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NEWS

Macedon votes to dissolve

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Macedon residents voted to dissolve the village 300 to 246 Wednesday after two previous votes kept the village intact.

Residents in favor of dissolution cited high taxes in the village and duplicated services between the village and town.

A petition brought by residents affiliated with the One Macedon village dissolution group in March started the village process of looking into dissolution and scheduling a special vote.

One Macedon Spokesperson Bill Murray held a meeting last week to inform residents about different aspects of dissolution, and said that he wanted to let the public "ask questions and get real answers."

A study commissioned by the village and conducted by the Center for Governmental Research showed that village residents would save a projected 40 percent on their tax bills should the village dissolve.

Town of Macedon residents could save too — about 12 percent, if the state provides a New York State Citizen's Empowerment tax credit, offered to municipalities that go through the dissolution process.

While several village services will cease operations after dissolution, such as ambulance, fire and public works services, the town will include the village area in town services of the same types, which are already in place, said Town Supervisor William Hammond.

Hammond indicated that the village sewage treatment plant will most likely come under the agreement the town already has with the Wayne County Water and Sewer Authority.

Village Mayor Marie Cramer thanked residents for coming out the polls in a news release Wednesday.

"The village will form a committee and begin working on a (dissolution) plan," Cramer said, adding that she plans to appoint Village Trustees Don Lohse and Dave Sliney to that committee.

A combined group of village and town officials and residents will have input on a dissolution plan to determine the best way to consolidate the two municipalities. They have 180 days to compile that plan, said Cramer.

"While this is going on, I would like to remind you that the Village of Macedon is not only open for business, but consider this place your home," Cramer said.

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