## **Media Contacts:**

Melanie Denno, Village of Corinth (518) 361-5030 or <a href="mailto:dennos@roadrunner.com">dennos@roadrunner.com</a>

Joseph Stefko, Director of Public Finance, CGR (585) 327-7065 or <a href="mailto:istefko@cgr.org">istefko@cgr.org</a>

## Community Is Invited to Public Meeting on Village of Corinth Shared Services/Dissolution Feasibility Study Oct. 26 Session is for Residents & Taxpayers to Provide Input

Corinth, NY — October 6, 2009 — Residents of the Village of Corinth and the Town of Corinth are invited to a public information meeting on Monday, October 26<sup>th</sup> to learn more about a study investigating the possibility of sharing services and/or dissolution of the Village. The meeting will be at 7 p.m. at the Corinth Volunteer Fire Department, 16 Saratoga Ave.

A feasibility study has recently been initiated with funding provided through a state grant. The study is designed to:

- Identify and evaluate opportunities for cost savings and/or improved service quality through cooperation or consolidation of services between the Village and Town;
- Identify and evaluate opportunities for cost savings and/or improved service quality through the dissolution of the Village; and
- Address the organizational, financial, and legal implications of increased sharing of services or consolidation of the two governments.

Representatives from the Rochester-based Center for Governmental Research (CGR), which has been engaged to analyze municipal operations and identify ways to make them more effective and efficient, will describe the purpose and scope of the study and answer questions. Members of the committee overseeing the project will also attend. The committee includes representatives from both the Village and the Town.

"There are two very important reasons for having this public meeting," said Joseph Stefko, CGR's Director of Public Finance. "We want residents and taxpayers to tell us and the study committee which services and functions they need and expect, and give us their ideas about the best ways to provide them."

Stefko noted that CGR, which expects to complete the study by mid-year 2010, has 94 years experience conducting management studies for governments of all sizes across New York State, including significant experience with dissolution / consolidation / shared services studies.

"We are not starting the study with any preconceived ideas," he added. "We value the public's input as we work with the Village and Town to identify and evaluate cooperation and consolidation alternatives."

To further engage the public in the process, the effort has launched an informational website at <a href="https://www.cgr.org/corinth">www.cgr.org/corinth</a>. The website will contain project meeting schedules and important documents, and afford the public an opportunity to submit feedback electronically to the study committee throughout the process.

\_\_\_\_\_

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.

Study Committee members are:

<u>Village of Corinth</u>: Melanie Denno (Village Trustee), Julius Enekes (Village Trustee), Bill Fuller (Village Resident), Kevin Granger (Village Resident), Jim Hopkins (Village Resident), Tim Murphy (Village Resident and Committee Chairman)

<u>Town of Corinth</u>: Renee Baker (Town Resident), Ed Byrnes (Town Councilman), Jeff Collura (Town Resident), Tim Hanchett (Town Resident), Dick Lucia (Town Supervisor), Scott Sprague (Town Resident)

###