

**MINUTES  
OF  
THE TOWN OF RENSSELAERVILLE  
SPECIAL MEETING  
JANUARY 21, 2015**

The Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville held a Special Meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of January 2015 at 10:30 AM at the Rensselaerville Town Hall, 87 Barger Road, Medusa, NY. The meeting was requested by Frank Commisso from the Albany County Comptroller's Office to introduce himself and Thomas Cetrino, Research Consultant with SUNY New Paltz.

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

Also present were Frank Commisso and Ashley Brennan from the Albany County Comptroller's Office and Thomas Cetrino, Research Consultant from SUNY New Paltz.

The purpose of this meeting was to explain the study being done by Albany County in cooperation with SUNY New Paltz to identify pathways to furthering intergovernmental collaboration within the County in an effort to reduce costs and to set areas of priority for the study.

Albany County is made up of 20 governmental agencies and a majority of them are interested in participating in the County's program. SUNY New Paltz will be creating the database that will contain all the local government employees and their information.

Under the law Government agencies that do not wish to participate in the County's GEP program, may create their own program. An incentive under the County-wide plan is that a 1% savings must be shown collectively; i.e. each municipality does not need to show a 1% savings independently.

Regardless, the 1% savings is sometimes difficult to document. For example, volunteers that perform repairs and miscellaneous tasks that would otherwise be contracted out save the Town tremendous amounts of money, but

cannot be documented. Volunteers that drive the Senior/Youth Bus and Car are another example.

The Town of Rensselaerville has been initiating savings for quite some time. Some examples are as follows:

1. The Highway Department has worked with neighboring towns and vice-versa and has also shared equipment;
2. The Town does not have a lot of full-time employees except for the Highway Department, the Recycling Coordinator, and the Town Clerk;
3. The Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector will be performing his own clerical duties, accepting half of the clerk's salary. This also eliminates a part-time position.
4. Health insurance is not available to part-time employees;
5. Sharing the Senior/Youth Bus and Town car with the Town of Westerlo;
6. Sharing training expenses with the Towns of Westerlo and Greenville;
7. Hiring of temporary employees in the Highway Department for the summer;
8. Changes have been made in retiree's benefits; and
9. Switching to a high-deductible health insurance plan.

Transcribed from audio tape and  
**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED;**

Victoria H. Kraker  
Town Clerk

(Note: corrections made, see Regular Meeting March 12, 2015)