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## Cherry Creek votes to dissolve village

By Dale Anderson

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**C**HERRY CREEK – Residents of this tiny Chautauqua County community voted Thursday to dissolve their village government – and merge with the surrounding Town of Cherry Creek.

Village Clerk Lisa Gross reported that the unofficial tally of votes was 70-31.

She said absentee ballots had not yet been counted.

"I didn't expect it would be this far apart," she said. "I thought it would be more 50-50. I'm really disappointed, but it's what the people want. Hopefully, it will all work out."

The Village Board is expected to start making arrangements for merger with the town when Village Board members meet Monday night.

A petition in favor of dissolving the village, which has a population of about 440, was filed last November. It is expected that special sewer and water districts will be established for village residents.

Cherry Creek is located on State Route 83 near the eastern border of Chautauqua County about 20 miles northeast of Jamestown.

The vote in Cherry Creek runs counter to the fate of other government merger propositions recently in Western New York. In Erie County, residents of Depew voted overwhelmingly Jan. 17 to keep their village government intact, rejecting a proposal to merge with the towns of Lancaster and Cheektowaga.

