

Marcellus Town Board
Workshop Meeting
Wednesday, April 15, 2026
6:30 PM

A Workshop Meeting of the Town of Marcellus, County of Onondaga, State of New York was held on Wednesday, April 15, 2026, in the Town Hall, 22 East Main Street, Marcellus, New York.

Present: Jane Attley	Supervisor
Jeff Berwald	Councilor
Percy Clarke	Councilor
Terry Hoey	Councilor
Karen Pollard	Councilor

Also Present: James Gascon, Town Counsel; Mike Ossit, Highway Superintendent; Don MacLachlan, Park and Recreation Director; Jeremy Perry, Krissy Lanning, Steve Casselbury, Matt Hanrahan, Mary D. and Bob Finn, Chad Clark, Brody Mitchell, Ayden Scheider, Jean Sharlow, Linda Wilcox, Tom Lathrop, Bill Southern, Tyler Cooper, Denis Donovan, Joanna Clarke, Joel McNally, Stephanie Finn, Dan Finn, Brandy Witthoft, Herman Witthoft, Andrew Reichel, Chrissy Reichel, Sally Bailey, Ken Tymnshi, Morghan Ossit, Stacey Ossit, Mike Ossit, Jane Ossit, Diana and Zoe Nightingale, Sandy Taylor, Tom and Lisa McHale, Kathy Kusnierczyk, Tom Vulcano, Mary and Pat Reagan Dailey, Bobby Mayers, Rebekah Andre, Tyler and Kristy Kudlick, Mallory Zabinski, Tamara Clarke, Owen Haney, John Pawlewicz, Robert MacClurg, Suzanne Tobin, Deputy Town Clerk; Rosemary Tozzi, Town Clerk.

Retirement Proclamation for Thomas Finn: Thomas Finn retired from his position as an MEO with the Town of Marcellus Highway Department. Thomas was recognized for his twenty-two plus year career and his dedication to both his position and our community.

PUBLIC HEARING- Local Law No. A of 2026 12-month Moratorium on Solar Battery Storage Facilities:

Supervisor Attley opened the public hearing at 6:37 PM

Town Counsel, Mr. Gascon; Some solar projects, especially larger solar projects have large ion batteries and when they catch fire, it's difficult for firefighters to fight the fire. They can pose some environmental issues. The Town Board has decided to pass a one-year moratorium on lithium-ion battery storage systems so research can be done on the potential hazards. This will include information based on community involvement and communication with the fire department.

Councilor Pollard pointed out an error in section 6 D. There was an inconsistency with the number of days provided for public hearing and final decision. The errors have been corrected.

There were no other questions or comments from the public or Town Board.

Councilor Clarke made a motion seconded by Councilor Hoey to close the public hearing at 6:40 PM.

Ayes –Attley, Berwald, Clarke, Hoey and Pollard

Carried

Abstract of Audited Vouchers: The Abstract of Audited Vouchers was given to the Board Members as submitted by the Town Clerk. Abstract #4 for April 7, 2026. Claim # 159448

	Expense	
General Fund		\$320.94

Total \$320.94

Abstract of Audited Vouchers: The Abstract of Audited Vouchers was given to the Board Members as submitted by the Town Clerk. Abstract #4 for April 15, 2026. Claim #'s 159449-159482.

	Expense	
General Fund		\$9,749.92
Part Town General		476.10
Townwide Highway		1,735.83
Part Town Highway		5,561.00
Sewer District		48,989.98
Total		\$66,512.83

Councilor Hoey made a motion seconded by Councilor Berwald to approve the Abstract of Audited Vouchers and pay the bills for April 7, 2026, and April 15, 2026.

Ayes –Attley, Berwald, Clarke, Hoey and Pollard Carried

Old Business:

Proposed 12-month Moratorium on Solar Battery Storage Facilities: No action was taken on the 12-month moratorium. The GML referral will be reviewed on April 22, 2026, by the Onondaga Planning and Zoning Board.

Parks and Recreation Lake George Day Trip & Adirondack Adventure Overnight Trip: A Lake George trip is scheduled for July 21, 2026. The package includes round-trip motor coach transportation, lunch cruise on the Lac Du Saint Sacrement, Lake George Outlets, visit to Martha’s Dandee Cream (purchase on your own) and taxes and gratuities. The trip will depart at 7:30 AM from Marcellus and the estimated arrival time home is 8:30 PM. The cost per person is \$160.00. Adirondack overnight trip is scheduled for October 1-2, 2026 and includes round trip motor coach transportation, one-night accommodation, one breakfast, one lunch voucher, two dinners (one on a sightseeing cruise), admission to The Wild Center, guided tour of Lake Placid, admission to Olympic Center Museum, visit to John Brown’s Farm, cruise on W.W. Durant (Raquette Lake), Baggage handling (one bag per person) and all taxes and gratuities. The trip will depart from Marcellus on October 1, 2026, at 8:00 AM and return to Marcellus at an estimated arrival time of 9:30 PM on October 2, 2026. The price is determined per person and by room occupancy. More information is available through the Parks and Recreation office.

Councilor Clarke made a motion seconded by Councilor Hoey to approve the Lake George and Adirondack adventure trips hosted by the Marcellus Parks and Recreation Department.

Ayes –Attley, Berwald, Clarke, Hoey and Pollard Carried

New Business:

David’s Refuge 5K Run/Walk: David's Refuge is a nonprofit based in Central New York. They have offices in Liverpool, Syracuse, and Rochester. They serve caregivers that have children with special needs or life-threatening medical conditions. It was founded in 2012, and serves over a thousand families a year, across New York State, but mostly in Central and Western New York, and serves caregivers that are based in Marcellus. **Rebekah Andre** from David’s Refuge is requesting permission to revise the previously approved proposal for the 5K run/walk fundraiser at Marcellus Park. The number of participants has increased; the course will now include the use of some roads and the park and incorporate music

throughout the race. The event will be held on Saturday, July 25, 2026, with a start time at 8:00 AM. The organization will coordinate with the Village Police Department and Fire Department to ensure emergency vehicles will be on site.

Supervisor Attley made a motion seconded by Councilor Clarke to approve the revised plans for David's Refuge 5K Run/Walk on July 25, 2026.

Ayes –Attley, Berwald, Clarke, Hoey and Pollard

Carried

Justice Court Annual Fall Conference: The Court Clerk is requesting permission for herself and her Deputy Court Clerk to attend the 46th Annual Fall Court Clerks Conference which will be held in Albany, New York, September 28th-30th 2026. The conference provides valuable training and updates on current laws, procedures and best practices that are directly relevant to the daily operation of the court.

Councilor Berwald made a motion seconded by Councilor Hoey to approve the Court Clerk and Deputy Court Clerk to attend the Annual Fall Court Clerks Conference.

Ayes –Attley, Berwald, Clarke, Hoey and Pollard

Carried

Town Historian: Peg Nolan has stepped down from her position as the Town and Village Historian due to health issues. On behalf of our governing body and the residents of Marcellus we would like to recognize and thank Peg who has devoted herself to preserving the story of our town. While she is stepping away from this position, her contributions will remain a lasting part of this town. We are grateful for all she has given.

Marcellus Resident, Linda Wilcox spoke to Peg Nolan's daughter offering for the Historical Society to take position of her records and keep them secure at the Historical Society.

Councilor Pollard made a motion seconded by Councilor Clarke to appoint Linda Wilcox as the Town Historian.

Ayes –Attley, Berwald, Clarke, Hoey and Pollard

Carried

Easement: Mike Ossit, Highway Superintendent, was looking for clarification and informing the Town Board of current and possible future issues with drainage easements.

Funds Transfer/Purchase Ferris Zero Turn Mower: Don MacLachlan, Park and Recreation Director is requesting approval to transfer funds in the amount of \$15,497 from General Fund Balance (A911) and place in Park Equipment Machine Equipment (A.7110.2000) for the purchase of a new Ferris ISX3300 2026 Zero Turn Mower. The Park Department will be trading in the Highway Department's Husqvarna mower and giving the Highway Department one of their mowers.

Councilor Berwald made a motion seconded by Councilor Pollard to approve the fund transfer in the amount of \$15,497 from General Fund Balance (A911) and place in Park Equipment Machine Equipment (A.7110.2000) for the purchase of a new Ferris ISX3300 2026 Zero Turn Mower.

Ayes –Attley, Berwald, Clarke, Hoey and Pollard

Carried

Discussion Agenda:

Fire Department: The Fire Department will be hosting a pancake breakfast on April 26, 2026. They inquired if there is any progress with switching their workers' compensation insurance to a different company.

James Gascon, Town Counsel there is nothing illegal with the Fire Department having their own policy separate from the Town's policy. It states in the contract that the Town is responsible for paying the fees. The Fire Department should present the Town Board with documents regarding the new policy they would like.

Fire Department Financials: The Marcellus Fire Department turned in their financial statements through March 31, 2026, and the chief's report. A copy is available at the Town Clerk's Office upon request during business hours 8:30AM-4:00PM Monday through Friday.

MAVES Call Report: MAVES presented their call report for Q1 2026: January 1st- March 31, 2026. A copy is available at the Town Clerk's Office upon request during business hours 8:30AM-4:00PM Monday through Friday.

AED: The Town has three AEDs located at Town Hall, welcome center and in the maintenance building at the park. The Town has not held a training course in a few years. There was discussion regarding hosting a CPR and AED training course for Town employees. More information will be provided.

Supervisor Attley, the Platt Road pump station's pump is failing. It is a two-week turnaround once ordered. Supervisor Attley approved the purchase of a new pump on an emergency basis. The cost of the pump is around \$11,000.

Councilor Clarke: John Longuil passed away. He was a teacher and coach for forty plus years in Marcellus. We would like to recognize him.

Phyllis Fenner passed away. She was a first-grade teacher for 47 years in Marcellus. We would like to recognize her.

Adjournment: Councilor Berwald made a motion seconded by Councilor Clarke to adjourn the Workshop Meeting at 7:18 PM.

Ayes –Attley, Berwald, Clarke, Hoey and Pollard

Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemary Tozzi
Town Clerk