



**Hartford, Vermont Selectboard  
Facilitated Strategic Planning Session  
Sunday, September 22, 2024, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.  
West Hartford Library**

Note: This is an in-person event. Event will be recorded and posted on Town website.

- 1. Public Comment**
- 2. Overview, role of PRISM, conversational norms**
  - a. Purpose of the afternoon – Think creatively to review and update the 2019 Strategic Plan Review Norms for the conversation
- 3. Icebreaker exercise**
- 4. Review Buckets of Strategic Vision (as developed in 2019)**
  - a. Engaged and Welcoming Community
  - b. Strong and Stable Local Economy
  - c. Resilience
  - d. Visionary and Responsive Governance
  - e. Equitable Opportunities
  - f. Environmental Sustainability
  - g. High Quality Learning Opportunities
  - h. Functional Infrastructure
- 5. What have we achieved?**
  - a. What has been achieved so far?
  - b. Are there items that can be removed from the strategic vision for the Town?
- 6. What are we continuing to work on?**
  - a. Short-term and long-term goals.
  - b. Allocate responsibility
- 7. What do we want to add to the strategic vision?**
  - a. Long-Term goals vs. Short-term goals
  - b. Allocate responsibility
  - c. How do we prioritize our goals?
- 8. Wrap-Up and Next Steps**
  - a. Adjournment



TOWN OF HARTFORD SELECTBOARD  
STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION  
Sunday, September 22, 2024, 1:00pm  
West Hartford Library, 5133 Route 14, West Hartford, VT

MINUTES

- I. **Call to Order.** Selectboard Chair Mike Hoyt called the Selectboard Listening Session meeting to order at 1:00 pm.
- II. **Attendees:** Mike Hoyt; Kim Souza; Mary Erdei; Lannie Collins; Sue Buckholz; Brandon Smith; Ida Griesemer; John Haverstock; David Brown; Anita Drake and Melinda Gehris.
- III. **Public Comment:** David Brown commented on affordability and the impact of tax increases, particularly on the School District side (and thereafter departed).
- IV. **Discussion.** There followed an extended discussion among all participants, facilitated by Anita Drake and Melinda Gehris of PRISM Conflict Solutions, about the Selectboard strategic plans, as follows:
  - PRISM has provided notes from the Strategic Planning Session:

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September 22, 2024, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.**

Facilitated by: Anita Drake and Melinda Gehris

Present: John Haverstock, Michael Hoyt, Kim Souza, Mary Erdei, Ida Griesemer, Lannie Collins, Brandon Smith, Sue Buckholz

1. **Overview, role of PRISM, conversational norms**
  - a. Purpose of the afternoon – Think creatively to review and update the 2019 Strategic Plan
  - b. PRISM reviewed expectations for the conversation.
2. **Review 2019 Strategic Vision:** K. Souza explained the process the Board undertook in 2019 to develop the Strategic Vision Document.
3. **What have we achieved?**
  - a. The group engaged in small group discussions to review the 2019 Strategic Vision Document and decide which of the items on the list would not carry forward into the updated Strategic Vision. The group then discussed as a larger group those items that were not understood, had been accomplished, or no longer resonated. The group decided that some of the items on the 2019 document would not be on the updated Strategic Vision Document.
4. **What do we want to add to the strategic vision?**
  - a. The group engaged in an individual brainstorming exercise to generate ideas for an updated strategic vision document. The group then engaged in large group discussion to review items and decide what items should be included in an updated strategic vision.

## 5. Wrap-Up and Next Steps

- a. The group will receive notes outlining the updated strategic vision discussed (PRISM will generate). Once received, the next step will be for the group to fine tune the updated strategic vision.

- V. **Adjournment.** Selectboard Clerk, Mary Erdei made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:24 pm. Selectboard Member Sue Buckholz seconded the motion. All Selectboard members approved and the motion passed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mary Erdei", written over a horizontal line.

Mary Erdei, Selectboard Clerk  
September 22, 2024 Strategic Planning Session