

R'VILLE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Volume 5, Issue 2

April, 2018

Draft Minutes, Town Board Work Meeting, March 6, 2018

The Work Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville was held on the 6th day of March 2018 at 7:00 in the evening at the Rensselaerville Town Hall, 87 Barger Road, Medusa, NY. The meeting was convened by Supervisor Steven Pfliging and the roll was called with the following results:

PRESENT WERE: Supervisor Steven Pfliging, Councilwoman Marion Cooke, Councilman John Dolce, Councilman Jason Rauf, Councilwoman Margaret Sedlmeir, Town Clerk Victoria H. Kraker

Also present was one interested citizen.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Marie Dermody noted that the December 14, 2017 minutes were not posted on the website. It was explained that these minutes were not posted yet because they are still up for discussion.

Also, she suggested placing a job description along with any advertisements for employment opportunities.

MINUTES: Minutes to be accepted at the Regular Meeting on March 8, 2018:

- February 6, 2018 – Work Meeting
- February 8, 2018 – Regular Meeting*

*Supervisor Pfliging noted that a correction is needed on page 4 under the Supervisor's Report: "Mrs. Lounsbury's hours do not overlap", should read "Mrs. Lounsbury's hours coincide."

* Also, Supervisor Pfliging requested a motion to approve all transfers. He was under the impression that 'transfers' meant everyday transfers. The transfers which are read off specifically are the special transfers. This was a verbiage error and a motion was not required.

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

CORRESPONDENCE: Any correspondence will be presented on Thursday.

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

OLD BUSINESS

1. The minutes for the Regular Meeting on December 14, 2017 and the Final Meeting on December 28,

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2017 were discussed.

. Authorization is needed to place another block ad in the *Altamont Enterprise* seeking letters of interest for a Town Justice. Training will take place the week of April 9th through 16th. A Special Meeting for the purpose of appointing a Town Justice will also need to be scheduled.

3. Councilwoman Cooke will present her disclosure statement on Thursday.

4. Kenyon Road has been closed from County Route 352 (Fox Creek Road) to the intersection of Roney Road, except for local traffic and emergency vehicles. The section of Kenyon Road from the intersection of Roney Road to County Route 358 is closed completely. Superintendent Bates has spoken to the Forest Ranger who has indicated that the state will purchase and grade the shale for the upper section, but the Town has been asked to haul it. Repairs to the lower section will be the responsibility of the Town.

5. A decision on how to proceed with reimbursing 'Phase II' Sewer District users will need to be made on Thursday.

6. A Public Hearing will be held on Thursday regarding proposed Local Law No. 3 of 2018. Supervisor Pflieger noted that there were many more questions than answers at this point. Councilwoman Cooke inquired about a moratorium.

NEW BUSINESS

1. A decision will need to be made regarding the liability insurance as the current policy is due to expire shortly. Trident has reviewed the Town's current policy and offered a renewal premium of \$34,680.43 - down \$6,437.33 from last year's. There is, however, an additional \$3,000 for 'downstream exposure' coverage for the dam. NYMIR's quote came in at \$29,583.35 plus an additional \$11,336.00 for the 'downstream exposure' coverage. Also, there are stipulations with joining NYMIR in the event the Town discontinues coverage with them.

2. The Highway's on-line bidding authority will need to be renewed on Thursday.

3. Authorization will be needed to place an ad for the purpose of soliciting bids for the cutting of the hay fields between Town Hall and the Public Safety Building.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilwoman Sedlmeir to adjourn the meeting at 7:48pm; 2nd by Councilman Rauf.

Motion carried: Ayes (5) Pflieger, Cooke, Dolce, Rauf, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0)

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED;

Victoria H. Kraker
Town Clerk



Draft Minutes, Town Board Public Hearing, March 8, 2018

The Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville held a Public Hearing on the 8th day of March, 2018 at 6:45 in the evening at the Rensselaerville Town Hall, 87 Barger Road, Medusa, NY. The meeting was convened by Supervisor Pflieger and the roll was called with the following results:

PRESENT WERE: Attorney Thomas Fallati, Supervisor Steven Pflieger, Councilwoman Marion Cooke, Councilman John Dolce, Councilman Jason Rauf, Councilwoman Margaret Sedlmeir, Town Clerk Victoria H. Kraker

Also present were Assessors Donna Kropp and Jeffrey Pine and 22 interested citizens.

The purpose of the Public Hearing was to receive public input on proposed Local Law No. 3 of 2018 entitled "Local Law Opting Out of Exemptions for Certain Energy Systems Provided by New York State Real Property Tax Law §487."

A motion was made by Councilman Rauf to open the Public Hearing at 6:46pm; 2nd by Councilman Dolce.

Motion carried: Ayes (5) Pflieger, Cooke, Dolce, Rauf, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0)

Attorney Fallati presented a brief overview of the proposed Local Law which allows for a 15 year exemption for solar, wind, or farm waste energy systems. The added value of a property is exempted from taxation for a 15-year period. The proposed Local Law would allow a municipality to opt-out of the exemption. Also, under the proposed law, a municipality would be allowed to condition a permit for one of these systems on a PILOT (payment-in-lieu-of-taxes) agreement.

Councilman Dolce wished to make it clear that the reason everyone was in attendance was to *discuss* the proposed law and the future of solar in the Town. The Board has *not* decided to opt-out. There are many, many more questions than there are answers at this point.

Marie Dermody stated that she wished it to be known that she didn't think there was any dark intent on the part of the Town Board regarding this matter. She sensed that the Board will do the right thing. However, she was concerned that the Town has an attorney that drafted and presented a local law without any authorization from the Town Board. Also, only three members were present at the time the Resolution was presented and all three moved forward to schedule the Public Hearing on something they knew nothing about. She feels that opting-out of the tax exemption needs much more research; all consequences, those intended and those not intended must be addressed. **[Editor's Note: My entire written statement can be found on page 47.]**

Jeannette Rice felt that opting out of the tax exemption would put solar development at a standstill – getting rid of the tax break is not a good idea. She recommends scrapping the local law and putting a moratorium on all new commercial and residential permits for solar and then proceeding to develop the Town's zoning law.

April Caprio was against opting out of the exemption and felt the Town should move forward with sustainability projects.

Richard Tollner is the co-author of a solar farm policy in one town and an Assessor in another Town that opted-out. Mr. Tollner stated that solar farms don't use your roads and they don't attend your schools, but they do help pay your taxes. If there is someone or something out there that adds to the tax income, but not to the expense of the town, it's a reason to look at it. However, one also needs to look at what good and what harm a solar farm can do. Mr. Tollner has worked with NYSERDA, has attended seminars, has worked with investors and the State of New York. He recommended doing research, looking into solar farm policies, and contacting other towns to try to make the best decision. In his experience people's main concerns are cosmetics, set-backs, and reliability. Solar farm companies are

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bonded; they have to pay for the removal of their solar farm in 15 years and the money has to be in process from day-one before they start building. He felt there is a way to have solar farms come in – to gently grow the town - without messing up the vistas, without messing up the traffic, without harming the neighbors or the beauty of Rensselaerville and yet increasing the tax income without burdening the expenses.

The solar farm industry in the past seven years across New York State has formulas in place so there should be no over-taxing or under-taxing. The solar farm companies and the engineers know exactly what they cost to build. Solar farm companies want to come to towns with solar farm policies. The terrain of the land is also an issue – the hillier the land – the more expensive the project is. One will not see anything on the side of the Catskills because of the labor of the installation.

Mr. Tollner feels it is a math and environmental issue, both of which can be addressed just by doing a little homework and by looking at what neighboring towns did and what others did not.

Rebecca Platel stated that most of what she wished to address was already covered. She is in favor of solar development especially if it is done in a way that benefits the community. She felt that passing the proposed Local Law would deter solar development of all kinds and suggested separating the decision of opting-out from the bigger discussion of solar development.

Robin Reynolds was in attendance on behalf of the Capital District Regional Planning Commission (CDRPC). She noted that many municipalities are struggling to figure what the best thing is to do. There is a lot of information out there and sometimes it is difficult to know where to start. CDRPC has a grant through NYSERDA called the Clean Energy Communities Program where they provide technical assistance and access to funding for issues such as these. She felt that opting-out may inhibit solar development; staying in would allow the ability to negotiate with solar developers to come up with a PILOT (payment in lieu of taxes) program. CDRPC is also working on a project in which they have analyzed some of the land in Rensselaerville for solar development and where zoning may line up with where the solar resources are.

Jeff Pine, an Assessor for the Town of Rensselaerville, stated that he is all for alternative energy. He does not understand how a company, when given 15-years tax-free, can agree to a PILOT program. He feels that solar companies are drawn to areas where there are no regulations. They are not interested in the environment, only a steady return on their money. There is money to be made for the Town. The Town is losing taxable revenue. He feels if solar farms are going to come in to the Town, they should pay a little bit in taxes.

Residential solar is not taxable. The \$40,000 system put in ten years ago is now \$5,000 to install and that 10-year-old system is now obsolete. Mr. Pine does not believe that opting-out will stop solar farms from coming and may give them an incentive to do a PILOT program.

Supervisor Pflieger read two written submissions as follows:

To the Town Board:

Your proposal to opt out of tax exemptions that would encourage renewable energy systems to fairly compete with those already existing that have deleterious impact globally has just come to my attention.

While the political climate in the world – ranging from village to town to city to state to country to global powers – appears to be in a state that discourages the ordinary citizen from even attempting to influence the course of things, I am impelled to write, if briefly and with sincere conviction.

It's a pity that our town board will make it harder with this law for energy sources much needed now and so promising for the future, to develop in our community. My hope is that the political agenda of those

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involved in this action will take a back seat to the need of citizens in the Town of Rensselaerville to access various new energies. These developing resources are already necessarily more costly for the moment than the standard ones impaction the planet adversely. Under this proposed law, the citizens you represent will be paying even more for utilities with your proposal to withdraw tax exemptions for these new energy sources that are so clearly needed and whose time has finally come.

Thanks for your attention to my perspective.

Sincerely,
Joanna Bull
Rensselaerville

To the Town Board:

I am unable to attend the meeting this evening. I ask that my comments be read into the public record.

I want to thank the board for being forward-thinking in balancing the need for equitable property taxation with preserving the historic character of our town. Having carefully reviewed New York State Real Property Tax Law §487 and its specific provisions, I want to state that I am against proposed Local Law 3. The 15-year exemption from increased property taxation has already been in effect for many years and was thoughtfully designed with the needs of all citizens in mind while allowing municipal governing bodies discretion in addressing such matters as commercial solar applications. To opt out, as has been proposed, removes important mechanisms the law provides and I do not believe it is an appropriate solution to any current or future matter facing the town.

Thank you,
Hans Soderquist
Medusa, NY

It is the consensus of many in attendance as well as the Board that the Town's zoning law needs to be developed and the idea of a moratorium needs to be addressed.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to keep the Public Hearing open on proposed Local Law No. 3 of 2018 and to continue the Hearing on April 3, 2018 at 6:30pm. and to authorize the Town Clerk to advertise such continuation. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rauf.

Motion carried: Ayes (5) Pflieger, Cooke, Dolce, Rauf, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0) [Editor's Note: Please see page 15 for the text of Local Law No. 3.]

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilman Rauf to adjourn the meeting at 7:26pm; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (5) Pflieger, Cooke, Dolce, Rauf, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0)

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED;

Victoria H. Kraker
Town Clerk



Draft Minutes, Town Board Regular Meeting, March 8, 2018

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville was held on the 8th day of March 2018 at 7:30pm at the Rensselaerville Town Hall, 87 Barger Road, Medusa, NY. The meeting was convened by Supervisor Steven Pflieger and the roll was called with the following results:

PRESENT WERE: Attorney Thomas Fallati, Supervisor Steven Pflieger, Councilwoman Marion Cooke, Councilman John Dolce, Councilman Jason Rauf, Councilwoman Margaret Sedlmeir, Town Clerk Victoria H. Kraker

Also present were Highway Superintendent Randy Bates and eight interested citizens.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Richard Amedure expressed his concerns regarding the damage that is being done by the logging operation on State Lands bordering Kenyon Road and CCC Road.

CCC Road is a disaster and now Kenyon Road is a disaster. The land is no longer able to be used for recreation. The land is being clear-cut. The Town will be left holding the bill. The logging trucks cannot make it out of the road any longer so a dozer is sent in to pull the trucks out. Each time a dozer is sent, another several inches of road surface is taken away.

Another concern is everything that is left behind is dead and dry and is a potential fire hazard.

Councilwoman Cooke questioned whether the lands would be re-planted. Mr. Amedure indicated that according to the Forester, who used to have 47 people working the State Lands, is now down to eight. 70-80 years ago the area was all open fields; there was no litter; natural succession only allows scrub brush to take over, not timberland.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to approve the minutes of the February 6, 2018 – Work Meeting; 2nd by Councilman Rauf.

Motion carried: Ayes (5) Pflieger, Cooke, Dolce, Rauf, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0)

A motion was made by Councilman Dolce to make the corrections* to the minutes of the Regular Meeting – February 8, 2018; 2nd by Councilman Rauf.

Motion carried: Ayes (3) Pflieger, Dolce, and Rauf; Nays (0); Abstains (2) Cooke and Sedlmeir

A motion was made by Councilman Rauf to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2018 – Regular Meeting as corrected*. The motion was seconded by Councilman Dolce.

Motion carried: Ayes (3) Pflieger, Dolce, and Rauf; Nays (0); Abstains (2) Cooke and Sedlmeir

* Correction p. 4 under Supervisor's Report, bullet #4 instead of 'Mrs. Lounsbury's hours do not overlap...' it should read 'Mrs. Lounsbury's hours coincide.'

*Also, p. 3, Supervisor Pflieger requested a motion to move \$9.05 from the USDA account to the General Fund for the purpose of closing out the account. However, it was not read off the transfer sheet. The transfer was from the USDA account 4738 to the General Fund 48449 for \$9.05.

TRANSFERS: None

ABSTRACTS/VOUCHERS: General Fund - \$18,867.54; Highway Fund - \$28,142.21; Lighting District - \$732.96; Sewer Fund - \$143.20; Water Fund - \$53.81; T&A Fund - \$3,998.03; Total Abstracts - \$51,937.75.

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

Motion carried: Ayes (5) Pflieger, Cooke, Dolce, Rauf, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0)

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CORRESPONDENCE

1. Supervisor Pflieger read a letter from the Westerlo Volunteer Fire Company expressing their sincere appreciation for the use of the Senior/Youth bus. A \$50.00 donation from the Firefighters Fund of the Westerlo Volunteer Fire Company was made on behalf of the members to support the Senior Bus program.
2. A donation of \$25.00 was made by Beatrice Smith of Westerlo to be put towards the Senior Bus/Car fund.

REPORTS**HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

1. Superintendent Bates expressed his concerns, as well, for the events on the State Lands and his distaste for the fact that the DEC is allowing it to happen. He called it an 'ecological disaster'; the trails are gone; it's a mud fest; the roads, the streams, the trees and the forest are being destroyed. Superintendent Bates has been in touch with the DEC, the Forest Rangers and the State Forester who essentially told him there was nothing he could do; the Town roads were going to be used and there was nothing that could be done to stop them.
2. Superintendent Bates reported no problems with all the snow that has fallen recently – an estimated 40-50" within a six-day period. Although the crew is weary, there have been no incidents, no road closures, and all the equipment is in good condition.
3. Many of the dirt roads are not in good shape. The fluctuations in temperatures and the continuous freeze-thaw cycle have been detrimental to the dirt roads especially. The Highway has been trying to use smaller trucks to plow where possible and have loaded the trucks lightly in an effort to preserve the roads and not contribute to further damage.
4. The bid packages have been sent out.
5. Superintendent Bates has attempted to close Kenyon Road; signs are up, but the logging trucks are still running on it. He has the legal authority to close the road based on the damage being done. He feels it is a law enforcement issue at this point. Superintendent Bates met with the State Forester and the logger and an agreement was made that they would not use the portion of Kenyon Road between the intersection of Roney Road and County Route 352, but that they would continue to use the seasonal/upper part of the road. That has not been the case. The State Forester did say, however, that there were monies available and that he would purchase the materials to repair the road when the logging operation is finished sometime in August.
6. Attorney Fallati addressed the weight limit ordinance which would impose weight limit restrictions on town roads. The Town would be authorized to bar vehicles with a gross weight of 6 tons or more on a temporary basis from the date of the ordinance through May 1st unless otherwise determined. There is a provision for a fine for violations, but Attorney Fallati will look into whether the driver can be held liable for any damages. Attorney Fallati will also check into the wording of the ordinance so it is *not road specific*, but rather to have it cover all Town roads, at the discretion of the Highway Superintendent.

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Superintendent Bates wishes for the Town to have a tool to use when the situation calls for. Temporary weight limit restrictions would be dependent on weather conditions, road conditions and the use of the road – who is using it and for what purpose.

A motion was made by Councilman Dolce to accept the Highway Superintendent's report; 2nd by Councilman Rauf.

Motion carried: Ayes (5) Pflieger, Cooke, Dolce, Rauf, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0)

SUPERVISOR

1. The Town declared a State of Emergency during the most recent snow storm. Supervisor Pflieger wished to thank Highway Superintendent Bates and his Department for a phenomenal job given the circumstances. Superintendent Bates noted that it was one of the worst storms to keep up with.
2. Supervisor Pflieger wished to remind everyone about the opioid awareness program on March 21st from 6-8pm at Town Hall.
3. Supervisor Pflieger and Deputy Supervisor Dolce visited the Lake Myosotis dam. The monthly report on the status of the dam noted a settling of the rock behind the valve house and there is a concern that there may be some leakage. Supervisor Pflieger has been in touch with the engineers who will be sending a report. A diver may be coming in to take pictures so as to get a better grip on what may be happening.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to accept the Supervisor's report; 2nd by Councilman Rauf.

Motion carried: Ayes (5) Pflieger, Cooke, Dolce, Rauf, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0)

ATTORNEY

1. Attorney Fallati read the Resolution to renew the Highway Superintendent's 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;

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

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appropriated for that purpose without prior approval of the Town Board, through June 30, 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 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 8th day of March 2018 as follows:

<u>Town Board Member</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent/Abstain</u>
Steven Pflieger, Supervisor	X		
Marion Cooke, Councilwoman	X		
John Dolce, Councilman	X		
Jason Rauf, Councilman	X		
Margaret Sedlmeir, Councilwoman	X		
End Resolution			

2. Attorney Fallati read the Resolution for proposed Local Law No. 4 of 2018 as follows:

**RESOLUTION OF THE
TOWN OF RENSSELAERVILLE
TOWN BOARD**

WHEREAS, the Town Board finds that there is a cost to the Town associated with providing copies of Justice Court civil and criminal dispositions and that the Town is not reimbursed for such costs; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board, in accordance with Municipal Home Rule Law §10(1)(ii)(a)(9-a), which authorizes the Town to adopt and amend local laws relating to the fixing, levy, collection and administration of charges, rates, and fees, the Town Board has prepared a proposed amendment to Chapter 114 of the Town Code of Rensselaerville to add a Justice Court a fee of five (\$5) dollars for copies of Justice Court dispositions;

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 April 12, 2018 at 6:45pm on the attached proposed Local Law No. 4 of 2018, and notice of the time and place of such hearing shall be published on or before March 29, 2018 in a newspaper circulating in the Town.

By motion made by John Dolce, 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 8th day of March 2018 as follows:

<u>Town Board Member</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent/Abstain</u>
Steven Pflieger, Supervisor	X		
Marion Cooke, Councilwoman		X	
John Dolce, Councilman	X		
Jason Rauf, Councilman		X	
Margaret Sedlmeir, Councilwoman	X		
End Resolution			

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A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to accept the attorney's report; 2nd by Councilman Dolce.
Motion carried: Ayes (5) Pflieger, Cooke, Dolce, Rauf, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0)

TOWN CLERK: Town Clerk Kraker reported for the month of February as follows:
 Town Clerk Department – Total Collected \$814.76. Paid to the Supervisor - \$805.76- the breakdown is as follows: Clerk Fees -\$186.00; Recycling - \$41.00; Dog Licenses - \$54.00; Building Permits - \$224.76; Zoning - \$300.00. Total: \$805.76

Fees paid to NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets for the 'Animal Population Control Program' aka 'dog surcharge': \$9.00

Water Rents collected for the month totaled \$6,318.69; no penalties

Sewer Rents collected for the month totaled \$10,905.49; which includes \$13.30 in penalties

Town Clerk Kraker reported that tax collection process has been moving along well and \$1,324.13 was collected in penalties/interest for the month of February.

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

Motion carried: Ayes (5) Pflieger, Cooke, Dolce, Rauf, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0)

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER/BUILDING INSPECTOR

1. Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector Overbaugh reported two Home Replacement Permits and one Building Repair Permit for the month. He also noted that he performed 11 inspections and 3 title searches for February.

2. Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector Overbaugh had attended a class on February 16th on pouring concrete in the cold.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to accept the Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector's written report; 2nd by Councilman Rauf.

Motion carried: Ayes (5) Pflieger, Cooke, Dolce, Rauf, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0)

ASSESSORS

1. Assessor Kropp reported that most of the exemptions had been turned in. The Assessor's Office is now processing the exemptions and preparing for the Tentative Roll.

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

Motion carried: Ayes (5) Pflieger, Cooke, Dolce, Rauf, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0)

WATER/SEWER COMMITTEE

Town Clerk Kraker read a written report submitted by John Rice, Water/Sewer Treatment Officer, as follows:

The Water Treatment plant filtered 275,200 gallons – a daily average of 9,829 gallons.

The Sewer Treatment plant pumped 137,520 gallons – a daily average of 4,911 gallons.

Water/Sewer Treatment Officer Rice also wished to extend his sincere thanks to the Highway Department for plowing out the Water Plant after the past two snowstorms.

A motion was made by Councilman Rauf to accept the Water/Sewer Committee's written report; 2nd by Councilwoman Cooke.

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Motion carried: Ayes (5) Pflieger, Cooke, Dolce, Rauf, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0)

REFUSE/RECYCLING

1. Recycling Coordinator Whitbeck submitted a written report for the month of February as follows: Rensselaer Iron & Steel: 4.11 tons; City of Albany Landfill: 46.83 tons; Sierra Fibers: 8.86 tons; Oil: 29 gallons; Tires: 11

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

Motion carried: Ayes (5) Pflieger, Cooke, Dolce, Rauf, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0)

RENSSELAERVILLE LIBRARY: No Report

CURRENT EVENTS

The Medusa Fire House will host a free-will-offering breakfast on March 17th from 7-11am.

OLD BUSINESS

1. A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2017 – Regular Meeting as corrected at the January 11, 2018 Regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (3) Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Abstains (2) Pflieger and Rauf

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to rescind the motion made at the December 28, 2017 Final Meeting to hire Earl David Potter as a seasonal employee; 2nd by Councilman Rauf.

Motion carried: Ayes (5) Pflieger, Cooke, Dolce, Rauf, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0)

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to approve the minutes of the December 28, 2017 Final Meeting as corrected (See New Business No. 4); 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (3) Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Abstains (2) Pflieger and Rauf

* A motion was made by Supervisor Pflieger to hire Earl David Potter as a seasonal employee from December 29th through April 15th, on an as-needed basis, as determined by the Highway Superintendent, and to pay him \$19.61/hr. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cooke.

Motion carried: Ayes (5) Pflieger, Cooke, Dolce, Rauf, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0)

2. A motion was made by Councilman Rauf to schedule a Special Meeting on March 29, 2018 at 7:00pm for the purpose of appointing a Town Justice to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Justice Dwight Cooke; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (5) Pflieger, Cooke, Dolce, Rauf, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0)

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to authorize the Town Clerk to advertise the vacancy of a Town Justice noting that letters of interest should be returnable by March 28th and that the appointment would expire December 31, 2018. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Pflieger.

Motion carried: Ayes (5) Pflieger, Cooke, Dolce, Rauf, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0)

3. Councilwoman Cooke disclosed that she is employed by GNH Lumber, a vendor that does business with the Town, and therefore she will not sign any vouchers or participate in any bids or quotes supplied to the Town by them for the remainder of her term.

4. Discussions regarding the temporary weight limits on Town roads were held earlier in the meeting and will be tabled at this point.

5. It was discovered that a billing/formula error had been made regarding the 'Phase II' Sewer District residents for the years 2015, 2016, 2017, and 2018.

(Continued on page 12)

Draft Minutes, Town Board Regular Meeting, March 8, 2018

(Continued from page 11)

A motion was made by Supervisor Pflieger to issue refund checks of \$43.64 to each of the 19 users of 'Phase II' providing their 2018 Sewer District payments had been made in full. Starting in 2019, 'Phase II' bills will be a fixed charge of \$24.00/year. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rauf.

Motion carried: Ayes (5) Pflieger, Cooke, Dolce, Rauf, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0)

6. A motion was made by Councilman Rauf to schedule a Special Meeting on April 3, 2018 immediately following the Public Hearing for the purpose of discussing the Town's renewable energy policies. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (5) Pflieger, Cooke, Dolce, Rauf, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0)

NEW BUSINESS

1. Supervisor Pflieger received two quotes for the liability insurance: one from NYMIR and one from Trident/Argonaut who holds the current policy. Trident has reviewed the Town's current policy and offered a renewal premium of \$34,680.43 - down \$6,437.33 from last year's. There is, however, an additional \$3,000 for 'downstream exposure' coverage for the dam. NYMIR's quote came in at \$29,583.35 plus an additional \$11,336.00 for the 'downstream exposure' coverage. Also, there are stipulations with joining NYMIR in the event the Town discontinues coverage with them.

It was the consensus of the Board members that the quote from NYMIR did not justify the risks involved.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to accept the quote from Marshall & Sterling Insurance Company/Trident/Argonaut for \$34,680.43 plus \$ 3,000 for Downstream Exposure and authorize the Town Supervisor to sign the contract. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rauf.

Motion carried: Ayes (5) Pflieger, Cooke, Dolce, Rauf, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0)

2. The Highway's on-line bidding authority was covered earlier

3. Councilman Rauf wished to make a statement regarding the haying of the fields between Town Hall and the Public Safety Building. He and his father are business partners and have cut the hay fields for the past two years. He therefore wishes to abstain from any discussion and/or decisions in this regard.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to authorize the Town Clerk to solicit bids for the cutting, baling, and removal of hay from the two fields between Town Hall and the Public Safety Building for a flat fee and subject to insurance coverage. Bids must be returned by April 10, 2018 at 6:45pm. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Pflieger, Cooke, Dolce, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0); Abstains (1) Rauf

4. * Discussion was had regarding the wording of the motion to hire Earl David Potter – refer to Old Business No. 1 where the final wording and motion was made.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Marie Dermody read a letter she requested become part of the minutes:

There are several comments that need to be made prior to you entering into Executive Session to discuss "employee history." And I will preface these comments with the statement that I did not ask for nor do I have permission from the Town employee to address the Town Board regarding this matter. This is strictly on me.

1. Last month, when you called the employee to join you in Executive Session and he announced he was bringing in a witness to the proceedings, you cancelled his "invitation." Instead, you had Supervisor Pflieger call him into his office to discuss the executive session matter. Section 105(2) of the Open Meetings Law states that "Attendance at an executive session shall be permitted to any member of the

(Continued on page 13)

Draft Minutes, Town Board Regular Meeting, March 8, 2018

(Continued from page 12)

public body and any other persons authorized by the public body.” That being said, you could permit the presence of the witness, but are not required to do so. If you have nothing to hide, you have no reason to resist this action. Why would 5 Town Board members and an attorney be intimidated by the presence of a witness? I would suggest that you make this a Town Board policy, one that allows the presence of a witness during Executive Session proceedings when dealing with employee work history or discipline.

And, yes, Executive Session proceedings are confidential. But a meeting in the Supervisor’s office is not. I can no longer abide by my initial agreement to keep that conversation private. What I perceive as abuse of power and discriminatory practices must be exposed.

2. It has come to my attention that the Town Board has created a job description for this employee. According to Supervisor Pflęging, he created the job description and the Town Board “refined” it in Executive Session. Having seen a copy of this job description, it is safe to say it is generic and can be applied to any and all who hold the position of code enforcement officer/building inspector. It is not specific to the “work history” of this particular employee. The creation and refinement of a job description is NOT a matter that should be conducted in Executive Session. You have again violated the Open Meetings Law.

In addition, you are requiring this employee to sign this job description as if it were a legal and binding contract. Unless you can prove unequivocally that this practice is being applied to all appointees as a condition of retaining their position in Town government, we clearly have a case of harassment and discrimination.

3. We have Town Board members scouring the countryside looking for projects lacking the proper paperwork with the office of the building inspector/code enforcement officer. And I believe you have come up empty-handed. You seem to be conducting a vengeful “witch hunt” looking for any excuse to terminate this person’s appointment with the Town. Again, unless you can prove that you are exercising this same scrutiny with all other appointees, we clearly have a case of harassment and discrimination.

I respectfully request that this statement be entered into the minutes in its entirety so that the rest of the community is informed of this matter.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Supervisor Pflęging to enter into Executive Session at 9:12pm for the purpose of discussing employee history and possible litigation; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (5) Pflęging, Cooke, Dolce, Rauf, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0)

A motion was made by Councilwoman Sedlmeir to return from Executive Session at 9:29pm; 2nd by Councilman Rauf.

Motion carried: Ayes (5) Pflęging, Cooke, Dolce, Rauf, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0)

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to approve the list of objectives for the Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector and signed by Mark Overbaugh; 2nd by Councilman Rauf.

Motion carried: Ayes (5) Pflęging, Cooke, Dolce, Rauf, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0)

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to amend the motion made for the March 29, 2018 Special Meeting to include ‘...any other matters before the Board.’ The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (5) Pflęging, Cooke, Dolce, Rauf, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0)

[Editor’s Note: Please see additional comments on page 16 regarding this matter.]

(Continued on page 14)

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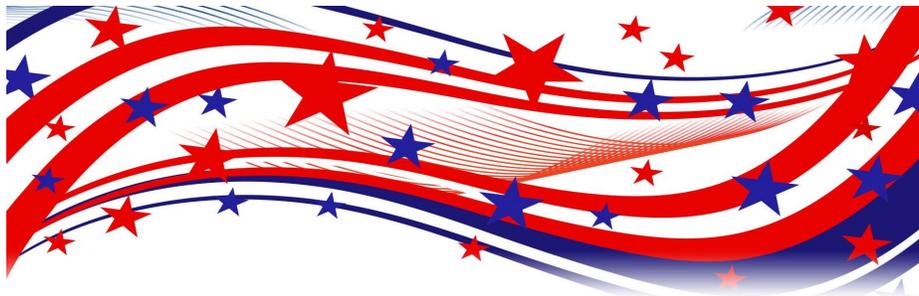
ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilwoman Sedlmeir to adjourn the meeting at 9:36pm; 2nd by Councilman Rauf.

Motion carried: Ayes (5) Pflaging, Cooke, Dolce, Rauf, and Sedlmeir; Nays (0)

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED;

Victoria H. Kraker
Town Clerk



April 24, 2018

12 noon - 9 PM

To fill vacancy for the 102nd Assembly District

Local Law No. 3 of 2018**LEGAL NOTICE**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville has introduced proposed Local Law No. 3 of 2018 entitled, "Local Law Opting Out of Exemptions for Certain Energy Systems Provided by New York State Real Property Tax Law §487".

On April 3, 2018 at 6:30pm, the Town Board will continue the Public Hearing commenced on March 8, 2018 at the Town of Rensselaerville Town Hall, 87 Barger Road, Medusa, NY. At this time and place all those wishing to comment will be provided with the full opportunity to be heard. Communications in writing in relation thereto may be filed with the Town Clerk's Office or at such hearing. A copy of the proposed local law is available for inspection in the Town Clerk's Office or may be viewed online at www.rensselaerville.com.

BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD

Dated: March 8, 2018

Victoria H. Kraker, Town Clerk

Town of Rensselaerville
(PROPOSED) LOCAL LAW NO. 3 OF 2018

A local law to Opt-Out of the exemptions provided by New York State Real Property Tax Law §487.

Section 1. Title:

This law shall be known as the "Local Law Opting out of Exemptions for Certain Energy Systems Provided by New York State Real Property Tax Law §487.

Section 2. Purpose and Intent:

The Town Board has determined that this Local Law is to provide no exemption from taxation as authorized in Real Property Tax Law Section 487. Real Property Tax Law Section 487 (8) allows a municipality to opt-out of the exemption from taxation with respect to any solar, wind energy system or farm waste energy system.

Section 3. Authority:

This local law is enacted by the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville pursuant to its authority to adopt local laws under the New York State Property Tax Law Section 487 (8) and the Municipal Home Rule Law Section 10.

Section 4. Opt-Out of Exemption:

Chapter 194 of the Town Code is hereby amended to provide as follows: Pursuant to Real Property Tax Law Section 487 (8), no exemption from taxation shall be applicable with respect to any solar or wind energy system or farm waste energy system, as provided for in Section 487.

Section 5. Severability of Provisions:

Should any section or provision of this local law be declared null, void, voidable, or invalid, such finding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this local law.

Section 6: Effective Date:

This local law shall take effect pursuant to the provisions of Municipal Home Rule Section 27.

End of Law

Commentary #1

The issue regarding the Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector has been going on for several months now. I stand by my Audience Comments delivered at the March 8, 2018, regular Town Board meeting. The individual currently holding this appointed position is up-to-date on all his NYS training and has held the position for 20 years. It is a part-time position paying \$14,930 per year. It is safe to say he knows more about the responsibilities of the job than the expertise of all Town Board members combined.

What follows is a snapshot of the job description the Town Board created in executive session.

General Purpose of Position—Perform inspections of residential and commercial construction, both new and existing, for adherence to applicable codes and ordinances.

Major Duties and Responsibilities—Perform on-site inspections of new and existing structures for compliance with adopted codes and ordinances, structural quality and safety.

- Verify that structures are constructed in accordance with the approved submitted plans and specifications.
- Respond to complaints, that are in writing, of dangerous buildings by inspecting and reporting dangerous conditions, evaluating the complaint and taking appropriate actions based upon adopted codes, town and state laws.
- Follow up with stop work correspondence; ensuring appropriate action has been taken to correct the situation.
- Perform on-site inspections of the new and existing structures, enforcing all applicable
- Verify plumbing and mechanical system installations are in accordance with approved drawings.
- Meet with architects, engineers, design professionals and contractors regarding proposed construction projects.
- Issue permits based upon approved construction plans and specifications.
- Provide contractors, builders and any other individuals with assistance and answers to code compliance questions.
- Represent the Building Dept. as a professional witness in court and special hearings as required.
- Continue professional development through conferences, seminars, workshops and other training in order to keep up to date on all code and certification requirements.
- Use various computer programs and data bases for issuing permits, writing correspondence and tracking correction notices.
- Work efficiently with Clerk as provided.
- The person in this position (code enforcement/building inspector) will spend some time in office, reviewing plans, answering letters, emails or phone calls. Writing reports and scheduling inspections.
- Considerable time is spent in the field inspecting construction sites with an exposure to a variety of, sometimes, extreme weather conditions.

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Commentary

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- The person in this position is exposed to extreme noise, cramped spaces, poor lighting and ventilation during inspections.
- Physical work for this position includes and is not limited to, climbing ladders, crawling in confined spaces, walking and standing while conducting inspections, bending, carrying, climbing, holding and gripping objects. Safety equipment, such as, safety vest, hard hat, ear protection and eye protection will be provided.
- Work effectively and courteously with associates, development community and the general public.
- Work as a team member with other employees.
- Handle multiple tasks simultaneously with frequent interruptions.
- Maintain professional composure in heated situations.
- Your set office hours are weekly, Thursday 8-10 am and 7-9 pm. Please punch in as to better keep track.
- Be pro-active and follow up on all open permits and violations.
- Make a spread sheet, to go with each permit, that itemizes your inspections, ie: footings, foundation, framing, insulations, etc. Please include name of permit holder, address, permit description, dates of inspections, time and initials of the contractor and yourself. Please supply to the town board on a monthly basis.
- Turn in mileage on a monthly basis.
- Any classes or training, please supply documentation.
- Must respond to all fire calls, in accordance with to Local Law #4 of 2007, as well as NYS Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code

It is my strongly held opinion that the creation and refinement of a job description that is generic (applicable to anyone holding the position of Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector) is not a legal reason for entering into executive session. I presented this issue to Robert Freeman, Executive Director for the Committee on Open Government. His response: When the issue involves the creation or elimination of a position (irrespective of who might hold that position), there would be no basis for conducting an executive session.

In a moment of frustration and anger, the supervisor announced in a public forum that the Town Board felt compelled to do this because the employee wasn't doing everything expected of him. (And yes, I have the audio recording of this outburst.) So, another way to look at this situation...if there was no job description to begin with, in what universe would or could a Town Board hold an employee/appointee accountable for adhering to the terms of a non-existent job description?

Although I would love to claim that I'm always right, I know that is certainly not true. However, I will go to bat for anyone I feel is being treated unfairly or in a discriminatory way. I feel that there are personal or hidden agendas at play on the part of certain Town Board members which is something none of us should tolerate from our government officials.

Commentary: Special Town Board Meeting, March 29, 2018

The three items on the agenda for this special Town Board meeting were the appointment of a Town Justice, the appointment of the Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector, and to rescind the public hearing regarding Local Law #4 of 2018.

Once the meeting was convened by Supervisor Steve Pflieger, he immediately entertained a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss the justice position. Having anticipated such a move, I had contacted Bob Freeman, Executive Director of the Committee on Open Government, and explained what I suspected would happen. His response to my query regarding conducting such discussion behind closed doors was "Although the law states that a board may hold an executive session to discuss 'matters leading to the appointment...of a particular person,' in the only decision dealing with a situation in which a board was discussing filling a vacancy in an elective office, the court held that the discussion must occur in public." (my underlining) I contend that anything discussed in an interview would be open for discussion in a campaign for elective office. The Town Board chose to ignore the expertise of the Executive Director for the Committee on Open Government and instead follow the advice of the attorney, whose counsel has misinformed the Town Board on a number of occasions. I was told that the Town Board would conduct the interviews in executive session and discussion would take place in the open meeting afterwards.

True to form, this did not happen. As soon as the Town Board returned from executive session, the supervisor made the motion to appoint Muriel Fraser as town justice, seconded by Marion Cooke, and passed unanimously. There was absolutely no public discussion! When questioned at the end of the meeting why there was no public discussion, the supervisor said there was no need for one. I happen to beg to differ. Any one of the three candidates for the position would be an acceptable choice, but we as residents and taxpayers have a right to know why one was chosen over the others for an elective office.

The second matter concerned the appointment of the Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector. He had been appointed for a "probationary" 3-month term with the expectation that this new appointment would take him to the end of the calendar year. He had already agreed to a job description (see pages 16-17) and informed the Town Board that just one document in that job description took him 8 hours to create. Considerable discussion took place regarding whether or not the appointment should be for 3 months or 9 months. In the end, the Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector prevailed and a motion was made to make this appointment end on December 31, 2018. Jason Rauf, Marion Cooke, and Steve Pflieger voted in favor of this motion, Margaret Sedlmeir voted nay, and John Dolce did not cast a vote at all. I say again that it is time to stop this harassment of a town employee.

The last item on the agenda was to rescind the motion to hold a public hearing on proposed Local Law #4 of 2018 regarding an amendment to the newly passed fee schedule. It seems that creating a fee for copies of court dispositions is not a function of the Town Board, but instead of the justice department. So this again begs the question, why didn't the attorney research this matter and counsel accordingly rather than draft a local law and do so without Town Board authorization only to have to rescind it later? This legal firm has been a contractor for this town for over 6 years and will have received well over \$200,000 of taxpayer money by the end of this year. I would hope by now that they would have a better handle on municipal law and provide proper counsel to the Town Board.



Contact Information for Elected Officials & Department Heads

Position	Name	Email Address
Town Supervisor Hours: M-F :8a.-11am	Steve Pfliging	spfleging@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 Assistant to Clerk 1	Linda McCormick Valerie Lounsbury	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	Kim Welsch	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	Mark Overbaugh	codeenforcement@rensselaerville.com Phone: 239-4225; 797-3798; Fax: 239-6339
Planning Board Meetings: 1st & 3rd Th @ 7:30pm	Richard Amedure	spfleging@rensselaerville.com
Zoning Board of Appeals Meetings: 1st Th @ 6:30pm	Anthony Guadagno	spfleging@rensselaerville.com
Board of Ethics	Mary Anne Overbaugh	ethicsboard@rensselaerville.com
Dog Control Officer	Cheryl Tefft-Baitsholts	Phone: 728-8082
Refuse/Recycling Coordinator Refuse Station Hours: W, Sa: 7am-3:45pm	Jon Whitbeck	Phone: 239-4225; 797-3798; Fax: 239-6339
Town Hall		Phone: 239-4225; 797-3798 Fax: 239-6339
Albany Co. Hwy Dept. 239-6715; 239-6710 Town Meetings: Work: Tues. preceding monthly mtg Regular: 2nd Thurs @7pm	Sen. George Amedure 46th District LOB, Room 802 Albany, NY 12247 455-2350; Fax: 426-6751 Amedure@nysenate.gov	Assemblyman 102nd District
		County Legislator Chris Smith 39th District Alb Co Office Building 112 State Street Albany, NY 12207 447-7168; (H) 447-7117

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.



March 16 through May 14 , 2018

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

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

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

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

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



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



You're Invited!

Hilltown Seniors of the Town of Berne have scheduled two trips which we will open up to the public...if you want to join us, here is the info:

May 23-25 we are off to **Lancaster, Pa...**3 day/2 night package includes: visit to Longwood Gardens, 2 nights Deluxe Accommodations in Lancaster, 2 full breakfasts, Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre featuring the smash hit "Grease"...then the All New Show at the Sight and Sound Theatre featuring "Jesus", dinner at Bird In Hand Family Restaurant, Tour the Pretzel Factory, Visits to Lancaster Canning and Sweet Shoppe, shopping at Kitchen Kettle Village or Outlets, visit to Bird In Hand Farmers Market...

All applicable taxes, roundtrip luggage handling and meal gratuities included.

Cost: \$400 per double for members/\$420 per double for non-members

THEN IN **SEPTEMBER 17-21** off to **Niagara Falls/Toronto**... 4 nights lodging, 8 meals, guided tours of the Falls and Toronto, a journey to the Falls on a Hornblower Niagara Cruise, gaming at Fallsview Casino, a visit to Niagara-on-the-Lake and Queen Victoria Park, a visit to Casa Loma (Canada's most magnificent castle)

Cost: \$450 per double for members/\$475 per double for non-members

IMPORTANT!!!! You must have a NYS enhanced driver's license or passport to cross the border into Canada

Contact Shirley Slingerland if interested at 518-797-3467. Questions? Call Shirley!

JOIN US FOR THESE TWO FUN-FILLED TRIPS!



Grist Mill Snow—2011

Rensselaerville Historical Society News

The Rensselaerville Historical Society is announcing its 3rd Art Show. We are looking for artists with a Rensselaerville connection to participate. If you are an artist or know of an artist who is no longer alive or has moved away, we are now creating our artist list for this year's show. The Historical Society is looking for a variety of art work including paintings, drawings, sculptures, photographs, carvings or other media. The show will be in the Grist Mill on Main Street in Rensselaerville for two weeks in mid-July. Since there is limited space, we are now collecting names of interested artists on a first come basis. In the spring, we will get back to you with more information. Please email the RHS with the artist's name/and your name if you are the contact person for a deceased artist, email address, mailing address, telephone number, media of art work to rensselaervillehistoricalsoc@gmail.com or mail it to RHS, PO Box 8, Rensselaerville, New York 12147. Any questions may also be emailed to the above address.



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.

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER NEEDS HELP

Seeking a couple of people who are willing to learn how to help on the Rensselaerville Historical Society newsletter. Email janethaseley@gmail.com.

CAREY INSTITUTE
FOR GLOBAL GOOD

Contributing to a strong,
educated and just society.



The Carey Institute for Global Good is a not-for-profit organization founded in 2012 by Wm. P. Carey and is dedicated to making the world better by contributing to a strong, educated and just society. Through its programs, the Institute strives to bring together innovative and dynamic people from around the world to seek creative solutions to the most pressing challenges of the day. Learn more at careyinstitute.org.

For more information about what is happening at the Carey Institute for Global good, read the recent February E-Newsletter by visiting the website at www.careyinstitute.org.





BLOOD DRIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2018

Westerlo Reformed Church

566 State Route 143
Westerlo, NY 12193

6.3 mi | 11:30 AM – 4:30 PM

At this drive, you can give:

Blood Power Red

Saturday, April 14, 2018

Rensselaerville Public Safety Building

380 Fox Creek Rd
Medusa, NY 12120

0 mi | 7:30 AM – 12:30 PM

At this drive, you can give:

Blood Power Red



The need is constant.
The gratification is instant.
Give blood.™

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

**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



Breakfast

On the Calendar

EASTER SUNDAY			
Apr 1			
Apr 1	10:00 am	Medusa United Church of Christ Services	Medusa
Apr 1	11:00 am	Trinity Episcopal Church Sunday Services	Rensselaerville
Apr 8	10:00 am	Medusa United Church of Christ Services	Medusa
Apr 8	11:00 am	Trinity Episcopal Church Sunday Services	Rensselaerville
Apr 10	12 noon	Seniors Lunch & Meeting	Medusa Firehouse
Apr 10	7:00pm	Town Board Work Meeting	Town Hall
Apr 12	7:00pm	Town Board Regular Meeting	Town Hall
Apr 15	10:00 am	Medusa United Church of Christ Services	Medusa
Apr 15	11:00 am	Trinity Episcopal Church Sunday Services	Rensselaerville
Apr 21	7 – 11am	Medusa VFD Breakfast (Last breakfast until fall)	Medusa Firehouse
Apr 22	10:00 am	Medusa United Church of Christ Services	Medusa
Apr 22	11:00 am	Trinity Episcopal Church Sunday Services	Rensselaerville
Apr 24		ELECTION DAY: 12 noon - 6 pm	
Apr 29	10:00 am	Medusa United Church of Christ Services	Medusa
Apr 29	11:00 am	Trinity Episcopal Church Sunday Services	Rensselaerville
Apr 30-May 1		Seniors' trip to Pennsylvania Amish Country	

Looking Ahead:

May 5	9am-4pm	Annual Medusa Festival Flea Market ~ Chicken BBQ ~ & Much more! To sign up for a booth indoors or outdoors call Chris @ 239-6006 or Manny @ 239-4609 Also, Rummage Sale at Church Hall The Museum of Medusa History will be open.	R'ville Firehouse
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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; 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

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Library Board of Trustees

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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

Registration is open for the Rensselaerville Ramble Trail Run/Walk scheduled for June 16th at 9am on the trails of the Huyck Preserve. Register at <http://bit.ly/rvillramble> and to learn more visit: www.facebook.com/RensselaervilleRamble

The Library monthly **Board of Trustees Meeting** is scheduled for Tuesday, April 17 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, April 10 and 24th. 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 April 12th 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.

Youth Programs: Visit the online calendar for current weekly events at www.rensselaervillelibrary.org/calendar.html

STEAM Classes on Wednesdays at 3:30pm and 6:00pm

(Science Technology Engineering Arts and Math) STEAM is an instructor led multi-level themed educational program with activities each week to integrate the disciplines and stimulate the creativity of young minds.

April 4: Come and play with our Colby, new robotic mouse! Have fun while you learn how to direct him through a maze that you create! Kids learn the basics of coding in a fun, simple, hands-on activity.

April 11: Did you know that you can 'start' fruit and vegetable plants from some of the scraps that you throw away? Come and learn which ones, and how to do it!

April 18: Making kites is a lot of fun, and is an activity that involves Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math. Students can choose from a number of different designs, or create their own!

April 25: Corner bookmarks are fun ways to mark your page, express your creativity, and learn a little basic origami.

StoryTime on Wednesday at 4:30

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.

Library News

(Continued from page 25)

Read with Lefty on April 25 at 5:30pm

Come read with Lefty, the TDI Therapy Dog, in a relaxed, friendly atmosphere. Children choose what they would like to read to Lefty, and read in a positive, non-judgmental atmosphere. Programs such as this have been found to improve children's self-esteem, as well as increase their enjoyment of and interest in reading.

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

Homework Help - Please see Lee Ackerman-Sawyer or email youth@rensselaervillelibrary.org

Programs

Games & Puzzles for all ages Stop in and select a game to play with family and friends. Not into games we have puzzles too. Items are for in Library use and can be found downstairs near the activity room.

Talking With Your Doctor Thursday, April 11 at 3pm. (New Date & Time) This workshop provided by Albany Medical College's Division of Community Outreach and the Schaffer Library will share tips on how to be an advocate, find health information you can trust and what things to bring to an appointment. Please Register.

50+ Retirement Reimagined with Dr. Tom Denham on Wednesday, April 18th at 6pm. Are you 50+? Whether you're already retired, about to make the move, or just checking out the possibility, this highly interactive workshop can help with the process. This program is supported by funds from NY State Library's Adult Literacy Library Services program in partnership with the Capital Region Workforce Development Board. Please Register.

Need Help with Long Term Care? Tuesday, April 24 at 3pm the Independent Advocacy Network will provide a presentation on Medicaid and how they can help. Please Register.

Annual Book Sale, Saturday, May 19th from 9-3pm. Please drop off gently used books May 1 through May 16th during Library Hours.

One-on-One Resume-Critiquing 30 minute sessions with Resume Coach Marsha Lazarus on Thursday, May 31 at 6-8pm. We have four spaces available for this opportunity. Please register to reserve your space. You will need to bring your resume with you. This program is supported by funds from NY State Library's Adult Literacy Library Services program in partnership with the Capital Region Workforce Development Board.

Movies

Ferdinand, April 3 at 10 am Rated: PG, Length: 1:48. Description: After Ferdinand, a bull with a big heart, is mistaken for a dangerous beast, he is captured and torn from his home. Determined to return to his family, he rallies a misfit team on the ultimate adventure.

Wonder, April 4 at 10am, Rated: PG, Length: 1:53. Description: Based on the New York Times bestseller, WONDER tells the incredibly inspiring and heartwarming story of August Pullman, a boy with facial differences who enters fifth grade, attending a mainstream elementary school for the first time.

Breadwinner April 5 at 6:30pm, Rated: PG-13, Length: 1:34 Description: A headstrong young girl in Afghanistan disguises herself as a boy in order to provide for her family.

(Continued on page 27)

Library News

(Continued from page 26)

Shape of Water, April 6 at 6:30pm, Rated: R, Length: 2:03, Description: At a top secret research facility in the 1960s, a lonely janitor forms a unique relationship with an amphibious creature that is being held in captivity.

Poetry Month

April is National Poetry Month. Rensselaerville has been celebrating poetry month for 13 years. Here are the activities planned:

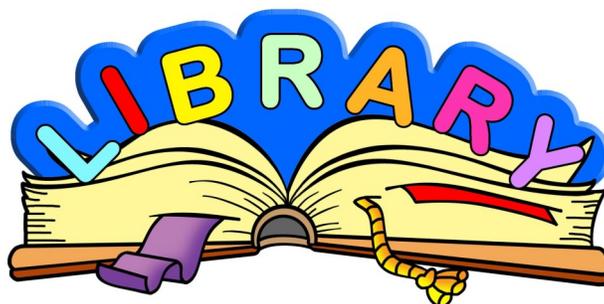
- Today's Poem on the Web. Visit the Library's website throughout the month of April to view a new poem each day.
- New Books--Local Authors – 3:30pm on Sunday, April 15th at the Library. Dawn Marar, Linda S. Miller, Katrinka Moore and Dianne Sefcik will share from their new books. Wine and cheese book signing reception, free will donation.
- Favorite Poem Project – 2-4pm on Sunday, April 29th at the Library. Bring a favorite poem to share for an afternoon of poetry, good company and refreshments. Free will donation.

Save the Date

Annual Library Cocktail Party will be held in the Library on Sunday, May 27, 2018.

HOURS

Sunday and Monday: Closed
Tuesday & Wednesday: 10-Noon & 3-9pm
Thursday & Friday: 4-9pm
Saturday: 9-1pm



Rensselaerville Library

April 2018 Movies



Tuesday, April 3 at 10 am
Ferdinand

Rated: PG

Length: 1:48

After Ferdinand, a bull with a big heart, is mistaken for a dangerous beast, he is captured and torn from his home. Determined to return to his family, he rallies a misfit team on the ultimate adventure.

Wednesday, April 4 at 10 am

Wonder

Rated: PG

Length: 1:53

Based on the New York Times bestseller, WONDER tells the incredibly inspiring and heartwarming story of August Pullman, a boy with facial differences who enters fifth grade, attending a mainstream elementary school for the first time.



Thursday, April 5 at 6:30pm

Breadwinner

Rated: PG13

Length: 1:34



A headstrong young girl in Afghanistan disguises herself as a boy in order to provide for her family.

Friday, April 6 at 6:30pm
Shape of Water

Rated: R

Length: 2:03

At a top secret research facility in the 1960s, a lonely janitor forms a unique relationship with an amphibious creature that is being held in captivity.



Rensselaerville Library
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 Director@RensselaervilleLibrary.org
 www.RensselaervilleLibrary.org

Rensselaerville Library

TALKING WITH YOUR DOCTOR

Wednesday, April 11, 2018
3:00 pm (new date & Time)

Are you puzzled by confusing health information?
Are you hesitant to ask your doctor questions?



If so, you're not alone! Learn to be an advocate for yourself or a loved one by answering these questions:

- What questions should I ask my doctor?
- How can I find health information I can trust?
- What should I bring to my appointment?

Suitable for everyone, this hands-on workshop is presented by Albany Medical College's Division of Community Outreach and Medical Education and the Schaffer Library of Health Sciences.



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This project has been funded in whole or in part by the National Library of Medicine (NLM), National Institutes of Health (NIH) under cooperative agreement number UG4LM012342 with the University of Pittsburgh, Health Sciences Library System.

**RENSSELAERVILLE LIBRARY'S
13TH ANNUAL CELEBRATION
OF NATIONAL POETRY MONTH**

TODAY'S POEM ON THE WEB

Last year, the Rensselaerville Library's Poem-A-Day Project netted 1,769 page views! Again this year, the Library will feature one poem by a local or not-so-local poet each day for the 30 days of April. After the poem features, it will remain online for the rest of the month. Visit the Library's website throughout the month to view a new poem each day.

SCHEDULED EVENTS

Free will donation at all events.

New Books – Local Authors - 3:30 pm Sunday, April 15 at the Library
Dawn Marar, Linda S. Miller, Katrinka Moore, Dianne Sefcik
These four local poets will share from their new books, answer your questions and be available for book signings. Join us for an afternoon of poetry with wine and cheese reception.

Favorite Poem Project – 2-4pm Sunday, April 29 at the Library
Bring a favorite poem (from childhood, school, an old lover, a magazine, adulthood, etc.) to share at the 13th Annual Favorite Poem Project. People of all ages are invited to participate in this Rensselaerville tradition of celebrating Poetry Month. Or just come listen as your friends and neighbors share poems they love. Join in an afternoon of poetry, good company, and refreshments, emceed by Claire North.

Readers may sign up at the Library beginning at 1:45 pm.
Communities around the country hold Favorite Poem readings as part of the Favorite Poem Project begun by former Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky in 1997.

Conkling Café Open Mic – 7:30pm Friday, April 20 @ Conkling Hall
Conkling Café and the Library are collaborating during poetry month: so, bring your poems, sonnets, haikus and lyrics to share. All musical genres, spoken word, and performance art are welcome. Equipment is provided. Come participate watch and listen to what your friends and neighbors are creating.

Sign up at 7pm to perform. Open Mic is a monthly event and all ages welcome.



Rensselaerville Library
1459 County Route 351
Rensselaerville, NY 12147
518 797 3949

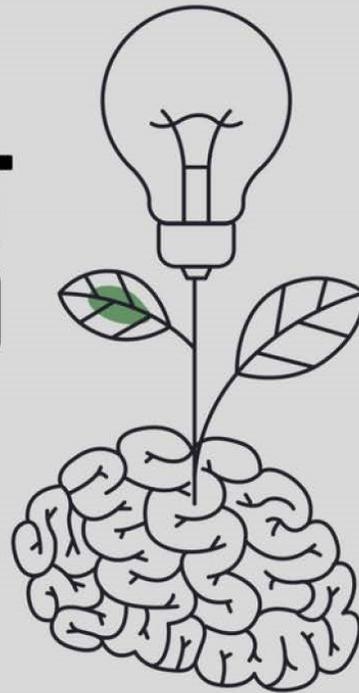
For More Poetry Information:
www.rensselaervillelibrary.org/poetry-month.html

Conkling Hall is located at
8 Methodist Hill Road
Rensselaerville, NY 12147

Rensselaerville Library

50+ RETIREMENT REIMAGINED

DR. TOM DENHAM
RENSSELAERVILLE LIBRARY
4/18/2018 | 6:00 PM



This program is supported by funds from the New York State Library's Adult Literacy Library Services Program, in partnership with the Capital Region Workforce Development Board.

Are you 50+? Whether you're already retired, about to make the move, or just checking out the possibility, this highly interactive workshop can help with the process by exploring these topics: What retirement means to you; the 9 reasons to retire; key retirement questions. We'll also start to clearly identify values, interests, personality traits, and skills; set your work/life experience and age as an asset for future endeavors; and create an action plan.



Rensselaerville Library
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PLEASE
REGISTER



Need help with long term care?

Representatives from ICAN are coming to Rensselaerville Library to give a free presentation and answer your questions.

When: April 24, 2018
3:00 pm

Where: Rensselaerville Library
1459 County Route 351
Rensselaerville, NY

Presentation to be conducted by Muriel Miller of Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York.

Call (518) 533-5928 to learn more.



icannys.org



We will explain what kinds of long term care services Medicaid covers, the different types of plans available, and how we can help.

Community Service Society 633 Third Ave., New York, NY 10017 (212) 254-8900 cssny.org

Independent Consumer Advocacy Network (ICAN) is a program of Community Service Society and is funded by the State of New York.

Rensselaerville Library
April 25, 2018
Read with Lefty
at the Library
5:30pm

Come read with Lefty, the TDI Therapy Dog, in a relaxed, friendly atmosphere. Children choose what they would like to read to Lefty, and read in a positive, non-judgmental atmosphere. Programs such as this have been found to improve children's self-esteem, as well as increase their enjoyment of and interest in reading.



Bring your favorite book or select one from the Library's collection.



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USED BOOK SALE

RENSSELAERVILLE LIBRARY

SATURDAY, MAY 19, 2018

9am - 3pm

2pm - 3pm

Bring a bag and fill it to the brim with books for \$1.

Each year Rensselaerville Library holds a Used Book Sale in May to coordinate with the Rensselaerville Annual Garage Sale Day. Hundreds of gently used books, both hard covers and paperbacks, fiction and non-fiction, will be for sale.

All proceeds go to benefit the Rensselaerville Library.

Featuring a wide variety of books, movies, and music, the Used Book Sale is a great place to pick up that novel that you've always wanted to read or to browse for that book that you never knew that you wanted.

Donations accepted:

May 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, from 4pm - 9pm

May 5 and 12th from 9am-1pm

Please NO text books or encyclopedias.

Book Sale Price List

- Adult Hard Covers: \$1.00
- Adult Paperbacks: 50 cents
- Juvenile Hard Covers: \$1.00
- Juvenile Paperbacks: 25 cents
- Audiobooks: \$1.00
- Music CDs: \$1.00
- DVD or BlueRay: \$1.00



Special sales area items priced individually.

Don't forget to check out the Gift Shop area for local Rensselaerville merchandise.

Rensselaerville Library, 1459 County Route 351, Rensselaerville, NY 12147

www.RensselaervilleLibrary.org | (518)797-3949

Rensselaerville Library

RESUME COACH



MEET ONE-ON-ONE
@ YOUR LIBRARY

MARSHA LAZARUS, MBA
RENSSELAERVILLE LIBRARY
5/31/2018 | 6:00 - 8:00 PM



UPPER HUDSON
LIBRARY SYSTEM
Together. For Better Libraries.



This program is supported by funds from the New York State Library's Adult Literacy Library Services Program, in partnership with the Capital Region Workforce Development Board.

Resume Coach Marsha Lazarus will provide One-on-One Resume-Critiquing. Each one-on-one session will be 30 minutes and requires that registered participants bring their resume. Four spaces are available and you must register for a timeslot: 6:00 pm, 6:30pm, 7:00 pm or 7:30 pm.



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Director@RensselaervilleLibrary.org
www.RensselaervilleLibrary.org

Interested participants must REGISTER for a timeslot.

Library News

Middleburgh Library

Rensselaerville Newsletter - April 2018

4/2-7 - Peeps Diorama Contest Voting for Peep-les Choice Award - Make sure you come on in and vote for your favorite Peeps Diorama this week. The winner will be announced on Monday April 9th.

4/3, 10, 17, 24 - 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.*

4/3, 10, 17, 24 - 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.

4/3, 10, 17, 24 - 5:15 PM - Insight Meditation - What do you want most deeply? Seeing your life calmly and clearly helps answer this. Insight Meditation is a simple way to steady your mind, stop wandering in day-dreams, and end the suffering of troubling thoughts. Our group is a place to sit quietly in safety, supported by others; to allow understanding and compassion to arise; to encourage loving-kindness and patience. We welcome those with no experience to advanced mediators', teens to seniors. Give it a try. No registration is required. There is no fee. All are welcome.

4/4, 18 - 11:00 AM - Storytime with Miss Doreen - Join master storyteller, Doreen McCoy, for a fun storytime. Stories, fingerplays, songs and a craft for little ones two years old and up with their caregivers. *No registration required.*

4/4, 11, 18, 25 - 1:00 PM - Wednesday Matinee - Free Popcorn -

4/4 - Family Film - "Ferdinand" (PG-13)

4/11 - "The Battle of the Sexes" (PG-13)

4/18 - "The Greatest Showman" (PG)

4/25 - "I Tonya" (R)

4/5 - 1:00-3:00 PM - Kids Crafternoon - We're cleaning out the craft closet and letting you create to your heart's content. Make anything you want in the time provided. *Appropriate for kids in Pre-K and up. Younger children should have a caretaker with them. This is a drop-in program. No registration required.*

4/5, 12, 19, 26 - 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

4/6, 20 - 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.

4/6 - 5:30 PM - Dinner & a Movie - "The Greatest Showman" (PG) - Celebrates the birth of show business, and tells of a visionary who rose from nothing to create a spectacle that became a worldwide sensation. (Starring Hugh Jackman)

Join us for a fun evening as we watch the acclaimed film *The Greatest Showman*. The library will provide pizza and drinks and you bring a snack or dessert to share. **Registration is required and space is limited**

Library News

Middleburgh Library

(Continued from page 36)

4/9 - 6:30 PM - Library Board of Trustees Meeting - Public is welcome.

4/14 - 10:00-12:00 - Wooden Bangles - Create a beautiful and colorful wooden bracelet using "decopatch" papers and paste! This bracelet will be a statement with that new outfit or be a wonderful handmade gift for someone special. **Registration is required and space is limited.**

4/14 - 2:00 PM - Cooking by the Vegan Book - "Book to be announced" - The Middleburgh Library presents its monthly book club, "Cooking by the Vegan Book." We pick the cookbook, you pick and make the recipe!

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.**

4/14 - 3:00 PM - Board Games for Adults - Come join us for a night of board games.

4/14 - 1:00 PM - Volunteer Get Together at the Dr. Best House - Are you curious? Have you thought about volunteering for the Dr. Best House and Medical Exhibit but don't know what's involved or how you can share your special talents? Join us on April 14th at 1:00 for a Volunteer Get Together! You'll have a chance to meet current volunteers and ask questions about volunteer duties. Take an informal tour of the house and enjoy finger foods and punch. Spend as much time as you like and you may find that you would like to join our team! **Please register just so we know how many people to plan for!**

4/15 - 4:00 PM -Concert - "Hudson Valley Sally" - Their harmonies have been described as blending like brothers and sisters from the same home. Hudson Valley Sally is family with its own many legacies and skeletons, and music influenced by rich experiences that includes everything from life in a convent to time in jail. And family legacies that include a notorious suburban murder trial, combat in the trenches of Spain during their Civil War, right up to a just-completed daring peace mission to Pakistan. Check out their website <http://hudsonvalleysally.com/music/>

A \$10.00 donation is suggested. Tickets are available at the door.

This event is made possible in part with public funds from the Decentralization Program and the NYS Council on the Arts, administered by the Community Arts Grant Program by the Greene County Council on the Arts.

4/16 -2:00 PM - Color Me Calm Adult Coloring Club - Do you need a relaxing activity to melt away stress? Join our **Color Me Calm Adult Coloring Club!** This program allows adults to create wonderful pictures and offers a fun and unique way to unwind and express creativity. Plus, it can actually lower stress! *Please note that this is not a structured program. Drop-in and color at your leisure. Materials will be provided. No registration required.*

4/17 - 7:00 PM - Book Discussion - "Winter Garden" by Kristen Hannah - Mesmerizing from the first page to the last, Kristin Hannah's Winter Garden is one woman's sweeping, heartbreaking story of love, loss, and redemption. At once an epic love story set in World War II Russia and an intimate portrait of contemporary mothers and daughters poised at the crossroads of their lives, it explores the heartbreak of war, the cost of survival and the ultimate triumph of the human spirit. It is a novel that will haunt the reader long after the last page is turned. *No registration required.*

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

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.

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

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

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

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:

Apr. 17, May 1, 15, 29, June 5
From 3:00 – 4:00

Library News

Greenville Library

(Continued from page 38)

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

April 10, 24; May 8, 22

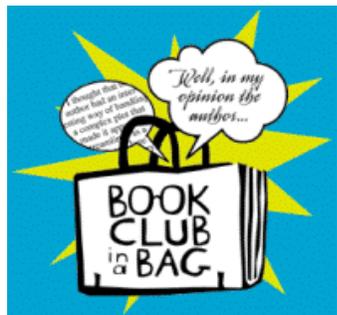
Greenville Local History Group

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).

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

Community Solar 101

New York State is now encouraging Community Solar to help broaden the reach of solar. Those who couldn't go solar before due to shading concerns, roof orientation, or not owning their home, now have an option to utilize the power of the sun! We will explain the different sections of an electric bill to help you understand what portions of your electric bill can be eliminated by going solar. Hudson Solar will also review many other solar options during the presentation. This event is free and open to the public.

May 2, 2018
6:00 PM—8:00 PM

Rensselaerville Volunteer Fire Company Proudly Presents:

Annual Chicken BBQ – Take Out



 **Saturday, April 21, 2018** 
4 – 6 PM – Pick Up

\$13 Dinner includes: ½ chicken, baked potato, roll w/butter, baked beans, coleslaw, brownie, drink



Pre Sale Tickets ONLY – Quantity is Limited

To reserve tickets, please contact:

Lynn @ 518 605 9671

Help support US, so that we may better serve YOU



May 19, 2018.....9AM – 4PM

**Rensselaerville Fire Company's
Annual Garage Sale Day
May 19th 9 AM – 4 PM**

**Maps available for purchase at
firehouse for \$1**

To go coffee\$2 from 8AM – 10 AM

Lunch served11 AM – 3 PM

**Sausage/peppers, hamburgers, cheeseburgers, hotdogs,
salads, chips, drinks**

Craft vendors located in Rensselaerville Town Park

**Please see attached advertisement if you would like to participate in gar-
age sale or be a craft fair vendor**

Annual Rensselaerville Garage Sale Day

Saturday, May 19, 2018

Rain, Snow or Sunshine

Rensselaerville Fire Company Battalion sponsors this major fundraiser. The Battalion will advertise extensively using multimedia outlets. Your sale will be listed on a map, which will be available the morning of the sale for \$1.00 at the Firehouse on Route 85. Your sales should be open from 9:00 to 4:00.

Please send you registration form and \$15 registration fee to:

Make checks payable to RFVD Battalion

RVFD Battalion

1364 CR 351

Rensselaerville, New York 12147

If you have any questions, please call Rose Kuhar at 518- 797-3360 Registration must be received by May 12

Vendors should call Amy Kropp at 518-928-1026/smalltowncurl12147@gmail.com

Refreshments and maps will be available at the firehouse between 9 and 3.

Week before the sale your number will be emailed or a letter will be sent

Garage Sale/Vendor Registration Form

Name _____ Phone # _____

Email address (will email you your Number) _____

Mailing Address _____

Site of Sale: Road name or route #, 911 number, miles from village, color of house and anything other descriptive information: (if vendor – you will be assigned a space in Town Park) _____

Description of items for sale: _____

Detailed description will attract potential customers to your sale. Clean, clearly priced items that are spread out for display are more likely to sell.

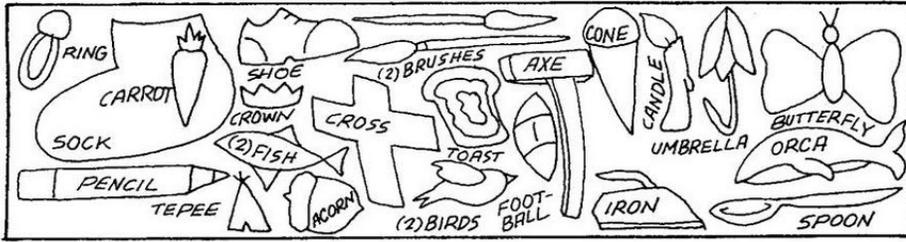
If you would like to set up at the Village Park (Playground) we ask for extra \$25 which will be refunded at 4:00, if all items & trash are removed – this is a carry in carry out park. Please call for more information.

(Continued on page 43)

Kids' Activity Page: Hidden Pictures



www.hiddenpicturepuzzles.com



Local Law No. 4 of 2018LOCAL LAW NO. 4 OF 2018

TOWN OF RENSSELAERVILLE, NEW YORK

A local law relating to the imposing of fees for Justice Court dispositions.

Section 1: The Town Board finds that there is a cost to the Town associated with providing copies of Justice Court civil and criminal dispositions and that the Town is not reimbursed for such costs. Therefore, the Town Board finds that it would be in the best interest of the Town to authorize the imposition of a fee to be charged for providing a copy of a Town Justice Court disposition.

Section 2: The Town Board, as authorized by Municipal Home Rule § 10 (1)(ii)(a)(9-a) to adopt and amend local laws relating to the fixing, levy, collection and administration of charges, rates, and fees, hereby authorizes the amendment of Chapter 114 of the Town Code of Rensselaerville Town Code to add the following fee:

Justice Court, copy of any disposition - five dollars (\$5).

Section 3: This local law shall take effect pursuant to the provisions of Municipal Home Rule Section 27.

[Editor's Note : See resolution on page 8. Public Hearing has been scheduled for April 12, 2018, at 6:45 PM. Also see additional comments page 47, "Did You Know?"]



Commentary #2

I have the distinct advantage of having been at Tuesday's work meeting at which this local law was discussed. Having listened to this discussion, I can assure you that the following comments are far less bombastic than they would have otherwise been. Let it be known that I do not think for a minute that there was dark intent on the part of the Town Board with regard to this matter. And I sense that the Town Board will do the right thing.

However, what transpired regarding this matter concerns me on two fronts:

1. We have an attorney to the Town that drafted and presented a local law without any authorization from the Town Board. And then wrote the law to state in Section 2 that "The Town Board has determined..." Really? It matters not to whom he spoke to and in what depth. Without Town Board authorization to proceed, he absolutely overstepped his responsibility as legal counsel. This cannot be allowed to happen again...ever!

2. I acknowledge that both Supervisor Pflieger and Councilman Rauf are new to the Town Board and not necessarily privy to all the decisions and actions that took place before their arrival on the Town Board. And I acknowledge that only 3 Town Board members were present at the February 8, 2018 Town Board meeting at which this resolution was presented to the Town Board by Attorney Bill Ryan. However, all three moved forward to approve the resolution and schedule this Public Hearing, without having a clue as to what this local law entailed. Think about it ... you approved a resolution the subject of which you knew nothing about. This too, cannot happen again ... ever! Hindsight being 20-20, you could have easily tabled this matter until the full board was present and a meaningful discussion could take place.

At this point, I think we can all agree that this matter of opting-out of tax exemptions for solar needs far more research and investigation on the part of the Town Board. You need to examine all the consequences of enacting such a law, the intended as well as unintended consequences. And, moving forward, I expect that this will happen.



Did You Know?

It seems that our Town Board has taken on a new process in this new administration, one that I feel is detrimental to good governance. For both Local Law #3 of 2018 and Local Law #4 of 2018, neither concept appeared before the Town Board for healthy, open and public discussion about the inherent issues (opting out of tax exemption for solar, amending newly passed fee schedule to include cost for copies of court dispositions.) In both cases, the majority of the Town Board was blind-sided by drafts of local laws they knew nothing about.

No one Town Board member should have the singular authority to direct the attorney to the town to draft a local law! And the attorney should know not to proceed with such a directive without the legal authorization of a majority of the Town Board. Short-cutting this process does a great disservice to the people these elected officials are supposed to represent. As a matter of fact, it is a great disservice to the Town Board members who weren't even given the courtesy of a heads-up!

I suggest that this new procedure be abolished and we return to the right way of doing things: matters of interest or concern are brought before the Town Board for meaningful discussion & allowing public input, then decide whether or not to authorize the attorney to draft a new local law.

Ride For My Bride



Fight Like A Girl

KO Against Ovarian Cancer

Help David Oliver Jr raise money for his wife

June 3rd, 2018

Bike Run 12-2pm

Buffet Dinner 2pm

\$20/ Buffet Dinner & event

\$30/Bike Run, Buffet Dinner, event

& T-Shirt (While supplies last)

Event will include a Chinese Auction, Fun & Games in the pub, and a Ride in
Bike show

At The Blackthorne Resort 348 Sunside Road East Durham, NY 12423



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. We look forward to getting your feedback.



To unsubscribe: Send an email to rvillenewsletter@gmail.com with the word "Unsubscribe" on the subject line. We'd be sorry to see you go, but we will honor your wishes immediately.



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 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.

Also, for those who want the newsletter but have difficulty with delivery because of its data size, we've launched a new option. Join the R'ville Community Newsletter on Facebook and have it delivered to you online! From there, you can read it, save it, print it - whatever you wish to do! This group also welcomes your comments about the newsletter. Check it out!

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