

R'VILLE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

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January 2015

Minutes of Town Board Special Meeting: Nov. 18, 2014

The Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville held a Special Meeting on the 18th day of November, 2014 at 6:30 in the evening at the Rensselaerville Town Hall, 87 Barger Road, Medusa, NY. The meeting was convened by Supervisor Lounsbury and the roll was called with the following results:

PRESENT WERE: Supervisor Valerie Lounsbury, Councilman Robert Bolte, Councilwoman Margaret Sedlmeir, Councilman Gerald Wood, Councilwoman Marion Cooke, Town Clerk Victoria H. Kraker. There were two interested citizens present as well as Highway Superintendent Randy Bates.

The purpose of the Special Meeting was to adopt the 2015 Budget and to address any other matters before the Board.

Supervisor Lounsbury stated that she believes the budget is at a point where it is ready to be passed with a 1.3% increase.

Marie Dermody pointed out an error in Central Print and Mailing: the 'change' column should be \$500 not \$5,000. Supervisor Lounsbury thanked Mrs. Dermody for noticing the typographical error.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Sedlmeir to adopt the 2015 budget; 2nd by Councilman Bolte. Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, Wood, and Cooke; Nays (0)

Supervisor Lounsbury checked into whether or not the Town would have to repeal the Tax Cap Law in order for residents to receive the tax credit. It does in fact need to be repealed. She has spoken to the attorney for the Town and he will draw up the revised Local Law. It can be passed at the December meeting as it does not need to be completed until January 21, 2015 when Supervisor Lounsbury certifies that the Town was under the tax cap and the Local Law was repealed.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to repeal Local Law No. 1: the Tax Cap Override; 2nd by Councilman Wood. Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, Wood, and Cooke; Nays (0)

TRANSFERS: Councilwoman Cooke had questions regarding the billing for the Town of Rensselaerville compared to other Towns. Councilman Bolte questioned whether or not the Town could reduce its number of polling locations in order to reduce costs. Supervisor Lounsbury will make some phone calls to find the answers to these questions.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to pay the Board of Elections bill, based upon confirmation of the accuracy of the billing; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir. Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, Wood, and Cooke; Nays (0)

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to approve the following transfers:

From 'General Medical' A 89060 to 'CDPHP' A4179 in the amount of \$5,000.00;

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From 'Highway Medical' DA 89060 to 'CDPHP' A4179 in the amount of \$5,000.00;

From 'Contingency' A1990E 44999 to 'Zoning' A8010E 44999 in the amount of \$400.00 for legal fees;

From 'Bayard Park Checking' A7140PHR to 'Park Contractual' A7140PHE 44999 in the amount of \$209.79 for plaques for the memorial benches. (The plaques were donated; however, when the donations are received the funds are deposited into the checking account.);

From 'FEMA' A 4960 to 'Park Contractual' A7140PHE 44999 in the amount of \$330.00 to cover the plaques for the benches that were replaced due to the flood; and

From 'Contingency' A 1990E 44999 to 'Elections' A1450E 44047 in the amount of \$7,972.07 to cover the bill for the 2012 elections.

The motion was 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir. Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, Wood, and Cooke; Nays (0)

HEALTH INSURANCE: Erin Nevins from the Nevins Insurance Agency presented the Town Board with comparisons of some other insurance companies and their rates, co-pays, and deductibles for the Town's retirees. After some discussion a motion was made by Supervisor Lounsbury to keep the Town's retirees insured with the current Medicare supplement plan with Blue Shield Forever Blue Medicare PPO 799; 2nd by Councilman Bolte. Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, Wood, and Cooke; Nays (0)

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to adjourn the meeting at 7:07 PM; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir. Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, Wood, and Cooke; Nays (0)

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED;
Victoria H. Kraker, Town Clerk



Minutes of The Town Board Public Hearing Gas Drilling Moratorium: Nov. 18, 2014

The Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville held a Public Hearing on the 18th day of November, 2014 at 7:08 in the evening at the Rensselaerville Town Hall, 87 Barger Road, Medusa, NY. The meeting was convened by Supervisor Lounsbury and the roll was called with the following results:

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

Also present were a total of five interested citizens as well as Highway Superintendent Randy Bates.

The purpose of the Public Hearing was to hear public comments on proposed Local Law No. 2 of 2014 – A Local Law continuing a one-year moratorium on Gas Drilling in the Town of Rensselaerville. Supervisor Lounsbury read a portion of the proposed Local Law as follows: Local Law No. 2 of 2014 of the Town of Rensselaerville known as the Gas Drilling Moratorium of 2014 of the Town of Rensse-

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laerville.

The purpose of this law is to continue an existing one-year moratorium, set forth in Local Law No.3 of 2011 of the Town of Rensselaerville and renewed again in Local Law No. 2 of 2012 and in Local Law No. 2 of 2013, to temporarily suspend the administrative review, approval process and/or drilling activities associated with the production of natural gas on lands located in the Town of Rensselaerville for either new or pending proposals or activities regarding gas drilling. Pursuant to the statutory powers vested in the Town of Rensselaerville to regulate and control land use and to protect the health, safety and welfare of its residents, the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville hereby declares an additional one-year moratorium on the drilling for or extraction of natural gas within that subterranean area known as the Marcellus Shale or any other shale deposits located on or under land in the Town of Rensselaerville by the process commonly known as high-volume hydraulic fracturing.

Public Comments:

Supervisor Lounsbury read an email from John Mormile as follows:

“I understand that on November 18, the Town Board will hold its hearing on extending the town’s fracking moratorium. Unfortunately, I am away all week, so I will not be able to attend the meeting. However, I will be there in spirit. I urge the Board to extend the moratorium so that a potential ban on fracking and all heavy industry in our township can be discussed in connection with the total, proposed zoning law changes. I thank you and the Board members for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely, John Mormile”

Jeannette Rice: thanked the Board for the opportunity and for bringing the moratorium up for a vote once again. Speaking for both herself and her husband, she hopes the Board will pass this law again so that the Town can have the necessary safeguards in place to protect the Town’s sense of space, land, clean air, water, and rural way of living. She thanks the Board again for their consideration.

Georgette Koenig would like to see the moratorium made permanent. She is very worried about the water. She also noted that violations are only \$100/day. That is nothing to a gas company and she feels that amount would not deter them if they really wanted to come in. She asked if that amount could be increased. Supervisor Lounsbury stated she would check into that.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Supervisor Lounsbury to close the Public Hearing, but allow and accept written comments until November 25, 2014. The motion was 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir. *Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, Wood, and Cooke; Nays (0)*

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to adjourn the meeting at 7:24 PM; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir. *Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, Wood, and Cooke; Nays (0)*

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED;
Victoria H. Kraker, Town Clerk



Draft Minutes of Town Board Regular Meeting: Dec. 11, 2014

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville was held on the 11th day of December, 2014 at 7 o'clock in the evening at the Rensselaerville Town Hall, 87 Barger Road, Medusa, NY. The meeting was convened by Supervisor Valerie Lounsbury and the roll was called with the following results:

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

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

AUDIENCE COMMENTS: None

MINUTES: A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to approve the minutes of the following meetings: November 11, 2014– Work Meeting; November 13, 2014 – Regular Meeting; November 6, 2014 – Public Hearing – Tax Cap Override; November 6, 2014 – Public Hearing – Preliminary Budget; November 18, 2014 – Adoption of 2015 Budget; November 18, 2014 – Public Hearing – Gas Drilling Moratorium

The motion was seconded by Councilman Wood. *Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, Wood, and Cooke; Nays (0)*

TRANSFERS: None

ABSTRACTS/VOUCHERS: General Fund - \$34,388.75; Highway Fund - \$13,277.53; Lighting District - \$728.44; (Preston Hollow \$348.00; Rensselaerville \$380.44); Sewer Fund - \$123.56; Water Fund - \$703.00; TA Fund - \$371.52; Total Abstracts - \$49,592.80

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to pay all signed vouchers; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir. *Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, Wood, and Cooke; Nays (0)*

CORRESPONDENCE: None

REPORTS

SUPERVISOR

1. A Special Meeting is scheduled for December 16, 2014 at 7:00 PM to continue the discussion on the Route 85 parking issue in the hamlet of Rensselaerville.

2. A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to schedule the Year-End Meeting for December 30, 2014 at 7:00 PM; 2nd by Supervisor Lounsbury. *Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, Wood, and Cooke; Nays (0)*

3. A motion was made by Councilwoman Sedlmeir to schedule the Organizational Meeting for January 2, 2015 at 7:00 PM; 2nd by Councilman Bolte. *Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, Wood, and Cooke; Nays (0)*

4. A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to allow the use of the Senior/Youth Bus by the Westerlo Volunteer Fire Department to go to the Desmond in January, pending the Town of Westerlo's approval for the trip; 2nd by Supervisor Lounsbury. *Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, Wood, and Cooke; Nays (0)*

5. Supervisor Lounsbury received two reports from the New York State Department of Agriculture

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and Markets. One was the Dog Control Officer Inspection Report and the other was the Municipal Shelter Inspection Report. Both inspections were rated ‘Satisfactory’.

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to accept the Supervisor’s report; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir. *Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, Wood, and Cooke; Nays (0)*

ATTORNEY

1. Attorney Fallati prepared a proposed Resolution which allows the Town to apply to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program. This draft must be submitted to the Department of Environmental Conservation for approval.

A Local Law must be adopted and therefore a Public Hearing must be scheduled.

A motion was made by Supervisor Lounsbury to schedule a Public Hearing for February 10, 2015 at 6:30 PM; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir. *Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, Wood, and Cooke; Nays (0)*

The Resolution reads as follows:

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

WHEREAS, the Town Board is in receipt of the proposed local law provided by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (“DEC”) by letter dated September 18, 2014, which proposed local law incorporates the regulations required to maintain the Town’s eligibility in the National Flood Insurance Program; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Town Board to adopt the proposed local law provided by the DEC; and

WHEREAS, attached hereto is the proposed local law provided by the DEC, with the information requested by the DEC incorporated therein;

NEW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the duly convened Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville, Albany County, New York, that (1) the Attorney for the Town is authorized to forward to the DEC for its review the attached proposed local law; and (2) pursuant to the Municipal Home Rule Law and the General Municipal Law, a public hearing shall be conducted at the Town Hall on February 10, 2015 on the attached proposed Local Law, and notice of the time and place of such hearing shall be published on or before January 28, 2015 in a newspaper circulating in the Town.

By motion made by Valerie Lounsbury, 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 11th day of December 2014 as follows:

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

END RESOLUTION

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2. Attorney Fallati read a Resolution which also needs to be adopted and presented to the DEC along with the above as follows:

RESOLUTION TO APPLY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE
NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

WHEREAS, certain areas of the Town of Rensselaerville are subject to periodic flooding and flood-related erosion, causing serious damages to properties within these areas; and

WHEREAS, relief is available in the form of federally subsidized flood insurance as authorized by the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville to require the recognition and evaluation of flood or flood-related erosion hazards in all official actions relating to land use in areas having these hazards; and

WHEREAS, this body has the legal authority to adopt land use and control measures to reduce future flood losses pursuant to the New York State constitution, Article IX, Section 2, and Environmental Conservation Law, Article 36;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this Town Board hereby:

1. Assures the Federal Emergency Management Agency that it will enact as necessary, and maintain in force for those areas having flood or flood-related erosion hazards, adequate land use and control measures with effective enforcement provisions, including:

a. Require permits for all proposed construction or other development in the community so that it may determine whether such construction or other development is proposed within the floodplain.

b. Review proposed development to assure that all necessary permits have been received from those governmental agencies from which approval is required by Federal or State law.

c. Review and maintain all permit applications to determine whether proposed building sites will be reasonably safe from flooding.

d. Review and maintain all permit applications to ensure that any development activities are consistent with criteria set forth in Section 60.3 of the National Flood Insurance Program Regulations.

2. Vests the Town Building Inspector with the responsibility, authority, and means to:

a. Assist the Administrator, at his/her request, in the delineation of the limits of the area having special flood or flood-related erosion hazards.

b. Provide such information as the Administrator may request concerning present uses and occupancy of the floodplain or flood-related erosion areas.

c. Cooperate with federal, state and local agencies and private firms which undertake to study, survey, map, and identify floodplain of flood-related erosion areas, and cooperate with neighboring communities with respect to management of adjoining floodplain and/or flood-related erosion areas in order to prevent aggravation or existing hazards.

d. Submit on the anniversary date of the community's initial eligibility an annual report to the Administrator on the progress made during the past year within the community in the development

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and implementation of floodplain management measures.

e. Upon occurrence, notify the Administrator, in writing, whenever the boundaries of the community have been modified by annexation or the community has otherwise assumed or no longer has authority to adopt and enforce floodplain management regulations for a particular area. In order that all Flood Hazard Boundary Rate Maps accurately represent the community's boundaries, include with such notification a copy of a map of the community suitable for reproduction, clearly delineating the new corporate limits or new area for which the community has assumed or relinquished floodplain management regulatory authority.

f. Ensure that the community's Flood Insurance Rate Maps are maintained and kept current by providing the Federal Emergency Management Agency with any new or updated flood risk data or any modified data reflecting natural or man-made changes to the floodplain

3. Appoints the Town Building Inspector to maintain for public inspection and to furnish [upon] request, for the determination of applicable flood insurance risk premium rates within all areas having special flood hazards identified on a Flood Hazard Boundary Map or Flood Insurance Rate Map, any certificates of flood-proofing, and information on the elevation (in relation to mean sea level) of the level of the lowest floor (including basement) of all new or substantially improved structures, and include whether or not such structures contain a basement, and if the structure has been flood proofed the elevation (in relation to mean sea level) to which the structure was flood proofed.

4. Agrees to take such other official action as may be reasonably necessary to carry out the objectives of the program.

END RESOLUTION

A motion was made by Supervisor Lounsbury to certify the Resolution to Apply to Participate in the National Flood Insurance Program; 2nd by Councilman Bolte. *Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, Wood, and Cooke; Nays (0)*

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to accept the Attorney's report; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir. *Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, Wood, and Cooke; Nays (0)*

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

1. Highway Superintendent Bates reported that so far this year, approximately 36 inches of snow has fallen in the higher elevations and the Town has used close to 700 tons of salt/sand mix.

2. During a typical winter the highway responds to approximately 30 snow and/or ice events. Thus far, they are up to response number 15.

3. The trucks are in good shape overall.

4. There are many hanging and downed trees. The highway men are carrying chainsaws in their trucks, cutting their way through some areas, and hope to get to the major clean-up soon.

5. Superintendent Bates is looking at a truck that is available on-line from Greene County. It is an Oshkosh and would be used for parts.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to accept the Highway Superintendent's report, 2nd by Councilman Bolte. *Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, Wood, and Cooke; Nays (0)*

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TOWN CLERK: Town Clerk Kraker reported for the month of November as follows: Town Clerk Department – Total Collected \$2,271.14; Paid to the Supervisor - \$739.44 - the breakdown is as follows: Clerk Fees - \$159.80; Recycling - \$86.00; Dog Licenses - \$117.00; Building Permits - \$366.64; Zoning - \$10.00; Total - \$739.44

Fees paid to NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets for the 'Animal Population Control Program' aka 'dog surcharge': \$18.00; Electronic sweep from the Town Clerk's checking account for the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation - Sporting licenses: \$1,513.70

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to accept the Town Clerk's report; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir. *Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, Wood, and Cooke; Nays (0)*

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER/BUILDING INSPECTOR:

1. Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector Overbaugh reported one Home Replacement and one Home Addition for the month of November. He is continuing with inspections and following through on Certificates of Occupancy and Certificates of Compliance.

2. Officer Overbaugh wanted to bring to the Town's attention a barn on Smith's Corners that he suspects is about to collapse into the road. The way the 'unsafe building' law is written, the process to file a complaint must be commenced by someone who owns property within 1000 feet of the structure. Only after that filing can any action be taken. In the alternative, Officer Overbaugh will try to locate the owner to see if a resolution can be found.

A motion was made by Councilman Wood to accept the Code Enforcement/Building Inspector's report; 2nd by Councilwoman Cooke. *Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, Wood, and Cooke; Nays (0)*

ASSESSORS:

1. On November 21, 2014, Assessors Kropp and Tollner and Assessor's Clerk, Linda McCormick attended R.P.S. (Real Property Services) training.

2. The Assessors are preparing to send renewal notices for the tax exemptions. Those exemption renewals must be returned to the Assessor's Office by March 1, 2015. They would also like to remind residents that anyone who will be 65 years of age by December 31, 2015 should apply for the Enhanced Star Exemption.

3. Assessors Tollner and Wank are on the budget committee for Greenville Central School.

4. Assessor Tollner has completed all coursework for certification and Assessor Wank continues to work on hers.

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to accept the Assessor's report; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir. *Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, Wood, and Cooke; Nays (0)*

WATER/SEWER COMMITTEE:

1. Water/Sewer Treatment Officer Story reported that for the month of November, 575,500 gallons of water was filtered (an average of 19,183 gallons/day); and 190,000 gallons of sewage was pumped (an average of 6,333 gallons/day).

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2. Shutting the water off to the Rensselaerville Park proved to be helpful in locating a major leak. The daily treated water is now down to between 16,000 and 18,000 gallons/day.

3. Any further investigations and/or repairs will have to wait for the weather to moderate.

A motion was made by Supervisor Lounsbury to accept the Water/Sewer Treatment Officer's report; 2nd by Councilman Wood. *Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, Wood, and Cooke; Nays (0)*

REFUSE/RECYCLING: Recycling Coordinator Whitbeck reported the following for the month of November: Green Fiber: 9.52 tons; Rensselaer Iron & Steel: 3.69 tons; Tires: 27; City of Albany Landfill: 53.91tons; Sierra Fibers: 4.91tons; Oil: 30 gallons

A motion was made by Councilman Wood to accept the Recycling Coordinator's report; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir. *Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, Wood, and Cooke; Nays (0)*

CURRENT EVENTS

1. The Town will be holding a Christmas luncheon for all employees on December 23, 2014 at 12:00 PM at Town Hall.

2. The Village Voices will be performing their Christmas concert on December 20, 2014 at 7:30 PM at Conkling Hall.

OLD BUSINESS

1. A Public Hearing was held on November 18, 2014 and written comments were accepted up through November 25, 2014 regarding the Gas Drilling Moratorium. Supervisor Lounsbury received ten emails, all of which indicated that residents were in favor of passing the Moratorium again this year.

Attorney Fallati read the Resolution as follows:

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF RENSSELAERVILLE TOWN BOARD

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville, Albany County, New York, previously adopted Local Laws No. 3 of 2011, No. 2 of 2012, and No. 2 of 2013, which, in substance, place a moratorium on certain drilling and related activities in the Town; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board is considering a further extension of the moratorium, pending further review of proposed amendments to the Town's zoning law; and

WHEREAS, the Town board conducted a public hearing on the attached proposed Local Law No. 2 of 2014 on November 18, 2014; and

WHEREAS, the Town board has determined that it desires to continue the moratorium set out in the previous local laws; and

WHEREAS, this proposed moratorium constitutes a Type II action under the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEQR") for which SEQR review is not required; and

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WHEREAS, the Albany County Planning Board has confirmed by notification its determination that the proposed action will have no significant countywide or inter-municipal impact and deferred to local consideration;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the duly convened Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville, Albany County, New York, ordains and enacts the attached Local Law No. 2 of 2014, which is incorporated herein.

By motion made by Valerie Lounsbury, 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 11th day of December 2014 as follows:

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

END RESOLUTION

2. The subject of Seasonal Roads was discussed at the November meeting, but the specific list was not addressed, therefore, the Town Board approved those roads as follows:

The Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville wishes to inform the residents of the Town and the Public that the following roads are Limited Use Highways and will not be maintained from December 1, 2014 through April 1, 2015:

Gulf Road Extension from Gulf Road to the northerly end of State Lands;

Kenyon road from the intersection of Roney Road to CR 359;

Roney Road from last residential structure in from Pearson Road to the intersection of Kenyon Road;

Scutt Road from the southerly end of State Lands to CCC Road; and

Edwards Hill Road from 500 feet in from SR 145 to the top of the hill.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to approve the foregoing Seasonal Roads; 2nd by Councilman Bolte. *Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, Wood, and Cooke; Nays (0)*

NEW BUSINESS

1. A motion was made by Councilman Wood to appoint Steven Pflieger on a six-month trial basis for the position of Planning Board/Zoning Board of Appeals Clerk; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir. *Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, Wood, and Cooke; Nays (0)*

2. A Public Hearing needs to be scheduled for the purpose of rescinding Local Law No. 1 of

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2014 - the Tax Cap Override.

Attorney Fallati read the Resolution as follows:

RESOLUTION OF THE
TOWN OF RENSSELAERVILLE
TOWN BOARD

WHEREAS, on November 13, 2014, the Town Board adopted Local Law No. 1 of 2014, which permitted the Town to override the limit in the increase in the Town’s assessment for Fiscal Year 2015 pursuant to Chapter 97 of the Laws of 2011; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has determined that it will not incorporate a tax increase into its Fiscal Year 2015 budget in excess of the tax cap; and

WHEREAS, the town Board wishes to rescind Local Law No. 1 of 2014;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the duly convened Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville, Albany County, New York, that pursuant to the Municipal Home Rule Law and the General Municipal law, a public hearing shall be conducted at the Town Hall on January 6, 2015 at 6:30 PM on the attached proposed Local Law, and notice of the time and place of such hearing shall be published on or before December 31, 2014 in a newspaper circulating in the Town.

By motion made by Margaret Sedlmeir, and seconded by Gerald Wood, the foregoing resolution was adopted by a majority of the members of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville on the 11th day of December, 2014 as follows:

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

END RESOLUTION

3. The resolution allowing the Highway Superintendent authority to bid on on-line auctions must be renewed quarterly. Supervisor Lounsbury read the following resolution:

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

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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 appropriated for that purpose without prior approval of the Town Board, through March 31, 2015, up to an amount of \$20,000.00; (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 Gerald Wood and seconded by Margaret Sedlmeir, the foregoing resolution was adopted by a majority of the members of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville on the 11th day of December, 2014 as follows:

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

END RESOLUTION

4. A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to authorize Supervisor Lounsbury to sign the Shared Bus Service Contract and return it to the Town of Westerlo; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir. *Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, Wood, and Cooke; Nays (0)*

5. A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to authorize Supervisor Lounsbury to sign the I.T.S. Contract as it is presented and return it to I.T.S.; 2nd by Councilman Wood. *Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, Wood, and Cooke; Nays (0)*

Councilwoman Sedlmeir and Councilwoman Cooke thanked everyone involved in getting the Newsletter off and running and for all the efforts that were put forth.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS: Investigator Tracy Mance will withhold any comments until the Special Meeting on the 16th regarding the Route 85 parking matter.

(Continued on page 13)

(Continued from page 12)

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 PM; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir. *Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, Wood, and Cooke; Nays (0)*

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED;
Victoria H. Kraker, Town Clerk



"Be always at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors, and let each new year find you a better man." *Benjamin Franklin*



On The Calendar

Jan 1	1-4pm	RHDA New Year's Day Open House	Conkling Hall
Jan 2	7pm	Town Board Organizational Meeting	Town Hall
Jan 6	6:30pm	Public Hearing: To rescind Local Law No. 1 of 2014 - the Tax Cap Override	Town Hall
Jan 6	7pm	Town Board Work Meeting	Town Hall
Jan 8	7pm	Town Board Regular Meeting	Town Hall
Jan 13	12 noon	Senior's lunch & meeting	Medusa Fire House
Jan 17	7-11am	Breakfast Free will offering	Medusa Fire House
Feb 10	6:30p	Public Hearing: National Flood Insurance Program	Town Hall



Senior Citizens Info

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

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

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

Additional Important Phone Numbers:

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



Move

Breathe

Relax

YOGA: Tue. & Thu. 9-10:15 am

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

Classes Open to All at Conkling Hall in Rensselaerville

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

Fees: Wed Pilates—\$7.00

All Others—\$12.00

Did you know

...beginning January 1, 2015, consumers may no longer dispose of certain types of electronic equipment in landfills, waste-to-energy facilities, in the trash, or at curbside for trash pickup?. This is when the final phase of the implementation of New York's 2010 electronics recycling law takes effect. We are fortunate that, unlike many communities, we are able to re-cycle our e-waste when the transfer station is open. For more information about this law, check out the DEC's website regarding this matter: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/66872.html>



BREAKFAST AT THE MEDUSA FIRE HOUSE

7:00AM TO 11:00AM

~~September 2, 2014~~

January 17, 2015

~~October 18, 2014~~

February 21, 2015

~~November 15, 2014~~

March 21, 2015

~~December 20, 2014~~

April 18, 2015

PLEASE JOIN US TO SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL FIRE DEPT

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

Free will offering

Library News

Rensselaerville Library

The Library's Writing Group will meeting on Thursday, January 8th at 7pm. This informal and supportive writing group is designed for writers of all interests, backgrounds and abilities. Participants have time to write and share "works in progress" and receive the support needed. If you have questions please call Linda Miller at 936-4402.

The Library's Poetry Group will be meeting on Tuesday, January 13 & 27 at 7pm. Questions please contact Tom Corrado at tjc123@midtel.net

The Library's Board of Trustees meeting is on Monday, January 26th at 8pm. The meeting is open to the public.

The Library will be closed all day on New Year's Day.

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

Do you have an E Reader, MP3 Player or a Smart Phone? You have access to free e-books and audio books through the Library and your Library card. No Library card? Just stop into the Library and we can help you. Visit <http://digitalcollection.uhls.org> to start downloading.

One On One Computer & Internet Help - Would you like one on one computer or technology help with setting up an email account, word processing, Facebook, Overdrive, E readers, Job Searching sites, etc.? Kim is offering individual sessions in the Library to help get you started with almost any common everyday computer/internet questions. Appointments are required. Please visit or call the Library at 797-3949.

Library Wish List – Are you remodeling, reorganizing, or purchasing new technology? Consider donating to the Library, we are looking for the following items: a coat rack, counter height table, large outdoor style rug, children's educational toys, any version of Amazon Kindle, Apple iPad or tablets. Thank you to everyone who has made donations.

Donations -- Your financial support allows the Library to purchase resources, fund programs and support services as well as maintain our historic building. For more information on how to make a contribution please go to the [DONATION](#) link on the web site. Thank you for your continued support.

Currently receiving notifications from the Library by phone? Now you can receive 'overdue' and 'availability of requested items' notifications by email instead. Click the button below or stop by the Library and we can assist you.

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

Contact information: 1459 Route 351, Rensselaerville, NY 12147
 (518) 797-3949; Fax (518) 797-5211
 www.rensselaervillelibrary.org
 Director Kimberly Graff: director@rensselaervillelibrary.org
 Library Assistant Katie Caprio: library@rensselaervillelibrary.org

(Continued on page 17)

Library News (cont'd)

(Continued from page 16)

Middleburgh Library

Please note: There are no **Drop-in Storytimes** for the month of January

- Jan 6 1:00pm **Mahjongg** - In the Community Room (Also meets Jan 13, 20, 27)
- Jan 7 5:00-6:15pm **Kundalini Yoga** - Facilitated by Debra Krol, involves repetitive movements with the breath, building strength, toning the nerves and clearing the adrenal glands. Wear comfortable clothing and bring 2 blankets or a mat and blanket. A \$5.00 donation is requested. Use the back entrance when entering the building. *No registration required.* (Also meets Jan 21)
- Jan 11 2:00pm **Reel Talk Film Festival: The Eleventh Hour** - You are welcome to join our new Documentary Film & Discussion series, Reel Talk. For our first movie we will be screening **The 11th Hour**, which is a look at the state of the global environment including visionary and practical solutions for restoring the planet's ecosystems. *Registration is required. Refreshments will be served.*
- Jan 27 7:00pm **Book Discussion: "The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration In the Age of Colorblindness"** by Michelle Alexander (Tech Room) *This discussion will be facilitated by local folk performer and educator, Kim Harris. No registration required. Books may be picked up at the information desk.*

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

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

Contact information: 323 Main Street
Middleburgh, NY 12122
(518) 827-5142
middleburghlibrary.info



Albany County Sheriff's Office

NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2014

ALBANY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

VOLUME 7



Investigator Mance talks to 5th grade students about stranger awareness.

U.S. District Court Field Trip

ACSO visits the Federal Court House

Close to 90 fifth grade students visited the United States District Court in the City of Albany for their class field trip in the middle of November. Students toured throughout the courthouse and were taught about the important history of the building. Stories of famous people who had visited there were also told to the children. After the building tour,



Investigator Mance had the opportunity to speak to the students about what police officers do and how they keep people safe. Stranger awareness and internet safety were also discussed and the importance of knowing your surroundings. Students participated in Investigator Mance's "No, Go, Tell, Tell" dialogue about what to do if a stranger approaches. She also discussed the importance of not chatting with strangers on line, even if a picture looks like a child their age. Educating

children in awareness is the best first line of defense to keeping

CHILDREN CLOSE
THEIR EARS TO ADVICE
BUT OPEN THEIR EYES
TO EXAMPLE

them safe and helping them see the importance of making healthy decisions.

Looking for a job? Check the Albany County website for Civil Service job listings!
<http://www.albanycounty.com/civilservice.aspx>



2015 Events are currently being scheduled. Please contact Investigator Mance at 518.655.7831 or at Tracy.Mance@albanycounty.com.



Albany County Sheriff's Office



WINTER WARNINGS



COLD WEATHER IS HERE

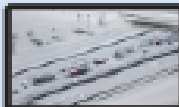
Old Man Winter is almost here and we all know what that means: Snow...Cold...Ice...BRRR. Here are some tips to stay safe and warm until spring.

Winter Driving Snow and ice can be a common theme during the winter time months. Be sure to keep an eye on the sky – and the roadways. Dropping temperatures mean that wet roads may turn to ice quickly. Heavy snow fall can make roads impassable and high winds can cause snow drifts in open areas. Keep items like phone charger, flashlight, and blankets in your vehicle in the event that you get stuck and are temporarily stranded. Be mindful in poor weather conditions. If the weather is really bad, please stay home if at all possible.

Vehicle Safety Don't be lazy. Shovel the snow off the car before driving it. Excess snow on the vehicle can blow onto the

windshield causing poor visibility, slide off the roof and block the wipers, or blow off causing the motorist behind to panic. Make sure tire tread is suitable for winter driving. Brush snow away from head lights and tail lights to ensure the best visibility.

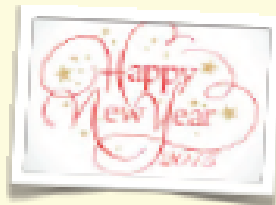
Home Safety Winter means snow removal around the home. Shoveling, snow blowing, and plowing. Please keep walkways clear in the event of an emergency. Do NOT plow or shovel snow into the roadway. Not only is it illegal, it can cause a serious hazard for motorists. Be careful shoveling wet and heavy snow to prevent back injuries and possible heart attacks. Stock up on different necessities in case weather



Southern Vermont College students visited ACSO to get a tour of the agency.

ABOVE: Investigator Mance and SVC students in the historical courtroom where the "Amadon Diallo Trail" was held back in 2000.

BELOW: SVC students over look as a 911 call comes in to the County Dispatch Unit.



HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS

FIRE HAZARDS Do not over load outlets with extension cords and plugs from holiday lights. Be sure to keep live trees watered daily to help prevent them from drying out. Do not hang holiday stockings over a lit fireplace. Clean the chimney to help prevent a chimney fire.

PRESENTS TO PROTECT Be mindful of your surrounding while out shopping during the holidays. Do not leave purses, wallets, and store bags unattended while in the mall or other public places. Keep vehicle doors locked. Thieves walk the parking lots in search of unlocked car doors. Lock home doors and windows when away visiting friends and relatives to keep potential burglars out.

Albany County Sheriff's Office

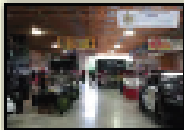
YEAR IN REVIEW

OPERATION SAFE CHILD

ACSO was all around the county this year with the state program *Operation Safe Child*. Parents can have their child's picture and finger prints entered into the Amber Alert data base allowing immediate access in the event their child is missing.

ALTIMONT FAIR

The week long event at the Altamont Fair allowed for the Sheriff's Office to display the MRAP, the concept propane car, and the STOP DWI Cab/Cop car. Tables of pamphlets of important outreach and educational information were also provided.



SOUTH END TO HILLTOWNS

Investigator Mance went from the South End to the Hilltown Communities to inform all age groups of a wide range of important social topics.

SUMMER CAMPS

Spending time visiting summer camps and summer school programs was a great way to inform children of smart choices and important awareness topics.



CAPITAL REGION ROTARY CLUB

Teaming with the Capital Region Rotary Club for a public event not only promoted the Rotary membership, but also a great opportunity for Sheriff Apple to talk about all the programs and resources that the ACSO has.

Heroin Addictions

Heroin is a highly addictive opiate drug that does not discriminate. It can effect any socioeconomic group, any race, any religion. The euphoric high can be so intense that it drives people to wanting to use and use again. In many instances it can cause a person to overdose. Since heroin use is so frequent today, many high profile officials have gathered to speak to increase the public's awareness of the drug. They talk of common signs and symptoms of those who use heroin, possible treatment avenues, and frequency of arrests. Recovering addicts and family members also come to share their life stories. Parents are encouraged to speak to their children about heroin and other drugs. The first line of defense is to educate them so they will not be tempted to try something once which has the possibility of ruining their lives forever.



LEFT: Panelists were invited to speak at a public forum at the Guilderland Library about heroin.

Successful Year!

The first year of the Sheriff's Office Community Relations Unit has proven to be a strong asset to both the Sheriff's Office and the community. By building a stronger, more trusting relationship, it allows for greater partnerships, more education, and safer communities. The best defense against crime is awareness and education. The mission to strengthen the relationship was met and will continue to be the mission for 2015.



LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Hi Everyone!
I would like to take this time to thank all the organizations for the invites to attend the events and all people that stopped to visit the Sheriff's display. It was a very busy year but a very meaningful one and I enjoyed every minute of it. After all the years I have spent on road patrol, it is a very pleasant change to see people at their best instead of their worst. I am very much looking forward to a great 2015 year! HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

- Tracy

Draft Minutes of Town Board Special Meeting: Dec. 16,

The Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville held a Special Meeting on the 16th day of December, 2014 at 7 o'clock in the evening at the Rensselaerville Town Hall, 87 Barger Road, Medusa, NY. The meeting was convened by Supervisor Valerie Lounsbury and the roll was called with the following results:

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

Also present were Investigator Mance and Sergeant Halloran from the Albany County Sheriff's Department and 52 interested citizens.

The purpose of the Special Meeting was to continue the discussion on the Route 85 parking matter.

Supervisor Lounsbury commenced the discussions by making it clear to all involved that the Town *had not taken any action, no resolution was passed, nor were any laws passed* regarding the parking along Route 85 in the hamlet of Rensselaerville. She stated that she has made several phone calls and the bottom line is that the Town is very limited in what they can do. She has also spoken to Doug Rose and he stated that the double yellow lines *will* stay.

Supervisor Lounsbury opened the meeting for public comments. Eighteen concerned citizens signed up to be heard at the meeting and most were relieved to learn that the Town had not taken any action despite the rumors that were being generated. Many citizens that spoke up agree that common sense, consideration, and patience are key and at the very least, vehicles should be kept off the road during snow storms to allow plows to navigate safely and efficiently. It was also mentioned that restricting parking would affect property values.

Jost Nickelsberg suggested looking into extending the parking area behind the Huyck Preserve office building. Supervisor Lounsbury stated that because of its proximity to the stream and for insurance reasons, it cannot be opened up any more than it already is.

Diana Hinchcliff stated that she felt it was not a parking problem, but rather a speed and traffic -type problem. She suggested forming a committee to gather community input and to make recommendations.

Christopher Schiralli thanked the Huyck Preserve for allowing citizens to park their vehicles in their parking lot during snowstorms. He also stated that limiting parking is an intrusion of daily life, creates a hardship for family and friends and patrons of the business and civic organizations. He stated that he is not aware of any reports from first-responder organizations that the parking on Main Street has caused any diminished response times. Mr. Schiralli directed his final statements to Supervisor Lounsbury as follows: the overwhelming opposition to any action that would prohibit parking or change the current parking pattern, from citizens to civic organizations and local businesses, should be referendum enough not to consider any resolutions that would alter the current parking. He asked that due to the significant hardship that would be incurred, that the Town close these proceedings or at least offer a reasonable solution that would not prohibit on-street parking.

Barry Kuhar suggested back in the mid 1990's that the Town Board look into buying property in Rensselaerville for the purpose of parking for the village. Now, twenty years later, the problem remains. The village is congested because people are using it and alternative parking is needed.

Colin Abele is concerned about the ethics of the chain of events that have occurred regarding the parking issue. He suggests that the Town Board look into what led an action being taken by the police without any prior Town Board action. He recommends that any committee that may be formed, check into Councilman Bolte specifically because he understands that it was Councilman Bolte that

Councilman Bolte answered Mr. Abele by confirming that it was in fact himself that that filed the complaint, however, he did not make the complaint as a Board member. Councilman Bolte stated that when he ran for the office of Town Council he did not give up his private rights. The complaint was neither filed by the Town Board nor was it represented as being filed by the Town. He stated that the fact of the matter is that the Motor Vehicle Law states that if a vehicle is parked on the surface of the pavement, it is illegal; if you cross the double yellow line, it is illegal; and if you get hit while you are over that yellow line, you are the one that is liable, regardless of who is actually at fault.

Emileigh Tanner stated that on behalf of the Huyck Preserve, they have been very lenient in allowing people to park in their lot during a snow storm, but it is not a solution. Alternative parking is needed.

Bob Tanner stated that as chief of the Fire Department, on occasions, parking on the Grist Mill side has caused a problem. Once they have actually had to stop and ask that a vehicle be moved so that the fire department could get through; luckily it was not an emergency call. He also stated that for safety reasons, there must not be parking at the foot of Pond Hill nor at the end of Route 85 where larger emergency vehicles need the room to turn.

Sharon Costello submitted written comments, but will summarize as follows: most recognize there is limited parking, but they are courteous and work it out. The problem is with those that want to drive through the village at unreasonable speeds. Speed and large vehicles on a roadway that is not designed for them is a problem. Speed is also a concern when it comes to pedestrians.

Charles Burgess chairman of the RHDA is in agreement with most of all the above comments and recommends that any action that may be taken in the future take into account the historical essence of the Town of Rensselaerville. He also volunteered to help in any way.

Dawn, Executive Director of the Huyck Preserve, confirmed that there simply is not enough space to extend the parking area behind the Mill House. However, there is an unspoken rule that during storms people are permitted to use their parking lot. She stated that she would like it to remain 'unspoken', because if it becomes 'spoken' it would come down to not allowing anyone to park there. However, this is not a long term solution.

Investigator Mance began by thanking everyone for coming out for the meeting and for all the emails. She confirmed that a complaint was filed and because it was a legitimate concern, the Sheriff's Department was sent to investigate. She agrees that a blind-eye has been turned to the parking situation in her fourteen-year tenure with the Sheriff's Department. And, although, she has never written a ticket she has had to knock on some doors to have people move their vehicles because they were in violation. She stated that she was not present to provide a solution, but rather to explain and clarify the law. Simply because Rensselaerville is unique, it is still part of New York and the laws of the New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law are applicable. She noted that although some laws are black and white, some do fall into a gray area and are open to interpretation. She asked that people keep in mind that if the fire, police, or ambulance were coming to their house, and are unable to get through because cars are parked in the way, and it took even an extra two minutes for them arrive, two minutes is a lifetime.

Investigator Mance explained that Councilman Bolte was correct when he stated that regardless of who is actually at fault, if you are the one on the wrong side of the yellow lines when an accident occurs, you are considered the one at fault.

Supervisor Lounsbury thanked everyone for attending. She stated that there would be no immediate solutions, but asked that everyone to be courteous and use common sense in the meantime.

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 PM; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir. *Motion carried: Ayes (5) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, Wood, and Cooke; Nays (0)*

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED;
Victoria H. Kraker, Town Clerk

Contact Information for Elected Officials & Department Heads

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

*** Please note that this table **may** change as a result of the Organizational Meeting scheduled for Friday, January 2, 2015, at 7pm at Town Hall.



The Back Page

Contributors:

Kimberly Graff
Tracy Mance
William Moore
Sarah Nelson Weiss

Editors:

Nancy Class
Marie Dermody
Georgette Koenig

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.



Link to the Albany County Sheriff's Office December 2014 Newsletter:

<http://www.albanycounty.com/Government/Departments/CountySheriff/LawEnforcement/acso-communityrelations.aspx>

Our New Year wishes for you...

Love & warmth of family

Good cheer & joy to fill every corner of your home & heart

Prosperity through the year

Good health for you & yours

Happiness that multiplies every moment

Hope & energy to chase your dreams

Peace for your mind

Happy New Year!

Nancy, Marie, & Georgette

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