

Village of Hermon

Dissolution Study Committee

Meeting #2 - 7/24/2014 @ 6:30 p.m. @ the Hermon Library

Minutes

Attendees: Jeff Foster, Tracey Woodrow, Lee Carvel, David Doiron, Nathan Young, Cathy Race, Star Carter, and Carrie Tuttle

1. Committee review minutes from June 26th meeting. It was noted that Jeff Foster was not listed as attending meeting but he was there. Minutes will be revised to reflect this change.
2. Schedule of proposed upcoming meetings/topics was presented. The Committee concurred with the schedule as outlined below.

<u>Topic</u>	Month
Demographics & Taxes	July 24, 2014
Highway	August 28, 2014
Water/Sewer	September 25, 2014
Fire Dept., Codes, & Courts	October 23, 2014
BREAK	November 2014
BREAK	December 2014
Personnel, Budgets	January 22, 2015
Draft "What Exists"	February 26, 2015
Finalize "What Exists"	March 26, 2015
BREAK	April 2015
Options Discussion - Topic 1 (TBD)	May 21, 2015
Option Discussion - Topic 2 (TBD)	June 25, 2015
Option Discussion - Topic 3 (TBD)	July 23, 2015
Draft "Options" Portion of Rpt	August 27, 2015
Finalize "Options" Rpt	September 24, 2015

3. DSC Website Update: As discussed at the last meeting, a page on DANC's website has been setup to post information about the Dissolution Study. By having a webpage the DSC can increase transparency about the process and it will serve as a common place to file all project related documents. C. Tuttle showed the DSC the documents that had been posted on the website thus far. The link to the site follows:

<http://www.danc.org/operations/engineering/hermon-dissolution-study>

4. What Exists Topic #1: Demographics and Taxes (Star Carter, DANC GIS Analyst Presenting)

S. Carter provided a presentation of the demographics and tax information for the Village and Town of Hermon and some comparisons to surrounding Towns. A copy of the PowerPoint Presentation will be posted on the webpage with the minutes.

5. Comments/Suggestions:

- The DSC would like to modify the webpage introduction to state that questions should be directed to elected officials, or DSC members; in addition to the Development Authority.
- D. Doiron mentioned that he is a former Town Councilman so it should not say Town Council after his name on the webpage. The website will be updated to reflect this correction.
- A question was asked regarding clarification as to whether the reference to Gouverneur in the PowerPoint (PPT) was for the Town of Village of Gouverneur. S. Carter believed this to be the Village and will update the PPT accordingly before posting to the webpage.
- A request was made to include additional comparison poverty and income data for more surrounding Towns and Villages. The PPT will be updated accordingly with additional data.

- L. Carvel mentioned that Iroquois Gas's assessment accounts for a substantial portion of the Town's overall assessed value (i.e., ~\$14M vs. Town total of \$84M). S. Carter noted that this did not appear in the County records that she had reviewed. She will follow up with the County to be sure that the list of assessed parcels is complete and get specific information on any utilities that may not have been included.

- C. Tuttle mentioned that it may be helpful to also present a breakdown of the different property classification percentages in the Town and Village. The PPT will be updated with this information.

- N. Young requested that the PPTs be send out in advance of the meetings so DSC members could review and formulate questions ahead of time. C. Tuttle said this would be done for upcoming meetings and explained that the presentation for tonight's meeting was not finished up until earlier today.

- D. Doiron requested that the percentage of Trout Lake property assessment versus total town assessment be clarified. This will be added to the PPT.

- C. Tuttle relayed a conversation she had with a Trout Lake resident at the Clerk's office regarding their concerns about Trout Lake taxes increasing if the Village dissolved. She explained how the process would work, that a website would be created to share information, and that there would be several public meetings. At the DSC meeting C. Tuttle offered to reach out to the Trout Lake Assoc. and see if they would like to have her and some DSC members come to a future meeting and provide an overview of the dissolution study process and work completed to date. The DSC agreed this would be a good idea. C. Tuttle will reach out to Lake Assoc. President and report back to the committee.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by C. Tuttle