



Wilton & Jay

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A Joint Message from the Town Managers of Wilton and Jay:

The Towns of Wilton and Jay are beginning to explore opportunities for collaboration between our Police Departments and how our communities can benefit from this collaboration. Like many towns across the state, we're seeing increased challenges in staffing, rising costs, and the growing complexity of public safety work. These are not problems unique to one town—they're shared, and we believe they may be best addressed together. With recruitment becoming more competitive, costs continuing to rise, and both towns facing ongoing public safety challenges, we believe it's time to look beyond the traditional approach and see if new solutions could help us maintain a stable and effective police presence in both communities.

We are in the very early stages of this and to guide this exploratory phase, we are forming a joint committee to help us thoughtfully explore the options. The committee's job will be to research and evaluate potential models for working together. We're committed to a process that is careful, transparent, and inclusive.

The committee will include representatives from both communities: two members of each Selectboard, two members of the public from each town, and active participation from both police departments and Town Managers. If you're interested in helping shape the future of policing in Wilton and Jay, we encourage you to apply to join the committee. Applications are available now at each town office and are due back to Jay by 5/21/2025 and due back to Wilton by 5/29/2025. The Selectboards will appoint members at their Selectboard Meetings, and the first committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 9th at 10:00 AM.

We are committed to keeping the residents of both towns informed throughout this exploration. The joint committee will play a key role in sharing updates, listening to public input, and making sure that any path forward reflects the needs and values of both towns. In the meantime, if you have any initial questions, concerns, or suggestions, please feel free to direct them to the Town Managers or Police Chiefs in either Wilton or Jay. Further information will be shared as this collaborative effort moves forward.