

Dissolution Study Committee

Minutes

Minutes
March 31, 2010

Village Board Rm
6 – 7:30 p.m.

Chairperson: Tim Connolly

Present: Michele Arnold, Tim Connolly, Ruth Garner, Cindy Goliber, Eleanor Hopke, Alexandra Jacobs, Mark Lee, Jack McGuire, Dan Parker, Mario Pusateri, Marie Regan, Rose Rivezzi, Will Siegfried, Steve Warr

Absent: Mike Zagrobelny

I. Minutes: March 23 minutes approved with revisions

II. Opening: Tim Connolly welcomed Guest Speaker Sean M. Maguire, AICP, a Northern NY Land Use Training Specialist with the New York State Department of State's Division of Local Government. Mr. Maguire is a trained and experienced planner and public speaker who presents training programs and provides technical assistance to local municipal officials on consolidation, dissolution, shared services and land use.

III. Announcements and Updates: none

IV. Presentation and Discussions: Sean Maguire highlighted the dissolution study process, recent examples of dissolution studies, the distinct functions of towns versus villages, legal matters regarding debt, village police, taxes, and other services.[see power point notes] Some clarifications and recommendations are:

A. Dissolution-

1. DSC will develop a foundation document which is the *Dissolution Study* for the village board, containing all the elements needed to formulate a *Dissolution Plan*, which we also deliver
2. DSC will also develop *Alternatives to Village Dissolution*
3. The village board will make a decision (business in nature) to either dissolve into the town (Village Law Article 19-1900), or continue as a village and pursue some of the alternatives
4. Town has no direct vote in the decision to dissolve, but in the *dissolution plan* and intermunicipal agreements

B. Consultants –

1. Interview consultants; NYS will supply a list of potential companies (grant money to defray most of the cost of the consultant has not yet been determined)
2. Lay out consultant's charge, define Potsdam Village's needs/strengths, set clear expectations of a Request for Proposal (RFP), a Request for Qualifications (RFQ), and cost, etc.
3. Charge the consultant to create two models showing options for AIM funding

4. Anticipate guiding the consultants as they deal with Potsdam Village's unique circumstances, i.e. hydro-electric plant

C. Committee work-

1. Develop RFP
2. Outline current town and village services, budgets, etc as an inventory
3. Research consultants and other NYS communities which have gone through this process; NYS will supply this information

V. Next meeting: Wednesday, 4/14 3rd floor Village Community Room, 7 – 8:30 pm

VI. Adjournment: 7:59 pm

Submitted by Michele Arnold