

Village of Addison, New York

Dissolution Study and Proposed Plan - Update



PUBLIC MEETING #2 – MARCH 25, 2026

LABERGE GROUP

MUNICIPAL SOLUTIONS TEAM



BEN H. SYDEN, AICP
VICE PRESIDENT



KATHLEEN A. ROONEY
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
SPECIALIST

OVERVIEW OF PRESENTATION

- Meeting Decorum
- Acknowledgments
- What is a Board Initiated Dissolution Plan?
- The Board Initiated Dissolution Planning Process
- How Will Dissolution Impact Governance?
- How Will Dissolution Impact Services?
- What Will Happen with Village Assets and Liabilities?
- What Will Happen with Village Local Laws?
- What is the Fiscal Impact of Dissolution?
- Public Comments and Questions and Answers

Q&A FOLLOWING THIS PRESENTATION

allow time for the maximum number of attendees to participate:

- Questions will be answered on a first-come / first served basis, toggling between online participants and in-person participants
- Please sign-up on the sheet provided.
- To provide the greatest opportunity for the largest number of community members to be heard, please refrain from asking a question that has already been asked.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Laberge Group would like to acknowledge and thank the members of the Village of Addison Board of Trustees and the Addison Town Board.

Village of Addison

Ed Soporowski, Mayor
Bocephus (Bo) Graham, Deputy Mayor
Lorne Hultz, Trustee
Dennis Rattay, Trustee
Tara Watson, Trustee

Town of Addison

Jack Thompson, Town Supervisor
John Lyons, Deputy Supervisor
Jason Becker, Board Member
Joseph D. Trappler, Board Member
Alice Weale, Board Member

We would also like to extend our sincere appreciation to the many staff members, community stakeholders and volunteers who provided valuable insights and who collected and submitted data and program information, local input, and guidance throughout the process in order to produce this Proposed Plan for the residents of the Village of Addison and the Town of Addison.

WHAT IS A DISSOLUTION PLAN?

- A Dissolution Plan must address all the legal requirements outlined in Article 17-A of the New York State General Municipal Law.
- Prior to the Referendum by the Village electorate, the Plan provides residents with information of how the Dissolution might affect them:
 - Impact on governance and representation
 - Future conditions for services
 - Estimated impact on property taxes
 - Accounting and Disposition Plan for the Village's Assets and Liabilities
 - Potential Impact on Existing Village Local Laws and Codes
 - Potential plan for the transfer/elimination of employees
 - Proposed Date of Dissolution
 - Cost of Dissolution
- Post Dissolution the Plan is Non-binding on the Town.

BOARD INITIATED DISSOLUTION PLANNING PROCESS

Collect and Analyze Data & Stakeholder Input

Study the Impacts of Dissolution

Develop Study Document and
DRAFT Proposed Dissolution Plan

Village Board Endorse
DRAFT Proposed Dissolution Plan

Hold Public Hearing
on DRAFT Proposed Plan

Revise the Proposed
Dissolution Plan as Needed

Village Board Vote to Stop the Process or Amend/Adopt
Final Dissolution Plan & Set Referendum Date

REFERENDUM

**WE ARE
HERE**



TENTATIVE PROCESS TIMELINE

July 3, 2025 – Village Board voted to explore a Dissolution Plan.

October 25, 2025 - Village Board held first informational meeting.

March 25, 2026 - Village Board held second informational meeting.

April 29, 2026 - Village Board votes to consider endorsement of the DRAFT Proposed Village of Addison Dissolution Plan.

June 8, 2026 - Public hearing on DRAFT Proposed Plan at a meeting of the Village Board of Trustees.

July 13, 2026 - Meeting of the Board of Trustees to either vote to stop the process or adopt the amended/ final Proposed Dissolution Plan and set a date for the referendum.

September 15, 2026 - Preliminary date for the referendum by Village electorate only should the Village choose to continue the process.

December 31, 2027 - Proposed Date of Dissolution.

LOCALLY DRIVEN PLANNING PROCESS

PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE

Ed Soporowski, Mayor

Jack Thompson, Town Supervisor

Bocephus (Bo) Graham, Deputy Mayor

John Lyons, Deputy Supervisor

Derek Burrell, Village Citizen Representative

James Mosher, Village Citizen Representative

Kevin Shorthouse, Town Citizen Representative

COLLABORATION

COMMUNICATION

LOCAL OWNERSHIP

LOCALLY DRIVEN PLANNING PROCESS

The Village established a Steering Committee to provide project oversight and direction and to guide the development of the DRAFT Proposed Plan. The process included interviews with Town and Village leadership and departments to assist with the development of possible post dissolution services, service delivery, staffing and potential fiscal impact.

Steering Committee

**Village and Town
Leadership and
Department Interviews**

**Stakeholder Interviews and
Engagement**

**Public Engagement,
Input and Feedback**

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

*WORK **CLOSELY** WITH THE COMMUNITY
TO PROACTIVELY ADDRESS CONCERNS*

PUBLIC MEETINGS

- Share facts and dispel misconceptions
- Provide Input
- Answer questions
- First step toward building consensus, finding common ground, and collaborating on solutions

PROJECT WEBSITE AND ONLINE Q & A

- Forms available online to foster dialog and address questions and concerns
- All documents and FAQ on the project website
- Website updated regularly as new information is available

www.labergegroup.com/addison

TRANSPARENT

AVAILABLE

ACCESSIBLE

PRELIMINARY TEST FOR THE VOTER: DOES IT MAKE SENSE OR CENTS?



Governance: How will the proposed dissolution impact who and how decisions are made related to Village services and codes?

Fiscal Impact: Will the proposed dissolution reduce the current Village's costs now or in the future?

Services and Community Norms: Will the proposed dissolution:

- Continue/discontinue various Village services?
- Improve the current delivery of Village services?
- Deliver services more efficiently?
- Maintain/change Village zoning codes?
- Maintain or change quality of life codes and their enforcement?



**HOW WILL DISSOLUTION
IMPACT GOVERNANCE?**

POST-DISSOLUTION VILLAGE GOVERNANCE CONSIDERATIONS

Representation and Governance

- Elimination of Village Mayor and the Board of Trustees who are elected exclusively by, and who represent and set policy for the Village.
- The Town Board becomes responsible for all decisions formerly made by the Village Board of Trustees.

Village Residents May Have a Smaller Voice

- **NOW**, Village residents have sole input into Village decisions and make up 100% of the Village electorate.
- **Village voters make up approximately 67% of the Town-wide electorate** reflecting a potential dilution in representation and a potential reduction of focus on Village priorities. As of October of 2025, there were 1,073 Village registered voters and there were 511 registered voters in the Town outside the Village.

While there is no obligation on the part of the Town to implement this Plan, the Town has been an active participant in this planning process.



**HOW WILL DISSOLUTION
IMPACT SERVICES AND SERVICE DELIVERY?**

POST-DISSOLUTION POLICE SERVICES

Current Village Police Department Staff :

- 1 Officer-in-Charge, 1 Full time officer and Part-time Police Officer with Water/Wastewater Operator Certification
- Assignment of 1 full time officer to the Addison Central School District Sept – June
- Patrols, special events, property checks, etc.

Post Dissolution Preferred Town Model:

- Towns are not required to provide police services.
- There is no authority to create a special police district on a sub-town level.
- Town officials do not envision Town provided or funded police services.
- Law enforcement responsibility would be provided by Steuben County Sheriff's Department and NYS Police.
- Residents may experience longer response times.
- The School District has been exploring for some time cost effective models to delivery School Resource Officer (SRO) services.

POST-DISSOLUTION PUBLIC WORKS SERVICES

Current Village Public Works Operations

- Staff:
 - 1 Laborer with Water/Wastewater Operator Certification
 - 2 Laborers
- Maintain streets/streetscape, parks, recreation facilities, public spaces, facilities, storm sewer system and vehicle and equipment maintenance.
- Snow and ice control on streets, public parking lots and sidewalks on Main Street.
- Operate and maintain all water and wastewater system assets.

Post Dissolution Preferred Town Model:

- All Village functions would be assigned to the Town Highway Department.
- The Town would create:
 - 1 water/wastewater operator position dedicated to water and sewer.*
 - 2 motor equipment operator positions that would primarily perform public works services and would assist water department as needed.
- * Town may consider contracting for water and sewer operator services.

Current Public Works Services	Post Dissolution
<p><u>Snow Plowing:</u> Village assigns 3 staff to snow events. Snow operations includes plowing of streets, sidewalks along Main Street, public building lots and public lots.</p>	<p>Town officials indicate they will provide the same response & resources as the Village and recognize the unique needs of the Village.</p>
<p><u>Maintenance of Water and Sewer Systems:</u> 1 certified water/wastewater operator. All Village DPW staff respond to water and sewer operations and infrastructure emergencies.</p>	<p>In addition, to the WTO/WWTO, Highway Department will assign highway staff to support water and sewer services including emergency response.</p>
<p><u>Street, Streetscape and Storm Sewer System:</u> Department provides maintenance and repair of streets, streetscape and storm sewers and contracts for paving.</p>	<p>The Town recognizes the urban nature of Village public works and will maintain the Village streets, street streetscape and storm sewer system.</p>
<p><u>Parks and Public Spaces:</u> 5 Corners Park - mowing and mulching Community Center – maintain flower beds Village boat launch – collect from receptacles. Ballfields and other parks – Public Works mows Open space – responsible for removal and trimming of trees.</p>	<p>Town Highway will assume responsibility for maintenance & upkeep of all parks, and public spaces.</p>
<p><u>Street Lights:</u> Illumination and maintenance of street lights.</p>	<p>Town will illuminate lights and maintain fixtures.</p>
<p><u>Public Works Garage and Equipment:</u> Village stores and maintains its equipment and fleet at the Village public works garage located at 70 Steuben Street.</p>	<p>Town highway garage does not have capacity to store the Village fleet. The Village garage and all equipment /fleet will transfer to the Town. The Department will evaluate and streamline the fleet during the first year of operation.</p>
<p><u>Highway Funding(CHIPS)</u> Both the Town and Village receive an annual CHIPS allocation</p>	<p>The Town’s allocation will increase by the Village’s allocation</p>

WATER & SEWER SERVICES

Current Village Water Service

- Serves most of the properties within the Village.
- Operates & maintains Water Treatment Plant, 3 wells, Water Storage Tank, Pumps
Estimated 6-7 miles of water lines and Approximately 44 hydrants

Current Sewer Services

- The Village contracts with the Town of Erwin for the treatment of its wastewater.
- The sewer system infrastructure includes the wastewater transfer station, a pump station and two pumps utilized to move the wastewater to Erwin's treatment facility, approximately 6-7 miles of sewer collection lines, and a number of manholes.

Post Dissolution Conditions: The Town would:

- Create a **Hamlet of Addison Water District and a Hamlet of Addison Sewer District** as the mechanism to provide and charge for water and sewer services on a sub-town level. The boundaries of both would be the same as the current Village boundaries. The Town would continue services to all current users.
- Assume ownership of all the assets and all maintenance and operations responsibilities.
- Create a water/wastewater treatment operator position or contract for services.
- The expanded Town Highway staff would continue to provide maintenance of assets and response to water and sewer infrastructure emergencies.

FIRE SERVICE

Current Fire Services

- Village Fire Department provides fire services in cooperation the Addison Fire Volunteer Department Inc., a not for profit volunteer fire company.
- Serves the Village and a large section of the Town of Addison (Addison Fire Protection District) and an area of the Town of Rathbone (Fire Protection District).
- Village owns Fire Station 2 and Addison Volunteer Fire Company owns Fire Station 1.
- Village owns all of the fire trucks, apparatus and equipment.
- Volunteer Fire Company owns the ambulance fleet and equipment.

POST DISSOLUTION FIRE SERVICE

- Unlike Villages, Town governments cannot operate Fire Departments.
 - Town options are the creation of fire protection district or a fire district.
 - Steering Committee consensus is the creation of a Fire Protection District.
 - If there is community interest to create a fire district; it can certainly be revisited; however, it should be better addressed outside the dissolution discussion.
- The Town of Addison and the Addison Volunteer Fire Company would enter into an agreement for the delivery of the service that would lay out the roles and responsibilities.
- The Towns of Addison and Rathbone would enter into agreement with the Addison Volunteer Fire Company for service on behalf of the current Addison Fire Protection District and the Fire Protection District in Rathbone and the new Hamlet of Addison Fire Protection District.
- Town would own and maintain the Fire House and all the trucks and equipment.

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION

Current Village Clerk/Treasurer

- Coordinates Village operations w/ Mayor, Board of Trustees, staff & the public.
- Issues permits, maintains Village records, is the FOIL Officer.
- Handles accounts payable/receivable, purchasing, preparation of financial report, other mandated filings; budget and manages budget; collection of property taxes; management of long-term debt; handling of employee benefits and payroll input.
- Provides administrative support Code Enforcement Officer.
- Bills, collects and manages accounts receivable for water and sewer payments.

Post Dissolution

- There is streamlining of functions such as support for the board, preparation and management of annual budgets, preparation of financial and employer reports
- However, each of the above functions are expanded and more complex.
- Town will be responsible for water and sewer billings, infrastructure projects, grants management and long-term financing.
- The Town's plan is to
 - Make the part-time Town Clerk position full time.
 - Make the part-time Bookkeeper position full time.

POST DISSOLUTION VILLAGE ZONING LAWS

GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW (GML) ARTICLE 17-A §774 (K)

All Village local laws or ordinances remain in effect for up to 2 years post dissolution unless repealed or modified by the Town and shall be enforced by the Town within the former Village as if they had been duly adopted by the Town Board.

PREFERRED INTEGRATION APPROACH

- The Town's preferred approach will be to administer and enforce the Village zoning local law for up to two years post dissolution.
- This would provide almost 3 years time (transition year from referendum date to dissolution date and the 2 years post dissolution to evaluate and then adopt or modify and adopt a zoning code specific for the area currently known as the Village.
- The Town could simultaneously evaluate the feasibility of adopting some form of zoning such as zoning for rural and agricultural for the area outside the Hamlet of Addison.

LAND USE PLANNING, ZONING & CODE ENFORCEMENT

Zoning Board of Appeals

- The Town will need to create a Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) for interpretation and adjudication of Zoning Law in the Village.
- Consider appoint Village residents familiar with the Village land use codes.

Planning Board

- The Town will need to create a Planning Board would assume the responsibilities of the Village Planning Boards such as site plan reviews, subdivision reviews, etc.
- Consider appoint Village residents familiar with the Village land use codes

Zoning and Code Enforcement Officer

- The Town plans to create a part-time Zoning and Code Enforcement position to administer and enforce the Village's zoning code and other quality of life codes such as property maintenance, open burning, and landlord registration.
- The Town opted out of the administration and enforcement of the NYS Fire Prevention and Building Construction Code and Energy Code. As such, post dissolution, Steuben County will administer and enforce the NYS Uniform Code.

VILLAGE QUALITY OF LIFE LOCAL LAWS

Village Quality of Life Local Laws, Rules and Regulations

- Village has a number of quality of life local laws relative to its population density, small lot sizes that are unique to the Village and others that may be similar to Town codes but not necessarily the same. Examples include:
 - Speed limits on Village Streets
 - Landlord Registry
 - Noise
 - Open Burning
 - Keeping of Animals
 - Parking Regulations
 - Water and Sewer
 - Games of Chance

Post Dissolution Recommendations

- Village Local Laws remain in place up to 2 years unless incorporated into Town law repealed. After 2 years deemed repealed.
 - Initiate code review and integration process as soon as practical after an affirmative vote on dissolution.
 - Prioritize review of local laws where Village and Town laws may be in conflict and make necessary modifications.
 - Use the 2 years to evaluate and update/amend/add Village local laws and/or modify Town local law to accommodate Village needs.
 - Repeal Village Local Laws no longer relevant.



**WHAT IS THE PLAN FOR DISPOSITION OF VILLAGE
ASSETS AND LIABILITIES?**

VILLAGE ASSETS

PRELIMINARY DISPOSITION PLAN

Remaining cash assets at the time of dissolution will be used to offset Village liabilities.

Property or equipment deemed surplus would be sold and the proceeds would be used to offset outstanding Village liabilities.

- **Village Hall** - Town of Addison indicated that they would not have a use for Village Hall. Village will put Village Hall up for sale.
- **Police Vehicles and Equipment** - Auction or negotiated sales with public entities.
- **Miscellaneous Office and Program Equipment**

All Other Property, Equipment and Vehicles Transfer to Town

- Water and Sewer Infrastructure and Property for the benefit of all system users.
- Parks, recreation assets, and public space properties.
- Community Center property and facility.
- Fire Station 1 and all Village fire service equipment.
- Village Public Works Garage and equipment and fleet.
- All Other property and equipment.

Village Liabilities – Proposed Disposition Plan

Bonds , BANs and Loans	Outstanding Principal 5/31/27	Proposed Disposition Plan
2003 EFC Water Improvement Bond	\$ 55,986	Village proposed plan is to retire the debt prior to dissolution.
1998 USDA Water Loan	\$ 55,000	
2010 EFC Sewer Improvement Bond	\$1,206,998	Transfer to the Hamlet Sewer District and the debt services using annual Sewer District user fees.
2021 EFC Sewer Bond	\$2,585,823	
2025 Water BAN	\$ 459,900	BAN will be rolled into a larger Water Improvement Bond and will be funded by the Hamlet Water District user fees.
Other Liabilities	As of 5/31/25	Proposed Disposition Plan
Compensated Balances	\$62,669	Pay out in final year or use fund balance.
Retiree Health Insurance	7,500/year	Settle & payout or become a charge to property owners in the area formerly known as the Village.

Village officials indicate that at this time, there are little to no other known liabilities of any materiality at this time.



**WHAT IS THE ESTIMATED
FISCAL IMPACT OF DISSOLUTION?**

TRANSITION AND IMPLEMENTATION COSTS

- **One-time costs related to shutting down the Village and ramping up an expanded Town. Examples include:**
 - Creation of Water, Sewer and Fire Protection Districts
 - Legal Steps
 - Preparation of the Map, Plan and Reports for 3 Special Districts:
 - Legal/Consulting Costs
 - Property Transactions
 - Initial Adoption of the Village Zoning Laws
 - Integration of Other Village Local Laws
 - Transition Facilitation
 - Updating Agreements
 - Implementation costs such as Information Services
 - Miscellaneous: legal notices, etc.

FISCAL IMPACT - VILLAGE PROPERTY OWNER

- **Village of Addison Taxpayers will see a reduction in their combined Village and Town property taxes.**
- **What are the primary factors driving the fiscal impact?**
 - Cost Reduction Associated with **Elimination of Police Department** accounts for the majority of the potential reduction for Village taxpayers.
 - **Citizens Empowerment Tax Credit (CETC)**
 - **Shift of Village Costs to Townwide Property Tax Base** (Town outside Village taxpayers share in these costs).
 - **Other Reductions in Net Costs** resulting from both cost reductions such as elimination of Village Mayor and Board costs; minor central staff and contractual costs and the loss or reduction in revenues such as the loss of gross utility tax revenues.

Citizen Empowerment Tax Credit (CETC)

CETC is equal to 15% of the combined Village and Town Tax levies in the year prior to dissolution or \$1,000,000, whichever is less.

Town and Village of Addison		
Estimated Citizens Empowerment Tax Credit		
Maximum CETC for Tax Reduction	100%	\$167,970
Minimum CETC for Tax Reduction	70%	\$117,579
Maximum CETC -Discretionary	30%	\$50,391

1. CETC is an ongoing annual payment subject to annual New York State appropriations as is most States.

2. The final CETC is based on the Village and Town taxes levied in the year prior to dissolution.

Village of Addison Property Taxpayer Estimated Combined Town and Village Tax Impact

Village of Addison Property Taxpayer - Estimated Property Tax Rate Impact Combined Village and Town Tax Rates (Rate/\$1,000 Taxable Assessed Value)					
Fund	Current	Model - Post Dissolution			
		No CETC	70% CETC	100% CETC	Change in Rate
Village	\$9.33	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Townwide General & Highway	\$3.12	\$4.47	\$3.59	\$3.22	
Town outside Village General and Highway	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Hamlet of Addison Legacy Costs	\$0.00	\$0.10	\$0.10	\$0.10	
Hamlet of Addison Fire Protection District	\$0.00	\$0.50	\$0.50	\$0.50	
Shift to Hamlet of Addison Water District	\$0.00	\$0.97	\$0.97	\$0.97	
Shift to Hamlet of Addison Sewer District	\$0.00	\$1.12	\$1.12	\$1.12	
Total No CETC	\$12.45	\$7.16			-42.5%
Total 70% CETC	\$12.45		\$6.29		-49.5%
Total 100% CETC	\$12.45			\$5.91	-52.5%

Will be converted to water & sewer user rates.

Note 1: Dissolution does not impact County or School District property taxes.

Town of Addison Property Taxpayer Estimated Combined Town and Village Tax Impact

Town outside Village of Addison Property Taxpayer - Estimated Property Tax Rate Impact Town Outside Village Property Taxpayer (Rate/\$1,000 Taxable Assessed Value)

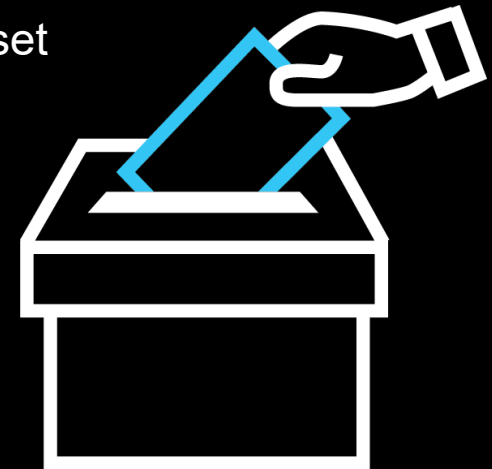
Fund	Current	Model - Post Dissolution			
		No CETC	70% CETC	100% CETC	Increase in Rate
Townwide General & Highway	\$3.12	\$4.47	\$3.59	\$3.22	
Town outside Village General and Highway	\$0.05	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Total No CETC	\$3.17	\$4.47			41.0%
Total 70% CETC	\$3.17		\$3.59		13.4%
Total 100% CETC	\$3.17			\$3.22	1.6%

Note 1: This model does not include the Town Fire Protection Districts.

Note 2: Dissolution does not impact County or School District property taxes.

NEXT STEPS

- The Village Board of Trustees is anticipated to consider Endorsement of A Proposed Dissolution Plan of Dissolution **April 29, 2026**.
- Village Board to hold a public hearing on the Proposed Plan with tentative date of **June 8, 2026**.
- Village Board either votes to stop the process or adopt the Final Plan. Tentative Date: **August 13, 2026**. If the vote is “yes”, at the same meeting, the Board of Trustees must set the date for the Referendum on Dissolution
- The anticipated date for the referendum is **September 15, 2026** at Village Hall should the Village choose to continue the process.



WHAT HAPPENS POST REFERENDUM?

If the vote is “No”

- Dissolution will not take effect; nothing further will occur.
- Dissolution process may not be initiated again for 4 years from the date of the Referendum.
- Village and Town may focus on shared services with other entities to reduce costs and improve quality.
- The Village and Town or their residents can still pursue a consolidation, but that is very rare.

WHAT HAPPENS POST REFERENDUM?

If the vote is “Yes”

- Dissolution will occur on date set in the Dissolution Plan.
- Village will wind down Village Operations.
 - Transfer Properties & Sell and Liquidate Remaining Assets.
- Town will take steps to ramp up expanded operations.
 - Prepare Post Dissolution Budget.
 - Arrange for necessary staffing and equipment.
 - Create potential special districts such as Water District and Lighting District.
- Town and Village Continue Coordination to Assure for a Smooth Transition
 - If necessary, establish Inter-municipal Agreements (IMAs) for the provision of bridge services prior to dissolution.

QUESTIONS, COMMENTS AND ANSWERS

www.labergegroup.com/addison



Thank you!