FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Penfield Creates New Energy and Environment Advisory Committee
Citizen and Town group to promote sustainable practices

PENFIELD, N.Y., JANUARY 7, 2010 – The Penfield Town Board passed a resolution to create a new Penfield Energy and Environment Advisory Committee at its first legislative meeting of 2010 last night.

The purpose of this new advisory committee is to formally build on the work the town has done to lower its energy consumption and costs to taxpayers, and to promote responsible stewardship of the environment by the Town and its residents. Areas of focus will include public education and awareness, environmental stewardship, energy consumption, use of natural landscapes and gardens, and recycling.

The committee will consist of residents who have interest and expertise in these areas, and appropriate town staff. Resident members will include Bob Haak, a consumer energy expert; Robyn Miller, an environmental advocate, experienced non-profit manager and grant writing specialist; and Susan Foor, an analytical chemist and founding member of the Penfield Green Initiative. Representatives from the town’s Conservation and Parks & Recreation Boards will also participate. Supervisor Tony LaFountain will serve as chair. Member terms are for one year.

“This advisory committee will further the work of the Town to reduce its use of resources and help residents reduce their own energy consumption and expenses. Our motivated citizens and staff will focus on understanding behaviors, sharing knowledge, and creating opportunities so all of Penfield can benefit from better stewardship of natural resources,” said Supervisor Tony LaFountain.
The Penfield Energy and Environment Advisory Committee will also leverage the town’s work on energy audits, energy stimulus grant funding, and internal efforts to create a resource-savvy culture. Additionally, the town is working with Blue Springs Energy on “Renew Penfield,” a project to develop an ongoing conservation program made possible by Federal energy stimulus funding (Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant). The committee will hold its first meeting in January 2010 and determine its schedule for the year.

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