PENFIELD, N.Y., OCTOBER 18, 2012 – Penfield Town Supervisor Tony LaFountain and the Penfield Town Board adopted the town’s 2013 Final Budget at the October 17 legislative meeting. The $15.1 million budget keeps the town tax rate flat at the 2012 rate of $2.64 per $1,000 of assessed property value, marking the fourth consecutive year at that rate. Penfield’s property tax remains one of the lowest in Monroe County. The Town of Penfield receives approximately $0.08 of each tax dollar.

The 2013 budget is 1.5% below the previous 2012 budget. Major impacts on 2013 expenses include the full funding of retirement cost at 21% of salary—a dramatic 19% increase in retirement benefits from 2012. There is a 12% increase in workers compensation cost, a 12% increase in medical cost, and a 10% increase in general liability insurance cost.

Supervisor LaFountain achieved the flat tax rate with actions that include selective replacement of retiring employees; continued reduction of energy consumption and costs; and new recycling behaviors that better separate materials and direct them to appropriate markets, providing a new, modest revenue stream to the town. The town is also doing more projects in-house and using fewer contractors, continuing inter-municipal cooperation on projects, and adjusting recreation programs to better cover costs. Supervisor LaFountain consolidated sewer, highway, parks and facilities departments into one public works department. Those functions are now all located at the Jackson Road complex to share
resources and reduce costs. Additionally, elected and appointed officials will receive no pay increase in 2013.

“The Town Board has worked very hard to maintain a flat tax rate for our residents during a time when many are struggling with impacts from the current economic conditions that have lasted longer than were forecasted,” said Supervisor Tony LaFountain. “Everyone involved with Penfield government has been very creative in looking for ways to reduce costs and cut spending. Our challenge has been—and will continue to be—absorbing costs mandated by state and federal governments. Their lack of fiscal discipline and runaway spending must stop. Our residents, the taxpayers, cannot support more government costs from any level.”

The Penfield Town Board reviews a multi-year budget with projections and expected changes for the next three years. The Town Board bases its outlook on conservative estimates for revenues and a review of the town’s long-term plans and projects. This multi-year outlook is unique among municipalities in Monroe County.

With its history of fiscal discipline, the financial world consistently recognizes Penfield as one of the most financially responsible towns in New York State. In 2010, Moody’s Investors Service upgraded Penfield’s already excellent rating from an Aa3 to an impressive Aa2. This rating allows Penfield to secure low-interest financing for capital projects (sewers, roadways, bridges), and assists with cash flow throughout the year. The Moody’s rating also reflects Penfield’s history of stable financial operations and strong management practices.

The 2013 Final Budget will be available online October 18 at www.penfield.org. As of October 19, print copies will be available at the Penfield Public Library, 1985 Baird Road or by contacting the Office of the Comptroller in the Penfield Town Hall, 3100 Atlantic Avenue, in Penfield.

**PENFIELD 2013 BUDGET TIMELINE IN REVIEW**

**April to September 2012** - Town Supervisor, Finance Director and Staff conduct budget work sessions; prepare 2013 Tentative Budget

**September 5, 2012** - Town Supervisor, Finance Director present a summary of the Tentative Budget to Town Board and community; document made public for review (during this period, Tentative Budget becomes the Preliminary Budget)

**September 5-October 10, 2012** - Public comment period

**October 3, 2012** - Public Hearing on 2013 Preliminary Budget; public comments received
October 3-12, 2012 - Town Board reviews comments, develops a Final Budget

October 17, 2012 - Town Board Legislative meeting, adoption of a Final 2013 Budget; Adopted Budget made public

October 18, 2012 - Town presents Penfield Adopted 2013 Budget to County of Monroe

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