

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Medina-Ridgeway-Shelby Shared Services, Village Dissolution, Town Merger Study Committee Appoints Sub-Committees to Study 5 Areas

Also Invites Public to First Public Forum on October 19

Medina, New York – *September 23, 2010* – The joint Medina, Ridgeway and Shelby Study Committee that is studying the feasibility of streamlining government through additional shared services, Village dissolution, and/or merger of the Towns has appointed sub-committees to study five areas in more detail, and also set the date for its first public forum.

“Additional service sharing, Village dissolution and/or Town merger all have a potential impact on key government services,” said Nathan Pace, Committee Chair. “That’s why we have decided to look at five areas in greater detail.” They are:

- Organizational Structure for DPW / Highways
- Police / Law Enforcement
- Fire / Ambulance / EMS
- Economic development / water / sewer
- Options for use of municipally owned buildings

Sub-committee members include Jeff Tousaint, Skip Draper, Adam Tabelski, Charlie Slack, Nathan Pace, Andrew Meier, Don Colquhoun, Patty Blackburn, Howard Watts, Ann Bunch, Robin Gardner, Larry Fox, Rosalind Lind, Ed Houseknecht, and Gary Blackburn. Some individuals are serving on a single sub-committee, others on more than one committee.

The DPW/highway, fire and police sub-committees have already started working; the building usage sub-committee will tour all local government operations tomorrow (starting at 1 p.m. September 24 at the Shelby Town Hall), and the economic development / water/sewer sub-committee is scheduled to meet on September 30.

Pace said sub-committees’ work will continue for a number of weeks, likely through October. The sub-committees are being assisted by the study consultant, the Rochester-based Center for Governmental Research (CGR).

First Public Forum is on October 19

Pace said the Committee urges residents to attend the Committee’s first public forum, which will focus on how services are currently provided, who provides them, costs, etc. The forum will be

Tuesday, October 19 from 7-9pm at the Medina High School auditorium, 2 Mustang Drive, Medina. CGR will describe what currently exists in the communities, based on work completed in recent months, and answer questions from the public. Members of the study Committee will also participate in the forum.

About the Feasibility Study

The Village successfully applied to the state's Local Government Efficiency (LGE) program for a planning grant to conduct a "dissolution feasibility study" in cooperation with the Towns. Separately, Ridgeway and Shelby also received an LGE grant to conduct a "merger feasibility study" between the two Towns. To explore the results of such measures and clarify the issues involved, the municipalities jointly engaged CGR to conduct a combined study.

For additional information, see the project website at www.cgr.org/medina-ridgeway-shelby.

Study Committee Members

Medina: Ann Bunch, Don Colquhoun, Charlie Slack and Adam Tabelski

Ridgeway: Patty Blackburn, Rosalind Lind and Jeffrey Toussaint

Shelby: Merle (Skip) Draper, Lawrence Fox, Nathan Pace and Howard Watts

About CGR

The Center for Governmental Research was founded by George Eastman in 1915. CGR is nonprofit, nonpartisan and independent. CGR conducts fact-based research with the goal of informing and empowering government, business and nonprofit leaders seeking to improve the quality of their communities.