

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES

May 16, 2012, 6:00 pm to 8:15 pm at Village Hall

Attendance:

- Matthew Monahan, Mayor of Village of Hoosick Falls
- Jeremy Driscoll, Trustee of Village of Hoosick Falls
- Mark Surdam, Board Member of Town of Hoosick
- Louie Schmigel, Board Member of Town of Hoosick
- Lester Goodermote, Rensselaer County Legislator
- Bobby Ryan, Resident
- Joe Nuccio, Resident
- Dennis Casey, Resident
- Kendal Baker, Resident
- Joseph Stefko, Center for Governmental Research
- Paul Bishop, Center for Governmental Research

Discussion:

- CGR staff reviewed project methodology, project timeline, and the communications strategy with the steering committee. The project website was briefly shared with the steering committee and the web address will be shared for their comments before the website is made public. The website is an important part of the communications plan regarding the project and residents should be encouraged to review the website to stay informed on the project.
- A lengthy discussion occurred regarding the contextual issues regarding the initiation of the dissolution and alternatives study. Issues that were brought forth from the committee included potential cost savings, consideration of combining courts, identification of potential job losses, alternatives to current police situation including expansion to a town wide force or dissolution, disposition of current debts, the impact on tax rates and which services might be able to be shared (assessor, inspector, clerk, dog warden and highway/public works.)
- Specific questions regarding the future of the village charter, the involvement of town outside of village residents, and debt service were answered for the committee and will be addressed in forthcoming reports.
- The project timeline was discussed and key milestones were laid out. CGR staff plans to return in June to interview key village and town staff, and interested members of the steering committee. Matt Monahan will facilitate that scheduling. The next steering committee meeting will occur in Mid-July. The first public forum is planned to occur in September or October.