

TOWN OF RENSSELAERVILLE

Hamlets of Cooksburg, Medusa, Potter Hollow, Preston Hollow and Rensselaerville

NEWSLETTER

Volume 19, Number 2

February 2008

DRAFT

MINUTES
OF
TOWN OF RENSSELAERVILLE
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
JANUARY 1, 2008

Before the meeting began Justice Victoria Kraker swore in Justice Victor La Plante. Justice La Plante swore in Marie Dermody, Councilwoman; Gary Chase, Councilman and Jeffrey Pine, Assessor.

A motion was made by Supervisor Nickelsberg to open the Organizational Meeting, 2nd by Councilman Chase. Motion Carried.

The Organizational Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville was held on the 1st day of January, 2008, at 11:07 o'clock in the morning at the Rensselaerville Town Hall, 87 Barger Road, Medusa, NY. The meeting was convened by Supervisor Nickelsberg and the roll was called with the following results:

PRESENT WERE: Supervisor Jost Nickelsberg
Councilman Gary Chase
Councilwoman Marie Dermody
Councilman J. Robert Lansing
Councilwoman Sherri Pine

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There were 35 interested citizens present.

The term of office for the following appointments is January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008, unless otherwise stated.

ATTORNEY TO THE TOWN – Councilman Chase moved that **Joseph Catalano** be appointed Attorney to the Town, 2nd by Councilwoman Pine.

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Supervisor Nickelsberg	NA
Councilman Chase	AYE
Councilwoman Dermody	AYE
Councilman Lansing	NA
Councilwoman Pine	AYE

DEPUTY ATTORNEY TO THE TOWN/PROSECUTOR FOR THE COURT –

Councilman Chase moved that **Jon Kosich** be appointed Deputy Attorney to the Town/Prosecutor for the Court, 2nd by Councilwoman Pine.

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Supervisor Nickelsberg	NA
Councilman Chase	AYE
Councilwoman Dermody	AYE
Councilman Lansing	NA
Councilwoman Pine	AYE

TOWN VETERINARIAN - Supervisor Nickelsberg moved that **Dr. Diane Biederman** be appointed Town Veterinarian, 2nd by Councilwoman Dermody. Unanimously carried.

CIVIL DEFENSE COORDINATOR – Councilwoman Dermody moved that **Brian Wood** and **David Chase** be appointed Civil Defense Coordinators, 2nd by Councilwoman Pine. Unanimously carried.

CIVIL DEFENSE OFFICER - Councilman Chase moved that **Gerald Wood** be appointed Civil Defense Officer, 2nd by Councilwoman Dermody. Unanimously carried.

Councilwoman Dermody moved that the Highway Superintendent be permitted to sit with the Town Council at all public meetings and represent the Highway Department, 2nd by Councilwoman Pine.

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Supervisor Nickelsberg	NA
Councilman Chase	AYE
Councilwoman Dermody	AYE
Councilman Lansing	
Councilwoman Pine	AYE

DEPUTY TOWN HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT – Councilman Dermody moved that **David Potter** be appointed Deputy Town Highway Superintendent/Time Keeper, 2nd by Councilwoman Chase. Unanimously carried.

Councilwoman Dermody moved to adopt the following resolution: Resolved that the position of Clerk to Highway Superintendent is hereby created and established; 2nd by Councilwoman Pine.

Supervisor Nickelsberg did not think this was the time to do this.

Councilwoman Dermody mentioned that we are organizing our structure and this is where it should be.

Supervisor Nickelsberg, we are absent legal advice, I'm not sure that this is the right time, everybody here knows that we have a bunch of issues coming at us. One is that we are going to be paying significantly more into our retirement fund, that is money going out that we hadn't anticipated, we are going to have half the money on the revenue side that we had ordinarily gotten from the sales tax because the economy is growing at 1% verses the 4% that we had been growing at. The bottom line is our taxes are going up this next year and I think that everyplace that we can save money be it waste oil furnace. What we buy is really critical unless we want to put that load on the folks in town that are living on fixed income. Every one of those possibilities, wherever we add the cost is going to increase our taxes.

Councilwoman Dermody mentioned that she is not requesting to add any money to the budget that is adopted, she is asking that the position be created and we find money that is already in the budget, just reassigning of the money.

Supervisor Nickelsberg, we take it from the highway fund or other funds that we have the fact is that it is gone, every time we take it from a fund means that we have lost that chance to use that money for something that is critical. Every time we spend money that is not in the budget, it means in the next budget more taxes.

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Supervisor Nickelsberg	NA
Councilman Chase	AYE
Councilwoman Dermody	AYE
Councilman Lansing	NA
Councilwoman Pine	AYE

CLERK TO HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT – Councilwoman Dermody moved to appoint **Joyce Chase** to the position of Clerk to Highway Superintendent, 2nd by Councilwoman Pine.

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Supervisor Nickelsberg	NA
Councilman Chase	AYE
Councilwoman Dermody	AYE
Councilman Lansing	NA
Councilwoman Pine	AYE

WATER TREATMENT OFFICER – Councilwoman Dermody moved that **Tina Shaver** be appointed Water Treatment Officer, 2nd by Councilman Chase. Unanimously carried.

DEPUTY WATER TREATMENT OFFICER – Councilwoman Dermody moved that **Delwin Shaver** and **Garrett Platel** be appointed Deputy Water Treatment Officers, 2nd by Councilman Chase. Unanimously Carried.

SEWAGE TREATMENT OFFICER – Councilwoman Dermody moved that **Tina Shaver** be appointed Sewage Treatment Officer, 2nd by Councilwoman Pine. Unanimously carried.

DEPUTY SEWAGE TREATMENT OFFICER – Councilwoman Dermody moved that **Delwin Shaver** and **Garrett Platel** be appointed Deputy Sewage Treatment Officer, 2nd by Councilwoman Pine. Unanimously carried.

RENSSELAERVILLE WATER/SEWER COMMITTEE MEMBER – Supervisor Nickelsberg moved that **Tim Miller** be appointed to the Rensselaerville Water/Sewer Committee term 1/01/08 – 12/31/2013, 2nd by Councilman Chase. Unanimously Carried.

RENSSELAERVILLE WATER/SEWER COMMITTEE – TERMS

Tim Miller-	01/01/2008 – 12/31/20013
Jack Long–	01/01-2004 – 12/31/2008
William McChesney	01/01/2005 – 12/31/2009
Douglas Story	01/01/2006 – 12/31/2010
Dale Dormer –	04/13/2006 – 12/31/2011
Richard Platel -	01/01/2007 - 12/31/2012

CONSTABLE – Councilwoman Pine moved that **Richard Simons** be appointed Constable, 2nd by Councilwoman Dermody. Unanimously carried.

CLERK 1 TO SUPERVISOR (Bookkeeper) – Supervisor Nickelsberg moved that **Sarah Packard** be appointed Clerk 1 to Supervisor (Bookkeeper), 2nd by Councilwoman Dermody. Unanimously carried.

ACCOUNTANT TO THE TOWN – Councilman Chase moved that **Brian Fitzgerald** be appointed Accountant to the Town, 2nd by Councilwoman Pine.

Discussion – Councilwoman Pine mentioned that he has been our accountant in the past; he will come in and do an audit.

Supervisor Nickelsberg mentioned Andrea Cornwell has been working with Sarah. Councilwoman Pine, Brain will come in and help Sarah monthly and do a yearly audit. Supervisor Nickelsberg was trying to understand who’s appointment the account to the town is, we have no legal advice here, the questions is, is it his appointment or the Board’s appointment. Councilman Chase mentioned this information is in the town law book. Mr. Fitzgerald will come in whenever needed, he will come in and do an internal review of the books. He is a CPA.

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Supervisor Nickelsberg	NA
Councilman Chase	AYE
Councilwoman Dermody	AYE
Councilman Lansing	NA
Councilwoman Pine	AYE

Councilman Chase moved to adopt the following resolution: Resolved that the position of Town Comptroller is hereby created and established as a salaried position and that the person appointed to such position shall have all of the powers and duties specified by section 34 of the Town Law; 2nd by Councilwoman Pine.

Discussion – Supervisor Nickelsberg asked what the Comptroller will do.

Councilman Chase, the Comptroller will oversee all vouchers, money management, this is in the town law. This has been discussed with the new town attorney.

Supervisor Nickelsberg, what are we going to pay the new comptroller from?

Councilman Chase, the payment for the comptroller is already there, it will come from your planning board secretary. There will be no extra cost to the taxpayers.

Supervisor Nickelsberg, will we pay the planning board secretary less.

Councilman Chase, Yes.

Supervisor Nickelsberg, the town comptroller will do what?

Councilman Chase, the town comptroller will make sure that all vouchers are paid on time, and all vouchers will be paid, they will make sure that none of our town checks will ever bounce again nor will our hospitalization lapse.

Supervisor Nickelsberg mentioned that he is not prepared to make that decision. Supervisor Nickelsberg asked for more discussion.

Councilman Lansing mentioned it is not on the agenda.

Councilwoman Dermody mentioned that the Clerk to the Superintendent was not on the agenda either. You have to be consistent .Supervisor Nickelsberg, we can table this.

Councilman Chase mentioned he has a motion on the floor and he wasn't going to withdraw it.

Supervisor Nickelsberg, the motion is not valid.

Councilwoman Dermody read from the town law book, 24-2.D, town board meetings and organizational meeting and exhibit B.

Supervisor Nickelsberg would like to table this until January 10th, he would like to talk to council and we will add it to the agenda on the 10th.

Councilwoman Dermody read the job description of a comptroller.

Supervisor Nickelsberg mentioned that he liked all those things but he is not sure that this is the appropriate time to change the agenda.

Councilman Chase mentioned that you have to call for a vote.

Councilwoman Dermody read from the town law book under the authority of the town board, "the board acts as a body, the town board as the executive body of the town acts as a unit and must function as a body, an individual board member may not unilaterally on behalf of the town board, thus each town board member has no more or less authority then the other board member.

Supervisor Nickelsberg, we understand that, each board member has a fifth of the vote, the question is whether or not we can change the agenda at the organizational meeting.

Councilwoman Dermody, it is her understanding that the agendas are created through the process of a work meeting. This is an organizational meeting, there was no work meeting plus the new board had not been seated. This agenda is like a rough draft because there was no work meeting, an agenda needs to have input from everyone.

Councilwoman Dermody looked in the law book and did not find anything that affects either opinion.

Councilwoman Dermody asked to call for a vote, have the results what they may be and we find out that there is something not right with it we can adjust it.

Supervisor Nickelsberg, we are at a deadlock and we understand what the issues are.

Councilwoman Dermody, you are not opposed to the duties of a comptroller and it will take some pressure off your position.

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Supervisor Nickelsberg	NA
Councilman Chase	AYE
Councilwoman Dermody	AYE

Councilman Lansing	NA
Councilwoman Pine	AYE

TOWN COMPTROLLER – Councilman Chase moved to appoint **Brenda Wood** to the position of Town Comptroller, 2nd by Councilwoman Pine.

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Supervisor Nickelsberg	AYE
Councilman Chase	AYE
Councilwoman Dermody	AYE
Councilman Lansing	AYE
Councilwoman Pine	AYE

DEPUTY SUPERVISOR – Supervisor Nickelsberg moved that **Richard Tollner** be appointed Deputy Supervisor, 2nd by Councilwoman Dermody. Unanimously carried.

CLERK 2 TO ASSESSORS – Councilwoman Dermody moved that **Rachel Chase** be appointed Clerk 2 for Assessors, 2nd by Councilwoman Pine. Unanimously Carried.

DOG CONTROL OFFICER – Councilman Chase moved that **Cheryl Tefft-Baitsholts** be appointed Dog Control Officer, 2nd by Councilwoman Dermody. Unanimously Carried.

REFUSE/RECYCLING OFFICER – Councilman Chase moved that **Jon Whitbeck** be appointed Refuse/Recycling Coordinator, 2nd by Councilwoman Pine. Unanimously Carried.

SUBSTITUTE REFUSE/RECYCLING OFFICER - Councilman Chase moved that **Arthur McCulloch** and **Ronald Bates** be appointed Substitute Recycling/Refuse Coordinator, 2nd by Councilwoman Dermody. Unanimously carried.

HISTORIAN – Councilwoman Dermody moved that **Irene Olsen** be appointed Town Historian, 2nd by Councilwoman Pine. Unanimously carried.

Councilman Chase moved to adopt the following resolution: Resolved that the position of Foreman of Town Building Maintenance and Assistant of Town Building Maintenance is hereby created and established as a salaried position; 2nd by Councilwoman Pine. Unanimously carried.

FOREMAN OF TOWN BUILDING MAINTENANCE – Councilwoman Pine moved that **Chris Heath** be appointed Foreman of Town Building Maintenance; 2nd by Councilman Chase.

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Supervisor Nickelsberg	AYE
Councilman Chase	AYE
Councilwoman Dermody	AYE
Councilman Lansing	AYE
Councilwoman Dermody	AYE

ASSISTANT OF TOWN BUILDING MAINTENANCE – Councilwoman Pine moved that **Steve Pflieger** be appointed Assistant of Town Building Maintenance; 2nd by Councilman Chase.

Discussion – Supervisor Nickelsberg asked who are these gentlemen and their qualifications Councilman Chase, they are both Medusa firemen and they are interested in the position and they have the qualifications.

Supervisor Nickelsberg, can they both do building, electrical, build a fire wall. You have interviewed them.

Councilwoman Dermody has not interviewed them; Councilman Lansing does not know them.

Supervisor Nickelsberg, why do you think Mr. Health and Mr. Pflieger has more critical skill sets than Randy Bates and.

Councilman Chase, we are not comparing anybody to anybody. They are outstanding carpenters and general maintenance people.

Supervisor Nickelsberg, we have had exceptional work done by Ken Cooke and Randy Bates and Bob Bolte and you are saying change and why change that?

Councilwoman Dermody, if for whatever reason they don't work out we have the responsibility to make the necessary changes. It is nice to get new blood in.

Supervisor Nickelsberg, it is nice to keep competent people.

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Supervisor Nickelsberg	NA
Councilman Chase	AYE
Councilwoman Dermody	AYE
Councilman Lansing	NA
Councilwoman Pine	AYE

ELECTION MACHINE CUSTODIANS – Councilwoman Chase moved that **Anthony Donato** and **Martin Lloyd** be noted as Election Machine Custodians for the Board of Elections, 2nd by Councilwoman Pine. Unanimously carried.

ELECTION INSPECTORS – Councilwoman Pine moved that the following people be noted as Election Inspectors and Alternate Election Inspectors for the Board of Elections;

1 st District	2 nd District	3 rd District
Irene Tanner	Clara Potter	Gail LaPlante
Edith Kuhar	Carolyn Dempsey	Sally Lounsbury
Marion Bryan	Velma Kiley	Susan Downes
Dianna Hinchcliffe	Donna Winans	Clair Leber
Ellen Moak -Alt.	Sherri Pine -Alt.	Stephonie Marsh -Alt.
Chris McGuire -Alt.	Jacqueline Pine -Alt.	Anna Jardine - Alt.

2nd by Councilwoman Dermody. Unanimously carried.

PLANNING BOARD – Councilwoman Dermody moved that **Alfred Stettner** be appointed to the Planning Board, term 1/1/2008 – 12/31/2014, 2nd by Councilman Chase. Unanimously carried.

PLANNING BOARD TERMS

Dorothea Cotter	-	2007 – 12/31/2008
Alfred Stettner	-	01/01/08 – 12/31/2014
Ray Welsh	-	2007 – 12/31/2013
Randy Bates	-	03/08/03 – 12/31/2009
Allyn Wright	-	01/01/04- 12/31/2010

Muriel Frasher - 01/01/05– 12/31/2011
 Richard Amedure - 01/01/06 – 12/31/2012

PLANNING BOARD CHAIRMAN – Councilwoman Dermody moved that **Muriel Frasher** be appointed Planning Board Chairman, 2nd by Councilman Chase. Unanimously carried.

Councilwoman Pine moved to abolish the position of Planning/Zoning Board secretary; 2nd by Councilman Chase.

Discussion – Councilman Chase mentioned that they are going to change this to a clerk’s position. Supervisor Nickelsberg asked why. Councilman Chase, the hours are going to be changed, he would like to see what we have in front of us as far as Rachel’s new duties as far as giving out summons. This may be a bigger position then we know. He would like to make a temporary position which would cover performing all the duties and minutes until we can establish what we are up with the new zoning regulations.

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Supervisor Nickelsberg	ABSTAINED
Councilman Chase	AYE
Councilwoman Dermody	AYE
Councilman Lansing	NA
Councilwoman Pine	AYE

Councilwoman Dermody moved to adopt the following resolution: Resolved that the position of temporary Planning/Zoning Board Clerk is hereby created and established as a salaried position; 2nd by Councilman Chase.

Supervisor Nickelsberg, this is not going to add to our cost.
 Councilman Chase, No.

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Supervisor Nickelsberg	ABSTAINED
Councilman Chase	AYE
Councilwoman Dermody	AYE
Councilman Lansing	NA
Councilwoman Pine	AYE

TEMPORARY PLANNING/ZONING BOARD CLERK – Councilwoman Dermody moved to appoint **Georgette Koenig** to the position of Temporary Planning/Zoning Board Clerk; 2nd by Councilman Chase.

Discussion – Supervisor Nickelsberg asked if Councilwoman Dermody has talked to Cathleen Bo-brick

Councilwoman Dermody. No.

Supervisor Nickelsberg, temporarily she will leave the government and you are saying that you think, not you, Gary and Sherri, that one of the more successful productive competent people that we have had in the middle of the zoning and subdivision and comprehensive land use plan people will be let go. She is qualified and capable and will do something else. We have lost a very good person. I could understand if you talked to her.

Councilwoman Dermody will make herself available to do that when we are looking to fill the position on a permanent basis. We are not talking months and months here.

Councilwoman Dermody, this is a temporary situation.

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Supervisor Nickelsberg	NA
Councilman Chase	AYE
Councilwoman Dermody	AYE
Councilman Lansing	NA
Councilwoman Pine	AYE

Councilwoman Dermody moved to adopt the following resolution: Resolved that the position of Town Newsletter Coordinator is hereby created and established as a salaried position; 2nd by Councilwoman Pine. Unanimously carried.

TOWN NEWSLETTER COORDINATOR – Councilwoman Dermody moved that **Nancy Class** be appointed as Town Newsletter Coordinator; 2nd by Councilman Chase.

Discussion – Supervisor Nickelsberg asked why the change.

Councilman Chase mentioned that she created the most recent newsletter, put a lot of time into it and is willing to do this at home.

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Supervisor Nickelsberg	NA
Councilman Chase	AYE
Councilwoman Dermody	AYE
Councilman Lansing	NA
Councilwoman Pine	AYE

Councilwoman Dermody moved to adopt the following resolution: Resolved that the position of Assistant to Town Newsletter Coordinator is hereby created and established as a non-salaried position; 2nd by Councilman Chase. Unanimously carried.

ASSISTANT TO TOWN NEWSLETTER COORDINATOR – Councilwoman Dermody moved that **Georgette Koenig** be appointed as Assistant to Town Newsletter Coordinator; 2nd by Councilman Chase.

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Supervisor Nickelsberg	ABSTAINED
Councilman Chase	AYE
Councilwoman Dermody	AYE
Councilman Lansing	ABSTAINED
Councilwoman Pine	AYE

BUILDING INSPECTOR/ZONING ENFORCEMENT OFFICER – Councilman Chase moved that **Mark Overbaugh** be appointed Building/Zoning Officer, 2nd by Councilwoman Pine. Unanimously carried.

Councilwoman Pine moved to adopt the following resolution: Resolved that the position of Clerk to Town Building Inspector/Zoning Enforcement Officer is hereby created and established as a salaried position; 2nd by Councilman Chase. Unanimously carried.

CLERK TO TOWN BUILDING INSPECTOR/ZONING ENFORCEMENT OFFICER – Councilwoman Pine moved that **Rachel Chase** be appointed as Clerk to Town Building Inspector/Zoning Enforcement Officer; 2nd by Councilwoman Dermody. Unanimously carried.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS – Councilwoman Dermody moved that **Alden Pierce** be appointed Zoning Board of Appeals member, term to be 1/1/2008 – 12/31/2012, 2nd by Councilwoman Chase. Unanimously carried.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS – Councilwoman Pine moved that **Roger Gifford** be appointed to the Zoning Board of Appeals to fill the unexpired term of Alfred Stettner; 2nd by Councilman Chase. Unanimously carried.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS - TERMS

Alden Pierce	1/01/08 – 12/31/2012
James Gloriosio-	2007 - 12/31/2011
Walter Cook -	08/12/07 -12/31/2010
Kenneth McCulloch-	01/01/05 - 12/31/2009
Roger Gifford -	01/01/04 - 12/31/2008

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS CHAIRMAN – Councilwoman Dermody moved that **Alden Pierce** be appointed Zoning Board of Appeals Chairman, term to 1/1/2008 – 12/31/2008, 2nd by Councilman Chase. Unanimously carried.

REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS - Councilman Chase moved that **Kathleen A. Hallenbeck** be appointed Registrar of Vital Statistics, 2nd by Councilwoman Dermody. Unanimously carried.

DEPUTY TOWN CLERK/COLLECTOR/REGISTRAR - Councilman Chase moved that **Dee Andrus** be appointed Deputy Town Clerk/Collector/Registrar, 2nd by Councilwoman Dermody. Unanimously carried.

COURT CLERKS – Councilman Chase moved that **Gail La Plante** and **Lynette Tyrrell** be appointed Court Clerks, 2nd by Councilwoman Dermody. Unanimously carried.

RECORDS INVENTORY CLERK – Councilman Chase moved that **Dee Andrus** be appointed Records Inventory Clerk, 2nd by Councilwoman Dermody. Unanimously carried.

SENIOR EMPLOYEES – Councilman Chase moved that **Gerald Winans** and **Ronald Bates** be appointed Senior Employees, 2nd by Councilwoman Dermody. Unanimously carried.

Councilwoman Dermody moved to adopt the following resolution: Resolved that the positions of Senior Services Coordinator of the Town is hereby created and established as a non-salaried position; 2nd by Councilman Chase. Unanimously carried.

SENIOR SERVICES COORDINATOR OF THE TOWN – Councilwoman Dermody moved that **Ann Vogel** and **Clara Potter** be appointed as Senior Services Coordinator; 2nd by Councilman Chase. Unanimously carried.

Councilwoman Dermody moved to adopt the following resolution: Resolved that the position of Assistant Senior Services Coordinator of the Town is hereby created and established as a non-salaried position; 2nd by Councilman Chase. Unanimously carried.

ASSISTANT SENIOR SERVICES COORDINATOR OF THE TOWN – Councilwoman Dermody that **Arthur Pizzigati** be appointed as Assistant Senior Services Coordinator of the Town; 2nd by Councilman Chase. Unanimously carried.

We have one person from each hamlet.

ENGINEER TO THE TOWN – Councilwoman Dermody moved that the appointment for Engineer to the Town be tabled until a later date; 2nd by Councilman Chase. Unanimously carried.

BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW – Councilwoman Dermody mentioned that now that she has taken a position on the Town Board that her position on the Board of Assessment Review is vacant, Councilwoman Dermody moved to appoint **Bradley Chase** to the Board of Assessment Review to fill the un-expired term of Marie Dermody

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Supervisor Nickelsberg	NA
Councilman Chase	AYE
Councilwoman Dermody	AYE
Councilman Lansing	NA
Councilwoman Pine	AYE

MILEAGE – Councilman Chase made a motion that the mileage be \$.485 per mile. Supervisor Nickelsberg asked what the State amount is. It is \$.505.

Councilman Chase amended his motion that the mileage rate per mile for all Town employees be set at **\$.505** cents per mile, 2nd by Councilwoman Pine. Unanimously carried.

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER - Councilwoman Dermody moved that the **Altamont Enterprise** be appointed the official newspaper and authorized the Town Clerk and Supervisor to advertise in other newspapers as needed, 2nd by Councilwoman Pine. Unanimously carried.

Councilwoman Dermody also would like to encourage the Altamont Enterprise to get more circulation out here.

DEPOSITORIES – Councilwoman Dermody moved that **The Bank of Greene County** and **First Niagara** be designated by individual officers for depositing funds, 2nd by Councilwoman Pine. Unanimously carried.

MEETING DATE – Councilwoman Dermody moved that the **second Thursday** of the month at **7:00 PM** be the official meeting date, 2nd by Councilman Chase. Unanimously carried.

AGENDA/WORK MEETING DATE – Councilwoman Dermody moved to officially establish the agenda/work meeting date as the Tuesday before the regular monthly official meeting date and to notice the work meeting as a regularly scheduled monthly meeting; 2nd by Councilman Chase

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Supervisor Nickelsberg	AYE
Councilman Chase	AYE
Councilwoman Dermody	AYE
Councilman Lansing	NA
Councilwoman Pine	AYE

ASSOCIATION OF TOWNS – Councilwoman Dermody moved that the designated Town Officials be authorized to attend the Association of Towns Meeting in New York City in February and that they be reimbursed for their expenses and that **Gary Chase** be Official delegate and **Sherri Pine** be Alternate, 2nd by Councilwoman Pine. Unanimously carried.

PROCUREMENT POLICY – Please note that this is a Town Law.

INVESTMENT POLICY-

Councilwoman Dermody asked what the investment policy is. Supervisor Nickelsberg explained this policy.

Councilwoman Pine asked about the checking accounts and what will be consolidated.

Supervisor Nickelsberg, we will do what is allowed by the law.

Councilwoman Dermody moved to reaffirm the investment policy, 2nd by Councilman Chase (investment policy attached). Unanimously carried.

Councilwoman

FINANCIAL REPORT – Councilwoman Dermody moved that the Supervisor be authorized 60 days after the close of the Fiscal Year to complete the Financial Report for the Town, 2nd by Councilman Chase. Unanimously carried.

BILLS – Councilman Chase moved that the Supervisor and Comptroller be authorized to make payments in advance for lights, telephone, postage, postage express charges, postage meter payments and to pay principal and interest of indebtedness, stated salaries, compensation of various officers and employees regularly engaged to the Town at the agreed wage, by the hour, day, week, month or year and to pay amounts becoming law full due upon contracts for the periods exceeding one year for which provisions for payment has been made in the annual budget, 2nd by Councilwoman Pine.

Supervisor Nickelsberg, so what you are doing in adding a comptroller you are going to a two signature check

Councilman Chase, Yes. Unanimously carried.

ELECTION MACHINE CUSTODIANS AND ELECTION INSPECTORS - Please note that Albany County Board of Elections has taken over the payment of election machine custodians and inspectors

WAGES – Councilman Chase moved that the following wage, salary and schedule of payments be adopted for the year 2008, and that the items I noted tabled be tabled until more discussion is held;

POSITION	EACH	TOTALS	PAID
Councilman (4)	\$3,500	\$14,000	(amended) Quarterly
Justices (2)	9,150	18,300	Weekly
Supervisor		10,500	Monthly
Town Clerk/Collector		30,423	Weekly
Assessors(3)			
Uncertified (each)		4,635	Quarterly
Certified (each)		5,665	Quarterly
Chairman		6,115	Quarterly
Attorney for Town		32,000	Monthly
Building/Zoning Officer		14,493	Monthly
Dog Control Officer		4,990	Monthly
Registrar of Vital Statistics		580	Annually
Superintendent of Highways		41,000	Weekly
Constable		1,300	Annually
Water Treatment Officer (Certified)		6,600	Monthly
(Uncertified)		5,600	Monthly
Sewage Treatment Officer		5,000	Monthly
Deputy Water Treatment Officer	\$10.00	Per Hour	
Water Rent Collector		400	Annually

HIGHWAY EMPLOYEES

POSITION	PAID PER HOUR	PAID
07/01/2007 – 06/30/08		
Foreman	\$17.21	Weekly
Truck Driver	16.41	Weekly
Operator	16.73	Weekly
Laborer		
Mechanic	16.73	Weekly
7/1/08 – 06/30/098		

(Union Contract expires on 6/30/08 – Pay rates to be determined at that time.)

RECYCLING DEPARTMENT –

POSITION	PAID PER HOUR	PAID
Recycling Co-Ordinator	\$15.93	Weekly
Sub/Recycling	10.00	Weekly
Sub/Recycling (CDL)	11.64	Weekly

ADMINISTRATION

POSITION	SALARY	PAID
(tabled) Clerk 1 (\$13.71)	(t)\$14,258.00	(t)Weekly
Clerk 2 (Assessors)	10,106.00	Monthly
Deputy Town Clerk (\$11.54)	17,540.00	Weekly
Justice Clerk (2) (each)	1,751.00	Quarterly
(tabled) Planning Board Clerk (\$12.00)	(t) 15,600.00	(t)Weekly
Bldg. Inspector Clerk (\$11.15)	5,265.00	Bi-Weekly
(tabled) Newsletter Coordinator (\$15.00)	(t)1,800.00	(t) Monthly
(tabled) Clerk to Highway Superintendent	(t) _____	(t) _____
(tabled) Comptroller	(t) _____	(t) _____
(table) add -new Foreman/Building Maintenance	25.00/hr	
(table) add - new Assistant/Building Maintenance	17.00/hr	

SENIOR EMPLOYEES

POSITION	PAID PER HOUR	PAID
Senior Employees	\$7.50	Weekly
2 nd by Councilwoman Pine.		

Discussion – Supervisor Nickelsberg, Clerk I is already earning a wage. Councilman Chase, the comptroller will handling some of the hours that Clerk I has been allotted. Supervisor Nickelsberg, Clerk I does different things in addition to the financial elements. Councilman Chase, a lot of the financial elements will be taken over by the comptroller. Unanimously carried.

BONDED OFFICIALS – Councilman Chase moved that the following officials be bonded; Supervisor Nickelsberg, Deputy Supervisor Tollner, Town Comptroller Wood, Town Justice La Plante, Town Justice Kraker, Superintendent Chase, Town Clerk/Collector Hallenbeck, Deputy Town Clerk/Collector Dee Andrus, Building/Zoning Officer Mark Overbaugh, Planning/Zoning Board Clerk Koenig, Building Inspector/Zoning Enforcement Clerk Chase, and Clerk 1 for the Supervisor Sarah Packard, 2nd by Councilwoman Pine.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilman Chase to adjourn the meeting at 12:35PM, 2nd by Councilwoman Pine. Motion Carried.

Respectfully Submitted;

Kathleen A. Hallenbeck
Town Clerk

Senior / Youth Bus Fund

We would like to recognize and update our growing list of the many people, companies and organizations that have made it possible to reach 74% of our goal. We have donations of nearly \$42000. Donations have come in from all surrounding towns and we thank all of them for their generous support. The bus has allowed many seniors and youth to take trips that would have been very costly individually. The bus has gone to NYC, Saratoga, Lake George and many doctor appointments. Over 250 people (Boy Scouts, Little League, Senior Citizens etc.) have been able to have a better enjoyment of life through the use of the bus. Thank you for supporting our community! For scheduling or other information please contact Ann Vogel or Kathy Hallenbeck..

Mangold Realty	Bob & Joan Johnston	Fred & Joyce Zeitler
Eugene Kellam	Tom Jennings & Rebecca Pearl	Mr. & Mrs. Fran Coward
Gary Barkman	Miss Anna Mullen	Burt Tobin
Van Auken Express	Hannay Hose Reels	Ken & Marion Cooke
Bob & Karen Bolte	Craig & Elaine Bovia	Upstate Truck Repair
Pat & Bill Righter	Robert Kellie	Gene Smith
Jack & Nancy Milner	Paul Dinura	Ronald & Marie Bryan
Martin Bigley	Baseball Academy	Evelyn Kellie
Kathleen & Mike Caprio	Irene Bodi	Lynn Donaldson
Josephine Makriki	Greenville Rotary	Victor & Gail LaPlante
Andrew Rooney	W P Carey	Laura Bolotsky
Lucia Dolce	Robert & Edith Lansing	P & L Deli
Myra & Alexander Dorman	Rensselaerville Senior Citizens	Alan Wilson
Carol Bryant	Marie & Ed Dermody	Phil & Daphane Pearson
Tec Builders	Pearson Excavating	James Glorioso
Victoria Kraker	Steve & Barbara Wood	Robert & Kara Seeger
Susan Arbit	Erika & Frank Szemlewski	Bruce & Sheila Degeyter
Margaret & Peter Sedlemeir	Margaret Burstein	Virgil Weidman
Mary Weidman	Joe & Inga Dapice	Stewart Shops
Schoharie Valley Carrot Barn	Donna Winans	Tom & Ruth Snyder
Kim & Bernie Aloisi	Eric & Kay Sutton	Allyn & Alayne Wright
Cindy & Michael Kornmeyer	Edward & Elizabeth Rogers	Grand Union Markets
John Duncan & Sons Auto	Vera Kraker	Tom & Kathleen Mikulka
Mark Fritz Construction	Ellen & Jost Nicklesburg	Tony & Barbara Vetrano
Mr. & Mrs. Dolce	Dave & Arlene Ingalls	Reinhart's Shell Inn
Murt Fogel	Bob Bolte	Alfred & Barbara Heath
Rensselaerville Auto Body	The Vender Family	Elsie Tice
Schoharie Kiwana's Club	Carolyn Shultz	Dutch & Marion Bryan
Hilltown Farm & Garden	Country Square Wine & Liquor	Hammond Security
Randall & Laura Bates	Rainbow Golf Club	Valley View Apartments
Lakeshore Park	Village One Apartments	Michael Lynn
Hudson Preserve Luxury Apts.	Borwegen Trucking	Zonta Club of Albany
Diane & David Schantz	Richard & Dorothy Simons	Sophia's Pizza
Mackenzie Rogers	Hawkens Catskills	S W Wood Construction
Sarah Shondron Brown	Dave Rudloff (50/50)	
Anonymous in honor of Bob Bolte,	Ken & Marion Cooke	
Karen Bolte in honor of Bob Bolte		

Library News, February 2008

The Board and Staff of the Rensselaerville Library wishes to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed our recent appeal: John Arrighi & Sharon Costello, Bruce & Carolyn Barker, George & Madeline Bechtold, Donald R. Bennett, Sarah V. Bowen, Don & Elizabeth Britton, Magdalena H. Britton & Diana B. Fritz. Geoffrey & Laura Carter, Felix Cortes & Rebecca Bahr, Matthew Cowburn, Richard & Nadia Creamer, James L. Chapman, Edith C. Chase, Francis & Gretchen Coward, Raymond R. Fletcher, Jr., Joshua Friedman & Carol Ash, James A. Glorioso, GMMB, Robert & Judith Griffith, Linda & John Hernick, Peter Hutchins & Meredith Cabe, Brian & Janice Kammerer, Sean P. Keegan, Victor L. LaPlante, John & Nancy La Rocca, S. Rebecca Lubin, Nancy Priputen-Madrian & William Madrian, Dorothea K. Martin, Barbara A. McGeachen, Timothy & Linda Miller, Robert & Elizabeth Moore, Patricia Moses, Marguerite Mullenneaux, Philip J. & Laura Lee Pearson, Richard Prince, Dianne Rizzo, David & Dianne Schanz, Peter & Margaret Sedlmeir, Julia & Michael Sikule, Jr., Kathleen & Gregory Speck, Kenneth Storms, Lawrence J. Stricker & Brigitte Hammond, Helen Tworokov, Charles van Horne, Brian Wallis & Katherine Dieckmann, Alan Wilson & Diana Dietrich, Linda & Glenn Yelich. (Our apologies if we have inadvertently neglected to include your name.) Your help is greatly appreciated! Our thanks also go to Robert and Barbara Blum, and Sue and Jay McChesney, who should have been mentioned in our January listing for 2008.

First Friday Movies continue! Please join us at **Conkling Hall on Friday, February 1 at 6:30P.M.** for *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*, based on the best-selling novel by J.K. Rowling. With their warnings about Lord Voldemort's return scoffed at, Harry and Dumbledore are targeted by the Wizard authorities as an authoritarian bureaucrat slowly seizes power at Hogwarts. Runtime: 138 minutes. Rated PG-13 for sequences of fantasy violence and some frightening images.

The Library would like your input on the First Friday Movie Series. Please take a few minutes to answer some questions, in order to help us better serve the community. You can fill out the attached survey and mail it or drop it off at the Library. There will also be surveys available at the Library or on its website at www.uhls.org/rvll_library. Thank you very much for your input!

The Library will be hosting a special **Valentine's Day Party on Thursday, February 14 from 4:30 to 7:30P.M.** Come enjoy games, puppet shows, story-telling, making Valentines, and decorating cookies! Everyone of all ages is welcome. Please call Candy at 797-3949 for more information.

Looking for some people who enjoy handwork and knitting as much as you do? Come join the **knitting and handwork circle** at the Rensselaerville Library, which meets **every Tuesday night from 7:00-9:00P.M.** Call 797-3949 for more information.

The Library Board of Directors will meet on **Monday, February 18 at 7:00P.M.**

Staff: Candy Wilson, Interim Director; Katie Caprio, Assistant; Barbara Husek, Assistant

Library Hours:

Tuesday & Wednesday:	10:00am to Noon, 4:00-9:00pm
Thursday & Friday:	4:00—9:00 pm Saturday: 9:00am to 1:00pm

First Friday Night Movie Survey

Please take some time to answer a few questions, to help the Rensselaerville Library's First Friday Night Movie, better serve the community.

1. Does the rating of the film (G, PG, PG-13, R) matter to you?

Yes No

2. If the rating matters what rating(s) do you prefer to see?

G PG PG-13 R

3. What type of films do you prefer to see?

Action/Adventure Drama Comedy Family

 Animated Sci-Fi/ Fantasy

4. Do you prefer (circle one):

Family Only Films Family and Mature Films

5. If you want to see both Family and Mature Films how often?

One each month (two movies per month)

One every other month (alternating family and mature film)

A mature film every third month

6. List some films you would like to see at the First Friday Night Movie:

Thank you for your time and opinion.
The Rensselaerville Library

Extra Helpings Food Buying Club – Available to *EVERYONE* No age or income restrictions!!!

Extra Helpings is a program of the Regional Food Bank of Northeastern New York and is offered to the community through The Hilltowns Community Resource Center (HCRC) in Westerlo. The program is open to all individuals regardless age or income. Extra Helpings has changed the prices and the menus being offered. Anyone is welcome to purchase any or all of the package options. The menu for each month's Extra Helpings' offerings will still be published one month in advance. February's Extra Helpings menus are as follows:

February's Regular menu: \$20.00

- 2.5 lb. Beef Bottom Round Roast**
- 1 lb. Sweet Italian Sausage Links**
- 3 lb. Bag IQF Boneless Chicken Breast**
- 1 lb. Hamburger**
- 1 lb. Bag Red Seedless Grapes**
- 1 Bag Wrapped Iceless Broccoli**

Special #1: \$17.00 **8 lb. Fresh Boneless Pork Loin**

Special # 2: \$ 15.50 **PASTA BOX**

- 18 oz. Stuffed Shells**
- 12 oz. Sun-dried Tomato Stuffed Rigatoni**
- 12 oz. Spinach Stuffed Rigatoni**
- 13 oz. Large Round Ravioli**
- 16 oz. Tri-color Tortellini**
- 18 oz. Manicotti**
- 13 oz. Potato/Cheese Pierogi**
- 2 (1 qt.) Casa Visco Spaghetti Sauce**

Special #3: \$30.00 MEAT BOX

- 2.5 lb. Beef Chuck Pot Roast**
- 3 lbs. IQF Boneless/Skinless Chicken Breast**
- 3 lbs. Rope Sweet Italian Sausage (2/1.5# p pkgs.)**
- 3 lbs. Pepper Steaks (8/6ozs.)**
- 2 lbs. Bulk Breakfast Sausage (4/8oz. rolls)**

(Substitutions of equal value may be necessary due to availability.)

PLEASE NOTE: Orders with payment are due at the HCRC office by **FEBRUARY 5TH** for pick-up on **February 26, 2008**. HCRC distributes Extra-Helpings at the Rensselaerville Firehouse from 11:30 to 12:30 p.m. and at St. Bernadette's Church in Berne from 11:30 to 12:00 p.m. on delivery days. The pick-up site must be noted with each order. Anyone wishing more information regarding Extra-Helpings or other Hilltowns Community Resource Center services, please call 797-5256. HCRC's mailing address is P.O. Box 147, Westerlo, NY 12193. Please include your phone number on all correspondence.

Helderberg Christian School Students Share Christmas Cheer

Helderberg Christian School brought joy to two area nursing homes on Friday, Dec. 15 when two separate groups from the school visited local adult homes to spread the joy of Christmas by performing for both residents and staff. The younger group went to the Good Samaritan Lutheran Adult Home, located at 141 Rockefeller Rd. in Delmar, where they demonstrated a live nativity scene with costumes, narration and songs. The second group went to The Delmar Place located at 467 Delaware Ave., in Delmar. This group used puppets, songs and narration to tell the Christmas story to an enthusiastic audience. Featured in the picture above is 5th grade student, Silken Newman, visiting with the Delmar Place residents after the performance. Helderberg Christian School is committed to providing academic excellence for stu-



dents in grades K-6 and remains dedicated to reaching out to surrounding communities in a meaningful way throughout the year. Helderberg Christian School admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. The school does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, national and ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, or other school- administered programs.

WANTED **Volunteer Drivers**

For the Senior/Youth Bus.

Only a regular drivers license is required.
Please contact Kathy Hallenbeck, Town Clerk

Post Office Information

Rensselaerville: 797-3231

Medusa: 239-4826

Preston Hollow: 239-6111



***TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
WILL BE CLOSED
FEBRUARY 18, 2008
IN OBSERVANCE OF
PRESIDENTS DAY***

CHURCH SERVICES



Preston Hollow Baptist Church
Route 145, Preston Hollow, 239-6544
Worship: Sunday - 11:00AM

Potter Hollow Union Church
Potter Hollow, 734-5106
Worship: Sunday - 9:00AM
Visitation & Prayer Wednesday - 8:30AM

Trinity Episcopal Church
Trinity Lane, Rensselaerville, 797-5395
Holy Eucharist & Church School Sunday - 11:00AM

United Church of Christ
Medusa, 239-6119
Worship: Sunday—9:15 AM

SENIOR CORNER

Need Information? Elder Source Line (447-7177) has information at Senior Services to help in a variety of ways. Call between 8:30AM-12:30PM Monday through Friday. Call for free assistance with housing options, insurance counseling, benefits and entitlements, community resources, adult daycare, and caregiver options. This program is funded by United Way of Northeastern New York and Senior Services of Albany Foundation.

Senior Citizens Club: We meet on the second Tuesday of the month at the Medusa Firehouse at noon. \$1.00 is collected. ALL senior citizens are invited to join the club. Please bring a covered dish to share and/or dessert. Members need to bring their own plates and utensils. Coffee is provided,

Senior Van: Tuesday: Bryant's Center, Greenville Thursday: Cobleskill (Wal-Mart) Monday, Wednesday and Friday: Van is available to travel to doctor appointments. Call Ann Vogel at 797-3376 regarding scheduling and/or arranging for van pick up **We need volunteer drivers!!!!** If you have a valid drivers license and could volunteer a couple hours of your time now and then it would be greatly appreciated. Contact Kathy Hallenbeck, Town Clerk, for more details.

Helderberg Senior Services: Lunches are served Monday through Friday at noon for \$3.75. The Grange would appreciate one day advance notice. Call Marie at 797-3652 between 9:00AM-1:00PM for information and reservations.

***Senior Citizens Club Meeting
February 12, 2008 at noon.
For more information contact
Bill Moore - 239-4843***

WANTED

Volunteer Drivers needed for the Senior/Youth Bus
All that is required is a regular drivers license.
Please contact
Kathy Hallenbeck, Town Clerk for details.

VOLUNTEER NEWS AND EVENTS

Medusa VFD

Company Meeting: Monday, February 4, at 8:00PM

Drill & Work night: Monday, February 11 and 18 at 7:00PM

Upcoming Events: Our Monthly Breakfast - every 3rd Saturday of the Month.

Tri-Village VFD

Company Meeting: Wednesday, February 6, at 8:00PM

Rensselaerville Fire Department

Get involved in the "Save your neighbor" club. Join your local Volunteer Fire Department, Battalion or Auxiliary.

Total Calls for 2008 (as of 1/6/08) : 00

"Calendar of Meetings and Events"

February:

4th - 7:00 Company Drill
6th - 7:00 Ladies Battalion Meeting
10th - 8am-11am Pancake Breakfast
11th - 7:00 Company Drill
27th - 8:00 Company Meeting

March:

3rd - 7:00 Company Drill
5th - 7:00 Ladies Battalion Meeting
10th - 7:00 Company Drill
22nd - 2:00 Easter Egg Hunt
26th - 8:00 Company Meeting
29th - 4pm-6pm Chicken Take Out

Special Events:

- * February 10th: Bring Your "Valentine" to the Pancake Breakfast 8am to 11 am
- * March 22nd: Annual Easter Egg Hunt.....Promises to be the BEST HUNT YET!!
- * March 29th: Chicken Barbecue Take-out....Advance ticket info in March Newsletter

<u>Election of Officers:</u>	<u>President</u>	<u>Vice-President</u>	<u>Treasurer</u>	<u>Secretary</u>
R'ville Vol. Fire Dept. :	Paul Wilson	Phyllis Fitzgerald	Richard Platel	Kris Maguire
RVFD Battalion :	Rose Kuhar	Mary Jane Schroede	Linda McCormick	Kris Maguire

Board of Directors : Richard Bryan, Michael Fritz, Salvatore Santos, David Weiss

Rensselaerville Volunteer Ambulance Squad

Company Meeting : Wednesday, February 20 at 7:00PM

NOTICE: The following report is being reprinted to remind everyone of the recommended rate changes for town newsletter advertisements.

**NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE REPORT
Town of Rensselaerville
September 10, 2007**

Committee Members:
Steve Wood
Jim Glorioso
Marie Dermody

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is evident that paid advertisements in the Town’s monthly newsletter dropped significantly when the rates were raised to double the previous amount. In order to maximize income and therefore help to make the newsletter even more self-supporting (as well as promote local business), **it is our recommendation that the advertising rates return to the previous level.**

	<u>NOW</u>	<u>SUGGESTED</u>
2” x 3.5” (business card)	\$30.00	\$15.00
4” x 3” (quarter page)	\$46.00	\$23.00
5” x 8” (half page)	\$80.00	\$40.00
8.5” x 11” (full page)	\$150.00	\$75.00
Separate full page insert (w/copies provided by advertiser)	\$300.00	\$150.00

2. When ads are placed intermittently throughout the newsletter, it is difficult for the common observer to know exactly which advertisements are paid and which are not. Therefore, **it is our recommendation that all paid advertising be in its own separate and distinct section of the newsletter.**

3. **It is our recommendation that the following entities be allotted one full page per newsletter free of charge to advertise their contact information, meetings & drills, fund-raising events, etc. Any submissions beyond one full page will be published on a space-available basis.**

- Emergency services (fire companies, Rensselaerville Ambulance Service)
- Churches (including Conkling Hall for church-related issues; Conkling Hall activities/ events that require a participation fee paid to an outside provider is to be considered a paid ad & should appear in the paid advertisement section of the newsletter)
- Rensselaerville Library

4. **It is our recommendation that articles/reports of general community interest or ones that offer free services should be free.** Examples are:

- HEAP
- Refuse/Recycling
- Extra Helpings
- Hilltowns Community Resource Center
- Senior Corner
- Committee reports

5. Quality of life issues and those that respond to the human condition are important to any community. Therefore, **it is our recommendation that insertions such as “thank you” and “acknowledgements” from individuals and families be done free of charge.**

6. Since the Town of Rensselaerville is very unique in many ways, it is necessary to allow some special considerations for certain organizations.

Rensselaerville Historical Society – **it is our recommendation that the RHS be guaranteed one free informational article per month and that additional informational articles be published on a space available basis. Events and income-generating activities should be considered paid ads and appear in the appropriate section.**

Conkling Hall – **it is our recommendation that an event/activity that is directly associated with the church should appear on the church page of the newsletter free of charge. Anything else is a paid ad and should appear in the paid advertisement section of the newsletter.**

The Edmund Niles Huyck Preserve – **it is our recommendation that, since this organization is a non-profit, it should be assessed the same advertising rates as mentioned in item #11 below.**

7. **It is our recommendation that any other enterprise/ organization/ entity that charges a fee for participation should pay for its submission in the newsletter.**

8. In order to foster our children’s interest in their town, we acknowledge the importance of anything that encourages our youth to read and react to the newsletter. The monthly puzzle page addresses this concern. But to encourage a more active participation, **it is our recommendation that we encourage our youth to submit their own creations for publication (i.e. puzzles, stories, poems, artwork, etc.) and that these items be dedicated to their very own page. It is also our recommendation that submissions be chosen on a random basis.**

9. **It is our recommendation that any item submitted for publication (other than those mentioned in item #4 above) be identified by author or artist.**

10. The Rensselaerville Institute is a quasi-commercial enterprise. As such, **it is our recommendation that this organization should be responsible for paying the same advertising rates as town residents and businesses as noted in item #1 above.**

11. In order to increase revenue from advertisements, we should welcome submissions from out-of-town individuals and organizations. **It is our recommendation that nonprofit organizations may advertise at a reduced rate as long as official proof of nonprofit status is on file in the Town Clerk’s office. All other out-of-towners wishing to advertise in the Town newsletter may do so at the same fees as Town of Rensselaerville residents and businesses.**

SUGGESTED REDUCED RATES
FOR NONPROFITS

2” X 3.5” (business card)	\$12.00
4” x 3” (quarter page)	\$18.00
5’ x 8” (half page)	\$32.00
8.5’ x 11’	\$60.00
Separate full page insert (w/copies provided by advertiser)	\$120.00

12. It is important that our newsletter be as professional in appearance and quality as is humanly possible, Therefore, **it is our recommendation that all submissions be edited for grammar, punctuation, spelling, and mechanics, and that those individuals submitting items for the newsletter be aware of this action. No content will be edited.**

13. It is important that the newsletter be delivered to Town residents in as timely a fashion as possible, especially considering that certain items in each monthly newsletter are time-sensitive. Therefore, **it is our recommendation that all submissions be received by the Town office no later than the 2nd Friday of the month in order to be included in the up-coming newsletter. Any submissions received after that date will not be considered for publication in the up-coming newsletter but will be included in the subsequent newsletter.**

14. Once this resolution is adopted in whatever form, **it is our recommendation that it be widely publicized via the Town newsletter and that copies (with highlighted sections pertinent to the organization) be mailed to the various entities mentioned in the items above.**

OPEN LETTER TO RENSSELAERVILLE TOWN BOARD FOR PUBLICATION IN FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

To Members of the Rensselaerville Town Board:

This letter is addressed to you by the Steering Committee of Rensselaerville Farmland Protection, a citizens organization that has been formed to represent the stated dedication of townspeople to save agricultural soils and the rural surroundings that make our lives so meaningful in the present and so promising for the future.

OUR PURPOSE IS TO WORK WITH YOU

We would like to start by letting our Town Board members know once again that we sincerely wish to work with you. Our intention here is not to complain about the way that the TB has conducted itself in the past. However, we appeal to you to reconsider your recent decision to retain five-acre zoning in our agricultural district, a zoning provision which has been in effect for many years and which in no way provides for or protects our future. We also want our fellow townspeople to know that Rensselaerville Farmland Protection vows to continue its efforts to safeguard our agricultural soils and quality of life in the hill towns.

CONSIDER THE CONSEQUENCES

We invite all of you who will be impacted by the recent zoning decision to discuss in good faith the consequences of the Town Board's decision to allow ag zoning to remain as it has been, with no recognition that we live in a vastly changing world that in time will decimate our soils and our way of life if we don't act now to ready ourselves for the future.

Although our unincorporated association of dedicated friends and neighbors has secured legal counsel to bring our cause to the attention of the Town Board for discussion and negotiation, Rensselaerville Farmland Protection is not a group of mindless adversaries. We are coming from a place of sincere concern that the future of our priceless soils and lives and the gift of our environment—shared by all, not just a few—is in terrible jeopardy. And we want the Town Board and our citizens to be informed. "Hearings" in the past have not allowed for data to be presented for open consideration.

RFP PLANS FOR FUTURE COMMUNICATION AND EDUCATION

This means of communication in the town newsletter is intended to give notice that we are devoted to the cause of saving agricultural soils by way of enlightened zoning, and will continue our outreach to the Town Board. Here are our intentions:

- 1) We will legally utilize every legitimate and right-minded law and regulation to ensure that our agricultural soils and surroundings are not destroyed by unmanaged development that benefits just a few.
- 2) We will make every effort to continue a campaign of fact based public information and education so that our neighbors are not misled by biased information or lack of information.

Continued on next page

RFP Letter—*Continued from previous page*

- 3) We will seek support from concerned citizens who can see the writing on the wall: destruction of agricultural soils, spoiling of our rural environment, development that makes us a bedroom community of Albany; increases in taxes and decreases in public services; destruction of the larger rural environment with respect to water, natural resources and the overall quality of life

A STATEMENT FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

We leave you with some invaluable reflections by just one expert in the field of rural development, loss of agricultural soils, and other destruction of our way of life.

Rensselaerville is at a crossroads. You have to decide if you are going to try to accomplish your town's goals—which include protecting rural character and promoting farming—with an antiquated zoning tool—the 5 acre lot minimum—that is a proven failure, or if you are going to move forward using the most modern techniques at your disposal to accomplish the wishes of your citizens.

--Gary Kleppel, Professor, University at Albany

AN INVITATION TO THE TOWN BOARD AND CONCERNED CITIZENS:

We extend to you an invitation to meet with us individually and as a group, to learn more about what is at stake. By the time the next election rolls around, we just may have made some decisions together that save the future of Rensselaerville for all of us as well as generations to come. Interested townspeople, please write us at the Post Office box below, and we will get back to you for informed discussion. We promise to keep communication open and dialogue alive.

Sincerely,
 RENSSELAERVILLE FARMLAND PROTECTION
 STEERING COMMITTEE
 P.O BOX 295
 Rensselaerville, NY 12147

Web Links of Interest:

-
 AFT www.farmland.org
 Hudson Valley Agricultural Partnership www.HVAP.org
 Scenic Hudson www.scenichudson.org
 Ag/markets www.agmkt.state.ny.us
 Glynwood Center www.glynwood.org
 Open Space Institute www.osiny.org

General interest: www.littletownviews.com
 Google: Cost of Community Service

CONKLING HALL: WHAT'S ON IN FEBRUARY, 2008

Friday, February 1st, First Friday Movies by the Rensselaerville Library.

Friday, February 15: Noteworthy Coffeehouse presents Addie and Olin Unleashed. An inventive, fun-loving duo with a repertoire of jazz standards, wit and antics perform on the clarinet, flute, saxophone and guitar. Doors open at 7:00 PM. Coffee and sweets available. Music begins at 7:30 PM We are asking for a good-will offering of \$10. Don't stay away. Come and pay what you can afford.

Saturday, February 16: Cabin Fever Party: Dinner and a Movie for \$15.00. The theme will be Italian food, the Movie will be "Big Night" (r-rated due to language, mostly). Please call for reservations: 797 3459 and leave a message with your name and number in your party. (Or call Diana Dietrich at 797 3902). Wine and beer will be available for a free-will donation. Dinner and beverages begin at 6:30 PM with the movie to follow.

Pilates: Saturdays 9 - 10 AM. Pilates mat class with Sarah Nelson Weiss. Strengthen your abdominals, gain long, lean muscles and work with good alignment. Appropriate for all levels. Please call 239 6825 for more information and to confirm schedule.

You can contact Conkling Hall at (518) 797 3459 or read our website on www.ConklingHall.org. We send out frequent email messages announcing/reminding about our events. If you wish to be added to the list, please give us your email address at ConklingHall@Earthlink.net.



More About Rensselaerville Road Names

By Janet Haseley, Research Chair, Town of Rensselaerville Historical Society

Thanks to readers of the Town newsletter we have additional information about Rensselaerville road names. After reading the article about names which was published in the Town newsletter in November, Jan Bowdish, Linda Reed Mormile and Robert L. Kostelak gave us the the information below. We appreciate their help and invite others who know anything about the history of road naming to also tell us. E-mail edhase@aol.com if you can help with other names. If you don't have internet access you can write to Rensselaerville Historical Society, POB 8, Rensselaerville, NY 12147, Attn: Janet Haseley.

Jan Bowdish has furnished information on Sayre School Road, Siebert Road, Barger Road, Hale Road and Kellie Road. Linda Reed Mormile has given information on Knowles Road, Bates Lane and Pucker Street and Robert E. Kostelak told us about a road which the map identifies as Kostalan. Here is what they had to say:

From Jan Bowdish: When the Town decided to give the roads names they (apparently) either chose the names of people then living on the roads or people who had lived on these roads for a LONG time.

Sayre School Road - The little one room school on the corner of Fox Creek Road/Sayre School Road across from Lewisdale Road was the Sayre District School. I went to school there till I went to GCS for 7th grade.

Siebert Road - There once was a boarding house located about a mile down that road from the corner at Fox Creek Road. A family by the name of Siebert owned and operated the boarding house.

Barger Road - This was one of those roads that was given the name of the only family on the road at the time of naming. Families by the name of Fletcher and Tallman (or maybe Fletcher Tallman) had lived here. This road was named for my (then) husband and me. I still live here but my name is Bowdish now. My father, Robert Baitsholts, had purchased the Tallman property many years prior to our building this house on this land.

Hale Road - This was named in honor of my grandparents (LeRoy and Mildred Lobdell Hale) who lived where Art McCullough lives. The farm, as I remember it, was a lovely farm. I have a picture of the original house. I also have a picture of the three Hale children going off to Sayre District School. My mother was Edith and the others were Marion and George. George Hale owned and operated the garage in Rensselaerville.

Kellie Road - Was also named for a family who lived there from the early 30s.

From Linda Reed Mormile: What a nice idea you have! Here's what I am pretty sure is correct:

Knowles Road - Clyde Knowles (my grandfather) lived at the top of the road and we have always believed it was named for him. However, George Knowles, his nephew or cousin (?) lived a little further down that road so it could have been named for him. In any case it was named for the Knowles family. I, of course, am going with Clyde!

Bates Lane - In Potter Hollow, was probably named after Kenneth Bates. He and his wife, Vivian, and daughter, Dorcas, are the only "Bates" that I ever heard of living on that road.

Pucker Street - Was supposedly named after two sisters but I am not sure.

I am originally from Potter Hollow and so many of these roads you mention are so familiar to me but their origin is cloudy. If enough people read the newsletter and have computers, I'll bet you get many responses.

(Continued from previous page)

According to Robert L. Kostelak, the road which the maps call **Kostalan** is supposed to be **Kostelak**. He says his parents, Louis and Marie Kostelak, purchased approximately 150 acres and a residence along Kostelak Road in 1952 and it was deeded to Robert and his wife Bertha in 1964. In 2003 Robert and Bertha transferred the property to their three children, Annemarie, Robert Jr., and Christi with a lifetime estate for Robert and Bertha to live there for their lifetimes. Robert said that an earlier name for the road was **Davis Road**, named for earlier residents, and the road signs still say Davis Road.

Rt. 85 in the hamlet of Rensselaerville is often called "**The State Road**" and earlier was called "**The Plank Road**". Here is its history:

Originally the present Rt. 85 was a short lane which stopped a little way beyond the Baptist Church in the hamlet of Rensselaerville. (For some years the Baptist Church building was Rensselaerville Antiques and now it is the residence of John Arrighi and Sharon Costello and the studio of Black Sheep Designs.) People came and went to Albany by the Albany/Delaware Turnpike (now called Albany Hill Road), which leaves the hamlet of Rensselaerville near Trinity Episcopal Church and the Rensselaerville playground.


Planks were laid down on the road some time in the 19th century to make traveling easier on muddy days and Nancy Chase's mother gave her address as "Plank Road, Rensselaerville" all her life instead of the more modern "State Road" or "Rt. 85".

The plank road was changed to crushed stone, which Francine Bolster said was completed in 1905. She said that Stanton I. Shufelt bought a pair of black horses which he rented to the Highway Department for work on Route 85 during this change. Francine gives the date for the contract for paving Route 85 as 1929 with the work beginning in 1931. The story is that Col. Frederick Stuart Greene, who had a home in Rensselaerville and was Highway Commissioner at the time, was tired of traveling between Rensselaerville and Albany on an unpaved road, and through his influence Rt. 85 was paved for its entire length. The road begins in Albany and ends in the hamlet of Rensselaerville.




Pictured, left to right, are George Hale, Edith Hale & Marion Hale as children. They are mentioned in connection with Hale Road.


*Thank you
for your support*




Gary Chase
Town Council




Marie Dermody
Town Council



Jeff Pine
Town Assessor



"Sandy" Gordon
County Legislator



Victor LaPlante
Town Justice

Paid Advertisement

Why I Miss Porter Wright

Often when I look at our broad mountain view, I remember Porter saying, "When they planted buckwheat here, it was all white out there." We would be sitting on our porch, Porter and Louise in rocking chairs, Porter reminiscing. If I complained that the road needed fixing, he'd say, "Be patient. It'll be done." And yes, he scolded me once, "You've planted so many trees, before long you're not going to have that view!" Porter gave me plants from his garden, which continue to grow in mine, though I think they liked it better in his. I especially cherished his love of place, his sense of decency, and his genuine friendliness.

Joan Raines

Paid Advertisement

Living with a Dog 101

Friends of Hilltown Stray Hounds* invite you to the first in a series of informative programs on responsible dog ownership. The purpose of the programs are to help you and your dog live happily and healthfully together for many years!

Who should come? Anyone who has a dog and would like to learn more about taking good care of it. anyone who has some problems or questions about his or her dog. Anyone who is thinking of getting a dog!

The first program will focus on **basic dog training/management** and **basic health care**.

Speakers: Dr. Carrie O'Loughlin, Delmar Animal Hospital
Jody Diehl, Dog's Best Friend, LLC, certified trainer and behavior counselor

Saturday, March 8, 2008
10 a.m. - noon
Conkling Hall - Methodist Hill Road

* A nominal contribution of \$5.00 will be collected by Friends of Hilltown Stray Hounds - a network of dog loving residents of Rensselaerville and Berne who provide assistance to stray dogs that come into the care of our Towns' dog control officer.

RSVP: Jody - 966-5684 or bestdog1@verizon.net

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CONTACT INFORMATION

Town Board Meetings
 Second Thursday 7:00 pm
 Working meeting Tuesday 7:00 pm
 before regular meeting as needed

Town Justice Court
 Mondays 7:00 pm

Planning Board
 First and third Thursdays 7:30 pm

Zoning Board of Appeals
 Second Tuesday 7:00 pm

Building Inspector/Zoning Officer
 Thursday 8:00-10:00am, 7-9 pm

Town Clerk's Hours
 Monday-Wednesday 9:00am-3:30pm
 Thursday 1:30pm-7:30pm
 Friday: 9:00 a.m. - Noon

Supervisor's Hours
 Wednesdays 10am - 12 pm
 Home office 7 days 7:30am - 10:30pm

Assessors' Hours
 Thursday 6:00 pm-8:00 pm

Assessors' Clerk Hours
 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday morning

Dog Control Officer
 Cheryl Baitsholts
 518-797-5201

Town Refuse Station Hours
 Wednesday and Saturday
 7:00am-4:00pm

Water/Sewer District Meeting
 First Tuesday 7:00 pm

Town Supervisor
 Jost Nickelsberg

Town Clerk & Collector
 Kathleen A. Hallenbeck

Town Justices
 Victor LaPlante, Victoria Geldner

Attorney for the Town
 Joseph Catalano

Councilmen
 Gary Chase, Marie Dermody,
 J. Robert Lansing, Sherri Pine

Building Inspector & Code
 Enforcement Officer
 Mark Overbaugh

Assessors
 Jeff Pine, Peter J. Hotaling, Jr.,
 Donna Kropp
 Rachel Chase, Clerk II

Highway Superintendent
 G. Jon Chase

Planning Board
 Muriel Frasher, Chairman
 Georgette Koenig, Secretary

Zoning Board of Appeals
 Alden Pierce, Chairman
 Georgette Koenig, Secretary

Deputy Town Clerk
 Dee Andrus

Bookkeeper
 Sarah Packard

Town Highway Department
 518-239-4225, 518-797-3798

Sen. Neil Breslin, 42nd Dist.
 LOB, Albany, NY 12247
 518-455-2800

Assem. John McEneny, 102nd Dist.
 LOB, Albany, NY 12248
 518-455-4100

County Legislature, 39th Dist.
 Alexander (Sandy) Gordon
 144 Beebe Road, Berne, NY 12023
 518-872-2602

Albany County Highway Dept.
 518-239-6715, 518-239-6710

Rensselaerville Fire Company, 911
 Social Number - 797-3218

Tri-Village Fire Company, 911
 Social number - 239-6780

Medusa Fire Company, 911
 Back up emergency number
 — 943-9010—
 Social number - 239-6166

Rensselaerville Vol. Ambulance, 911
 Information Number - 518-797-5233

Albany County Sheriff, 911
 518-765-2351

State Police, Rensselaerville and
 Hilltowns 911
 518-477-9333

E-MAIL ADDRESSES

Supervisor: townsupervisor@rensselaerville.com

Town Clerk: townclerk@rensselaerville.com

Planning Board: planningboard@rensselaerville.com

Assessors: townassessors@rensselaerville.com

Newsletter: newsletter@rensselaerville.com

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The Rensselaerville Refuse/Recycling Center is open on Saturdays and Wednesdays from 7:00AM-3:45PM.

Please display your permit. Permits may be obtained at the Town Clerk's Office. Please cover your refuse so that it is not left on someone else's property. No sheetrock or shingles will be accepted



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***Grant Writer
Needed***

It is essential that the person who fills this position have expertise & extensive knowledge involved in the Grant writing process.

For more information please contact Jost Nickelsberg at 239-4225 or 239-4972 (Part-Time)

Town of Rensselaerville

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