

# **NEWS Rensselaer County Legislature**

## **Office of the Minority 270-2892**

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### **COUNTY DEMOCRATS EXPRESS CONCERNS OVER AUDIT RESULTS**

**TROY**—Members of the Democratic Minority of the Rensselaer County Legislature expressed concern about the County's General Fund balance as disclosed in the annual audit of the County's finances. The balance of \$4,762,411 represents only about 2% of General Fund expenditures. The County's auditors stated that "2% is really not enough" and that bond rating agencies want to see a balance in the "5 – 10% range" in reserve for unforeseen circumstances or tax rate stabilization.

"We are all cognizant of the financial difficulties facing our county and our state," commented Legislator Brian Zweig after the meeting. "One area where we can generate savings is by aggressively promoting cooperation and sharing of resources among our towns and municipalities."

Legislator Keith Hammond, a member of the Legislature's Budget and Finance Committee, concurred, "We have to redouble our efforts to find ways to be more efficient. I look to the implementation of shared services as another way we can improve our financial outlook without increasing taxes for the overburdened taxpayers of Rensselaer County."