

R'VILLE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Volume 3, Issue 12

February, 2017

Draft Minutes, Town Board Final Meeting, December 30, 2016

The Final Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville was held on the 30th day of December 2016 at 7:00 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: Supervisor Valerie Lounsbury, Councilwoman Marion Cooke, Councilman John Dolce, Councilwoman Margaret Sedlmeir, Councilman Gerald Wood, Town Clerk Victoria H. Kraker
Also present was one interested citizen.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS: None

TRANSFERS, VOUCHERS, AND BILLS

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to approve the following Budget Amendments:

- From 'Senior Bus Account' 8514 to 'Budget Line' A7610E 44072 in the amount of \$189.90 for repairs;
- From 'Hydrant Acct.' 2391 to 'Budget Line' SM8390E 22000 in the amount of \$5,425.50 for two new hydrants;
- From 'Trucks' DA5110E 22450 to 'Highway Equip. Fund' 7139 in the amount of \$19,005.00 for savings for new truck purchases; and
- From 'Highway Misc. Equip.' DA 5131E 22999 to 'Highway Misc. Equip. Fund' 5385 in the amount of \$7,741.00 for savings for miscellaneous equipment.

The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, Sedlmeir and Wood; Nays (0)

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to approve the following Budget Modification:

- From 'Assessor Uncert.' A1355E 12255 to 'Assessor Certified' A1355E 12256 in the amount of \$9,270.00 due to all Assessors being certified . (This is to correct an earlier entry error.)

The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, Sedlmeir and Wood; Nays (0)

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to encumber money in SM8390E 22000 in the amount of \$5,425.50 for the Hydrant District to the 2017 Budget. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

(Continued on page 2)

Inside this issue:

Draft Town Board minutes	3	New Service; Kudos	25	Kids' Activity Page	34
Open Letter to TB; New Traffic Laws	19	Sensory Evaluation Workshop	26	R'ville State Creations	35
Senior Citizen Info; Kudos	20	RVFD News; Thank You; Grist Mill News	27	Kids' Coloring Page	36
Home Water Analysis Kit	21	Medusa VFD Breakfast	28	Can You Hear Me Scam	37
Ransomware	22	On the Calendar	29	Contact Info	38
PO Info; Carey Institute for Global Good	24	Library News	30	The Back Page	39

Draft Minutes, Town Board Final Meeting, December 30, 2016

(Continued from page 1)

Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0)

ABSTRACTS/VOUCHERS: General Fund - \$17,272.49; Highway Fund - \$29,073.63; Lighting District - \$5,425.50 [*See editor's note on page 3*]; Sewer Fund - \$85.49; Water Fund - \$5,110.16; T&A Fund - \$5,421.84. Total Abstracts - \$62,389.11

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to pay all signed vouchers and bills; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0)

OLD BUSINESS

To clarify the Blue Shield supplemental health insurance renewal, Supervisor Lounsbury made a motion to note that it was passed without any changes to the coverage and will include the \$500 which the Town will reimburse the seniors for their out-of-pocket co-pays for prescription drugs once they have submitted proof of expenditures of the initial \$3,000. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cooke.

Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0)

NEW BUSINESS

1. A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to authorize the Supervisor to sign and return the I.T.S. contract for 2017; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, Sedlmeir and Wood; Nays (0)

2. Supervisor Lounsbury had discussions with a representative from Tyler Technologies. An agreement was reached which would reduce the annual charge from \$25,300/ year to \$20,300/year.

A motion was made by Councilman Wood to authorize the Supervisor to sign and return the Tyler Technologies 3-year contract for \$60,900 (\$20,300/year). The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, Sedlmeir and Wood; Nays (0)

3. Supervisor Lounsbury announced that the Town was in receipt of the Municipal Shelter Inspection Report and the Dog Control Officer Inspection Report. Both reports were rated 'satisfactory'.

4. Supervisor Lounsbury announced that she had been approached by the Rensselaerville Volunteer Ambulance requesting a special meeting to discuss the services they provide and what the Town can do help.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to schedule a special meeting with the Rensselaerville Volunteer Ambulance for January 17, 2017 at 7:00 pm and to authorize the Town Clerk to place a Legal Notice in the paper. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, Sedlmeir and Wood; Nays (0)

AUDIENCE COMMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilwoman Sedlmeir to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 PM; 2nd by Councilwoman Cooke.

Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, Sedlmeir and Wood; Nays (0)

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED;

Victoria H. Kraker
Town Clerk

(Continued on page 3)

Draft Minutes, Final Town Board Meeting, December 30, 2016

(Continued from page 2)

[Editor's Note: I questioned the Town Clerk on the high figures for the lighting district, sensing that something was wrong here. Her response follows: "I guess I was too focused on getting the figures correct! I will make the correction part of my monthly report at February's meeting – to make it official/legal/proper. The motion to accept the minutes should be rescinded and a new motion passed with the correction. Based on that, I'm not sure it's a good idea to make the change now. You have my 'permission' to note it as such for your newsletter though. Thanks!"]



Draft Minutes, Town Board Organizational Meeting, January 3, 2017

The Organizational Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville was held on the 3rd day of January, 2017, at 7 o'clock in the evening. The meeting was convened by Supervisor Lounsbury and the roll was called with the following results:

PRESENT WERE: Supervisor Valerie Lounsbury, Councilwoman Marion Cooke, Councilman John Dolce, Councilwoman Margaret Sedlmeir, Acting Recording Secretary Steven Pflieger

ABSENT WAS: Councilman Gerald Wood, Town Clerk Victoria H. Kraker

Also present were Town Justice Ronald Bates, Town Justice Dwight Cooke, Recycling Coordinator Jon Whitbeck and three interested citizens.

The term of office for the following appointments is January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017, unless otherwise stated.

ATTORNEY TO THE TOWN – Supervisor Lounsbury moved that the law firm of Tabner, Ryan and Keniry, LLP, Albany, NY be appointed Attorneys for the Town; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood

TOWN VETERINARIAN – Supervisor Lounsbury moved that Dr. Diane Biederman be appointed Town Veterinarian; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood

CRITICAL INCIDENT MANAGER - Supervisor Lounsbury moved that Brian Wood be appointed Critical Incident Manager; 2nd by Councilwoman Cooke.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood

CRITICAL INCIDENT OFFICER - Supervisor Lounsbury moved that Gerald Wood be appointed Critical Incident Officer; 2nd by Councilman Dolce.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood

DEPUTY TOWN HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT - Supervisor Lounsbury moved that Earl David Potter be appointed Deputy Town Highway Superintendent/Time Keeper; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

(Continued on page 4)

Draft Minutes, Town Board Organizational Meeting, January 3, 2017*(Continued from page 3)*

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood

CLERK TO THE HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT – Supervisor Lounsbury moved that Kim Welsch be appointed Clerk to the Town Highway Superintendent; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood

WATER TREATMENT OFFICER - Supervisor Lounsbury moved that John Rice be appointed Water Treatment Officer; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood

DEPUTY WATER TREATMENT OFFICER – Supervisor Lounsbury moved that Gerritt Platel be appointed Deputy Water Treatment Officer; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood

SEWAGE TREATMENT OFFICER – Supervisor Lounsbury moved that John Rice be appointed Sewage Treatment Officer; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood

DEPUTY SEWAGE TREATMENT OFFICER – Supervisor Lounsbury moved that Gerritt Platel be appointed Deputy Sewage Treatment Officer; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood

WATER/SEWER COMMITTEE MEMBER – Supervisor Lounsbury moved that William Benson be appointed Water/Sewer Committee Member for a term of 1/1/2017 – 12/31/2021; 2nd by Councilwoman Cooke.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood

RENSELAERVILLE WATER/SEWER COMMITTEE – TERMS

Richard Platel	01/01/2013 - 12/31/2017
Micah Kuhar	01/01/2014 – 12/31/2018
Timothy Miller	02/01/2015 – 12/31/2019
Thomas Delp	01/01/2016 – 12/31/2020
William Benson	01/01/2017 – 12/31/2021

CONSTABLE – Supervisor Lounsbury moved that Richard Simons be appointed Constable; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood

CLERK 1 TO SUPERVISOR (Bookkeeper) – Supervisor Lounsbury moved that Linda McCormick be appointed Clerk 1 to Supervisor (Bookkeeper); 2nd by Councilwoman Cooke.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood

ACCOUNTANT TO THE TOWN – Supervisor Lounsbury moved that Pattison, Kosky, Howe and Bucci, CPA's be appointed Accountant to the Town; 2nd by Councilwoman Cooke.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood

DEPUTY SUPERVISOR – Supervisor Lounsbury moved that Marion Cooke be appointed Deputy Supervisor; 2nd by Councilman Dolce.

Motion carried: Ayes (3) Lounsbury, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Abstains (1) Cooke; Absent (1) Wood

CLERK 2 TO ASSESSORS – Supervisor Lounsbury moved that Debra Baxter be appointed Clerk 2 for Assessors; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood

(Continued on page 5)

Draft Minutes, Town Board Organizational Meeting, January 3, 2017

(Continued from page 4)

DOG CONTROL OFFICER – Supervisor Lounsbury moved that Cheryl Tefft-Baitsholts be appointed Dog Control Officer; 2nd by Councilman Dolce.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood

REFUSE/RECYCLING OFFICER – Supervisor Lounsbury moved that Jon Whitbeck be appointed Refuse/Recycling Coordinator; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood

SUBSTITUTE REFUSE/RECYCLING OFFICERS – Supervisor Lounsbury moved that Mark Case and Jonathan Wilber be appointed Substitute Recycling/Refuse Coordinators; 2nd by Councilman Dolce.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood

HISTORIAN – Supervisor Lounsbury moved that Janet Nelson be appointed Town Historian; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood

PLANNING BOARD –Supervisor Lounsbury moved that Sherri Pine be appointed to the Planning Board, term 1/1/2017 – 12/31/2023; 2nd by Councilwoman Cooke.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood

PLANNING BOARD TERMS

Maryanne Overbaugh	08/11/2016 – 12/31/2017
Walter Cooke	01/01/2012 – 12/31/2018
Richard Amedure	01/01/2013 – 12/31/2019
Travis Smigel	01/01/2014 – 12/31/2020
Laura Bates	05/26/2016 – 12/31/2021
Dorothea Cotter	01/01/2016 – 12/31/2022
Sherri Pine	01/01/2017 – 12/31/2023

PLANNING BOARD CHAIRMAN – Supervisor Lounsbury moved that Richard Amedure be appointed Planning Board Chairman; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood

PLANNING BOARD/ZONING BOARD SECRETARY – Supervisor Lounsbury moved that Steven Pflieger be appointed Planning Board/Zoning Board Secretary; 2nd by Councilwoman Cooke.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER/BUILDING INSPECTOR – Supervisor Lounsbury moved that Mark Overbaugh be appointed Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector; 2nd by Councilwoman Cooke.

Motion carried: Ayes (3) Lounsbury, Cooke, and Dolce; Nays (1) Sedlmeir; Absent (1) Wood

CLERK TO CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER/BUILDING INSPECTOR Supervisor Lounsbury moved that Mark Overbaugh be appointed to perform the tasks of the Clerk to the Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector; 2nd by Councilwoman Cooke. Special Note: *This position will be re-evaluated by the Town Board in April 2017.*

Motion carried: Ayes (3) Lounsbury, Cooke, and Dolce; Nays (1) Sedlmeir; Absent (1) Wood

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS – Supervisor Lounsbury moved that David Winans be appointed Zoning Board of Appeals member, term to be 1/1/2017 – 12/31/2021; 2nd by Councilwoman Cooke.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood

Supervisor Lounsbury moved that Brian Wood be appointed to fill the vacancy created by the resig-

(Continued on page 6)

Draft Minutes, Town Board Organizational Meeting, January 3, 2017*(Continued from page 5)*

nation of John Mormile; term to be 01/01/2017 – 12/31/2018; 2nd by Councilwoman Cooke.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS – TERMS

Anthony Higgins	01/01/2013 – 12/31/2017
Brian Wood	01/01/2017 – 12/31/2018
Anthony Guadagno	01/01/2015 – 12/31/2019
Bradley Chase	01/01/2016 – 12/31/2020
David Winans	01/01/2017 – 12/31/2021

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS CHAIRMAN – Supervisor Lounsbury moved that Anthony Guadagno be appointed Zoning Board of Appeals Chairman; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood

BOARD OF ETHICS – Supervisor Lounsbury moved that Donald Britton, Sr. be appointed Board of Ethics member, term to be 1/1/2017 – 12/31/2021; 2nd by Councilman Dolce.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood

BOARD OF ETHICS TERMS

Douglas Lansing	07/14/2016 – 12/31/2017
John Mormile	01/01/2017 – 12/31/2018
Maryanne Overbaugh	02/12/2014 – 12/31/2019
Allyn Wright	01/01/2016 – 12/31/2020
Donald Britton, Sr.	01/01/2017 – 12/31/2021

BOARD OF ETHICS CHAIRPERSON – Supervisor Lounsbury moved that Maryanne Overbaugh be appointed Board of Ethics Chairperson, 2nd by Councilwoman Cooke.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood

BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW (GRIEVANCE BOARD) – No appointment necessary.

BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW (GRIEVANCE BOARD) – TERMS

Eric Sutton	01/01/2013 – 09/30/2017
Scott Whitbeck	01/01/2014 – 09/30/2018
Bradley Chase	01/01/2015 – 09/30/2019

REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS – Supervisor Lounsbury moved that Victoria Kraker be appointed Registrar of Vital Statistics; 2nd by Councilman Dolce.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood

DEPUTY TOWN CLERK/COLLECTOR/REGISTRAR – Supervisor Lounsbury moved that Kathryn Wank be appointed Deputy Town Clerk/Collector/Registrar; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood

COURT CLERKS – Supervisor Lounsbury moved that Sally Lounsbury and Kim Welsch be appointed Court Clerks; 2nd by Councilwoman Cooke.

Motion carried: Ayes (3) Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Abstains (1) Lounsbury; Absent (1) Wood

RECORDS INVENTORY CLERK – Supervisor Lounsbury moved that Kathryn Wank be appointed Records Inventory Clerk; 2nd by Councilwoman Cooke.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood

(Continued on page 7)

Draft Minutes, Town Board Organizational Meeting, January 3,*(Continued from page 6)*

ENGINEER TO THE TOWN – Engineers will be contracted on an as-needed basis.

MILEAGE – Supervisor Lounsbury moved that the mileage rate per mile for all Town employees be set at .535 cents per mile; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER – Supervisor Lounsbury moved that the *Altamont Enterprise* be appointed the official newspaper and authorized the Town Clerk and Supervisor to advertise in other newspapers as needed; 2nd by Councilwoman Cooke.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood

DEPOSITORIES – Supervisor Lounsbury moved that the Bank of Greene County be designated by individual officers for depositing funds; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood

MEETING DATE – Supervisor Lounsbury moved that the 2nd Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM be the official meeting date for Town Board meetings; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood

ASSOCIATION OF TOWNS – Supervisor Lounsbury moved that designated Town Officials be authorized to attend the Association of Towns Meeting in New York City in February at their own expense; 2nd by Councilman Dolce.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood

SENIOR SERVICES COORDINATOR – Supervisor Lounsbury moved that Ann Vogel be appointed Senior Services Coordinator; 2nd by Councilwoman Cooke.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood

ASSISTANT SENIOR SERVICES COORDINATOR – Supervisor Lounsbury moved that Thomas Snyder be appointed Assistant Senior Services Coordinator; 2nd by Councilman Dolce.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood

INVESTMENT POLICY- Supervisor Lounsbury moved to reaffirm the investment policy; 2nd by Councilman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood

FINANCIAL REPORT – Councilwoman Sedlmeir moved that the Supervisor be authorized 60 days after the close of the Fiscal Year to complete the Financial Report for the Town; 2nd by Councilwoman Cooke.

Motion carried: Ayes (3) Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Abstains (1) Lounsbury; Absent (1) Wood

BILLS – Councilwoman Sedlmeir moved that the Supervisor be authorized to make payments in advance for lights, telephone, postage, postage express charges, postage meter payments and to pay principal and interest of indebtedness, stated salaries, compensation of various officers and employees regularly engaged by the Town at the agreed wage, by the hour, day, week, month or year and to pay amounts becoming lawfully due upon contracts for the periods exceeding one year for which provisions for payment has been made in the annual budget, and to make transfers from the medical insurance line items of the budget to the medical insurance bank account as needed to cover medical expenses for the employees covered under the medical insurance plan; 2nd by Councilman Dolce.

Motion carried: Ayes (3) Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Abstains (1) Lounsbury; Absent (1) Wood

(Continued on page 8)

Draft Minutes, Town Board Organizational Meeting, January 3, 2017

(Continued from page 7)

WAGES – Supervisor Lounsbury moved that the following wage, salary and schedule of payments be adopted for the year 2017:

POSITION	TOTALS	PAID
Town Council (4 @ \$3,000 each)	12,000	Monthly
Town Justice (2 @ \$9,450 each)	18,900	Weekly
Town Supervisor	12,500	Monthly
Town Clerk/Collector	32,780	Weekly
Assessors (3)		
Uncertified	4,835	Monthly
Certified (3@ \$1,200 each)	6,035	Monthly
Chairman (1 @ \$500)	6,535	Monthly
Attorney for the Town	34,000	Quarterly
Building/Zoning Officer	14,930	Monthly
Dog Control Officer	5,140	Monthly
Registrar of Vital Statistics	580	Annually
Superintendent of Highways	44,300	Weekly
Constable	1,400	Monthly
Water Treatment Officer		
Uncertified	9,000	Monthly
Certified	10,000	Monthly
Deputy (\$10.00/hr.)	2,000	Monthly
Sewage Treatment Officer	5,000	Monthly
Deputy (\$10.00/hr.)	1,000	Monthly
Water Rent Collector	400	Annually

POSITION	HIGHWAY EMPLOYEES	
	PAID PER HOUR	PAID
	<u>10/23/2016 – 04/22/2017</u>	
Foreman	\$19.64	Weekly
Truck Driver (CDL)	18.84	Weekly
	<u>04/23/2017 – 10/22/2017</u>	
Foreman	\$19.83	Weekly
Truck Driver (CDL)	19.03	Weekly
Seasonal Help CDL	\$18.00	Weekly
Non-CDL	16.00	Weekly

POSITION	RECYCLING DEPARTMENT	
	PAID PER HOUR	PAID
Recycling Co-Ordinator	\$37,255 (salaried)	Weekly
Substitute (CDL)	11.64	Weekly
Substitute (Non-CDL)	10.00	Weekly

(Continued on page 9)

Draft Minutes, Town Board Organizational Meeting, January 3, 2017

(Continued from page 8)

POSITION	ADMINISTRATION	
	SALARY/WAGES	PAID
Clerk 1 (\$19.90/hr.)	\$23,200	Weekly
Clerk 2 – Assessors (\$15.00/hr.)	12,000	Weekly
Deputy Town Clerk (\$12.00/hr.)	13,000	Weekly
Justice Clerk (2) (\$2,400.00 each – salaried)	4,800	Monthly
Planning Board Secretary (\$12.00/hr.)	3,500	Weekly
Zoning Secretary (\$12.00/hr.)	2,000	Weekly
Bldg. Inspector Clerk (Salaried)	3,280	Monthly
Clerk to Superintendent (\$12.00/hr.)	4,600	Monthly
	BUILDINGS	
Hired Cleaning Service (Paid Sub-Contractor)	\$ 2,000	Annually

2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmier [sic]

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood

BONDED OFFICIALS – Councilwoman Sedlmeir moved that Supervisor Lounsbury be bonded, 2nd by Councilwoman Cooke.

Motion carried: Ayes (3) Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0) Abstain (1) Lounsbury; Absent (1) Wood

Councilwoman Sedlmeir moved that Deputy Supervisor Cooke be bonded, 2nd by Councilman Dolce.

Motion carried: Ayes (3) Lounsbury, Dolce, and Sedlmeir, Nays (0); Abstain (1) Cooke; Absent (1) Wood

Supervisor Lounsbury moved that the following officials be bonded; Town Justice Ronald J. Bates, Town Justice Dwight T. Cooke, Superintendent Randy Bates, Town Clerk/Collector Victoria Kraker, Deputy Town Clerk/Collector Kathryn Wank, Building/Zoning Officer Mark Overbaugh, Planning/Zoning Board Secretary Steven Pflieger, and Clerk 1 for the Supervisor Linda McCormick; 2nd by Councilman Dolce.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood

2016 PAYMENTS – Supervisor Lounsbury moved that the 2016 books remain open until January 13, 2017 in order to pay any remaining 2016 bills, 2nd by Councilman Dolce.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood

OATH OF OFFICE – Justice Bates and Justice Cook swore the following appointed officials into office: Donald Britton, Sr., Marion Cooke, David Winans, Jon Whitbeck, and Steven Pflieger.

ADJOURNMENT – A motion was made by Councilwoman Sedlmeir to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 PM, 2nd by Councilman Dolce.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Wood

*RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED;

Victoria H. Kraker
Town Clerk

*Minutes typed by Town Clerk Victoria H. Kraker via audio recording and notes taken by Acting Recording Secretary, Steven Pflieger



Draft Minutes, Town Board Work Meeting, January 10, 2017

The Work Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville was held on the 10th day of January 2017 at 7:00 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: Supervisor Valerie Lounsbury, Councilman John Dolce, Councilwoman Margaret Sedlmeir, Councilman Gerald Wood, Town Clerk Victoria H. Kraker

ABSENT WAS: Councilwoman Marion Cooke

Also present was one interested citizen.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS: None

MINUTES: Minutes to be accepted at the Regular Meeting on January 12, 2017:

December 6, 2016 – Public Hearing – Medusa Fire House Renovations Financing

December 6, 2016 – Work Meeting

December 8, 2016 - Regular Meeting

December 30, 2016 – Final Meeting

TRANSFERS, VOUCHERS, AND BILLS: Transfers, if any, will be addressed at the Regular Meeting on Thursday.

CORRESPONDENCE: Any correspondence will be addressed at the Regular Meeting.

REPORTS

The regular reports from the Supervisor, Attorney, Highway Department, Town Clerk, Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector, Assessors, Water/Sewer Committee, and Recycling Center will be given at the Regular Meeting on Thursday.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Douglas Lansing's term on the Board of Ethics was misread at the Organizational Meeting. Mr. Lansing's term runs from July 14, 2016 through December 31, 2017.
2. Councilman Wood, Councilman Dolce, and electrician Paul Molloy will meet with Central Hudson on Thursday morning to discuss the new generator. Councilman Wood stated that he hoped that the disconnect/reconnect will be done free-of-charge.
3. The Association of Towns will hold their annual meeting in February. Anyone may attend the meeting, but it will be at their own expense; the Town will no longer pay for anyone to attend this event. In the alternative, Supervisor Lounsbury will keep her eyes open for training sessions which are put on by the State Comptroller's Office.

NEW BUSINESS

1. The Town Clerk will need authorization to bill and collect Water Rents totaling \$45,715.28 and Sewer Rents totaling \$44,533.00.
2. The Supervisor will need authorization to sign and return the shared services contract for the Senior Bus/Car.
3. The Supervisor will need authorization to sign and return the contract for professional services for 2017.
4. Deputy Town Clerk Kathy Wank would like to nominate Shawn Styer for the Volunteer plaque. For years, Shawn has devoted countless hours as the website developer; he updates the website frequently

Draft Minutes, Town Board Work Meeting, January 10, 2017

(Continued from page 10)

and has never once submitted an invoice for payment or expected anything in return.

5. Jeff Rauf of the Rauf Family Farm, who cut, baled, and removed the hay from the hay fields between Town Hall and the Ambulance Building last year, inquired about doing the same this year. Supervisor Lounsbury is not certain if this must be put out to bid again. She will check with the attorney in this regard.

6. The Board will go into Executive Session on Thursday for the purpose of discussing pending litigation.

7. Councilman Wood inquired about the sidewalks in Preston Hollow. Supervisor Lounsbury will follow up with Attorney Fallati to determine whether a special Sidewalk District must be created first.

8. The bids for the new 4X4 pickup truck were opened and read aloud by Supervisor Lounsbury. Bids were received from Marchese Ford, Crossroads Ford, Orange Ford (no Non-Collusive Bidding Certificate was submitted), R.C. Lacy Ford, Jack Byrne Ford, Mangino Chevrolet/ Buick/GMC, and West Herr Ford. Highway Superintendent Bates will review the bids and the winning bid will be announced at Thursday's meeting.

9. Superintendent Bates reported that each year he receives an annual certification of local highways and mileage from the New York State Department of Transportation. The packet Superintendent Bates received this year stated that the State's interest was for determining accuracy only and would have no negative impact on the C.H.I.P.s funding (as C.H.I.P.s funding is based on mileage). The certification contains a list of every road; its beginning, its end and its mileage. For years there have not been any changes. However, last year the Department began using google Earth to make these determinations.

As far as Superintendent Bates could determine, certifications of the roads were submitted by previous highway superintendents going back as far as the 1960s. The Department has now contested the lengths of some of the roads and in two cases, where they claim roads did not even exist.

In an attempt to resolve these discrepancies, Superintendent Bates spent days documenting the lengths of every road in Town and then comparing his findings with Google Earth. The result was that in 2015, there were 81.80 miles of center-lane miles – double that for lane miles. After the State's review, it was reduced to 77.35 miles. Superintendent Bates' review concluded that there was 77.71 miles. The Town of Rensselaerville has 77 different roads; some roads were listed as being a mile too long; others were a half-mile too short. Superintendent Bates submitted his findings to the State. However, this year, there were two roads which the State did not even recognize. Fisherman's Lane and Tigner Lane have been on the Highway's inventory and have been maintained by the Highway for years. These two roads have also been listed on all previous inventories sent by the State. The State's response was that they didn't know why the roads had been removed, but that they wouldn't reinstate them unless the Town Board passed a resolution stating that they actually are Town Highways.

Supervisor Lounsbury will check with Attorney Fallati in this regard.

TOWN BOARD COMMENTS

Councilman Wood thanked Superintendent Bates for sending someone down from the Highway Department for the clean-up at the Honor Roll after someone had dumped a significant amount of unwanted items.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS: None

(Continued on page 12)

Draft Minutes, Town Board Work Meeting, January 10, 2017

(Continued from page 11)

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilwoman Sedlmeir to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 PM; 2nd by Councilman Dolce.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Dolce, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0); Absent (1) Cooke

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED;

Victoria H. Kraker
Town Clerk



Draft Minutes, Town Board Regular Meeting, January 12, 2017

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville was held on the 12th day of January 2017 at 7 o'clock in the evening at the Rensselaerville Town Hall, 87 Barger Road, Medusa, NY. The meeting was convened by Deputy Supervisor Marion Cooke and the roll was called with the following results:

PRESENT WERE: Attorney Thomas Fallati, Deputy Supervisor Marion Cooke, Councilman John Dolce, Councilwoman Margaret Sedlmeir, Councilman Gerald Wood, Town Clerk Victoria H. Kraker

ABSENT WAS: Supervisor Valerie Lounsbury

Also present were Highway Superintendent Randy Bates, Recycling Coordinator Jon Whitbeck, and three interested citizens.

RENSSELAERVILLE VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE

Kenneth 'Chip' Decker presented the Town with a \$45,000 check from the Rensselaerville Volunteer Ambulance's Revenue Recovery. Deputy Supervisor Cooke, on behalf of the Town, expressed her sincere appreciation to Chip and the Rensselaerville Volunteer Ambulance.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

A minor correction* will be made on the minutes as they are approved individually.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilman Dolce to approve the minutes of the December 6, 2016 Public Hearing on the financing of the Medusa Fire House Renovations, with the correction* from 'Councilman Cooke' to 'Councilwoman Cooke'; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir. **[Editor's Note: The need for this correction was brought to the attention of the Town Board by an audience member.]**

Motion carried: Ayes (3) Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Abstains (1) Wood; Absent (1) Lounsbury

A motion was made by Councilwoman Sedlmeir to approve the minutes of the December 6, 2016 Work Meeting; 2nd by Councilman Dolce.

Motion carried: Ayes (3) Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Abstains (1) Wood; Absent (1) Lounsbury

(Continued on page 13)

Draft Minutes, Town Board Regular Meeting, January 12, 2017*(Continued from page 12)**bury*

A motion was made by Councilman Dolce to approve the minutes of the December 8, 2016 Regular Meeting; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Cooke, Dolce, Wood, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Lounsbury

A motion was made by Councilwoman Sedlmeir to approve the minutes of the December 30, 2016 Final Meeting; 2nd by Councilman Dolce.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Cooke, Dolce, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0); Absent (1) Lounsbury

TRANSFERS: No transfers

ABSTRACTS/VOUCHERS: General Fund \$ 29,683.88; Highway Fund - \$93,267.26; Ambulance Fund - \$6,964.00; Fire Protection Fund - \$28,511.00; Lighting District - \$697.27; Sewer Fund - \$683.31; Water Fund - \$16,106.73; T&A Fund - \$181.50. Total Abstracts - \$176,094.95

A motion was made by Councilman Wood to pay all signed vouchers and bills; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Cooke, Dolce, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0); Absent (1) Lounsbury

CORRESPONDENCE: None

REPORTS**SUPERVISOR**

Deputy Supervisor Cooke read from a report prepared by Supervisor Lounsbury stating that the Supervisor's office has been working on year-end tasks and 2017 contracts and agreements; and that Councilman Wood is working on the Workplace Violence review for 2017.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Sedlmeir to accept the Supervisor's report as presented by Deputy Supervisor Cooke; 2nd by Councilman Dolce.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Cooke, Dolce, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0); Absent (1) Lounsbury

ATTORNEY

Attorney Fallati announced that Supreme Court Judge Connolly, who was handling the Communications Tower litigation, issued a Decision and Order on December 12, 2016 denying the petition and granting judgment in favor of the Respondents, which include the Planning Board and Albany County. Although the Court found the County's own actions to declare the project immune from the Planning Board process were not effective, given the Town's acceptance of that position, *that* was sufficient to declare the project immune from the Planning Board process. Judge Connolly further

stated that in any event, he would have denied the petition due to the fact that the Planning Board had sufficiently reviewed the application and complied with all legal and due process requirements.

The Petitioners have a right to appeal, but Attorney Fallati has not yet received any notice of such.

A motion was made by Councilman Dolce to accept the Attorney's report; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Cooke, Dolce, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0); Absent (1) Lounsbury

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

1. Superintendent Bates reported that he had reviewed the bids which were submitted and read at the Work Meeting and all complied with the specifications set forth. Of importance was that what was thought to be a bid from Orange Ford, was actually an invoice, so hence, the reason a Non-Collusive

(Continued on page 14)

Draft Minutes, Town Board Regular Meeting, January 12, 2017

(Continued from page 13)

Bidding Certificate was not included. Superintendent Bates noted that four of the six bids were within \$32 of each other, but that Crossroads Ford had submitted the lowest bid at \$24,762.00. Mangino GMC's bid came in at \$28,164.36; Marchese Ford \$24,790.00; Lacy Ford \$26,794.00; Jack Byrne Ford \$24,767.00; West Herr Ford \$25,361.00; and Crossroads Ford \$24,762.00. He recommended that the Board accept Crossroads Ford's bid.

A motion was made by Deputy Supervisor Cooke to accept Crossroads Ford's bid of \$24,762.00 for the 2017 Ford 4X4 pickup truck; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Cooke, Dolce, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0); Absent (1) Lounsbury

2. Attorney Fallati read the Resolution which would declare Tigner Lane and Fisherman's Lane official Town Highways as follows:

RESOLUTION OF THE
TOWN OF RENSSELAERVILLE
TOWN BOARD

WHEREAS, Fisherman's Lane and Tigner Lane, both in the hamlet of Rensselaerville in the Town of Rensselaerville, are identified as Town highways on the Town's Highway Map and have been so for more than ten years; and

WHEREAS, Fisherman's Lane and Tigner Lane have been used by the public as highways for a continuous period of more than ten years, during which time the Town has continuously maintained them; and

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Transportation has informed the Town that its highway map does not identify Fisherman's Lane and Tigner Lane as Town Highways; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board wishes to avoid any ambiguity as to the status of Fisherman's Lane and Tigner Lane and to confirm their status as Town Highways;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the duly convened Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville, Albany County, New York, that Fisherman's Lane and Tigner Lane in the hamlet of Rensselaerville are confirmed to be, and are declared, Town Highways, pursuant to Highway Law §189. By motion made by Gerald Wood, 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 January 2017 as follows:

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

END RESOLUTION

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to accept the Highway Superintendent's report; 2nd by Councilman Wood.

(Continued on page 15)

Draft Minutes, Town Board Regular Meeting, January 12, 2017*(Continued from page 14)**Motion carried: Ayes (4) Cooke, Dolce, Wood, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Absent (1) Lounsbury***TOWN CLERK**

1. Town Clerk Kraker reported for the month of December as follows: Town Clerk Department – Total Collected \$582.80. Paid to the Supervisor - \$516.03 - the breakdown is as follows: Clerk Fees - \$33.83; Recycling - \$182.00; Dog Licenses - \$49.00; Building Permits - \$241.20; Zoning - \$10.00. Total: \$516.03

Fees paid to NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets for the 'Animal Population Control Program' aka 'dog surcharge': \$7.00

Electronic sweep from the Town Clerk's checking account for the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation - Sporting licenses: \$14.17

Fees paid to NYS Department of Health for Marriage Licenses: \$45.00

Water and Sewer rents came to an end on November 1st and therefore no monies were collected for the month of December.

2. Town Clerk Kraker also presented the 2016 Annual Town Clerk's Report as follows:

- Total Collected/Deposited: \$16,523.21
 - Total Paid to the Supervisor: Clerk Fees - \$1,443.58; Recycling - \$1,310.50; Dog Licenses - \$1,360.00; Kennel Boarding - \$280.00; Building Permits - \$2,243.46; Zoning - \$1,090.00
 - Paid to NYS Agriculture & Markets (Dog Licenses): \$226.00
 - Paid to NYS DEC (Sporting Licenses): \$8,412.17
 - Paid to NYS Department of Health (Marriage Licenses): \$157.50
- ⇒ Total: \$16,523.21

Number of Marriage Licenses Issued: 7

Number of Death Certificates Issued: 36 Certificates/4 Deaths

Number of Birth Certificates Issued: 0

A motion was made by Councilman Wood to accept the Town Clerk's report; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

*Motion carried: Ayes (4) Cooke, Dolce, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0); Absent (1) Lounsbury***CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER/BUILDING INSPECTOR**

1. Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector Overbaugh reported one New Home Construction permit; one Deck permit; and one Solar Panel permit for the month of December.

2. Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector Overbaugh reported that he has begun setting up training courses for the year. He will be attending an 8-hour class in Schoharie next week; half of which is on residential energy code and the other half on commercial energy code.

3. The office is coming along a little bit at a time.

4. Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector Overbaugh addressed Attorney Fallati asking him to reach out to Attorney Ryan regarding a few things he noticed were missing within the Zoning Law.

5. Also there have been a couple of issues with 911, directly relating to the roads which were not recognized by the Department of Transportation. (see Highway Report).

A motion was made by Councilman Dolce to accept the Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector's report; 2nd by Deputy Supervisor Cooke.

*Motion carried: Ayes (4) Cooke, Dolce, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0); Absent (1) Lounsbury**(Continued on page 16)*

Draft Minutes, Town Board Regular Meeting, January 12, 2017

(Continued from page 15)

ASSESSORS

1. Assessor Kropp reported that the Assessor's office has begun the new tax roll year. Renewal notices have been sent out for all the exemptions and some have already come back.
2. Assessor Kropp wished to inform anyone who will be turning 65 years of age by December 31, 2017 that they are eligible for the Enhanced Star Program. The financial cut-off is \$86,000.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Sedlmeir to accept the Assessor's report; 2nd by Councilman Dolce.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Cooke, Dolce, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0); Absent (1) Lounsbury

WATER/SEWER COMMITTEE: No report

REFUSE/RECYCLING

1. Recycling Coordinator Whitbeck reported the following for the month of December: Rensselaer Iron & Steel: 5.75 tons; Tires: 30; City of Albany Landfill: 59.04 tons; Sierra Fibers: 5.74 tons; comingled and 7.90 tons old cardboard container; Oil: 9 gallons

2. Recycling Coordinator also presented his Annual Report for 2016 as follows:

- Rensselaer Iron & Steel: 64.93 tons
- Tires: 416
- City of Albany Landfill: 756.28 tons
- Sierra Fibers: 62.94 tons comingled and 64.61 tons old cardboard container
- Oil: 290 gallons

Recycling Coordinator Whitbeck noted that the Town received \$8,429.18 from Rensselaer Iron & Steel – and saved \$6,632.60 by recycling glass, plastics, and old cardboard containers.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Sedlmeir to accept the Recycling Coordinator's report; 2nd by Councilman Dolce.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Cooke, Dolce, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0); Absent (1) Lounsbury

CURRENT EVENTS

Ernest Kuehl wished to announce that the Huyck Preserve will hold a Winter Festival on February 4th. The Rensselaerville Volunteer Fire Department will be making chili and there will be a cooking contest.

OLD BUSINESS

1. For clarification purposes, Deputy Supervisor Cooke noted that the Board of Ethics term for Douglas Lansing runs from July 14, 2016 through December 31, 2017.

2. Councilman Wood, Councilman Dolce, and electrician Paul Molloy met with the Foreman and the Director from Central Hudson this morning to discuss the new generator. Councilman Wood stated that Central Hudson is now clear as to what needs to be done and will complete their paperwork on the project. They also confirmed that they will not charge a disconnect/reconnect fee which will save the Town \$400 - \$500. The next step on the Town's end is to write the specifications.

Councilman Dolce stated that after meeting with Central Hudson, they have been given exactly what is needed, which will allow Paul Molloy the ability to engineer and put the specs together for the project. Mr. Molloy will be paid for his work and will not be bidding on the project. Discussion ensued as to the best route to take regarding payment for Mr. Molloy's services. Superintendent Bates sug-

(Continued on page 17)

Draft Minutes, Town Board Regular Meeting, January 12, 2017

(Continued from page 16)

gested that he submit an invoice and in which case, he could be paid under 'professional services'. The subject will be discussed further at the next meeting.

Superintendent Bates has also offered to help with any digging or otherwise to help keep costs down.

3. The Association of Towns will hold their annual meeting in February. As in previous years, any member of the Town may attend, but they must pay their own way.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Authorization is needed to bill and collect for the Water District in the amount of \$45,715.28 and the Sewer District in the amount of \$44,533.00. The billing year runs from January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017, with payments accepted up through November 1st.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Sedlmeir to authorize the Town Clerk to collect the water rents in the amount of \$45,715.28 and sewer rents in the amount of \$44,533.00; 2nd by Councilman Dolce.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Cooke, Dolce, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0); Absent (1) Lounsbury

2. A motion was made by Councilwoman Sedlmeir to authorize the Supervisor to sign and return the Shared Services Agreement with Westerlo for the Senior Bus and Car. The motion was seconded by Councilman Dolce.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Cooke, Dolce, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0); Absent (1) Lounsbury

3. A motion was made by Councilwoman Sedlmeir to authorize the Supervisor to sign the agreement for legal services with Tabner, Ryan, and Keniry; 2nd by Councilman Dolce.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Cooke, Dolce, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0); Absent (1) Lounsbury

4. Deputy Town Clerk Kathy Wank would like to nominate Shawn Styer for the Volunteer plaque. For years, Shawn has devoted countless hours of technical support and assistance as the website developer; he updates the website frequently and has never once submitted an invoice for payment or expected anything in return.

A motion was made by Deputy Supervisor Cooke to name Shawn Styer for the Volunteer plaque; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Cooke, Dolce, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0); Absent (1) Lounsbury

5. It has been determined that the haying of the fields between Town Hall and the Ambulance Building does not have to be put out to bid. Jeff Rauf has inquired whether or not he could hay those fields again this year.

A motion was made by Councilman Dolce to have the Rauf Family Farm hay the fields between Town Hall and the Ambulance Building. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Cooke, Dolce, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0); Absent (1) Lounsbury

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

A question was raised regarding whether money that was transferred from two line items into a savings account in the Highway Department was for the new truck. It was determined that there was a separate line item for the new truck and that the line item(s) in question is for other, unrelated purchases. **[Editor's Note: This question was raised by an audience member. Let it be known that the new pick-up truck that was approved earlier in the meeting was in the 2016 budget. The money transferred into the one savings account is for the purchase of a new truck in the future.]**

(Continued on page 18)

Draft Minutes, Town Board Regular Meeting, January 12, 2017

(Continued from page 17)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Deputy Supervisor Cooke to enter into Executive Session at 7:50 PM to discuss pending litigation; 2nd by Councilman Wood.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Cooke, Dolce, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0); Absent (1) Lounsbury

A motion was made by Councilwoman Sedlmeir to return from Executive Session at 8:22 PM; 2nd by Councilman Wood.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Cooke, Dolce, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0); Absent (1) Lounsbury

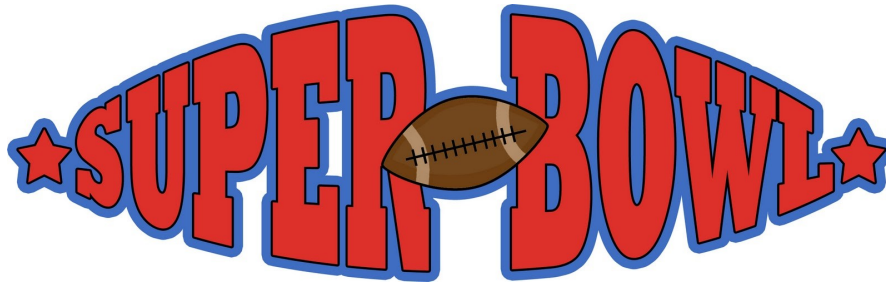
ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilwoman Sedlmeir to adjourn the meeting at 8:22PM; 2nd by Councilman Dolce.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Cooke, Dolce, Sedlmeir, and Wood; Nays (0); Absent (1) Lounsbury

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED;

Victoria H. Kraker
Town Clerk



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, 518.817.8720

Fees: Wed Pilates—\$7.00

All Others—\$12.00

10 Classes—\$100.00

An Open Letter to the Town Board

Over the course of the last several months, I've become increasingly concerned about the questionable behaviors of a certain Town Board member towards a particular Town employee. Although the January Town Board meeting was "quiet" with regard to this matter, I feel that this overall issue needs to be addressed because it has occurred multiple times in the recent past.

- I've personally witnessed this Town Board member treat this particular employee with disrespect, disdain, and hostility, in a most condescending manner during public meetings. And yet, he has maintained appropriate decorum when addressing all Town Board members at these meetings.
- I've personally witnessed this Town Board member request that this employee take action on matters that are beyond his scope of authority. And yet he has done so promptly and successfully.
- I've personally witnessed this Town Board member vote "nay" on his reappointment to his position at the Organizational Meeting with no explanation or reasoning, a position he has successfully held for many years.

Any personal vendetta this Town Board member has towards this employee has no place in this arena and needs to stop. A new year is a good time to turn over a new leaf and put aside grievances that have nothing to do with the employee's job performance. (As an aside, I did not ask for or need permission from this employee to address the Town Board on this matter.)

I look forward to this new year when all employees will be treated with respect by all Town Board members.

Respectfully,
Marie Dermody



Two new traffic laws hit the NYS books for 2017

Slowing down for emergency vehicles

Starting Jan. 17, fire trucks, ambulances and police cruisers must slow down and change lanes when they see an emergency vehicle on the side of the road, just like other civilian drivers are required to do.

Tinted windows

State auto body shops are required to measure window tints before approving them on vehicles. The law, signed by Governor Cuomo in November, requires auto shops to see if the tinted windows let at least 70 percent of light into the vehicle to pass inspection.

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 Town Hall at 239-4225 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



Congratulations to Dog Control Officer Cheryl Baitsholts for the two inspection reports conducted by the NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets on December 12, 2016.

The Municipal Shelter Inspection Report covers such items as:

- Shelter is structurally sound.
- Housing area/equipment is sanitized regularly.
- Repairs are done when necessary.
- Space/ventilation/drainage are adequate.
- Clean/food water available and in ample amount.
- Records are maintained.
- Veterinary care provided when necessary.

The Dog Control Officer Inspection report covers such items as:

- Proper equipment available for capture/holding
- Equipment maintained in clean/sanitary condition.
- Proper records are maintained.
- In compliance with transfer/adoption/licensing policies
- Dogs are humanely euthanized when necessary.

For both reports, the Rensselaerville Shelter received "satisfactory" ratings. We recognize Cheryl for her conscientious attention to the responsibilities of her position.

Attention Albany County Residents

Do you have a private well?
Would you like to know what is in your water?
Stop by the Albany County SWCD Office to
receive your **FREE** Home Water Analysis Kit

Kit Includes Tests For:

1-Bacteria	1-Lead
2-Nitrates	2-Nitrates
2-Chlorine	2-Iron
2-Copper	2-pH
2-Alkalinity	2-Hardness
1-Pesticide	



Albany County Soil & Water Conservation District
24 Martin Road - Room #2
Voorheesville, NY 12186
518-765-7923
www.albanycounty.com/swcd

Be sure to call before you stop in to ensure staff and product availability.

Limit one HWAK per household

While Supplies Last

Ransomware

Ransomware stops you from using your PC. It holds your PC or files for "ransom". This page describes what ransomware is and what it does, and provides advice on how to prevent ransomware infections.

What does ransomware do?

There are different types of ransomware. However, all of them will prevent you from using your PC normally, and they will all ask you to do something before you can use your PC. They can target any PC users, whether it's a home computer, endpoints in an enterprise network, or servers used by a government agency or healthcare provider.

Ransomware can:

- Prevent you from accessing Windows.
- Encrypt files so you can't use them.
- Stop certain apps from running (like your web browser).

Ransomware will demand that you pay money (a "ransom") to get access to your PC or files. We have also seen them make you complete surveys. There is no guarantee that paying the fine or doing what the ransomware tells you will give access to your PC or files again.

Details for home users

There are two types of ransomware – lockscreen ransomware and encryption ransomware.

- Lockscreen ransomware shows a full-screen message that prevents you from accessing your PC or files. It says you have to pay money (a "ransom") to get access to your PC again.
- Encryption ransomware changes your files so you can't open them. It does this by encrypting the files – see the Details for enterprises section if you're interested in the technologies and techniques we've seen.

Older versions of ransom usually claim you have done something illegal with your PC, and that you are being fined by a police force or government agency. These claims are false. It is a scare tactic designed to make you pay the money without telling anyone who might be able to restore your PC.

Newer versions encrypt the files on your PC so you can't access them, and then simply demand money to restore your files.

Ransomware can get on your PC from nearly any source that any other malware (including viruses) can come from. This includes:

- Visiting unsafe, suspicious, or fake websites.
- Opening emails and email attachments from people you don't know, or that you weren't expecting.
- Clicking on malicious or bad links in emails, Facebook, Twitter, and other social media posts, instant messenger chats, like Skype.

It can be very difficult to restore your PC after a ransomware attack – especially if it's infected by encryption ransomware. That's why the best solution to ransomware is to be safe on the Internet and with emails and online chat:

- Don't click on a link on a webpage, in an email, or in a chat message unless you absolutely trust the page or sender.
- If you're ever unsure – don't click it!
- Often fake emails and web pages have bad spelling, or just look unusual. Look out for strange spellings of company names (like "PayePal" instead of "PayPal") or unusual spaces, symbols, or punctuation (like "iTunesCustomer Service" instead of "iTunes Customer Service").

(Continued on page 23)

Ransomware

(Continued from page 22)

How do I protect myself from Ransomware?

You should:

- Install and use an up-to-date antivirus solution. Make sure your software is up-to-date.
- Avoid clicking on links or opening attachments or emails from people you don't know or companies you don't do business with.
- Ensure you have smart screen (in Internet Explorer) turned on.
- Have a pop-up blocker running in your web browser.
- Regularly backup your important files.

And if you find your computer is being held hostage:

- Report it to law enforcement, although it's unlikely they can provide help. It's just good to have it recorded.
- Disconnect your computer from its network to prevent the infection from spreading to other shared networks.
- You need to **remove the ransomware from your computer**. Remember, removal of the ransomware won't restore access to your files; they will still be encrypted.
- If you already had your data backed up offline, there's no need to even consider paying the ransom. Still, you will want to remove the ransomware and make sure your backup solution was working.
- But what if very important files were not backed up? Prepare to pay in bitcoins. The first step is to find out what the experts say about **making payments in bitcoin**.
- The crook will be essentially impossible to trace. You'll be required to make the payment over the Tor network (anonymous browsing).
- Finally, don't be shocked if the crook actually provides you the decryption key—essentially a password; ransomware thieves often follow through to maintain being taken seriously. Otherwise, nobody would ever pay them. But it would not be unprecedented to not receive the key. It's a gamble.
- The best course of action is to prevent a ransomware attack, and that means looking for all the clues to malware and phishing scams. Don't let threatening e-mails, saying you owe back taxes or bank fees, jolt you into hastily clicking a suspicious link or attachment. If you regularly back up your data online and to an external drive, then you'll never feel you must pay the ransom.

Source: https://www.carbonite.com/en/cloud-backup/business/resources/carbonite-blog/your-ransomware-response-prepare-for-the-worst/?utm_campaign=10472&utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=paid-social&utm_content=2743&placement=2743

Did you know.....

... at the January 3, 2017 Organizational Meeting, the Town Board appointed two new members to the Zoning Board of Appeals and one new member to the Board of Ethics. What is concerning about this issue is that none of these vacancies were posted and no letters of interest from potential candidates were ever requested by the Town Board. The three men (no females!) appointed were hand-picked by the current Town administration with no consideration for anyone else who might have been interested in serving their town in one of these capacities. One of the men appointed is the son of a Town Board member and another is the brother-in-law of another Town appointee. We have no reason to doubt that these gentlemen are capable of performing the duties of their respective positions, but the process itself smacks of politics and family favoritism ... certainly not open and transparent government. Is this the way we would like our small town government to operate?

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 7:30am - 5:00pm; Sat 7:30am - 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

RENSELAERVILLE POST OFFICE: Phone 518-797-3231
(26 COUNTY ROUTE 353 RENSELAERVILLE, 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

**Events from the Carey Institute for Global Good****Intermediate Hops Workshop**

- Friday, February 17th 10AM – 3PM
- Join the Helderberg Brewery & Incubator for a workshop discussion on hops growing at the intermediate level, featuring industry experts Goris Passchier, Chad Meigs and Justin Riccobono.
- Registration costs \$30 and includes lunch. Spaces are filling fast. Please contact gback@careyinstitute.org to reserve your spot.
- More details here: <http://careyinstitute.org/event/intermediate-hops-workshop/>

Five Course Beer Pairing Dinner

- Saturday, February 25th
- Join the Carey Institute's Carriage House Restaurant for its first dinner event held in collaboration with the Helderberg Brewery. Each of our delectable five courses will be paired with a 6 oz. brew selected to complement the dish. Arrive early for a cash bar at the Carriage House Restaurant at 5:00 pm; dinner begins at 6:00 pm. Stay late at the brewery until 10 pm, and sleep over on the Carey Institute's country estate in one of our historic guest rooms. A buffet breakfast will be served in the Carriage House Restaurant Sunday morning.
- Full menu & ticket information can be found here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/five-course-beer-pairing-dinner-tickets-31026948438?aff=efbeventix>

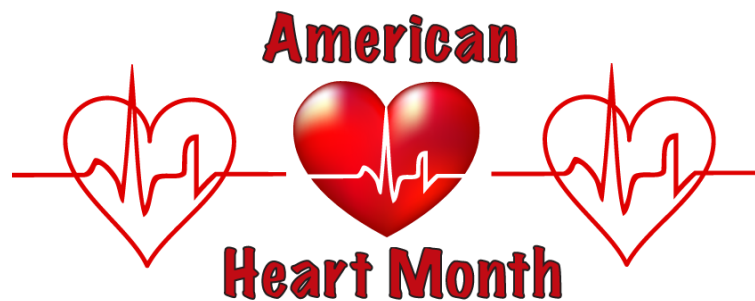
New Service for Subscribers

We are pleased to announce that the new year brings a new service to subscribers of *The R'ville Community Newsletter*. We will have available audio recordings of all Town Board meetings that I attend, which is approximately 99% of them. Those of you wishing to receive such material simply have to shoot an email to rvillenewsletter@gmail.com and let us know that you would like to be put on our recipient list. It is our expectation/hope that these files will be sent to you immediately following the meeting or the very next day.

Audio files tend to be quite large. Therefore, if the audio file is greater than 25 MB (and most of them will be), Gmail automatically adds a Google Drive link in the email instead of including it as an attachment. You, the recipient, can download it so you'll have access to it even if it is removed from Google Drive. A download link will be included in your emails. Available at this time are the meetings of 1/3/2017, 1/10/2017, and 1/12/2017.

This is a new "adventure" for us so please be patient if the system starts out a bit bumpy.

We're hoping it will be clear sailing from the get-go...but you never know!



A graphic with a blue star and the word "Kudos" written in a white, cursive font.	<p>We are pleased to recognize the efforts of our resident "garbologist" Jon Whitbeck for the efficient management of our Town's transfer station. As a result of his efforts and hard work during the 2016 calendar year, Jon's department has earned the Town over \$8,400 due to the sale of our metals from the metal bin as well as the money saved by decreasing our waste stream for plastic, glass, and cans (value of \$6,632). Good going, Jon! Nice to have you on our team! (And remember, clean cans sans labels can go in the metal bin & earn the Town even more money!)</p>
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Sensory Evaluation Workshop Part I

- Who:** Carey Institute for Global Good & Hartwick College
- What:** Sensory Evaluation Workshop Part I: Malt Matters!
A workshop on malts and malting for brewers.
- Where:** Hartwick College Center for Craft Food & Beverage Lab
1 Hartwick Drive
Oneonta, NY 13820
For directions to campus, click [here](#).
- When:** March 10, 2017
1:00 PM – 4:00 PM
- Cost:** \$30 and includes food
E-mail gback@careyinstitute.org to register.

Sensory Evaluation Workshop Part II

- Who:** Helderberg Brewery Incubator at the Carey Institute for Global Good
- What:** Sensory Evaluation Workshop Part II: Sensory Evaluation & Defect Detection
An exploration of beer flavor and the science behind it.
- Where:** Carey Institute for Global Good
63 Huyck Road
Rensselaerville, NY 12147
For directions and a campus map, click [here](#).
- When:** March 24, 2017
10:00 AM – 5:00 PM
- Cost:** \$30 and includes lunch
E-mail gback@careyinstitute.org to register.

About Helderberg Brewery Incubator:

New York State's craft beverage sector is emerging as a driver of local economic development in rural and urban communities across the state. The industry also has the potential to fuel the development of a diversified, value-added small grains system in the Northeast. However, significant investments in research, farmer training and infrastructure are needed to support continued growth of the movement as well as its distinct, place-based quality.

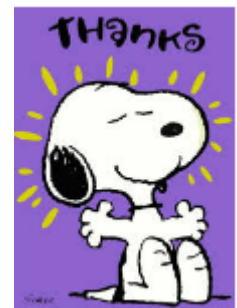
The Carey Institute for Global Good has partnered with the Capital Region's craft beverage community to address these needs. Through educational workshops, local supply chain and market development and the operation of our own farm brewery, we support the development of a farm-to-glass supply chain connecting farmers, malt houses and craft beverage producers across the region.

RVFD News

- **IMPORTANT:** Our social number is: **966-0338**. Please update your records. In case of an emergency, call 9-1-1.
- Time to plan for the colder weather. Be sure to start the heating season with a serviced furnace and clean chimneys. While you're at it, test your fire and c/o detectors and change the batteries.
- **Is there a fire in you? Please come to a drill or meeting to find out more.**
 - ⇒ Drills are the first two Mondays at 7:00,
 - ⇒ Battalion meeting first Wednesday of every month at 7:00 pm (no meeting in August), and
 - ⇒ Fire Meeting last Wednesday of every month at 7:30 pm.



As we come to the end of our third year of publication of *The R'ville Community Newsletter*, I would like to personally and publicly thank two women who have made this all possible. Nancy Class has done an amazing job taking all the material I send her and formatting it into an attractive, comprehensive publication. She is a perfectionist and it shows! And I depend a great deal on the keen eyes of Georgette Koenig for her proofreading abilities to make sure the newsletter is as error-free as possible. In addition, she serves as a sounding board and "filter" for many of the items that are published. Thank you, Ladies! Here's to another year at least.... of collaboration!



GRIST MILL NEWS

By Janet Haseley

The Grist Mill Museum will be closed for the winter from mid-October until mid-May because there is no heat in the Mill. After the Mill closes, the Research Group will continue to meet weekly, on Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., in the basement meeting room of the Rensselaerville Library. Inquiries may be sent to the new email address, rensselaervillehistoricalsoc@gmail.com.



**BREAKFAST
AT THE MEDUSA FIRE HOUSE**

7:00AM TO 11:00AM

~~September 17, 2016~~

~~October 15, 2016~~

~~November 10, 2016~~

~~December 17, 2016~~

~~January 21, 2017~~

February 18, 2017

March 18, 2017

April 15, 2017

PLEASE JOIN US TO SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL FIRE DEPT

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

Free will offering



On The Calendar

Feb 2	GROUNDHOG DAY	
Feb 4 Noon-3 pm	The Huyck Preserve Winter Festival - New this year will be a bake-off. Interested bakers should contact the Huyck Preserve Main Office (797-3440 or info@huyckpreserve.org) for details.	
Feb 5 10:00 am	Medusa United Church of Christ Services	Medusa
Feb 5 11:00 am	Trinity Episcopal Church Sunday Services	Rensselaerville
Feb 7 7:00 pm	Town Board Work Meeting	Town Hall
Feb 9 7:00 pm	Town Board Regular Meeting	Town Hall
Feb 12 10:00 am	Medusa United Church of Christ Services	Medusa
Feb 12 11:00 am	Trinity Episcopal Church Sunday Services	Rensselaerville
Feb 13 8:00 pm	The Huyck Preserve Full Moon Hike - Meet at the Eldridge Research Center (284 Pond Hill Rd.) Those attending must RSVP on our website: www.huyckpreserve.org/whats-new-blog/night-hike-series	
Feb 14	HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY	
Feb 14 12 noon	Senior's Lunch/Meeting	Medusa Fire House
Feb 18 7am-11 am	Medusa Fire Company Breakfast Free Will Offering	Medusa Fire House
Feb 19 10:00 am	Medusa United Church of Christ Services	Medusa
Feb 19 11:00 am	Trinity Episcopal Church Sunday Services	Rensselaerville
Feb 20	TOWN OFFICES CLOSED President's Day	
Feb 26 10:00 am	Medusa United Church of Christ Services	Medusa
Feb 26 11:00 am	Trinity Episcopal Church Sunday Services	Rensselaerville

Planning Ahead:

- Mar 4 Spring & Easter Rummage Sale** at the Medusa Church Hall from 9am to 3pm
- Mar 18 Spring & Easter Rummage Sale** at the Medusa Church Hall from 8 to 12 noon.

Please get events to Bill Moore...

- by phone – 239-4843;
- by e-mail – whmoore44@yahoo.com; or
- by mail to: 11 CR 351, Medusa, NY 12120



Library News



P.O. Box 188
1459 County Route 351
Rensselaerville, NY 12147-0188
Phone: 518.797.3949
Fax: 518.797.5211
www.rensselaervillelibrary.org

Library Staff

Director - Kimberly Graff
director@rensselaervillelibrary.org
Assistant - Katie Caprio
library@rensselaervillelibrary.org
Youth Services Coordinator
Lee Ackerman-Sawyer
youth@rensselaervillelibrary.org

Pages

Ruby Acker
Keara Kelley
Emileigh Tanner
Leah Waldron

Library Board of Trustees

President
Janet Acker
Vice President
Linda Styer
Secretary
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Treasurer
Scott Kunkler
Trustees
Carol Ash
JR Delia
Penny Grimes
John Gordon
Hans Soderquist

The Rensselaerville Library works to preserve a comfortable historical gathering place that is open, free and inviting to all of the residents of the 5 hamlets and environs. We strive to awaken and promote a life-long love of reading and learning by fostering personal connections and providing access to a stimulating variety of texts, technology and programming.

The Rensselaerville Library is a 501c3 non-profit organization and donations are tax deductible as allowed by law.

Upcoming Library Events

Movie Night on Thursday, February 23 at 6:30pm. Please visit the web site for more details. <http://www.rensselaervillelibrary.org/movies.html>

Youth Programs

STEAM – Tuesdays, 10:30-11:30 am. A multi-level Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math program aimed at a variety of ages. The group/parents will select the next week's topic at the end of each session - the goal is to address the educational needs of children in our community by integrating the disciplines and stimulating young minds.

StoryTime with Movement & Music – Wednesdays, 4:30-5:30 pm, stories, music and movement activities for parents/caregivers and children. This program is designed as an early literacy program aimed at developing and reinforcing the skills that children need to be successful learners. Parents and caregivers this program also provides the opportunity to develop a local social support group.

Children's Movie – Wednesday, February 22 at 10:00 am visit <http://www.rensselaervillelibrary.org/movies.html> for more details.

Monthly Craft Project – kids stop in and check out the craft table downstairs and discover crafts to work on your own.

Tween and Teens STEAM Activities – Wednesday evenings from 7-8pm there will be a different program each week of the month.

2/1 – Unique Musical Instruments to make and play
2/8 – Create your own story
2/15 - Make Moving Sculptures (Homopolar Motors)
2/22 – Interested in Coding? Come learn how to Code.

Homework Help - Wednesdays at 5:30pm. Please see Lee Ackerman-Sawyer or email youth@rensselaervillelibrary.org

The Library monthly Board of Trustees Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 28 at 7pm. Board meetings are normally held on the third Tuesday of every month except when noted. All Board meetings are held at the Library in the downstairs meeting room and are open to the public.

The Writing Group meets on the second Thursday of the month. On February 9th the group will meet at 7pm in the downstairs meeting room. Come share your work, receive feedback and spend time working on your own project.

Poetry Group meets on Tuesday evenings at 7pm, February 14 and 28. Come share your work, receive feedback and spend time working on your own project. The Poetry group meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month downstairs in the Library.

Library Hours: *Closed Sunday and Monday*
Tuesday & Wednesday: 10am – Noon & 4– 9pm
Thursday & Friday: 4– 9pm
Saturday: 9– 1pm

Library News

Middleburgh Library

2/1, 8, 15 - 1:00 PM - Wednesday Matinee - Movies to be announced.

2/1, 8, 15, 22 - 3:30 - 5:00 PM - Energy Healing - At any stage of life optimum health is necessary for us to lead a fulfilling existence. Come explore the potentials energy healing can have on your physical, mental and emotional well being. Eileen Knott uses a non-invasive, hands off technique (Reconnective and Matrix Energetics systems) of working with your body's energy fields to initiate your own innate healing abilities. This work is particularly effective for acute pain, anxiety and depression. **Registration is required.** Please contact the library at 827-5142 with questions.

This program will be held every Wednesday.

2/1, 22 - 5:00 PM - Kundalini Yoga - Kundalini Yoga 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. *Please use the back entrance when entering the building. No registration required.*

2/2, 9, 16, 23 - 7:00 PM - 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.*

2/4 - 9:00 - 2:00 - Insight Meditation Retreat

2/4 - 3:00 PM to ? - Board Games for Adults - Come and join us for some fun and different board games.

2/7, 14, 21, 28 - 10:45 AM - Drop-in Storytime - Get ready to move in this interactive storytime designed 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

2/7, 14, 21, 28 - 1:00 PM - Mahjong Mania - Every Tuesday afternoon at 1:00 a spirited group of people get together in the Community Room to play Mahjong. Don't know how to play? No problem! They will teach you how. No registration required.

2/7, 14, 21, 28 - 5:15 PM - Insight Meditation - Join us for a simple group Zazen meditation practice. All are welcome. *No registration required.*

2/11 - 9:00 to 2:00 - Wellness Fair - Join us for Demonstrations, Raffles and Grand Prize Raffle, Snowshoes. Details to come. Free Admission. More details to follow. Check our website.

2/13 - 6:30 PM - Board of Trustees Meeting - Our meetings are open to the public. Please join us!

2/18 - 1:00 PM - Cooking by the Vegan Book - "Thug Kitchen" - We pick the cookbook, you pick and make the recipe! The book club is free and open to the public. How the cookbook club works; Every month, a cookbook will be selected and will be at the circulation desk, for you to look at and we will print up the recipe of your choice. Sign up online or at the circulation desk, let us know what you're cooking so we don't have duplicates. **Registration is required.**

2/20 - President's Day - The library will be closed to observe the holiday.

2/21 - 1:00 PM - Uno Tournament - Celebrate Play More Cards Day with our 2nd Annual UNO Tournament! Have fun, get "wild," and watch out for the dreaded Draw 4! Prizes for the winners! **Registration is required.** For children ages 7 & up.

2/21 - 7:00 PM - Book Discussion - "A Lesson Before Dying" by Ernest J. Gaines. Set in the fic-

(Continued on page 32)

Library News

(Continued from page 31)

tional community of Bayonne, Louisiana, in the late 1940s, *A Lesson Before Dying* tells the story of Jefferson, a twenty-one-year-old uneducated black field worker wrongfully accused and convicted of the robbery and murder of a white man, and sentenced to death by electrocution.

2/22 - 1:00 PM - Family Film - "Pete's Dragon" - Disney's Pete's Dragon is a remake of the 1977 film of the same name. In this version the main character, a huge green dragon named Elliott lives in a forest in the Pacific Northwest and befriends a young boy named Pete. Pete was orphaned at four years old and came to live in the forest with Elliot. The movie starts with the discovery of this young boy in the forest by a forest ranger who heard stories about the dragon in the woods. Pete befriends the forest ranger's daughter as he adjusts to civilization outside the forest. *No registration required. Free popcorn!*

2/23 - 1:00 PM - Maple Sugaring - It doesn't matter how old you are, everyone loves the taste of maple syrup. But why does a tree taste so sweet? We'll learn how trees work, why sugar is so important, and—best of all—get a taste of real maple syrup. We'll read from Laura Ingalls Wilder's *Farmer Boy*. *For children ages 5-10. Registration is required.*

2/24 - 5:30 PM - Dinner & a Movie - "Hacksaw Ridge" (R) - Join us for our ever popular Dinner and a Movie! The library will provide pizza and drinks and you bring a snack or dessert to share! This month we'll be watching **Hacksaw Ridge**. WWII American Army Medic Desmond T. Doss, who served during the Battle of Okinawa, refuses to kill people, and becomes the first man in American history to receive the Medal of Honor without firing a shot. Please be aware that this film is Rated R for intense prolonged realistically graphic sequences of war violence including grisly bloody images. **Registration is required.**

2/27 - 2:00 PM - Adult Coloring Club - Come and experience the latest trend in relaxation, adult coloring books! Studies how coloring can have a calming effect on the adult mind and helps promote overall wellness. Coloring pages designed especially for adults as well as colored pencils will be provided. This will be a recurring program. We will meet every 3rd Monday of the month at 2pm. **Registration is required.**

Please check our Calendar on our website at www.middleburghlibrary.info for future programs.

Contact information: 323 Main Street, PO Box 670, Middleburgh, NY 12122
(518) 827-5142

Hours: Monday 1:30 - 8:30 Tuesday 10:00 - 5:00 & 6:30 - 8:30
Wednesday 10:00 - 4:00 Thursday 10:00 - 4:00 & 6:30 - 8:30
Friday & Sunday - closed Saturday 9:00 - 2:00



Library News

Greenville Library

Feb 1 World of Animals

6:00 pm

Wildlife educator Bill Robinson and his "World of Animals" show will be at the Greenville Public Library on Wednesday, February 1, at 6:00 with a demonstration for all ages. This will be an opportunity to see amazing animals up close and learn how they live. Feeding behaviors will be discussed and demonstrated. The World of Animals includes birds of prey such as hawks, (usually a red-tailed hawk or Harris hawk), owls, vultures, and falcons as well as reptiles such as snakes and lizards.

Mr. Robinson also discusses the importance of these animals in the balance of nature, and how man has helped to restore endangered species such as the peregrine falcon. He'll walk through the audience with the animals so that everyone can get a closer look. The program is free and open to the public. The show will be held in our large Community Room. For more information, call 518-966-8205, visit www.greenville.lib.ny.us, or email greenvillelibrary@outlook.com

Feb 3, 7, 10, 14, 17, 28

Toddler Time

Tuesday from 10–10:45am & 11–11:45am

Friday from 10–10:45am & 11–11:45am

Parents and caregivers are invited to bring their children to our Toddler Time Programs. Infants, toddlers and preschoolers are all welcome. Registration is not required. Drop in on the day(s) you would like to attend.

This activity enriched educational time includes stories, games, singing, marching and socializing. They can also choose books to take home and enjoy during the week. The instructor for these sessions is Devon Balta.

Feb 2, 16 Joy of Coloring

12:30 - 2:00pm

Come and unwind with the latest artistic craze: adult coloring books. Fabulously intricate and creative books have now been published for adults to engage in this calming, creative activity that we loved as children. The library will provide the creative pages and water color pencils. Feel free to bring your own supplies and share with others. Bring your imagination and enjoy the relaxing exercise of coloring. Just Drop In!

Feb 7, 21 Lego Fun!

3:00 - 4:00pm

Do you love to imagine and build? Do you enjoy the rush of satisfaction when you find the perfect piece in a pile of colorful plastic bricks? Do you love the satisfying snap of a well placed Lego? Do you feel little pain when you step on a scattered Lego brick? If you answered yes to these questions then this program is meant for you! Bring your imagination, we'll provide the Legos! Just Drop In!

Feb 22 Movie Matinee: The Secret Life of Pets

3:00 pm

Come join us at the library for a movie matinee. We'll provide the snacks ... you don't even have to buy tickets! What could be better? Bring a warm blanket or sleeping bag and curl up to watch the film. See you at the movies! Children 3 and under must be accompanied by an adult caregiver. **Just Drop In!**

This animated comedy asks the question: what do our pets do all day when we're not home? For the critters living in a Manhattan apartment building, the answer is: whatever they want! A terrier named Max regularly invites his friends to hang out at his place while his owner is gone, but his quiet life is upended when said owner also takes in Duke, a stray mutt whom Max instantly dislikes. Their feud eventually causes both of them to get lost in New York City, and as they work together to find their way home, they cross paths with a bunny named snowball who plans to lead a group of abandoned pets on a mission against the humans who've done them wrong.

Contact Information: Greenville Public Library

11177 Route 32; PO Box 8 Greenville, NY 12083

Phone: 518-966-8205

Email: greenvillelibrary@outlook.com

Hours: Monday & Wednesday: 9:00am - 5:00pm

Friday: 12:00pm - 5:00pm

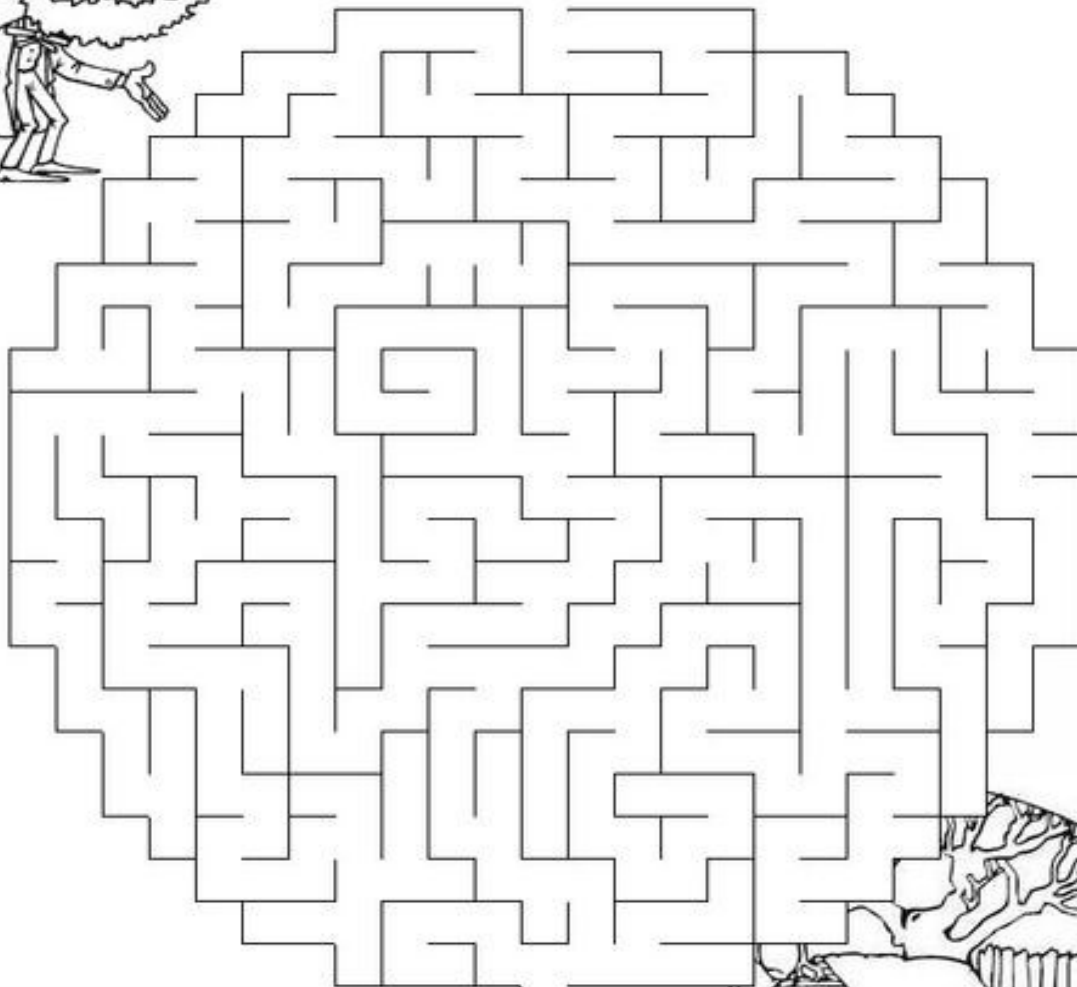
Tuesday & Thursday: 9:00am - 6:00pm

Saturday: 9:00am - 1:00pm

Kids' Activity Page



President's Day maze





'IT SPEAKS'

RVILLE STAGE CREATIONS

through special arrangement with

Dramatists Play Service Inc.

PRESENTS



THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES

Friday March 3rd 7:30 pm

Saturday March 4th 7:30 pm

Conkling Hall

8 Methodist Hill Road
Rensselaerville, NY 12147

For additional information
and tickets please call

518-669-5150

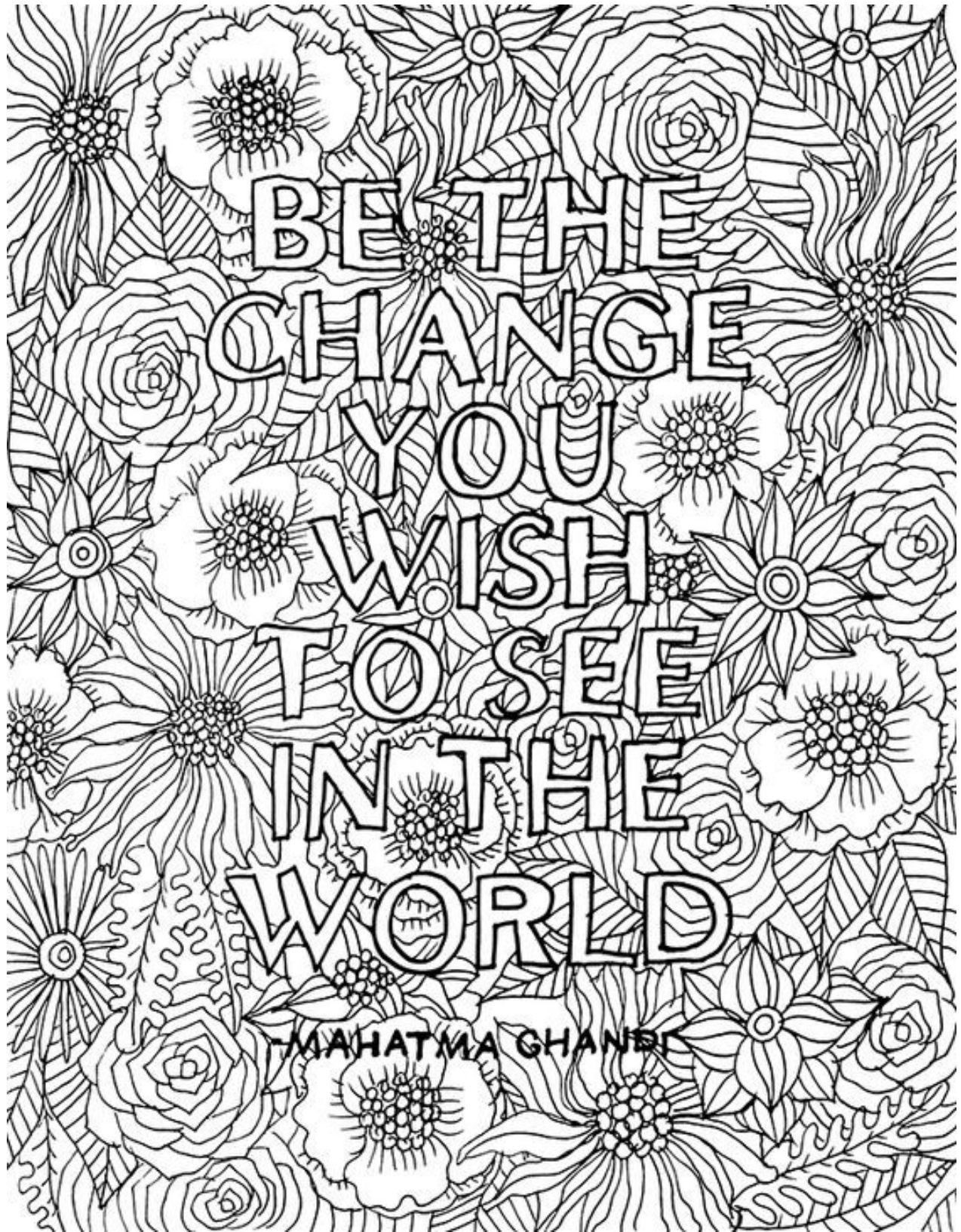
We will be teaming up with local female artist, business owners and Equinox of Albany. A percentage of the proceeds will be donated directly to Equinox.

We will also be accepting new items to help out women in need. Please see Equinoxinc.org for a full list of items needed. Click donate.; click In-Kind giving; click wish list.

\$15

ADULT CONTENT

Kids' Coloring Page



Beware New "Can You Hear Me" Scam

It's not a Verizon commercial: If you receive a phone call from someone asking "can you hear me," hang up. You're a potential victim in the latest scam circulating around the U.S.

Virginia police are now warning about the scheme, which also sparked warnings by Pennsylvania authorities late last year and very recently in NY's Capital District. The "can you hear me" con is actually a variation on earlier scams aimed at getting the victim to say the word "yes" in a phone conversation. That affirmative response is recorded by the fraudster and used to authorize unwanted charges on a phone or utility bill or on a purloined credit card.

"You say 'yes,' it gets recorded and they say that you have agreed to something," said Susan Grant, director of consumer protection for the Consumer Federation of America. "I know that people think it's impolite to hang up, but it's a good strategy."

But how can you get charged if you don't provide a payment method? The con artist already has your phone number, and many phone providers pass through third-party charges.

In addition, the criminal may have already collected some of your personal information -- a credit card number or cable bill, perhaps -- as the result of a data breach. When the victim disputes the charge, the crook can then counter that he or she has your assent on a recorded line.

What can you do? If you suspect you have already been victimized, check your credit card, phone and cable statements carefully for any unfamiliar charges. Call the billing company -- whether your credit card company or your phone provider -- and dispute anything that you didn't authorize on purpose. If they say you have been recorded approving the charge and you have no recollection of that, ask for proof.

How to Avoid Becoming a Shopping Cybercrime Victim

If you need help disputing an unauthorized credit card charge, contact the [Federal Trade Commission](#). If the charge hit your phone bill, the Federal Communications Commission [regulates phone bill "cramming."](#)

If you have not yet been victimized, the best way to avoid telemarketing calls from con artists is to sign up for a free blocking service, such as [Nomorobo](#), or simply let calls from unfamiliar numbers go to your answering machine. Scammers rarely leave a message.

If you do answer a call from an unfamiliar number, be skeptical of strangers asking questions that would normally elicit a "yes" response. The question doesn't have to be "can you hear me?" It could be "are you the lady of the house?"; "do you pay the household telephone bills?"; "are you the homeowner?"; or any number of similar yes/no questions. A reasonable response to any of these questions is: "Who are you, and why do you want to know?"

If the caller maintains they are with a government agency -- Social Security, the IRS, the Department of Motor Vehicles or the court system -- hang up immediately. Government officials communicate by mail, not phone (unless you initiate the call). Many con artists use the aegis of authority to convince you to keep talking. The longer you talk, the more likely you are to say something that will allow them to make you a victim.

Source: <http://www.cbsnews.com/news/beware-new-can-you-hear-me-scam/>

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	John Dolce	rbolte@rensselaerville.com
Town Councilwoman	Margaret Sedlmeir	msedlmeir@rensselaerville.com
Town Councilman	Gerald Wood	gwood@rensselaerville.com
Town Justices	Ronald Bates Dwight T. Cooke	Phone: 239-4225; 797-3798 Fax: 239-6339
Supervisor's Clerk	Linda McCormick	clerk1@rensselaerville.com
Town Clerk	Victoria Kraker	townclerk@rensselaerville.com
Highway Superintendent	Randy Bates	rbates@rensselaerville.com
Highway Superintendentt Clerk	Kim Welsch	
Assessors	Donna Kropp Jeffry Pine	assessors@rensselaerville.com
Building Inspector/ Code Enforcement Officer	Mark Overbaugh	codeenforcement@rensselaerville.com
Planning Board	Richard Amedure	spfleging@rensselaerville.com
Zoning Board of Appeals	Anthony Guadagno	spfleging@rensselaerville.com
Board of Ethics	Mary Anne Overbaugh	ethicsboard@rensselaerville.com
Dog Control Officer	Cheryl Baitsholts	Phone: 797-5201
Refuse/Recycling Coordinator	Jon Whitbeck	Phone: 239-4225; 797-3798 Fax: 239-6339
Town Hall		Phone: 239-4225; 797-3798 Fax: 239-6339



The Back Page

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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.



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