







### Neville to remain a village

March 17, 2016



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#### By Megan Alley

Sun staff

On March 15, voters in the village of Neville rejected a proposed measure to dissolve the village and become part of Washington Township. The measure was prompted by chronic financial woes.

Of Neville's 69 registered voters, 19 voted against the measure and 11 voted for it, according to unofficial results from the Clermont County Board of Elections.

If the measure had passed, Neville's municipal property and structures, including two parks, would have been turned over to the township.

Junior Riggs, vice mayor, voted against the measure.

"I've lived here all my life," he said. "I don't want to see it go; nobody in this town wants to see it go."

He added, "It's a small community, and we want to keep it that way."

Paula Bobadilla, of Neville, voted against the measure.

"I think that we need to try keep it going as long as we can and hope that they open the funds and release the funds to us," she said. "They have plenty of funds available for the state of Ohio, they're just trying to close down all the little towns."

Donna Culver and Courtney Riggs also voted against the measure.

"I want it to stay the village," Culver said. "We're losing so many little villages in this state; I want it to stay the same."

Neville, which is one of the oldest village's in the state, needs about \$16,000 to maintain operations. Currently, the village, which doesn't have any businesses, generates about \$9,000 annually through income tax, gas taxes and license taxes.

Neville resident Patsy Brock voted for dissolution.

"From what I've read, the village is in a little financial trouble; I'm assuming that's why they want to dissolve," she said. "It's a nice little village, but I think the time has come."

"I hope we can keep going the way we were," said Mayor Cecil Collins, Jr., who voted against the measure. "After the change, hopefully something will happen that we can better ourselves."

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