

To: Jim Cretekos -Town Supervisor, Dar Fanton, Tom Hennessy – Town Councilman, and Barb Graves - Town Councilwoman

Date: January 8, 2007

From: Mayor Thompson & Village Board

Subject: Proposal for City Status Support

Wellsville Town Board,

Over the last several years, we as the Village of Wellsville Board of Trustees have looked at different ways to reduce the tax burden on village residents. We have made some progress in several areas one of which is combining services with Town of Wellsville. The village is now pursuing city status for the Village. I would include the town residents also but, we been advised that if our boundaries expand it could jeopardize the municipal electric contract with New York State Power Authority (NYSPA). We now come to you and ask for your support and a home rule from your board supporting city status for the Village of Wellsville, with the following understanding.

The Village Board realizes that there will be some expenses that the Town now is responsible for, that will have to be shared by both entities.

The following budget numbers were obtained from your budget and budget officer (budget year 2007).

Cost:

Assessor - \$53,385.00

Recreation – \$219,905.00

Dog Control – \$14,240.00

Airport – \$79,500.00

Revenues:

Airport – \$79,500.00

Recreation – \$70,900.00

Village town tax – \$508,363.00

2000 Census for population: Town – 2507, Village – 5171 (see table 2)

Based on those 2007 budget numbers we propose the following:

1. We will share the cost of Assessor, Dog Control, and the Airport Based on Present of population (see table 2). The City of Wellsville will pay 67 % of the costs for those departments (see table 1).
2. City of Wellsville would run and fund the Recreation at no cost to the Town residents.

3. Town will sell property next to Police Station City for \$1(For new court facility). City will allow Town to use court at no charge.
4. By state law, all bridges in the city will be the responsibility of the City. (Hard to put a number on the saving to Town outside residents, but there will be some savings in the long term).
5. By state law, any debt that is incurred by the town that included the Village will still be responsible for until paid off. (Not sure of what that number is, but it is a wash anyway).
6. Code Enforcement will remain the same.
7. Any Town – Village service sharing will be maintained and exploring other areas to increase inter-municipal cost of services sharing where possible.

This home rule request came from the Assembly and Senate Council. State law does not require a home rule from the Town or County as part of the process of obtaining City status. Why or even if the Assembly and Senate Council can request this is not known to us at this time.

We feel that this is in the best interest of Village residents to advance this issue to a public vote. We ask that you pass a Home Rule resolution, supporting city status for the Village of Wellsville.

As the City of Wellsville prospers so, will the Town. Thinking outside the box is the approach that the Village Board is taking. I look forward to continuing working with your board and will be willing to discuss our proposal with you at anytime. I am requesting to be on your January 10, 2007 meeting agenda to discuss this mater in open meeting forum as you have requested. In the mean time, any questions or comments are encouraged before your February 13th meeting so that I have time to get the correct answers. Feel free to contact me at any time. I am open to any ideas that you may have. Thank you for your time.

Regards,

Bradley J. Thompson
Mayor, Village Of Wellsville

TABLE 1**Proposal for City status for Village to Town (Based on population)**

Department	Budgeted cost - 07	Revenues - 07	Total cost - less revenues	Towns shared cost	City shared cost	Towns total savings
Assessor	\$ 53,385.00	none	\$ 53,385.00	\$ 17,431.13	\$ 35,953.87	\$ 35,953.87
Recreation	\$ 219,905.00	\$ 70,900.00	\$ 149,005.00	\$ -	\$ 149,005.00	\$ 149,005.00
Dog Control	\$ 14,240.00	none	\$ 14,240.00	\$ 4,649.61	\$ 9,590.39	\$ 9,590.39
Airport	\$ 79,500.00	\$ 79,500.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
					TOTAL	\$ 194,549.27

TABLE 2**Population Percentages**

Population (2000 census)	Total	% of Total Population
Town	2507	33%
Village	5171	67%
Total Population	7678	

TABLE 3 Revenue Losses

Village Town tax revenue	\$ 462,442.00
Towns loss in revenue	\$ 267,892.73