

Marcellus Town Board
Workshop Meeting
Wednesday, March 20, 2024
6:30 PM

A Workshop Meeting of the Town of Marcellus, County of Onondaga, State of New York was held on Wednesday, March 20, 2024, in the Town Hall, 22 East Main Street, Marcellus, New York.

Present: Laurie Stevens	Supervisor
Jeff Berwald	Councilor
Terry Hoey	Councilor
Gabe Hood	Councilor
Percy Clarke	Councilor

Also Present: Mike Ossit, Highway Superintendent; Jim Rossiter, Phil Coccia, Recreation Director; Jim Gascon, Town Attorney; Gary and Linda Wilcox, Greg Crysler, Bill Southern, John Pawlewicz, Claudia and Aidan Hastings, Steven Bolewski, Joe Owen, David Gardner, Tyler Cooper, Suzanne Tobin.

Abstract of Audited Vouchers: The Abstract of Audited Vouchers was given to the Board Members as submitted by the Town Clerk. Abstract #3 as of March 19, 2024. Claim #'s 156352-156407, and 156417-156429.

Expense

General Fund	\$72,325.63
Part Town General Fund	3,519.64
Townwide Highway	34,668.07
Part Town Highway	4,415.00
Fire District	9,622.25
Hydrant Fund	1,715.64
Ambulance Fund	1,616.25
Water District	12,104.58
Trust and Agency	1,649.47
Total	\$141,666.53

Councilor Berwald made a motion seconded by Councilor Hood to approve the Abstract of Audited Vouchers and pay the bills as of March 15 and 18, 2024.

Ayes –Berwald, Hoey, Hood, Clarke and Stevens

Carried

OLD BUSINESS

Building Key Fobs: Highway Superintendent, Ossit presented the Board with three bids for having key fob entry systems installed in four doors of the Town Hall. The three quotes were from: Alarm Service \$6,955.00, CNY Lock at \$12,740.00 and Kelly Bros. at \$14,536.26. Dave Card shared that Alarm Services had done high quality work for the Fire Department and that he would recommend them. Councilor Clarke made a motion, seconded by Councilor Hoey authorizing Supervisor Stevens to sign the contract with Alarm Services to provide the PDK cloud-based control system and install card readers at 4 door locations as discussed at a cost of \$6,955.00.

Ayes –Berwald, Hoey, Hood, Clarke and Stevens

Carried

NEW BUSINESS

Joseph Owen – Just Joe’s: Attorney Gascon began by explaining that Joe Owen of “Just Joe’s” submitted an application for a permit to install a new sign on his building and he was denied by the Planning Board. The Planning Board determined that the sign was significantly larger than the current statute permitted, and they did not want to set a precedent of granting a large deviation on a brand-new statute.

Since the ruling, Mr. Owen has met with several of the Councilors and has investigated the sign laws of various neighboring towns. Mr. Owen has found that other towns base their commercial sign allowance on a fixed percentage of the linear measurement of the building in question on a case-by-case basis and he has collected some proposed language. Attorney Gascon suggested to the Board that the best approach would be to modify the law rather than to approve a large variance.

Supervisor Stevens suggested making a motion to have Attorney Gascon look at the verbiage in question. Attorney Gascon said that there is no need to make a motion, and that he will prepare alternative language for the Board to consider at the next board meeting.

Recreation Department – Adult Trips: The Recreation Department submitted several Senior Trip contracts to be signed by Supervisor Stevens. Supervisor Stevens stated that she had to have the approval of the Board before she could sign the contracts. Supervisor Stevens said that she was concerned that the bus expense was not entirely covered by the price of the trip packages and that the trips are available to nonresidents as well as residents. Recreation Director Coccia explained that at one time all of the money for paying for the buses came from the State, and since that is no longer the case, a portion of the fee is being covered in the “Park and Rec” budget. Phil Coccia stated that on the day trips, for the last few years, he has been overcharging for the sightseeing portion a bit to defray some of the bus expense. Furthermore, Phil explained that the bus cost for the overnight trips is fully covered in the price paid by the participants. Supervisor Stevens asked for a motion. Councilor Hood made a motion that was then seconded by Councilor Hoey authorizing Supervisor Stevens to sign the contracts for the trips as presented today.

Recreation Director Phil Coccia thanked the Board.

Ayes – Berwald, Clarke, Hoey, Hood and Stevens

Carried

Resolution – Speed Limit Reduction – Rose Hill Road:

**TOWN OF MARCELLUS
TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION**

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF MARCELLUS TOWN BOARD
IN SUPPORT OF A SPEED REDUCTION FOR PORTIONS OF ROSE HILL ROAD
IN THE TOWN OF MARCELLUS**

DATED: March 20, 2024

At a regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Marcellus, held at the Town Hall, 22 East Main Street, in said Town, County of Onondaga, State of New York, on March 20, 2024, at 6:30 p.m., there were:

PRESENT: Laurie Stevens	Town Supervisor
Jeff Berwald	Councilor
Percy Clarke	Councilor
Gabe Hood	Councilor
Terry Hoey	Councilor

WHEREAS, Mr. Dave Gardner, of 2866 Rose Hill Road, Marietta, New York 13110, is requesting the Department of Transportation, pursuant to Section §1622.1 of the Vehicle and Traffic Law, to establish a lower maximum speed at which vehicles may proceed on Rose Hill Road, a County Road between northern Coon Hill Road to past the southern Coon Hill Road to the existing 40mph speed limit sign; and

WHEREAS the Town of Marcellus Town Board was presented with a petition signed by nine current residents of the area in question on Rose Hill; and

WHEREAS the Town of Marcellus Town Board agreed that the situation is very dangerous and deserves to be evaluated; and

WHEREAS the Town of Marcellus Town Board desires to act in the interest of the health, welfare, and safety of its residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, upon motion of Councilor Hoey, seconded by Councilor Berwald, it is hereby

RESOLVED that the Town of Marcellus Town Board hereby expresses its full support to have the speed limit for said portions of Rose Hill Road reduced.

The question of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote, and upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

VOTE: Laurie Stevens	Town Supervisor	Yes
Jeff Berwald	Councilor	Yes

Percy Clarke	Councilor	Yes
Gabe Hood	Councilor	Yes
Terry Hoey	Councilor	Yes

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

DATED: March 20, 2024

Highway/School Project – Mr. Cooper: Ossit introduced Mr. Cooper who then presented the Board with a series of slides detailing the benefits of his high school programs that are centered on partnering his students with local professionals in order to give them more real-world experiences before having to make college commitments. Several students that have or are currently involved in these programs offered how they have personally benefitted from these independent studies.

Discussion Agenda:

Pleasant Valley Road: Attorney Gascon stated that in order to proceed with the demolition of the Pleasant Valley Road building a Notice of Hearing must be drafted and filed with the County. A hearing will then have to be scheduled, (which should be coordinated to agree with Jerry Wicket’s schedule so that he can preside) and the owner of the property must be served within twenty days of the scheduled hearing. Attorney Gascon said that he has just finished preparing the needed documents and that this should be put on the agenda for the next Board Meeting for discussion.

Fire Department: Dave Card gave an update on the progress of the kitchen renovation; the electrician will be coming in tomorrow (3/21/24) to finish up his work then the plumber will come in to complete the entire project.

Mr. Card also mentioned that any new key fobs need to be stored in the “knox box” for emergency use by the Fire Department.

Highway – Brush Pile: Highway Superintendent Ossit discussed how several recent changes in our area are impacting the Town brush pile. The Skaneateles Transfer Station no longer accepts contractor brush and or debris and Tree Landers, who used to accept and mulch contractor brush has also stopped providing an avenue of disposal for contractors and homeowners alike. In order to limit the additional debris supply there have been signs posted but they are being ignored. Supervisor Stevens asked if we need to draft a law at this point. Discussion ensued. Highway Superintendent Ossit suggested that one approach would be to require that the residents make prior arrangements with the Town before bringing brush that might exceed a normal homeowner’s need due to a landscaping project for instance. Supervisor Stevens suggested that Highway Superintendent Ossit let us know what his thoughts are on the suggested language for the law and then the Board can begin a discussion.

Adjournment: Councilor Hood made a motion seconded by Councilor Berwald to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 pm.

Ayes – Berwald, Clarke, Hoey, Hood and Stevens

Carried

Respectfully Submitted,

Suzanne Tobin
Deputy Town Clerk