

# R'VILLE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Volume 4, Issue 11

January, 2018

## Draft Minutes, Town Board Special Meeting, November 21, 2017

The Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville held a Special Meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of November, 2017 at 7:00 in the evening at the Rensselaerville Town Hall, 87 Barger Road, Medusa, NY. 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, Councilman Gerald Wood, Town Clerk Victoria H. Kraker

The purpose of the Special Meeting was to continue union negotiations.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to go into Executive Session at 7:01 PM for the purpose of union negotiations; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

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

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to return from Executive Session at 7:44 PM; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

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

### ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilwoman Sedlmeir to adjourn the meeting at 7:44 PM; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Dolce.

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

### **RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED;**

Victoria H. Kraker  
Town Clerk



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### Draft Minutes, Town Board Special Meeting, December 6, 2017

The Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville held A Special Meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of December 2017 at 7 o'clock in the evening at the Rensselaerville Town Hall, 87 Barger Road, Medusa, NY. 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, Councilman Gerald Wood, Town Clerk Victoria Kraker

Also present were two interested citizens.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the resignation of a Town Justice.

Supervisor Lounsbury read the letter of resignation submitted by Dwight T. Cooke.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to accept the resignation of Town Justice Dwight T. Cooke effective November 30, 2017. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wood.

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

Supervisor Lounsbury opened the floor for discussion noting that there were two options at this point: 1. appoint someone until the next election in November 2018 or 2. not appoint anyone in which case the State could provide the Town with an interim Justice who would serve as an arraignment judge only.

Supervisor Lounsbury notified the Board that she had received a letter of interest from Brian Wood. Discussion ensued over the appointment of Brian Wood as there was some question as to whether his position as an Albany County Paramedic would be a conflict of interest. Mr. Wood had already received the clearance from Sheriff Craig Apple, but awaits a decision from the Judicial Board of Ethics which will meet tomorrow morning. They will render their decision by noon.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to appoint Brian Wood to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Town Justice Dwight T. Cooke pending the finding of the Judicial Board of Ethics.

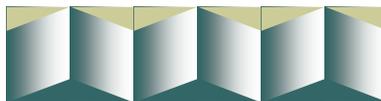
*Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Abstains (1) Wood*

A motion was made by Councilwoman Sedlmeir to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 PM; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Dolce.

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

#### RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED;

Victoria H. Kraker  
Town Clerk



**Editor's Note:** The screenshot of former Town Justice Cooke's letter of resignation appears on page 3. I share this with the public for several reasons.

First of all, I preface this editorial stating that NONE of my comments in any way are an indictment against the person who stepped forward and offered his services to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of former Town Justice Dwight T. Cooke. Brian Wood is to be commended for his unselfish willingness to fill such an important position in Town government. Sincere kudos to him!

However, I once again point out the Town Board's lack of communication and openness with its constituency. The letter was dated November 20, 2017 and was date-stamped received on the same day. So why were townspeople not alerted to this resignation & consequent vacancy prior to the December 6, 2017, special Town Board meeting? Although the meeting was noted on the Community Calendar, there was no announcement and request for letters of interest posted on the Town's home page nor on the bulletin board in Town Hall nor on the announcement board in front of Town Hall.

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**Draft Minutes, Town Board Work Meeting, December 12, 2017**

(Continued from page 2)



Town of Rensselaerville  
Justice Court  
November 19, 2017  
87 Barger Road  
Medusa, New York 12120

Dwight T Cooke  
40 Willsey Rd  
Medusa NY 12120

11/20/2017

To whom it may concern:

I hereby tender my resignation from my position as Town Justice, effective November 30, 2017.

It has been a pleasure working for the Town of Rensselaerville Justice Court and I am sincerely grateful for all the support I received during my term.

Sincerely,

  
Dwight T Cooke, Rensselaerville Town Justice



\*\*\*\*\*

Brian Wood had “insider information” that others who may have been interested in applying to fill this vacancy did not have. During the special meeting, the supervisor had stated that rumors were circulating all around Town about this resignation, and everyone knew about it. If that had been the truth (and it’s not - many people were surprised to learn of this development, myself included), that does not absolve the Town from doing what is right and notifying ALL residents of the vacancy and seeking letters of interest from anyone interested in serving. And they should have availed themselves of all possible avenues to get the word out.

This is not the first time I have faulted this Town Board for their apparent unwillingness to conduct Town business in an open and transparent manner. I can only hope the new administration will take some lessons for what NOT to do and be more amenable to keeping everyone informed in a fair way. It’s time to level the playing field so that everyone has an equal opportunity to apply for positions within Town government, regardless of the circumstances.

**Draft Minutes, Town Board Work Meeting, December 12, 2017**

The Work Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville was held on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of December 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, Councilwoman Marion Cooke, Councilman John Dolce, Town Clerk Victoria H. Kraker

**ABSENT WAS:** Councilwoman Margaret Sedlmeir, Councilman Gerald Wood

Also present were four interested citizens.

**AUDIENCE COMMENTS:** None

**ERIN NEVINS**

Erin Nevins of Nevins Insurance Agency presented the Board with the new rates for the Blue Shield of NENY health insurance for the retirees. The premiums for a comparable plan will be going up \$20/ month per person. Supervisor Lounsbury noted that the retirees have been very pleased with the current plan.

**MINUTES:** Minutes to be accepted at the Regular Meeting on December 14, 2017:

- November 1, 2017 – Public Hearing – Preliminary Budget
- November 9, 2017 – Regular Meeting
- November 21, 2017 – Special – Union Negotiations
- December 6, 2017 – Special – Resignation of Town Justice

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

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None

**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. Town Clerk Kraker sent out Certified/Return Receipt packets to all neighboring Towns and Counties containing information on the Public Hearing for the updated Fee Schedule. She reported that there was one outstanding Certified/Return receipt from the Town of Broome. It has been reported that the Town of Broome had been notified that a Certified mail was at the Post Office, but no one had claimed it.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Dates of either December 28<sup>th</sup> or 29<sup>th</sup> have been offered for the Final Meeting of 2017.
2. A date of January 2, 2018 has been suggested for the 2018 Organizational Meeting.
3. The annual contract for accounting services has been received from Pattison, Koskey, Howe & Bucci. If approved, the contract will need to be signed at the meeting on Thursday.

Councilwoman Cooke questioned Pattison, Koskey, Howe & Bucci's proposal to audit the Justice Court's records annually. It is still acceptable to perform the audit in-house and Councilwoman Cooke is willing to do it again.

**Draft Minutes, Town Board Work Meeting, December 12, 2017**

*(Continued from page 4)*

- 4. The Highway Superintendent's on-line bidding authority will have to be renewed at the Regular Meeting.
- 5. Authorization is needed for the Town Clerk to advertise for a Planning Board Secretary to replace the vacancy which will be created when the current secretary, Steven Pflieger, takes the office of Town Supervisor.
- 6. Authorization is needed to allow the Town of Westerlo to use the Senior/Youth Bus for their annual banquet in January.
- 7. Eric Sutton's term as Board of Assessment Review member expired September 30, 2017. He is willing to serve another term. The appointment must be retroactive to October 1, 2017.

**OTHER MATTERS**

The Judicial Board of Ethics has ruled that the appointment of Brian Wood to the position of Town Justice would, in fact, be a conflict of interest. Mr. Wood, an EMT, and although not employed in a law enforcement capacity, is still employed by the Albany County Sheriff's Department.

The next training for Town Justices will not be held until the spring of 2018. A judge cannot take the bench without the training, so therefore one cannot be appointed until then.

**AUDIENCE COMMENTS:** None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion was made by Councilman Dolce to enter into Executive Session at 7:37 PM for the purpose of Union negotiations; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Cooke.

*Motion carried: Ayes (3) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Wood; Nays (0); Absent (2) Sedlmeir and Wood*

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to return from Executive Session at 7:55 PM; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Dolce.

*Motion carried: Ayes (3) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Wood; Nays (0); Absent (2) Sedlmeir and Wood*

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 PM; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Dolce.

*Motion carried: Ayes (3) Lounsbury, Cooke, Dolce, and Wood; Nays (0); Absent (2) Sedlmeir and Wood*

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED;**

Victoria H. Kraker  
Town Clerk



January 15, 2018

### **Draft Minutes, Town Board Public Hearing, December 14, 2017**

The Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville held a Public Hearing on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of December 2017 at 6:30 in the evening at the Rensselaerville Town Hall, 87 Barger Road, Medusa, NY. The meeting was convened by Supervisor Lounsbury and the roll was called with the following results:

PRESENT WERE: Attorney Thomas Fallati, Supervisor Valerie Lounsbury, Councilwoman Marion Cooke, Councilman John Dolce, Councilwoman Margaret Sedlmeir, Councilman Gerald Wood  
\*Arrived at 6:36 pm, Town Clerk Victoria H. Kraker

Also present were four interested citizens.

The purpose of the Public Hearing was to receive public comment on Proposed Local Law No. 1 of 2017 – A Local Law providing an updated and consolidated fee schedule.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Sedlmeir to open the Public Hearing at 6:32 pm; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Dolce.

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

Attorney Fallati stated that the proposed new Law would repeal and consolidate the current Town Code.

As no comments were introduced, neither verbal nor written, Supervisor Lounsbury entertained a motion to close the Public Hearing.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to close the Public Hearing at 6:45 pm; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

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

#### **RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED;**

Victoria H. Kraker  
Town Clerk

### **Draft Minutes, Town Board Regular Meeting, December 14, 2017**

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville was held on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of December 2017 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 Thomas Fallati, Supervisor Valerie Lounsbury, Councilwoman Marion Cooke, Councilman John Dolce, Councilwoman Margaret Sedlmeir, Councilman Gerald Wood, Town Clerk Victoria H. Kraker

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

#### **AUDIENCE COMMENTS**

Marie Dermody questioned why the Town was not making better use of the announcement page on the website. **[Editor's Note: I asked why the notice for the 12/14/2017 public hearing & the associated proposed fee schedule were not posted on the Town's website prior to the hearing so taxpayers could avail themselves of this information.]**

## Draft Minutes, Town Board Regular Meeting, December 14, 2017

(Continued from page 6)

Steven Pflieger wished to thank Supervisor Lounsbury and Councilman Wood for their years of dedicated service to the Town.

### **MICHAEL & LORI OVERMERE**

Michael & Lori Overmere wished to bring an issue of a barking dog to the attention of the Town Board. Mr. Overmere proposed establishing an ordinance to control barking dogs.

### **BRENT THOMPSON / SHAWN STYER**

Brent Thompson and Shawn Styer wished for the Town to be aware of an Article 78 lawsuit that has been filed against the New York State Park Police who have constructed a shooting range for training their cadets. The lawsuit requests a temporary restraining order on the use of the range. The suit is based on what the complainants feel is a faulty SEQR process and range design. In addition there are soil and groundwater concerns and noise pollution concerns.

The lawsuit requested a temporary restraining order on the use of the range. The complainants received a Court-approved agreement from the Park Police that they will finish the current training session, which concludes on December 22<sup>nd</sup>, and will then stop all shooting until the Article 78 proceeding is adjudicated.

**[Editor's Note: I have the complete document that Brent Thompson presented to the Town Board and have his permission to share it with anyone who would like a copy. Just send an email to reville-newsletter@gmail.com to request your copy.]**

### **MINUTES**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to approve the minutes of the November 1, 2017 – Public Hearing on the Preliminary Budget; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

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

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to approve the minutes of the November 9, 2017 Regular Meeting; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Wood.

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

A motion was made by Councilman Dolce to approve the minutes of the November 21, 2017 Special Meeting – Union Negotiations; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Cooke.

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

A motion was made by Councilman Dolce to approve the minutes of the December 6, 2017 Special Meeting – Resignation of a Town Justice; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

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

### **TRANSFERS**

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

From 'Senior/Youth Bus Fund' 8514 to 'Vehicle Maintenance' A7610E 44072 in the amount of \$1,695.82 to cover repairs.

The motion was seconded by Councilman Dolce.

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

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## Draft Minutes, Town Board Regular Meeting, December 14, 2017

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**ABSTRACTS/VOUCHERS:** General Fund - \$28,425.11; Highway Fund - \$22,307.74; Lighting District - \$732.63; Sewer Fund - \$125.23; Water Fund - \$37.62; T&A Fund - 46,251.58. Total Abstracts: \$57,879.91

A motion was made by Councilman Dolce to pay all signed vouchers and bills; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

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

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None

### REPORTS

#### SUPERVISOR

1. Supervisor Lounsbury and Clerk 1/Bookkeeper McCormick have been busy wrapping up 2017 and preparing for 2018; as well as finishing up union negotiations.

A motion was made by Councilman Wood to accept the Supervisor's report; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Dolce.

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

#### ATTORNEY

1. Attorney Fallati has drawn up a Resolution extending the Cold War veterans exemption which reads as follows:

#### RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF RENSSELAERVILLE TOWN BOARD

WHEREAS, Section 458-b(c)2(iii) of the Real Property Tax Law of the State of New York, establishes a residential real property tax exemption for Cold War veterans for a period of ten years; and

WHEREAS, the Laws of New York Chapter 290 of 2017 amended Section 458-b to permit local governments to remove the exemption's ten-year limited period through adoption of a local law; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board had determined that the ten-year limitation on the residential real property tax exemption for Cold War veterans should be removed and made a permanent exemption for as long as the Cold War veteran remains a qualified owner of qualified residential property within the Town of Rensselaerville; and

WHEREAS, the attached proposed Local Law entitled "Extension of the Real Property Tax Exemption for Cold War Veterans" amends Section 194-19 of the Town Code to make the exemption permanent;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the duly convened Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville that pursuant to the Municipal Home Rule Law and the General Municipal Law, a public hearing shall be conducted at the Town Hall on January 11, 2018 at 6:30 pm on the attached proposed Local Law No. 1 of 2018, and notice of the time and place of such hearing shall be published on or before January 4, 2018 in a newspaper circulating in the Town.

By motion made by Marion Cooke 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 14<sup>th</sup> day of December 2017 as follows:

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**Draft Minutes, Town Board Regular Meeting, December 14, 2017**

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

End Resolution

**HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

1. Superintendent Bates reported that the Highway Department is 100% operational.
2. The new loader will be delivered next week.
3. The new plow will be installed on the pickup truck. T&T has agreed to solder all connections.
4. On behalf of himself and the Highway Department, Superintendent Bates thanked Supervisor Lounsbury and Councilman Wood for their support during their terms in office and expressed his appreciation for the open communication and efforts to work together.

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

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

**TOWN CLERK:** Town Clerk Kraker reported for the month of November as follows: Town Clerk Department – Total Collected \$2,014.81

Paid to the Supervisor - \$607.48- the breakdown is as follows: Clerk Fees - \$175.92; Recycling - \$151.00; Dog Licenses - \$49.00; Building Permits - \$221.56; Zoning - \$10.00; Total: \$607.48

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: \$1,400.33

A motion was made by Councilman Wood to accept the Town Clerk's report; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Dolce.

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

**CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER/BUILDING INSPECTOR**

1. Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector Overbaugh reported one New Accessory permit; one Solar Panel permit; one Home Addition permit; and one Building Repair permit for the month of November. He noted that the number of permits have been about the same over the last couple of years, but dollar value added to the Town has gone up for 2017.

2. Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector Overbaugh also reported that Clerk Debbie Baxter was becoming an asset to the Department.

## Draft Minutes, Town Board Regular Meeting, December 14, 2017

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A motion was made by Councilman Dolce to accept the Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector's report; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Wood.

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

### **ASSESSORS**

1. Assessor Pine reported that property sales have gone up.
2. Assessor Pine also mentioned that the Town may wish to opt-out of the tax exemption for large-scale solar.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to accept the Assessor's report; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Dolce.

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

### **WATER/SEWER COMMITTEE**

1. Town Clerk Kraker read a written report submitted by Water/Sewer Operator John Rice as follows:

The water plant treated 287,100 gallons of water (a daily average of 9,570 gallons). Operator Rice noted that these numbers were down about 45,000 gallons compared to the previous three months and attributed it to the repair of the leak on Methodist Hill Road.

The sewer processed 144,720 gallons of waste (a daily average of 4,824 gallons). The pumps have been running less frequently since the control panel was serviced in October.

A motion was made by Councilman Dolce to accept the Water/Sewer Committee's written reports; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

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

### **REFUSE/RECYCLING**

1. Recycling Coordinator Whitbeck reported the following for the month of November: E-Waste: 1.59 tons; Rensselaer Iron & Steel: 9.53 tons; City of Albany Landfill: 69.03 tons; Sierra Fibers: 11.41 tons; Oil: 38 gallons; Tires: 54

Recycling Coordinator Whitbeck also wished to thank Supervisor Lounsbury and Councilman Wood for their service to the Town.

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

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

### **CURRENT EVENTS**

Linda Styer, representing the Rensselaerville Library, announced that over the Christmas break there would be several activities for children. Story-time is every Wednesday and there is a craft project area downstairs at the library.

The Village Voices will be holding their annual Holiday/Winter concert on December 16<sup>th</sup>.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

1. The Blue Shield of Northeastern New York health insurance for the retirees will be going up \$20.00/mo. to \$449.00/mo. for those residing within the coverage area and \$489.00/mo. for those residing outside of the area.

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**Draft Minutes, Town Board Regular Meeting, December 14, 2017***(Continued from page 10)*

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to authorize the Supervisor to renew the Blue Shield of Northeastern New York Medicare Advantage Plan for the retirees; to include the benefit of turning in their receipts over \$450.00. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

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

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. The Judicial Board of Ethics has ruled that the appointment of Brian Wood as Town Justice would be a conflict of interest.

Justice Bates has offered to handle all the cases going forward.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to pay Justice Bates one-half of former Justice Cooke's salary in addition to his own regular salary until such time as a second Justice is appointed. Justice Bates would be paid on a monthly basis. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wood.

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

2. A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to set the date for the Final Meeting for December 28, 2017 at 7:00 pm; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Wood.

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

3. A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to set the date for the 2018 Organizational Meeting for January 2, 2018 at 7:00 pm; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Wood.

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

4. A motion was made by Councilman Wood to authorize the Supervisor to sign the contract for accounting services for 2018 with Pattison, Kosky, Howe, & Bucci; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Dolce.

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

5. Attorney Fallati read the Resolution to renew the Highway Superintendent the authority to participate in on-line bidding as follows:

RESOLUTION OF THE  
TOWN OF RENSSELAERVILLE  
TOWN BOARD

WHEREAS, from time-to-time, the Highway Superintendent has requested from the Town Board approval to bid on equipment available in an on-line auction; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has found the auction process to be financially beneficial, allowing the Highway Superintendent to acquire useful equipment at a fraction of the cost of the acquisition of comparable new equipment; and

WHEREAS, Section 142(1) of the Highway Law permits the Town Board to authorize the Highway Superintendent to purchase equipment, tools and other implements to be used for highway maintenance, construction or reconstruction, snow plows or other devices for the removal of snow from the highways from monies appropriated for that purpose without prior approval of the Town Board, and in an amount or amounts to be fixed, from time to time, by the Town Board; and

WHEREAS, the Town board has determined that it is in the public interest to grant the Highway Superintendent such authority;

*(Continued on page 12)*

**Draft Minutes, Town Board Regular Meeting, December 14, 2017**

*(Continued from page 11)*

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the duly convened Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville, Albany County, New York, that (1) the Highway Superintendent is authorized to bid on, and to purchase, equipment, tools and other implements to be used for highway maintenance, construction or reconstruction, snow plows or other devices for the removal of snow from the highways from monies appropriated for that purpose without prior approval of the Town Board, through March 31, 2018, up to an amount of \$10,000; (2) this resolution may be reviewed and re-approved quarterly; (3) the Highway Superintendent shall provide the Town Supervisor prompt notice of any bids and purchases made pursuant to this resolution; and (4) nothing in this resolution is intended to limit the Town Board's authority, by subsequent resolution, to modify or rescind this authority generally or with respect to a particular prospective purchase.

By motion made by Valerie Lounsbury and seconded by Gerald Wood, the foregoing resolution was adopted by a majority of the members of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of December 2017 as follows:

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

End Resolution

6. A motion was made by Councilman Dolce to authorize the Town Clerk to advertise for the position of Planning & Zoning Board Secretary and specify that resumes be submitted by January 18, 2018. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

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

7. A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to authorize the Town of Westerlo Fire Company the use of the Senior/Youth Bus for their annual banquet on January 20, 2018, contingent upon finding a driver. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wood.

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

8. A motion was made by Councilman Dolce to reappoint Eric Sutton to the Board of Assessment Review. Mr. Sutton's term would be retro-active to October 1, 2017 and would run through September 30, 2021. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

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

A motion was made by Councilman Dolce to amend the term to run through September 30, 2022; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

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

**AUDIENCE COMMENTS:** None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to enter into Executive Session at 8:44 pm for the purposes of discussing employee history and possible litigation. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

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

**Draft Minutes, Town Board Regular Meeting, December 14, 2017**

*(Continued from page 12)*

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to return from Executive Session at 9:16 pm; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Dolce.

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

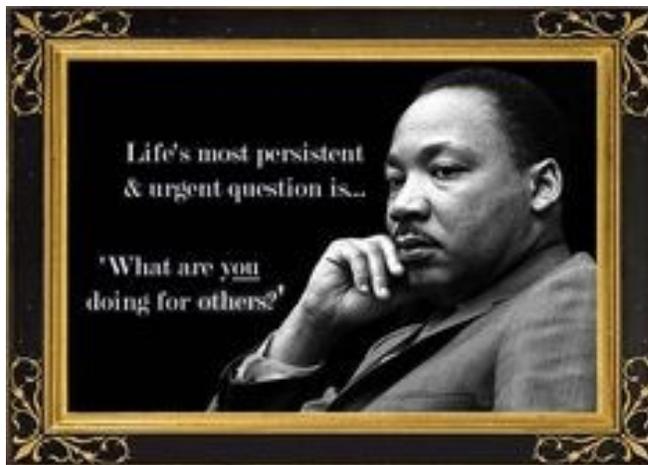
**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Sedlmeir to adjourn the meeting at 9:17 pm; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Wood.

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

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED;**

Victoria H. Kraker  
Town Clerk



**Carey Institute for Global Good**



\*\*\*\*\*  
**Helderberg Brewery Fall/Winter Hours**  
**Wednesdays 6-10PM & Fridays 6-10PM**  
\*\*\*\*\*

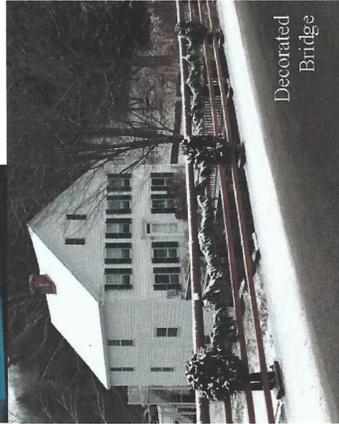
What's new at the Carey Institute? Sign up at [careyinstitute.org](http://careyinstitute.org) to receive our email updates. The form can be found at the bottom of our home page.

Rensselaerville Historic District Association

Rensselaerville  
Historic  
District  
Association



Trinity Church



Decorated Bridge



Conkling Hall



The Grist Mill and Museum

RHDA owns and maintains the "pocket park" on Main St opposite the route 85 stop sign. A major program for 2013 is the significant enhancement of this village resource, with new plantings and other amenities. Please contact us at [rville.rhda@gmail.com](mailto:rville.rhda@gmail.com) if you would like to help with this effort.



Irish Writers Festival



Rensselaerville, New York  
A Seven to Save Community

### RHDA ANNUAL EVENTS

- New Year's Day Brunch – January 1  
A free community gathering at Conkling Hall held on the afternoon of New Year's Day with lots of food provided
- Irish Writers Festival – Saturday closest to St. Patrick's Day  
An afternoon of sharing our favorite Irish stories, poems, songs, witticisms and maybe a step-dance. Free corned beef sandwiches and libations at Conkling Hall
- Founders Day – Second Saturday in June  
A gathering to honor members of our community, past and present, who have made significant contributions to the vibrancy of Rensselaerville. Location may vary
- Annual Meeting – a Saturday in August TBA  
All members and interested parties receive reports of the prior year's activities and current status of RHDA and elect officers
- Rensselaerville Revue – Sunday of Columbus Day Weekend  
Celebrate all of the well-known or well-hidden talent in our community with all manner of performances: drama, comedy, dance, music, comedy, and more by our friends and neighbors
- Candidates Forum – a Saturday shortly before election day. Candidates for local office are invited to present their views and answer questions

ALL of the above events are FREE and open to the public.

Join our E-mail list for notices of upcoming events by sending a note to [rville.rhda@gmail.com](mailto:rville.rhda@gmail.com)

### Established in 1986, RHDA

represents the interests of the community that is recognized as being of historical significance to our State and Nation by designation to the National and State Historic Registers.



Town Library

### Mission Statement

The general purpose of the RHDA is to be an advocate for the protection and enhancement of the historic Village of Rensselaerville - its history and architecture; its education and culture; its relationship to town, county, state, and federal governments; its social, organizational and recreational activity; its economy, safety and environment; its sense of community and other aspects of village life within this unique and small place in the hills, which many call home.

### RHDA

Rensselaerville Historic District Association - MEMBERSHIP -

Become a member of RHDA by filling out this form and giving it to any Steering Committee member or mailing it to PO Box 173, Rensselaerville, NY 12147 and including dues.

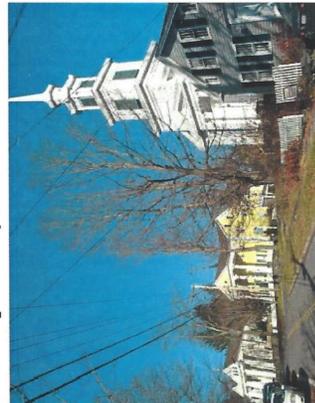
- Individual: \$20 / year (August 1 - July 31)
- Lifetime Family: \$100

Name (s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Additional contributions above your basic membership are always welcome!



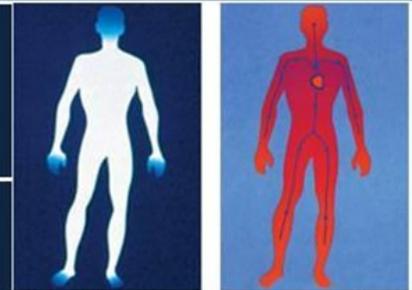
Presbyterian Church and Main Street

**Cold Weather Information**

# Dangers of Extreme Cold

**Did You Know?**

- 50% of injuries related to cold happen to people over 60.
- More than 75% happen to males.
- About 20% occur in the home.



**Hypothermia:**

*When the body temperature drops below 96 °F. It can be fatal.*

**Warning Signs Include:**

- Uncontrollable Shivering
- Memory Loss
- Incoherence
- Slurred speech
- Drowsiness

**What To Do:**

- Seek immediate medical attention!
- Warm the person slowly, starting with the body core, not the arms and legs.

**Frostbite:**

*Damage to body tissue caused by extreme cold.*

**Warning Signs Include:**

- Loss of feeling and a white or pale appearance in extremities such as fingers, toes, ear lobes, or the tip of the nose.

**What To Do:**

- Seek medical attention!
- Warm the person slowly.
- Use warm water (bath or moist towels).
- DO NOT use hot water or heater.

**For More Information:**

Visit: <http://www.ready.gov/winter-weather>



Website: [www.weather.gov/boston](http://www.weather.gov/boston)

Twitter: @NWSBoston

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/NWSBoston>



## FROSTBITE & HYPOTHERMIA

In cold temperatures, your body begins to lose heat faster than it can be produced, which can lead to serious health problems.

**Know who is at high risk:**



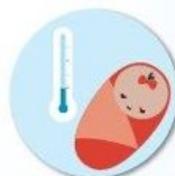
Older adults without proper food, clothing, or heating



People who stay outdoors for long periods (homeless, hikers, hunters, etc.)



People who drink alcohol in excess or use illicit drugs



Babies sleeping in cold rooms

❄️ ❄️ ❄️ ❄️ **SPOT** ❄️ ❄️ ❄️ ❄️

**FROSTBITE**

A victim is often unaware of frostbite because frozen tissue is numb.



**Signs & Symptoms**

- Redness or pain in any skin area may be the first sign of frostbite.

**Other signs include:**

- a white or grayish-yellow skin area
- skin that feels unusually firm or waxy
- numbness

**HYPOTHERMIA**

Hypothermia often occurs at very cold temperatures, but can occur at cool temperatures (above 40°F), if a person is wet (from rain, sweat or cold water) and becomes chilled.



**Signs & Symptoms**

**Adults:**

- shivering
- exhaustion
- confusion
- fumbling hands
- memory loss
- slurred speech
- drowsiness

**Infants:**

- bright red, cold skin
- very low energy



If a person's temperature is below 95° get medical attention immediately.

## New Year's Day Open House



# R.H.D.A.

Rensselaerville Historic District Association

Please join us on Monday, January 1, 2018, for our annual New Year's Day luncheon at Conkling Hall. From 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm we will be serving fresh-baked ham and roast turkey along with wine and non-alcoholic beverages. PLEASE BRING a side dish or dessert to share! Over the past several years this has become a tradition of a low-key and relaxing way to unwind at the end of a sometimes hectic holiday season. So join friends and neighbors to welcome the New Year!

Happy Holidays to all!

Kid Friendly!

Hosted by [Rensselaerville Historic District Association - RHDA](#)



Kudos to **Town Clerk Victoria Kraker** for responding to taxpayer needs in light of the recent Executive Order signed by Governor Andrew Cuomo allowing residents to pay their 2018 general property taxes in 2017 to take advantage of tax advantages that may not be available to us in 2018.

Keeping the Town Clerk's office open for a significant number of hours beyond the normal schedule enabled many taxpayers the opportunity to get this tax benefit in 2017 rather than rely on the uncertainty of the new tax law that takes effect January 1, 2018.

I believe I represent many Town of Rensselaerville residents when I say "Thank you for a job well done!"

### 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 518-447-7179
- HEAP: 518-447-2551



### Rensselaerville Historical Society

The Research group of the Rensselaerville Historical Society will be meeting in the basement of the Library on Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. until mid-May because there is no heat at the Grist Mill Museum. Persons wanting help with research questions may email [rensselaervillehistoricalsoc@gmail.com](mailto:rensselaervillehistoricalsoc@gmail.com).



### 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



## PLANNING & ZONING BOARD SECRETARY

The Town of Rensselaerville is seeking letters of interest to fill the position of  
Planning & Zoning Board Secretary

Applicants must be a resident of the Town. Applicants will be responsible for scheduling meetings, recording minutes, and tracking processes of all matters before the Planning & Zoning Boards. Applicants must have good inter-personal skills and be knowledgeable in Micro-Soft Office. Attention to detail a must. Hours are Thursday evenings and occasional regular business hours as needed.

Letters of interest should be addressed to the Town of Rensselaerville Town Clerk  
87 Barger Road, Medusa, NY 12120;  
And must be submitted no later than January 18, 2018.

### **Job Description: Planning Board Secretary Duties** (10 hours per week)

Attend all meetings for Planning Board

Set up meeting room prior to meeting. This involves the following:

- \* Copies of agenda items for each Board member
- \* Large sketch plats to be hung on wheeled tack board and placed in front of room
- \* Projector should be set up with meeting agenda clearly visible for all attendants
- \* On line maps and resources should be ready to be pulled up for viewing if need be.

Email/US mail meeting agenda and previous meeting minutes to all Board members 1 week prior to next meeting date

Prepare meeting agenda

Record all meeting minutes; if on tape, must be saved for 4 months

Post agenda and draft minutes on tack board in hallway; change from "draft" to "final" as they are approved at each meeting

Email Town Supervisor and web master for posting of final approved minutes

Print approved minutes on acid free paper and file in front office file cabinet. At year's end, compile the entire year and file in cabinets in back meeting room

Manage application process:

*(Continued on page 19)*

*(Continued on from page 18)*

- provide applications to applicants;
- make sure applications contain all necessary documents;
- Provide Board with material for reviewing applications
- Collect fee from applicant; give money to Town Clerk and receipt to applicant
- Submit Preliminary Plat Application to Albany County Planning Board for referral, if applicable
- Legal notices typed and published
- Collect and review certified mail receipts for public hearing notice to adjacent property owners from applicant
- Stamp subdivision plats with appropriate stamp and have Chair sign as they are approved
- Sign approval resolutions, once reviewed by Board
- Distribute approved resolutions to CEO and Assessors – file copy in master book kept in CEO's office
- File stamped and signed mylar in map draw
- Follow up with applicant to be sure Albany County Tax Map filing form has been returned
- Create new file for each applicant; be sure to issue file number
- Update Planning Board spreadsheet of applicant file numbers
- Communicating with and/or sending appropriate documentation to Albany County Health Department, Albany County Planning Board, New York State DEC, NYS DOT, etc. when necessary



### **FEB3: Winter Festival and Artisan Market**

Hosted by [Huyck Preserve](http://Huyck Preserve)

One of our most popular events is nearly upon us! As always, join us outside on Lincoln Pond for sledding, ice skating, ice fishing and rescue demonstrations. Then, come warm up inside with hot cocoa, indoor activities, and to peruse the fine selection of local goods in our Artisan Market!

We'll be adding more information to our website soon, so be sure to visit and check for more updates by visiting [www.huyckpreserve.org/coming-events](http://www.huyckpreserve.org/coming-events)

Interested in bringing your goods to this great event?

Contact [emileigh@huyckpreserve.org](mailto:emileigh@huyckpreserve.org) or call our office at (518)797-3440

Kid Friendly



**BLOOD DRIVES**

**Friday, January 12, 2018**

**Our Lady of the Valley**

24 Wells Ave  
Middleburgh, NY 12122

0 mi | 12:00 PM – 6:00 PM

At this drive, you can give:

Blood Power Red

**Friday, January 26, 2018**

**Rensselaerville Volunteer Ambulance**

380 Fox Creek Rd  
Medusa, NY 12120

3.1 mi | 1:00 PM – 6:00 PM

At this drive, you can give:

Blood Power Red

***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

**RVFD News**

- **IMPORTANT:** Our social number is: **966-0338**. Please update your records. In case of an emergency, call 9-1-1.
- **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.

**BREAKFAST  
AT THE MEDUSA FIRE HOUSE**

7:00AM TO 11:00AM



~~September 16, 2017~~

~~October 21, 2017~~

~~November 18, 2017~~

~~December 16, 2017~~

January 20, 2018

February 17, 2018

March 17, 2018

April 21, 2018



PLEASE JOIN US TO SUPPORT YOUR  
LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENT

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

Free will offering



Happy  
Thanksgiving

## MCS Superintendent Search

As the Middleburgh Central School District begins its search for a new school superintendent, the Board of Education wants to hear from all community members, including parents, guardians, local residents, faculty and staff about what they are looking for in a new superintendent and what they feel are the district's strengths and areas needing improvement. Community members are also asked to share their thoughts about the characteristics and personal attributes they want their new superintendent to have, as well as what the new superintendent should work on first.

The Board of Education is working with Capital Region BOCES to conduct the superintendent search. Meetings with district faculty and staff and the community are an important part of that search process.

The board hopes to have a new superintendent in place for a March 1, 2018 start date.

### Superintendent Search Process and Timeline

~~Oct. 11: Superintendent Search Brochure prepared and distributed.~~

~~Oct. 18: Stakeholders identified and confirmed.~~

~~Oct. 25: Stakeholder orientation and preparation of interview questions.~~

~~Nov. 8: Board prepares sets of interview questions.~~

~~Nov. 22: Application deadline.~~

~~Nov. 29: BOE meets to review candidates and select those to be interviewed.~~

~~Dec. 6: 1st Round interviews with BOE at BOCES facility.~~

~~Dec. 11: Meet with stakeholder team leaders for final guidance.~~

~~Dec. 13: 2nd Round interviews with stakeholders at Middleburgh facility.~~

~~Dec. 18: Stakeholder teams report to BOE, board selects finalists.~~

~~Dec. 26 or Jan. 3: 3rd Round interviews by BOE.~~

Jan. 4: BOE meets to select candidate.

Jan. 10 or 24th: Announcement of new Superintendent (time for contract negotiations).

March 1: New Superintendent starts.

Source: <http://middleburghcsd.org/suptsearch.cfm>

*Vision* Forward-Thinking  
 Students *Budgets* Communicative  
*Technology* Curriculum *Inspiring*

# Superintendent

**LEADERSHIP MATTERS.** Search

**Contact Information for Elected Officials & Department Heads**

<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Email Address</b>
Town Supervisor Hours: M-F :9a.-12pm	Steve Pflieger	spflieger@rensselaerville.com townsupervisor@rensselaerville.com Phone: 239-4225; 797-3798; Fax: 239-6339
Town Councilwoman	Marion Cooke	mcooke@rensselaerville.com
Town Councilman	John Dolce	jdolce@rensselaerville.com
Town Councilwoman	Margaret Sedlmeir	msedlmeir@rensselaerville.com
Town Councilman	Jason Rauf	jrauf@rensselaerville.com
Town Justice Court: Mondays, 7pm	Ronald Bates	Phone: 239-4225; 797-3798; Fax: 239-6339
Supervisor's Clerk	TBA	clerk1@rensselaerville.com
Town Clerk Hours: M-W: 9am-3:30pm Th: 1:30pm-6:30pm or by appointment F: 9am-12pm	Victoria Kraker	townclerk@rensselaerville.com vkraker@rensselaerville.com
Highway Superintendent	Randy Bates	rbates@rensselaerville.com Phone: 239-4225; 797-3798; Fax: 239-6339
Highway Superintendent Clerk	TBA	Phone: 239-4225; 797-3798; Fax: 239-6339
Assessors Clerk Hours: M-Th: 9am-12pm Assessor Hours: M: 1pm-3pm Th: 6:30pm-8:30pm	Donna Kropp Jeffry Pine Kathryn Wank	assessors@rensselaerville.com Phone: 239-4225; 797-3798; Fax: 239-6339
Building Inspector/ Code Enforcement Officer Office Hours: Th: 8am-10am Th: 7pm-9pm	TBA	codeenforcement@rensselaerville.com Phone: 239-4225; 797-3798; Fax: 239-6339
Planning Board Meetings: 1st & 3rd Th @ 7:30pm	Richard Amedure	spflieger@rensselaerville.com
Zoning Board of Appeals Meetings: 1st Th @ 6:30pm	Anthony Guadagno	spflieger@rensselaerville.com
Board of Ethics	Mary Anne Overbaugh	ethicsboard@rensselaerville.com
Dog Control Officer	TBA	Phone: 728-8082
Refuse/Recycling Coordinator Refuse Station Hours: W, Sa: 7am-3:45pm	TBA	Phone: 239-4225; 797-3798; Fax: 239-6339
Town Hall		Phone: 239-4225; 797-3798 Fax: 239-6339

<p><b>Albany Co. Hwy Dept.</b> 239-6715; 239-6710</p> <hr/> <p>Town Meetings: Work: Tues. preceding monthly mtg Regular: 2nd Thurs @7pm</p>	<p><b>Sen. George Amedure</b> 46th District LOB, Room 802 Albany, NY 12247 455-2350; Fax: 426-6751 Amedure@nysenate.gov</p>	<p><b>Assemblyman Peter Lopez</b> 102nd District LOB, Room 402 Albany, NY 12248 455-5363 LopezP@nyassembly.gov</p>	<p><b>County Legislator Chris Smith</b> 39th District Alb Co Office Building 112 State Street Albany, NY 12207 447-7168; (H) 447-7117</p>
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**On the Calendar**

Jan 1		Happy New Year!	
Jan 2	7:00 pm	Organizational Meeting	Town Hall
Jan 7	10:00 am	Medusa United Church of Christ Services (at Bill Moore's house)	Medusa
Jan 7	11:00 am	Trinity Episcopal Church Sunday Services	Rensselaerville
Jan 9	7:00pm	Town Board Work Meeting	Town Hall
Jan 11	7:00pm	Town Board Regular Meeting	Town Hall
Jan 14	10:00 am	Medusa United Church of Christ Services (at Bill Moore's house)	Medusa
Jan 14	11:00 am	Trinity Episcopal Church Sunday Services	Rensselaerville
Jan 15		Martin Luther King, Jr Day TOWN OFFICES CLOSED	
Jan 20	7- 11am	Medusa VFD Breakfast	Medusa Firehouse
Jan 21	10:00 am	Medusa United Church of Christ Services (at Bill Moore's house)	Medusa
Jan 21	11:00 am	Trinity Episcopal Church Sunday Services	Rensselaerville
Jan 28	10:00 am	Medusa United Church of Christ Services (at Bill Moore's house)	Medusa
Jan 28	11:00 am	Trinity Episcopal Church Sunday Services	Rensselaerville

For trips contact Janet Nelson @ 797-3963 or Ruth Snyder @ 239-4376

Please get events to Bill Moore...

by phone – 239-4843;

by e-mail – [whmoore44@yahoo.com](mailto: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**  
Paul Kelly  
**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

Thank you for your generous donations to the **2017 Annual Appeal**. We exceeded our \$15,000 goal.

Thank you to everyone who supported the Library's Annual **Greenery Sale**.

The Library monthly **Board of Trustees Meeting** is scheduled for Tuesday, January 16 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.

**Poetry Group** meets on Tuesday evenings at 7pm, January 9 and 23. 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 in the downstairs meeting room.

The **Writing Group** meets on the second Thursday of the month. On January 11th 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.

**Movies** During the holiday break we will be showing Spiderman Homecoming on December 26 at 6:30pm, Despicable Me 3 on December 27 at 10am and The Glass Castle on December 28 at 6:30pm. Please visit the web site for more details. <http://www.rensselaervillelibrary.org/movies.html>

**Youth Programs:** Visit the online calendar for all of the weekly events at <http://www.rensselaervillelibrary.org/calendar.html>

## Wednesdays at 3:30pm and 6:00pm

**January 3:** Dinosaur Day. Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be a paleontologist? Experience a mini 'dino dig', and learn how dinosaur skeletons are classified by structure. Prehistoric periods, and which animals did and did not live at the same time will be explored.

**January 10:** What can you do with leftover/used wrapping paper? Make beads for jewelry! Come learn how to design and make paper beads and have fun while recycling and reusing.

**January 17:** How do holograms work? What makes a rainbow? How can we make a kaleidoscope? Playing with light, lenses, and mirrors is a fun way to learn about optics!

**January 24:** Engineering is using science and math to solve problems. It is easy and fun to make balancing toys using a few simple ideas - no calculators needed!

**January 31:** Come dressed up as your favorite character from fantasy, anime, or science fiction! Bring your friends, and discuss your favorite (and least favorite) books and movies.

## Library News

### Wednesday at 4:30 – StoryTime

StoryTime includes stories, music and movement, designed as early literacy instruction aimed at developing and reinforcing the skills that children need to be successful learners.

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

**Games at the Library – Tuesday, December 26<sup>th</sup> 10-Noon.**

**Homework Help** - Please see Lee Ackerman-Sawyer or email [youth@rensselaervillelibrary.org](mailto:youth@rensselaervillelibrary.org)

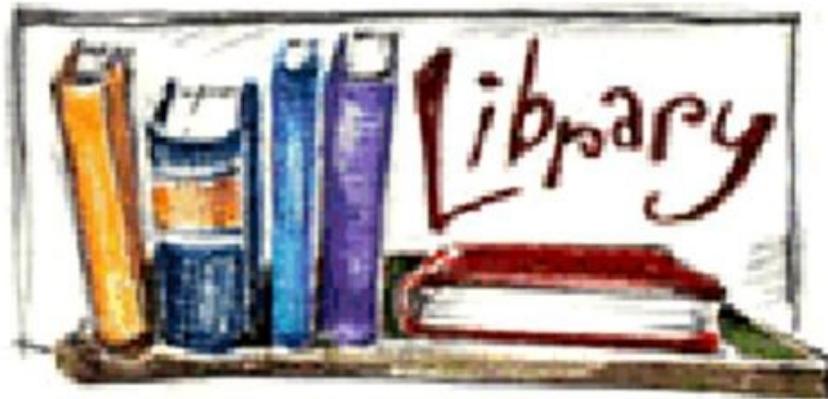
There is a mobile app for the Library. Search for **UHLS mobile** in your app store. Enter your library card number and have access to your account from anywhere.

**Cypress Resume Builder** is a new addition to our job resources. <http://www.rensselaervillelibrary.org/job-now.html>

The Library has a **Museum Pass** for the Albany Institute of History and Art in Albany. Museum passes are available to check out with your Library card for seven days.

The Library Board of Trustees and Staff would like to wish everyone a happy and safe holiday and best wishes for the New Year.

Hours of Operation: Sunday & Monday .....Closed  
 Tuesday .....10am-2pm  
 & 3pm-9pm  
 Wednesday .....10am-  
 12pm & 3pm-9pm  
 Thursday & Friday ..... 4pm-9pm  
 Saturday .....9am-1pm



## Library News

### Middleburgh Library

**1/1 - New Year's Day - The library will be closed to observe the holiday.**

**1/2, 9, 16, 23, 30 - 1:00 - 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.

**1/2, 9, 16, 23, 30 - 5:15 PM - Insight Meditation** - Join us for a simple group Zazen meditation practice. All are welcome. No registration required.

**1/3, 10, 17, 24, 31 - Wednesday Matinee - Free Popcorn - Movies to be announced.**

**1/3, 17, 31 - 5:00-6:15 PM - Kundalini Yoga** - Join us for 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 two blankets or a mat and blanket. A \$5 donation is requested. *Please use the back entrance when entering the building. No registration is required.*

**1/4, 11, 18, 25 - 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 is required

**1/5, 19 - 10:00 to 12:00 - Home Educators of Schoharie County** - HEGS (Home Educators Group of Schoharie County) is a group of homeschooling families with a wide variety of backgrounds, approaches to education, and religious affiliations. We exist to provide secular support for homeschooling families, offer information about homeschooling, and to allow for sharing of educational opportunities. We hope to increase public awareness, acceptance, and support of home education in Schoharie County.

**1/8 - 6:30 PM - Library Board of Trustees Meeting - Public is welcome.**

**1/14 - 4:00 PM - Concert - John Flynn** - John Flynn is an American singer-songwriter and activist known for his powerful music and tireless efforts on behalf of "the lost and the lonely, the shackled and scarred". His career has embodied an authentic troubadour odyssey that moved legendary folk DJ Gene Shay to call Flynn "the most quintessential folk singer in my life". John Flynn is worthy of respect as he follows the paths of Woody Guthrie, Phil Ochs and Kris Kristofferson. This event is made possible (in part) with public funds from the Decentralization Program and the New York State Council on the Arts, administered through the Community Arts Grants Program by the Greene County Council on the Arts. ***Tickets are available at the door. A \$10.00 donation is suggested. Please use back entrance.***

**1/15 - Martin Luther King Day - The library will be closed to observe the holiday.**

**1/27 - 9:30-11:00 AM - Master Gardeners Seed Swap** - This is a great time to trade seeds with other gardeners. Come and join us.

**Please check our Calendar on our website at [www.middleburghlibrary.info](http://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

#### Toddler Time

The library's Toddler Program is held on Tuesdays and Fridays from 9:00 – 9:45 & 10:00 – 10:45 for Infants, Toddlers & Preschoolers.

The program helps to foster early literacy development and play skills. Children and their parents enjoy stories, games, singing, marching and socializing. They can also choose books to take home and enjoy during the week. The instructor is Devon Balta. **For a full listing of the Toddler Time Program see the link below.**

– if Greenville Schools are closed, running on a 1 or 2 hour delay, we will not meet.

The following Tuesday and Friday dates in red are the days we will be meeting.

**Please remember we follow the Greenville School District calendar If Greenville Schools are closed due to weather or running on a 2 hour delay, we will not meet.**

January 2018							February 2018							March 2018						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6					1	2	3					1	2	3
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28				25	26	27	28	29	30	31

**Health & Safety Policy:** Please do not bring your child to group if he/she has been ill with fever, vomiting, diarrhea, flu like symptoms, pink eye, unexplained rash or skin infection, croup, any childhood contagious diseases. Children should not attend if they have exhibited any of the symptoms within 24 hrs of group. Children must be fever free without the use of Tylenol or Motrin for 24 hrs prior to coming to group. THANK YOU!!

#### *Beginner Ballet at the Library*

**Instructor: Madeline Balta**

Come join Miss Madeline for beginner ballet classes! This class is for 1st-6th grade children. Each student should wear a leotard or shorts (no jeans) and each must bring ballet slippers or socks. Madeline is currently a senior academy student at the School of the Albany Berkshire Ballet and has also taught at Redemption Dance Institute. No experience needed. **Just Drop In!**

**Classes will be held in the large community room on the following dates:**

**Jan. 16, 30, Feb. 13, 27, Mar. 13, 27, Apr. 17, May 1, 15, 29, June 5**

**From 3:00 – 4:00**

## Library News

Continued from Page 34

### Lego Fun!

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!**

**Ages 4 & Up 3:00 – 4:00**

January 9, 23; February 6, 20; March 6, 20; April 10, 24; May 8, 22

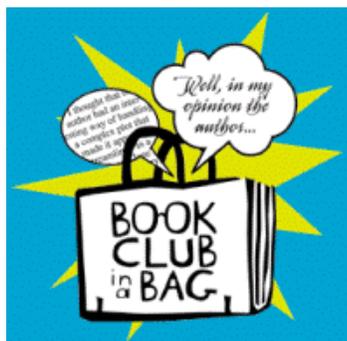
### Greenville Local History Group

Don Teator, Town Historian, invites the public to attend the Greenville Local History Group meetings held in the libraries large community room the second Monday of the month, April thru November, at 7:30.

The Greenville Local History Group newsletter can be found at <http://www.dteator.com/glhg/glhg.htm>

The Town of Greenville Historian's holdings are listed in a nearly 50 page long Word document (as of May 2012). Click [Historian's files](#) to download. For further information, contact Historian Don Teator ([dteator@gmail.com](mailto:dteator@gmail.com)).

The Boarding Houses / Resorts of the Greenville, Greene County, NY Area is another document that Don has made available to the public. The purpose is to document the boarding house era establishments, give locations, supply additional information and indicate their fate. <http://www.dteator.com/zResort/resortweb.htm>



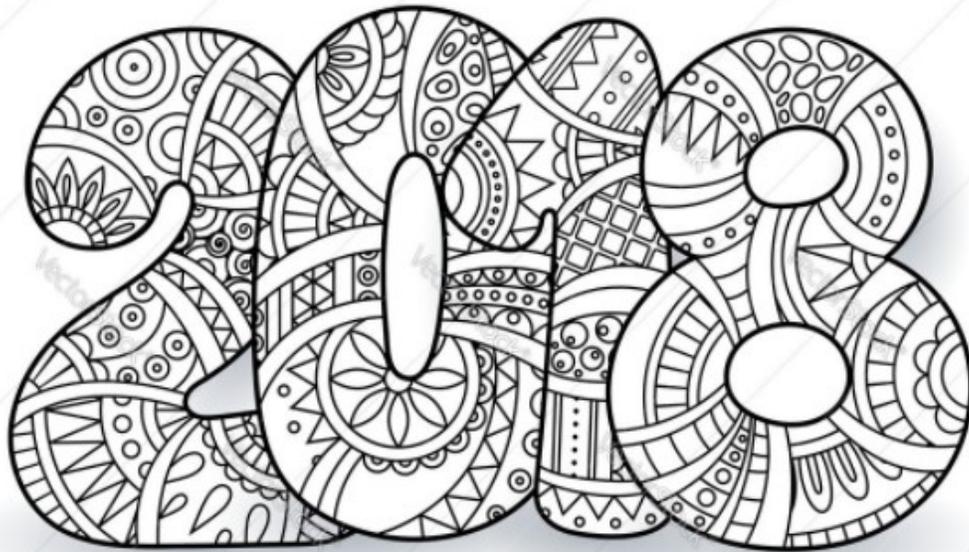
Brought to you by participating libraries in the Mid-Hudson Library System  
**Everything you need to help you run your own book discussion group.**  
**Just add people!**

### What is the Book Club In A Bag Program (BCB)?

A book club kit that contains:

- √ 10 copies of a book title
- √ Discussion questions
- √ Discussion leader tips
- √ Book sign-up sheet – to help you keep track of the books!

**Kids' Activity Page**



JANUARY



## The Back Page

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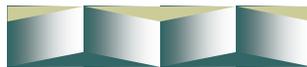


**From the Editors:**

*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](mailto:rvillenewsletter@gmail.com). We look forward to getting your feedback.*

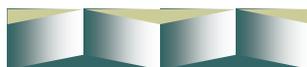


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**Reminder:** Audio tapes of Town Board meetings are now available. Those of you wishing to receive such material simply have to shoot an email to [rvillenewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:rvillenewsletter@gmail.com) and let us know that you would like to 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.



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