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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Penfield Town Board Adopts 2010 Budget with Tax Decrease  
Lower Property Tax, Reduced Spending, Services Intact

PENFIELD, N.Y., OCTOBER 22, 2009 – Penfield Town Supervisor George C. Wiedemer and the Penfield Town Board adopted the town’s 2010 budget at the October 21 legislative meeting. The adopted $15 million budget will reduce the Town tax rate by 30 cents, from $2.94 per $1,000 of assessed property value to $2.64. The Town Board amended the Preliminary Budget to include a freeze on the salaries of elected officials.

The budget includes a 17% decrease in contractual expenses, an increase in retirement costs at 11% of salary, and a 10% increase in medical insurance. Property tax revenues are flat. Town departments have helped to control expenses with a spending decrease of 3.37%, or $523,557. Efforts to reduce energy costs are ongoing.

“The Town Board is committed to Penfield’s tradition of fiscal responsibility. Despite increases in retirement and medical costs – and lower revenues from investments – we arrived at this conservative budget by reducing spending and continuing cost-cutting from last year. There are no cuts to essential services,” said Supervisor George C. Wiedemer.

Penfield remains one of only seven towns in Monroe County with a tax rate below $3.00 per $1,000 of assessed property value. The Town receives about 8% of aggregate property taxes collected. Of the remainder, the School District receives about 70% and the County receives about 22%.

Deputy Supervisor Jim Mulley stated, “Penfield’s history of fiscal responsibility continues. We have been diligent crafting this budget. Penfield’s taxpayers can count on continued essential services along with this property tax deduction.”

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