

VILLAGE OF SPENCER DISSOLUTION REFERENDUM

Vote on Dissolution:

Per Executive Order 202.26, the Village has postponed the referendum until

September 15

12:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Village of Spencer Hall
41 Main Street
Spencer, NY

PURPOSE OF DISSOLUTION

Dissolution is the termination of a local government. On January 2, 2020 the electorate of the Village of Spencer filed a petition for dissolution to the Village Clerk. The petition contained 104 valid signatures out of 114. The Village Clerk reviewed and certified the petition on January 11, 2020. As required by law, the Village Board of Trustees will pass a resolution calling for a referendum on the proposed dissolution for September 15, 2020.

This Study of Dissolution & Options is intended to assist the residents of Spencer in understanding the effects and costs of dissolution prior to the vote on **September 15, 2020**.

Copies of the Study are available at the Village Hall and at labergegroup.com/spencer

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Spencer, NY 14883

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For more information please visit:
www.labergegroup.com/spencer
www.dos.ny.gov/lge/lge/dissolution.html

CITIZEN EMPOWERMENT

Upon dissolution, the Town of Spencer 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 anywhere in the Town.

TAXPAYER IMPACT

Possible Village Property Tax Impact (Based on Potential Conditions Post Dissolution)				
	Current	Post Dissolution		
	Current Tax Rate	Tax Rate No CETC	Tax Rate 70% CETC	Tax Rate 100% CETC
VILLAGE Rate Per \$1,000	\$6.82	\$7.67	\$6.95	\$6.65
TOWN Rate Per \$1,000	\$7.41	\$6.78	\$6.06	\$5.76

Notes:

1. CETC is subject to annual New York State appropriations.
2. Any change in service assumption will change the tax rates.

POTENTIAL VILLAGE TAX IMPACT

The CETC credit, potentially provided by the State of New York, is subject to annual State budget appropriations. It is not guaranteed. It can change annually depending on the State budget each year.

- If no CETC credit is provided by the State, property taxes for Village residents will **GO UP 12.5%** after dissolution.
- If a 70% CETC credit is provided by the State, property taxes for Village residents will go **GO UP 1.9%** after dissolution.
- If a 100% CETC credit is provided by the State, property taxes for Village residents will go **GO DOWN 2.6%** after dissolution.

POTENTIAL CONDITIONS POST-DISSOLUTION

This description of potential post-dissolution conditions is offered as a tool to help you evaluate the “Pro’s” of dissolution (why you might vote “Yes”) and the “Con’s” of dissolution (why you might vote “No”). Check the boxes to the right to help track your opinion on each issue.

“PRO” “CON”

PROPERTY TAX IMPACT FOR VILLAGE RESIDENTS:

- Dissolution of the Village will likely result in a property tax **increase** for Village residents.
- The impact on taxes for Village residents depends on whether or not a tax credit (CETC) is provided by NY State. Please see the Potential Village Tax Impact section to the left for details.

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT: If the Village is dissolved, there will no longer be a Village Mayor, Village Board of Trustees, nor a Clerk/Treasurer. Government functions will be assumed by the Town.

- This will provide a more streamlined government.
- It will also result in a smaller voice in government for Village Residents.

IMPORTANT: If the Village is dissolved, decisions related to all services below will be made solely by the Town. The potential scenarios outlined in the *Interim Study of Dissolution* and described below regarding services to be delivered by the Town are **NOT** legally binding. Post-dissolution, Village residents would pay a Town tax levied to cover the services listed below:

HIGHWAY & DPW SERVICES: Village streets would transfer to the Town. The Town would be responsible for ongoing street maintenance and capital improvements. The Village currently purchases snow and ice control from the Town. The Town would continue to provide those services.

FIRE SERVICES: The Town’s preference is to expand its existing Fire Protection District to include the Village and to contract with the Spencer Fire Company to provide services Town-wide. Under this model, the current Spencer Fire House/Village Hall and all fire equipment and vehicles would transfer to the Town.

PARKS, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICES: Preliminary discussions suggest that the Town will maintain the park, recreational facilities, Panther PAK, and services for the aging and veterans.

LIBRARY: Ongoing support for the library is anticipated.

STREET LIGHTS AND GARBAGE COLLECTION: The Town does not currently provide street lights or garbage collection subsidies, but is considering the option of creating Special Districts to provide street lights and garbage collection subsidies for Village residents and taxing Village taxpayers for the services.

POLICE: The Town would likely eliminate police service in the Village. In that case, police services in the Village would be provided by the New York State Police and the County Sheriff’s Road Patrol.

LAND USE: The Village was taking steps to increase focus on land use issues. If the Village is dissolved, all land use decisions would be made at the Town level.