

## For Immediate Release- October 22, 2014

Town of Halfmoon Awarded Solar Grant

Halfmoon Town Supervisor, Kevin Tollisen, announced today that the Town of Halfmoon has been awarded a grant thru NYSERDA's NY Sun Program. The project will entail a private company Solar City installing solar panels on open land at the Halfmoon Water Treatment Facility on Brookwood Road. The installation of the solar panels will be at no cost to the Town and once operational, are expected to save the Town over one hundred and seventy thousand dollars (\$170,000) in the first year alone. The projected savings to the Town of Halfmoon long term for the next 20 years is over four million two hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$4,250,000).

Supervisor Kevin Tollisen said that this is a tremendous project for the Town of Halfmoon that provides long term economic relief and savings in utility costs for the Town Hall, Justice Building, Senior Center, and Water Department". It also shows that "the Town of Halfmoon is investing in solar power and committed to renewable energy as a source of power".

Town Councilwoman Daphne Jordan stated, "in these times when utility costs continue to rise, the solar panels will provide long term budgetary cost savings for the Town".

Supervisor Tollisen stated that the Town continues to look for ways to cut costs from its Town Budget. To date, the Town has (1) saved over \$100,000 in health insurance costs for the year 2014 by comparing and choosing a different health insurance plan for Town employees, (2) secured grants for road improvements, trails and court security and (3) reducing employee costs of Town staff through attrition.

The solar panels are expected to be installed next month and the Town should start to see immediate savings in its utility bills especially during the upcoming months of shorter days and cooler temperatures.

Supervisor Tollisen stated that the Town of Halfmoon is looking to do a similar project for the Town of Halfmoon Highway Department in the very near future.

For additional information, please contact the Town Supervisor, Kevin J. Tollisen at X2200.