

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE VILLAGE BOARD
OF THE VILLAGE OF MARCELLUS HELD ON
JUNE 26, 2023 AT THE VILLAGE HALL**

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

ABSENT: None

Mayor Curtin began the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Curtin made a motion to open the regular meeting, seconded by Trustee Manahan, and the meeting was opened at 7:00pm.

**CONSENT
AGENDA:**

The Village Clerk submitted the minutes of the last regular board meeting for the month of May 2023. The bills on Abstract Sheet #013 for General Fund in the amount of \$21,663.56, Sewer Fund in the amount of \$15,178.85, and Capital Funds in the amount of \$8,170.68 were audited. The bills totaled \$45,013.09. The bills on Abstract Sheet #001 for General Fund in the amount of \$16,588.12, and Sewer Fund in the amount of \$30,473.28 were audited. The bills totaled \$47,072.40. The Board received the Police Report for the month of May 2023 from Police Chief Bernard Podsiedlik. The Board also received the Building Inspector's Report for the month of May 2023 from Code Official Paul Stacey. The Board acknowledged receipt of the minutes of the Town Board meetings for May 2023. The financial statements for May 2023 were reviewed, and the financial statements for Fiscal Year End 2023 were tabled until the July 2023 regular board meeting. Trustee Manahan made a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphy. 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.

IMA WITH TOWN FOR COURT

SECURITY: Trustee Murphy stated that the 2018 Intermunicipal Agreement with the Town of Marcellus whereby the Village of Marcellus and its Police Department will provide Town of Marcellus Justice Court Security Services for a minimum of three (3) hours per Court night and the Town of Marcellus will reimburse the Village of Marcellus at a rate of \$20.00 per hour as well as further reimburse the Village for any police services rendered in excess of three (3) hours as well as for any specially convened Court proceedings will continue on an annual basis without the necessity of renewal unless terminated by either party. Further details of the IMA are available for public inspection in the Village Office. Trustee Murphy made a motion to continue with this agreement with the Town. The motion was seconded by Trustee Manahan. 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 INSURANCE

PROPOSALS: Trustee Manahan stated that the Board has decided to renew the Village Insurance proposals with the Reagan Companies of Marcellus. Trustee Manahan made a motion to award the contract for Village Insurance in the amount of \$66,221.00 to the Reagan Companies, representing an increase of \$6,650.00 or 11% from last year. The increase last year was very substantial reflecting an increase in the value of the Waste Water Treatment Plant, because of major upgrades that had taken place over the last two years. This year the increase is attributed to a 10 % upgrade on property values. In addition, the Village's 3-year crime coverage policy to the Reagan Companies is locked in, for this the third year of our three-year policy at a cost of \$386.00 per year. Last year's cyber security policy premium of \$10,000.00 increased from 2021 and is now \$10,500.00, an increase of \$500.00 or 5%. Overall, the total increase in insurance for the coming year is approximately 11%. The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphy. 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.

NYS WORKERS COMP ALLIANCE

AGREEMENT: Trustee Murphy made a motion to continue the Workers Compensation Agreement with the NYS Workers Compensation Alliance for the time period, July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2024 – 3 years at a fixed rate- for a cost of \$26,338.00. The motion was seconded by Trustee Manahan. 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

WEBSITE DESIGN

CONTRACT: Trustee Manahan made a motion to table the contract with North Shore Solutions, which company designs, set up and hosts the website for the Village of Marcellus, as well as provide training for Village office staff to operate the website. The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphy. 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.

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER

CONTRACTS: Trustee Murphy made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the School Resource Officer Agreements between the Village of Marcellus, the Lyncourt Union Free School District, and the Onondaga Central School District, whereby the School Districts and the Village

have determined that it is in their mutual best interests to enter into this Agreement to provide for the assignment of officers of the Marcellus Police Department to serve as School Resource Officers in each of the school districts so mentioned. Copies of these agreements are on file in the Village Office for public inspection. The motion was seconded by Trustee Manahan. 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.

STORM WATER

REPORT: Trustee Manahan made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the MS4 Annual Storm Water Report for the Village of Marcellus, which report was compiled by W-M Engineering at a cost of \$600.00 and submitted for the reporting period ending March 9, 2023 and includes changes that are minor in nature. A copy of the Storm Water Report is on file in the Village Office for public inspection and on the website. The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphy. 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.

BUDGET

MODS: Trustee Murphy made a motion to accept budget modifications for May 2023 submitted by the Village Treasurer, and to table the budget modifications for the Fiscal Year End until the July Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Trustee Manahan. 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.

CHANGE JULY BOARD

MEETING: Trustee Manahan made a motion to change the July Agenda Workshop from July 21, 2023, to July 14, 2023, and the regular Board meeting from July 24, 2023, to July 17, 2023 because of vacation schedules. The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphy. 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 stated that the Village Clerk has printed copies of future meeting dates for the Village for the benefit of residents. We would make special note that on July 3rd, the office will be closed for general business, except for the tax collector who will be in the office. The July 4th holiday, will be observed on Tuesday, July 4th, and on that day, the Village Office will be closed. In addition, there will be a delay in trash pickup that week. The Village-wide Garage Sale will take place on Saturday, July 8th. There is no permit needed on that day for Village residents. A reminder to residents that July is usually Battery Collection Month. While OCRRA has decided to end this program, it has been determined that batteries can be dropped off locally at Nightingale's Mills on South Street Road without charge. We are grateful that Nightingales is providing this service to the community and applaud the company for its community spirit. The Summer Community Events at Marcellus Park have been scheduled for the season and will be held on Thursday nights from 7 – 8:30 p.m. at the Annex Pavilion in the Park during June, July, and August. Our next Board meeting will be on July 17th, starting at 7 p.m.

UPDATES BY THE

MAYOR: The following updates are available on our website, www.villageofmarcellus.com

a. 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. 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.

b. Olde Home Days – its return was a rousing success, and we commend Marcellus Rotary, and the OHD committee and its exceptional leadership for conducting such a positive and popular celebration.

c. 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 summer 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.

d. Code Enforcement and Officer – Building and Pool Permits – Residents should be aware of the need to obtain permits if any rehabilitation or new construction takes place. This includes the addition of a pool (2 feet and above), or a fence or a deck, or new steps to a residence. Permits are required, as is an inspection by the Code Enforcement Officer. Permits and more information can be found by checking with the Village Office (673-3112) or with Bill Reagan, our CEO (430-7927).

e. Streets, Sidewalks, Trees monies have already been set aside from the budget to complete some highway resurfacing, particularly Old North and Bradley Streets, 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 on First St and other various locations in the Village, 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.

f. New Business in the Village – we welcome new businesses in the Village at #3 North Street, a restaurant called Holy Cow and an ice cream and deli shop at #2 East Main Street, called The Ice Cream Sandwich. Also, Stack Construction & Design at 6 West Main Street has opened for business. We welcome new businesses to the Village and encourage our residents to patronize them.

g. 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 has begun with building construction on eight 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 while utilities, roads and sewer infrastructure have not yet been turned over to the Village, and probably not until late summer will this take place.

h. 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.

i. SRO Contracts – with the Onondaga Central School District and the Lyncourt Union Free School District have been completed and signed by all parties concerned. Those contracts with the Marcellus Central School District, and the Tully Central School District will be approved at our July Board meeting. Details of the contracts, which will provide Village police officers (SROs) in each of the School Districts, are provided in the agreement, and available for public inspection.

j. Planning Board – the Planning Board and Village Board met on Wednesday, May 17, 2023, to review and discuss the Design Standards proposal developed by MRB, a proposal that would assess the current codes from a standpoint of alignment with best practices and desired outcomes, work with Village leadership to identify issues with current guidelines and identify opportunities for codification. MRB developed language to address gaps between current guidelines and community expectations, and update language to ensure alignment with current best practices, and potential future needs and New York State law. The proposal will update the design guidelines as well as prepare the required SEQR documentation to adopt these updates. A follow-up meeting was planned for June 22, 2023, but has been postponed until the July 19th Planning Board because of conflict schedules.

k. Summer Community Events – a series of summer concerts held during June, July and August at Marcellus Park Annex Pavilion, Thursday nights from 7 – 8:30 p.m., are free and appropriate for the entire family. 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. Friends of Marcellus Park will have food and beverages available for purchase.

l. The 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.

m. Cost of insurance for Cyber Security – has risen significantly this year because of continued and ever more serious threats because of hacked and breached data records and responses to such, cyber extortion, business interruption, fraud, and extra expenses, as well as implementing regulatory defense mechanisms. This is particularly significant as it applies to our Waste Water Treatment Plant, which continues to be our single most valuable asset in the Village, other than our employees of course.

n. Congratulations to Class of 2023 – on behalf of the Village Board, I would like to extend congratulations to the MCS Class of 2023:

It's been a strange, scary senior year for you. Nobody anticipated back in your freshman year that the closure of public schools in an attempt to stop or at least mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic would last as long as it did, keeping you away from your teachers, coaches, classmates, and friends.

Nobody envisioned that a large part of your sophomore year, in particular, would be spent alone and online, without the challenges, camaraderie and intellectual give-and-take that make in-person school so rewarding and stimulating.

Nobody thought that the sports you trained so hard for during the previous years would be curtailed, or that you would miss opportunities to show off your hard-earned athletic prowess.

Nobody knew then that the plays and band concerts and artistic endeavors that made your hearts sing would become more victims of an invisible virus, or that many of the hopes and dreams you had for the capstone of your high school careers would be either postponed or cancelled altogether.

But here you are. At least most of you will have a real in-person graduation ceremony, instead of the makeshift, socially distanced, immediate family-only affairs endured by the Class of 2020. Since senior year and high school graduation are once-in-a-lifetime events, you won't get a do-over.

Perhaps the biggest lesson you can learn from this weird time of your life is that, "Life happens when you're busy making other plans" —a quote popularized by John Lennon in his beautiful lullaby ("Beautiful Boy (Darling Boy)") to comfort his son, Sean,

who had awoken frightened from a nightmare.

Life is indeed a “long way to go/a hard road to hoe” as Lennon sang, but he tempered this truth with a large dose of optimism and hope for the future (“Say a little prayer/Every day in every way/It’s getting better and better”).

Whether the future will actually get better and better, as Lennon hoped, is up to you, Class of 2023. Throughout the ages, other young people before you have faced even bigger challenges—depressions, world wars, famines, totalitarian regimes and even a pandemic in 1919—and made their mark on history. So can you.

With the nightmare of COVID-19 finally behind us, there will be new threats and new crises to overcome. We have the utmost confidence that you will meet them with the same courage, tenacity, and grace you’ve already displayed during your trying years.

Congratulations!

Part of their graduation last weekend included a parade of cars through the Village arranged by MCS Principal John Durkee and Marcellus Police Chief Bernie Podsiedlik. We thank the many residents of the community who turned out and congratulated, as we do, members of the MCS Class of 2023. They are truly a class act, in the long line of many other Marcellians whose diplomas read “Graduate of Marcellus High School.”

o. Compost at the Treatment Plant – will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis. However, residents are able pick-up compost, and 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.

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 Murphy made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Manahan. Mayor Curtin called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the motion carried.

The Regular Board Meeting was adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Charnley A. Abbott, Village Clerk