

VILLAGE OF DANSVILLE
DISSOLUTION/CO-TERMINUS STUDY
MEETING MINUTES
JULY 28, 2010

PRESENT: Chairman Barry Haywood, Sandy Briggs, Nancy Conklin, Don Saylor, Andy Kershner, Bob Smith, Rick Schwenzer, Dennis Mahus, James Wissler, Rachel Scura, John Putney, Keith Petti, Charlie Zettek, Scott Sittig and Donna Clark.

ABSENT: Bill Dixon and Tim Wolfanger.

ALSO PRESENT: DJ Smith.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chairman Haywood.

Chairman Haywood suggested an amendment to agenda: a change to the way the minutes are approved. Nancy Conklin made a motion to approve the agenda with the amendment. Jim Wissler seconded. No further discussion. All in favor. No one opposed. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Bob Smith and seconded by Rick Schwenzer to approve the minutes of the June meeting. No further discussion. All in favor. No one opposed. Motion carried.

The current process of getting the minutes on the website takes a month as the minutes are not approved until the following month. Chairman Haywood suggested that once the minutes are sent out via e-mail to committee members that the members could respond back via e-mail if they would approve the minutes. If there are questions or corrections they could be dealt with at that time. A motion was made by Jim Wissler and seconded by Don Saylor to have minutes approved via e-mail as they are received. No further discussion. All in favor. No one opposed. Motion carried.

FOIL requests were discussed. CGR is not subject to FOIL because they have a 501C3 status. Scott Sittig contacted the DOS for their opinion of a FOIL request. As of the meeting, he had not heard back from them. Scott Sittig asked about posting material on the website. After a brief discussion, it was decided to post all information from the surveys as it was reported by CGR. Jim Wissler stated that not all people have a computer, so he would like to see a copy at the library. Rick Schwenzer made a motion second by Nancy Conklin to post the survey on the website. Rick Schwenzer then changed his motion to include not only the website, but to have a copy for viewing at the Town Clerk's office, the Village Clerk's office and the library. Nancy Conklin seconded. No further discussion. All in favor. No one opposed. Motion carried.

The committee reviewed the possible options for the Town and Village as well as discussed the impact of taxes of Village and Town residents. Don Saylor stated that the revenue from the AIM incentive could have a significant impact on the decision making. He stated that we can not know if the AIM incentive is guaranteed forever. The State could choose to lessen the amount or discontinue it altogether. CGR had a worksheet prepared and asked committee members to fill in and rate the options from best to worst. This will give CGR an idea of what the committee is thinking at this time. The committee discussed the two strongest options, in their opinion, at this time. They are keep the status quo or become a city. They discussed how these options, as well as dissolving the Village would affect services, tax rates and revenues. Becoming a city is a process that takes 2-3 years as the State Legislature would have to approve the action, a charter would need to be drawn up, whether State highways would now become the responsibility of the "city" to maintain, schools and busing. Keith Petti stated that if the committee is planning a progressive move, that the city status is probably the way to go. Don Saylor stated that the committee also has to consider the emotional aspect of a change including identity, destiny, control and history. Scott Sittig agreed that emotion has been a key point for other communities that have been through this process. Jim Wissler stated that he feels that whatever option the committee chooses to present, that it is a pocketbook issue, if there is not savings across the board, it is not going anywhere. Sandy Briggs added that if taxes increase in the Town, that many people could move.

The committee discussed what to take to the joint meeting with the Village and Town Boards on August 12, 2010 at 5:30p.m.. Don Saylor stated that it is his opinion that if the committee offers something better (i.e. city status) that perhaps the committee could ward off a petition by the citizens to dissolve the Village. He feels that it will go to a petition if the committee does nothing, and if there is a better course of action, the committee should try it. He stated that with the city option both the Town and Village residents would have a vote. Mr. Sittig explained that if the committee chooses the city status, that a petition could still be filed. Andy Kershner added that educating the people will be key. Mr. Sittig stated that to take all of the information to the Town and Village Board members who have not been involved in this process from the beginning would be quite overwhelming. Jim Wissler suggested giving those members the terminology that has been used thus far to help them. CGR had supplied a comparison of Town and Village governments, which was reviewed. A motion was made by Jim Wissler and seconded by Rick Schwenzer to put this information on the website. No further discussion. all in favor. No one opposed. Motion carried.

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Nancy Conklin and seconded by Rick Schwenger to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. No further discussion. All in favor. No one opposed. Motion carried.

Donna Clark