

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE VILLAGE OF PORT HENRY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

LOCATION: MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 4303 MAIN STREET  
PORT HENRY, NY 12974

DATE: SEPTEMBER 22, 2014

TIME: 7:00 PM

PRESENT: Mayor Guerin, Trustees Brassard, McDonald, McDonough and Rich, Clerk Daly, Treasurer Monette, Water and Wastewater Chief Operator; Carl (Chip) Perry, DPW Working Foreman; John Hickey and Port Henry Fire Department Chief; Jim Hughes.

ATTENDANCE: Dallas Rich, Bill Potkowski, Janice Potkowski, Louise Belden, Carol Schaffer, Cathy St. Pierre, Jack Sheldon, Margaret Parah, Lucille Trow, Tom Trow, Pat Tom, Josephine Tom, Iyles Moore, Kelly King, Joe Cooke, Ann Tesar, Frank Martin, Sue McHone, Linda Smyth, Jeff Kelly, Tim Bryant, Daniel Laing and Stephanie Popp.

Copies of the Special Meeting Agenda and the 2009 Village of Port Henry Dissolution Plan were made available to the public at this meeting.

Mayor Guerin called the Special Meeting to order at 7:00 pm, followed by the salute to the flag. Mayor Guerin thanked everyone for attending and informed the public that the purpose for the Special Meeting was to give the Board the opportunity to address and discuss the new laws and procedures with regard to dissolution and update the Board on the MH 13 Reconstruction Project. Mayor Guerin further explained that the Board elected to take the initiative by calling this meeting with regard to the recent resolution passed by the Town Board on Village dissolution. Mayor Guerin indicated that there will be a public comment period after Board discussion with a five minute time limit for each person/comment.

#### BOARD DISCUSSION

Dissolution/Consolidation Procedures: Trustee Brassard explained that there are two ways that a referendum on dissolution or consolidation can be initiated; by the registered voters of the Village, or via a resolution passed by the Village Board. Trustee Brassard summarized the two procedures as follows: *\*Please note that "dissolution" is now referred to as "reorganization" in most State publications and may also be referred to as such below:*

#### **Voter initiated procedure:**

- A valid petition must be signed by 10% of the registered voters in the Village.
- If the petition is deemed valid then a referendum (vote) on dissolution would be held within 60-90 days.
- If the referendum fails, then reorganization will not take place.
- If the referendum passes, the Village and Town would have to meet within 30 days to implement a plan, which would then need to be approved by resolution within 180 days.
- No later than five (5) business days after the plan is approved a Public Hearing(s) must be held.
- Within 60 days from the last Public Hearing the final plan must be approved.
- If no further action is taken by the registered voters of the Village at this time, then reorganization will take effect on the date specified in the plan.
- Within 45 days after the final plan is approved the voters of the Village may file a second petition calling for another referendum on the final plan (referred to as reconsideration), which must be signed by at least 25 % of the registered voters of the Village.
- If this petition is deemed valid then the Village Board must enact a resolution calling for a second referendum and set a date and time for reconsideration of the dissolution plan.

- If the referendum passes, than reorganization shall take effect on the date specified in the plan.
- If the referendum fails, than reorganization will not take place.

**Board initiated procedure:**

- The Village Board passes a resolution endorsing a proposed joint dissolution plan or consolidation agreement.
- With a board initiated process the Board may conduct a study before a joint plan is implemented to determine the possible impacts of dissolution.
- The proposed joint dissolution plan is adopted and within five (5) days of adoption, it is displayed.
- One or more Public Hearings on the proposed plan must be held.
- The governing body may then amend the proposed plan or decline to proceed further.
- If the governing body declines to proceed further, the process stops.
- Within 180 days of the last Public Hearing the final dissolution plan must be approved.
- Within 60 to 90 days a referendum must be held - OR - if consolidating, the “Consolidation of Special Districts” will take effect without referendum on the date specified in the proposed joint consolidation agreement.
- If the referendum passes the dissolution plan will become effective on the date specified in the plan.
- If the referendum fails, dissolution will not take place and the process may not be initiated again for at least four years.

Trustee Rich explained the differences between the two separate categories known as reorganization (dissolution) and consolidation. Consolidation is a joint effort to combine two separate municipal governments into one governing body. Dissolution eliminates one governing body entirely. A Board initiated referendum provides the Board with an opportunity to form a plan before the vote, whereas a voter initiated referendum allows for the public to vote first, then a plan is formed.

Trustee Rich indicated that a Town Councilman reported being approached by Village residents with regard to putting dissolution to a vote again however the Village Board has never been approached regarding such, therefore found it surprising to find out that the Town Board passed a resolution at their September 11<sup>th</sup> meeting with regard to asking the Village to entertain a referendum on dissolution. Trustee Rich indicated that to date the Village has not been provided with said resolution from the Town. Mayor Guerin indicated that the prior dissolution study and plan spanned a period of well over six months and he was appalled to learn that the Town Board passed a resolution to entertain dissolution again without the Village Board’s knowledge.

Mayor Guerin further indicated that the Village Board is often blamed for not bringing business’s in when in fact in the last ten years, five to eight new businesses have opened in the Village.

Trustee Rich indicated that the Village is very valuable as it contains the down town ”business district” that the Village has been fervently attempting to preserve since the corporate closing of the Aubuchon Hardware store; hence the current Moratorium on Street Level Residential Development in a Portion of the Village of Port Henry and by implementing proposed zoning regulations after learning that the Village can not legally zone or designate just one specific area as a business district without zoning (lightly) the entire village. This may be a consideration for the Town with regard to consolidation, is the Town ready and willing to tackle zoning? If not, the Village’s efforts of preserving Main and a portion of Board Street as the downtown designated business district would result in a significant amount of time and monies wasted.

Trustee Rich further indicated that the Village Board is in place to provide basic services and infrastructures. If consolidation or dissolution occurs, residents are concerned about potentially losing services that the Village currently provides such as garbage and recyclable removal/pickup and the current level of maintenance of streets and roads, not

to mention the issues that may arise in the event that such services are eliminated as a result of consolidation or dissolution.

Trustee Rich also mentioned the following: The Village beach and campground are a vital part of our waterfront. The Village restored the waterfront after the April 2011 flooding and Hurricane Irene disasters and continues to promote waterfront development and has added a few more sites in the campground as a result of such. The Village does not know at this time what the Town's thoughts are on the possibility of consolidation or if they are even interested in working together in promoting the waterfronts. Jeff Kelly interrupted Trustee Rich by stating "well you need to find out." Mayor Guerin reminded Mr. Kelly that the Board will allow for public comment after Board discussion and opened the floor back up to Trustee Rich, who reiterated that the Town has not yet approached the Village with regard to discussion on dissolution or consolidation, however the Village Board decided to be pro-active and hold a Special Meeting to review and educate the public on the process and concerns that will arise as a result of such. The Village will also take in to consideration the opinions and comments of the Town residents as dissolution or consolidation will ultimately affect them as well.

Trustee McDonough indicated that the resolution passed by the Town Board is a mute point due to the fact that the Town Board has no control or say over the Village Board or Village residents.

Mayor Guerin pointed out that another area of concern with regard to entertaining dissolution may be in applying for future grant funding. If the Village dissolves or consolidates with the Town, there is no possibility of receiving three grant awards in one year for one municipality however this has been achieved by the Village and Town as two separate municipal entities in the past year.

Mayor Guerin also indicated that the Village maintains itself plus pays the Town certain fees and/or percentages for services that have already been consolidated, such as the police department, court, Board of Assessor's and street lighting.

The Village Board concluded that it would be interested in talking about the possibility of consolidating with the Town while keeping the interests of the Village residents in mind. Everyone should have a fair say in the matter and it is time to open the dialog and begin discussions regarding such with the Town Board. The Village Board further concluded that not much has changed in the Village or Town since the 2009 Dissolution Study was completed, with the exception of updating the monetary figures.

Trustee Brassard read the following document aloud:

#### **Facts of 2009 Dissolution Study of the Village Of Port Henry**

**Below are a few facts of what will happen if the village residents were to decide to dissolve the Village of Port Henry**

**1- All taxpayers in the former Village would pay a "fee or tax" which would be levied on to the new tax rate for things such as water, sewer, fire, garbage and recycling pickup and sidewalk and snow removal. In 2009 when the study was done this tax/fee was figured to be \$0.70 per thousand, for garbage/recycling/sidewalk and snow plowing and \$1.43 per thousand, for the new fire district tax. To sum it up; if your house is assessed at \$100,000 you would be paying approximately \$70.00 a year for your sidewalks to be plowed and to have your garbage and recyclables picked up. You would also pay approximately \$143.00 a year for fire protection.**

**2- The Jobs of Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Trustees would end and the savings would be \$21,000. In the 2009 study it states the Town Board would not request an increase in pay to take over the Village.**

**3- The Positions of Village Clerk and Village Treasurer would be eliminated however a position would be created at the Town for the Clerk, but not the Treasurer. (I feel we the Board, need to make it a priority that the Town take the Treasurer also as this will be the only person not given a job.)**

**4- The Code Enforcement Officer position would be eliminated, and the Town's Code Enforcement Officer would take over the responsibilities of the Village.**

5- All Village property would be transferred to the Town. The study states that the Village Hall may be used for the police department or court house (which we have a new one now so that is not going to happen.) If the Town decided to sell the Village Hall the money would be used to pay down the amount owed on a fire truck. The firehouse would be owned by the Town and in return the Town would lease the firehouse to the New Port Henry Fire District. If at some point the Town decided to sell or close the firehouse the people in the new Port Henry Fire District would be responsible to provide a facility. The people in the former Village would need to build a new firehouse or we would have the option to vote to dissolve the Port Henry Fire District and in return would then pay a fire tax to the other fire districts.

6- The former Village Campground would belong to the Town.

7- The Village DPW shop would still be used and most of the equipment would remain at this location. During snowstorms crews would report to the old Village DPW shop and would not be required to travel to Moriah first, then come down to Port Henry. The former village crew would be under the management of the Town Highway Superintendent.

8- Water billings would be done by the Town however take this information into account; the current Village water plant is almost paid off (this is the water debt on your current water/sewer bill) if the Village were to dissolve the former Village residents would then have to pay debt on the Town's water plant which still has many years left to pay on their loan.

9- Sewer billings will also be done by the Town however this would be a bit different than the water, as I stated before; the Village residents still have an outstanding debt on the new sewer treatment plant and the former Village residents would be responsible for the debt until its paid off. Therefore the former Village residents would have a special sewer debt as compared to the Town outside of Village residents that will not incur that debt.

10- The former Village employees consisting of the Clerk, 5 DPW members, and 2 Water/Wastewater plant operators would have jobs with the Town however this is only guaranteed for one year, after one year the Town could choose to eliminate employees as they wish. Also something that stuck out in the study was that even though the former Village employees would now be Town employees, they would still be paid at their former Village rates. After looking into the Town's rates, the former Village employees would be doing the same work as the Town employees, but would be making much different amounts per hour. I feel the former Village employees should be paid on the same level as the current Town employees. (Example: a former Village laborer would be paid \$13.50 an hour but a Town laborer would be paid \$16.00 an hour.)

Now the most important thing: The current Village tax rate is \$10.78 per thousand, back when the study was done in 2009 the Village tax rate was \$9.87 per thousand. In the six years since the study was done on a \$100,000 assessed property in the village, the property taxes have only increased by \$90.00 dollars (mostly due to the Village having to borrow \$1 million dollars for the beach and campground repairs a few years ago.) If dissolved, the Village tax rate would be eliminated but in return the Town rate would increase in comparison to what you pay now.

In 2009 a village resident paid \$6.89 per thousand in Town taxes. If the Village had dissolved back then the new rate would have increased to \$8.96 per thousand.

Back in 2009 the study showed that with AIM funding, a property assessed at \$100,000 in the Village would see a decrease in total taxes of \$567.02. If the AIM funding was not received that same property owner would see a \$403.66 savings. Please keep in mind that this is calculated using the 2009 tax rates. Both the Town and the Village rates have increased since then therefore the savings would be slightly different.

For anyone who lives or owns property outside of the Village, dissolution of the Village would affect you greatly. Using the 2009 study numbers if the AIM funding did come through you would see almost no change in your taxes, however if the AIM funding did not come through, your taxes would have increased by 15.7% or \$161.29 on a home assessed at \$100,000.

Linda Smyth interjected that she would like to hear from the rest of the Board also with regard to this topic. Trustee Rich informed Ms. Smyth that the rest of the Board has reviewed these facts and provided input on such. Ms. Smyth commented that she still has not heard from the rest of the Board yet. Trustee Rich indicated that each of the Board members would then take turns reading a paragraph and Trustee McDonough continued as follows:

Here are a few things to point out that Village property owners and residents would lose out on if the Village were dissolved:

**1- The ability to apply for and obtain grants. This year alone the Village secured over \$700,000 in grant funds and the Town was also able to secure grant funds. If we were to combine in to one municipality, the chances of obtaining more than one grant per year would most likely not happen. Remaining a Village and separate municipality benefits both the Village and Town as far as obtaining grants for large projects that we know can't be done on the back of the taxpayers.**

**2- Both campgrounds would be operated by the Town. It is a fact that the campers at each campground prefer where they are and that the campers at the Town beach wouldn't camp at the Village beach and the campers at the Village beach wouldn't camp at the Town beach therefore if the Town was running both campgrounds, there would be a good possibility that the community as a whole would lose campers who spend a lot of money in this community annually. Many of our local business depend on these campers and both the Town and Village depend on the revenue from the campgrounds to help offset the property taxes.**

**3- The Port Henry Fire Department would no longer be owned or operated by the Village and would become their own fire district governed by a Board of Fire Commissioners that would set its own fire district tax rates. By remaining a Village the Mayor and Board of Trustees would continue to set the fire departments budget annually and would continue to maintain control compared to the alternative of the fire department becoming its own taxing entity.**

**4- The Village is very close to implementing light zoning regulations as many of the residents have asked for in order to retain the Village's Main and Broad Street business district. If the Village were to dissolve the time and money spent on this matter would be a complete loss as the process would have to start over; a new Zoning Commission would need to be formed, new maps drawn up, more money would be spent on attorney fees and this would be contingent upon if the Town and it's residents were even willing to entertain zoning regulations. The whole Town would need to be zoned if the Village dissolved and the residents still wished to proceed with protecting and retaining the Main Street corridor.**

Mayor Guerin indicated that the Village beach and campground is still accessible even during the off season as there are no campers stored on site and the beach is plowed out so that people can continue to walk down there and enjoy it.

Trustee Rich indicated that the Village has heard talk about the Town bringing up the topic of dissolution however The Village Board thought that the Town Board would be more open about the matter with the Village. Trustee Rich asked the public present which way they would like to go; would you like the Town to gain control of the Village campground and water district and have the Town resident's property tax costs skyrocket by dissolving, or perhaps discuss the alternative topic of consolidation?

Dallas Rich indicated that if consolidation or dissolution is proposed the fact remains that the vote to dissolve the Village was turned down in 2010. Regardless, what happens in the Village will remain within the Village. For example; the costs associated with the Manhole 13 Reconstruction Project if unfunded, or the formation of a new fire district would become the fiscal responsibility of the Village taxpayers only, not the Town's.

Mayor Guerin provided an update on the Manhole 13 Sanitary Sewer Reconstruction project as follows: The 2005 State mandated Order on Consent remains in effect. Due to such, the Village has applied for a \$2.6 million dollar no interest loan as well as a \$500,000 grant in order to show its intent in obtaining funding for the project. The engineering plans have already been completed and the Village is deemed 'shovel ready', which helps in the efforts of securing grant funds. Mr. Perry explained that the \$500,000 grant will be used toward the Manhole 8 issue behind Van Slooten's and to the Town, which will consolidate two lines in to one and may also alleviate most, if not all of the issues associated with Manhole #13. The plans are in place and the engineering is currently being updated. The Village needed to move forward as part of the Order, or be fined per day.

## PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Mayor Guerin opened the floor to public comment while reiterating that comments and discussions will be limited to five minutes per person.

Iyles Moore asked if 2009 was the first time that dissolution had been brought up. Trustee Brassard indicated that it had been brought up before then however there was no prior study conducted to the one completed in 2009. Ms. Moore asked who was pushing the issue of dissolution and was informed that a Town Council member asked the Town Board to pass a resolution at their recent Board meeting to ask the Village to put dissolution on the ballot this coming March.

The Town Supervisor also informed the Mayor and Board that Village residents have asked the Town to entertain dissolution again however it was again noted, that the Village Board has never been approached by any Village resident with regard to such.

Ms. Moore indicated that she is not in favor of considering dissolution again as she does not wish to incur any future debt from the Town, when the Village's water debt will soon be paid off.

Pat Tom asked the Board who will incur the cost of another dissolution study? Trustee Brassard indicated that if the residents initiate the vote then the State will cover up to 90% of the cost to implement a study however if the Board initiates dissolution, the State will pay for 50% towards the plan and if implemented within 45 days, they may cover an additional 45%. Mr. Tom informed the Board that he doesn't think they should do anything at this time; let the people submit a petition for dissolution, the Village taxpayers should not have to bear the burden of the cost to perform another study.

Jeff Kelly indicated that he thinks consolidation is the way to go and that the Village should approach the Town Supervisor to initiate such discussion. Consolidation would be a middle of the road approach to the matter. Mr. Kelly commented further stating that when a new business opens in the Village the Board should stop in, say hello and introduce themselves. Mr. Kelly indicated that the last vote on dissolution was turned down by 40 votes. Trustee McDonough asked Mr. Kelly if he supports dissolution, or if he is against it? Mr. Kelly responded by indicating that he has not decided yet. Mayor Guerin indicated that now that the matter has been brought up again, it is time to address it and begin a dialog with the Town. Jeff Kelly indicated that even if the Village were to consolidate with the Town, Port Henry would not lose its identity it would still be known as and thought of as the "Village".

Chief Hughes informed the public that he sat on the Village Board for seven years; has been a volunteer fireman for 30 years and has worked in Albany for the past 17 years. Chief Hughes commented that Governor Cuomo is pushing for consolidation but he would like to see where the cost savings is for either scenario. If a new Port Henry fire district is formed as a result of dissolution the district would then set its own tax rate and he would then push forward in obtaining a new firehouse. The Town currently has no say over the Moriah and Mineville-Witherbee fire districts budgets however the Village currently controls the Port Henry Fire Department's budget. There are many things to take in to consideration when entertaining the idea of consolidation or dissolution with regard to the fire service such as; the terrain, response times for emergencies, etc. Chief Hughes cautioned all to look for the "hidden agendas". The Town Supervisor and Councilman Garrison have an agenda however he would like to know what's in it for the Village. Chief Hughes also stated that most of the services the Town and Village provide have already been consolidated, such as; the court, police and assessors. The quality of services that each provide are on different levels. Chief Hughes reiterated that the Village residents and taxpayers should proceed with caution and that if anyone has any further questions for him or would like a tour of the Port Henry Firehouse, please ask.

Tim Bryant commented that this matter has come about as a result of the lack of response of Village government. He has spoken with the Town Board also and neither municipality seems to have a plan or vision for the future with regard to where the

community as a whole is headed. Mr. Bryant asked why the Town hasn't developed their campground; the Village is not holding them back from doing so.

A discussion ensued with regard to the location of the Village's wastewater treatment plant. Mr. Bryant indicated that it would have been beneficial to build the facility elsewhere, off of the lakefront. Mr. Bryant was informed that other land options and locations were researched and explored prior to its build at the current location.

Trustee Rich indicated that the Village is fortunate to have a Chamber of Commerce that is proactive with regard to bringing in business. Mayor Guerin commented that the pH7 Committee has been very helpful in enhancing the appearance of the Village. Mayor Guerin indicated that the Village does have a plan; infrastructure improvement is one priority and the Village is currently replacing the water and sewer lines on Elizabeth Street with grant funding which helps to offset the costs for the taxpayers. Main Street has also seen many improvements in the last five years. Dallas Rich indicated that when he served on the Planning Board a Master Plan for the Village was in development.

Carol Schaefer commented that the lake is and could be a money maker. Tim Bryant indicated that the Board should work on policy development with regard to code enforcement issues to ensure that there is a clear policy for full time employees to follow. Mayor Guerin indicated that there are currently policies in place and when a Property Maintenance Complaint Form is filed, as is the procedure, the Board and Code Enforcement Officer are made aware of such within minutes.

Jack Sheldon informed the Board that he was involved in the recent tank removal at the old high school property. He approached the Village with regard to the matter and was informed that the Village did not wish to get involved as the issue was on private property. The property owner decided to leave the tank on the property, which apparently upset some residents that live nearby. Mr. Sheldon indicated that he feels the residents should have contacted him with regard to their complaints or concerns.

Mr. Sheldon commented further by indicating that he sat on the Village Board during the last dissolution study and attended all of the public meetings that were held at the Knights of Columbus. He also worked at the International Paper Mill in Ticonderoga all of his life and can attest to the fact that the roads were always clear during a storm enabling him to travel safely to and from work however, once the Village of Ticonderoga dissolved, the roads were not maintained at the same level there and the Village residents were quite upset about it.

A discussion ensued with regard to the fact that State law is mandating that all Town residents will need to be metered for water in the very near future and that this may pose an additional financial burden on Village residents in the event the Village should dissolve. Mayor Guerin explained that there would be separate water districts formed and therefore he doesn't believe that Village residents would incur that expense.

Dallas Rich commented that the Town and Village should work together as one community. Regardless of dissolution or consolidation, the approximate \$400,000 in AIM funding would result in 15% of the tax levy, which does not change much; and if you live in the Town your taxes would go up. Mr. Rich indicated that he remains neutral however would like to leave well enough alone but feels the two governments should sit down and talk.

Cathy St. Pierre asked if dissolution came to a vote, who would be eligible to vote on it? The Board informed her that registered voters of the Village would be permitted to vote on the matter which means, you must be both registered to vote and live in the Village but you do not have to be a property owner or taxpayer.

Sandra Lovell commented on the wonderful turnout this evening; it is nice to see the participation. Ms. Lovell pointed out that the recent article in the Press Republican was not factual in reporting that the amount of AIM funding that would be available if the Village were to dissolve was \$400,000 it is less than that and there is no guarantee that it

would be received. Chief Hughes agreed that the AIM funding is simply used as an incentive by the State.

Trustee McDonough commented on the article in yesterday's newspaper with regard to Governor Cuomo allocating half of 1.5 billion dollars to spur economic development in upstate New York while pushing for upstate local governments to consolidate.

Linda Smyth commented that she would like to live in a community where everyone works together as she does not like rivalry. She would also like the Town and Village to talk to one another with regard to working together on a vision for the future.

Frank Martin indicated that he is from Minnesota but absolutely loves it here. Mr. Martin seconded what Ms. Smyth had to say and commented that he is not used to the separation of local governments. He informed the Board that he has read the 2009 Dissolution Study Report and that it gave him a headache. Mr. Martin commented that he would be in support of having better government and working together, ourselves, by maybe holding workshops.

Mayor Guerin indicated that he and Supervisor Scozzafava talk regularly and he has worked with both he and Councilman Salerno in the past. To his knowledge neither has ever made a bad comment about the Village or Town in the press. Mayor Guerin has also never heard from a Village resident with regard to their being a lack of communication between the Village and Town. Linda Smyth commented that she would like to see both the Town and Village Boards in the same room to talk.

Chief Hughes commented that one party feels that they may be able to run the Village better and is interested in obtaining the Village's assets. He reiterated that he would like to see the cost savings.

Trustee McDonald indicated that the Village has sold properties to the Town in the past in an effort to keep costs down and now the Village does not have access to said properties for future development.

Mayor Guerin indicated that at least 70 to 75% of Village residents live on a fixed income however, people are more involved now in helping to improve the appearance of our community. Frank Martin informed the Board that Mountain Lake services has formed a Horticultural Committee that can assist in planting, growing and developing social capita. Iyles Moore suggested looking in to a food cooperative for the community.

Trustee Rich summarized the discussion by commenting that more people have begun to come together and are working toward helping to improve the community and quoted a line from the movie Field of Dreams; "if you build it, they will come."

The Village recently met with the Essex County IDA and Thomas Eliopoulos, Jr. with regard to the old high school property. Mr. Eliopoulos, Jr. would like to lease the land and wanted to present the opportunity to the Village first as he remembered the past interest in securing the property as a possible site for a new fire house. He has no intention of selling the property at this time. The Village informed Mr. Eliopoulos that we are not interested in leasing the land from him at this time. Mr. Eliopoulos informed the Board that he is also interested in leasing the property to a motel/hotel chain and he will be researching such in the near future.

Mayor Guerin called for further public comment; there was none therefore on behalf of the Village Board, Mayor Guerin thanked everyone for attending the meeting and for providing their comments and feedback.

As the meeting was drawing to a close Mr. Kelly asked what will happen next. Trustee Brassard indicated that the general consensus is that the public would like to see the Town and Village Boards meet to discuss the future of the community as a whole. Trustee Brassard commented that not one person in attendance at this meeting asked for the Village to entertain dissolution at this time.

Linda Smyth commented that she is not in favor of having two governments and one needs to be eliminated.

Tim Bryant commented that the matter is about community relations and in moving forward to continue improvements and growth such as public transportation to help connect the hamlets and/or implementing a food co-op. It is also about looking beyond just the dollars and cents of the matter.

Mayor Guerin reiterated that both governments need to work together, and that one person, or one Board will not be able to accomplish anything, we have to come together and work as a united community moving forward.

A motion was made by Trustee Rich, seconded by Trustee McDonough to adjourn the Special Meeting at 9:00 pm, at which time the Board entered in to Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. Yes; Mayor Guerin, Trustees Brassard, McDonald, McDonough and Rich. No; none. All in favor, motion carried.

ADJOURNED

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Denise C. Daly, Village Clerk