

DSC Public Forum

Minutes
April 13, 2011

Potsdam Central High School
6 – 7:30 p.m.

Facilitator: 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, Mike Zagrobelny, Charlie Zettek

I. Tim Connolly gave a power point overview of the DSC process and findings

II. Question & Answer Period:

Bob Wheeler, 81 Leroy St –

Q. How did issue of dissolution come up?

A. Potsdam Village Board was proactive and addressed concerns

Q. Assuming a “Yes” vote, what is the Town’s responsibility?

A. Although it’s only a village vote, the Town must accept the results and work towards a realistic transition plan

Q. Regarding the 2 colleges - does the Town have any liability?

A. The Town already has a liability; would assume more

Q. Will there be tax districts?

A. former village will pay debt as a tax district; can create districts, except for Police District, which needs special legislation

Helen Brauer, 86 Market St.

Q. What is the obligation of the Town?

A. The Town takes its role seriously; it will act on the formulated plan; the Town government will look differently

Charlie Zettek, CGR Consultant Comments:

In the case of dissolution, the town must provide everything but police protection; It can choose different levels of service than the village currently provides (funded by current village taxes). No guarantees

Geroge Arnold, 47 Bay St Comments

We choose to live in a village, rather than in the Town Outside the Village (TOV) because we prefer the higher level of services and the services provided by a village government; it is then fair to expect to pay for those services.

Elaine Brown, 29 Pierrepont Ave

Q. What about non-profits?

A. If there is a village district, users will pay

Kathleen Fitzgerald, 10 Barclay St.

Q. Will there be a plan?

A. There will be a final dissolution Plan from the DSC and then a transition plan

Q. How will law enforcement look?

A. DSC is currently examining the different options

Ken Freidel, Eben Rd

Q. When will we know when there is tax relief for the Village and its effect on Town residents?

A. Options report will explain

Eleanor Rosenthal, Chestnut St

Q. Will there be consolidated functions or shared services?

A. Yes, the Options Report will provide recommendations of more efficient government

Elizabeth Forgerty, Bradley Dr.

Q. The 67% untaxed village property – will it become taxable?

A. New York State determines who is taxed; not a local decision.

III. Adjournment: 7:10 pm

Submitted by Michele Arnold