

## **Richmond/Hinesburg Police Governance Committee**

### **Decision-Making Framework Proposal to the Committee and to the Select Boards of Richmond and Hinesburg**

**From Paul Costello; February 2, 2024**

Richmond and Hinesburg have an ongoing history of partnership around police coverage. The Richmond/Hinesburg Police Governance Committee is charged to develop a proposal for a systematic framework for the future of this partnership. The facilitated dialogue proposed by this memo could set a path to decisions by the committee and build a proposal to the two Select Boards.

This memo advances a framework for this dialogue that includes listing and evaluating options, prioritizing ideas, setting direction and detailing next actions to implement a police governance structure. Over the course of 3 months the process would set a proposal for the action and decision of the two Select Boards and the public of the municipalities. Steps would include 3 two-and-a-half hour meetings entailing a set of disciplined exercises.

Meeting One would:

- Build a list of points of vision from members of the committee (for subsequent review and decision).
- Develop a list of values to be enhanced, preserved or advanced in any system for the provision of police services (for subsequent review and decision)
- List all potential systems options for partnership around police protection in the two communities.

Meeting Two would:

- Test points of vision and values for general agreement and inclusion in reporting to municipalities.
- Take time to evaluate options for partnership in the future listed at the first meeting, considering ideas that fit together and championing solutions.
- Review potential solutions and prioritize those that have majority support.

Meeting Three would:

- Review, improve, and finalize values and vision elements for the report to the Select Boards.
- Consider the prioritized solution, evaluate drafted provisions, finalize the framework as an outline toward implementation.
- Delineate needed action steps toward implementation.
- Overview report elements.

Facilitator Responsibilities:

- Construct and manage agendas for the three meetings.
- Facilitate decision-making.
- Build working drafts for each element of the platform and amend, adjust, improve with feedback from the committee.
- Produce with the committee a report to the Select Boards with Vision, Values, Priority Framework and Implementation Action Steps.

Costs, Timeline, Logistics: This work would entail four months of work with a first meeting in February and a June end date. The facilitator would bill at \$150/hour with the expectation that the process may require up to 30 hours of contracted time (more if a public input/feedback session is added). The facilitator will expect logistical support from the municipalities in setting meetings, rooms and materials, and scribing sessions.