

R'VILLE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Volume 2, Issue 1

March, 2015

Draft Minutes, Town Special/Informal Meeting, January 21, 2015

The Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville held a Special/Informal meeting on the 21st day of January 2015 at 10:30 AM at the Rensselaerville Town Hall, 87 Barger Road, Medusa, NY. The meeting was requested by Frank Commisso from the Albany County Comptroller's Office to introduce himself and Thomas Cetrino, Research Consultant with SUNY New Paltz.

PRESENT WERE: Supervisor Valerie Lounsbury, Councilwoman Marion Cooke, Councilman Gerald Wood, Councilwoman Margaret Sedlmeir

Also present were Frank Commisso and Ashley Brennan from the Albany County Comptroller's Office and Thomas Cetrino, Research Consultant from SUNY New Paltz.

The purpose of this meeting was to explain the study being done by Albany County in cooperation with SUNY New Paltz to identify pathways to furthering intergovernmental collaboration within the County in an effort to reduce costs and to set areas of priority for the study.

Albany County is made up of 20 governmental agencies and a majority of them are interested in participating in the County's program. SUNY New Paltz will be creating the database that will contain all the local government employees and their information.

Under the law Government agencies that do not wish to participate in the County's GEP program, may create their own program. An incentive under the County-wide plan is that a 1% savings must be shown collectively; i.e. each municipality does not need to show a 1% savings independently.

Regardless, the 1% savings is sometimes difficult to document. For example, volunteers that perform repairs and miscellaneous tasks that would otherwise be contracted out save the Town tremendous amounts of money, but cannot be documented. Volunteers that drive the Senior/Youth Bus and Car are another example.

The Town of Rensselaerville has been initiating savings for quite some time. Some examples are as follows:

1. The Highway Department has worked with neighboring towns and vice-versa and has also shared equipment;
2. The Town does not have a lot of full-time employees except for the Highway Department, the Recycling Coordinator, and the Town Clerk;
3. The Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector will be performing his own clerical duties, accepting half of the clerk's salary. This also eliminates a part-time position.
4. Health insurance is not available to part-time employees;
5. Sharing the Senior/Youth Bus and Town car with the Town of Westerlo;

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6. Sharing training expenses with the Towns of Westerlo and Greenville;
7. Hiring of temporary employees in the Highway Department for the summer;
8. Changes have been made in retiree's benefits; and
9. Switching to a high-deductible health insurance plan.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED;
Victoria H. Kraker
Town Clerk



Draft Minutes, Town Board Meeting, February 12, 2015

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville was held on the 12th day of February 2015 at 7 o'clock in the evening at the Rensselaerville Town Hall, 87 Barger Road, Medusa, NY. The meeting was convened by Supervisor Valerie Lounsbury and the roll was called with the following results:

PRESENT WERE: Attorney Tom Fallati, Supervisor Valerie Lounsbury, Councilman Robert Bolte, Councilwoman Margaret Sedlmeir, Councilman Gerald Wood, Town Clerk Victoria H. Kraker
ABSENT WAS: Councilwoman Marion Cooke

Also present were Highway Superintendent Randy Bates, Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector Mark Overbaugh, Assessor Richard Tollner, Water/Sewer Treatment Officer Doug Story, Recycling Coordinator Jon Whitbeck, and Investigator Tracy Mance from the Albany County Sheriff's Department. Also present were seven interested citizens.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Brenda Wood and Robert Boellner presented the Town with a check for \$42,000.00 from the Rensselaerville Volunteer Ambulance as payment towards the Advanced Life Support program. Supervisor Lounsbury, on behalf of everyone, thanked the Ambulance, not only for the check, but for all that they do. Mrs. Wood stated that a 'thank-you' was the best payment they could ask for.

Marie Dermody asked about the draft minutes that she had for the January 21st meeting and why the Board was not approving them with the other January meetings. Supervisor Lounsbury responded by stating that the Board had also received them recently and needed a reasonable amount of time to review them.

Mrs. Dermody also inquired as to why the meeting was not put on the Community Calendar. Supervisor Lounsbury stated that the meeting was advertised in the Altamont Enterprise, but apologized for it not being on the Calendar.

Mrs. Dermody wished to make a comment on the January 8th Regular Meeting minutes. She inquired as to why many of the audience comments that were actually dispersed throughout the meeting, were placed all together in one section of the minutes titled "Audience Comments". She also

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Draft Minutes, Town Board Meeting, February 12, 2015

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wished to note that there were nine comments made and only three were listed.

Jost Nicklesberg recommended that the Town Board get to know other representatives in the other towns and make connections so that we have strength in numbers.

MINUTES

Supervisor Lounsbury inquired into how the Board felt about the January 8th minutes and if the audience comments should be stricken or placed throughout wherever they were stated. Councilwoman Sedlmeir felt they should be left as is. Councilman Wood felt that the minutes should be left as is for now, but in the future all the comments should be included. The consensus is that a notation be made indicating other comments were made and that they were stated throughout.

A motion was made by Councilman Wood to approve the minutes of the following meetings: January 2, 2015 – Organizational; January 6, 2015 – Public Hearing – Tax Cap Override; January 6, 2015– Work Meeting; January 8, 2015 – Regular Meeting (as corrected)

The motion was seconded by Councilman Bolte. *Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0)*

TRANSFERS: None

ABSTRACTS/VOUCHERS: General Fund - \$57,362.76; Highway Fund - \$96,772.44; Ambulance Fund - \$15,000.00; Fire Protection Fund - \$147,500.00; Lighting District - \$1,451.73; Sewer Fund - \$563.82; Water Fund - \$1,065.53; TA Fund - \$6,943.52. Total Abstracts - \$326,659.80

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to pay all signed vouchers; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir. *Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0)*

CORRESPONDENCE: A ‘thank-you’ letter along with a donation towards the maintenance of the Senior/Youth Bus was received from Sue Britton, Linda McCormick and Perry Moak in sincere appreciation for the use of the bus. They have made use of the bus on several occasions as it is the only way to transport their parents from the nursing home where they reside. They especially thanked Bob Bolte and Tom Snyder for their donation of time and service and noted what a positive difference the bus has made in the lives of many.

Supervisor Lounsbury also wished to express appreciation and to thank all the drivers, as without them, this service would not be possible.

REPORTS

SUPERVISOR

1. Supervisor Lounsbury congratulated Kathryn Wank on her completion of the Basic Appraisal Principals course and complemented her on her hard work towards her certification.

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to accept the Supervisor’s report; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir. *Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0)*

ATTORNEY

1. Attorney Fallati announced the adoption of the National Flood Insurance Law. FEMA has required all Towns to update their flood insurance laws to comply with new standards. Attorney Fallati read the Resolution as follows:

RESOLUTION OF THE
TOWN OF RENSSELAERVILLE
TOWN BOARD

WHEREAS, the Town has been advised by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the

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New York State Department of Environmental Conservation ("DEC") of the need to adopt a local law that incorporates the regulations required to maintain the Town's eligibility to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program ("NFIP"); and

WHEREAS, the Town presented a draft local law (attached hereto) to the DEC on January 15, 2015, which the DEC found acceptable for the Town's continued participation in the NFIP; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board conducted a hearing on the attached proposed Local Law No. 2 of 2015 on February 10, 2015; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board wishes to adopt the proposed Local Law No. 2 of 2015 and maintain the Town's continued participation in the NFIP;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the duly convened Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville, Albany County, New York, ordains and enacts the attached Local Law No. 2 of 2015, which is incorporated herein.

By motion made by Robert Bolte, and seconded by Margaret Sedlmeir, the foregoing resolution was adopted by a majority of the members of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville on the 12th day of February 2015 as follows:

Town Board Member	Yes	No	Absent/Abstain
Valerie Lounsbury, Supervisor	X		
Marion Cooke, Councilwoman			Absent
Robert Bolte, Councilman	X		
Margaret Sedlmeir, Councilwoman	X		
Gerald Wood, Councilman	X		

END RESOLUTION

A motion was made by Councilman Wood to accept the Attorney's report; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir. *Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0)*

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

1. Highway Superintendent Bates reported that all the trucks and equipment are up and running. He wished, once again, to express his appreciation for the hard work and the skills of the highway crew that enable these trucks to keep going.
2. The salt shed is at 90% capacity and there should be no problem keeping it that way. The news media has led us to believe that there is a salt shortage. However, the issue is more of a delay in the delivery of the salt, not a shortage of supply.
3. Superintendent Bates provided the Board with several quotes on a new truck. He is pleased with the quotes he has received noting that the quotes on this tandem axle truck are only \$13,000 more than what was paid for the single axle truck purchased two years ago. He also noted that obtaining a quote on a higher-end truck could be difficult due to the fact that an accurate quote requires extensive work on the part of the salesman - sometimes in excess of 20 to 30 pages of specs. Some vendors are not inclined to put the work into a quote unless they feel that a purchase is imminent.

Councilman Wood inquired about transferring the truck radios. Superintendent Bates expressed his desire to sell two trucks that already have radios and transfer one of them into the new truck.

Superintendent Bates further explained to Councilman Wood a figure on the quotes which indicates an extended warranty. The extended warranty would cover the engine and after treatment for five

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years. He is in favor of this extended warranty as the Town has the same coverage on the 2010 truck. The warranty on the 2010 International has been used extensively; it has been back for warranty work eight times. If that were to be paid out-of-pocket, it would have cost several thousands of dollars.

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to accept the Highway Superintendent's report, 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir. *Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Wood, and Cooke; Nays (0)*

TOWN CLERK: Town Clerk Kraker reported for the month of January as follows: Town Clerk Department – Total Collected \$671.3; Paid to the Supervisor - \$654.31 - the breakdown is as follows: Clerk Fees - \$93.75; Recycling - \$35.00; Dog Licenses - \$110.00; Kennel Boarding - \$30.00; Building Permits - \$350.56; Zoning - \$35.00. Total: \$654.31

Fees paid to NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets for the 'Animal Population Control Program' aka 'dog surcharge'- \$17.00; Electronic sweep from the Town Clerk's checking account for the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation - Sporting licenses - \$0

Town Clerk Kraker also presented the 2014 Annual Town Clerk Report as follows: Total Collected/ Deposited for 2014 : \$21,271.83. Total Paid to Supervisor: Mid Hudson Franchise Fees - \$2,590.00; Clerk Fees - \$1,462.54; Recycling - \$957.00; Dog Licenses - \$1,619.00; Kennel Boarding - \$216.00; Building Permits - \$3,839.10; Planning Fees - \$800.00; Zoning Fees - \$780.00; Veteran's Memorial Donations - \$200.00; Senior/Youth Bus Donations - \$282.00

Total Paid to New York State Agriculture & Markets Dog Licenses – State Surcharge - \$287.00; Total Paid to New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Sporting Licenses - \$8,216.69; Total Paid to New York State Department of Health Marriage Licenses - \$22.50. Total: \$21,271.83. Number of Marriage Licenses Issued: ; Number of Death Certificates Issued: 3; Number of Birth Certificates Issued: 1

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to accept the Town Clerk's report; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir. *Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0)*

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER/BUILDING INSPECTOR

1. Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector Overbaugh reported one Home Replacement permit, two Solar Panel permits, and one New Home Construction permit for the month of January.
2. Officer Overbaugh also reported that all 24 Recreational Vehicle Permit Application renewals have been mailed.

A motion was made by Councilman Wood to accept the Code Enforcement/Building Inspector's report; 2nd by Councilman Bolte. *Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0)*

ASSESSORS

1. Assessor Kropp reported that the Assessor's office has been busy preparing for the 2015 Tax Roll.
2. The Assessor's Office has also been processing exemptions as they come in. Second notices have been sent out, which has prompted many to come in, but there are still many who have not yet applied. The deadline is March 1st.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Sedlmeir to accept the Assessor's report; 2nd by Councilman Bolte. *Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0)*

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WATER/SEWER COMMITTEE

1. Water/Sewer Treatment Officer Story reported that for the month of January, 483,100 gallons of water was filtered (an average of 15,600 gallons/day); and 204,850 gallons of sewage was pumped (an average of 6,600 gallons/day).
2. Demand has dropped off consistently since November. In November it was 19,000/day and in December 17,000 gallons/day. This is due to fewer people coming up on the weekends and a number of houses being shut down for the season.
3. In December there was a spike in the amount of sewage that was pumped. For reference, in November 190,000 gallons was pumped and in December 211,000. Officer Story feels the spike was most likely due to the rain event and melting during the middle of December. With the assistance of the Building Inspector, Officer Story hopes to find out where excess water is being put into the system that should not be.

A motion was made by Councilman Wood to accept the Water/Sewer Treatment Officer's report; 2nd by Councilman Bolte. *Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0)*

REFUSE/RECYCLING: Recycling Coordinator Whitbeck presented the 2014 Annual Report as follows:

Green Fiber: 96.75 tons; Rensselaer Iron & Steel: 44.44 tons; Tires: 262; City of Albany Landfill: 707.12 tons; Sierra Fibers: 56.05 tons; Oil: 420 gallons

Recycling Coordinator Whitbeck also presented the monthly report for January 2015 as follows:

Green Fiber: 9.74 tons; Rensselaer Iron & Steel: 0 tons; Tires: 5; City of Albany Landfill: 47.82 tons; Sierra Fibers: 4.33 tons; Oil: 23 gallons

A motion was made by Councilwoman Sedlmeir to accept the Recycling Coordinator's reports; 2nd by Supervisor Lounsbury. *Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0)*

OLD BUSINESS

Thomas Cetrino from SUNY New Paltz, and Frank Commisso and Ashley Brennan from the Albany County Comptroller's Office held an informal meeting for the purpose of introducing the Town to Albany County's Government Efficiency Plan. Their objective was to inform the Town of the plan that Albany County is putting together and to explain what they were looking for. The Town must show a savings of 1% over the course of the next three years in order for taxpayers to receive their rebate. The Town can join the collaboration, but may opt out at any time. Supervisor Lounsbury would like to join the collaboration and work with the other towns in Albany County. Supervisor Lounsbury may at her discretion, choose to join without approval of the Board, however, she would prefer their support. Supervisor Lounsbury requests that a motion be made authorizing her to go forward and join the group.

A joint motion was made by Councilman Wood and Councilwoman Sedlmeir to join the Government Efficiency Plan of Albany County and authorized Supervisor Lounsbury to take that action. The motion was seconded by Councilman Bolte. *Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0)*

NEW BUSINESS

1. Supervisor Lounsbury has spoken to Highway Superintendent Bates regarding Auctions Interna-

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tional. Signing the contract with Auctions International will authorize the Town to advertise for the sale of goods. There is no charge to the seller and the Town maintains the right to refuse any and all bids. Supervisor Lounsbury needs authorization to sign the contract.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Sedlmeir to authorize Supervisor Lounsbury to join the on-line auction and to sign the contract; 2nd by Councilman Bolte. *Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0)*

2. Albany County is putting together a mutual aid program similar to what the local fire companies have here. Highway Superintendent Bates has reviewed the mutual aid contract and has agreed to be the designated representative for this program. He would be contacted as he would be the one who would have the most knowledge as to availability of equipment and personnel. Supervisor Lounsbury needs authorization to sign the contract designating Superintendent Randy Bates as the designated representative.

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to sign the contract designating Randy Bates as the representative of the Albany County Mutual Aid Program; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir. *Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0)*

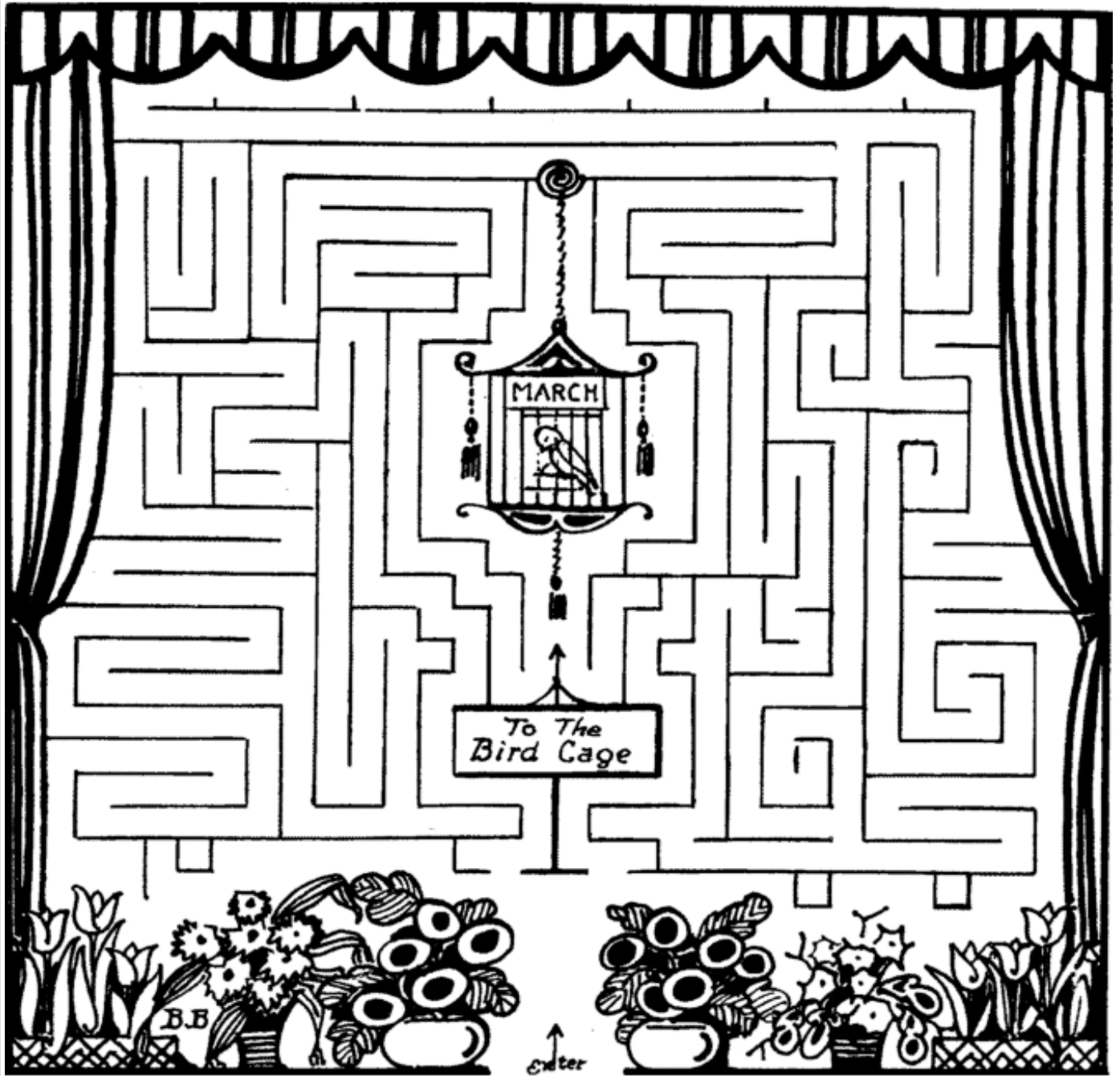
CURRENT EVENTS & AUDIENCE COMMENTS

1. Councilwoman Sedlmeir announced that she has been working with Tom Snyder and Investigator Tracy Mance to organize an event for the seniors at their regular Tuesday meeting at the Medusa Fire House this April. Investigator Mance will give an informative presentation on important safety issues and answer any questions any of the seniors have concerns about.
2. Councilwoman Sedlmeir would also like to look into scheduling the first meeting for the Town-wide picnic organizers.
3. Investigator Mance announced that there will be a snowmobiling event at Lawson's Lake this coming Sunday from 10 AM to 2 PM, weather permitting.
4. Marie Dermody inquired as to where the Town was with the Zoning Law. Supervisor Lounsbury stated that copies will be made as soon as Attorney Fallati has completed his review of the document. Copies will be available at Town Hall, as it is a very lengthy document, and it will also be available on the Town's website.
5. Marie Dermody mentioned that she understands the official Town Newsletter is limited to Town Board minutes and Community Calendar events, but inquired as to why Special Meetings and Public Hearings were not included and stated that subscribers should be entitled to that kind of Town Board information as well. Supervisor Lounsbury will mention this to the committee.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 PM; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir. *Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0)*

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED;
Victoria H. Kraker
Town Clerk

MARCH - MONTHLY MAZE



Civilian Police Academy

The Albany County Sheriff's Civilian Police Academy is a comprehensive program created to bring a closer working relationship between the citizens of Albany County and the Sheriff's Office. The purpose of the Academy is to promote understanding between the community and law enforcement through education and interaction. Residents will have the opportunity to meet and interact with members of the sheriff's office and will learn the services they provide.

For more information: (518) 720-8010

Academy Topics

- Patrol Operations
- Search and Rescue
- K-9
- Firearm Safety
- Emergency Management
- Corrections
- Criminal Investigations
- Much More!

Who Is Eligible?

Albany County Residents
18 years of age or older
No Criminal Record
Work in Albany County



The upcoming 9-week academy session will begin on April 7, 2015 and will meet Tuesday evenings at the Albany County Sheriffs Public Safety Building in Clarksville. Please see the application form for more details. The deadline to apply for this session is March 31, 2015.

Registration Documents: *The following documents are in PDF format.*

Civilian Police Academy Application

Civilian Police Academy Release, Hold Harmless and Indemnification Agreement

Civilian Police Academy Emergency Contact Information

Please print out and complete all three documents, and return them to:

First Sergeant Martin F. Zaloga
Albany County Sheriff's Office
16 Eagle St., Room 412
Albany NY 12207

Issue Number: IRS Tax Tip 2015-20
Inside This Issue

Stay Vigilant Against Bogus IRS Phone Calls and Emails

Tax scams take many different forms. Recently, the most common scams are phone calls and emails from thieves who pretend to be from the IRS. They use the IRS name, logo or a fake website to try to steal your money. They may try to steal your identity too. Here are several tips from the IRS to help you avoid being a victim of these tax scams:

The real IRS **will not**:

- Initiate contact with you by phone, email, text or social media to ask for your personal or financial information.
- Call you and demand immediate payment. The IRS will not call about taxes you owe without first mailing you a bill.
- Require that you pay your taxes a certain way. For example, telling you to pay with a prepaid debit card.

Be wary if you get a phone call from someone who claims to be from the IRS and demands that you pay immediately. Here are some steps you can take to avoid and stop these scams.

If you don't owe taxes or have no reason to think that you do:

- Contact the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration. Use TIGTA's "[IRS Impersonation Scam Reporting](#)" web page to report the incident.
- You should also report it to the Federal Trade Commission. Use the "[FTC Complaint Assistant](#)" on [FTC.gov](#). Please add "IRS Telephone Scam" to the comments of your report.

If you think you may owe taxes:

- Ask for a call back number and an employee badge number.
- Call the IRS at [800-829-1040](tel:800-829-1040). IRS employees can help you.

In most cases, an IRS phishing scam is an unsolicited, bogus email that claims to come from the IRS. They often use fake refunds, phony tax bills, or threats of an audit. Some emails link to sham websites that look real. The scammers' goal is to lure victims to give up their personal and financial information. If they get what they're after, they use it to steal a victim's money and their identity.

If you get a 'phishing' email, the IRS offers this advice:

- Don't reply to the message.
- Don't give out your personal or financial information.
- Forward the email to phishing@irs.gov. Then delete it.
- Don't open any attachments or click on any links. They may have malicious code that will infect your computer.

Stay alert to scams that use the IRS as a lure. More information on how to [report phishing or phone scams](#) is available on [IRS.gov](#).

Additional IRS Resources:

- [Identity Protection Tips](#)
- [Identity Protection Home Page](#)

IRS YouTube Videos:

- *Tax Scams* – [English](#) | [Spanish](#) | [ASL](#)
- *Phishing-Malware* – [English](#) | [Spanish](#) | [ASL](#)
- *IRS Efforts On Identity Theft* – [English](#) | [Spanish](#) | [ASL](#)
- *IRS ID Theft FAQ – First Steps for Victims* – [English](#) | [Spanish](#) | [ASL](#)
- *IRS ID Theft FAQ – Going After the Bad Guys* – [English](#) | [Spanish](#) | [ASL](#)

IRS Podcasts:

- *Tax Scams* – [English](#) | [Spanish](#)
- *ID Theft: Protect Yourself from Identity Theft* – [English](#) | [Spanish](#)
- *IRS ID Theft FAQ – First Steps for Victims* – [English](#) | [Spanish](#)
- *IRS ID Theft FAQ – Going After the Bad Guys* – [English](#) | [Spanish](#)

Did you know

... certain Town officials and union representatives would like us to believe that “call-out pay” (whereby highway employees are paid from the moment they receive a call to return to work because of weather issues) as mentioned in last month’s *R’ville Community Newsletter* is an industry standard? Recent, informal research indicates, however, that that’s not quite true since county and state highway employees do not receive call-out pay.

Move Breathe Relax

YOGA: Tue. & Thu. 9-10:15 am
PILATES: Wed. 5:45-6:15 pm & Sat. 9-10 am

Classes Open to All at Conkling Hall in Rensselaerville

Sarah Nelson Weiss, CYT
savitrisarah@gmail.com, 518-239-6825

Fees: Wed Pilates—\$7.00
All Others—\$12.00

POST OFFICE INFORMATION<http://www.usps.com>

MEDUSA POST OFFICE: Phone 518-239-4826
 (19 COUNTY ROUTE 351 MEDUSA, NY 12120)

Retail Hours: Mon-Fri 8:00am - 12:00pm; Sat 7:30am - 11:15am

Last Collection Hours: Mon-Fri 4:15pm; Sat 11:15am

Lobby Hours: Mon-Fri 8:00am - 5:00pm; Sat 8:00am - 11:30am



PRESTON HOLLOW POST OFFICE: Phone 518-239-6111
 (2930 ROUTE 145 PRESTON HOLLOW, NY 12469)

Retail Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30am - 10:30am; 3:00pm - 5:00pm
 Sat 9:00am - 12:00pm

Last Collection Hours: Mon-Fri 5:00pm; Sat 12:00pm

Lobby Hours: Mon-Sat 12:01am - 11:59pm



RENSSELAERVILLE POST OFFICE: Phone 518-797-3231
 (26 COUNTY ROUTE 353 RENSSELAERVILLE, NY 12147)

Retail Hours: Mon-Fri 8:00am - 12:00pm
 Sat 8:00am - 11:00am

Last Collection Hours: Mon-Fri 4:15pm; Sat 11:30am

Lobby Hours: Mon-Fri 8:00am - 5:00pm; Sat 8:00am - 11:30am



FROM THE EDITORS: Please be advised that the minutes for the January 8, 2015, Town Board meeting have been amended to include this statement at the end of the second Audience Comments: “*** Note: some of the above comments were made during the course of the meeting.”

It is important to note that there are several comments made by an audience member at this meeting that were not included in these minutes at all. We find it troublesome that the Town Board chooses to be selective in terms of what comments they publish and what comments they choose to not publish.

Although Town Board minutes do not need to be an exact transcript of the proceedings, they certainly should be all-inclusive. Either publish all comments or publish no comments — just be consistent, not selective.

**Senior
Services**
of Albany

Offering Choice,
Independence and Dignity



*Do You Have an Elderly Parent?
Do You Know an Elderly Neighbor?*

We'd Like to Introduce You To

Helderberg Haven

A New Social Adult Day Program for Hilltown Seniors

The Helderberg Haven Day Program emphasizes social and recreational activities in a group setting and welcomes guests 60 and older, we offer:

- Breakfast, lunch and a snack
- A safe and interactive community
- Companionship

FUNDING & TRANSPORTATION IS AVAILABLE

*Helderberg Lutheran Church
1728 Helderberg Trail (Rt. 443), Berne, NY*

*Days of Operation:
Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays
8:30 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.*

For More Information, please call Beth Owen, LMSW
Senior Services of Albany
(518) 694-3511
Email: bowen@seniorservicesofalbany.com
www.seniorservicesofalbany.com

Library News

Rensselaerville Library

March

The Library's Writing Group will meeting on Thursday, March 12th at 7pm. This informal and supportive writing group is designed for writers of all interests, backgrounds and abilities. Participants have time to write and share "works in progress" and receive the support needed. If you have questions please call Linda Miller at 936-4402.

The Library's Poetry Group will be meeting on Tuesday, March 10 & 24 at 7pm. Questions please contact Tom Corrado at tjc123@midtel.net

The Library's Board of Trustees meeting is on Monday, March 16th at 7pm. The Meeting is open to the public.

StoryTime, Friday, March 20th at 5:30 with a Music Theme.

Saturday, March 21, 2pm in the Library Storyteller Nancy Payne will read Norman Cohen's short stories. Mr. Cohen was a 2014 Festival of Writers local writer.

Sunday, March 22, 2pm in the Library poets Leah Umansky and Barbara Ungar will read and sign books.

Friday, March 27th, 7pm in the Library, local caver Mike Warner will share his presentation on the super Caves of China. Mike Warner traveled to China in 2013 with NatGeo as a photographic and logistics assistant to a British team using cutting edge technology as they laser mapped China's Supercaves. The Team's journey was documented in the July 2014 issue of National Geographic Magazine.

Saturday, March 28th, 10:30-12:30pm combine words and images in a visual poetry workshop in the Library with Katrinka Moore. Space is limited to 15 participants. Please register by March 24th.

April

April is National Poetry Month and there will be a number of events scheduled throughout the month.

The Library has NYS Tax Forms and Instructions. Prepare and e-file your returns for FREE. If your income is \$58,000 or less, you can electronically prepare and file your income tax returns for FREE. You must use the web address below to access the free software for both your federal and state returns. www.tax.ny.gov/pit/efile

The Library DOES NOT have Federal Forms. You can visit the IRS web site to obtain the forms you need. www.irs.gov/Filing

The Library's Web Site has been redesigned. Come visit www.rensselaervillelibrary.org We also have a Facebook page

Hours: Sunday, Monday Closed
Tuesday, Wednesday 10am - 12pm; 4pm - 9pm
Thursday, Friday 4pm - 9pm
Saturday 9am - 1pm

Contact information: 1459 Route 351, Rensselaerville, NY 12147
(518) 797-3949; Fax (518) 797-5211

www.rensselaervillelibrary.org

Director Kimberly Graff: director@rensselaervillelibrary.org

(Continued on page 15)

Library News (cont'd)

(Continued from page 14)

Middleburgh Library

Mar 3 10:45am Drop-in Storytime - Get ready to move in this interactive storytime especially for children ages 0-5 and their caregivers. We'll read books, sing songs, recite fingerplays, dance and watch a short movie based on a weekly theme. No registration required. (Also meets Feb 10, 17, 24)

Library Assistant Katie Caprio: library@rensselaervillelibrary.org

Mar 3 1:00pm Mahjogg - In the Community Room (Also meets Feb 10, 7, 24)

Mar 4 5:00-6:15pm Kundalini Yoga - Facilitated by Debra Krol, involves repetitive movements with the breath, building strength, toning the nerves and clearing the adrenal glands. Wear comfortable clothing and bring 2 blankets or a mat and blanket. A \$5.00 donation is requested. Use the back entrance when entering the building. No registration required. (Also meets Mar 18)

Mar 5 10:00am Beginning Tai Chi for Health and Fitness - Tai Chi: Reduce pain and stiffness, helps you improve the ability to cope with stress and depression, increase concentration and memory, aid in balance and coordination, build muscle strength and stamina, improve posture, biomechanics, circulation, and heart and lung function. Basic Sun style Tai Chi will be taught in this 6 week session. Please wear comfortable, loose fitting clothing. A \$5.00 donation per class is required. Registration is required. (Also meets Mar 12, 19, 26)

Mar 5 11:00am Advanced Tai Chi for Health and Fitness - Tai Chi: Reduce pain and stiffness, helps you improve the ability to cope with stress and depression, increase concentration and memory, aid in balance and coordination, build muscle strength and stamina, improve posture, biomechanics, circulation, and heart and lung function. Advanced Sun style Tai Chi will be taught in this 6 week session. You must have completed the beginner class to register for this class. Please wear comfortable, loose fitting clothing. A \$5.00 donation per class is required. Registration is required. (Also meets Mar 12, 19, 26)

Mar 5 7:00pm Knitting Circle - These friendly ladies (men are welcome, but we haven't seen any yet!) knit and crochet, embroider and quilt, and more. You can learn a new skill here or share your own special talents with others - or just craft in the company of friends. Drop in anytime! No registration required. (Also meets Mar 12, 19, 26)

Mar 9 6:30pm Board of Trustees Meeting - Meetings are open to the public and all are invited to attend.

Mar 11 11:00am Doodlebugs: Preschool Art Exploration - Doodlebugs is preschool art exploration for little ones and their caregivers. Appropriate for ages two and up. Registration is required.

Mar 15 2:00pm Reel Talk Film Festival: You are welcome to join our new Documentary Film & Discussion series, Reel Talk. Our next movie will be announced soon! Registra-

(Continued on page 16)

Library News (cont'd)

(Continued from page 15)

tion is required. Refreshments will be served.

Mar 21 11:00am Crock-Pot Cookoff: It's time to crank up your crock pots! The Middleburgh Library is holding its 6th Annual Crock Pot Cook - Off and we are looking for cook's to enter their creations in the categories of Chili, Desserts or Other. It is free to enter your crock pot in the competition but you must pre-register at the library or online. All crock pots should be to the library by 10:30 AM and should arrive already hot - please bring a serving utensil with you. Prizes will be given in each category and will be drawn at 2:00pm.

If you just would like to come and eat, sampling of crock pot fare and voting begins at 11:00 and goes until 2:00. Admission is \$5.00 for adults and children over 5. Children under 5 are free. Beverages will be available for an additional \$1.00 each. Tickets are available at the door.

All proceeds benefit the Middleburgh Library.

Mar 25 11:00am Start with Science: Preschool Science Exploration! - Preschoolers' ages three to five will learn about basic science through stories and hands on science activities. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Registration is required.

Mar 26 7:00pm The Not So Quiet Concert Series: "Mist Covered Mountains" - Mist Covered Mountains are masterful Celtic roots musicians based out of New England. Three-part harmonies, virtuoso fiddling and fingerstyle guitar set them apart and they ably set the stage for each song. Tickets are available at the door. A \$10.00 donation is suggested.

Mar 27 5:30pm Dinner & a Movie: Unbroken (PG-13): Join us as we screen the film Unbroken: The life of Louis Zamperini, an Olympic athlete who joined the armed forces during the second world war. Only to be captured by the Japanese navy after a plane crash in the Pacific. During his capture, Louie must continue his fight by surviving through the war. The library will provide pizza, salad and drinks and you bring a dessert or snack to share. Register early as this one fills up fast! Please note that this film is rated PG-13 and is unsuitable for young children.

The events calendar for the Middleburgh Library can be found at:

<http://engagedpatrons.org/EventsCalendar.cfm?SiteID=8616&thisMonth=12&thisYear=2014>

Contact information: 323 Main Street, Middleburgh, NY 12122

(518) 827-5142

[Www.middleburghlibrary.info](http://www.middleburghlibrary.info)

Tax Assistance Information:

If your income is under \$60,000 you qualify to receive assistance from NY State Tax Dept. Volunteers. The volunteer will be in the library on March 11th and 18th to provide free guidance to those taxpayers who are electronically preparing and filing their own tax returns. You must sign up in the Library for an appointment with the volunteer. Appointments will be scheduled all day, 11am - 7pm.

You can borrow the IRS 1040 instructions. Check them out for two weeks. We also have a binder with the instructions if you just need to look something up. We can also help with printing forms. We have the most common NYS Tax forms in the Library.

You can also visit the Library's web site for more tax information.

<http://www.rensselaervillelibrary.org/tax-help.html>



**BREAKFAST
AT THE MEDUSA FIRE HOUSE**

7:00AM TO 11:00AM

~~September 2, 2014~~

~~January 17, 2015~~

~~October 18, 2014~~

~~February 21, 2015~~

~~November 15, 2014~~

March 21, 2015

~~December 20, 2014~~

April 18, 2015

PLEASE JOIN US TO SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL FIRE DEPT

Fresh, hot, all-you-can-eat breakfast made to order

Free will offering

It's been a long winter! Don't miss out!

Chicken BBQ-Take-out only

Sponsored by the Rensselaerville Volunteer Fire Dept. Battalion

Saturday, March 28, 2015
4:00-6:00 pm - \$12 per Dinner
at Rensselaerville Firehouse, Route 85
Pre-sale Tickets Available
Quantity of Dinners are Limited

For Inquiry, Call Kris Tanner 797-5287 or Rosie Kuhar 797-3360
Or complete ticket below & mail with check payable to RVFD Battalion
to: Kris Tanner, 695 Hale Rd., Rensselaerville, NY 12147
Tickets & money must be received no later than 03/16/15. Upon
receipt, confirmation call will be made to confirm order. Thank you.

RVFD Battalion Chicken BBQ - Take Out - Saturday, March 28, 2015			
Select Pick Up Time:			
4:00 pm	4:30 pm	5:00 pm	5:30 pm
Name: _____			
Telephone #: _____ or email address: _____			
# of Dinners: _____ @ \$12 each			
Total Paid \$ _____ Cash or Check # _____			
Received by _____			
***All orders must be received by 3/16/15 and confirmation of order will be made. Make checks payable to RVFD Battalion. Mail check and order form to Kris Tanner, 695 Hale Road, Rensselaerville, NY 12147. Thank you.			

Senior Citizens Info

The Town offers car service Mon-Fri by appointment only. Contact Town Hall at 239-4225 or 797-3798 for doctor appointments. The Senior bus also goes shopping on Thursday either to Cobleskill or Catskill. Call Ruth & Tom Snyder (239-4376) the day before about riding the bus if you are interested.

The Town of Rensselaerville Senior Citizens meet the 2nd Tuesday of every month at Medusa Fire House at noon. Anyone 55 years of age and older can join. **Dues are \$8.00 a year due in June.** We collect \$1.00 a month at the meeting for coffee, milk, etc. Please bring a covered dish to share. We eat promptly at noon and the meeting commences afterward. We have a picnic in August; in November, we have a Thanksgiving dinner at a local restaurant; and in December we have a Christmas dinner also. We have bus trips in the summer and fall. For further information, call Tom Snyder, President, at 239-4376.

Please note that we are in desperate need of drivers for the bus and the car. Please call Ann Vogel at 797-3376 if you're interested in volunteering as a driver for our senior citizens.

Additional Important Phone Numbers:

- Department of Aging 447-7179
- HEAP: 447-2551



You are cordially invited to a Meet & Greet with

Dan Egan



***When? Monday, March 9, 2015
6 - 8 pm***

***Where: 30 Bradt Hollow Road
Berne, NY 12023***

***Why: Dan Egan is mounting a primary
challenge against County
Executive Dan McCoy.***

***Meet with Dan Egan and share your
thoughts on matters concerning
Albany County***

All are welcome to attend!

On The Calendar

Mar 1 & every Sunday	10am	Church Service All are invited.	Medusa United Church of Christ
Mar 9	6-8pm	Dan Egan Meet & Greet See information on page 19.	
Mar 10	12 noon	Senior Lunch	Medusa Firehouse
Mar 10	7pm	Town Board Work Meeting	Town Hall
Mar 11	11am-7pm	Tax Assistance See page 16 for details.	Rensselaerville Library
Mar 12	7pm	Town Board Regular Meeting	Town Hall
Mar 15		NYS Annual Burn Ban begins	
Mar 11	11am-7pm	Tax Assistance See page 16 for details.	Rensselaerville Library
Mar 21	7-11am	Medusa VFD Breakfast Free will offering	Medusa Firehouse
Mar 21	8am-2pm	Winter Rummage Sale "Eat & Shop in Medusa"	Medusa Church
Mar 28	4-6pm	RVFD Chicken BBQ Take-Out only - See page 18.	RVFD Firehouse
Apr 4		RVFD Easter Egg Hunt Make plans to join the Easter Bunny! Details to follow	
Apr 18	7-11am	Medusa VFD Breakfast Free will offering	Medusa Firehouse



Did you know

..... the Town's website is sorely out-of-date when it comes to the posting of the official minutes of the various boards within Town government?

- The last Town Board minutes that were posted are dated November 18, 2014.
- The last Planning Board minutes that were posted are dated August 8, 2014.
- The last Zoning Board of Appeal minutes that were posted are dated September 4, 2014.

How can a citizenry expected to be informed of their Town's governance when such vital information is not readily available to the public?

Contact Information for Elected Officials & Department Heads

Position	Name	Email Address
Town Supervisor	Valerie Lounsbury	vlounsbury@rensselaerville.com townsupervisor@rensselaerville.com
Town Councilwoman	Marion Cooke	mcooke@rensselaerville.com
Town Councilman	Robert Bolte	rbolte@rensselaerville.com
Town Councilwoman	Margaret Sedlmeir	msedlmeir@rensselaerville.com
Town Councilman	Gerald Wood	gwood@rensselaerville.com
Town Justices	Gregory Bischoff Ronald Bates	
Supervisor's Clerk	Sarah Hunt	shunt@rensselaerville.com
Town Clerk	Victoria Kraker	townclerk@rensselaerville.com
Highway Superintendent	Randy Bates	rbates@rensselaerville.com
Assessors	Donna Kropp Richard Tollner Kathryn Wank	assessors@rensselaerville.com
Building Inspector/ Code Enforcement Officer	Mark Overbaugh	codeenforcement@rensselaerville.com
Planning Board	Richard Amedure	mcarney@rensselaerville.com
Zoning Board of Appeals	John Mormile	mcarney@rensselaerville.com
Board of Ethics		ethicsboard@rensselaerville.com
Dog Control Officer	Cheryl Baitsholts	Phone: 797-5201
Town Hall		Phone: 239-4225; 797-3798 Fax: 239-6339



Did you know

..... that a local county legislator seems to be missing in action? The person who is responsible for representing us at the county level has not attended a Town Board meeting in months and months. A previous county legislator was taken to task for missing the occasional Town Board meeting. Our current representative has attended one meeting in the last year. How can we be adequately represented with an absentee legislator? And why are we condoning an obvious double standard?

The Back Page

Contributors:

Albany County Sheriff's Dept.
Kimberly Graff
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Sarah Nelson Weiss

Editors:

Nancy Class
Marie Dermody
Georgette Koenig



Happy Birthday to Us!



We have just completed our first full year of publication. We hope we have been providing you with news and information you want and need. If you have any suggestions on how to make this a better newsletter, we'd love to hear from you. Send your comments and suggestions to rvillenewsletter@gmail.com.



From the Editors:

As always, we ask that you make a copy or two of this newsletter to share with friends and neighbors who may not have Internet access. Our readership continues to grow, but we invite others to sign on by sending their email address to rvillenewsletter@gmail.com. We look forward to getting your feedback.

A community newsletter **BY** the community **FOR** the community