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When New Year Arrives, Wayne County Village To Be No More

BY MARY MCCOMBS | LYONS

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LYONS, N.Y. -- Thursday is the final day of official existence for the Wayne County village of Lyons, which is dissolving into the town after 184 years.

In March 2014, village residents voted a second time to dissolve the village. It's a move that will result in lower taxes and will cost the village its police force. There will be a consolidation of services and staff in the town of Lyons.

Village Mayor Terry VanStean has been preparing for this day now for 20 months and has already handed the checkbook over to the town supervisor.

"I think from our perspective, from the village side of things, it's been relatively smooth. We are handing this village over to the town 100 percent debt-free. We have no outstanding debts at all. Everything has been paid to the last dollar," said VanStean, who said he wrote a check for \$1.5 million.

Peter Quinn, who has lived in the village of Lyons for 67 years, says over the years, the village has lost its social fabric and now it's losing its government.

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Wayne County Sheriff's deputies will patrol and take over the duties which once belonged to the village police force, and Van Stean says many residents who voted in favor of this plan were shocked to discover they were not getting a town-wide police department.

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