

Village of Port Henry Dissolution Study



Village of Port Henry Dissolution Study

August 18, 2015




Overview

- **How Did We Get Here?**
- **The Dissolution Study Process**
- **What is an Interim Dissolution Study?**
- **Next Steps**
- **Questions & Answers**



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How Did We Get Here?

➤ **Voter-Initiated Reorganization**

- June 25, 2015, the electorate of the Village of Port Henry submitted a petition for Dissolution to the Village Clerk.
- The petition contained 112 valid signatures out of 144.
- July 2, 2015, Village Clerk reviewed and certified the petition.
- July 31, 2015, the Village Board of Trustees passed a resolution calling for a Referendum on the proposed Dissolution on October 27, 2015.
- No further action is required of the Village Board until after the referendum
- The Village has chosen to provide information prior to the referendum.

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Overview of the Dissolution Study Process

➤ **Before the Referendum**

- A public kick-off meeting will be held August 18, 2015.
- Additional Public Information Meetings to be scheduled for September and October.
- A Dissolution Steering Committee will be appointed.
- Village and Town officials and staff will be interviewed.
- Consultants will be developing the Interim Report and other memorandums.
- Links to reports will be available on the Village/Town Website.

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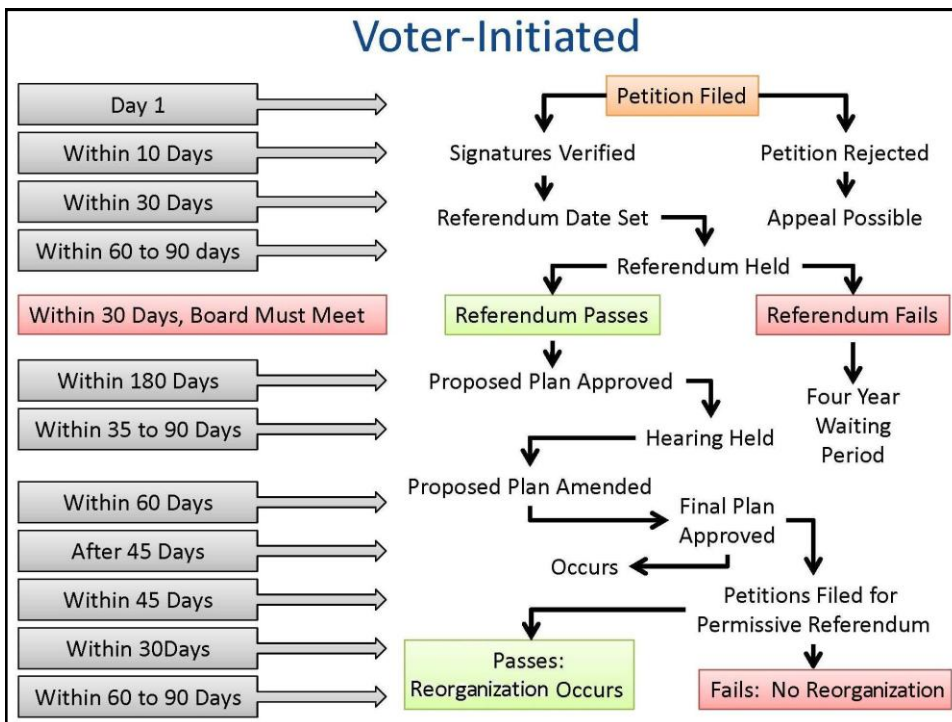



Overview of the Dissolution Study Process

➤ **After the Referendum**

- If vote is “NO,” Dissolution will not take effect.
 - Dissolution process may not be initiated again for 4 years from the date of the Referendum.
 - Village may focus on shared services to reduce costs and improve quality.
- If vote is “YES,” Board has 180 days to develop and approve the Dissolution Plan, 90 more days to hold hearings, and within 60 days to finalize the plan.
- The Final Dissolution Plan is Subject to Permissive Referendum.


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State Financial and Technical Assistance for Dissolution Studies and Plans


- New York Department of State provides financial and technical assistance to local governments
- The Local Government Citizens Re-Organization Empowerment Grant (CREG) Expedited Assistance Program assists local governments with planning and implementation activities related to dissolution of a local government entity
- The Village of Port Henry is applying for an Expedited Re-Organization Assistance grant which reimburses 90% of expenses.
- This grant will cover costs associated with the Interim Dissolution Study and if necessary the Final Dissolution Plan.



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The Interim Dissolution Study

- The Interim Dissolution Study will include:
 - Community Outreach and Education of the Dissolution Process and Potential Impacts of Dissolution
 - Summary of Existing Government Services and Functions
 - Potential Post-dissolution Conditions
 - Review of Municipal Services
 - Listing of Local Laws and Land Use Regulations
 - Potential Fiscal Impact
 - Tax Impact of Dissolution
 - Projected Tax Impact of Dissolution, without Citizen Empowerment Tax Credit (CETC) Savings Estimate
 - Projected Tax Impact of Dissolution, with CETC Savings Estimate


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Goal of Interim Process: Balancing Community Values vs. Cost Savings




- Cost ↑
- Services ↑

- Cost ↓
- Services ↑


- Cost ↔
- Services ↑

- Cost ↓
- Services ↔




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Following Referendum: Overview of the Dissolution Plan

- In the event that the vote passes and Village Dissolution is to occur, the Dissolution Plan will:
 - Give residents an idea of how the dissolution might affect them, and provide a fiscal estimate of the cost/benefit of dissolution
 - Outline post-dissolution conditions for delivery of Village services
 - Outline any potential plan for the transfer or elimination of public employees
 - Discuss how options affect the quality or level of service provided
 - Spells out an orderly and effective way to transition



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Next Steps


- **Collect data from the Village and Town**
 - Budgets and financial reports, inventories of assets, debts, personnel, and equipment
- **Research options for continuing critical services**
- **Access feasibility and general impact of each option**
 - Is it legally, operationally and politically doable?
 - How is it likely to affect costs and level of service?
- **Create a website about the Dissolution process and FAQ sheet.**
- **Additional public information meeting(s) prior to Referendum (dates TBD)**


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Questions & Answers

- **Why are you here tonight?**
- **If the Village is dissolved, what services are important to you?**
- **What are your concerns or fears about the dissolution of the Village?**


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For More Information...

Village of Port Henry

Denise Daly, Village Clerk - villageofporthenry@nycap.rr.com
<http://www.porthenrymoriah.com/>

Laberge Group

4 Computer Drive
Albany, NY 12205
518.458.7112
www.labergegroup.com
Nicole Allen, AICP – nallen@labergegroup.com



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