



## PURPOSE OF DISSOLUTION

On June 25, 2015, the electorate of the Village of Port Henry submitted a petition for dissolution in accordance with the New N.Y. Government Reorganization and Citizen Empowerment Act (Article 17-A of the General Municipal Law). The petition contained 112 valid signatures out of 144. The Village Clerk reviewed and certified the petition on July 2<sup>nd</sup> and on July 31<sup>st</sup> the Village Board passed a resolution calling for a referendum on the proposed dissolution by the electors on **October 27, 2015**.

This Study of Dissolution is intended to assist the residents of Port Henry in understanding the effects and costs of dissolution prior to the vote on **October 27, 2015**.

Copies of the Study are available at the Village Hall and at [labergroup.com/PortHenry](http://labergroup.com/PortHenry).



## CITIZEN EMPOWERMENT TAX CREDIT

Upon dissolution, the Town of Moriah is eligible to receive an annual Citizen Empowerment Tax Credit (CETC) to apply toward the reduction of the Town tax levy.

By law, a minimum of 70% of the CETC must be applied as a reduction of the tax levy. The remaining 30% may be used to further reduce the tax levy or fund eligible capital improvement projects any where in the town. The following table displays the CETC based on the combined tax levies excluding special districts, sewer, etc.

CETC		
Maximum CETC for Tax Reduction	100%	\$338,323
Minimum CETC for Tax Reduction	70%	\$236,826
Maximum CETC for Capital Projects	30%	\$101,497

\* CETC is contingent upon New York State appropriations and not an annual guarantee.

Village of Port Henry  
4303 Main Street  
Port Henry NY 12974



**KEY DATES**

**October 21**  
*Public Informational Meeting  
at Knights of Columbus*

**October 27**  
*Referendum Vote on  
Dissolution  
at Knights of Columbus*

# Village of Port Henry Dissolution

What does Dissolution mean for the Village of Port Henry?




**KEY DATES TO REMEMBER**

**October 21**  
*Public Informational Meeting  
at Knights of Columbus*

**October 27**  
*Referendum Vote on Dissolution  
at Knights of Columbus*

For more information please visit:  
[www.labergroup.com/PortHenry](http://www.labergroup.com/PortHenry)  
[www.dos.ny.gov/lge/lge/dissolution.html](http://www.dos.ny.gov/lge/lge/dissolution.html)



Village Residents	Current Tax Rate	Tax Rate With No CETC	Tax Rate With 70% CETC
Village Tax	\$11.78	\$0	\$0
Townwide Tax	\$7.31	\$10.01	\$8.87
Special Districts	\$0	\$3.11	\$3.11
<b>Total Tax Rate</b>	<b>\$19.09</b>	<b>\$13.12</b>	<b>\$11.98</b>

**Notes:**

- CETC may only be used to reduce the General Fund and Highway Fund tax levy.
- Any additional reduction or elimination of services would further reduce the tax rate to the Village residents.
- All special districts are subject to Town Board approval.**

## KEY DATES TO REMEMBER

### October 21

Public Informational Meeting  
at Knights of Columbus

7:00 pm

### October 27

Referendum Vote on Dissolution  
at Knights of Columbus

### Pro's of Dissolution: "Why you might vote yes"

**CETC:** Tax payers may receive a tax credit. (Not an annual guarantee).

**General Government:** One Townwide government (no Mayor or Trustees). • The Village currently pays for a portion of the Town Clerk and will now benefit from services. • Code Enforcement work load could be distributed between both Village and Town to improve inspection needs.

**Highway & DPW:** All Village DPW employees transferred to Town. Work load could be distributed to improve efficiencies. • Sidewalks within the Village boundaries will continue to be maintained, repaired, and plowed. • Broad Street would become a county road and the Town will be reimbursed for maintenance and repairs from the county. \$3,261 for 6/10 of a mile. • Beaches and Campgrounds would be maintained. • Village residents currently pay for Town Highway Superintendent and would now benefit from services.

**Fire Services:** The Town's preferred option is to expand the Moriah Fire District to serve the Village. • Moriah Fire Districts could gain additional equipment, volunteers, and buildings benefiting both Town & Village residents.

### Con's of Dissolution: "Why you might vote no"

**General Government:** Currently Village residents have a large voice in Village needs. Post dissolution, decisions for the village area would be determined townwide. • The expenses associated with the Town Clerk, the Village clerk and the Treasurer would continue if all positions are transferred, resulting in no cost savings.

**Sanitation & Garbage:** May be a part of a special district determined by the Town Board. Would be an increased cost to Village residents.

**Sidewalks:** Sidewalks would be maintained through a Special District determined by the Town Board. Would be an increased cost to Village residents.

**Zoning:** The Village is in the process of creating a Zoning Law to protect commercial uses downtown. • Upon dissolution, the Zoning Law could be repealed if no action is taken by the Town. • If the zoning law is not adopted before dissolution, the Town is not required to initiate zoning.

**Water Services:** Residents would continue to pay Village's Water Treatment Plant Debt and maintenance and repairs within the Village's system. • Should the Village be connected to the Town's system, Village residents would also pay a capital improvement cost to connect the systems, and maintenance and repairs to the Town's Water Treatment Plant and system.

**Fire Services:** The Village Fire Department would be dissolved. • Response time to serve the Village would likely increase due to the creation of the Moriah Fire District Firehouse. • Moriah Fire District costs for Village residents would increase to \$1.88/1,000, (currently only \$1.71/1,000). • Property owners insurance rates could increase due to a change in fire ratings. • Longer drives could put volunteers at greater risk when traveling to and from Village response areas.

**Debt District:** Village residents would have to pay outstanding debt, liabilities, workman's comp insurance, and any retirement benefits.

**\*All special districts are subject to Town Board approval.**