Town of Hardwick, Vermont Smoking & Tobacco Policy

Whereas, the United States Surgeon General, in his 1986 report on Involuntary Smoking, concluded that involuntary Smoking is a cause of disease, including lung cancer, in healthy nonsmokers; and that the simple separation of smokers and nonsmokers within the same air space may reduce, but does not eliminate, the exposure of nonsmokers to environmental tobacco smoke; and

Whereas, in 1993, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) classified environmental tobacco smoke as a Group A carcinogen, that is, a substance known to cause cancer in humans, and the EPA recognizes no safe level of exposure for Group A carcinogens; and

Whereas, in 2009 the Vermont Legislature amended 18 V.S.A. § 1421 and banned smoking in the workplace; and

Now Be It Resolved that the Town of Hardwick, in order to comply with the provisions of 18 VSA 1421, et seq., hereby establishes this policy to protect workers by prohibiting smoking in the workplace.

Be It Further Resolved that smoking is strictly prohibited within all Town-owned vehicles and within the Town of Hardwick municipal office building, the Town Garage, the Fire Station, Wastewater Treatment Facility, Jeudevine Library, the Town House, Railroad Station, and the Hardwick Public Safety building, including all hallways, reception areas, restrooms, kitchen facilities, meeting rooms, and all other enclosed work areas.

This policy applies to all employees, clients, contractors, and visitors. Smoking may occur at a reasonable distance outside areas where smoking is prohibited, provided that environmental tobacco smoke does not enter the area through entrances, windows, ventilation systems, or any other means.

This policy shall be appended to the Town of Hardwick Personnel Policies and shall be posted in the Town Office, the Town Garage, the Fire Station, Wastewater Treatment Facility, Jeudevine Library, the Town House, the Railroad Station, and at the Public Safety building.

Dated at the Town of Hardwick, Vermont, this 2nd day of October 2014,

Town of Hardwick Select Board:

Eric Remick, Chair

Shari Cornish

Danny Hale, Vice Chair

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Kathleen Hemmens