fixtures. For the past dozen years, we have

promoted this project and at present there are over 130 historical lights owned and maintained by the Village

After a feasibility study in the summer of 2011, work began on the Bio-Solids Compost Project initiated by our WWTP operators – the composting rather than the hauling and disposal of sludge produced at the Village Treatment Plant. Not only did this alleviate a serious concern – what to do with the sludge and the cost of its disposal – but it also provided an environmentally sound method of recycling bio-solids into compost and making it available to the public. Costing over \$825,000, a 50-50 funding match with the NYSDEC enabled the project to be completed in 2012 and continues to be very effective and popular with local residents.

In 2012, after a two-year study, a new Village Code was updated and approved, a revision that not only facilitated its use but also made it easier to locate information and modify when necessary. In 2023, we are in the process of having General Code complete an E-codification of the Code and having it placed online, making it more available to the public and even easier to access and search.

In the summer of 2012, the Village initiated a Sump Pump Redirection Program, inspecting residences in the Village and the Town for illegal sump-pump connections and thereby addressing the matter of high flows at the WWTP. It was a most successful program and helped the Village to secure a \$600,000 grant to initiate another project – a Sewer Consolidation Project – to combine all sanitary sewer services in the Village, the Town, and the School District into one system, controlled by and maintained by the Village.

That summer also witnessed the Village having to address a flooding issue on Flower Lane, specifically a retention pond known as Coon's Pond. This retention pond has been known for over 100 years as Coon's Pond and is fed constantly by a stream that comes down from the hills into the back yard at #9 Flower Lane. This is the source of almost all of the water that ends up in the pond. Back in the 19th and early part of the 20th centuries, the Coon family used to cut ice from the pond, pack it in straw, and ship it to the southern states and to Latin America. There was also a greenhouse that the Coons had on the property, hence the name of the street, Flower Lane. In addition, the pond was often used as an ice-skating rink for the children of the 1920s and 1930s. The Village contributes some water to the pond by virtue of a drainage pipe from the street (Flower Lane), and the Village also has a drainage easement onto the property to take care of that pipe. The outfall from the pond is to South Street, through several properties, on its way, eventually, to Nine Mile Creek. Since the Village has an easement, the homeowner asked the Village to maintain the drainage pipe and to clean out the pond. In the summer of 2012, the Village spent over \$30,000 (from the sale of the Village Reservoir), dug out the pond to a depth of two feet, created two check dams to catch the silt and opened the outfall pipe so that only water, not silt, flows into Nine Mile Creek. In the fall of 2013, the Village DPW installed a new outfall pipe, at significant cost, through three properties on South Street taking the water from Coon's Pond to a drainage structure on South Street, leading eventually to Nine Mile Creek. Since that 2012 re-construction, silt has again filled in the pond, and this might require a Village response in the fall of 2023. The existing storm water control measures need to be re-constructed in accordance with approved project plans and thereafter be maintained, cleaned, repaired, replaced, and continued in order to ensure optimum performance. The cost of the project may require bonding by the Village.

Beginning in 2013, repairs, involving a micro-fiber treatment or a milling and paving operation, were made to several streets in the Village, including Chrisler, Kelly and Park Streets and in 2014 to Orchard Circle, Highland Circle and Old North Street, the latter street having been turned over to the Village by the State of New York the previous year. A similar remedy was applied to Baker and Hillside, and part of Beach and Austindale in 2015. There was also some sidewalk reconstruction on Bradley, Main and South Streets.

Begun in 2013 and completed in 2019, the WWTP Upgrade Project was an \$8,000,000 project to upgrade the Village Wastewater Treatment Plant. This upgrade was necessitated by a DEC mandate to remove phosphorus from the treatment plant's effluent and the improvements included the construction of new clarifiers, a new UV tank, a new head works building and modifications to the control building, among others. It has been the most costly Village project in its history, and today is the most valuable asset of the Village, second only to our employees of course. Throughout the upgrade, we were able to secure a number of grants, as well as a no-interest loan from the State to help fund the project. Final payments for this upgrade, however, will not be completed until 2051.

The Reconstruction of Scotch Hill Road having begun in 2011 would be completed in 2015. A \$204,000 project, it was funded in part by a Community Development grant of \$149,000 and included repaving of the road itself, sanitary and storm sewer replacement, the addition of granite curbing and new sidewalk on the south side of the road, from North Street to the Village line. An important gateway to the Village was much enhanced by this transformative project.

Having been designated a Clean Energy Community in 2017, a \$100,000 grant was secured from NYSERDA to implement Clean Energy Projects in the Village, including a retrofitting of Village lights, including historic lights on Main, North and South Streets as well as coach lights on Orchard and Kinderwood Drive to direct wire LED type fixtures. Other indoor and outdoor lighting fixtures were replaced with LED lamps at all Village buildings - WWTP, Village Hall, Village Highway Barn. The \$100,000 grant was obtained from NYSERDA to complete this project in 2019-2020.

That same year, the Village, as part of a ZEV (Zero Emissions Vehicle) Project was reimbursed \$16,000, an 80-20 match, by NYSDEC for installing an Electric Vehicle charging station in the Village parking lot, as well as for installing additional lighting, cameras, and asphalt paving to the site

The process of demolition of the Lower Crown Mill at 71 North Street began in 2011 and was not completed until 2016, in two stages, at a cost of \$110,000. Many lamented the loss of the mill, which was the last of many such mills that helped give birth to the Village and nurtured the community for over 200 years. However, this not only eliminated a hazardous condition in the Village, it also led to the development of the Green Gateway Project in 2018. This Village project's goal was to redevelop the abandoned and now demolished mill site along Nine Mile Creek into an environmental park in cooperation with environmental students and staff at Marcellus Central School. The project would include a number of creative designs such as outdoor classroom space (kiosks) for MCS environmental students, an ADA compliant fishing platform, public trails connecting to Village sidewalks and the Village creek walk as well as additional trees and an arboretum for residents as well as tourists alike to enjoy. Begun in 2018, the project continues to this day, with a new group of students each year taking the place and interest of those who graduate. While the coronavirus interrupted and delayed plans for several months, the Village, the Town, and the students at MCS continued working on the site. The project has begun anew, including the design and installation of a pedestrian bridge connecting the School and the Gateway Park. In the fall of 2023, MCS students will begin a project that calls for the design, fabrication, and strategic installation of about 15 historic markers (plaques) on the Gateway property - markers that would enable a visitor to understand the historical and ecological significance of the site. The signs will also serve to recognize the projects students have been doing in the park over the years.

Following a drainage study and design in 2018, the Village completed the Highland Drive Drainage Project. The plan alleviated the flooding that often occurred in the southern end of Highland Drive and involved the opening of ditches and replacing driveway culverts along the west side of the road, thus preventing storm water from jumping the ditches and flooding those properties below as well as allowing storm water to move quickly to the catch basins at Reed Parkway.

The West Main Street Stormwater Drainage Project was actually a public emergency repair in 2019 to this major highway in the Village costing approximately \$150,000 and presenting the Village with a need to immediately retain a contractor to remove and replace 1,000' of drainage pipes. We had expected that since this is a County Highway, that the County would be responsible for its repair, but were told that the County was only responsible for the road itself, nothing else - not the storm water pipes, not the catch basins, not the gutters. Because the County would do nothing, and because conditions on the shoulder of the road at this time presented a "clear and imminent danger to the life, safety or health of any person travelling by auto on this stretch of the road as well as hazardous conditions for those whose property abuts this road on the southern side, unless the storm water drainage pipes are removed and/or replaced as soon as possible," a Resolution, authorizing the Village of Marcellus Department of Public Works to immediately cause the removal and/or replacement of the storm water drainage pipes on a portion of the southern side of this road (also known as County Rt. 41), from #15 West Main (the Grange) west to the Village line was approved. The Village was forced to bond for this project in order to pay the contractor. The situation remains a serious one since the County Highway Department will still not keep their storm drains outside the Village clear of debris, causing flooding on downstream properties in the Village.

The Reconstruction of Meadow Street began in 2020 and was completed in 2021. This was a \$400,000 project that provided storm water drainage and road improvements to this area of the Village, one which has been long neglected and always seemed to be subjected to frequent flooding. Over the years, larger storm events have resulted in road and backyard flooding in the Meadow Street area. The Village has worked on incremental improvements to try to address these drainage concerns on the west side of the Village and the most recent drainage improvement project on Highland Drive included a new storm water collection system, improvements to roadside swales and road re-paving. These project improvements have resulted in a much lower frequency of storm water issues in this area.

The Baltimore Ridge Subdivision is a major development of about 20 acres of land in the Village to include 23 new residential lots, with the building of quality homes, as well as preserving the natural beauty of the land. Approved by the Village in 2021, the development of the site, by a most competent developer, it might be noted, began with the construction of an entrance road, the clearing of many 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, were met and the installation of storm and sanitary sewer pipes were completed. Other utilities, water, cable, telephone, electric and gas, were also installed. Roads into the development have been paved, all of the lots have been sold and the construction of nine homes has begun. The utilities, roads, and sewer (storm and sanitary) infrastructure will probably be turned over to the Village in the summer or fall of 2023.

Beginning in 2019 and continuing into 2023, the Onondaga County Executive and Legislature have provided funding - usually a 75-25 match - for businesses to improve the main street areas of the Village. Called the Onondaga County Main Street Revitalization and Beautification Grant Program, it is a comprehensive grant program that provides funding for local revitalization efforts to grow the retail business district. Village officials work together with local businesses to develop a proposal that will positively impact a main street area. It has been a very successful program. In 2019, a \$382,00.00 project that was

mostly funded by the Onondaga County Legislature enabled 14 businesses to improve their facades on Main Street, was completed in 2021. In 2022, a nearly \$500,000 project, again mostly funded by the Onondaga County Legislature will enable 18 businesses to improve their facades on Main Street. Many have been delayed until the spring and summer of 2023 because of supply and contractor issues. In 2023, Onondaga County again offered municipalities up to \$500,000 in funding that will enable 11 businesses to begin to improve their facades in the Main Street areas of the Village. At this point, the 2023 program remains a work in progress.

The Village and its DPW became involved for several months with several Marcellus Central School District students and their teacher, Mr. Tyler Cooper, in the East Main Street Parking Improvements, a \$150,000 project. The students, along with some invaluable advice, effort, and expertise from Joe Durand of TDK Engineering, researched and prepared an excellent CAD drawing that called for the reconstruction of parking in front of 2-6 East Main Street (Reagan Building and Village Tavern). As part of their Senior Project, Lee Piekil and Liam Hawes, created a most appropriate design for this area on East Main, the final spot in the Village that had perpendicular parking, and was a dangerous traffic hazard, trying to park and then back out onto Main Street. There was a loss of 4 (four) parking spots as a result of this change, but the businesses that border this area came to realize the importance of eliminating this dangerous parking situation and agreed to the change. The project was welcomed by many residents and businesses, and following its completion in 2021, the area witnessed the start of some very successful outdoor Sidewalk Café dining.

The Tefft Meadows Senior Housing Project was the proposed development of a senior living apartment complex at #8 Paul Street, currently an old lumberyard. The approval called for the demolition of the existing buildings and the construction of a new 60-unit senior apartment building with all site amenities including a 90-space parking lot and stormwater facility. Begun in 2021, the project continued into 2023 but the Village was recently informed by Christopher Community, Inc. that the Tefft Meadows Project was not awarded funding of \$19 million from the State of New York and, as a result, would not be moving forward with another resubmission of the project. In recent weeks, the Baltimore Ridge developer, Camex Realty, has updated the Planning Board Members on Tefft Meadows, so as to get a sense of their receptiveness to a change in the development of #8 Paul to a market rent project, with no significant changes to the existing plans. In other words, the developer would like to get some feedback from the Planning Board regarding the developer's plans for the site. After all of their hard work getting Tefft Meadows approved and then suddenly cancelled, this seems to be a very welcoming idea to the members of both the Planning Board and Village Board. A public information meeting may be held in the near future to inform local residents of this proposal and to gauge their receptiveness as well.

The Slocombe Ave and Kinderwood Drive Paving Project was a \$120,000 project that the Village completed in the Summer of 2022 and called for repaving of these well-travelled and eroded highways as well as provide stormwater drainage and road improvements. Slocombe Ave is an area that has often been overlooked because, along with Village Offices and Police, few residents reside on this street.

The Village Hall Siding Project was a project that the Village completed in the summer/fall of 2022. It involved the removal of existing siding from the building (built in 1889), wrapping the building with Tyvek weather seal, installing new vinyl siding on the entire building to include soffit and fascia. In addition, the installation of aluminum wrapping around the windows as needed completed the project and preserves an historic structure in the Village of Marcellus for future generations. The Village applied for and was granted approximately \$60,000 by the Country to fund this project, which cost totaled approximately \$100,000.

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, found it necessary to relocate its storage facility because of the closing of the Marcellus Pharmacy. In discussion with the Loan Closet, Marcellus Village and Town employees volunteered to construct a shed next to the Village DPW Barn to house the Loan Closet equipment. The Loan Closet agreed to provide all material cost. This project was completed in the fall of 2022 and the Loan Closet remains a viable community asset.

The Village Hall HVAC Upgrades Project - a project that called for demo work, disconnecting, and removing 7 wall furnaces, and installing 2 high efficiency furnaces on the second floor of the building, new gas lines, ductwork and 2 AC units at cost of about \$30,000, was completed in the spring, 2023.

Paul Street Reconstruction - with the possible construction of a new senior housing complex of 60 at Tefft Meadows by another developer at #8 Paul Street, together with the senior housing complex that already exists on Austindale Ave, there is a need for the reconstruction of Paul Street (along with appropriate granite curbing) and the installation of new concrete, 5-foot sidewalks where now there is none. It is anticipated that this project might be planned during the winter of 2023 and implemented in the summer of 2024 if a new developer for the #8 Paul Street property comes forward with a new proposal.

Old North and Bradley Streets Paving Project was a \$32,000 project that the Village completed in the Summer of 2023 and called for repaving of these eroded and long neglected highways.

Flower Lane Reconstruction Project – a project that the Village may conduct in the spring of 2024 that calls for storm water drainage and road improvements to Flower Lane, and will involve completion of a survey phase to obtain all necessary information for the completion of mapping and design, including a topographical survey of the existing utilities, driveway and road surface within the survey corridor and the design and installation of a new storm water collection system while also reconstructing the road with new base material, asphalt and gutters, flattening the current high crown on this road to improve the overall drainage and future maintenance as well as new field inlet(s) and swale improvements where necessary, working closely with both NYSEG and OCWA in replacing their gas and water and to repairing the sanitary sewer line, with cured-in-place relining, which would take place before road reconstruction.

Finally, we should make note of our very professional Police Department, a twelve-person, part time agency, under direction of a Police Chief, which provides basic police protection and a full range of law enforcement services, managing over 125 calls per month, totaling about 1250 annually. The department has committed itself to the standards set forth by the New York State Division of Justice Services and maintains policies and procedures consistent with the standards of the New York State Accreditation Council. The agency also maintains an aggressive in-service training program for its officers. The absence of major crime in our village has given rise to some complacency as well as questioning the need for a police force. The absence of significant crime, major or minor, is not just a piece of good fortune. We don't have major crime because the mere presence of a police force acts as a deterrent to crime and causes the criminal element to move on to other communities – ones that provide less scrutiny and not hinder illegal activity as much. Each year since 2010, a new agreement is negotiated and finalized between the Village of Marcellus and the Marcellus Central School District, whereby three (3) officers of the Marcellus Police Department are assigned to serve as School Resource Officers in the School District. The SRO assignment is a daytime assignment, Monday through Friday, eight (8) hours per day, per officer, one officer in each of the three buildings on the Marcellus Central School campus – KCH Elementary School, Driver Middle School, and Marcellus High School. This is a rather unique program, developed and initiated by former Police Chief Robert Wicks, and has continued and expanded by the current Police Chief Bernie Podsiedlik, to include SRO Officers in three (3) additional school districts, Tully CSD, Onondaga CSD, and Lyncourt Union Free SD. It is one that has proven to be most successful, a model that has been emulated by several other municipalities and school districts in Onondaga County.

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. There were none. Hearing none, Trustee Manahan made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mayor Curtin. Mayor Curtin called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the motion carried.

The Regular Board Meeting was adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Charnley A. Abbott, Village Clerk

(SEAL)