



TOWN OF RANDOLPH, VERMONT

Randolph Police Committee Scope of Work Adopted by the Selectboard (04/13/2023)

Police Coverage in Randolph

Purpose – To define the needs for policing services in the current police district and outside the police district, best manner in which to meet those needs and how to fund those services. Look at the current Articles of Merger language and legal opinion to determine what the best path forward is to provide these services without dividing the town on the issue.

Members – There shall be 9 members of the committee with 2 being Selectboard members.

- One selectboard member shall be from within the current district boundaries and the other should be from outside the boundaries.
- 3 members shall be from inside the district boundaries and
- 3 shall be from outside the district.
- 1 member shall represent the business community and preferably not be a Randolph resident.

Skills to look for in members – Financial background, policing background, process/solutions oriented, history of the Town, background in various parts of the town such as youth, mental health, domestic violence, drug use/abuse/impacts; rural community needs,

This Committee shall be chaired by a Selectboard member and will hold an organizational meeting to set meeting schedule, work plan and process. The committee will be staffed regularly by the Town Manager and as needed by the Chief of Police.

The Town of Randolph is again at a decision point in policing services. Changes in the Orange County Sheriff's Office ability to provide services has put this issue back in the forefront. Steps have been taken for a basic level of service through this next year however that is not the long-term solution. There is interest by members of the community to look at a variety of items for how the community is served going forward. This committee is charged with looking at the following items:

1. Randolph has a split model for services in a defined village area and then outside of the village area. The needs of each area are different and should be defined to understand the services needed and the level of those services.
2. The types of services needed do not all require a law enforcement officer. Define which services could be provided through current resources in town other than law enforcement or for which another service could be developed to cover the need. Examples would be constable, community resource person or services through Clara Martin Center.

3. For those services that require a law enforcement officer what is the right level of service for the town to provide? What should the town be relying on Vermont State Police for?
4. Is there an opportunity to partner with others to provide some or all of the services needed? A regional model? Towns with their own departments alternating coverage overnight?
5. Develop a budget for the service models that can be presented to the Selectboard and public.

The Committee has an overall deadline of November 9, 2023 with a progress report to the Selectboard on a monthly basis.