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Why not?

Cobleskill village officials last week agreed to form a committee to study dissolving the village, which would leave Cobleskill town-village with just one government. We recognize there's opposition to this, so a study is the best next step.

The committee-forming move came from Trustee Mark Galasso, long a supporter of consolidating local governments. The committee would examine all facets of consolidation: taxes, water and sewer services, police and on and on and on. Such a lengthy study is necessary under state law, and if dissolution appeared feasible, voters would have the final say. Trustee Bob LaPietra backed Mr. Galasso's proposal, as did Mayor Mike Sellers, and the committee will be forthcoming.

Trustee Linda Holmes, voting against the idea, argued that the Center for Governmental Research's Cobleskill study showed no tax savings for combining the village and town. That's not quite the way we remember it, and we suggest Ms. Holmes—and anyone else—check out CGR's website. "Service Sharing/Consolidation Options Can Lead to More Vibrant Future" reads the headline over CGR's Cobleskill story about the study, part of which reads: ". . . A single entity. . . will provide the framework for creating a government that is more cost effective and efficient. . ." Ms. Holmes can read into that what she wants, but it seems pretty plain to us.

And anyway, what's the problem with studying options? People who vote against looking into dissolution are keeping their heads in the sand. More knowledge may show consolidation isn't the answer we think it is. Or it may demonstrate, that yes, one government means the same service at lower cost. The economic times demand that Cobleskill and other small municipalities take a hard look at new ways of doing business. The old ways are too expensive and inefficient, and if dissolution offers possibilities, let's take a look.

Trustees Galasso and LaPietra and Mayor Sellers did the right thing by pushing for the committee. Not doing so would have been a disservice to Cobleskill and its people.