

R'VILLE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Volume 2, Issue 9

November, 2015

Legal Notice

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville has introduced a proposed local law entitled, "A Local Law Erecting Additional Traffic Control Devices at the Intersection of Sayre Road and Gerard Road". A copy of the proposed local law is on file and available for review in the office of the Town Clerk and at www.townofrensselaerville.com.

The Town Board will hold a Public Hearing on the proposed law on November 12, 2015 at 6:30 PM at the Town of Rensselaerville Town Hall, 87 Barger Road, Medusa, NY 12120, at which time and place all those wishing to comment on the proposed law will have the opportunity to be heard. Written comments will also be accepted at that time and place.

The text of the proposed local law is as follows:

BE IT ENACTED by the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville as follows:

Section 1: Legislative Intent and Authority: Pursuant to New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law §1660, a Town board may enact reasonable ordinances, orders, rules and regulations with respect to traffic as local conditions may require, including but not limiting to, the erection of stop signs. The Town Board has determined that additional traffic control devices at the intersection of Sayre Road and Gerard Road are necessary to ensure public health and safety.

Section 2: Erection of Two Stop Signs: The Town Highway Supervisor shall erect two additional stop signs at the intersection of Sayre Road and Gerard Road in the Town of Rensselaerville, thus transforming the intersection from a two-way stop to a four-way stop.

Dated: October 9, 2015

BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD
Victoria H. Kraker
Town Clerk



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Cell Phone Inquiry

U.S. Sen. Charles Schumer is asking the public to help identify cell phone dead zones around New York State in an effort to see whether the coverage maps promoted by wireless companies are bogus.

The Democrat announced Wednesday that cell phone carriers claim to provide good wireless coverage through many upstate areas when in fact the service is spotty or non-existent.

To help authorities find out whether the carriers are making deceptive claims about their service, Schumer says his office has created a website to collect information on the locations of dead zones around the state.

The website's address is schumer.senate.gov/wirelessdeadzone.

Schumer says the information provided by consumers will be given to the Federal Communications Commission.



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

Town Board Work Meeting, Draft Minutes, October 6, 2015

The Work Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville was held on the 6th day of October 2015 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 Highway Superintendent Randy Bates and two interested citizens.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS: None

MINUTES, VOUCHERS, AND BILLS: Minutes to be accepted at the Regular Meeting on October 8, 2015: September 8, 2015 – Work; September 10, 2015 – Regular

Vouchers and bills will be addressed at the Regular Meeting.

TRANSFERS: Transfers will be addressed at the Regular Meeting on October 8, 2015.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Trinity Episcopal Church will hold its 200th Anniversary Celebration on October 24, 2015. Activities start at noon at the Town Park. Everyone is invited.

SUPERVISOR

1. Supervisor Lounsbury wanted to address a matter that has come up regarding the Senior Car. The Town has been fortunate to obtain a new volunteer driver recently. However, the new volunteer has been a Good Samaritan for years, driving people to appointments, etc. with their own personal vehicle. Liability falls to the Town when a volunteer drives their own personal vehicle for an appointment that is scheduled through the Town or a representative of the Town. This will be addressed further at the Regular Meeting.
2. Supervisor Lounsbury will be sitting in on a tax webinar on October 7, 2015.

HIGHWAY

1. Superintendent Bates reported that he would like to discuss the issue of the 4-way stop at the intersection of Gerard and Barger Roads at the Regular Meeting.
2. Superintendent Bates inquired whether the Board felt it would be okay to place the 'Right to Farm' signs on the hamlet signs. The Board responded positively to this suggestion.
3. 'Truck #9', which is the small white dump truck, has very serious engine issues. The truck was purchased used in September 2010 for \$35,500. The first turbocharger had been replaced under warranty in January of 2012 at 60,500 miles and again in July of 2014, this time at 87,700 miles and a cost of \$8,500. It now again has the same problem.

Superintendent Bates received a rough estimate to repair the truck of \$5,000-\$10,000 from Bill's Trucking. A much more accurate quote would require disassembling. There is also a problem with the transmission as well as many on-going issues.

Superintendent Bates would estimate the cost of repairs at about the same as the purchase price of \$35,000 thus far. He believes at 99,000 miles, the truck is at the end of its useful life and does not feel that putting more money into it is the way to go. He would like to replace it.

\$50,000 is left in the General Repair line. Superintendent Bates asked if the Board would consider taking some of that money and put it towards a new small dump truck. A truck is needed for plowing small roads in the winter, for everyday maintenance and to move people around.

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Town Board Work Meeting, Draft Minutes, October 6, 2015

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Superintendent Bates believes the Town would be able to purchase a new truck for about \$38,000 to \$40,000. The plow and the sander from truck #9 can be used on the new truck. He hopes to end the year with about \$15,000 in the equipment repair line and there is \$3,000 in the misc. equipment line. He also proposes selling truck #9, truck #8 and truck #15, which would hopefully bring in near \$20,000.

Superintendent Bates will prepare a bid package for Thursday's Regular Meeting so that the bids can go out as soon as possible thereafter if approved by the Board. Bids would then be opened in November and the Town could possibly have a new truck by the end of November.

REPORTS: Regular monthly reports from the Supervisor, Attorney, Highway Department, Town Clerk, Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer, Assessors, Water/Sewer Committee, and Recycling Coordinator will be given at the Regular Meeting on October 8, 2015.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Attorney Tom Fallati will explain the next step for the proposed Zoning Law on Thursday.
2. Two resumes have been received for the position of Assessor's Clerk. Interviews for the position may be complete by the Regular Meeting on Thursday.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Budget Workshops will be confirmed at Thursday's Regular Meeting, but are tentatively scheduled for October 13th, 20th, and 22nd, 2015 at 7:00 PM.
2. Supervisor Lounsbury will need authorization to sign the Capital Region Solid Waste Management Partnership Agreement at the Regular Meeting.
3. Supervisor Lounsbury and Councilman Bolte were invited to Westerlo to discuss grants available for Seniors. The bottom line is that there really isn't any money available to be given out unless the Town works with CDTA. With using CDTA, appointments must be scheduled through an '800' number. CDTA selects what they will and will not pay for and there is a tremendous amount of paperwork. Supervisor Lounsbury stated that both the Towns of Westerlo and Knox agreed they don't have the staff to support the paperwork required by CDTA. It was also agreed upon that what is in place now is working nicely.

Another topic was the senior meals. The Town of Berne has senior meals, but our Seniors do not want to go that far. Councilman Bolte said that the Westerlo church has meals for seniors, but they do not want the County involved. As soon as they would get money from the County, they immediately have to have an inspection by the Health Department and they would be required to install stainless steel equipment and they simply do not have the money for that. They would like to continue the senior meals the way they are running it now.

4. Councilman Wood attended a meeting where the Air National Guard explained what they may be able to do to help the Town in case of a flood. The Town would need to go through the County and the County would in turn contact the Air National Guard. It would be quite an expense if the Town ever needed to use this service.

Discussion ensued regarding the EMS. Councilman Wood stated that if something isn't done soon, there will no longer be EMS in this Town. The same problem exists in the Towns of Westerlo, Berne, and Durham just to name a few. Councilman Wood asked that pressure be put on the Towns to work together to see if something can be done. Supervisor Lounsbury stated that the

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Town Board Work Meeting, Draft Minutes, October 6, 2015

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training to become an EMT is extensive and that is one of the reasons it is difficult to get people to join.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 PM; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

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

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED;

Victoria H. Kraker
Town Clerk

**Town Board Regular Meeting, Draft Minutes, October 8, 2015**

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville was held on the 8th day of October 2015 at 7 o'clock in the evening at the Rensselaerville Town Hall, 87 Barger Road, Medusa, NY. The meeting was convened by Supervisor Valerie Lounsbury and the roll was called with the following results:

PRESENT WERE: Attorney Thomas 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, Assessor Donna Kropp, Water/Sewer Treatment Officer Doug Story, Recycling Coordinator Jon Whitbeck, Investigator Tracy Mance from the Albany County Sheriff's Department, and four interested citizens.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS: None

MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2015 Work Meeting; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

Motion carried: Ayes (3) Lounsbury, Bolte, and Sedlmeir; Abstain (2) Wood and Cooke

A motion was made by Councilwoman Sedlmeir to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2015 Regular Meeting; 2nd by Councilwoman Cooke.

Motion carried: Ayes (4) Lounsbury, Bolte, Sedlmeir, and Cooke; Abstain (1) Wood

TRANSFERS

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

From 'Contingency' A1990E 44999 to 'Town Supervisor' A1220E 44046 in the amount of \$1,721.36 for training of the new Clerk 1;

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Town Board Meeting, Draft Minutes, October 8, 2015

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From 'FEMA Irene Fund' 4187 to 'Town Board' A1010E 44961 in the amount of \$3,690.00; to complete repairs on the Grist Mill Dam; and
From 'Contingency' A1990E 44999 to 'Records Management' A1660E 44999 in the amount of \$350.00 to cover annual fee.

The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

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

ABSTRACTS/VOUCHERS: General Fund - \$41,112.61; Highway Fund - \$93,366.56; Lighting District - \$678.99; Sewer Fund - \$130.26; Water Fund - \$2,010.00; T & A Fund - \$996.77; Total - \$138,295.19

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

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

CORRESPONDENCE: Supervisor Lounsbury received a letter from the Trinity Episcopal Church inviting the Board to attend their 200th Anniversary Celebration on October 24, 2015. Everyone is welcome to attend.

REPORTS

SUPERVISOR

1. Supervisor Lounsbury announced that the Tentative Budget has been presented to the Board and budget workshops have been scheduled for October 13th, 20th, and 22nd .
2. Supervisor Lounsbury wanted to follow through on a matter that has come up regarding the Senior Car and was discussed at the Work Meeting this past Tuesday. The Town has been fortunate to obtain a new volunteer driver recently. However, liability falls to the Town when a volunteer uses their own personal vehicle for an appointment that is scheduled through the Town or a representative of the Town. Supervisor Lounsbury asked the Board if they would entertain a motion stating that drivers must use the Town car for transporting seniors to any appointments which are scheduled through the Town.

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to enforce the use of the Town car when appointments are scheduled through the Town; 2nd by Councilwoman Cooke.

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

3. Supervisor Lounsbury sat in on the tax webinar that was held on October 7th and reported that although there is always some knowledge to be gained, not much had changed since last year except that the 2% tax cap actually boils down to a 0.73% cap.

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. With respect to the proposed Zoning Law, Attorney Fallati announced that the notices regarding the Town's intention to become lead agency for SEQRA purposes have been sent. This notice triggers a 30-day time frame in which other agencies may challenge the designation of the Town as lead agency. Once that period passes, the next step can be taken which is submission to the County.

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Town Board Meeting, Draft Minutes, October 8, 2015

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2. Attorney Fallati will address the proposed stop sign at the intersection of Gerard and Sayre Road and the proposed tax cap override later in the meeting.

A motion was made by Supervisor Lounsbury to accept the Attorneys 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 the C.H.I.P.'s funded projects have been completed for this year.
2. The Highway Department is finishing up on road maintenance for the year with small projects on Edwards Hill Road and Wood Road.
3. Next week the Highway will be preparing their equipment for winter.
4. Superintendent Bates has prepared the bid package and Legal Notice for the proposed purchase of the new 1-ton dump truck. He clarified some questions that Councilman Wood had regarding the specifications. Supervisor Lounsbury asked the Board for authorization to send the package out.

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to authorize Superintendent Bates to send out the bid packages; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

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

A motion was made by Supervisor Lounsbury to accept the Highway Superintendent's report; 2nd by Councilman Bolte.

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

TOWN CLERK: Town Clerk Kraker reported for the month of September as follows: Town Clerk Department – Total Collected \$4,298.01; Paid to the Supervisor - \$849.66 - the breakdown is as follows: Clerk Fees - \$338.65; Recycling - \$136.00; Dog Licenses - \$130.00; Building Permits - \$95.00; Zoning - \$150.01; Total - \$849.66

Fees paid to NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets for the 'Animal Population Control Program' aka 'dog surcharge': \$22.00; Electronic sweep from the Town Clerk's checking account for the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation - Sporting Licenses: \$3,403.85; and Fees paid to NYS Department of Health for Marriage Licenses: \$22.50. Water Rents for the month totaled \$850.22 which includes \$16.66 in penalties, and Sewer Rents totaled \$1,485.45 which includes \$19.55 in penalties.

Town Clerk Kraker also reported that the Canon copier had been returned and that the reminder notices for outstanding water and sewer payments had been mailed.

A request was made by Clerk Kraker to increase the 'petty cash' fund from \$20.00 to \$50.00 and the 'change envelope' from \$50.00 to \$100.00 explaining that a \$20.00 petty cash limit simply was not enough in this day and age and that especially during tax season and hunting license sales season, \$50.00 was not enough to make change if given large bills.

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to increase the 'petty cash' fund to \$50.00 and the change envelope to \$100.00; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

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

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Town Board Meeting, Draft Minutes, October 8, 2015

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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's written report for the month of September was read by Supervisor Lounsbury as follows: two pool permits, one solar panel permit, and one agricultural use permit.

Also in Officer Overbaugh's written report was an update on the barns on County Route 354 in Potter Hollow. The demolition crew had contacted him regarding any permits that may have been necessary before they started work.

Officer Overbaugh will be attending the Catskill Creek Summit on October 15, 2015 and will also be taking a class in Fishkill, which should complete his training requirements for the year.

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

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

ASSESSORS

1. Assessor Kropp was pleased to announce that the Assessor's had selected a new clerk. (Details will be addressed later in the meeting.)
2. The Assessors are ready to begin their new tax roll year.
3. Assessor Kropp also reminded all that anyone who would be turning 65 years of age by December 31, 2015 would qualify for the Enhanced Star Program.

A motion was made by Supervisor Lounsbury 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. Officer Story reported that there had been trouble with their totalizer, an instrument that measures the amount of water that flows through a pipe.
2. For the last 2 ½ to 3 weeks of the month, there was a noticeable improvement in consumption. Daily use was down to 10,382 gal/day; normally it had been near 19,000. Officer Story felt it was due, at least in part, to the scare when residents were asked to restrict exterior water usage. Officer Story is aware that when there is excessive usage, the tank will drop 20" overnight. He would like to send a letter to the District to thank everyone for their cooperation and point out that if anyone insists on turning on their outside water without checking for leaks, the District may have to go to a metered system so that everyone pays their fair share.
3. Officer Story reported that 174,000 gallons of sewage was pumped (an average of 5,700 gal/day) which is well below what was put into the system.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to accept the Water/Sewer Treatment Officer's report; 2nd by Supervisor Lounsbury.

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

REFUSE/RECYCLING

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Town Board Meeting, Draft Minutes, October 8, 2015

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1. Recycling Coordinator Whitbeck reported the following for the month of September: E-Waste: 1.58 tons; Rensselaer Iron & Steel: 9.71 tons; Tires: 55; City of Albany Landfill: 79.19 tons; Sierra Fibers: Comingled 4.83 tons; O.C.C. 6.89 tons; Oil: 30 gallons

A motion was made by Supervisor Lounsbury 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: Councilwoman Sedlmeir announced that there will be a Chili Cook-Off on Saturday from Noon to 3 PM at Conkling Hall to help assist with the maintenance of Conkling Hall. Tickets are \$12.00 and allow the tasting of 4 different kinds of chili.

OLD BUSINESS

Supervisor Lounsbury stated that Debra Baxter has been chosen as the new Assessor's Clerk. She will be making \$15.00/hour and working a maximum of 15 hours/week.

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to hire Debra Baxter at \$15.00/hour for a maximum of 15 hours/week; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

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

Supervisor Lounsbury needs approval to place Claire Marshall back on the payroll to train the new clerk.

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to place Claire Marshall back on the payroll to train the new Assessor's Clerk; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

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

NEW BUSINESS

1. A motion was needed to schedule and advertise the Budget Workshop meetings.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Sedlmeir to schedule Budget Workshop meetings for October 13, 20, and 22, 2015 at 7:000 PM and to authorize the advertising of such meetings; 2nd by Councilman Bolte.

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

2. A motion was needed to authorize Supervisor Lounsbury to sign and return the Capital Region Solid Waste Management Partnership Agreement.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to authorize the Supervisor to sign and return the Capital Region Solid Waste Management Partnership Agreement; 2nd by Councilman Bolte.

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

3. Attorney Fallati prepared a Resolution for the four-way stop at the intersection of Gerard and Sayre Road.

Attorney Fallati read the Resolution as follows:

RESOLUTION OF THE
TOWN OF RENSSELAERVILLE
TOWN BOARD

WHEREAS, pursuant to New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law §1660(a)(1), a Town Board has the authority to enact local laws that order the erection of stop signs on town highways; and

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Town Board Meeting, Draft Minutes, October 8, 2015

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WHEREAS, the four way intersection of Sayre Road and Gerard Road (the "Intersection") is currently controlled by two stop signs; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board had determined that the erection of additional stop signs at the Intersection is necessary for public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, THE Town Board wishes to erect additional stop signs at the Intersection; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA") §617.5(c)(16), the installation of traffic control devices on existing roads is a Type II action under SEQRA and is thus exempt from further review under SEQRA;

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 November 12, 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 November 7, 2015 in a newspaper circulating in the Town.

By motion made by Valerie Lounsbury and seconded by Marion Cooke, the foregoing resolution was adopted by a majority of the members of the Town of Rensselaerville Town Board on the 8th day of October 2015 as follows:

Supervisor Lounsbury	Yes
Councilwoman Cooke	Yes
Councilman Bolte	Yes
Councilwoman Sedlmeir	Yes
Councilman Wood	Yes

END RESOLUTION

Proposed Local Law No. 4 of the Town of Rensselaerville
A Local Law Erecting Additional Traffic Control Devices at the Intersection of Sayre Road and Gerard Road

BE IT ENACTED by the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville as follows:

Section 1. Legislative Intent and Authority

Pursuant to New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law §1660, a Town Board may enact reasonable ordinances, orders, rules and regulations with respect to traffic as local condition may require, including but not limited to, the erection of stop signs. The Town Board has determined that additional traffic control devices at the intersection of Sayre Road and Gerard Road are necessary to ensure public health and safety.

Section 2. Erection of Two Stop Signs

The town Highway Supervisor shall erect two additional stop signs at the intersection of Sayre Road and Gerard Road in the Town of Rensselaerville, thus transforming the intersection from a two-way stop to a four-way stop.

Section 3. This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State and erection of the additional traffic devices.

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Town Board Meeting, Draft Minutes, October 8, 2015

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4. Attorney Fallati went on to read the Resolution regarding the tax cap override as follows:

RESOLUTION OF THE
TOWN OF RENSSELAERVILLE
TOWN BOARD

WHEREAS, Chapter 97 of the Laws of 2011 of New York State established a ‘tax cap’ that generally limits the increase in the Town’s assessment for Fiscal Year 2016; and

WHEREAS, the tax cap statute permits a local government to override the limit for the upcoming fiscal year through adoption of a local law; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has determined that it may be necessary to adopt a budget for Fiscal Year 2016 that incorporates a tax increase in excess of the tax cap;

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 October 22, 2015 at 6:45 PM on the attached proposed local Law, and notice of the time and place of such hearing shall be published on or before October 17, 2015 in a newspaper circulating in the Town.

By motion made by Valerie Lounsbury, and seconded by Robert Bolte, 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 October, 2015 as follows:

Supervisor Lounsbury	Yes
Councilwoman Cooke	Yes
Councilman Bolte	Yes
Councilwoman Sedlmeir	Yes
Councilman Wood	Yes

END RESOLUTION

Proposed Local Law No. 3 of the Town of Rensselaerville
A Local Law Overriding the Real Property Tax Levy Limit for Fiscal Year 2016

BE IT ENACTED by the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville as follows:

Section 1. Legislative Authority

Chapter 97 of the Laws of 2011 of New York State, incorporated in §3-c of the General Municipal Law, established a ‘tax cap’ that generally limits the amount of a municipality’s real property tax levy for the upcoming fiscal year according to a formula set out in the statute, but the statute also authorizes local governments, pursuant to General Municipal Law §3-c(5), to override the tax levy limit for the upcoming fiscal year.

Section 2. Override of Tax Levy Limit for Fiscal Year 2016

The real property tax levy limit set out in §3-c of the General Municipal Law is overridden, pursuant to New York General Municipal Law §3-c(5), for Fiscal Year 2016, and the Town may adopt a budget for Fiscal Year 2016 that incorporates a real property tax increase in excess of the otherwise applicable tax levy limit.

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Town Board Meeting, Draft Minutes, October 8, 2015

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Section 3. This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Investigator Mance announced that she has been appointed as Albany County's Stop DWI Administrator, but will also continue her duties as Community Liaison. In addition, the Sheriff's Office will be taking over an already established outreach program in the very near future. Investigator Mance reminded all that she is still available for any questions anyone may have and also mentioned that inmate services are still available.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 PM; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir.

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

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED;

Victoria H. Kraker
Town Clerk



Did you know

... at the August 13, 2015, regular meeting of the Town Board, "A motion was made by Councilman Wood to authorize the advertising of a Clerk to the Assessors for \$12.00 per hour for 15 hours per week with resumes to be in by September 2, 2015; 2nd by Councilwoman Cooke." This motion was unanimously approved.

However, at the October 8, 2015, regular meeting of the Town Board, "Supervisor Lounsbury stated that Debra Baxter has been chosen as the new Assessor's Clerk. She will be making \$15.00/hour and working a maximum of 15 hours/week.

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to hire Debra Baxter at \$15.00/hour for a maximum of 15 hours/week; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir. " This motion was also unanimously approved.

The question remains, Why are we filling a position at a rate of pay higher than what was advertised, with absolutely no explanation to the tax-paying public? Isn't it conceivable that others may have applied if they knew the salary was negotiable?

Along these same lines, at the October 8 Town Board meeting, "A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to place Claire Marshall back on the payroll to train the new Assessor's Clerk; 2nd by Councilwoman Sedlmeir. " And, once again, the motion was unanimously approved.

Why is there no mention of the hourly rate of pay for this trainer? Why is there no mention of the number of hours per week or the maximum money to be spent for this purpose? Why is it not possible for any or all of our assessors to do the training? Shouldn't they have the requisite skills to train their clerk?

Scammers rob elderly victims of an estimated \$3 Billion per year.

A scam that has been around since at least 2008 is still active and targeting elderly folks. Seventy-four year old Avast evangelist, Bob Gostischa, who knows a thing or two about scams, security, and privacy, received a call just yesterday from a scam artist attempting to steal money. "If it happened to me, I'm sure it's going to also happen to others," said Gostischa.

Scammers target elderly people "because they're more gullible." Here's the basic premise:

Someone either calls or emails pretending to be your grandchild. The typical story is that they have been wrongfully arrested and need bail money wired right away. Another variation says they are traveling and have been mugged or even in an accident and badly injured. After going through this frantic sob story, and if they sense that their victim is falling for it, the scammer asks for money to be wired through services such as Western Union and MoneyGram.

After the phone call ended, Bob sent us a transcript so we could share it with Avast Blog readers. "I consider myself lucky because the first instinct was wow, how can I help her...?," he said. "I guess we all really need to be very vigilant at all times."

Caller: Hello Grandpa, this is your granddaughter. I have laryngitis so I don't sound like myself

Bob: You certainly don't. Which granddaughter?

Caller: What do you mean?

Bob: Well, I have several. Caller: Your oldest.

Bob: Oh, OK (Suspicious because she should have said her name.) Is everything OK?

Caller: No.

Bob: What's the matter?

Caller: I was visiting a friend in Niagara Falls and on my way home, I was involved in a car accident.

Bob: Are you OK?

Caller: Yes, everyone is fine.

Bob: And the car?

Caller: The car is fine. This woman came out of nowhere, and I hit her but she's OK.

Bob: Thank God.

Caller: Yes, but when the cops came, they asked if I was drinking. I told them no but, because I'm taking medicine for my laryngitis, I failed the breathalyzer and spent the night in Jail.

Bob: Did they assign you an attorney?

Caller: Yes, but I need bail money. Can you send me \$500.00 via Western Union?

Bob: That's going to really be hard. We just had some medical bills so things are pretty tight.

Caller: Please Grandpa, can't you put it on your credit card?

Bob: Sorry, they are all maxed out.

Caller: Please Grandpa, I don't want to stay in jail.

Bob: Sorry sweetie, but I really can't and don't have any money I can send.

Caller: click.... she hung up.

"In my case, my oldest granddaughter doesn't drive and she also wouldn't be in Niagara Falls," said Gostischa. "It's very easy to fall for a scam like this because all of us want to help family – especially our grandchildren." Last year, CBS News interviewed a former scammer who worked this game. He said that on a good day he could make \$10,000 from the grandparent scam. "We target people over the age of 65, mainly, because they're more gullible," the former scammer said. "They're at home. They're more accessible. Once you get them emotionally involved, then they'll do anything for you, basically."

How to protect yourself from the Grandparent Scam

The FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) has these suggestions:

- Resist the pressure to act quickly.
- Try to contact your grandchild or another family member to determine whether or not the call is legitimate.
- Never wire money based on a request made over the phone or in an e-mail...especially overseas.

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Scammers rob elderly victims of an estimated \$3 Billion per year.

(Continued from page 13)

Wiring money is like giving cash—once you send it, you can't get it back.

What to do if you have been a victim

- Contact your local authorities or state consumer protection agency if you think you've been victimized.
- File a complaint with IC3, which may refer the case to federal, state, local or international law enforcement or regulatory agencies for possible investigation, or The Federal Trade Commission. You can also call the FTC at 1-877-382-4357 to report a complaint.



RVFD News

Upcoming Events:

- **November 1st-30th** – Annual Toy Drive sponsored by the RVFD Battalion – Donation bins will be located at Hilltown Café, Recycling Center and Rensselaerville Library. Donate a new, unwrapped toy and help bring a smile to a child's face this holiday season!
- **Sunday, November 1st** – Daylight Saving Time begins. Change your clock, change your battery. **Working Smoke Alarms and CO Detectors Save Lives!**
- **Saturday, December 5th** – Children's Holiday Party at the Rensselaerville Fire House. Party begins at 3:30 with crafts, snacks and music. Santa and Mrs. Claus arrive at 5:00 pm followed by a hayride with Santa to light the village tree!

It's coming...Get ahead of the winter freeze!

- Have your furnace inspected and serviced.
- Have your chimney and vents cleaned and inspected. **(Not cleaning your chimney is the leading cause of chimney fires due to built up creosote.)**
- Only use dry, seasoned wood in your fireplace or woodstove.
- Use a covered metal container when disposing of cooled ashes. The contained should be kept at least 10 feet from the home and nearby buildings.
- Never plug a portable heater into an outlet and make sure it has an **automatic shut-off**. Keep portable heaters at least 3 feet from other objects.
- Every family should have a fire safety plan to ensure everyone is prepared should an emergency occur, and it's never too late to create your plan!
- **Are your house numbers easily visible? Do your children know how to dial 9-1-1?**

POST OFFICE INFORMATION

<http://www.usps.com>



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

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

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

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



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

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

Sat 9:00am - 12:00pm



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



Library News



Library Staff

Director - Kimberly Graff
director@rensselaervillelibrary.org

Assistant - Katie Caprio
library@rensselaervillelibrary.org

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Emileigh Tanner
Leah Waldron

Library Board of Trustees

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Deb Kropp

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

Upcoming Library Events

Poetry Tuesday evenings at 7pm on November 10 and 24. Come share your work, receive feedback and spend time working on your own project. The Poetry group meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month downstairs in the Library. For questions please contact Tom Corrado at tjc123@midtel.net

Thursday, November 12th join the writing group at 7pm to share your work and receive feedback or just spend a few hours working on your own project. The group meets monthly on the second Thursday of the month downstairs in the Library.

Sunday, November 15th at 3pm the showing of the movie Honor Flight and discussion of the program and how to participate or volunteer will take place at Conkling Hall. Honor Flight is a documentary film about WWII veterans visiting the Washington DC memorial. These 24 hour trips are called Honor Flights and for the veterans it's often the first time they have been thanked.

The Library Board of Trustees Meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 16 at 7pm. All Board meetings are held at the Library and are open to the public.

The Library is starting a Coloring Book Club for adults on Thursday, November 19, at 7:00 pm. Coloring is a great way to relax and give our creativity a boost. Coloring books designed especially for adults have more intricate designs and patterns. Coloring pages, colored pencils, markers and crayons will be available or bring your own.

Saturday, November 21, 9-1pm International Game Day. Come to the Library and try out a new or old game. Fun for all ages. We just received the Steve Jackson Games Munchkin Treasure Hunt and Trophy Buck Dice Game.

The Library will be closed on Thursday, November 26th for the Thanksgiving holiday. We will open with regular hours on Friday and Saturday.

The Library has a Museum Pass to the Clark. The pass is good for one adult admission to the Clark. Check it out with your Library card.

Save the Date for the Annual Greenery Sale at the Library. Saturday, December 5, 9-2pm. Wreaths, trees, and local vendors. Please contact the Library if you are interested in being a vendor. Vendors may also go to this link and fill out the form <http://goo.gl/forms/U5ORh4e1vH>

The Library is looking for a cleaning person to work 2 hours a week during Library hours at a rate of \$12 per hour. Please send a letter of interest and references to the Library.

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Library News

(Continued from page 16)

The Library is a drop site for the Toy Drive that benefits local Hilltown families in need this holiday season. Drop toys between Nov 1 & 30th.

Cleaning Position Available

The Library is seeking a person to perform general cleaning duties on a weekly basis in the Library during Library hours. This part-time position entails light lifting and being able to negotiate stairs within our historic building. Cleaning supplies/equipment will be provided by the Library.

The Library has three floors, two bathrooms, carpeting and hardwood floors and plenty of books to dust.

This part-time position is two hours per week at a rate of \$12/hour.

Interested applicants please submit your letter of interest and references to the Library. Please contact Kim if you would like to take a tour of the building prior to submitting a letter.

Letters can be sent to: Kim Graff
Rensselaerville Library
PO Box 188
Rensselaerville, NY 12147
or
dropped off at the Library

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

Did you know

... that at the October 8, 2015, regular monthly meeting, the Town Board authorized the purchase of another truck for the highway department . "Superintendent Bates has prepared the bid package and Legal Notice for the proposed purchase of the new 1-ton dump truck. " The motion, made by Councilman Bolte and seconded by Councilwoman Sedlmeir, was approved unanimously.

It's interesting, once again, to note that the discussion and/or motion does not specify, for the public's edification, the cost of the truck nor the funding. At the work meeting on October 6, "Superintendent Bates believes the Town would be able to purchase a new truck for about \$38,000 to \$40,000. The plow and the sander from truck #9 can be used on the new truck. He hopes to end the year with about \$15,000 in the equipment repair line and there is \$3,000 in the misc. equipment line. He also proposes selling truck #9, truck #8 and truck #15, which would hopefully bring in near \$20,000." At least some of this information should have been included in the motion.

What we also find interesting is that the Town was able to find upwards of \$40,000 to purchase yet another truck even though we had to float a \$50,000 bond to purchase a new Western Star truck. Are we now going to start running our Town on borrowed funds?

Library News

Middleburgh Library

Nov 4, 18, 25	Chair Yoga (CR)	9:00 am
Nov 4, 18, 25	Discovery Wednesday	11:00am
Nov 4, 18, 25	Wednesday Matinee	1:00pm
Nov 4, 18	Kundalini Yoga	5:00 pm
Nov 5	Portraiture & Life Drawing	7:00 pm
Nov 5, 12	Beginning Tai Chi	10:00-11:00
Nov 5, 12	Advanced Tai Chi	11:00-12:00
Nov 5, 12, 19	Knitting Circle	7:00 pm
Nov 10, 17, 24	Drop-In Story Time	10:45am
Nov 10, 17, 24	Mahjong Mania	1:00 pm
Nov 10, 17, 24	Insight Meditation	5:15pm
Nov 10	Not-So-Quiet Concert	7:00pm
Nov 13	Color me Calm~Creative Coloring for Adults	6:30-8:00
Nov 16	Make It! Beaded Jewelry	6:30
Nov 17	Book Discussion: <i>The Lincoln Lawyer</i>	7:00pm

For information about any of the events listed above, please click on the link below. It will take you to the Middleburgh Library events calendar where you will find descriptions of these events.
<http://engagedpatrons.org/EventsCalendar.cfm?SiteID=8616&thisMonth=10&thisYear=2015>

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

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



November 3, 2015

Library News

Greenville Library

Nov 4, 11, 18, 25

Meet in small community room

Greenville Quilters

1:00-3:00pm

All welcome.

No experience necessary, will teach.

Nov 12

Greene County Camera Club

6:45pm

(Basement level)

Competition night that includes beginners and advanced members.

Please join us and see how it works.

Contact Information:

Greenville Public Library
11177 Route 32
PO Box 8 Greenville, NY 12083

Phone: 518-966-8205

Email: greenvillelibrary@outlook.com

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

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

Friday: 12:00pm - 5:00pm

Saturday: 9:00am - 1:00pm

Sunday: Closed



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 Co-leskill or Catskill. Call Ruth & Tom Snyder (239-4376) the day before about riding the bus if you are interested.

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

Please note that we are in desperate need of drivers for the bus and the car. Please call Town Hall at 239-4225 if you're interested in volunteering as a driver for our senior citizens..

Additional Important Phone Numbers:

• Department of Aging 447-7179

• HEAP: 447-2551

On The Calendar

Nov 1	11:00 am	Sunday Services All Are Welcome!	Trinity Episcopal Church
Nov 1	11:30-2pm	Turkey Dinner	Medusa Fire House
Nov 3	6am - 9pm	Election Day	
Nov 5	7:00 pm	Public Hearing: 2016 Budget	Town Hall
Nov 8	11:00 am	Sunday Services All Are Welcome!	Trinity Episcopal Church
Nov 10	12 noon	Seniors Meeting & Luncheon	Medusa Fire House.
Nov 10	7:00 pm	Town Board work meeting	Town Hall
Nov 11		Veteran's Day	
Nov 12	6:30 pm	Public Hearing regarding the stop sign at the intersection of Gerard and Sayre Roads.	Town Hall
Nov 12	7:00 pm	Town Board regular meeting	Town Hall
Nov 15	11:00 am	Sunday Services All Are Welcome!	Trinity Episcopal Church
Nov 19		Senior's Club trip to The Beeches Dinner Theatre – Lunch and Show- "Christmas: The Hap-hap-happiest Season". More information in the future. See Janet Nelson to sign up.	
Nov 21	7- 11 am	Breakfast - Free Will Offering	Medusa Fire House
Nov 22	11:00 am	Sunday Services All Are Welcome!	Trinity Episcopal Church
Nov 26		HAPPY THANKSGIVING!	
Nov 29	11:00 am	Sunday Services All Are Welcome!	Trinity Episcopal Church
Nov 29	6:00 pm	Medusa Community Tree Lighting Party	Medusa Church
Dec 5	9am - 3pm	1st Christmas Rummage Sale	Medusa Church
Dec 19	8am - noon	2nd Christmas Rummage Sale	Medusa Church

*Please note that copies of the Town Newsletter are in box in front of Medusa Fire House.

*Please get events to Bill Moore by phone – 239-4843; e-mail – whmoore44@yahoo.com or mail to – 11 CR 351, Medusa, NY 12120



Contact Information for Elected Officials & Department Heads

Position	Name	Email Address
Town Supervisor	Valerie Lounsbury	vlounsbury@rensselaerville.com townsupervisor@rensselaerville.com
Town Councilwoman	Marion Cooke	mcooke@rensselaerville.com
Town Councilman	Robert Bolte	rbolte@rensselaerville.com
Town Councilwoman	Margaret Sedlmeir	msedlmeir@rensselaerville.com
Town Councilman	Gerald Wood	gwood@rensselaerville.com
Town Justices	Gregory Bischoff Ronald Bates	
Supervisor's Clerk	Linda McCormack	clerk1@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	
Zoning Board of Appeals	John Mormile	
Board of Ethics		ethicsboard@rensselaerville.com
Dog Control Officer	Cheryl Baitsholts	Phone: 797-5201
Town Hall		Phone: 239-4225; 797-3798 Fax: 239-6339



VOTE!

Your right, your responsibility!

NOV 3, 2015

The Democratic Team Platform

- Open & transparent government
- True representation of the electorate; no hidden, personal agendas
- Accountability, fairness, honesty



Gerald "Chris" Heath

I seek the position of Town Council- man because I want to give back to the community. I have great concern about where our Town is headed. We need to actively pursue other revenue streams such as grants. We can't spend money we don't have. I have absolutely no personal or hidden agenda., & I'm not a ca- reer politician. I simply want to do what is best for the people I represent.

- ⇒ State Certified Assessor from 1998 to 2012
- ⇒ Chairman, Board of Assessors from 2010 to 2012
- ⇒ Building inspector, Planning Board member, & Zoning Board of Appeals member

I am presently the Code Enforcement Officer for the Town of New Scotland, a position I've held for 17 years. My experience in this position makes me uniquely qualified to assess properties in a fair, uniform way.

My promises to the voters:

- ⇒ To prepare fair & unbiased assessments
- ⇒ To ensure open and transparent assessment information that is readily available to the public
- ⇒ To review all properties damaged by flooding 4 years ago to reflect true effects storm damage had on property values



Jeffry Pine



Dwight "Taylor" Cooke

I have 25 years of experience with the Albany County Sheriff's Office. Prior to retirement, I held the rank of lieutenant, and for many years dealt with inmate legal issues as well as disciplinary and hearing procedures that pertained to their being incarcerated.

I firmly believe that my hometown ties as well as my experience in law enforcement over the past 25 years will enable me to serve the Town of Rensselaerville as its next Town Justice.

I am thankful for...



Happy Thanksgiving

The Back Page

Contributors:

Kimberly Graff
William Moore
Kristina Tanner
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.



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.



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