



# Town of Rensselaerville

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

Volume 23, Number 01

January 2012

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## November 2011 Town Board Minutes Summary

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville was held on the 10th day of November, 2011 at 7 o'clock in the evening at the Rensselaerville Town Hall, 87 Barger Road, Medusa, NY. The meeting was convened by Supervisor Dermody and the roll was called with the following results:

**PRESENT WERE:** Supervisor Marie Dermody, Councilman Robert Bolte, Councilwoman Marion Cooke, Councilman John Kudlack, Deputy Town Attorney Jon Kosich, Town Clerk Kathleen A. Hallenbeck

**ABSENT:** Councilman Gary Chase

Also present were Deputy Highway Superintendent Mark Chase and 38 interested citizens.

### AUDIENCE COMMENTS:

- Valerie Lounsbury: asked if MaryAnn Wollaber has been contacted; reported that Mark Overbaugh has finished his work on the stream

### MINUTES:

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to accept the minutes for the Regular Meeting held on October 11, 2011; Public Hearing held on October 6, 2011; Work Meeting held on October 6, 2011; Special Meetings held on September 1, 2011, September 8, 2011, October 3, 2011 and October 18, 2011; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Kudlack. *Motion Carried. Ayes (4) Dermody, Bolte, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

**TRANSFERS:** There were no transfers.

**ABSTRACT 2011-11 VOUCHERS,BILLS:** The General Fund - \$22,447.61; Highway Fund - \$32,628.21; Lighting District - \$665.21; Sewer District - \$128.25; Water District - \$6,484.43; Agency & Trust - \$1,387.58.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to pay all signed vouchers; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Bolte. *Motion Carried. Ayes (4) Dermody, Bolte, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

### CORRESPONDENCE

- Dennis Pitts - Resignation - ZBA  
A motion was made by Councilman Kudlack to accept the resignation of Dennis Pitts from the ZBA; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Bolte. *Motion Carried. Ayes (4) Dermody, Bolte, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*  
Mr. Pitt's resignation was effective immediately.
- Walter Cook -Letter of Interest - ZBA
- James Glorioso - Recommendation - Walter Cook - ZBA
- Muriel Frasher - Planning Board update on webpage has been completed. This information will be put in the newsletter.
- Laura Bolotsky - Letter of Interest - Hydrofracking Committee

### REPORTS

#### **SUPERVISOR DERMODY**

- FINANCIAL REPORTS:** The Board was given the Account Summary. There is an Operating Statement from Enhanced and an Abstract of Vouchers to give you an idea of where we are with Munis.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to approve the Supervisor's financial reports as they stand; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Kudlack. *Motion Carried. Ayes (4) Dermody, Bolte, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

- PAYROLL:** Councilman Bolte completed the July payroll audit and Councilwoman Cooke did September.
- Councilman Kudlack will do the October payroll audit.

(Continued on page 10)

## Library Bookmark

### What's New?

**Weekend Film Series** at Conkling Hall (8 Methodist Hill Rd):

**January 14, 2012 at 3:00P.M. *Super 8*** Run Time: 111 minutes, Rated: PG-13.

**January 14, 2012 at 7:00P.M. *Midnight in Paris*** Run Time: 94 minutes, Rated: PG-13

Suggested goodwill donation - adults \$2 and children \$1.

**Saturday, January 14<sup>th</sup> at 10am Save Energy, Save Dollars workshop** learn how to reduce your energy bills, identify the big energy users in your home and learn about available programs. All attendees will receive a Free **Energy Kit**. Please **pre-register** for this program at the Library. *EmPower New York workshops are sponsored by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) and developed by Cornell Cooperative Extension and NYSERDA.*

The **Library Board of Trustees Meeting** is on **Monday, January 16 at 7P.M.** Meetings are held at the Library and are open to the public.

**READ with Helen of Troy a Therapy Dogs, Inc. therapy dog** - Children can sign up for a time to read with Helen in January. Check the Library calendar for Helen's next visit.

The Library has a number of board games (Awkward Family Photos, Loaded Questions, Greatest Day Ever, Wits and Wagers, PayDay, Fishing Frenzy, Nascar Race Cards to name a few) we encourage you to come in on **Friday nights for Game Night**.

**Did you receive an eReader over the holidays (Nook, Kindle, iPad, smart phone etc.)?** You now have access to **free ebooks and audio books** through the Library and your Library card. No Library card, just stop into the Library and we can help you. Visit <http://digitalcollection.uhls.org/> to start downloading. If this is your first visit click on the MyHelp! on the left-hand side to walk through downloading your first book.

Save the date for the next **Festival of Writers: Country and Conflict, July 27-29, 2012**. The FOW Committee is planning the next event and has confirmed the participation of children's author Candace Christiansen, illustrator Thomas Locker, local author Helen Benedict and former head writer of the Daily Show and Air America Lizz Winstead. We will continue providing updates on the progress.

The Library has a **new electronic newsletter** announcing programs and events at the Library. If you would like to have the newsletter delivered to your email account please email Kim at [director@rensselaervillelibrary.org](mailto:director@rensselaervillelibrary.org) or call the library.

Best wishes for a Happy and Healthy New Year!

*Submitted by Kimberly Graff*

### HEAP Outreach Days Scheduled

HEAP has scheduled the following days to be at the Rensselaerville Town Hall:

01/12/12	1:00pm - 3:00pm
03/08/12	1:00pm - 3:00pm



The October Board of Trustees meeting is our Annual Meeting

**Monday,  
January 16th at  
7:00P.M.— open to  
the Public**

*The Library is  
located at  
1459 C.R. 351,  
Rensselaerville.*

#### *Library Hours:*

*Tuesday &  
Wednesday:*

*10:00 AM to Noon,  
4:00-9:00 PM*

*Thursday & Friday:*

*4:00—9:00 PM*

*Saturday:*

*9:00-1:00 PM*

*rensselaervillelibrary.org*

#### **Staff:**

Kim Graff,  
Director

Katie Caprio,  
Library Technician

Amber Case  
Madeline Ouellette  
Pages

## Conkling Hall—What's On In January

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 14:** Children's Movie: "Super Eight". 3:00 PM. Donation \$1. BYO treats.

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 14:** Second Saturday Movie for Grownups: "Midnight in Paris". 7:00 PM. Admission \$2. BYO treats.

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 19:** Conkling Café. An Open Mic Coffeehouse hosted by Peter Michael. Musicians arrive 7:00 - 7:30 PM. Music follows. Coffee and treats available.

**Classes with Sarah Nelson Weiss,** for information call 239 6825.

**Tuesdays 9:00 - 10:15 AM Yoga**

**Wednesdays 5:45 - 6:15 Pilates**

**Saturdays 9 - 10 AM Pilates**

All classes open to all except as noted.

You can reach Conkling Hall at 518 797 3459 or read our website at [www.Conklinghall.org](http://www.Conklinghall.org). We send frequent announcements/reminders via email. If you wish to be added, please send your email address to [Info@ConklingHall.org](mailto:Info@ConklingHall.org).

*Submitted by Diana Dietrich*



Methodist Hill Road  
Rensselaerville, NY  
(518) 797- 3459

### Important Notice

The Town of Rensselaerville seeks letters of interest and resumes from persons interested in serving in the capacity of a substitute Clerk/Bookkeeper to the Supervisor. This is a confidential clerk position whose services would be rendered on an "on call, as needed basis." Up to 20 hours a week will be required in March and April to fill a maternity leave in addition to other hours as needed. Paid training will be provided and is expected to begin in January 2012. Copies of Town of Rensselaerville and Civil Service job descriptions are available upon request.

Please submit your letter of interest and resume along with salary request to Town Clerk Kathy Hallenbeck as soon as possible, but no later than January 9, 2012. This information may be dropped off at Town Hall during normal business hours; mailed to 87 Barger Road, Medusa, NY 12120; or emailed to [town-clerk@rensselaerville.com](mailto:town-clerk@rensselaerville.com)



### The Town Clerk's Office will be closed on:

Monday, January 2, 2012, for the New Year Holiday  
Monday, January 16, 2012, for Martin Luther King Jr. Day

## Senior Corner

**Need Information?** Elder Source Line (447-7177) has information about 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.

**Helderberg Senior Services:** Lunches are served Monday through Friday at noon for \$3.75. A one-day advance reservation would be appreciated and can be made by calling Marie at 797-3652 between 9:00AM-1:00PM for information and reservations.

**We need volunteer drivers!!!!** If you have a valid driver's 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.



**NEW YEAR'S DAY  
OPEN HOUSE**

Sunday, January 1, 2012  
2:00PM to 4:00PM  
Conkling Hall  
Methodist Hill Road, Rensselaerville

PLEASE BRING A SIDE DISH OR DESSERT TO SHARE

Sponsored by RHDA  
(Rensselaerville Historic District Association)

Waste Oil Collection Day:

Saturday, December 31st  
Saturday, January 28th

7AM—Noon



**Rensselaerville Realty**  
LICENSED REAL ESTATE BROKERS  
WWW.RVILLEREALTY.COM

FRED STETTNER  
ENID STETTNER

260 ROUTE 351  
MEDUSA, NY 12120  
FRED@RVILLEREALTY.COM

TEL: 518-239-4635  
CELL: 917-509-1758  
FAX: 518-966-5998

*Paid Advertisement*

## Judge La Plante to Be Honored



There will be a celebration honoring the retirement of Victor L. La Plante,  
Rensselaerville Town Justice.

An Open House will be held at the Rensselaerville Town Hall in Medusa on  
Sunday, January 8, 2012 from 2 PM to 4 PM. Light refreshments will be served.

Please join us in expressing our sincere gratitude for Judge La Plante's



- countless hours of research,



- many sleepless nights,
- and last, but not least, his dedication, devotion, and sincere commitment to this community for the past 24½ years!

We Thank You !!

*-Submitted by V. Kraker*

## ***VFW Memorial Garden — Many Thanks to the following Contributors To Date:***

The Committee thanks the following contributors to the VFW Memorial Garden. We continue to gratefully accept any and all donations.

*Submitted by Town Supervisor, Marie Dermody*

- American Legion Clarke White Post & Auxiliary Unit
- American Legion Durham Valley Post #1416
- American Legion Mohican Post #983
- Gregory Bischoff
- Jan & Dave Bowdish
- Ralph Britton, Eileen Britton, & Diana Fritz
- Sue Britton
- George and Carolin Dempsey
- Marie & Ed Dermody
- Dave Dillworth, Phase III Electric
- Disabled American Veterans
- Disabled American Veterans Chapter 186
- Lauren Endres
- Richard Ferriolo
- James Glorioso
- Barbara Heath
- Susan Holmes
- John Ingalls, GNH Lumber (Greenville)
- Jeanette James
- Wallace Kappler
- Anna Marie Kostro
- Rosemary Kuhar
- 
- Donna Kropp
- Cindy Adams-Kornmeyer
- Vic and Gail La Plante
- Edith Lansing
- Steven Lewis & Family
- Elsie Lier
- Lou's Automotive (Greenville)
- Otto Metzger
- Perry & Ellen Moak
- John & Linda Mormile
- Erik & Janet Nelson
- David Potter and Town of Rensselaerville Highway Department
- Ed Reinhart & Reinhart Contracting
- William & Jeannette Rice
- Richard Sabol
- Walter Schloen
- Peter & Margaret Sedlmeir
- Irene Tanner
- Linda Tozer
- VFW Post #7229
- Mr. & Mrs. Edwin Wacheter
- Mary Weidman
- John Wennstrom, Electrician

DONATION FOR THE VFW MEMORIAL GARDEN  
TOWN OF RENSSELAERVILLE

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

Pavers are 6" x 9" with up to 2 lines of engraving, a maximum of 11 characters & spaces per line. The minimum donation per engraved paver is \$30.00. Please use block letters only.

Example:

G	E	O	R	G	E		R	U	D	D
---	---	---	---	---	---	--	---	---	---	---

Paver #1:


Paver #2:


For additional engraved pavers, please use a separate sheet of paper.

We are pleased to announce that we are now also accepting orders for engraved pavers from commercial enterprises. These pavers will form the outside border of the VFW Memorial Garden. The cost is the same, \$30 per engraved paver.

Total number of engraved pavers: \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*I/We wish to make a donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ toward the rehabilitation of the VFW Memorial Garden. (Please make checks payable to the Town of Rensselaerville & note "VFW Garden Memorial Garden" on the memo line.)

\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\* I/We are willing to donate my/our labor to make this rehabilitation a reality. My/Our days and hours of availability are:

\_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

The VFW Memorial Garden Committee thanks you in advance for your cooperation & participation in this project to honor those who have served honorably in our Armed Forces.

# THE “RE-UNITE OUR TOWN” TEAM OF

**RANDY BATES  
BOB BOLTE  
MARGARET SEDLMEIR  
AND  
RICHARD TOLLNER**

*Would like to thank all the voters of the Town of Rensselaerville for their support, encouragement and trust that was shown on Election Day.*

- Submitted by Margaret Sedlmeir

*Paid Advertisement*

## *Volunteer News and Events*

### **Medusa Volunteer Fire Department**

*Monthly Meeting: Monday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 7:30PM  
Company Drill: Monday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 PM  
Work Night: Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM*



### **Rensselaerville Volunteer Fire Department**

Calls as of December 13, 2011: 54

**January:**

4<sup>th</sup> - 7:00 pm Battalion Meeting  
9<sup>th</sup> - 7:00 pm Company Drill  
16<sup>th</sup> - 7:00 pm Company Drill  
25<sup>th</sup> - 7:30 pm Company Meeting

**February:**

1<sup>st</sup> - 7:00 pm Battalion Meeting  
6<sup>th</sup> - 7:00 pm Company Drill  
13<sup>th</sup> - 7:00 pm Company Drill  
29<sup>th</sup> - 7:30 pm Company Meeting

**Upcoming Events:**

- March 24<sup>th</sup> - Chicken BBQ 4:00 - 6:00 pm

### **Tri-Village Volunteer Fire Department**

*Company Meeting: Wednesday, January 4<sup>th</sup> at 8:00PM*

### **Rensselaerville Volunteer Ambulance Department**

*Company Meeting: Wednesday, January 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM*





### Church Services

#### **Preston Hollow Baptist Church**

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

#### **Rensselaerville Presbyterian Church**

Summer Session Worship - 11:00AM  
Coffee Hour following Service

#### **United Church of Christ**

Medusa, 239-4843 or 722-8126  
Worship: Sunday - 10:00AM

#### **Trinity Episcopal Church**

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

#### **Potter Hollow Union Church**

4824 Potter Hollow Mountain Road  
Potter Hollow, 263-4478  
Worship: Sunday - 10:00AM  
Coffee Hour & Sunday School—11:30AM  
Call for Bible Study and Prayer Group

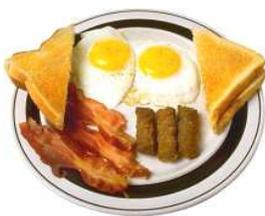
### ***A Report from the Supervisor***

Space limitations in this month's issue of the newsletter prevents me from writing a longer article as is my custom. I expect that next month we'll be back to business as usual.

We continue to be very busy at Town Hall: winding down fiscal year 2011 and getting ready for 2012, working with FEMA & NRCS & other agencies seeking resolution to the issues involving the Catskill Creek, and preparing to go "live" with the Munis accounting software for payroll in January (so we'll no longer have to work with "dual" accounting systems). There never seems to be a dull moment!

I wish to take this opportunity to wish everyone a New Year filled with peace, health, and happiness.

*Marie*



### **All You Can Eat BREAKFAST**

**JAN. 21st**

**FEB. 18th**

**MAR. 17th**

**APR. 21st**

**Free Will Offering**

**7 AM TO 11 AM**

## **MEDUSA FIRE COMPANY**

## November 2011 Town Board Minutes Summary

(Continued from page 1)

- WORKPLACE VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL HARRASSMENT TRAINING:** Supervisor Dermody reported that she has set the last session for the Workplace Violence and Sexual Harassment Training for December 12, 2011. This training is mandatory for all Town employees, appointees, elected officials. This is going to be the 6<sup>th</sup> time this training has been offered.

Councilwoman Cooke asked about the firemen taking the training; if they don't take it, what will happen. Supervisor Dermody mentioned that they can be put on an inactive list because they are going to put the Town at significant financial risk if we get audited by either the Department of Labor or PESH. It is \$5000.00 per non-compliant person.
- SPECIAL MEETING:** Supervisor Dermody mentioned that it was brought to her attention last week that a Special Meeting that she held was not legitimate because of the notification to Town Board members went via email. The law says that people are supposed to be notified in writing; she thought email was writing. Apparently it is not sufficient. The only thing she can do is to notify the Town Board members when there is a notice regarding a special meeting; you are going to have to come to Town Hall and pick it up. If you don't do that in a timely fashion, the meeting will have to be postponed until everyone has been notified.

Councilman Bolte, how do you know it is here? We don't come to Town Hall every day. Don't do it by email. Supervisor Dermody, you will be given a phone call to let you know it is here.

Supervisor Dermody mentioned that the meeting that they did hold was to correct some budget calculations that were incorrect. The bottom line of the budget did not change. We have two options: we can request that the Town Board ratify those corrections made because no changes were made to the bottom line, or we can redo those corrections on the 15<sup>th</sup> when we adopt the budget in a formal motion. She felt that it was prudent to fix those inaccuracies before it got published on the web.

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to ratify the changes that were made in the 2012 Budget because they did not change the bottom line; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Kudlack. *Motion Carried. Ayes (4) Dermody, Bolte, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*
- DOG CONTROL:** Supervisor Dermody mentioned that we are in receipt of reports for our Dog Control Division. We have a Municipal Shelter Inspection Report and a Dog Control Officer Inspection Report. Thanks to Cheryl Baitsholts, we have received a satisfactory rating on all categories listed.

A motion was made by Councilman Kudlack to approve the Supervisor's Report; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Bolte. *Motion Carried. Ayes (4) Dermody, Bolte, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

### TOWN ATTORNEY:

There was no Attorney Report at this time; other issues are listed further on in the agenda.

### HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:

Acting Superintendent Potter was unable to attend tonight. Deputy Highway Superintendent Chase reported on the following;

- CHIPS:** The CHIPS roads are finished. They included: McCulloch Cross Road - \$69,690.21, Siebert Road (Phase 2; Phase 1 was done last year. That road is completed.) - \$52,513.70; and Jaycox Road - \$4,536.00. Total spent - \$126,739.91. We were allotted \$140,000.00.
- FEMA:** They just completed Mercer Lane and Snyder Lane bridges. All the Highway FEMA Projects are completed except Gulf Road and Preston Hollow Park. All the FEMA data is collected and up to date; we now need to transfer all that data onto the FEMA Project worksheets. Acting Highway Superintendent Potter has contacted DEC to check the FEMA projects to see if they have been done correctly so they can be signed off on.
- TRUCK #2 WARRANTY:** Deputy Superintendent Chase mentioned that the warranty on that truck must be done within a year.

A motion was made by Councilman Bolte to purchase the extended the warranty on #2 Truck for the transmission and motor; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Cooke. *Motion Carried. Ayes (4) Dermody, Bolte, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*
- THANK YOU:** Deputy Superintendent Chase mentioned that Acting Superintendent Potter would like to thank Mike Geldner and Family for donating 12 loads of top soil for the Preston Hollow Park.
- WORK PROJECTS PLANNED:** Deputy Superintendent Chase mentioned that the following work projects are planned, weather permitting: Gulf Road and also finish up Preston Hollow Park; it needs more top soil and seed.
- PART TIME HELPER:** Deputy Superintendent Chase reported that the part-time helper is out of time. Do you want to extend it? They are one man short on their plow routes. They could put him to use, straight time, no overtime.

Supervisor Dermody, for the 150 hours? Could we hire him for on call? Would he be willing to work on call if we need him for that?

The Town Board agreed to hire him for on call for plowing.
- SALT AND SAND:** Deputy Superintendent Chase mentioned that they just ordered salt under the County bid; the barn is about half full.
- SEASONAL ROADS:** Deputy Superintendent Chase gave the Town Board a list of the seasonal roads as follows

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## November 2011 Town Board Minutes Summary

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(no maintenance December 1, 2011 to April 1, 2012): Rivenburg Lane has been added to the list this year, the house has been gutted; we will plow it if the property owners need us to.

<u>Road</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Edwards Hill Road	NYS 145 o	Top of Hill
Gulf Road Extension	Gulf Road	North end of State Land
Kenyon Road	Roney Road	Albany County Rte 359
Rivenburg Lane	Albany County Rte 354	Dead End
Roney Road	Last Residential Structure (In from Pearson Road)	Kenyon Road
Scutt Road	South End of State Land	CCC Road

A motion was made by Supervisor Dermody to accept the Seasonal Road list as stated above, no maintenance from December 1, 2011 to April 1, 2012; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Bolte. *Motion Carried. Ayes (4) Dermody, Bolte, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

- TRUCK #8 - TIRES: Deputy Superintendent Chase mentioned that Truck #8 needs tires on the rear. The cheapest on the new tires is \$325.00 per tire mounted, the cheapest on retreads is \$195.00 per tire mounted. These are through State Contract.

A motion was made by Supervisor Dermody to allow the Highway Department to buy 8 new tires for Truck #8 at \$325.00 each including mounting; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Kudlack. *Motion Carried. Ayes (4) Dermody, Bolte, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

- INVENTORY REPORT: Councilwoman Cooke asked about the Inventory Report that was due in September. Deputy Superintendent Chase mentioned that this is on the computer; it needs to be updated. Councilwoman Cooke asked if they could have it by the December meeting.

A motion was made by Councilman Kudlack to accept the Acting Highway Superintendent's report; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Supervisor Dermody. *Motion Carried. Ayes (4) Dermody, Bolte, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

### TOWN CLERK:

Town Clerk Hallenbeck reported the following collected and paid out for the month of October 2011: Town Clerk Department - Total Collected \$2,633.92. Paid to the Supervisor - \$869.46 (fees); Paid to NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets - \$6.00 (Dogs - State Surcharge); Paid to NYS Departmental Conservation - \$1,758.46 (sporting license); Paid to NYS Department of Health - \$0.00 (marriage license). Water Rents Collected - \$2,655.74. Sewer Rents Collected - \$3145.39.

A motion was made by Supervisor Dermody to accept the Town Clerk's Report for the month of October 2011; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Kudlack. *Motion Carried. Ayes (4) Dermody, Bolte, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

### HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

#### PART TIME EMPLOYEE

A motion was made by Supervisor Dermody that we employ the services of Doyle Shaver on an on-call basis at the truck driver's rate of pay, no benefits, no overtime in the event of snow removal issues; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Cooke. *Motion Carried. Ayes (4) Dermody, Bolte, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

### CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER/BUILDING INSPECTOR:

- CEO Overbaugh reported the following collected for the month of October 2011: one (1) New Home Permit renewal, one (1) New Home Permit, and one (1) New Replacement Home Permit Construction.

Supervisor Dermody mentioned that there is one home replacement for Rivenburg Lane. We just put that road on the seasonal road list.

A motion was made by Supervisor Dermody to amend the Seasonal Road List deleting Rivenburg Lane from this list -- it is no longer a seasonal road; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Cooke. *Motion Carried. Ayes (4) Dermody, Bolte, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

- CEO Overbaugh mentioned that he attended a three-day class in Colonie as part of his ongoing certification units.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to accept CEO Overbaugh's report; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Bolte. *Motion Carried. Ayes (4) Dermody, Bolte, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

### ASSESSING DEPARTMENT:

Assessor Weber mentioned that exemption renewals will go out by mail in late December or early January.

A motion was made by Supervisor Dermody to accept the Assessor's report; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Kudlack. *Motion Carried. Ayes (4) Dermody, Bolte, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

### WATER/SEWER COMMITTEE:

Chairman Long reported that we have one final bill from the engineer for the Impoundment Dam Project for about \$208.00. When we get this, he will give a formal report on the project and contact the Attorney so he can arrange the financing.

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## November 2011 Town Board Minutes Summary

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A motion was made by Supervisor Dermody to accept the report of the Water/Sewer Committee; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Kudlack. *Motion Carried. Ayes (4) Dermody, Bolte, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

### **REFUSE/RECYCLING:**

Recycling Coordinator Whitbeck reported the following for the month of October 2011: Green Fiber - 11.28 tons, Rensselaer Iron & Steel- 3.8 tons, Tires - 7, City of Albany Landfill - 58.85 tons, Sierra Fibers - 4.48 tons, and Oil -- 72 gallons. Today he had a meeting with the City of Albany and County Waste and Sierra Fibers.

A motion was made by Supervisor Dermody to accept Recycling Coordinator Whitbeck's report; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Kudlack. *Motion Carried. Ayes (4) Dermody, Bolte, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

### **CURRENT EVENTS:**

NONE

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- **LOCAL LAW NO. 4 OF THE YEAR 2011, A Local Law extending the time for filing renewal applications for exemptions authorized by RPTL s467**

**Whereas**, the Town Assessor, Jeffry Pine, has suggested that the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville provide authority for the Town Assessors to accept renewal applications for senior exemptions that are not timely filed on or before the taxable status date as many seniors forget to file such applications by that date; and

**Whereas**, the Town Board agrees that senior property owners should be able to renew exemption applications if they miss the early date for submission; and

**Whereas**, a proposed local law that grants authority for the Town Assessors to accept renewal applications for senior exemptions up until grievance day (the maximum time allowed by law) was introduced by the Town Board on October 11, 2011, and a public hearing on said proposed law has been held;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** as follows:

1. The public hearing on proposed Local Law No. 4 of 2011 has been duly held and closed prior to the introduction of this Resolution and said hearing provided those who wished to be heard regarding said proposed Law a full and fair opportunity to be heard.
2. The Town Board determines that the adoption of the proposed Local Law No. 4 of 2011 is an action that is defined in the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) as a Type II action and, as such, no further environmental review is required.
3. The Town Board adopts Local Law No. 4 of 2011, regarding the authority for the Town Assessors to accept renewal applications for senior Exemptions up until May 1st of each year, and hereby orders that the Town Clerk and Town Attorney complete the filing form and file Local Law No. 4 of 2011 with the Secretary of State's office as required by law.

Upon motion made by Supervisor Dermody, seconded by Councilman Bolte, the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the Town Board on November 10, 2011 by vote of a majority of its members as follows:

Councilwoman Cooke asked, how come in the beginning it says up until Grievance Day and down here it says May 1st?

Supervisor Dermody, it was discussed that Grievance Day is too late. The State laws allows up until Grievance Day, we are limiting it to May 1<sup>st</sup>.

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Councilman Bolte-AYE; Councilwoman Cooke-AYE; Councilman Kudlack-AYE; Supervisor Dermody-AYE

- **LOCAL LAW NO. 3 OF THE YEAR 2011 - A Local Law entitled "Gas Drilling Moratorium Law of 2011 of the Town of Rensselaerville.**

Supervisor Dermody mentioned that we held the Public Hearing on the Proposed Law, we had 6 or 7 speakers, the majority of who is in favor of the Moratorium.

**Whereas**, the Town Board of the Town of Rensselaerville is increasingly concerned about the process of extracting natural gas by hydraulic fracturing (aka hydro-fracking) since the Town has shale deposits that may be targeted for such extraction; and

**Whereas**, Town Board members have been following the controversy on such process and understands it is a complex issue that has yet to be resolved by New York State; and

**Whereas**, since the Town Board will need time in which to investigate and study the issues involved as well as evaluate the State's decision and regulations regarding this gas drilling process, the Town Board believes that a one-year moratorium is necessary in order to protect the health, safety, and general welfare of the residents of the Town of Rensselaerville for the reasons also set forth in section 2 of proposed Local Law No. 3 of 2011; and

**Whereas**, the Town Board introduced a law as Local Law No. 3 of 2011 that proposes to establish a moratorium on the drilling for extraction of natural gas and a public hearing was scheduled for October 6, 2011, on the proposed law; and

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## October 2011 Town Board Minutes Summary

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**Whereas**, the proposed Local Law No. 3 was referred to the Albany County Planning Department pursuant to the General Municipal Law and said Department determined that the proposed law did not affect County plans and was a matter of local consideration; and

**Whereas**, Albany County Planning Department also provided advice as to addressing review procedures and criteria for such uses which the Town Board will take under consideration and it also offered to provide research material on this subject which the Town Board appreciates and will make use of during the study process;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** as follows:

1. The public hearing on proposed Local Law No. 3 of 2011 has been duly held and closed on October 6, 2011, and said hearing provided those who wished to be heard regarding said proposed Law a full and fair opportunity to be heard.
2. The Town Board determines that the adoption of the proposed Local Law No. 3 of 2011 is an action that is defined in the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) as a Type II action and, as such, no further environmental review is required.
3. The Town Board adopts Local Law No. 3 of 2011, regarding the establishment of a one-year moratorium on any natural gas projects and applications throughout the Town.
4. The Town Board hereby orders that the Town Clerk and Town Attorney complete the filing form and file Local Law No. 3 of 2011 with the Secretary of State's office as required by law.

Upon motion made by Supervisor Dermody, seconded by Councilman Kudlack, the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the Town Board on November 10, 2011 by vote of a majority of its members as follows:

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Councilman Bolte-AYE; Councilwoman Cooke-AYE; Councilman Kudlack-AYE; Supervisor Dermody-AYE

The Moratorium will take effect after filing with the State.

A Special Meeting will be set up for the purpose of interviewing all candidates interested in being on a committee to investigate the hydrofracking issues.

- **FEMA:** Supervisor Dermody called the Association of Towns and spoke with Attorney Murray Jaros, explained the situation, and he told her that legally she was doing the right thing by doing nothing until we had confirmation from FEMA that they would reimburse us the expenses. Supervisor Dermody also spoke with Mitch Morris from the NYS Office of the State Comptroller legal affairs office and Attorney Catalano.

Supervisor Dermody, this is a unique situation with no clear directive; it is a gray area in law. It is something that is out of the norm and no matter what we decide, she has misgivings on one side or the other -- either the people in the effected area will rightfully be upset because we do nothing to protect their property or other taxpayers will be upset because they see our action of spending taxpayer dollars to improve personal property. We could consider this as a Town Board project based on the fact that previous restoration work was done by the Town as a result of a previous disaster and the Town does have a responsibility to protect, not improve, private property. She spoke with Mr. Morris and she has more research to do. Protection of property is not sufficient for Town benefit unless we can chalk it up to something that has an effect on a Town asset. However, we could look at it that not doing the work could cause perhaps septic drainage into the Creek because of the flood waters, stagnation of water, etc. We have to look at whether it benefits the few, not the many. We have to have justification as a Town function. There is an opinion that she pulled off the website and highlighted some issues. Supervisor Dermody is going to have Attorney Catalano contact Mitch Morris because they can talk "legalese" together.

Supervisor Dermody would like to move forward with this proposal. Our procurement law says that any project over \$20,000.00 requires going out for public bid, the State Law sets that limit at \$35,000.00. We are pretty sure that the corrective restoration there is not going to cost that much money. If the Town Board would consider suspending the Town's Procurement Law for this issue only, we could put out a request for proposals and by doing that we avoid the time issue of having to get it into our official newspaper. If we put it out as a request for proposals, we could not accept any proposal that exceeded \$35,000.00. Hopefully it would come in less than that.

Supervisor Dermody read the Request of Proposals which comes from the DEC Permit that we are in the process of getting transferred from Vincent's name to the Town. The Town will provide materials.

Supervisor Dermody has a list of contractors to send the Request for Proposal to.

Where do we get the money? We have \$90,000.00 coming back to the General Fund from the Sewer Fund that never got taken out from 2009. This proposal, if we go forward, is only based on the conversation that Attorney Catalano has with Rich Morris together regarding the appropriateness of this.

Councilwoman Cooke, there was a diagram from the Army Corps of Engineers. Is that going to be there?

Supervisor Dermody, that is listed on the first part of this.

Councilman Bolte, who is on the list?

Supervisor Dermody, James Maloy, Inc, Fraser & Associates, Borwegen's, Kenny Bell, Ed Reinhart, Mark Overbaugh.

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## November 2011 Town Board Minutes Summary

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Add Phil Pearson and William Keller (contractor doing the Water District Impounding Dam) to the list. Supervisor Dermody, if the discussion between the two attorneys comes up with "no," it is not an eligible project and we are stuck.

Supervisor Dermody read a memo from Attorney Catalano concerning this project.

Attorney Kosich, any of the reasons why should be set forth as specifically as possible, not just say under these circumstances.

A motion was made by Supervisor Dermody that for this instance only that the Town waive our Local Procurement Law regarding the \$20,000.00 threshold for public bidding in the hopes of protecting the Town assets of the Mercer Lane bridge further down from this site in the Catskill Creek; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Kudlack. *Motion Carried. Ayes (4) Dermody, Bolte, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

A motion was made by Supervisor Dermody to hold a Special Meeting on November 17, 2011, 7PM (bids to be in the Town Clerk's Office by 3PM on 11/11/11) for the purposes of opening and possibly awarding the bids regarding the Mercer Lane and bridge for Project 1 on the Catskill Creek; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Kudlack. *Motion Carried. Ayes (4) Dermody, Bolte, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

### NEW BUSINESS

#### **WATER DISTRICT - WATER RELEVY:**

The Relevies are a list of people who did not pay their water or sewer rents for 2011; these unpaid rents will be added to their property tax bill to be collected in January of 2012.

A motion was made by Supervisor Dermody to accept the Statement of all Unpaid Water Rents as of November 1, 2011 in the amount with interest of \$4970.95 as submitted by the Town Clerk; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Kudlack. *Motion Carried. Ayes (4) Dermody, Bolte, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

#### **SEWER DISTRICT - SEWER RELEVY**

A motion was made by Supervisor Dermody to accept the Statement of all Unpaid Sewer Rents as of November 1, 2011 in the amount with interest of \$4644.42 as submitted by the Town Clerk; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Cooke. *Motion Carried. Ayes (4) Dermody, Bolte, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

#### **INTERVIEWS - HYDROFRACKING COMMITTEE**

A motion was made by Supervisor Dermody to schedule a special meeting for the sole purpose of interviewing candidates for the Hydrofracking Committee on November 17, 2011 to start immediately after the opening and possible awarding of bids for Project 1 in the Catskill Creek; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Kudlack. *Motion Carried. Ayes (4) Dermody, Bolte, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

### AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Dianna Hinchcliff: discussed the County's proposed 2012 Budget with a 19.2 % tax increase. She asked if the Board would consider sending a letter objecting to the 19.2% tax increase. You can use the Town of Rensselaerville as an example of prudent budgeting to be able to keep the budget under the tax limits.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Cooke to send a letter to the Albany County incoming County Executive concerning the proposed 19.2% tax increase; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Kudlack. *Motion Carried. Ayes (4) Dermody, Bolte, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Supervisor Dermody to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Kudlack (8:17PM) *Motion Carried. Ayes (4) Dermody, Bolte, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

A motion was made by Supervisor Dermody to come out of Executive Session, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Bolte (8:27).

*Motion Carried. Ayes (4) Dermody, Bolte, Cooke, Kudlack; Nays (0)*

### ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Supervisor Dermody to adjourn the meeting at 8:27PM; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Kudlack. *Motion Carried.*

### **RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,**

Kathleen A. Hallenbeck,  
Town Clerk

Note: Full Town Board minutes are available at Town Hall or on the Town's web site, [www.rensseleerville.com](http://www.rensseleerville.com)

***NEW Important Contact Information***

Town Board Meetings  
Second Tuesday 7:00 pm

Working Meeting  
Thursday preceding regular meeting  
7:00 pm

Town Justice Court  
Mondays 7:00 pm

Planning Board  
First and third Thursdays 7:30 pm

Zoning Board of Appeals  
First 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  
Monday, 9am—12 noon  
Wednesday, 9am—12 noon  
Friday following monthly TB meeting  
9am—12 noon  
Other times by appointment

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-3:45pm

Water/Sewer District Meeting  
Fourth Thursday 7:00 pm

Town Supervisor  
Marie Dermody  
518-239-4552 (H)

Town Clerk & Collector  
Kathleen A. Hallenbeck

Town Justices  
Victor LaPlante  
Timothy Miller

Councilpersons  
Robert Bolte, Gary Chase,  
Marion Cooke, John Kudlack

Building Inspector  
& Code Enforcement Officer  
Mark Overbaugh

Assessors  
Jeff Pine, Donna Kropp,  
Michael Weber  
Rachel Chase, Clerk II

Highway Superintendent  
David Potter—Acting

Planning Board  
Muriel Frasher, Chairperson  
Kathy Wank, Secretary

Zoning Board of Appeals  
James Glorioso, Chairman  
Kathy Wank, Secretary

Deputy Town Clerk  
Dee Andrus

Bookkeeper  
Sarah Hunt

Town Hall  
518-797-3798; 518-239-4225  
Fax: 518-239-6339

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

Sen. Neil Breslin, 46th Dist.  
Capital Bldg., Room 502  
Albany, NY 12247  
518-455-2800

Assemblyman John McEneny, 104th Dist.  
LOB, Room 648  
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,  
765-5979  
Social number - 239-6166

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

Albany County Sheriff, 911  
518-765-2351

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

Hilltown Community Resource Center  
518-797-5256

**E-MAIL ADDRESSES**

Town Supervisor: [townsupervisor@rensselaerville.com](mailto:townsupervisor@rensselaerville.com); [mdermody@rensselaerville.com](mailto:mdermody@rensselaerville.com)

Town Clerk: [townclerk@rensselaerville.com](mailto:townclerk@rensselaerville.com)

Newsletter: [newsletter@rensselaerville.com](mailto:newsletter@rensselaerville.com)

Board of Ethics: [ethicsboard@rensselaerville.com](mailto:ethicsboard@rensselaerville.com)

Code Enforcement Officer: [codeenforcement@rensselaerville.com](mailto:codeenforcement@rensselaerville.com)

Assessors: [assessors@rensselaerville.com](mailto:assessors@rensselaerville.com)

Planning Board: [planning@rensselaerville.com](mailto:planning@rensselaerville.com)

Councilwoman Marion Cooke: [mcooke@rensselaerville.com](mailto:mcooke@rensselaerville.com)

Councilman Robert Bolte: [rbolte@rensselaerville.com](mailto:rbolte@rensselaerville.com)

Councilman John "Jack" Kudlack: [jkudlack@rensselaerville.com](mailto:jkudlack@rensselaerville.com)

Councilwoman Margaret Sedlmeir: TBA

Highway Superintendent Randy Bates: TBA

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