

Marcellus Town Board
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, April 3, 2024
6:30 PM

A Regular Meeting of the Town of Marcellus, County of Onondaga, State of New York was held on Wednesday, April 3, 2024, in the Town Hall, 22 East Main Street, Marcellus, New York.

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

Also Present: Mike Ossit, Highway Superintendent; John Houser, Code Officer; Phil Coccia, Recreation Director; Jim Gascon, Town Attorney; Kelli Worden, Jim Rossiter, Tom Lathrop, Bill Southern, John Pawlewicz, Steve Schneider, Joseph Striffler, Ethan Dilmore, Mazen Makhoulf, Dave Card, Fire Department President; Jerry Wickett, Planning Chairperson; Scott Stearns, Zoning Chairperson, Steven Bolewski, Ella Blount, Jillian Oconner, Suzanne Tobin, Deputy Town Clerk; Rosemary Tozzi, Town Clerk

Waive the Reading and Accept the Minutes: Councilor Hoey made a motion seconded by Councilor Berwald to waive the reading and accept the minutes as presented by the Town Clerk. The minutes were from the March 6, 2024, Town Board Meeting and the March 20, 2024, Workshop Meeting.
Ayes – Berwald, Clarke, Hoey and Stevens Carried

Monthly Activity: The abstract of Audited Vouchers for April 3, 2024, given to the Board Members as submitted by the Town Clerk. Abstract #4 as of March 28, 2024. Claim # 156439-156476.

	<u>Expenses</u>
General Fund	\$13,584.36
Part Town General	310.59
Townwide Highway	15,170.42
Part Town Highway	1,800.00
Fire District	86,136.00
Ambulance Fund	76,725.00
Water District	<u>30,617.28</u>
Total	\$224,343.65

Board Members were given the Activities Report as of March 26, 2024. Fiscal year 2024 Period 3.

Revenue

Expense

General Fund	(2,237,959.40)	430,357.21
Part Town General	(203,723.46)	42,733.05
Townwide Highway	(5,400.01)	107,110.23
Part Town Highway	(110.87)	8,998.00
Capital Projects	(0)	0.00
Fire District	(398,170.56)	116,643.50
Hydrant Fund	(3,075.78)	1,715.64
Ambulance Fund	(313,370.09)	79,957.50
Sewer District	(195,952.35)	195,952.00
Water District	(176,117.28)	53,574.58

Bank Balances:

The total of all Bank Balances for February 2024 is \$5,571,183.39

Councilor Clarke made a motion seconded by Councilor Hoey to approve the Abstract of Audited Voucher Reports as of March 28, the Activities Report as of March 26, 2024, and the Bank Balance Balances of February 2024.

Ayes – Berwald, Clarke, Hoey and Stevens

Carried

OLD BUSINESS

Pleasant Valley Road Demolition: In accordance with Section 90-8, Town of Marcellus Code, the Code Enforcement Office for the Town of Marcellus has found the building(s) or structure(s) located at 2595 Pleasant Valley Road, Marcellus, which property is designated as Tax Map No. 014-10-01.0, to be unsafe and in violation of governing laws. The owner will be sent a notice to demolish and remove such demolition debris, such work must commence on or before twenty days from the date of notice and shall be completed on or before May 1, 2024.

The Town Board set a special meeting to be held on Wednesday, May 1, 2024, at 6:00pm. Jerry Wickett has been appointed as the hearing officer. The Town will conduct a hearing and shall receive testimony and other evidence to determine whether the building(s) or structure(s) constitute an unsafe structure. If the owner of the property has not had the building demolished, the demolition will initially be paid for by the Town, then the cost of the demolition is put on the owner’s taxes. If the cost is not paid by the owner through the owner’s taxes, then the county is obligated to reimburse the Town for the cost of the demolition.

Councilor Clarke made a motion seconded by Councilor Berwald to set the notice of hearing as set forth in the notice as Jim Gascon, Town Attorney has amended it, scheduling the public hearing for May 1, 2024, at 6:00 pm and appointing Jerry Wickett as the hearing officer.

Ayes – Berwald, Clarke, Hoey and Stevens

Carried

Welcome Center: The Town is still waiting on the RFP from TDK, this has been tabled until a later date.

NEW BUSINESS

Sign Law Modification: Some suggestions/modifications have been made to the current sign law. The most pressing was the size of the sign on the exterior of a building. Another suggestion regarding corrugated plastic yard signs with wire stands 24” x 18” or smaller shall be exempt from the location restrictions. Also, it was suggested to modify the existing sign Law language. It currently states that

existing signs need to be in compliance within six months which could put a hardship on businesses that have had signs for years. It is recommended to have those signs grandfathered and if those signs need to be replaced then they will need to be in compliance with the current law. The suggestions will now go through Planning and Zoning for their recommendations. This topic has been tabled until all Boards have had a chance to review and make suggestions.

After Ball Party: The Parents of the Senior Class of 2024 are planning their traditional end of the year events to have a special send off for the graduating class. The events planned are the After Ball Party, the Crystal Ball Classic Car Cruise, and Reverse Senior Skip Day. Kelli Worden came as a spokesperson for the event and asked the Town Board for a monetary donation of \$500-\$1000 to help offset the cost of the events planned for the After Ball Party. There are numerous fun events planned these include: a Lazer Tag Room, a DJ, a few bounce houses in the gym, a human Velcro wall, an Escape Room, a Casino Room, and a Zen Room.

Councilor Clarke made a motion seconded by Councilor Berwald to donate \$500.00 towards the After Ball Party.

Ayes – Berwald, Clarke, Hoey and Stevens

Carried

Department Reports:

Codes: John Houser, Code Officer nothing to report

Highway: Mike Ossit, Highway Superintendent reports the Brush pile is open to Marcellus residents. There have been some issues with contractors dumping non-residents items and items not allowed at the site. He is working on new verbiage and restrictions for the dump site. A new sign will be posted. This topic will be added to the next agenda to discuss with the Town Board.

Parks/Rec: Phil Coccia, Recreation Director; thanked Councilor Berwald for doing a great job as the park liaison.

Phil also brought up that the Board will need to decide if the Town will be mowing the soccer field again this year. The charges for the mowing season would be \$5,000.00. This will be put on the next agenda. The Veterans will be having a fishing derby in the coming weeks.

Phil asked the Board to approve a new hire for a part time park employee. Supervisor Stevens informed him that the Board Members would be going into executive session to discuss personnel.

The Annex Pavilion will be getting a new dance floor. The Highway Department will be helping the park with the project. The Friends of the Park will be paying for the concrete. They are looking at 25 yards of concrete at the cost of \$3,875.00.

Other supplies are needed to complete this project:

3 rolls of mesh \$239 each \$717

Wood 2"x 4"x10' \$95

Runner crush \$?

(borrowed from highway dept & replacement cost unknown)

Total \$812+

Cost of supplies is expected not to exceed \$1,000.00

Councilor Berwald and Jim Rossiter met with an architect to look at the old playground across from the Annex Pavilion. The playground is out of compliance due to weather conditions preventing updates. The playground has some broken pieces that will be repaired; more mulch is needed with rubber placed beneath it. Jim Rossiter recommended having a third-party audit to come and inspect the playground. The Board recommended putting it in the park budget for next year.

Jim Rossiter and Mark Moncavage will be meeting with the County to discuss a grant for the park and replacing trees that have been taken down due damage.

Town Clerk: Rosemary Tozzi, Town Clerk presented the monthly report.

Dog Licensing \$426.00

Misc Fees \$10.00

Passport \$350.00

Conservation \$10.28

Freon Removal \$15.00

Haulers Permit \$100.00

Marr. Lic \$12.50

Trash Permit One Trip \$15.00

Trash Permit Trailer \$50.00

Trash Permit Passenger Vehicle \$25.00

Trash Permit Truck \$160.00

Building \$2380.00

Discussion Agenda:

Fire Department: Dave Card gave an update on the kitchen renovation; plumbing will be completed soon. They are hoping to have the renovation completed before the Olde Home Days for their pancake breakfast. Dave informed the Board he will be providing financials by the end of the week.

Comprehensive Plan: Supervisor Stevens requested hard copies of the revised version. The Comprehensive Plan Committee can now schedule their public meeting. The date is still to be determined.

Proclamation of Retirement: The Town Board and residents would like to thank Donald MacLachlan and Elaine Potter for their years of service and congratulate them on their retirement.

Supervisor Stevens calls for an executive session:

Councilor Hoey made a motion seconded by Councilor Clarke to go into executive session to discuss employment matters.

Ayes – Berwald, Clarke, Hoey and Stevens

Carried

Councilor Hoey made a motion seconded by Councilor Berwald to close the executive session. The executive session was for the purpose of reviewing employment matters.

Ayes – Berwald, Clarke, Hoey and Stevens

Carried

Appoint Park Laborers:

Paul LaPan \$17.00 per hour

Ted Moosbrugger \$17.00 per hour

Peter Nightingale \$17.00 per hour

John Pawlewicz \$17.00 per hour

Jim Rossiter, Park Crew Leader \$ 18.54 per hour

Steve Schneider \$17.00 per hour

Christopher Ramsden \$17.00 per hour

Two summer help students: Ryan Orr working 10-15 hours per week at minimum wage and Josef Kaufman working up to 20 hours per week at minimum wage.

The request for the additional park laborer was denied at this point.

Councilor Clarke made a motion seconded by Councilor Berwald to accept the appointed park laborers for 2024.

Ayes – Berwald, Clarke, Hoey and Stevens

Carried

Councilor Hoey made a motion seconded by Councilor Berwald to adjourn the Town Board meeting at 7:33pm and meet with Council after the meeting.

Ayes – Berwald, Clarke, Hoey and Stevens

Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemary Tozzi
Town Clerk