

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE VILLAGE BOARD
OF THE VILLAGE OF MARCELLUS HELD ON
MAY 19, 2025 AT THE VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT: Chad A. Clark, Mayor
James P. Curtin, Trustee
Jeff Brown, Attorney
Charnley A. Abbott, Village Clerk

ABSENT: Timothy P. Manahan, Trustee

See List

Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Clark made a motion to open the regular meeting following the public hearing held regarding the draft Comprehensive Plan. The motion was seconded by Trustee Curtin and the meeting was opened at 7:02pm.

**CONSENT
AGENDA:**

The Village Clerk submitted the minutes of the regular board meeting for the month of April 2025. The bills on Abstract Sheet #012 for General Fund in the amount of \$36,533.21, Water Fund in the amount of \$5,994.00, Sewer Fund in the amount of \$37,955.54, Capital Funds in the amount of \$0.00, and Trust and Agency Funds in the amount of \$1,825.46 were audited. The bills totaled \$82,308.21. The Board received the Police Report for the month of April 2025 from Chief Bernie Podsiedlik. The Board received the Code Officials Report for the month of April 2025 from Code Official Paul Stacey. The Board acknowledged receipt of the minutes of the Town Board meetings for April 2025. The financial statements submitted by Village Treasurer Jennifer Plis for April 2025 were given to the Board for their review. Trustee Manahan made a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Trustee Curtin. Mayor Clark asked if there was any discussion. Hearing none, Mayor Clark called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the motion carried.

PROPOSAL- MRB CRRP

GRANT: Trustee Curtin made a motion to approve a proposal from MRB Group in the amount of \$5,000.00 to assist in preparation of the application for the NYS Dept of State Coastal Rehabilitation and Resilience Projects Grant for Stormwater management improvements along Flower Lane and Coon's Pond. The grant program looks to fund stormwater management projects to reduce localized flooding and/or provide resilience to impacts from increased precipitation and increased flooding due to climate change. The program would provide up to 90% funding for projects that have a minimum cost of \$300,000.00. Working with the Village, MRB Group will prepare a complete and competitive application based on the program's guidance. The motion was seconded by Trustee Manahan. Mayor Clark asked if there was any discussion. Hearing none, Mayor Clark called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the motion carried.

RESOLUTION- CRRP

GRANT: Trustee Manahan made a motion to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Village of Marcellus, Onondaga County, supports the submission of a 2025 Coastal Rehabilitation and Resilience Projects grant on behalf of the Village, for funding to implement stormwater drainage and road improvements along Flower Lane and at Coon's Pond; and

WHEREAS, the Village's and Finger Lakes Region's planning documents recognize the importance of implementing resiliency and sustainability measures in the face of climate change; and

WHEREAS, the Village is committed to addressing longstanding issues plaguing residents such as flooding and excessive stormwater runoff; and

WHEREAS, the lack of proper drainage infrastructure on Flower Lane and at Coon's Pond has led to constant flooding issues in the Village; and

WHEREAS, the Coastal Rehabilitation and Resilience Projects Program allows the submission of projects to reduce localized flooding and/or provide resiliency to impacts from increased precipitation and increased flooding due to climate change; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Village Board on behalf of the Village of Marcellus, New York authorizes the Village Mayor to submit a NYS DOS Office of Planning, Development & Community Infrastructure Coastal Rehabilitation and Resilience Projects Program grant application for stormwater drainage and road improvements along Flower Lane and at Coon's Pond and be considered the authorized representative for the project, able to execute all necessary documents relative to this project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Village Board understands that by accepting such a grant, the Village would be obligated to provide matching local 10% funds that would be appropriated from the General Fund Budget; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED; that the Village of Marcellus recognizes and fully supports the submission of this grant submission for stormwater and road improvements so that the Village can remain resilient in the face of climate change.

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

RESOLUTION- CRRP SEQR TYPE II

ACTION: Trustee Curtin made a motion to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Village of Marcellus Village Board, (hereinafter referred to as The Board) is submitting an application through the Coastal Rehabilitation and Resilience Projects grant under the New York State Department of State (DOS), for the implementation of stormwater drainage infrastructure on Flower Lane; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Board does hereby classify the above referenced Action to be a Type II Action under Section 617.5 (c)[1][2][5][6] of the State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) Regulations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, Type II Actions are not subject to further review under Part 617 of the SEQR Regulations; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT, the Board in making this classification has satisfied the procedural requirements under SEQR and directs this Resolution to be placed in the file on this Action.

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

RESOLUTION- LAND APPLICATION OF

BIOSOLIDS: Trustee Manahan made a motion to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Village of Marcellus operates a wastewater treatment facility serving over 2,000 residents, to include the careful management of biosolids which is not only integral to that process, but is a necessary and unavoidable byproduct of producing clean water, and

WHEREAS, since 2011, the Village has been using the wastewater treatment plant's biosolids to create Class A compost and has done so safely and responsibly for over a decade. This program is a cornerstone of the Village's sustainability efforts, and it is crucial to our financial stability, and

WHEREAS, the New York State Legislature has proposed Senate Bill S5759 and Assembly Bill A6192 which would establish a moratorium on land application of biosolids and requiring testing and reporting of certain groundwater, biosolids, and soil, and

WHEREAS, if a moratorium on land application of biosolids is enacted, the Village would be forced to halt compost production entirely – an action that would push our small municipality toward bankruptcy due to the high cost of alternative disposal options, and

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) has implemented regulations requiring testing of biosolids for PFAS in high priority watersheds. Such testing permits municipalities with wastewater treatment facilities like the Village to demonstrate that its biosolids contain low levels of PFAS and therefore should be eligible for exemption from any moratorium, and

WHEREAS, New York has already taken major steps toward PFAS reduction by restricting its use in consumer goods, packaging, and firefighting materials, and

WHEREAS, in addition to land application, the only two other options for use or disposal of sewage sludge or biosolids are landfilling or incineration, both of which have very limited capacity to accept additional biosolids from around New York State, and

WHEREAS, if New York State bans land application of biosolids, the following will occur:

- a. Farmers who use biosolids will face higher costs for chemical fertilizer and receive less benefits of water retention.
- b. Wastewater treatment facility rate payers will be saddled with increased biosolids disposal costs. Maine saw a 210% increase in the cost to dispose of biosolids, which was before the US imposed tariffs on Mexico and Canada where significant supply chain requirements to improve the transportation exist and will be relied upon.

- c. PFAS will not remain in landfills. Landfill leachate is typically treated at municipal WRRFs. Banning land application will increase landfilling of biosolids. The villages and towns that operate these WRRFs will bear the financial burden of treating PFAS. Because the alternative infrastructure capacity required (incineration capacity, landfill capacity, transportation capacity) does not currently exist, if one of the three existing methods to use or dispose of biosolids is eliminated, it will most likely cause solids to accumulate at WRRFs. This ultimately could negatively impact the ability of WRRFs to protect the waterbodies of New York, causing more harm than good.
- d. Carbon emissions will increase. A key component of New York State's strategy related to the "Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act" (CLCPA) is encouraging biosolids land application because of its benefits related to carbon sequestration. Not only would a ban eliminate the benefit of carbon sequestration, carbon emissions will increase from transporting the biosolids to landfills or incineration of biosolids. Landfilled biosolids will generate methane as well. The 2017 New York State Methane Reduction Plan identifies diversion of organic materials (biosolids) from landfills as an action NYS DEC would undertake to reduce methane emissions.
- e. Water quality could directly be affected across the state as the biosolids market finds new disposal sites. This requires permitting, approval and ultimately time, and

WHEREAS, Maine banned the land application of all biosolids in April 2022. The ban was largely due to findings at a single farm where biosolids were land applied. The source of PFAS was a WRRF that treated wastes from a major industry that utilizes PFAS compounds. As a result of the ban, the cost to dispose of biosolids in the state rose 210% on average.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Village of Marcellus takes pride in being proactive and environmentally responsible. We urge lawmakers to reject Senate Bill S5759 and Assembly Bill A6192, and instead consider a more balanced, data driven approach that allows safe, well-regulated composting programs like ours to continue while still prioritizing public health and environmental integrity.

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

**UTILITY
BILLS:**

Trustee Curtin made a motion to have the outstanding utility bills (refuse and sewage) re-levied to the Village of Marcellus property tax bills. The amount being re-levied to the taxes is \$64,531.58 (refuse = \$14,464.50 and sewer = \$50,067.08), approximately 9% greater than last year's total of \$59,062.02. The motion was seconded by Trustee Manahan. Mayor Clark asked if there was any discussion. Hearing none, Mayor Clark called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the motion carried.

REVIEW VILLAGE EMPLOYEE DRIVING

POLICY:

Trustee Manahan stated that because the safety and well-being of our employees, as well as that of our residents is very important to the Village, the Board of Trustees desires to protect employees and community members while on the road and reviews the driving policy each year. Trustee Manahan made a motion to approve the established Village of Marcellus Driving Policy with no changes at this time and require all employees of the Village who drive Village-owned vehicles to follow the Village of Marcellus Driving Policy, a copy of which is on file in the Village Office. The motion was seconded by Trustee Curtin. Mayor Clark asked if there was any discussion. Hearing none, Mayor Clark called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the motion carried.

WILLIAMSON SOFTWARE

CONTRACTS:

Trustee Curtin made a motion to approve annual software support contracts with Williamson Law Book Company for municipal accounting (\$1,506.00) and refuse/sewer billing (\$1405.00). The cost has increased 5% since 2024, however the Village continues to save money by having shared services with Onondaga County related to tax collection, which software the Village used to have to purchase from Williamson. The motion was seconded by Trustee Manahan. Mayor Clark asked if there was any discussion. Hearing none, Mayor Clark called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the motion carried.

SRO CONTRACT

LYNCOURT:

Trustee Manahan made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the School Resource Officer Agreement between the Village of Marcellus and the Lyncourt Union Free School District, whereby the School District and the Village have agreed provide for the assignment of officers of the Marcellus Police Department to serve as School Resource Officers. The agreements with the Marcellus Central School District, Tully Central School District and Onondaga Central School District are still being negotiated and will be

approved at a later date. The motion was seconded by Trustee Curtin. Mayor Clark asked if there was any discussion. Hearing none, Mayor Clark called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the motion carried.

PROPOSAL- TDK ENGINEERING

REVIEW: Trustee Curtin made a motion to approve a proposal from TDK Engineering in the amount of \$645.00 to assess the current lighting conditions at the new Stewarts Shop in the Village and the store's potential lighting impact on the neighboring property located immediately North on Orange Street. The motion was seconded by Trustee Manahan. Mayor Clark asked if there was any discussion. Hearing none, Mayor Clark called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the motion carried.

BUDGET

MODIFICATIONS:

Trustee Manahan made a motion to approve the following budget modifications for May 2025 requested by the Village Treasurer transferring revenues and appropriations.

Sewer Fund:

1. Retirement Invoice was slightly more than the estimate, pull \$614 from social security G9030.8 budget and add to G9010.8 budget
Budget Journal
Debit: G9030.8 \$614
Credit: G9010.8 \$614
2. Sale of Plant Dump truck \$3600- Increase expenditure accounts G8110.4 & G8130.41
Budget Journal
Debit: G2665 \$3600
Credit: G8110.4 \$1295.36
Credit: G8130.41 \$2304.64
3. Refund of Prior year expenditure (void of uncashed phone stipends were reissued via payroll in March /and a reissued check that was never voided in the system) \$451.99
Budget Journal
Debit: G2701 \$451.99
Credit: G8130.11 \$451.99
4. Increase in Interest & Penalties received from Sewer Rents vs. Budget. Increase the revenue account of interest & Penalties and increase the expenditure account of Utilities.
Budget Journal
Debit: G2128 \$2339.72
Credit: G8130.41 \$2339.72
5. 5. Electric/gas NYSMEC Invoice was more than the remaining budget pull \$10622.89 from Personal Services G8130.11 budget and add to G9010.8 budget
Budget Journal
Debit: G8130.11 \$10622.89
Credit: G8130.41 \$10622.89

General Fund:

1. Chips revenue increased by \$1447.32 vs. what was budgeted for.
Budget Journal
Debit: A3501 \$1447.32 (CHIPS)
Credit: A5112.4 \$1447.32 (Capital Improvements-contractual)
2. Retirement Invoice was slightly more than the estimate, pull \$724 from Police Retirement A9015.8 budget and add to State Retirement budget A9010.8
Budget Journal
Debit: A9015.8 \$724 (Police Retirement)
Credit: A9010.8 \$724 (state Retirement)
3. Sale of Highway Dump Truck at Auction \$31285.00
Budget Journal:
Debit: A2665 \$31285.00
Credit:
A5110.44 \$3121.54
A5110.46 \$7656.07
A5110.1 \$16533.38
A5142.41 \$53.45
A5142.43 \$995.31
A8140.4 \$2590.00
A3510.1 \$335.25
4. Building Inspector Personal Services more than the budget due to not separating into 3 different funds for: Building/safety/zoning, pull \$14000 from Safety Inspector Personal services budget A3620.1 and \$11885.14 from zoning personal services budget A8010.1 add to Building Inspector budget A3610.1

Budget Journal
Debit: A3620.1 \$16592.65(Safety Inspector)
Debit: A8010.1 \$6000 (Zoning)
Credit: A3610.1 \$22592.65 (Building Inspector)

5. Police Uniforms A3120.45 Overage of \$16.55 to cover purchase
Budget Journal
Debit: A3120.2 \$16.55
Credit: A3120.45 \$16.55
6. Building Inspector Contractual A3610.4 \$253.21 to cover April training conference
Budget Journal
Debit: A8010.4 \$253.21
Credit: A3610.4 \$253.21
7. Central Printing and mailing A1670.4 \$862.66 to fund the most recent newsletter printing
Budget Journal
Debit: A1660.4 \$862.66
Credit: A1670.4 \$862.66
8. Shade Trees Contractual- 2025 NYS Urban forestry Grant received the first installment of the Grant for \$500 to be spent on the Arbor Day event and an additional \$500 to be received after completion of the event.
Budget Journal
Debit: A2706F \$1000.00
Credit: A8560.4 \$1000.00
9. Refund of Prior year expenditure (void of uncashed phone stipends that were reissued via payroll in March) \$170
Budget Journal
Debit: A2701 \$170
Credit: A1410.1 \$170
10. EV charging station revenue more than originally budgeted A2770 \$1093.97 plus revenue received in May for \$91.26- total \$1185.23
Budget Journal
Debit: A2770 \$1185.23
Credit: A1325.4 \$1161.32
Credit: A1620.4 \$23.91
11. State Mortgage tax A3005 Increase in State Mortgage tax received \$713.59
Budget Journal
Debit: A3005 \$713.59
Credit: A1620.1 \$713.59
12. A3089 Increase in TMA payments received vs. originally budgeted: \$1143.00
Budget Journal
Debit: A3089 \$1143.00
Credit: A1620.4 \$1143.00
13. Interest & Earnings A2401 Increase in received payments vs. originally budgeted \$752.84
Budget Journal
Debit: A2401 \$752.84
Credit: A1620.1 \$752.84
14. Permits A2590 Increase in revenues vs. originally budgeted \$3761
Budget Journal
Debit: A2590 \$3761
Credit: A3610.1 3292.49
Credit: A1410.1 \$382.80
Credit A1620.1 \$85.71
15. Increase of Interest & pen on real prop taxes \$615.37
Budget Journal
Debit: A1090 \$615.37
Credit: A1680.4 469.36 to cover final installment of electric bill
Credit: A3510.1 \$146.01
16. Increase of revenue from clerks' fees vs. budgeted taxes \$40
Budget Journal
Debit: A1255 \$40
Credit A1620.1 \$40
17. Building personal services exceeded budget
Budget Journal
Debit: A1620.45 3000

Debit: A1620.42 \$1309.63
Credit: A1620.1 \$4309.63

18. To fund Animal control personal services & Snow removal personal services overage from this winter

Budget Journal
Debit: A5182.4 \$7490.20
Credit: A3510.1 \$2498.70
Credit: A5142.1 \$4991.50

19. To fund Building contractual overage from budget

Budget Journal
Debit: A8160.41 \$9918
Debit: A9060.8 \$4240.17
Credit: A1620.4 14158.17

20. To fund Planning & Contractual \$2,288.05 the outstanding cost of the Comp plan that we received reimbursement for via a grant for \$48000- check received 5/19/25 and 2 MRB invoices for 2026 Earmark grant & coastal rehab grant application. Requesting funds to come from the general funds unappropriated fund balance

Budget Journal
Debit: A599 \$2228.05
Credit: A8020.4 \$2228.05

21. Receipt of check for Grant Reimbursement from the County for the comp plan. \$48000

Budget Journal
Debit: A2706F \$48000
Credit: A8020.4 \$48000

Water Fund:

1. \$401.44 Budget Mod requested for the water fund revenue account “interfund transfers” The \$407.44 budget modification for the water expenditure account “transmission & distribution and the (\$6.00)budget modification requested for the water fund expenditure account “transmission & distribution” are all required in order to provide funding for the payment of an invoice from OCWA, relative to village fire hydrant maintenance, being in excess of the amount originally budgeted for the Village’s fiscal year ending 5/31/25. Since the funding for the payment of this invoice comes entirely from an interfund transfer made to the water fund from the Village’s general fund, these budget modifications do not require the use of the water funds unappropriated fund balance.

Budget Journal:
Debit: A599 \$401.44
Credit: A9901.9 \$401.44
Debit: F5031 \$401.44
Credit: F599 \$401.44
Debit: F599 \$401.44
Debit: F8340.4 \$6.00
Credit: F8340.2 \$407.44

Flower Lane (HD):

1. Engineering Fees \$3800.00 (HD1440.4) Requested for the expenditure account “Transfers to Capital Funds” is required to fund for the payment of an MRB invoice. This budget modification requires the use of \$3800 of the general funds unappropriated fund balance.

General journal:
Debit: A9950.9 \$3800
Credit: A200 \$3800
Budget Journal:
Debit: HD201 \$3800
Credit: HD5031 \$3800

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

ANNOUNCE VILLAGE

MEETINGS: Trustee Curtin stated that the Village Clerk has printed the June meeting dates for the benefit of residents. I would make special notification that the Marcellus Olde Home Days are approaching fast, sponsored by the Marcellus Rotary Club, and scheduled for June 6th, 7th and 8th. In addition, the Village Office will be closed for the Memorial Day Holiday on May 26th, and on Wednesday, June 19th, which is now a State holiday in observance of Juneteenth. Also, the Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony will take place on May 26th. The parade will start at 10 a.m. and will conclude with a Ceremony at the Village Point. The Village-wide garage sale has been planned for Saturday, July 12th, 2025.

UPDATES BY THE

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

- Compost is available at the Wastewater Treatment Plant for Village residents free of charge. Please call 315-673-4491 to make an appointment for pickup.
- Spring brush pickup has ended but during the summer months of June, July and August, brush may be placed at the curb on Sundays for pickup on the first Monday of each of those summer months.
- The 6th grade class from Driver Middle School volunteered their time sprucing up the Historical Society and the Town Hall garden beds this month. Mrs. Eaton's 8th grade construction class assembled benches at the Green Gateway.
- The Town DPW dug test holes for the new pavilion at the green gateway.
- Olde Home Days Celebration – as mentioned before, will be June 6-8 and we encourage residents to attend.
- Village Web Site – Village Clerk Charnley Abbott regularly updates our website and If there are any items that residents might feel should be included on the site, please contact her at clerk@villageofmarcellusny.gov with your requests.
- Marcellus Health Loan Closet- continues to be an asset to the community. Information can be found on the Village website and arrangements to borrow equipment can be made by calling the Village Clerk at 315-673-3112 Ext 1.
- The Village wide Garage Sale will take place on July 12th. Residents are not required to obtain a garage sale permit for this weekend.

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

ITEMS FROM THE

FLOOR: Mayor Clark asked if there were any items from the floor. Hearing none, Mayor Clark made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Clark called for a vote. All board members voted aye and the motion carried.

The Regular Board Meeting was adjourned at 7:13p.m.

Charnley A. Abbott, Village Clerk