

Village of Malone Government Efficiency Study Committee
Minutes from the Joint Board Meeting & Public Forum
June 14, 2012

Welcome: Chairperson Martha Weaver welcomed the Town and Village Boards as well as the public to the meeting.

Presentation: Chairperson Martha Weaver presented an overview of the draft report, including information about dissolution and shared service opportunities.

Questions and Comments from the Boards and the Public:

- *How certain is the ongoing receipt of the Citizens Empowerment Tax Credit?* Sean Maguire, from the NYS Department of State, responded to this question. Nobody knows for certain what the government will do in the future. That said, the government continues to honor commitments made to communities that have voted to dissolve.
- *Police:* Many people expressed concern about losing the police force. Some expressed concern about the cost of police and some, including the Police Chief Chris Premo, about the options considered in the draft report. The public suggested a number of alternatives or complements to be considered, including reliance on Homeland Security, corrections officers and volunteers.
- *Employees:* The committee affirmed its recommendation that no Village staff positions would be lost as a result of the dissolution. Over time, the Town may choose to decrease the size of its workforce through attrition.
- *Guarantees:* Some expressed a desire for certainty that the Town would agree to and follow through on implementing the dissolution plan. A suggestion was made to seek a memorandum of agreement with the Town.
- *Timeline of the process:* The committee can choose to deliberate as long as necessary, although the process has already been ongoing for several months.
- A suggestion was made that tax exempt properties in the Village should be taxed.
- Some errors and edits have been identified in the draft report.