

**TOWN OF MARCELLUS  
TOWN BOARD WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES**

December 29, 2016

A Workshop Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Marcellus, County of Onondaga, State of New York was held on Thursday, December 29, 2016, in the Town Hall, 24 East Main Street, Marcellus, New York. Those present were:

Karen R. Pollard, Supervisor  
Kevin F. O’Hara, Councilor  
Chris Hunt, Councilor  
Laurie Stevens, Councilor

Absent – John Cusick, Councilor

Also present: Don MacLachlan, Highway Superintendent; Phil Coccia, Recreation Director; Ellen Leahy, West Onondaga County Journal, and Sandy Taylor, Town Clerk.

Supervisor Pollard opened the meeting at 5:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**BUSINESS AGENDA:**

The Abstract of Audited Vouchers was given to the Board Members as submitted by the Town Clerk, Abstract #12 as of December 28, 2016, Claims #144963-144976, 144985-145009, 145028-145035.

	<u>Expenses</u>	
General Fund	\$ 9,391.22	
General Fund – Part Town	273.74	
Highway – Town Wide	39,277.66	
Highway – Part Town	<u>152.86</u>	-
Total	\$49,095.48	

Councilor Stevens made a motion seconded by Councilor Hunt to approve and pay the bills.  
Ayes – Pollard, Stevens, Hunt and O’Hara Carried

**I-81 Resolution:**

Resolution of the Town Board of the Town of Marcellus  
Pertaining to Interstate 81 Renovations  
Dated: December 29, 2016

A motion was made by Councilor Stevens to adopt the following Resolution and the motion was seconded by Councilor Hunt;

**MEMORIALIZING THE INTENT OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF MARCELLUS, COUNTY OF ONONDAGA, REGARDING THE NEED TO MAINTAIN THE EXISTING ALIGNMENT OF INTERSTATE 81 THROUGH SYRACUSE**

**WHEREAS**, for the last 50 years, Interstate 81 has served as a vital backbone for the economy of the Central New York, connecting commuters, businesses, tourists, visitors and through-travelers alike; and

**WHEREAS**, among its important functions, Interstate 81 provides vital links with access to downtown Syracuse, all of the local hospitals, Syracuse University, Destiny USA, present and future businesses and residents along I-81 corridor; and

**WHEREAS**, turning Interstate 81 to Route 481 leaves no alternative north –south Route for national defense, national disaster, and general maintenance and repairs; and

**WHEREAS**, although there are a variety of ways to deal with I-81’s aging infrastructure, the existing “Interstate” function and designation must be preserved, because any solution which would remove I-81’s vital function from its present alignment may irreparably harm the regional economy and corresponding employment dependent upon the highway network and may further negatively impact neighborhoods in close proximity to I-81; and

**WHEREAS**, redirecting Interstate 81 to Route 481 is not smart environmental policy because the distance traveled for through traffic and further stop and go intercity commuting traffic is increased. This is polluting, inefficient, requires the use of greater amounts of petroleum based fuels, hurts the regional economy, and is detrimental to social welfare and the environment; and

**WHEREAS**, redirecting Interstate 81 traffic to Route 481 will have the result of pushing traffic traveling on I-81 further to the east of Syracuse and traffic wishing to travel west on I-90 will consequently be forced further east. This may result in increased traffic through the Town of Marcellus by way of Route 175 Seneca Turnpike and Route 20 for those wishing to travel west, thereby increasing the noise and environmental pollution and otherwise having a detrimental impact on the social welfare of the Marcellus community; and

**WHEREAS**, the future of I-81 presents one of the greatest planning decisions to face New York State in decades and the outcome will impact our region for the next 100 years; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the consensus of the Marcellus Town Board that any decision reached by the NYS DOT should satisfy function first, and should be closely tailored to satisfy that function; and

**WHEREAS**, we support smart growth and the creation of a new and welcoming entrance to Syracuse, and the integration of hospitals and university areas with the rest of downtown, we believe it must not be accomplished by compromising one of the most significant advantages of living, working, doing business, and visiting Onondaga County;

**WHEREAS**, The Town of Marcellus Board supports a balanced, comprehensive approach, a regional transportation plan is necessary to ensure smart choices are made, a plan that can provide environmental, social, and economic benefits to all of Central New York.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Marcellus Town Board memorializes its determination that the existing Interstate 81 alignment through Syracuse and Central New York must remain and its function and designation as an interstate highway must not be removed or impaired; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Supervisor of the Town of Marcellus is hereby directed to cause a copy of this resolution to be transmitted to the New York State Department of Transportation, to the Syracuse Metropolitan Council, and to the various legislative members representing Onondaga County at the state level.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote and the vote was as follows:

<b>Karen Pollard</b>	<b>Supervisor</b>	<b>Voted</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Christopher Hunt</b>	<b>Councilor</b>	<b>Voted</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Kevin O’Hara</b>	<b>Councilor</b>	<b>Voted</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Laurie Stevens</b>	<b>Councilor</b>	<b>Voted</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>John Cusick</b>	<b>Councilor</b>	<b>Absent</b>	

The foregoing Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

**DATED:** December 29, 2016

**Committee for Planning Board Vacancy:** Supervisor Pollard would like to talk with Karen Cotter, Planning Board Secretary, to hear what qualifications they require for a new member. This will be put on the agenda for the January 9, 2017 meeting.

**Adjourn Business Session:** Councilor Hunt made a motion seconded by Councilor Stevens to adjourn the Business Session of the Meeting and enter into the Workshop Session at 5:10 pm.  
Ayes – Pollard, Stevens, Hunt and O’Hara Carried

### **WORKSHOP AGENDA:**

**Proclamation- School Choice Week:** Supervisor Pollard received a request proclaiming January 22 through the January 28, Town of Marcellus School Choice Week. After careful review, the Board decided not to take any actions on this.

**2015 AUD (Added item):** Supervisor Pollard stated that Lori Petrocci, Bookkeeper, received a notice from the Office of the State Comptroller that the 2015 AUD is completed.

**Paper Mill Resolution (Added Item):** It was brought to Supervisor Pollards attention that the demolition of the Paper Mill is past 60 days. Jim Gascon, Town Attorney, will draft another resolution extending the time. This will be on the January 9, 2017 agenda.

**Fire Department Financials:** The Fire Department has not given the Town any financials in a few months. According to the contract, they are to provide the Town with financials on a quarterly basis. Jim Gascon, Town Attorney, will draft a letter requesting these financials.

**Highway Garage Addition:** The Board members were given Specifications from MAS Engineering regarding the three (3) bay addition on the Highway Garage. These will be sent out to different companies for bid and the Board Members will each receive a copy. The packets must include prevailing wage.

## **Discussion Agenda**

**Items from the Board:** Councilor O'Hara asked if the employees could leave at 12:00 noon on Friday, December 30, 2016. The Board all agreed, so the Town Office will be closing at 12:00 noon.

Supervisor Pollard reminded the Board that the Organizational Meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 3, 2017 at the Welcome Center and this will be at 5:30 pm.

**Items from the Floor:** Nothing from the floor.

Councilor Stevens made a motion seconded by Councilor O'Hara to adjourn the Marcellus Town Board meeting at 6:00 P.M.

Ayes – Pollard, Stevens, Hunt and O'Hara

Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Taylor, Town Clerk