

MAYOR'S RESPONSE TO PETITION TO COMMISSION A DISSOLUTION STUDY

A traditional dissolution study that provides definitive answers on costs and savings takes 6 to 9 months to complete. A 13-page preliminary study, like that done for Macedon by CGR, can be quickly completed in a few weeks. But it doesn't say anything that you and we don't already know from having been down this road before. We know that every village dissolution is unique, that efficiencies resulting from village dissolution typically range from 2-5% due to consolidation of some, and loss of other, services, along with the village no longer subsidizing town operations. And, it's important to add, much of the savings come from the aggressive state incentive to dissolve offered as an annual tax credit to the dissolving village.

As we all know, services not provided by the town with which the village consolidates are replaced by special taxing districts, 7 of them in the case of Macedon and likely 5 to 6 in the case of Brockport. These would include lighting, sidewalks, brush pickup, water and sewer debt to 2031 and village debt, including health insurance payments to retirees. Post-dissolution, residents of the village alone are responsible for payments to these taxing districts.

Brockport's biggest loss of service and savings gain would obviously come from the elimination of the Brockport police department. And that is the critical question village residents must ask themselves—do we want to eliminate our local police? If we dissolve, would the Town of Sweden even consider a town police force? The final Lyons Dissolution plan called for a town-wide police force; the town denied it.

In the end, regardless of any study plan, what happens to Brockport with dissolution, is up to the Town of Sweden. For these, among other reasons, we are not in favor of undertaking the study you request.

Margay Blackman, Mayor
Village of Brockport
February 22, 2016