



For Immediate Release

St. Albans, Vermont - The Town and City of St. Albans have reached a long term agreement over the delivery of police, water, and wastewater services in both communities. The agreement calls for the elimination of the City's affiliation fee and equal sharing of the costs and services of the St. Albans police department. Details of the agreement will be reviewed at a press conference at the Town's new Town Hall located at 398 Georgia Shore Road at 10:00 AM on Wednesday, January 11, 2023.

The Agreement is for a term of 10 years, and has a minimum notice of an intent to terminate of 3 years. A draft is available for public review https://cms7.revize.com/revize/stalbansvt/ T1_R93.html. It includes an expansive agreement regarding law enforcement services which aims to give the Town a seat at the table where budgetary and policy decisions regarding the St. Albans Police Department (SAPD) will be made. It also includes revisions to the terms under which the City provides water and wastewater services to Town ratepayers. In FY24, the City will reduce all affiliation fee charges to Town ratepayers by 50%, and will entirely eliminate the fee by FY25. Allocations granted in the Town will also no longer be subject to extraterritorial review criteria, effective upon the execution of the Agreement.

The Selectboard and City Council are unanimous in their support of the agreement and intend to formally approve and sign the Agreement at a joint meeting to be held at the Town's new Town Hall on January 25th. "The proposed agreement solves a lot of problems for the Town at a cost we can reasonably afford," Selectboard Chair, Jonathan Giroux said. "We recognize the need for a long-term policing services agreement, and we need fair access to water and wastewater services so we can continue to grow. This agreement accomplishes all of that," he added.

"We're grateful to everyone at the Town who stepped up to meet us at the negotiating table. This is a big win for all of St. Albans," Mayor Tim Smith added. "We're excited to put pen to paper and finalize this so our professionals at the Police Department can begin recruiting new officers, and so that we can all get to work together as we try to recruit more businesses and build more housing stock right here in St. Albans."

A joint statement by all 5 members of the Town's Selectboard regarding the proposed Agreement will be issued today.

The Town continues to be contracted with the Franklin County Sheriff's Office for policing services. The contract expires 6/30/24, after which the St. Albans Police Department will again provide policing services within the Town, per the Agreement.

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