

2019

Hardwick Town Report



Main Street, Hardwick, December 6, 2019
Photo Courtesy of Doug McClure

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If you are interested in a copy of the audit, you can call the Town Clerk's office at (802) 472-5971 to have a copy mailed, or you can come to the Town offices at the Memorial Building on Church Street. You can also gain access to the Town Report or audit reports online by going to the Town's website at www.hardwickvt.org. If you would like a copy of Hardwick Electric Department audit report mailed to you, please call Hardwick Electric at (802) 472-5201 or you can pick up a copy at their offices located on North Main Street.

****The Supervisory Union is publishing their own separate report this year. ****

Dedication



Lorraine Lavertu Hussey

Lorraine Lavertu has always been in charge. As the oldest girl in a large family, she took over when her mother was ill, and it came naturally to her. Born in Greensboro in 1928, she moved to Hardwick with her family when she was about 10. She graduated from Hardwick Academy in 1945, and went to beautician school. Unfortunately, she hated the work and stayed at it only long enough to pay back her student debt.

Lorraine married Raymond Hussey in 1948, and they had six children between 1953 and 1963; she ran the family like a well-disciplined Army unit. Rarely indecisive, always free with her opinion, and usually right, Lorraine actually made a mistake one day: Raymond marked it on the calendar.

Raymond's job with AT&T did not pay enough to put six children through college. So, in 1963, the Husseys bought Racette's, a clothing store on Main Street. Through the store, Lorraine got to know everyone in the community; routinely men came to her asking for something for their wife/sister/mother/daughter, and Lorraine would pick a winner. She had two rules for her clerks: 1) don't gossip; 2) if a man buys something "for his wife," don't ask his wife how she liked it.

Lorraine volunteered in community organizations when her kids took less of her time. She has stayed active ever since. She always volunteered at St. Norbert's Catholic Church and the American Legion. She, Jane Johns, and Nancy Hill Stevens founded the Hardwick United Business Association, a precursor to the Chamber of Commerce. She helped organize and run the French-Heritage Festival between 1983 and 2002, and she got involved with the Hardwick Academy reunion, bearing most of the load for the whole-school reunion for its last 15 years. Lorraine likes a good party, but when she could no longer carry those two events, both disappeared.

Lorraine can sound formidable, but underneath she is a real softy. After a devastating house fire consumed the suitcases that two teenagers had packed for a trip the following day, Lorraine told the girls to just go to the store and pick out what they needed; she never charged them.

Raymond died in 1990, and she continued to own the store until retiring in 1994. After retirement, she added the Hardwick Historical Society to her activities, and she still volunteers several days a week; it's understood that she's The Boss. Most people come to the Depot searching for family history, and Lorraine is their best source. She knows everyone in town back three generations. She shares her knowledge generously, but only good and factual information. Knowing no good will come from sharing dirt, she doesn't.

The worst thing Lorraine can say about a person is that she or he is or was lazy. Never accused of being lazy, Lorraine Lavertu Hussey has energetically worked in and for Hardwick for decades, and so we dedicate this *Town Report* to her with heartfelt thanks.

Town Officials

All terms expire Town Meeting 2020 unless otherwise noted

Moderator..... Orise Ainsworth
Town Clerk, Term expires 2022..... Alberta Miller
Town Treasurer, Term expires 2022..... Alberta Miller

Select Board

Term expires 2020..... Lucian Avery
 Term expires 2020..... Shari Cornish
 Term expires 2020..... Danny Hale
 Term expires 2021..... Elizabeth Dow
 Term expires 2022..... Eric Remick

Listers

Term expires 2020..... Janet Howard
 Term expires 2021..... Caitlin Strong
 Term expires 2022..... Jean Hackett

Auditors

Term expires 2020..... Ivan Menard
 Term expires 2021..... Michael Morin
 Term expires 2022..... Vacant

Recreation Committee Members

Committee Chair..... Joe Brosseau
 Committee Vice Chair..... Holly Bolio
 Committee Sec/Treasurer..... Mallory Greaves
 Committee Member..... Rhonda Hess
 Committee Member..... Ceilidh Galloway-Kane
 Coordinator..... Susanne Gann

Town of Hardwick Officials

Delinquent Tax Collector..... Town Manager
 Town Agent..... Karen Holmes
 Surveyor of Wood, Bark & Lumber..... Lucian Avery
 Tree Warden..... Lucian Avery
 Town Grand Juror..... Vacant
 Trustee of Public Funds..... Vacant
 Trustee of Public Funds..... Mario Fradette
 Trustee of Public Funds..... Lorraine Hussey

Cemetery Trustees

Main Street..... Trustees
 Maple Street..... Trustees
 Fairview..... Trustees
 Sanborn..... Select Board
 West Hill..... Select Board
 Hardwick Street..... Select Board
 Hardwick Center..... Select Board

Hardwick Conservation Commission

Term expires June 30, 2020..... Ben Pognier
 Term expires June 30, 2020..... Jerry Schneider
 Term expires June 30, 2020..... Norma Wiesen
 Term expires June 30, 2021..... Judith Ruskin
 Term expires June 30, 2021..... Kenneth Davis
 Term expires June 30, 2022..... Nicole Davignon
 Term expires June 30, 2022..... Renaud Demers
 Term expires June 30, 2023..... Rachel Kane
 Term expires June 30, 2023..... Judy Bellairs

Fire Department

Chief..... Tom Fadden
 1st Assistant Chief..... Perley Allen
 2nd Assistant Chief..... David Hale
 Captain..... Mike Gravel
 1st Lieutenant..... Mike Hall
 2nd Lieutenant..... Ken LaCasse
 3rd Lieutenant..... Charles Bartlett
 Foreman..... Lindsey O'Steen
 Assistant Foreman..... Rick Sullivan
 Pipeman..... Dave Colburn
 Assistant Pipeman..... Dana Camp
 Ax Man..... Devon Whipple
 Safety Officer..... Davey Chase
 Training Officer..... Tom Fadden/Perley Allen
 Secretary/Treasurer..... Jennifer Bellavance
 Dispatcher..... Lamaille County Sheriff

Orleans South West Union Elementary School Directors

Term expires February 18, 2020..... Vacant
 Term expires February 18, 2020..... Katharine Ingram

Hazen Union Directors - Hardwick

Term expires 2020..... Patrick Kane
 Term expires 2020..... Brett Stancio
 Term expires 2021..... Andrew Meyer
 Term expires 2022..... Amy Rosenthal

Hardwick Electric Commissioners

Term expires June 30, 2020..... Lynne Gedanken
 Term expires June 30, 2021..... Gina Campoli
 Term expires June 30, 2021..... Nat Smith
 Term expires June 30, 2022..... Dave Mitchell
 Term expires June 30, 2022..... Roger Prevot

Library Trustees

Term expires 2020..... Elizabeth Rossano
 Term expires 2020..... Daphne Kalmar
 Term expires 2021..... Jodi Lew-Smith
 Term expires 2021..... Vacant
 Term expires 2022..... Brendan Buckley
 Term expires 2022..... Andrea Brightenbach
 Term expires 2022..... Kathleen Sampson

Hardwick Planning Commission

Term expires June 30, 2020..... Diane Grenkow
 Term expires June 30, 2020..... Kenneth Davis (Vice Chair)
 Term expires June 30, 2021..... Jim Lewis
 Term expires June 30, 2021..... Joyce Mandeville
 Term expires June 30, 2021..... Vacant
 Term expires June 30, 2022..... Vacant
 Term expires June 30, 2022..... Dave Gross (Chair)

Hardwick Development Review Board

Term expires June 30, 2020..... Vacant
 Term expires June 30, 2020..... John Mandeville (Chair)
 Term expires June 30, 2021..... Ruth Gaillard
 Term expires June 30, 2021..... Edward Keene
 Term expires June 30, 2021..... Helm Nottemmann
 Term expires June 30, 2022..... Kate Brooke (Vice Chair)
 Term expires June 30, 2022..... Vacant

WARNING
TOWN OF HARDWICK ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
MARCH 3, 2020

The legal voters of the Town of Hardwick, Vermont are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Hardwick Elementary School in said Town of Hardwick on Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at 10:00 o'clock in the forenoon to act on the following business:

(Election of Town Select Board and Union School District No. 26 Directors shall be voted on by Australian ballot. The polls will be open from 9:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.). If special accommodations are necessary because of physical disabilities, please contact the Town Clerk's Office (472-5971).

Article 1. To elect a Moderator to govern said Town Meeting and for the year ensuing.

Article 2. Shall the Town accept the Town Report, year ending June 30, 2019?

Article 3. To elect all Town Officers and School District No. 26 Directors as required by the public laws of Vermont and the Town Charter. (Select Board and Union School District No. 26 Directors, to be voted by Australian Ballot).

One Lister.....	3-year term
One Auditor.....	3-year term
First Constable.....	1-year term
Second Constable.....	1-year term
One Town Agent.....	1-year term
Surveyor of Wood, Bark and Lumber.....	1-year term
Tree Warden.....	1-year term
Cemetery Trustees.....	1-year term
(Main Street, Maple Street, Fairview, Sanborn, Hardwick Street)	
Fire Dept. Officers (voted as one)	1-year term
One Library Trustee.....	3-year term
One Library Trustee.....	3-year term
One Library Trustee.....	1-year remaining on a 3-year term
Grand Juror.....	1-year term
Trustee of Public Funds.....	1-year term
Trustee of Public Funds.....	1-year term
Trustee of Public Funds.....	1-year term
Fence Viewers.....	1-year term

Article 4. Shall the Town have its current taxes collected by the Town Treasurer?

Article 5. Shall the Town vote a budget of three million four hundred sixty-five thousand one hundred twenty dollars (\$3,465,120.00) to meet the expenses and liabilities of the Town and authorize the Select Board to set a new tax rate sufficient to provide the same?

Article 6. "Shall the Town of Hardwick enter into a Communications Union District (CUD) to be known as NEK Community Broadband, under the provisions of 30 V.S.A. Ch 82?"

The towns of the Northeast Kingdom have a chance to benefit from funding available through the State of Vermont and the federal government to develop broadband infrastructure that would offer high speed internet (at least 100 mbps up and down) to every residential and business address in the region. A CUD is a municipal entity, made up of 2 or more towns, with the specific purpose of bringing high-speed internet access, commonly called "broadband" to every e911 address in the NEK. As stated in Title 30 V.S.A. Chapter 082 § 3053(d), membership in the CUD poses no financial risk to the Town of Hardwick or individual taxpayers within Hardwick. All towns that approve this ballot measure will become members of the CUD and each member town must appoint a representative to the CUD governing board.

Article 7. Shall the Town appropriate a sum of money not to exceed four thousand five hundred dollars (\$4,500.00) for the support of the Greensboro Nursing Home?

Article 8. Shall the Town appropriate a sum of money not to exceed three thousand five hundred dollars (\$3,500.00) for the support of A.W.A.R.E.?

Article 9. Shall the Town appropriate a sum of money not to exceed one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00) for the support of the Lamoille Family Center?

Article 10. Shall the Town appropriate a sum of money not to exceed three thousand dollars

(\$3,000.00) for the support of the Hardwick Historical Society?

Article 11. Shall the Town appropriate a sum of money not to exceed three thousand one hundred sixty-one dollars (\$3,161.00) for the support of the Northeast Kingdom Human Services?

Article 12. Shall the Town appropriate a sum of money not to exceed three thousand dollars (\$3,000.00) for the support of Hardwick Area Community Justice Center?

Article 13. Shall the Town appropriate a sum of money not to exceed two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00) for the support of Hardwick Area Food Pantry?

Article 14. Shall the Town appropriate a sum of money not to exceed two thousand six hundred dollars (\$2,600.00) for the support of Caledonia Home Health Care and Hospice?

Article 15. Shall the Town appropriate a sum of money not to exceed three thousand dollars (\$3,000.00) for the support of the Hardwick Community Television (Channel 16)?

Article 16. Shall the Town appropriate a sum of money not to exceed three thousand four hundred dollars (\$3,400.00) for the support of Rural Community Transportation?

Article 17. Shall the Town appropriate a sum of money not to exceed three thousand five hundred dollars (\$3,500.00) for the support of Northeast Kingdom Arts Council (Hardwick Town House)?

Article 18. Shall the Town appropriate a sum of money not to exceed four thousand five hundred dollars (\$4,500.00) for the support of the Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging?

Article 19. Shall the Town appropriate a sum of money not to exceed two thousand one hundred dollars (\$2,100.00) for the support of the North Country Animal League?

Article 20. Shall the Town appropriate a sum of money not to exceed one thousand five hundred

dollars (\$1,500.00) for the support of the Craftsbury Community Care Center?

Article 21. Shall the Town make the following statement of support: Lamoille Valley Rail Trail resolution request:

“We, the citizens of Hardwick, strongly support the completion of the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail. We urge the Governor and Legislature to jointly develop a plan that will ensure the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail is completed by 2025.”

Article 22. Shall the Town authorize the Select Board, for the period of one year, to enter into contracts with new industrial and commercial owners, lessees, bailees, of real property, or with existing or new owners, lessees, bailees or operators who construct, acquire or renovate industrial and/or commercial real property, including additions to existing property for the purpose of fixing and maintaining the municipal rate applicable to such real property or for the purpose of fixing the amount of money which shall be paid as an annual municipal tax upon such real property pursuant to the provision of Title 24, VSA, Section 2741?

Article 23. Shall the Town authorize the Select Board, for the period of one year, to enter into contracts with operators of agricultural real property, or with existing or new owners, lessees, bailees, or operators who construct acquire or renovate, or who intend to construct, acquire or renovate agricultural real property for the purpose of fixing and maintaining the valuation of such real property in the Grand List for the purpose of fixing and maintaining the municipal rate applicable to such real property or for the purpose of fixing the amount in money which shall be paid as an annual municipal tax upon such real property pursuant to provisions of Title 24, VSA, Section 2741?

Article 24. To transact any other nonbinding business proper to be brought before said meeting.

The legal voters of the Town of Hardwick are further notified that voter qualifications, registration and absentee voting relative to said Annual Town Meeting shall be as provided in Chapters 43, 51 and 55 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated.

Dated at Hardwick, Vermont this 27th day of January, A.D. 2020.

Eric Remick, Chair
Danny Hale, Vice Chair
Shari Cornish
Elizabeth Dow
Lucian Avery

Hardwick Town Clerk's Office. Received for record this 27th day of January, 2020 at 9 O'clock 00 minutes a.m., the instrument of which the foregoing is a true copy.

Attest: Alberta A. Miller, Town Clerk

Information about the Proposal to join the Communications Union District (CUD):

The goal is to bring a reliable and affordable, high-speed internet option (at least 100 mbps symmetrical) to every residential and business address in the Northeast Kingdom. High-speed internet is no longer a luxury, but a necessity. Unfortunately, it's not financially appealing to internet companies to invest in infrastructure to serve our rural communities. We must set up our own networks to ensure access for all residents and businesses. The Legislature created a process to do this with Act 79 (2019).

How? The first step is for towns in our region to form a *Communications Union District (CUD)*. It will be known as "NEK Community Broadband".

What's a CUD? A Communications Union District (CUD), is a municipality made of two or more towns for the purpose of building communication infrastructure together. Each town in the CUD has a seat on a governing board which will plan, contract, build and manage the infrastructure that will provide high speed internet.

What do we gain by joining NEK Community Broadband? The Town gets a seat at the table as critical regional infrastructure is designed and built.

What's the cost to be a part of the CUD? There are no direct costs to the taxpayer or the town, though a CUD may ask the town to provide space for a

communications plant used to store fiber optic cable, electronics and other assets required to operate the network.

What's the risk to the taxpayer and towns? Membership in a CUD poses no financial risk to the town or individual taxpayers, by state statute, meaning **taxpayer dollars will not be used and if the CUD fails no liability falls to the member towns or taxpayers.** (30 V.S.A. Chapter 82).

How much will it cost to build the network? We won't know the estimated cost of the network until we know which towns are in the CUD and a network design has been engineered. Luckily, Northeastern Vermont Development Association has already secured grant funds to develop a business plan and conduct the initial network engineering for the CUD. Building a network is expensive but community based broadband projects like this qualify for large grants and very low interest loans.

How long will it take? Forming a CUD is just the first step in a multi-year process to plan, fund and build a network to deliver high-speed internet across our region.

Will it work? Yes, we believe it will work. Across rural Vermont, substantial leaps in internet service have come from communities banding together or partnering with providers to build their own networks. ECFiber, Vermont's first CUD formed in 2015, now delivers up to 700 mbps service to 3,500 customers in 22 rural towns and is profitable.

How can we join the district? By voting yes on the CUD Article (just listen for "NEK Community Broadband") at Town Meeting, you're voicing your support for your town's membership in the CUD. All towns that approve this ballot measure will become members of a CUD.

What's next? Each town appoints a resident and an alternate to serve on the CUD board. That board will work to develop a feasible plan for building the network and raise funds to construct and manage it. Then we have an affordable, high-speed internet option. Of course, no one would be required to sign up for the new service. This just means we'll have more and better options.

**FY2021 Estimated Tax Rate based on Proposed FY2021 Budget
and Impact on a \$100,000 home**

FY2021 Estimated Tax Rate

FY 2021 Proposed Property Tax	\$2,375,441.00
Estimated Grand List July 1, 2020	\$185,852,500.00
FY 2021 Estimated Tax rate	\$0.01278
	Value per \$100 \$1.2781
FY2020 Municipal Tax rate	\$0.01254
	Value per \$100 \$1.2540

Impact on a \$100,000 home

Estimated FY2021 municipal tax liability on a \$100,000 home	\$1,278.13
FY2020 tax liability on a \$100,000 home	\$1,254.00
Increase (decrease) in FY2021 before appropriations	\$24.13

Impact of Appropriations on a \$100,000 home

	Without	With
Estimated value of Appropriations	\$0.00	\$41,761.00
Proposed property taxes	\$2,375,441.00	\$2,417,202.00
FY2021 Estimated Tax rate	0.01278	0.01301
	Value per \$100 \$1.28	\$1.30
Estimated FY2021 municipal tax liability on a \$100,000 home	\$1,278.13	\$1,300.60
Increase (decrease) in FY2021 on a \$100,000 home	\$24.13	\$46.60

Estimated increase in Tax Rate reflected in actual dollars/100

\$0.0241

\$0.0466

Percent Increase (decrease) in Property Tax rate from FY2020 to FY2021

1.92%

3.72%

Impact of Appropriations on Tax Rate

Article 7.	Greensboro Nursing Home, \$4,500.00
Article 8.	A.W.A.R.E., \$3,500.00
Article 9.	Lamoille Family Center, \$1,500.00
Article 10.	Hardwick Historical Society, \$3,000.00
Article 11.	Northeast Kingdom Human Services, \$3,161.00
Article 12.	Hardwick Area Community Justice Center, \$3,000.00
Article 13.	Hardwick Area Food Pantry \$2,500.00
Article 14.	Caledonia Home Health Care and Hospice, \$2,600.00
Article 15.	Hardwick Community Television, \$3,000.00
Article 16.	Rural Community Transportation \$3,400.00
Article 17.	Northeast Kingdom Arts Council, \$3,500.00
Article 18.	Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging, \$4,500.00
Article 19.	North Country Animal League, \$2,100.00
Article 20.	Craftsbury Community Care Center, \$1,500.00

The total requested appropriations are \$41,761.00. If all of the requested appropriations are approved, we would need a tax rate of approximately \$.0224 cents. This means that you will be paying \$22.40 on your 2020-2021 tax bill for every \$100,000 of Grand List Value.

2020-2021 HARDWICK TOWN BUDGET

Projected Revenues

	Actual	Budget	SB	\$	%
	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	DIFF.	DIFF.
School Tax Admin Fee	\$6,014	\$5,500	\$6,000	\$500	9.09%
PILOT	\$72,235	\$71,288	\$72,235	\$947	1.33%
Current Use Hold Harm	\$152,072	\$150,916	\$159,147	\$8,231	5.45%
Delinquent Charges	\$25,552	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$0	0.00%
Trailer Lease Revenue	\$76	\$800	\$100	(\$700)	-87.50%
Tax Sale Interest	\$146	\$500	\$150	(\$350)	-70.00%
Zoning Permits	\$1,950	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$0	0.00%
Licenses and Fees	\$2,228	\$3,000	\$2,500	(\$500)	-16.67%
Recording Fees	\$17,570	\$18,000	\$26,400	\$8,400	46.67%
Dog Licenses	\$2,507	\$2,100	\$3,100	\$1,000	47.62%
DMV Fees	\$615	\$575	\$600	\$25	4.35%
State Highway Aid	\$143,112	\$143,000	\$143,000	\$0	0.00%
Copying Fees	\$4,457	\$4,750	\$4,500	(\$250)	-5.26%
Greensboro Police Contract	\$223,966	\$230,879	\$267,938	\$37,059	16.05%
COPS Grant	\$14,912	\$57,892	\$58,152	\$260	0.45%
Hardwick PD Ticket Rev	\$1,767	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$0	0.00%
Outside Services-PD	\$300	\$1,050	\$550	(\$500)	-47.62%
Sale of Equipment/Vehicles	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Insurance Pay-out	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Efficiency VT Reimbursement	\$768	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Interest on Investments	\$1,841	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0	0.00%
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$8,848	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$1,000	100.00%
Water Transfer	\$137,773	\$151,550	\$151,879	\$329	0.22%
Sewer Transfer	\$137,773	\$151,550	\$151,879	\$329	0.22%
Fireworks Donations	\$1,675	\$2,650	\$1,750	(\$900)	265.00%
Room Rent	\$0	\$0	\$250	\$250	100.00%
Police SIU Revenue	\$24,000	\$24,000	\$0	(\$24,000)	-100.00%
PD Vest Grant	\$944	\$900	\$649	(\$251)	-27.89%
Gov Highway Safety Grants	\$12,318	\$9,500	\$0	(\$9,500)	-100.00%
VCDP Grant Admin Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Lister Education Grant	\$0	\$270	\$0	(\$270)	-100.00%
VLC T Grant	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Green Up Day Grant	\$400	\$350	\$400	\$50	14.29%
Total Revenues	\$996,817	\$1,068,520	\$1,089,679	\$21,159	1.98%
Total Budget	\$3,537,376	\$3,359,617	\$3,465,120	\$105,504	3.14%
Property Taxes	\$2,540,559	\$2,291,096	\$2,375,441	\$84,345	3.68%

Budget Summary

Highway/Garage	\$ 919,934	\$ 903,875	\$ 951,376	\$ 47,501.00	5.26%
Police Department	\$ 931,533	\$ 1,024,664	\$ 983,023	\$ (41,641.00)	-4.06%
Office Expenses	\$ 393,094	\$ 407,178	\$ 427,261	\$ 20,083.00	4.93%
Payroll (Part-time & Elected)	\$ 48,462	\$ 61,516	\$ 74,425	\$ 12,909.00	20.98%
Fire Department	\$ 43,322	\$ 53,477	\$ 48,809	\$ (4,668.00)	-8.73%
Line Items	\$ 775,891	\$ 830,143	\$ 898,744	\$ 68,601.00	8.26%
Buildings	\$ 75,780	\$ 78,764	\$ 81,482	\$ 2,718.50	3.45%
Total Budget	\$ 3,188,017	\$ 3,359,617	\$ 3,465,120	\$ 105,503.50	3.14%

2020-2021 HARDWICK TOWN BUDGET

Office Expenses

	ACTUAL	BUDGET	SB's PROPOSED	\$	%
	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	DIFF	DIFF
Town Manager's Office	\$174,569	\$170,251	\$177,861	\$7,610	4.47%
Town Clerk's Office	\$78,849	\$85,030	\$87,581	\$2,551	3.00%
Social Security Expense	\$18,979	\$20,422	\$20,937	\$515	2.52%
Workers' Compensation	\$1,315	\$1,464	\$1,342	(\$122)	-8.33%
Unemployment Insurance	\$521	\$504	\$280	(\$224)	-44.44%
VLCT/PACIF	\$2,778	\$3,430	\$1,303	(\$2,127)	-62.01%
Health Insurance	\$63,655	\$74,525	\$80,609	\$6,084	8.16%
Dental/Vision/Life/Disability	\$4,249	\$4,650	\$4,765	\$115	2.47%
Retirement Expense	\$14,422	\$14,678	\$15,608	\$930	6.34%
Town Manager Supplies	\$5,751	\$4,500	\$5,000	\$500	11.11%
Town Clerk Supplies	\$3,292	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$0	0.00%
Town Report Expense	\$1,463	\$1,750	\$1,900	\$150	8.57%
Conferences/Dues/Mileage	\$1,622	\$1,500	\$1,800	\$300	20.00%
Tax Billing/Collection Exp.	\$450	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0	0.00%
Telephone	\$2,419	\$1,900	\$3,000	\$1,100	57.89%
Advertising	\$4,051	\$1,000	\$1,200	\$200	20.00%
Copier	\$560	\$750	\$750	\$0	0.00%
Election Expense	\$1,479	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0	0.00%
Computer Software/Services	\$2,057	\$1,700	\$4,200	\$2,500	147.06%
Web Site Maintenance	\$250	\$75	\$75	\$0	0.00%
Equipment Purchases	\$4,193	\$5,000	\$4,000	(\$1,000)	-20.00%
VLCT Grant Expense	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Lister Supplies	\$2,207	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0	0.00%
Health Officer Supplies	\$0	\$50	\$50	\$0	0.00%
Education/Training	\$3,186	\$2,000	\$3,000	\$1,000	50.00%
Zoning Supplies	\$777	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$0	0.00%
Totals	\$393,094	\$407,178	\$427,261	\$20,083	4.93%

Payroll (Part-Time and Elected)

Public Official's Liability	\$6,486	\$9,393	\$3,945	(\$5,448)	-58.00%
Lister's Salary	\$5,936	\$16,000	\$2,100	(\$13,900)	-86.88%
Election Officials	\$2,302	\$500	\$2,000	\$1,500	300.00%
Zoning Administrator	\$21,858	\$21,829	\$22,475	\$646	2.96%
Planning/DRB Board	\$1,375	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$0	0.00%
Board of Civil Authority	\$111	\$75	\$100	\$25	33.33%
Moderator	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$0	0.00%
Select Board	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0	0.00%
Energy Coordinator	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$0	0.00%
Solid Waste Rep	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$0	0.00%
TEC - Conference Fees	\$0	\$100	\$100	\$0	0.00%
Town Service Officer	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$0	0.00%
Part Time Labor	\$0	\$500	\$500	\$0	0.00%
Health Officer	\$600	\$600	\$600	\$0	0.00%
Town Website Coordinator	\$600	\$600	\$600	\$0	0.00%
Comm. Dev. Coordinator	\$0	\$0	\$28,000	\$28,000	100.00%
Social Security Expense	\$3,494	\$3,719	\$5,805	\$2,086	56.09%
Totals	\$48,462	\$61,516	\$74,425	\$12,909	20.98%

2020-2021 HARDWICK TOWN BUDGET

Highway Department

	ACTUAL	BUDGET	SB's PROPOSED	\$	%
	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	DIFF.	DIFF.
Public Works Salaries	\$278,275	\$285,701	\$289,852	\$4,151	1.45%
Overtime	\$33,482	\$31,090	\$33,500	\$2,410	7.75%
Sewer Operator	\$4,859	\$5,005	\$5,053	\$48	0.96%
Social Security Expense	\$22,684	\$25,343	\$25,868	\$525	2.07%
Workers' Compensation	\$27,815	\$31,191	\$29,472	(\$1,719)	-5.51%
Unemployment Insurance	\$553	\$562	\$350	(\$212)	-37.72%
VLCT/PACIF	\$18,195	\$27,244	\$14,579	(\$12,665)	-46.49%
Health Insurance	\$96,398	\$105,265	\$125,325	\$20,060	19.06%
Dental/Vision/Life/Disability	\$7,753	\$8,259	\$8,150	(\$109)	-1.32%
Retirement Expense	\$17,858	\$18,473	\$19,027	\$554	3.00%
Operating Expense/Supplies	\$30,153	\$19,000	\$19,000	\$0	0.00%
Permits/Fees	\$1,990	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0	0.00%
Telephone/Internet	\$1,028	\$950	\$1,600	\$650	68.42%
Low Band Radio	\$1,053	\$1,042	\$1,100	\$58	5.57%
Culverts	\$9,839	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$0	0.00%
Uniforms	\$5,745	\$4,750	\$6,000	\$1,250	26.32%
Line Painting/Crosswalks	\$1,111	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$1,000	100.00%
Road Signs	\$0	\$500	\$500	\$0	0.00%
Radio Service	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Streetscape Maintenance	\$309	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0	0.00%
Storm Drains	\$11,077	\$1,500	\$2,000	\$500	33.33%
Safety/Training	\$1,385	\$600	\$1,500	\$900	150.00%
Building Maint./Repair	\$970	\$0	\$500	\$500	100.00%
Equipment Repair	\$65,596	\$35,000	\$36,000	\$1,000	2.86%
Equipment Expense	\$13,189	\$35,000	\$36,000	\$1,000	2.86%
Gasoline Fuel	\$3,102	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0	0.00%
Diesel Fuel	\$53,297	\$37,500	\$47,500	\$10,000	26.67%
Heating Fuel - Garage	\$5,058	\$5,000	\$7,500	\$2,500	50.00%
Utilities - Garage	\$4,868	\$4,800	\$5,000	\$200	4.17%
Summer Gravel	\$28,008	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$0	0.00%
Ditch Stone	\$0	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$0	0.00%
Hydroseeding	\$2,690	\$4,000	\$3,500	(\$500)	-12.50%
Mud Season Material	\$7,880	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0	0.00%
Chloride	\$13,448	\$22,000	\$22,000	\$0	0.00%
E. Hardwick Sidewalks	\$599	\$600	\$600	\$0	0.00%
Contract Mowing	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$5,000	(\$1,000)	-16.67%
Paving/Patching	\$3,326	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$0	0.00%
Brush Cutting	\$1,978	\$0	\$5,000	\$5,000	100.00%
Downtown Beauty	\$2,135	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0	0.00%
Street Sweeping	\$4,300	\$4,000	\$4,400	\$400	10.00%
Winter Sand	\$29,420	\$30,000	\$33,000	\$3,000	10.00%
Salt	\$102,510	\$82,000	\$90,000	\$8,000	9.76%
Totals	\$919,934	\$903,875	\$951,376	\$47,501	5.26%

2020-2021 HARDWICK TOWN BUDGET

Police Department

			SB's		
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	PROPOSED	\$	%
	2018-2019	2019-2020	2021-2021	DIFF.	DIFF.
Base Payroll	\$440,051	\$449,010	\$466,464	\$17,454	3.89%
Overtime	\$51,107	\$55,000	\$60,000	\$5,000	9.09%
Part-Time Officers	\$23,593	\$12,000	\$10,000	(\$2,000)	-16.67%
Social Security Expense	\$39,460	\$42,202	\$41,903	(\$299)	-0.71%
Workers' Compensation	\$42,041	\$48,498	\$42,503	(\$5,995)	-12.36%
Unemployment Insurance	\$754	\$777	\$500	(\$277)	-35.65%
VLCT/PACIF	\$33,770	\$45,350	\$21,460	(\$23,890)	-52.68%
Health Insurance	\$114,793	\$121,610	\$96,589	(\$25,021)	-20.57%
Dental/Vision/Life/Disability	\$9,617	\$13,089	\$8,350	(\$4,739)	-36.21%
Retirement Expense	\$48,494	\$50,905	\$53,994	\$3,089	6.07%
K-9 Expense	\$366	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Office Supplies	\$6,696	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$0	0.00%
Training	\$2,282	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0	0.00%
Memberships	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$0	0.00%
Legal Expenses	\$53	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	0.00%
Internet Communications	\$4,950	\$4,700	\$5,000	\$300	6.38%
Dispatch Services	\$33,349	\$34,683	\$35,723	\$1,040	3.00%
Telephone	\$4,982	\$4,500	\$5,000	\$500	11.11%
Vehicle Maintenance	\$6,244	\$7,000	\$7,500	\$500	7.14%
Advertising	\$50	\$300	\$200	(\$100)	-33.33%
Radio Service	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	0.00%
Investigation Expense	\$991	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0	0.00%
Uniforms (Cleaning)	\$1,536	\$1,400	\$1,600	\$200	14.29%
Uniform Purchases	\$5,128	\$4,000	\$5,000	\$1,000	25.00%
Gasoline	\$13,446	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$0	0.00%
Tires	\$1,690	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0	0.00%
Education	\$0	\$500	\$500	\$0	0.00%
Equipment	\$4,242	\$5,500	\$7,500	\$2,000	36.36%
Total PD Operating Exp.	\$890,083	\$934,924	\$903,686	(\$31,238)	-3.34%
SIU Grant Salary & Soc Sec.	\$54	\$2,000	\$0	(\$2,000)	-100.00%
SIU Expenses	\$2,244	\$750	\$0	(\$750)	-100.00%
COPS Grant (New Officer)	\$22,647	\$77,190	\$77,537	\$347	0.45%
Governor's HW Safety Grant	\$5,886	\$7,500	\$0	(\$7,500)	-100.00%
Governor's Equipment Grant	\$6,711	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
VLCT Grant	\$1,095	\$500	\$600	\$100	20.00%
Vest Grant	\$2,814	\$1,800	\$1,200	(\$600)	-33.33%
Total Special PD Expenses	\$41,450	\$89,740	\$79,337	(\$10,403)	-11.59%
Total PD Expenses	\$931,533	\$1,024,664	\$983,023	(\$41,641)	-4.06%

2020-2021 HARDWICK TOWN BUDGET

Buildings

	SB'S				
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	PROPOSED	\$	%
	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	DIFF.	DIFF.

Memorial Building

Custodial Services Expense	9,470	8,920	9,500	580	6.50%
Custodial Serv. S.S. Expense	0	713	773	60	8.42%
VLCT/PACIF	4,452	3,342	3,270	(72)	-2.15%
Operating Exp/Supplies	1,357	3,000	3,000	0	0.00%
Building Maint./Repair	2,473	4,000	4,500	500	12.50%
Utilities	5,822	5,800	5,800	0	0.00%
Fuel Oil	10,068	9,000	10,000	1,000	11.11%
Elevator/Fire Alarm	2,640	1,500	1,500	0	0.00%
Generator	171	500	500	0	0.00%
Totals	36,454	36,776	38,843	2,067	5.62%

Public Safety Building

VLCT/PACIF	4,819	3,757	3,500	(257)	-6.84%
Operating Expenses	0	1,000	1,000	0	0.00%
Building Maint./Repair	2,136	3,500	3,500	0	0.00%
Utilities	2,642	2,500	2,500	0	0.00%
Fuel Oil	4,866	5,000	5,000	0	0.00%
Custodial Services Expense	4,878	5,958	6,136	179	3.00%
Custodial Serv. S.S. Expense	373	476	490	14	2.94%
Totals	19,714	22,192	22,126	(66)	-0.30%

Fire Station

VLCT/PACIF	4,267	3,326	3,095	(231)	-6.95%
Utilities	2,601	2,900	2,800	(100)	-3.45%
Fuel Oil	6,341	7,500	7,500	0	0.00%
Building Maint./Repair	65	2,000	2,000	0	0.00%
Totals	13,274	15,726	15,395	(331)	-2.10%

Town House

VLCT/PACIF	2,564	1,981	1,840	(141)	-7.12%
Building Maint./Repair	2,060	1,000	2,000	1,000	100.00%
Utilities	305	300	315	15	5.00%
Totals	4,929	3,281	4,155	874	26.64%

Historical Depot

VLCT/PACIF	1,167	200	187	(13)	-6.50%
Building Maint./Repair	0	400	400	0	0.00%
Totals	1,167	600	587	(13)	-2.17%

Old Senior Center Bldg

VLCT/PACIF	243	189	176	(13)	-6.88%
Totals	243	189	176	(13)	-6.88%

Yellow Barn

VLCT/PACIF	0	0	200	200	100.00%
Totals	0	0	200	200	100.00%

2020-2021 HARDWICK TOWN BUDGET

Fire Department

		SB's			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	PROPOSED	\$	%
	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	DIFF.	DIFF.
Labor	\$7,120	\$9,000	\$9,000	\$0	0.00%
Social Security	\$529	\$680	\$680	\$0	0.00%
Workers' Compensation	\$1,333	\$1,202	\$1,249	\$47	3.91%
Liability Insurance	\$6,243	\$9,124	\$4,168	(\$4,956)	-54.32%
Operating Exp./Supplies	\$1,557	\$2,800	\$2,500	(\$300)	-10.71%
Dispatch Service	\$14,292	\$14,721	\$15,162	\$441	3.00%
Telephone	\$1,027	\$1,000	\$1,100	\$100	10.00%
Gasoline	\$0	\$100	\$100	\$0	0.00%
Diesel Fuel	\$693	\$750	\$750	\$0	0.00%
Equipment Purchases	\$4,874	\$8,100	\$8,100	\$0	0.00%
Equipment Repair	\$5,654	\$5,500	\$5,500	\$0	0.00%
Training	\$0	\$500	\$500	\$0	0.00%
VLCT Grant	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Totals	\$43,322	\$53,477	\$48,809	(\$4,668)	-8.73%

Line Items

Auditing	\$15,847	\$27,000	\$18,500	(\$8,500)	-31.48%
Fireworks	\$4,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0	0.00%
Dog Control	\$2,778	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0	0.00%
Professional Services	\$8,342	\$7,000	\$7,500	\$500	7.14%
Lister Professional Services	\$4,500	\$0	\$18,750	\$18,750	100.00%
NVDA	\$2,363	\$2,258	\$2,363	\$105	4.65%
VLCT	\$4,507	\$4,500	\$4,500	\$0	0.00%
Jeudevine Memorial Library	\$110,339	\$114,209	\$117,191	\$2,982	2.61%
Memorial Day	\$675	\$500	\$500	\$0	0.00%
Caspian Lake	\$2,750	\$3,250	\$3,250	\$0	0.00%
Cemeteries	\$16,932	\$19,000	\$19,000	\$0	0.00%
Capital Equipment Fund	\$205,000	\$210,000	\$175,000	(\$35,000)	-16.67%
Capital Road Fund	\$160,000	\$170,000	\$185,000	\$15,000	8.82%
Capital General Fund	\$109,000	\$119,000	\$120,000	\$1,000	0.84%
Capital Fire Fund	\$0	\$0	\$65,423	\$65,423	100.00%
Tax Mapping	\$3,800	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$0	0.00%
Solid Waste District	\$2,956	\$2,956	\$2,956	\$0	0.00%
Streetlights	\$22,562	\$22,500	\$22,600	\$100	0.44%
Memorial Park Electricity	\$311	\$450	\$320	(\$130)	-28.89%
Employment Practices Ins.	\$11,840	\$18,669	\$8,175	(\$10,494)	-56.21%
Community Crime Ins.	\$2,727	\$4,179	\$1,893	(\$2,286)	-54.70%
Town Service Officer Expenses	\$111	\$250	\$250	\$0	0.00%
Hazard Mitigation Fund	\$6,903	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$0	0.00%
Insurance Deductibles	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0	0.00%
Tax Sale Expense	\$1,084	\$5,000	\$2,000	(\$3,000)	-60.00%
Carey Rd. Property	\$5	\$0	\$156	\$156	100.00%
Conservation Commission	\$0	\$0	\$500	\$500	100.00%
Recreation Dept.	\$22,682	\$25,431	\$27,053	\$1,622	6.38%
Hardwick Trails	\$6,157	\$8,927	\$8,799	(\$128)	-1.43%
County Taxes	\$22,966	\$22,802	\$22,966	\$164	0.72%
Rescue Squad	\$22,762	\$22,762	\$44,599	\$21,837	95.94%
Totals	\$775,896	\$830,143	\$898,744	\$68,601	8.26%

**TOWN OF HARDWICK
CAPITAL EQUIPMENT PURCHASE SCHEDULE**

	SPEND APPROPRIATE																
	Dump Truck 1	Dump Truck 2	Dump Truck 3	Dump Truck 4	F-550 Truck 5	F250 Truck 6	F150 Truck 7	Lawn Mower	Excavator	Skid / Trailer	Loader (1) Loan	Loader (2) Grader (1)	Police Cruiser	EQUIP. TOTAL	FUND\$ SET ASIDE	ACCOUNT BALANCE	
Bal 6/30/19															\$ 205,000	\$181,892	
2020		\$120,000					\$20,000				\$12,000		\$35,000	\$187,000	\$210,000	\$204,892	
2021			\$200,000					\$10,000			\$12,000		\$0	\$222,000	\$175,000	\$157,892	
2022											\$12,000		\$36,000	\$48,000	\$180,000	\$289,892	
2023	\$200,000				\$80,000						\$12,000		\$36,000	\$328,000	\$185,000	\$146,892	
2024									\$125,000		\$12,000	\$35,000	\$37,000	\$209,000	\$190,000	\$127,892	
2025				\$220,000				\$10,000					\$35,000	\$23,000	\$288,000	\$195,000	\$34,892
2026						\$35,000							\$35,000	\$37,500	\$107,500	\$200,000	\$127,392
2027							\$25,000			\$50,000			\$35,000	\$38,500	\$148,500	\$205,000	\$183,892
2028		\$120,000			\$90,000								\$35,000	\$39,500	\$284,500	\$210,000	\$109,392
2029			\$230,000										\$35,000	\$33,000	\$298,000	\$215,000	\$26,392
2030								\$10,000			\$120,000	\$35,000	\$24,000	\$189,000	\$220,000	\$57,392	
2031	\$240,000												\$35,000	\$41,500	\$316,500	\$225,000	-\$34,108
2032						\$36,000							\$35,000	\$42,500	\$113,500	\$230,000	\$62,392
2033				\$250,000	\$100,000								\$35,000	\$43,500	\$428,500	\$235,000	-\$111,108
2034							\$30,000						\$35,000	\$65,000	\$240,000	\$63,892	
2035								\$11,000					\$26,000	\$37,000	\$245,000	\$271,892	
2035		\$125,000											\$45,500	\$170,500	\$250,000	\$351,392	
2037			\$280,000			\$37,000				\$65,000			\$46,500	\$408,500	\$255,000	\$197,892	
2038					\$110,000								\$47,500	\$157,500	\$260,000	\$300,392	
2039													\$48,500	\$48,500	\$265,000	\$516,892	

- 1) Increases in costs are based on a "best guess" scenario with input from dealers
- 2) Loader #2 & Grader purchased in Spring 2009, 15 yr life. Replace 2024
- 3) Loader #1 purchased Spring 2014, 15 yr life. Replace 2030
- 4) Cruisers replaced every 5 years

- 5) Dump Trucks 1, 2, 3, 4 are traded every 8 years
- 6) Dump Truck #5 is traded every 5 years
- 7) Utility Truck & F150 are traded about every 5 years

TOWN OF HARDWICK
CAPITAL FIRE EQUIPMENT PURCHASE SCHEDULE

YEAR							<i>SPEND APPROPRIATE</i>		
	E1 2014 Bond	E2 2020 Bond	Ladder L1	Pumper E1	Fire E2	Tanker W1	EQUIP. TOTAL	FUNDS SET ASIDE	ACCOUNT BALANCE
Bal 6/30/19								\$ 65,423	\$0
2020	\$ 35,423						\$35,423	\$65,423	\$30,000
2021	\$ 34,834						\$34,834	\$70,423	\$65,589
2022	\$ 34,161	\$ 23,266					\$57,427	\$75,423	\$83,585
2023	\$ 33,417	\$ 23,021					\$56,438	\$80,423	\$107,570
2024	\$ 32,613	\$ 22,771					\$55,384	\$85,423	\$137,609
2025	\$ 31,770	\$ 22,517					\$54,287	\$90,423	\$173,745
2026	\$ 30,897	\$ 22,257					\$53,154	\$95,423	\$216,014
2027	\$ 29,996	\$ 21,988					\$51,984	\$100,423	\$264,453
2028	\$ 29,070	\$ 21,705					\$50,775	\$105,423	\$319,101
2029	\$ 28,121	\$ 21,408					\$49,529	\$110,423	\$379,995
2030	\$ 27,154	\$ 21,097	\$400,000				\$448,251	\$115,423	\$47,167
2031		\$ 20,772					\$20,772	\$120,423	\$146,818
2032		\$ 20,415				\$250,000	\$270,415	\$125,423	\$1,826
2033		\$ 20,014					\$20,014	\$130,423	\$112,235
2034		\$ 19,573					\$19,573	\$135,423	\$228,085
2035		\$ 19,098					\$19,098	\$140,423	\$349,410
2036		\$ 18,593					\$18,593	\$145,423	\$476,240
2037							\$0	\$150,423	\$626,663
2038							\$0	\$155,423	\$782,086
2039				\$350,000			\$350,000	\$160,423	\$592,509

- 1) E1 2014 Bond is done in 2029.
- 2) Ladder Truck L1 is replaced every 25 years. Replace in 2030.
- 3) Pumper E1 is replaced every 25 years. Replace in 2039.
- 4) Pumper E2 is replaced every 25 years. Replace in 2046. (Assuming Bond passes at 2020 Town meeting)
- 5) Tanker W1 is replaced every 25 years. Replace in 2032.
- 6) These are best guess estimates for used equipment.

TOWN OF HARDWICK **CAPITAL ROAD SCHEDULE**

SPEND APPROPRIATE

	Ma	Winter	Hardwick	Summer	Backroad	ROAD	FUNDS	ACCOUNT
YEAR	Rd. B...	nd	Street	Paving (See Below)	Rebuild	TOTAL	SET ASIDE	BALANCE
Bal 6/30/19								\$131,259
2020	-\$22,895			-\$90,000	-\$27,553	-\$140,457	\$170,000	\$160,802
2021	-\$22,626			-\$180,000	-\$26,941	-\$231,567	\$185,000	\$114,235
2022	-\$22,316			-\$140,000	-\$30,388	-\$192,703	\$200,000	\$121,532
2023	-\$21,962			-\$120,000	-\$31,907	-\$173,869	\$215,000	\$162,663
2024	-\$21,575			-\$85,000	-\$33,502	-\$140,078	\$230,000	\$252,586
2025	-\$21,167	-\$360,000		-\$90,000	-\$35,178	-\$506,345	\$245,000	-\$8,759
2026	-\$20,738			-\$100,000	-\$36,936	-\$157,675	\$260,000	\$93,566
2027	-\$20,288			-\$100,000	-\$38,783	-\$159,071	\$275,000	\$209,496
2028	-\$19,818			-\$105,000	-\$40,722	-\$165,540	\$290,000	\$333,955
2029	-\$19,334			-\$110,000	-\$42,758	-\$172,092	\$305,000	\$466,863

Paving Projects:

- FY 2021: Hillside Street, Woodbury Street, Prospect Street, Central Street, Park Street, West Hill Rd.
- FY 2022: East Hardwick Village (Brickhouse Road, Cedar Street, Belfry Road)
- FY 2023: Terrace Hill Road, Lower Cherry Street, Elm Street, Cottage Street, Upper Cherry Street, Dale Street
- FY 2024: North Main Street, West Church Street
- FY 2025: Center Road

**Prices based on current market prices; increases are expected, schedule may vary depending on price*

**Conditions of roads may change, resulting in a change to the paving schedule*

Town of Hardwick Capital Improvements Three-Year Plan

	Balance 6/30/2019	<i>Last Year FY2020</i>	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	Future Balance
Buildings						
Memorial Building	\$3,530	\$5,000	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$31,030
Public Safety Building	\$8,037	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$28,037
Highway Garage	-\$13,699	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$6,301
Fire Department	\$29,120	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$49,120
Library	\$24,960	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$44,960
Town House	\$11,923	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$31,923
Carey Rd. Property	\$0	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$40,000
Historical Depot	\$8,230	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$18,230
Subtotal	\$72,101	\$42,500	\$45,000	\$45,000	\$45,000	\$249,601
Public Works						
Gravel Pit Reclaim	\$26,782	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$38,782
Bike Path (all Phases)	\$1,731	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$21,731
Sidewalk Expense	\$41,925	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$81,925
Guardrails	\$9,110	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$19,110
Brush Cutting	\$8,500	\$5,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$13,500
Road Signs/Crosswalks	\$8,380	\$0	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$14,380
Bridge #4 East Hardwick	\$66,034	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$126,034
Bridge Fund	\$48,414	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$108,414
Subtotal	\$210,876	\$55,500	\$52,500	\$52,500	\$52,500	\$423,876
General Government						
Trails Capital Account	\$9,868	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$9,868
Recreation Capital Fund	\$11,443	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$11,443
Fire Department Equipment/Clothing	\$2,856	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$42,856
Records Restoration/Vault Door	\$19,340	\$6,000	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$47,840
Cemetery Upgrades	\$6,500	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$22,500
Recruitment - Police	\$2,835	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$6,835
Interest Accrued on Account	\$10,057	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$10,057
Subtotal	\$62,899	\$21,000	\$22,500	\$22,500	\$22,500	\$151,399
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND	\$345,877	\$119,000	\$120,000	\$120,000	\$120,000	\$824,877

2020-2021 HARDWICK TOWN BUDGET

Library Budget

	SB's				
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	PROPOSED	\$	%
	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	DIFF.	DIFF.
Librarian Salary	\$39,416	\$41,600	\$42,848	\$1,248	3.00%
Asst. Librarian/Youth Librarian	\$15,650	\$16,640	\$17,140	\$500	3.00%
Library Clerk Salary	\$13,535	\$14,872	\$15,319	\$447	3.01%
Social Security/FICA Expense	\$5,258	\$5,696	\$6,024	\$328	5.76%
Worker's Comp	\$298	\$320	\$664	\$344	107.50%
Unemployment	\$298	\$297	\$306	\$9	3.03%
VLCT/PACIF	\$1,281	\$944	\$469	(\$475)	-50.32%
Health Insurance - Librarian only	\$6,624	\$7,051	\$7,405	\$355	5.03%
Dental/Vision/Life/Disability	\$695	\$717	\$720	\$3	0.42%
Retirement	\$2,219	\$2,288	\$2,518	\$230	10.05%
Books- Adult	\$3,207	\$2,500	\$2,800	\$300	12.00%
Books - Juvenile	\$2,200	\$2,200	\$2,200	\$0	0.00%
Books - Young Adult	\$737	\$600	\$600	\$0	0.00%
Magazines- Adult	\$179	\$400	\$400	\$0	0.00%
Magazines - Juvenile	\$30	\$50	\$50	\$0	0.00%
Audio books/ DVDs - Adult		\$600	\$600	\$0	0.00%
Audio books/ DVDs - Juvenile	\$501	\$600	\$600	\$0	0.00%
Computer Software/Technology	\$253	\$635	\$435	(\$200)	-31.50%
Computer Databases	\$1,549	\$1,800	\$1,600	(\$200)	-11.11%
Courier Expense	\$0	\$0	\$260	\$260	100.00%
Fiber Connect (Sovernet)	\$2,745	\$720	\$720	\$0	0.00%
Equipment	\$669	\$200	\$200	\$0	0.00%
Telephone	\$804	\$755	\$800	\$45	5.96%
Supplies - General	\$2,568	\$2,300	\$2,500	\$200	8.70%
Youth Supplies	\$680	\$600	\$600	\$0	0.00%
Postage	\$1,188	\$1,500	\$1,000	(\$500)	-33.33%
Professional Services	\$168	\$100	\$228	\$128	128.00%
Conferences / Memberships	\$768	\$600	\$600	\$0	0.00%
Mileage	\$189	\$600	\$500	(\$100)	-16.67%
Advertising	\$65	\$100	\$100	\$0	0.00%
Jeudevine Friends Expense	\$374	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Misc. Grant Expense	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Restricted Donation Expense	\$646	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Total Operating Budget	\$105,793	\$107,285	\$110,206	\$2,922	2.72%
Custodial Services Expense	\$5,117	\$5,107	\$5,345	\$238	4.66%
Custodial Services S.S. Expense	\$426	\$391	\$450	\$59	15.09%
Building Insurance	\$1,169	\$1,376	\$1,340	(\$36)	-2.62%
Electricity	\$991	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	0.00%
Fuel Oil	\$3,180	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0	0.00%
Water/Sewer	\$728	\$550	\$750	\$200	36.36%
Maintenance Expense	\$808	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0	0.00%
Total Library Building Budget	\$12,418	\$11,924	\$12,385	\$461	3.87%
Friends of Jeudevine Donations	\$ (1,145.32)				
Restricted Donations	\$ (650.00)				
Interest on Investments	\$ (171.00)				
Grant Income	\$ (2,700.00)				
Fiber Connect Credits	\$ (3,931.00)				
Courier Revenue	\$ (431.83)		\$ (400.00)		
Misc. Income	\$ (2,978.53)	\$ (5,000.00)	\$ (5,000.00)		
Town Appropriation	\$110,339	\$114,209	\$117,191	\$2,983	2.61%
Fund Balance	\$8,784				

2020-2021 HARDWICK TOWN BUDGET

Recreation Budget

SB's

	ACTUAL 2018-2019	BUDGET 2019-2020	PROPOSED 2020-2021	\$ DIFF.	% DIFF.
Rec Coordinator Salary	\$4,430	\$6,240	\$6,240	\$0	0.00%
Social Security/FICA	\$374	\$499	\$440	(\$59)	-11.82%
VLCT Workers Comp/Insurance	\$374	\$515	\$350	(\$165)	-32.04%
VLCT Unemployment Insurance	\$52	\$58	\$45	(\$13)	-22.41%
VLCT PACIF/Liability Insurance	\$148	\$242	\$106	(\$136)	-56.20%
Youth Program: Soccer, Swim, Ski	\$8,348	\$11,235	\$11,600	\$365	3.25%
Mileage	\$67	\$262	\$262	\$0	0.00%
Holiday Programs	\$1,377	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0	0.00%
Green-Up Day	\$651	\$700	\$700	\$0	0.00%
Senior Programming	\$800	\$2,200	\$2,200	\$0	0.00%
Supplies and Advertising	\$83	\$500	\$500	\$0	0.00%
Maintenance	\$5,917	\$400	\$2,000	\$1,600	400.00%
Training	\$60	\$280	\$310	\$30	10.71%
Sports Programming	\$0	\$800	\$800	\$0	0.00%
Total Expenses	\$22,682	\$25,432	\$27,053	\$1,621	6.37%

2020-2021 HARDWICK TOWN BUDGET

Trails Budget

Salaries	\$2,970	\$3,100	\$3,215	\$115	3.71%
Social Security/FICA	\$275	\$250	\$289	\$39	15.60%
Trail Repair & New Construction	\$571	\$800	\$800	\$0	0.00%
Equipment Repair and Maintenance	\$260	\$1,800	\$1,800	\$0	0.00%
Gas, Oil and Diesel	\$566	\$700	\$700	\$0	0.00%
Publicity/Advertising/Signage & Maps	\$203	\$400	\$400	\$0	0.00%
Program and Activities	\$627	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	0.00%
VLCT Workers Comp/Insurance	\$183	\$193	\$195	\$2	1.04%
VLCT Unemployment Insurance	\$33	\$38	\$35	(\$3)	-7.89%
VLCT PACIF/Liability Insurance	\$469	\$646	\$365	(\$281)	-43.50%
TOTALS	\$6,157	\$8,927	\$8,799	-\$128	-1.43%

Greensboro Nursing Home

The Greensboro Hospital Association was organized and incorporated on August 22nd of 1935, for the purpose of “caring for the sick and injured, and the furthering of health in the community”. The Greensboro Nursing Home transitioned from that hospital. The Greensboro Nursing Home is a not-for-profit organization, with oversight by a volunteer Board of Trustees. The organization remains steadfast to its vision: put quality care, professionalism, teamwork, and community partnership at the heart of everything we do. We accomplish this by remaining true to our core values. Some faces may have changed, however our commitment to providing the highest quality of care and quality of life to our residents has not. We will always remember that we are your nursing home. Greensboro Nursing Home continues to support the local area by participating in the Meals on Wheels program; preparing thousands of hot, nutritious meals annually which are delivered by volunteers throughout the community. We are also one of the largest employers in the area and we are proud of the dedicated team of professionals who support your nursing home 24 hour a day, 7 days a week. Our staff is happy to serve the community, and it is our pleasure to be a resource for services to our local residents, families, friends and visitors. In 2019, the nursing home established a new therapy gym at the front of the building staffed fully by “in-house” Greensboro Nursing Home employees. For the first time in its history, Greensboro Nursing Home has a full-time staff of Physical Therapists, Occupational Therapists and Speech/Language Pathologists. These Rehabilitation Professionals evaluate and treat our short and long-term residents and work with them to maximize their level of independence and function. At this time, we are in the process of applying for an outpatient license. This will allow us to offer outpatient rehabilitation services to our staff, if needed, as well as the wider community. Greensboro Nursing Home is also improving its building! In the fall of 2019, we replaced all the facility’s windows, improving fuel efficiency, making the environment more comfortable for our residents and improving the esthetics of our facility. The hardwood flooring was replaced in the residents’ sunroom and work has been scheduled for February 2020 to have the flooring replaced in the resident dining room/living area. Residents state they are very pleased with these improvements. Greensboro Nursing Home is proud to announce that our facility has presently achieved a

Five Star Rating from the Centers for Medicare Services (CMS). We invite you to log-on to the Medicare Nursing Home Compare website at: <https://www.medicare.gov/nursinghomecompare/search.html> On this site, you can explore data from all the nursing homes in the State of Vermont. You can also compare various aspects of nursing home care. This is a great tool to use when considering a nursing home for yourself, or for a loved one. Let the tradition of serving others continue to thrive at Greensboro Nursing Home. We would like to say thank you to our community. It is through your individual donations, town appropriations, plus the many volunteers that make it possible to offer the highest quality of care the community has grown accustomed to from Greensboro Nursing Home. Your support is invaluable and we appreciate it immensely.

*Brian Labelle, LNHA
Administrator*

AWARE

During the past year AWARE served 227 women, men and children, who were directly affected by violence, 105 children who were exposed to violence, answered over 1500 hotline and in-person assistance requests, and educated over 1400 community members, including local professionals as well as school-aged children. Those served by AWARE received services such as crisis intervention, legal support and advocacy, information and referrals, safety planning, emergency provisions, housing assistance, transportation, support groups and education. Educational classes included topics such as healthy relationships/friendships, gender and society, domestic and sexual violence, managing emotions, social media, and sexual harassment. AWARE continues to rely on local funding and support from the towns that we serve. With this in mind, AWARE respectfully requests Hardwick’s continued support with a \$3,500 appropriation this year. Funding our request will help AWARE to continue its important work in your community. AWARE greatly appreciates the continued community support of our programs.

*Annie Pirie
Executive Director
(802)472-6463*

Craftsbury Community Care Center

Craftsbury Community Care Center has been a trusted resource for elders and their families for twenty-five years, serving many residents of Hardwick since its

creation by the Craftsbury community in 1994. The Care Center is a non-profit, non-denominational, tax-exempt organization which provides a safe, caring, homelike and affordable residence for elders who can no longer live independently. It encourages independence, activities, and involvement with family, friends, and the larger community. The Care Center offers recreational, wellness, and cultural activities that are available both to residents and members of the surrounding communities. These include exercise classes for older adults, concerts by local musicians, and art classes offered by local arts organizations. The Center offers both employment and volunteer opportunities for local residents and many have been involved with the Center over its quarter of a century of service. In addition, The Care Center offers a respite capacity for local families caring for a loved one at home that enables them to have a needed break or vacation. The organization has an active and engaged Board of Directors, two of whose members are Hardwick residents, that works closely with the Center's management to improve the facility and develop new programs for the residents and surrounding communities. Its involvement in the Hardwick community includes active and regular patronage of community businesses, particularly our pharmacy, hardware stores and grocery stores. The spacious facility has twenty-four private rooms, one-third of which are reserved for elders whose care is supported by Medicaid payments. Because Medicaid covers less than a third of the cost of care, the Center relies on donations from community members and towns in the Northeast Kingdom whose residents we serve. The Craftsbury Community Care Center is the only residential care center in our immediate area and provides an invaluable and necessary service for elders in our community who can no longer live independently or whose families cannot care for them at home. The support of the Hardwick community will help ensure that this irreplaceable resource remains available for many years to come. Our inclusion in the Town appropriation will be greatly welcomed by the Board, Staff, and Residents of the Center.

*Thank you,
Mark McAndrew, President
Board of Directors
(802) 586-2414*

Lamoille Family Center

The Lamoille Family Center is celebrating over 40 years of service to children, youth and families! Since

1976, thousands of individuals throughout the Lamoille Valley have received our services, including home visiting, parent education, playgroups, child-care resource and referral, prevention programming, youth services, and emergency assistance. The families we serve face overwhelming challenges of isolation, poverty, substance abuse, violence and much more. Our staff work with families to set realistic goals and celebrate together as each step is achieved to create stable environments for children so they may have an opportunity to thrive. In fiscal year 2019, our caring and dedicated staff of 32 reached more than 4,000 children, youth, parents and caregivers throughout the Lamoille Valley and have impacted many more. Examples of Hardwick and East Hardwick residents served include: Our children's Integrated Services team made home visits, providing family support and early intervention, to 46 families totaling roughly 460 home visits. LFC donates \$500 every year to Hardwick Holiday Project to provide children with holiday gifts. 47 residents, including 26 children, received emergency assistance including funding for rent and fuel and goods such as diapers, clothing and furniture. 19 families received support in affording child care through the Child Care Financial Assistance Program. 2 students received summer camp scholarships so that they could attend Hardwick summer programs. 13 families were accompanied by a DULCE family specialist to their pediatric infant wellness visits. 6 youth facing severe crisis situations were attended to through LFC's Youth and Young Adult Program. Dozens of families and child care providers received child care support services including assistance with referral to regulated programs. Many students, families, and teachers at the Hazen Union Open House and OSSU health fair were provided with educational materials around prevention of youth substance misuse. Healthy Lamoille Valley (HLV) routinely attended Hardwick Community Allies and offered policy support. HLV consulted Hardwick Police Chief Aaron Cochran. HLV hosted a community night with Hazen GSA, Creating Supportive Environments for LGBTQIA+ youth and supported Hazen's GSA. HLV regularly posted information on substance misuse prevention on Hardwick Front Porch Forum. HLV worked with Erica Baker to provide materials to the schools and advertising in the Gazette sharing resources around healthy lifestyles. HLV marketed Hardwick's Prescription drop box. Countless children are stronger, safer and more resilient as a result of their involvement

with the Family Center. Together, we strive to help families become mentally and physically healthy, strong and independent. Support through volunteer time, donation of goods and services, and financial contributions remain vital to the sustainability of the Lamaille Family Center. We cannot do this work without you. We invite you to visit our website to learn more about our organization.

*Floyd Nease
Executive Director
802-888-5229 ext. 124*

Hardwick Historical Society

Buildings and Collections: At the Depot, the HHS has stored large portions of our collections in areas with no climate control, knowing that every 18 degrees more heat cuts the life expectancy of paper in half. A newspaper stored at 40 degrees will last twice as long as a newspaper stored at 58 degrees and four times as long as one stored at 78. Further, storing historical materials in a consistently wrong temperature – too hot or too cold – hurts them less than storing them in an area that has wide fluctuations – like the Depot which fluctuates from below 0 in the winter to above 90 in the summer. The Depot measures roughly 22' by 170', divided into three sections. The waiting rooms and railroad office (our museum and work area) take up 58'. The freight storage area, now a public meeting space, takes up 70'. The back, once a grain store, takes up the remaining 42'. Two historic preservationists agreed that to create a secure, climate-controlled space without destroying the historic nature of the Depot, we should construct a well-insulated room within the existing back room. An architect, a structural engineer, a mechanical engineer, a general contractor, an electrician, and a foundation contractor ensured that the project met professional standards. The money Eleanor Angell bequeathed us in 2017 gave us the courage to start to build it -- the Eleanor Angell Room. We received many additional donations, and it warms our hearts to know that people will give as generously as they can to a project like this. Contractor Mario Fradette completed the room in January. We'll move the collections into their new digs this spring and summer. The Town painted the Depot during the summer; it looks beautiful. ***Newspapers:*** We also microfilmed and digitized the old *Hardwick Gazette*. Any surviving issues of the *Gazette* between 1890 and 1919, existed only at either the *Gazette* office or the HHS. Old and brittle because newsprint contains so much acid, they will slowly burn themselves up, and

we can't stop them – we can only copy their contents to some archival medium. Microfilm will last hundreds of years, but it can be hard to use and is fairly inaccessible. Digital copies will not last nearly as long, but they are more accessible. A generous member donation funded both microfilming and digitization. The Vermont State Library (VSL) will add the microfilm to its collection and the digital versions to its site on *Newspapers.com*, making both versions free to Vermonters forever and saving the HHS the cost of the technology and personnel to care for them. We do still have the newspapers. ***Personnel:*** Volunteers contributed over 2500 hours of free labor in 2019. Thank you: *Julie Ackerman, Bob & Connie Bellavance, Mary Brochu, Richard Brochu, Debbie Brown, Linda Mae Clow, Shari Cornish, Colleen Currier, Susan Earle, Mario & Mary Jane Fradette, Fern & Laura Fontaine, Louise Gallant, Phil Gallant, Eric Gann, Elaine Gendron, Donna Hale, Lorraine Hill, Lorraine Hussey, Kris Lance, Mike Lance, Tracy Martin, Taylor Meyer, Phil Mercier, Helen Neveu, Judy Nudd, Karen Richardson, Frances Rowell, Mark Sassi, Janet & Spencer Slayton, Norma Spaulding, Neil Stout, Diane Tanguay, Helen Willey, Art Williams, and Jeannine Young.*

*Elizabeth H. Dow
President*

Northeast Kingdom Human Services

Thank you, Town of Hardwick voters, for your appropriation support last year. Annual appropriations are a vital funding source to support the provision of needed services for residents who cannot otherwise afford care.

Summary data for the past year:

Total number of individuals of all ages in our service area that utilized mental health crisis intervention, mental health, addiction, behavioral health, and/or intellectual/developmental disabilities support services in the past year:	3,855
Total number of individuals of all ages in the Northeast Kingdom that were supported by the Emergency Services Team 24 hours a day 7 days a week last year:	413
Number of individuals from the Town of Hardwick who accessed supportive care at Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc.:	83
Employees provided community consultation, education, and outreach in community	193 hours

meetings, events, and trainings in Northeast Kingdom Human Services offices, area schools, and businesses; training examples include suicide prevention and awareness, trauma informed care, and parenting.	
This agency is proud of the dedicated professional employees who support community members in Caledonia, Essex, and Orleans counties in the Derby or St. Johnsbury offices, the satellite office in Hardwick, in homes, and in schools throughout the communities in the Northeast Kingdom.	500 total, 6 from the Town of Hardwick
Free and/or uncollectable services provided for Town of Hardwick individuals.	440.09

Good mental health is important for everyone. As a Designated Agency serving the Vermont's system of care, Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc. has a responsibility for assuring that a comprehensive range of services are available regardless of an individual's ability to pay. A sliding fee scale is available for those in financial need. Last year, the agency provided \$247,880.52 in free and/or uncollectable services for supports provided to individuals in our service area. Northeast Kingdom Human Services is asking the Town of Hardwick voters to again consider helping neighbors, family members, and friends receive the supports they need to live a happy and fulfilling life and be an active and contributing member in your community through this 2020 appropriation request of \$3161. This amount is calculated on \$1.05 per person according to the 2010 Census or the amount voted last year. **Thank you so much for your support!**

*Respectfully submitted,
Tomasz Jankowski, DPT, MHA, MBA
President and CEO
(802)334-6744*

Hardwick Area Community Justice Center

The Hardwick Area Community Justice Center serves a vital role in the community to provide restorative options to people affected by crime and other offenses and to those responsible for crimes to individuals and the community. Volunteer-led restorative programs and practices were utilized for the Hardwick Area community to process a total of 21 case referrals in 2019. Twenty-seven people directly affected by an offense were contacted and offered options for participation in our programs. Providing a range of options to those affected allows people to engage fully in the reparative process, to have a proxy or to not

participate directly or at all. Offering these options has proven to be the most appropriate and satisfying practice for all involved. Conflict assistance was provided for 3 separate situations where neighbors were in conflict and unable to come to a resolution on their own. While the issues are generally neighbor to neighbor, occasionally families seek assistance in an effort to avoid escalating internal conflict. Cases can be referred by anyone in the towns we serve, law enforcement, constables, schools or town governance leaders. HACJC Reentry Services contribute to public safety by taking into consideration the needs of those who have been affected by the offense against them while offering a system of support for people who are returning to the Hardwick Area from incarceration or who are under the supervision of the Department of Corrections. Staff and volunteers help them adhere to conditions of release and to strive to become engaged and responsible members of the community while helping them avoid re-offense. HACJC provided 4 separate volunteer training opportunities to improve the experiences of both program participants and volunteers. In addition, HACJC hosted a viewing and panel discussion of the film "Coming Home" centered on Circles of Support and Accountability with more than 40 people in attendance. Community volunteers contributed 543 hours to the reparative programs and approximately 100 additional hours were performed by the Citizens' Advisory Board for oversight of the programs. The dedication of the generous people in our community are the reason for our on-going success and continued support for the Department of Corrections. We are immensely grateful that community members continue to show up! Please contact HACJC for more information about our programs and/or to learn more about volunteer opportunities, email: director.cjc@hardwickvt.org.

*Carol Plante
Director
(802) 644-1960*

Hardwick Area Food Pantry

With the generous support of the Town of Hardwick, the Hardwick Area Food Pantry (HAFFP) is dedicated to providing a resource hub for hundreds of people experiencing need in our local communities. The pantry regularly serves around 300 individuals each month. Of these, a third are children. This year during the holiday season the pantry distributed Thanksgiving and Christmas boxes to over 180 households. Quality food and community engagement are key components

of enhancing the impact of our work. This year we have continued to develop relationships with vendors for fresh, local, quality foods, and clients are taking full advantage of this increased access – we invite clients to visit as often as they like for fresh produce. We are exploring options for healthy, local bread and have partnerships with two local schools in the works who are interested in baking with students to provide regular bread deliveries to the pantry. A major area of partnership activity and community engagement is the Grow Your Own program (GYO). Now in its sixth year, GYO is a partnership of HAFP, the Center for Agriculture Economy, and WonderArts VT. GYO offers a framework for Food Pantry clients and community members to share knowledge, with the goals of addressing food insecurity, building community and mentoring new leaders who have not traditionally been in positions of power. This year, in addition to free monthly workshops on cooking, growing and preserving, GYO partnered with Hazen Union School and Lamaille Housing Partnership to build garden beds at Slapp Hill, a low-income apartment complex. In 2020, GYP will work with students to build garden beds at Evergreen Mobile Home Park. We are excited to strengthen our relationship with the Hardwick Area Health Center by holding some GYO events in their new learning kitchen (construction beginning in January 2020). We anticipate that this partnership will expand the reach of our programs and draw in new participants. Our new director, LauraLee Sweeney who joined HAFP in August, has a background in psychology and social services, as well as a passion for nutrition and agriculture and is very excited to build on our connections with schools and other partners. For example, LauraLee has begun conversations with Head Start about how to align and collaborate given the significant overlap in the populations we serve. LauraLee is also working to build systems that recruit and support volunteers by intentionally connecting their skills and interests to specific pantry needs. HAFP volunteers contribute close to 4000 hours of time each year!

With gratitude for the support and partnership of the Hardwick community,
Reeve Basom, President
(802) 472-5940

Board of Directors: Reeve Basom, President - Erika Karp, Vice President - Alice Fleer, Secretary – Regina Troiano, Treasurer, Ruth Gaillard – Diane Peduzzi – Donna Corpaci **HAFP Director:** LauraLee Sweeney

Caledonia Home Health Care & Hospice

Caledonia Home Health Care & Hospice (CHHC) is Northern Counties Health Care's (NCHC) certified Medicare and Medicaid comprehensive Home Care and Hospice division. Caledonia Home Health Care & Hospice has proudly served the residents of Caledonia and Southern Essex since 1968. Our mission is to enhance the quality of life of individuals and families by providing compassionate, accessible and affordable patient-centered health services to our community. In the last year, Caledonia Home Health and Hospice was honored to provide 4,450 visits to the residents of Hardwick, VT. Our staff visited 173 homes of community members living in the Hardwick area. While working with residents we provided physical, occupational and speech therapies. We provided skilled nursing, medical social work, personal care attendants and even home makers. We work together with primary care physicians so that care is specific and structured to treatment goals.

2020 Town Appropriation Visit Statistics Hardwick:
Home Care (Therapy, Nursing, MSW) = 2,540 visits
Maternal Child Health = 91 visits
Hospice (Nursing, Therapy, Personal Care, Respite) = 227 visits

Long Term Care (Case Management, Personal Care, Respite) = 1,592 visits

Total Visits in Hardwick: 4,450 visits

Testimonials

"In the past 11 years of my care giving, home health has been my support at all times. They are the best! I could not have done it without them... I'm glad to have them on my side. They are a great team. We need more like them."

"My Physical Therapist and Nurse were methodical, practical, and explained things to me in terms I could understand. They were friendly, courteous, good listeners, and punctual, as well as professional."

"The staff is very kind and caring. They make you feel good by the way they treat you as a friend and not a patient. They are on time and call 1st to let you know they are coming. Very knowledgeable in all areas of healthcare. Thank you!"

"People from home health care agency were kind, communicative, thoughtful, and patient. Nothing but good thoughts for those people."

Laurie A. Bellizzi
(802)748-8116

Hardwick Community Television (Channel 16)

Hardwick Community Television is committed to fulfilling the vision of a local nonprofit TV station that gives the community access to the people, government meetings, and events of interest to the area. In 2020, HCTV will be continuing to cover regular Select Board Meetings, Hazen Sports, local School Board Meetings and other community events. We will be offering free video workshops, including a free “Vid-kids” workshop for area children to work creatively with video. New for 2020, HCTV programming information will be available on the Comcast Cable Channel Listings and HCTV will be getting a new channel number! More information will be shared as soon as it becomes available. In 2019, HCTV has maintained full internet accessibility to locally made programs. Every program is archived and available for viewing at www.hctv.us. We also post each program on the Hardwick Community Television Facebook page. This includes Hazen Varsity Basketball and Soccer games, Hardwick Select Board, the Memorial Day Parade, Hazen Career Café, Hardwick School Board and more local programming. Anyone who has internet access can watch these programs whether they get cable or not. And with the programs on Facebook, they are easy to share with other organizations and residents. When streamed live over the internet, the programs can be viewed live on <http://www.hctv.us> at the time of the actual event. As always, HCTV’s full broadcast schedule can be viewed on Channel 16 by cable subscribers. HCTV is able to share locally produced shows with the rest of the state’s cable access stations through the VMX network. Hazen Union Varsity Basketball game broadcasts in 2019/20 are accompanied by live play-by-play audio by Peoples High School Senior James Salvas with help from Griffin Lussier and Jon Lussier. This is a great opportunity for the high school senior, as he is set to pursue a career in broadcasting at NVU Lyndon. These games offer underwriting opportunities for local businesses to promote themselves while supporting HCTV and community events. Also, we hope to continue working with Hazen Union students who helped record and edit seven Hazen Career Café events in Fall 2019. HCTV operates on an annual budget of under \$40,000. Leif Goldberg is the Executive Director, and works with several independent camera-people to record over 120 programs annually. From station programming to live events to creative workshops and technical training, this small station is a great asset for Hardwick and

Woodbury. In order to cover more of what’s going on in Hardwick, HCTV always needs volunteers. HCTV offers free camera and editing training and will equip you to run the cameras at community events or help you to edit programs for broadcast. A trained volunteer can also produce their own show with the support of HCTV resources and staff. The HCTV Board of Directors and staff thank you, the citizens of Hardwick, for your support. Your feedback is always welcome. If you would like to volunteer your time, and learn a valuable new skill, call us at 472-6655.

*Rachel Kane
HCTV President*

Northeast Kingdom Arts Council (Hardwick Town House)

The mission statement of the Northeast Kingdom Arts Council for The Hardwick Town House is to preserve the historic building while making it a dynamic center of culture for the region through educational and entertaining programming. NeKArts Council is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization run by an all-volunteer Board of Directors. We meet once monthly, and would welcome new members to our group. This appropriation of \$3,500 will be used as matching funds in order to secure additional grants that require evidence of the community’s support of the NeKArts Council’s mission. NeKArts has operated since 2001 primarily through successful grant writing and individual donations which have allowed it to make significant renovations to the Town House while expanding the number and variety of its programs. The Town House is owned by the Town of Hardwick and is leased to NeKArts with the agreement that NeKArts Council will actively pursue both public and private funding necessary to further rehabilitate this historic town asset. In 2019, thousands of people (yes, thousands) listened, laughed, and cheered while performers took the stage – some for the first time and some for the 500th. The historic space hosted historic preservation meetings, graduations, film screenings, school plays, dance recitals, chamber concerts, and new theater productions. Meanwhile, the NeKArts Board made significant progress towards year-round functionality, aesthetic elegance, and physical comfort. The building now has insulated ceilings and restored windows, a newly painted floor, seat cushions on every seat. We can’t help but marvel how far the Town House has come. Not only is it a shining example of historic preservation, but it also has enormous day-to-day practicality as an accessible,

multi-purpose community space. In case you didn't know, it now offers high-speed internet (shared with the Hardwick Historical Society), functional theatrical drapery, a tech-booth and lighting package, and a newly painted floor. It hosts events from weddings to comedy shows, intimate concerts to educational summits, collaborations to celebrations. The Select Board has been invited to return our Town Meeting to enjoy the traditional environment designed for civic discourse. NeKArts looks forward to welcoming the community for the 2021 Town Meeting. We continue making incremental progress towards universal accessibility and year-round, multi-use for decades to come. On the to-do list for the immediate future are steel fire-escapes, roof replacement, additional bathroom upgrades, and continued stage restoration. It is only with much-appreciated financial contributions from the annual appropriation alongside individual donations that we continue to accomplish our restoration, preservation and maintenance goals, expand programming, and apply for matching grants from supporting organizations. Our vision is to create a truly accessible and time-honored venue where young and old can celebrate together, where a community can assemble to laugh or learn, and where new creative work can come to life. If you would like to know more about what is happening at the Hardwick Town House visit <http://hardwicktownhouse.org/> or The Town House is now on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/hardwicktownhouse>.

The Hardwick Town House (NeKArts Council) Board of Directors ~ Shari Cornish, David Gross, Kelly Nottermann, Sally Anstey, Tess Martin, Justin Lander, Rose Friedman, Brent McCoy, Maya McCoy, Barbara Graham, Audrey Grant, Beana Bern

Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging

For over 40 years, the Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging has been a valued and trusted resource for elder and disabled Vermonters to age in place. Our mission is to deliver the person-centered support necessary to sustain their independence and live well in their communities. Our valuable services include a Helpline, Medicare counseling and Bootcamp, specially-trained staff who help people develop long-range planning as they age, exercise and mobility programs, family and caregiver support programs and grants, case management for those who need a bit more support with aging in place, as well as assistance in applying for fuel, food and pharmacy programs. Our

nutrition programs partially fund meal sites and home delivered meals under the guidance of our registered dietitians. Working with RCT and Legal Aid, we provide solutions for the complex challenges people face while living in a rural community. In addition, our work is supplemented by 367 volunteers who serve as Senior Companions, Home Delivered Meals drivers, wellness program leaders, and home-based caregivers. Our service area extends across the entire Northeast Kingdom. During this past year 180 residents of Hardwick used the services of our organization to meet their needs. People called our Helpline for assistance with caregiving and programs such as 3SquaresVt, Medicaid and Medicare, fuel assistance, transportation, and many other topics. Our website www.nekcouncil.org provides information on many of our programs and services. In FY 18 the council provided assistance to over 4,600 residents of the Northeast Kingdom and our Meals on Wheels program delivered 128,084 meals. We sincerely thank the residents of Hardwick for your continued support to make a difference in the lives of your residents who are often the most vulnerable. As a non-profit, we are able to remain independent and put the focus on our clients who need unbiased assistance. If you have a friend or family member who may benefit from our services, please contact us. We're just a phone call away at the Senior Helpline: 800-642-5119.

*Meg Burmeister
Executive Director*

North Country Animal League

North Country Animal League promotes compassionate and responsible relationships between humans and animals through sheltering of homeless animals, adoptions, education, spay/neuter programs and support of cruelty prevention. NCAL provides sheltering of homeless animals in our Pet Adoption Center with the philosophy of a commitment to providing any animal in a shelter a warm and friendly environment with nutritious food and training to prepare them for their new homes. Adoption of homeless animals with an average of 630 animals per year from 1998 through 2018 finding new homes through the assistance of professional adoption counselors who help families and individuals make the perfect match. Education and outreach through summer camp program, volunteer program and training, local schools, open houses, Reading Buddies, dog bite prevention workshops, high school mentoring programs and children's programs. Spay/neuter of all

animals adopted out by NCAL at low cost spay/neuter days throughout the year. Support of cruelty prevention with NCAL serving as lead agency for the cruelty complaints in Lamoille County working with local police departments and town offices. Hardwick Town Statistics – January 1, to December 1, 2018:

6 strays and 7 surrenders for a total of 13 stray and surrendered animals from Hardwick. \$9,425 average cost for NCAL to care for Hardwick animals (\$725/animal for average three week stay). 9 Hardwick residents adopted dogs or cats from us in 2018. 3 Hardwick residents participated in our humane education program in 2018.

*Respectfully submitted,
Tracy Goldfine
Executive Director
(802) 888-5065 ext. 106*

Rural Community Transportation, Inc.

Rural Community Transportation, Inc. (RCT) respectfully requests an appropriation in the amount of \$3,400.00. This is the same amount requested and appropriated last year. RCT is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation, which provides public transportation services throughout Caledonia, Orleans, Essex and Lamoille Counties. In Fiscal Year 2019, RCT provided 9,351 trips to 166 residents of Hardwick, traveling 223,261 miles at a total cost of \$148,179.00. RCT also operates a commuter bus route (Monday-Friday) which provides residents of Hardwick with fare-free transportation services between Morrisville and downtown Barre, with a connecting service to Montpelier and St. Johnsbury. RCT operates with federal and state funding; however, our funding sources typically require 20% -50% local match dollars. All town appropriations received are used to provide the required local match. We hope that you will be able to assist us with our request and we look forward to continuing our service that is needed by the members of your community.

*Nick D'Agostino
Executive Director
802-748-8170*

Town Clerk Report

2019 has been a very busy year for the Hardwick Town Clerk's Office. Assistant Town Clerk Tonia Gray has her first full year under her belt and has been a great asset to our team. We successfully completed our first full year of billing Water and Sewer by the new metered system from the former flat rate system. The new rate structure worked well in the first year and

many customers were pleased with the reduction in their Water & Sewer rates. As a reminder to our utility customers the due dates for Water and Sewer have changed. We read meters every 3 months and bill based on those reading dates. The long-used dates of September 10, December 10, March 10 and June 10 are no longer applicable. Please check your bill closely for the correct due date when you receive it. DMV renewal registration service is still offered at our office. To register with our office the following items are required:

- Your registration renewal form from the Vermont Department of Motor Vehicles
- A check or money order made out to Vermont DMV for the registration fee (Cash or card cannot be accepted.)
- Finally, there is a \$3.00 processing fee that can be cash or check made out to the "Town of Hardwick"
- From July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019, the Town Clerk's Office processed 205 renewals with revenue of \$615.00.

You can access Town of Hardwick Lister Cards and Tax Maps on our website from the comfort of your own home. Just access the Town of Hardwick website at www.hardwickvt.org, highlight the Government tab, click on the Lister / Assessor card link or click on the Tax Maps link to be able to locate the information that you may need. *By Vermont State Law*, every dog or wolf hybrid in the Town of Hardwick is required to be registered with the Town Clerk's office by April 1 of each year. To register your dog, you must show proof of a current rabies vaccination. The fee to register in Hardwick is:

- Spayed/Neutered - \$8.00
- Non-Spayed/Neutered - \$12.00

The changes that the State of Vermont made regarding the process for getting certified copies of Vital Records began on July 1, 2019. Our office has seen an influx of certified copy requests based on the fact that you can now visit your local Town Clerk's Office for all Vermont registered Birth & Death certificates. Please see our Town Website for more details including the Certified Birth/Death request form that must be filled out to receive a certified copy. We have made several changes to the Town Clerk page on the Town's website www.hardwickvt.org, and continue to work toward additional information that we can make easily available to the Hardwick community.

*Alberta Miller
Town Clerk/Treasurer*

Town Manager Report

Thanks to everyone who has assisted and supported me in my first year as Town Manager. I am honored to interact with so many of you and to be involved with so many productive and positive projects here in town. I appreciate the effort of all Select Board members, employees, and all others serving on various committees and boards. Thank you for all you do. It goes without saying Hardwick is a great place to work, live, and play. At the close of FY2019, the town was able to add \$103,664 into its Fund balance (town savings account). The Fund balance total is currently at \$515,646 or 16% of the town budget; this is slightly better than the generally accepted target of 15% for municipal budgeting. These funds are reserved to help the Town cover any unanticipated expenses in a given budget year. It was another productive year for capital projects in town with many different improvements being completed. This included road and ditch improvements on portions of Hardwick Farms Road, Hopkins Hill Road, Marsh Road, West Hill Extension, Porter Brook Road and Mackville Road. Paving was completed on Glenside Avenue, Sumner Street, Holton Hill, Dewey Street, Summer Street, and portions of Junction Road and Log Yard Drive. Brushback was completed on a number of town roads to include some streets in the village area, Hardwick Street, Mackville Road, Nichols Pond Road and Dutton Road. For the public water and wastewater system, the enterprise fund was carefully reviewed and a rate adjustment was implemented this past fall. The review is done generally on an annual basis. The rate adjustments are implemented to ensure a fiscally sound enterprise fund, a pricing structure that is equitable and reasonable for the service being offered, and to reserve for capital investments for all future needed improvements. This year a “frequently asked questions” item was developed as part of the review process and is now available on the Town website in the public works section. Public water system improvements in 2019 included the installation of nineteen water meters to bring the percentage of connections metered in the system to 87%. There will be ongoing work on meter installations to get to a 100% metered situation within the next couple years. The significant water system project conducted this year was the repair of the Bridgman Hill Water Storage Reservoir. Following the collapse of the roof in February 2019, planning commenced immediately and construction activities were taking place from Spring right up until a couple weeks ago. The

important point is the reservoir is back online as of mid-January. There are a few remaining punch list items to be completed this spring but the reservoir is fully operational. Wastewater system projects included upgrading of aeration system infrastructure at the treatment facility and continued investigations on the collection system to identify any locations needing repairs. In one area, near Charlevoux Drive, a slip lining procedure was completed to prevent groundwater and surface water runoff from entering the sanitary sewer collection system. A repair of the stormwater drainage system in the vicinity of Glenside Avenue and Mill Street was completed and a one-way flow valve was added to the stormwater drainage system near the Cottage Street Bridge at the discharge point into the Lamoille River. Public works projects planned this construction season include the paving of Hillside Street, Woodbury Street, Prospect Street, Central Street, Park Street, and West Hill Road. Road and ditch work are planned for Tucker Brook Road and Kate Brook Road. Sidewalk improvements to several areas in the village district are also planned. On a related topic, the Pedestrian and Traffic Safety Task Force group is compiling info from various stakeholders at this time. The information will be offered to the Select Board for some suggested improvements to crosswalk locations and associated signage, parking spot locations and potential adjustments, as well as signage issues at selected intersections. End point, as the task force name notes, is to improve safety. The Town continues to collaborate with the Center for an Agriculture Economy (CAE) and other project planners on the Yellow Barn project. There have been significant advances this past year to obtain required permits, compile design info, secure future tenants, and secure additional grant support. With a final decision on grant funding requests and approvals on remaining permits, it is anticipated construction will take place this summer. Work also continues on improvements on the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail. Early in 2019, the Town secured a grant in the amount of \$175,512 from USDA. This will be put toward improvements on the section from Slapp Hill Road heading toward Pumpkin Lane. In addition, other construction improvements are planned for the Creamery Road area. On a parallel path, our partners at VAST are the lead for a construction project to deck and add railings to the steel bridges east of the Village area and parallel to Route 15. In addition, they are overseeing improvements to the section from North Main Street

to the intersection with Route 15 in the vicinity of Lamoille Valley Ford Dealership/Yellow Barn site. With this construction completed, it will support more and more folks taking advantage of this recreational resource. Those same folks will be patronizing many of our local businesses and this will have a very positive economic impact to the area. Be aware the 2020 Census will begin soon. I urge all residents to participate because the results will determine how more than \$675 billion is distributed each year to states and localities for key programs during the next decade. The Census is short, easy to complete, and important to the town. More info can be found at 2020census.gov Many of you are aware it was a challenging time in early 2019, with the loss of long-time town employee, Lisa Fecteau. It was an honor to observe the community efforts to support Lisa and her family and friends up to and following her passing. Her memorial service was one of the most honorable that could be conducted. The efforts and energy of all involved were very representative of this amazing community. As I observe regularly as the Town Manager, Hardwick is a special place and has so much to offer.

*Shaun Fielder
Town Manager*

Select Board Report

Two Thousand Nineteen was a busy year for the Town of Hardwick. We brought on Shaun Fielder as our new Town Manager in January. Shaun cheerfully jumped into multiple ongoing projects and was soon contributing to everything from snow removal issues to the search for funding for the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail. The responsibilities of the Town Manager vary widely and the Select Board is pleased that Shaun is not only able but seems to enjoy the challenges inherent to the job. Each year the Select Board works with all the Town departments to devise a budget that is reasonable to meet the needs of the Town without placing an undue burden on the taxpayers. This year was no exception. Most of the changes in the budget are simply updates to reflect our best estimate of actual cost for things like insurance, fuel, payroll, etc. There are however, a couple new additions to the budget that I'd like to call attention to. First, we're making a bigger investment in the Fire Department capital equipment fund. Second, we've added funding for a new part-time Community Development position in the town offices. You'll note that there is a bond vote for a new fire truck this year. Periodically it's necessary to consider replacing an old truck with a

newer truck and we're at that point with one truck. Historically we've borrowed the money to buy fire trucks and we're doing that again this year. Currently the Fire Department is the only department for which we do not save for new vehicles. For future Fire Truck purchases, we propose to save up the money rather than borrowing. For this budget, we've added a new page to detail the Capital Fire Fund. After removing \$35,000 from the Capital Equipment Fund, we're adding \$65,423 to the Capital Equipment budget to start that saving process. This will also be sufficient to pay for both outstanding bonds (assuming the new bond passes). Adding a part-time Community Development position is something that the Select Board has discussed for years. When I first started on the Select Board, the Town Manager had the normal administrative responsibilities you would expect. Over the years, we've added new responsibilities related to town projects like the Yellow Barn project, the Library expansion, and the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail, but with the focus remaining on the core town business. While both the current and former Town Managers have handled this additional effort well, the Select Board thinks it's time to add a new (part-time) position to handle some of these special projects. We're proposing a \$30,000 addition to the budget to fund this position. I hope you will have the opportunity to review the detailed budget in this Town Report and that we'll have a good discussion at Town Meeting. As always, the Select Board wishes to thank all Town employees for their dedication and service. It is our Town employees who keep our municipality operating smoothly.

*Eric Remick
Select Board Chair*

Hardwick Police Department

In the year ending June 30, 2019, Hardwick Police responded to 2,157 calls for service. There were 153 criminal arrests by Hardwick Police Officers. The categories with the highest amount of offenses were, driving with a criminally suspended license (28), drug arrest (12), petit larceny (7), bad checks (6), domestic assault (6), and violation of conditions of release (6). 430 traffic stops were conducted by Hardwick Police Officers during this time period. We have continued participation in the Vermont Governors Highway Safety Program through 2019. We have continued the "Drug Drop Box" program which has now been in effect for 3 years and is widely used by the residents of Hardwick and Greensboro, thus getting unused prescription drugs out of the hands of those that may

abuse them. We have taken part in the "Take Back Drug Days" at our station throughout the year. The Department has gone through many personnel changes this year. Sgt. Darin Barber came on board July 1, 2018, RJ Caldwell started January 2, 2019, Lucas Marcoux started March 25, 2019 and Scott Gagnon started fulltime as Dispatcher/Officer June 3, 2019. The Hardwick Police Department suffered a major loss with the passing of our Executive Assistant Lisa Fecteau, a 32-year veteran of the department. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her. Detective Kevin Lehoe has been very active with Caledonia Special investigations Unit and also taking on some of the drug investigations in our area. The Officers of the Hardwick Police Department would like to thank the Hardwick and Greensboro communities for their strong support and in assisting the Hardwick Police Department in becoming a strong member of the community partnership. Wishing everyone a healthy and safe year.

Sincerely,

Aaron Cochran, Police Chief; Sergeant Darin Barber, Corporal Steven Mitchell, Detective Kevin Lehoe, Officer RJ Caldwell, Officer Lucas Marcoux, Officer Nicholas Steller, Officer/Dispatcher Scott Gagnon and Officer Max Ruse

Hardwick Fire Department Report:

The Hardwick Fire Department responded to a total of 60 calls this past year.

They consisted of the following:

- 10 structure fires
- 15 car accidents
- 2 assists to Hardwick Rescue
- 3 mutual aid calls
- 9 fire alarms
- 4 carbon monoxide calls
- 1 illegal burn
- 1 grass fire
- 1 vehicle fire
- 14 miscellaneous call-outs

At the 2020 Town Meeting, the Town of Hardwick will be asked to approve a \$275,000.00 Bond to replace the 1995 pumper truck. The 25-year-old pumper currently in service no longer meets the safety standard requirements. If anyone would like to get more information about the new truck we hope to purchase, there will be a Pre –Town Meeting Bond discussion on February 27, 2020 at 6 p.m. I want to thank the dedicated team of selfless men and women who volunteer for the Hardwick Fire Department for

all your great work. Hardwick is a safer place thanks to all of you. The Hardwick Fire Department wants to thank the Hardwick Community for their continued support.

*Tom Fadden
Fire Chief*

Jeudevine Memorial Library

The theme of the year has been the Jeudevine Expansion Project. After receiving two bequests in the winter of 2018, the library formed a Building Committee with ten townspeople, two staff members and two trustees. They came up with a basic design which was given to the architects chosen by the Trustees. Check out the design on the library website. A Campaign Committee was formed to raise money for the project. A Design Committee worked on furnishings and equipment for a USDA grant. An Event Committee planned and carried out many fundraising events starting with the Kick-Off of the Campaign in April. Wonderful events were held to raise money for the addition! Trustee Kathleen Sampson led the students at Hardwick Elementary in collecting "Pennies for the Jeudevine," plus she made a gorgeous quilt which was raffled off. During Spring Festival, the Friends of the Jeudevine Library unveiled the Teeny Tiny Playhouse as the library float in the parade. It was built (and donated) by Rob Alcusky (President of the Friends of the Jeudevine) and his wife, Sally Anstey. All summer long it was hauled to different events and finally raffled off. There was a Pie Auction with Justin (Leo) Lander of VT Vaudeville as auctioneer, an event called "Pages in the Gallery" hosted by the White Water Gallery in East Hardwick with the partnership of the Galaxy Bookshop. A fun evening with Indie Rock band the Zookeepers was held at the Town House, followed by A Walk along the Camino with Steven and Kathy Light. The last event for the year was the voting for a prominent Hardwick citizen to *Kiss-a-Pig*. The winner was our Police Chief, Aaron Cochran. He wasn't the only one who kissed the pig though! The cute miniature pig named Oliver was very kissable! The Campaign Committee has been writing grants, sending letters and talking to private donors. With all this work the library is getting close to the goal of raising two thirds of the cost of the project. This is an important project for Hardwick's future. At last, people in wheelchairs will be able to enter the library. Teens will have a place. Children will have room to be kids, and those who want quiet can enjoy the reading area in the original

building. The library and community groups will have a large meeting room with a kitchen. Classes, workshops and events can be held with state-of-the-art electronics. The project enhances the infrastructure of Hardwick. This is an historic moment for Hardwick. If you have not donated, put your name in the history books as a donor who provided for the next 100 years of the Jeudevine Library! Send your donation to the library at PO Box 536, Hardwick, VT 05843 or pay online at www.jeudevinememoriallibrary.org. Along with working on the Expansion project, the library kept doing its tasks. Looking at the yearly statistics, the library continues to be a busy place: 15,337 items were checked out to library patrons; 11,572 people came to the library; 1,630 people got help with questions and computer help; 2540 people used the library computers and 1756 people used the Wi-Fi; plus, 2216 people attended library programs. The Friends paid a total of \$1,789 for programs including magicians, storytellers, programs about insects and wild turkeys. The library offers much more than books! We have Wi-Fi with a high-speed fiber connection. We do faxes, scanning, printing and copying. Through our website there are links to many online databases with full text articles from many magazines and online courses. Library patrons can download eBooks and audiobooks. A new resource is the Ebsco Learning Express which helps people prepare for tests such as the GED, SAT, and many occupation exams. This resource is funded by the VT Department of Libraries. There is a link on our website. If you can't find what you are looking for, the library can almost always get items through the Interlibrary Loan service which gets materials not just from Vermont but also from libraries in other states. You don't have to come in to get help! Give us a call at 472-5948!

*Lisa Sammet
Library Director*

Hardwick Recreation Committee

The Hardwick Recreation Committee continues to work with other organizations and individuals to bring quality recreational programming to Town, trying to meet the needs of people in a range of age groups. The Rec Committee is grateful to the Select Board for recognizing that recreational opportunities in Town are a priority and for providing the support for programming and events. Youth Programs are run by the OSSU REACH! Program at Hardwick Elementary School. Our support of these programs represents part

of the necessary match needed to continue to receive federal grant funds. The following programs are supported by the Recreation Committee budget:

- ❖ Youth ski program in the winter
- ❖ Sports/Adventure Camp is two weeks of programming in the summertime.
- ❖ Swim Lessons in the summer at the Swimming Hole in Stowe. Last year this created a more reliable resource for high quality instructors and lifeguards at a cost comparable to other available programs. It also allowed children to swim the entire time, and staff was able to keep track of children much easier without the large crowd of additional people that is at Caspian in the summer. Because it is an indoor facility lessons were not impacted by the weather, either, which made for a much more pleasant experience for children.
- ❖ A Mountain Bike Program next fall for children in grades 4 – 6 (new this year). This will provide instruction to students, and increase their confidence, and encourage increased use of the trail system.

Holiday Programs – The Recreation Committee coordinates and organizes vendors, volunteers, facilities and advertising for all holiday programs and events including candy distribution on Elm, Cottage and Granite Streets at Halloween, the Holiday Party in December, a Valentine's Dance in February, Easter Egg Hunt in March/April and the Spring Festival in May. We would like to continue to improve upon these events as we continually see higher participation each year and receive positive feedback from the community about it. **Senior Programming** – Is currently limited to providing financial support for the Bone Builders Program and outings/programming for seniors in the community. Bone Builders is sponsored by the NEK Council on Aging and taught by a community volunteer. The Rec. Committee believes this is an area for improvement and has some new ideas to move forward with in the coming year. The Rec. Committee will continue to support and coordinate Green Up Day, the Ice Rink at Atkins Field and improvements to Mackville Pond Recreation Area. We are very happy to report the permits are finally in place, and we will be able to move forward with the installation of a new playground at the Mackville Pond Recreation area in the Spring. We are very excited about this installation and its pairing with the upgrades in seating and signage and continued provision of portable toilets made last year.

A huge shout out to the volunteers that continue to make all of these efforts possible!

*Susanne Gann
Recreation Coordinator*

Hardwick Trails Committee

The Hardwick Trails Committee continued to expand the single-track trails network and improve the skiing and hiking trails. Use of the trails continues to grow with several classrooms from Hardwick Elementary and Hazen Union using the trails for science, outdoor forest-based education and physical fitness. This past year we were able to upgrade and add ski equipment using funds donated by local donors and with generous gifts in memory of trails founder Larry Michaels. Larry moved away from the Hardwick area several years ago, but continued to stay in touch and care deeply about the trails. In the summer months we will be dedicating a trail in his memory. Also, with the support of our community, we purchased a small groomer specifically for the single-track system. This groomer will allow us to groom the single-track trails during the winter months for use by snowshoers, walkers and bikers. The trails also hosted many local events including the REACH after school cross country ski program, Spring Festival Fun Run, guided nature and bird walks and the Craftsbury Outdoor Center brought their Tuesday night race series to the Hardwick Trails for both a ski race and a running race. Our largest annual event, The Pumpkin Walk, was again a huge success in its sixteenth year with several hundred people of all ages attending. The Little Library by Eaton Brook is a beloved spot on the trails. Books are kept well-stocked by Hardwick resident Sally Anstey. Take a short walk on the Eaton Brook Trail to visit the library. There you will find a variety of books for all ages and a bench at the water's edge to sit on and enjoy the sounds of the brook and the surrounding woods. The Hardwick Trails Committee meets the first Monday of every month (unless it falls on a holiday and then it is the second Monday) at 5:30 p.m. In the warm months, we meet at the trails cabin behind Hazen Union and in the colder months we meet at Hazen Union School. The Hardwick Trails are enjoyed by many people of all ages and the Trails committee appreciates all the support received from the Hardwick community.

*Respectfully submitted by
Lenore Renaud
Committee Co-Chair*

Conservation Commission

The Hardwick Conservation Commission held our first meeting in May 2019, after being created by town vote at the Town Meeting. We have spent several months getting organized, tossing around project ideas and setting first priorities. We have a good group, with lots of enthusiasm! We had a table at Spring Festival, introducing our commission to townsfolk, and selling elderberry plants. (We will be there again this year, with elderberries and mountain ash trees!) We have begun to explore conducting a Natural Resource Inventory for the town in the next year or two. In September two of our members took a kayak tour of the upper Lamaille, to look for signs of erosion, invasive plants, and trash. The good news is, there is very little trash, but there are a few spots with quite serious erosion. We have initiated contact with the state highway dept, to ask about their plans for repairing the erosion. Several of us conducted street tree surveys in downtown Hardwick, looking at the overall conditions, looking for problem trees, finding spots where new trees might be planted. We have submitted a grant to help with the expense of improving/maintaining existing street trees along Wolcott St. and Main St. Emerald Ash Borer has been found in some neighboring towns, and we unfortunately expect to see it here within a few years. We will be doing public outreach about this pest, so stay tuned for that. We are also exploring ways we could be involved in working in our Town Forest. The public is welcome to contact us with ideas and concerns relevant to the natural environment in our town. Our meetings are held on third Tuesdays, at the Memorial Building, and are open to the public. For additional information about the Conservation Commission, visit our page on the Town's website: <https://hardwickvt.org/government/committees-commissions/conservation-commission/>

*Respectfully submitted,
Rachel Kane
Co-Chair*

Zoning Report

In 2019, the Hardwick Planning Commission (HPC) worked on a minor revision to the Hardwick Unified Development Bylaws. Adopted in September of 2019, the update made statutory changes and aligned the current Forest Reserve zoning district and the Highway Mixed Use zoning district with the historical usage on Route 14. The Hardwick Planning Commission also finished their revision of the existing

Municipal Plan in 2019. As of November, the updated Municipal Plan had been edited to be more concise and user-friendly. Additions to the plan included guiding language for priority habitat blocks as per Act 171 and revised and updated Economic Development language. The HPC is currently examining the parking and traffic and pedestrian safety in the village center of Hardwick. A preliminary draft of suggested changes will be created in early 2020. If you would like to help, the Planning Commission currently has two vacancies. Letters of interest can be submitted to the Town Manager's office. The Hardwick Development Review Board (DRB) will be evaluating multiple development proposals in 2020. The DRB currently has two vacancies. Again, letters of interest can be submitted to the Town Manager's office.

*Kristen Leahy
Zoning Administrator
(802) 472-6120*

zoning.administrator@hardwickvt.org

Hardwick Electric Department

2019 was a very successful year for the Hardwick Electric Department (HED). Multiple large three phase line expansion/construction projects were completed this year, our 1,650 kW H11 solar project went from planning into construction, and our ongoing focus/efforts for continuous improvement across HED all had successes worth celebrating. One big positive for the year was that the final payment on our 1989 \$1.9 million bond was made in December, which reduced HED's annual debt load by over \$100k. In addition, the targeted 2019 improvements on the Hardwick Village circuit were executed, and this project provided significant impacts to both service quality and system loss reductions. Another project initiated in 2019 was the hardening of our 3319 transmission line – which suffered two HED system wide outages in 2019. This project is replacing all outdated poles, replacing the hardware on the line, and it is reclaiming the full right of way for vegetation management. Coupling these together will directly improve reliability on the circuit and avoid events such as those we experienced earlier in the year. Our Wolcott hydro generating facility had a great year in making over 3 million kWh of energy for our customers – saving them over \$200k. The sluice gate repair project went through a great deal of planning with the Public Utility Commission as well as ANR

and other state agencies in 2019 – and is stepping from planning into the construction phase in January 2020. HED's Board of Commissioners commitment to investing in renewable energy sources shined brightly in executing a contract for building our long planned 1,650 kW – H11 solar generating project. The project will set HED ahead of the curve, and on track to meet all of our Renewable Energy Standard requirements for the next many years. This will be at a cost that is below our present market, so the project also supports our ongoing efforts for stability of rates for our customers. HED's Commissioners moved forward again in 2019 with their remaining due diligence efforts in regard to the Joyce Bellavance embezzlement. After much positioning by the parties in 2019, the suit is set for trial dates in Spring 2020. The Commissioners look forward to the matter being brought to closure in 2020. HED revenues for 2019 were 1.9% over budget, and expenses came in 2.9% under budget. Purchase power expenses met the planned budget almost exactly, and delivered a coverage ratio of 94% - so the services provided to us by the Vermont Public Power Supply Authority (VPPSA) in 2019 were excellent. The HED Board is proud of all the successes HED had on behalf of our customers in 2019, and we commit to maintain our focus for ongoing continuous improvement in the coming year. Exceptional service is HED's primary goal and function, and we commit to provide this for our customers as efficiently, and economically as possible in 2020.

*Very Truly Yours,
Commissioners:*

*Lynne Gedanken – Chair/Hardwick
Gina Campoli – Vice Chair/Craftsbury
Dave Mitchell – Hardwick
Nat Smith – Greensboro
Roger Prevot – Hardwick*



CURRENT TAX RECONCILIATION: 7/1/2018 TO 6/30/2019		
MUNICIPAL GRAND LIST AT 1%	\$	1,844,172.00
HOMESTEAD GRAND LIST AT 1%	\$	1,086,305.56
NON-RESIDENTIAL GRAND LIST AT 1%	\$	766,622.44
TAXES BILLED ON 8/07/2018		
MUNICIPAL TAXES BILLED	\$	1,219,550.91
HIGHWAY TAXES BILLED	\$	1,041,772.66
LOCAL AGREEMENT BILLED	\$	18,257.42
HOMESTEAD TAXES BILLED	\$	1,847,588.46
NON-RESIDENTIAL TAXES BILLED	\$	1,202,706.10
LATE HOMESTEAD PENALTY	\$	1,580.96
MISC. BILLING (GARBAGE)	\$	820.00
TOTAL TAXES BILLED	\$	5,332,276.51
TAX BOOK BILLING BALANCE 6/30/19		
MUNICIPAL TAXES BILLED	\$	1,219,513.22
HIGHWAY TAXES BILLED	\$	1,041,740.46
LOCAL AGREEMENT BILLED	\$	18,256.85
HOMESTEAD TAXES BILLED	\$	1,888,975.73
NON-RESIDENTIAL TAXES BILLED	\$	1,164,156.14
LATE HOMESTEAD PENALTY	\$	4,098.41
MISC. BILLING (GARBAGE)	\$	820.00
TOTAL TAXES BILLED	\$	5,337,560.81
COLLECTIONS REPORT 7/1/2018 TO 6/30/2019		
ABATEMENTS	\$	(1,182.68)
ADJUSTMENTS	\$	(9,798.58)
COLLECTIONS	\$	4,448,937.21
CREDIT REFUNDS (HS-122)	\$	(38,182.57)
CREDIT REFUNDS (OVERPAYMENTS)		
STATE TAX PAYMENTS TO SCHOOL DISTRICT 7/1/2018 TO 6/30/19	\$	551,722.90
STATE TAX PAYMENTS TO TOWN OF HARDWICK 7/11/2018	\$	137,144.90
STATE TAX PAYMENT TO TOWN OF HARDWICK 8/10/2018	\$	11,322.63
STATE TAX PAYMENTS TO TOWN OF HARDWICK 9/18/2018	\$	1,568.72
STATE TAX PAYMENTS TO TOWN OF HARDWICK 11/07/2018	\$	9,644.53
RETURNED CHECKS	\$	7,309.66
REMOVAL OF GARBAGE FEE	\$	(700.00)
PROPERTY TAXES ACCOUNTED FOR ON JUNE 30, 2019	\$	5,117,786.72
DELINQUENTS	\$	219,774.09
TOTAL OF PROPERTY TAXES ACCOUNTED FOR ON JUNE 30, 2019	\$	5,337,560.81
GENERAL FUND BALANCE AS OF JUNE 30, 2019	\$	515,646.00

**Minutes
For Town of Hardwick Annual Town Meeting
March 5, 2019**

Orise Ainsworth, Moderator, called the meeting to order at 10 o'clock a.m. and began by reading the Warning. The voting audience included approximately 126 people.

The legal voters of the Town of Hardwick, Vermont are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Hardwick Elementary School in said Town of Hardwick on Tuesday, March 5, 2019 at 10 o'clock in the forenoon to act on the following business:

(Election of Town Select Board, Town Clerk, Town Treasurer, Hardwick Town School District Directors, and Union School District No. 26 Directors shall be voted on by Australian ballot. The polls will be open from 9:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.). If special accommodations are necessary because of physical disabilities, please contact the Town Clerk's Office (472-5971).

Orise also mentioned that Hazen Union's School budget and the Bond for the Bridgman Hill Reservoir Roof project were also being upon voted by Australian Ballot on this day.

In the front entry, the Sixth Graders had a table where they were selling food to raise money for their class trip.

There were flyers explaining the organizational meeting on March 15, 2019 for the new Orleans Southwest Union Elementary School District.

The Hardwick Food Panty had a flyer in the front with information regarding items needed to help support the food pantry.

There was also a flyer from the Select Board with information regarding the Bridgman Hill Reservoir Roof Bond.

The front table was asked to introduce themselves.

Since Shaun Fielder, Town Manager, is not a Hardwick resident, Orise asked for permission from the crowd for Shaun to speak on behalf of the Town.

Shaun Fielder, Town Manager, thanked the crowd for

letting him speak. He thanked the Business Manager, Casey Rowell, and Payroll Administrator, Amanda Fecteau, for helping him with the transition.

The front table included Eric Remick – SB Chair, Shari Cornish - SB, Elizabeth Dow - SB, Lucian Avery - SB, Danny Hale – SB Vice Chair, Aaron Cochran – Police Chief and Tom Fadden – Road Foreman and Fire Chief.

Article 1. To elect a Moderator to govern said Town Meeting and for the year ensuing.

Orise Ainsworth, nominated by Karen Collier
Motion passed unanimously

Article 2. Shall the Town accept the Town Report, year ending June 30, 2018?

Moved by Kevin Moore Jr.
Seconded by Jean Hackett
Motion passed unanimously

Article 3. To elect all Town Officers and School District Directors as required by the public laws of Vermont and the Town Charter. (Select Board, Town Clerk, Town Treasurer Hardwick Town School District Directors, and Union School District No. 26 Directors, to be voted by Australian Ballot).

One Lister.....3-year term

Kevin Moore nominated Jean Hackett

Karen Collier made the motion for the Clerk to cast one ballot for Jean Hackett as Lister.
Seconded by Jan Howard
Motion carried

One Auditor.....3-year term

Passed over

First Constable.....1-year term

Arthur Chase nominated by Karen Collier
Second Constable.....1-year term

Erwin Gilcris nominated by Karen Collier	Trustee of Public Funds.....1-year term
One Town Agent.....1-year term	George Whitney nominated by David Shepard
Karen Holmes nominated by Kevin Moore, Jr.	Trustee of Public Funds.....1-year term
Surveyor of Wood, Bark and Lumber.....1-year term	Mario Fradette nominated by David Shepard
Lucian Avery nominated by Kevin Moore, Jr.	Trustee of Public Funds.....1-year term
Tree Warden.....1-year term	Lorraine Hussey nominated by David Shepard
Lucian Avery nominated by Kevin Moore, Jr.	Fence Viewers.....1-year term
Cemetery Trustees.....1-year term	Listers nominated by David Shepard
Main Street, Maple Street, Fairview, Sanborn, Hardwick Street	Article 4. Shall the Town have its current taxes collected by the Town Treasurer?
Orise requested that we add West Hill Cemetery and Hardwick Center Cemetery to our list.	Moved by Kevin Moore Jr. Seconded by David Shepard <i>Motion passed unanimously</i>
Moved as a slate by David Shepard Seconded by Kevin Moore, Jr. <i>Motion passed unanimously</i>	Article 5. Shall the Town vote a budget of three million three hundred fifty-nine thousand six hundred sixteen dollars (\$3,359,616.00) to meet the expenses and liabilities of the Town and authorize the Select Board to set a new tax rate sufficient to provide the same?
Fire Dept. Officers.....1-year term (can be voted as one)	Moved by Karen Collier Seconded by Norma Wiesen
Moved as a slate by Karen Collier Seconded by Kevin Moore, Jr. <i>Motion passed unanimously</i>	Shaun Fielder began the discussion by thanking the Select Board for the opportunity to serve as Town Manager for the Town of Hardwick. For those who were not aware, Jon Jewett retired in December 2018. Shaun thanked Amanda Fecteau, Payroll Administrator, and Casey Rowell, Business Manager, for helping with his transition.
One Library Trustee....1 year remaining on a 3-year term	In June 2018 the Town added \$43,301 to our fund balance. That increased the fund balance to just over \$400,000 which is 13% of our total budget. The recognized standard is 15% of a Town's annual budget. We are approaching that number. The fund balance is similar to a savings account which assists in years where the budget is surpassed.
Elizabeth Rossano nominated by Jodi Lew-Smith	We have nearly a year under our belts with the new Water / Waste Water meter rates. After June 30 we will be doing a full review to see if the rates are fair
One Library Trustee.....3-year term	
Andrea Brightenback nominated by Jodi Lew-Smith	
One Library Trustee.....3-year term	
Brendan Buckley nominated by Jodi Lew-Smith	
One Library Trustee.....3-year term	
Kathleen Sampson nominated by Jodi Lew-Smith	
Grand Juror.....1-year term	
George Whitney nominated by David Shepard	

and equitable for everyone. We do have to run the Water / Waste Water system as an enterprise fund so it is managed like a business.

We completed several paving projects in 2018 and have several more scheduled for summer 2019. Some of the planned projects will be Glenside, Sumner Street, Holton Hill and Dewey Street.

In 2018 we purchased a new PD cruiser, additional Fire Department Safety Gear, the New F-550 for the Highway department and a new snow machine for the Recreation Department.

As everyone was aware, there was a partial collapse at the Bridgman Hill Reservoir roof last week which caused some issues for the water system customers. For the record, it was not just the buildup of snow that contributed to the collapse. There had been high winds that weekend and the roof structure was already compromised. We were already prepared to have a bond vote at Town Meeting as the structure was in need of repair.

The boil water order was the decision of the Town Manager and Select Board to verify that the public was protected. We were already prepared to have a bond and lifted the ban within 4 days.

The important point Shaun wanted to be sure everyone realized was that the Select Board had done an excellent job of putting money aside to prepare for funding of such projects.

He stated that this bond will only be paid for by the Water system connection customers.

We will be working on some Waste Water Treatment plant upgrades in 2019. Good Water/ Waste Water Capacity is necessary for the agricultural economy and recreational economy of Hardwick.

Shaun will continue Jon Jewett's work with the Center for Agriculture and NVDA on the Yellow Barn Project. Jon Jewett has been serving as a special projects' manager with CAE since his retirement.

Paul Fixx thanked Shaun for his comments, then questioned the special rate for water and waste water that was set for the Hardwick Elementary School. He wondered if there were issues with their system that

need to be corrected.

Jennifer Fliegelman, Chair of HTSD Board, explained that the school staff is working with Efficiency Vermont to isolate where there may be issues in their system. They are planning to purchase new coolers that will not be water cooled.

Eric explained that not all of the fee was based upon use. There is a large part of their rate that is infrastructure based.

Shaun stated that he has been collaborating with the OSSU to discover if there are issues and to see if the institutional rate is fair.

Emily Lanxner explained that as a low-income resident who lives in the village and pays for Water and Waste Water, she feels that the rates are too high.

At 10:38, Eric Remick took the podium to explain the 2019-2020 proposed Hardwick Town Budget.

Eric thanked Shaun for accepting the job and becoming the new Town Manager.

Eric gave an overview of the FY 20 budget. He touched upon the increases in revenues, expenses and the percentage of the increase between the two.

The Board proposed a budget that keeps services at their current level.

On Page 9, you could see that the revenues are going up 1.77%, the budget is up 4.72% which made the tax rate reflect an increase of 6.15%.

The Highway budget was up by 8.14%.

Most of that increase was relative to the increases in health insurance, moving from single plans to family plans.

The cost of road salt was up this year so we increased the budget to accommodate that aspect.

We also increased the budget for gravel.

The Office budget saw an increase due to health insurance changes.

Line items were also increased for FY20 as we put more money aside for the Capital Equipment and Capital Road Budgets.

Eric opened the floor to questions.

Jan Howard asked if we have made changes to our salt policy.

Tom Fadden, Road Foreman, explained that we have not made any changes, except when we have really low temperatures and we add calcium chloride to help it stick. We did use more salt this year, due to the Winter being so long and salt prices were up \$11 per ton over last year.

Jan asked if the Town was aware of the large crack in Mackville Road.

Tom stated that they were aware, but the VT frost is raising heck all over the place this year.

Paul Fixx asked about the Line Item on Pg14 for the Judevine Library. He stated that over the past several years there have been endowments and contributions made to the Library. He is wondering where that money is reflected in their budget.

Eric explained that the only the operating expenses are reflected in the Town Report.

Jodi Lew-Smith stated that the endowments and donations are in separate building funds that the Town manages for the Library. None of those funds are impacted by tax dollars.

The Library committee increased employee salaries this year to bring them into line with other libraries in Vermont.

Rob Lewis questioned the percentage amount that Town Employees contribute for their health insurance.

Eric explained that it is currently 16.5% and will increase to 17% in July 1, 2019.

Mary Gagnon encouraged all fellow town folks to look into Federal Medical Insurance. This will offer a fairer rate to everyone.

Lorraine Hussey asked if there would be a place in

Town for composting again.

Eric explained that the site went away when the funding from CVSWMD was depleted. Shari Cornish was our representative to the board so you could contact her to see what is being discussed for the future.

Brad Ferland questioned if the COPS grant that we agreed to take on last year has made a difference. He asked if we used the money to add an investigator.

Aaron Cochran, Police Chief, explained that we did not use the COPS grant for the investigator. We had an officer working part time as an investigator. The grant position was not filled, but we are in the process of filling that position this week with an already certified officer.

It was working very well to have a full-time investigator. He was working with merchants in the area to improve relations and customer service. It also allowed the patrol officers to focus on their jobs.

Paul Fixx asked for a show of hands of residents that would be interested in the Select Board going after a grant to open a composting center in Hardwick.

Orise suggested that we wait and do that under Article 22 the other business portion of the meeting.

Motion carried

Article 6. Shall the Town vote to create a Conservation Commission pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 4501?

Moved by Kevin Moore Jr.
Seconded by Ann Gilcris

Ann Gilcris questioned if there would be future funds requested from this Commission beyond the \$50, they requested for startup costs.

Eric stated that his understanding is that the Commission is there to inventory town lands and provide advice to various town agencies. He does not anticipate them needing more funding in the future. He also stated that the startup costs requested were \$300 not \$50.

Michael Lew-Smith stated that he was not involved with Hardwick's Commission, but he has worked with other towns and they usually don't require much money for the projects that they do.

Brad Ferland asked for the Select Board's opinion on the creation of this Commission.

Eric stated that he feels it will be a valuable service.

Danny Hale stated that he has no problem with it and hopefully they will advise the Select Board of future improvements that can be made to Hardwick.

John Lussier stated that he has heard they are monitoring for invasive plants and insects. Does that mean that they have the right to enter private property without owner permission?

Eric stated that the Commission must follow Vermont State Statute and they will not be a regulatory body.

Rachel Kane was one of the sponsors of this commission and she said they will not enter private land without permission. They intend to monitor roadsides but not private land.

Motion passed unanimously

Article 7. Shall the Town appropriate a sum of money not to exceed four thousand five hundred dollars (\$4,500.00) for the support of the Greensboro Nursing Home?

Moved by Kevin Moore Jr.
Seconded by David Shepard
Motion passed unanimously

Article 8. Shall the Town appropriate a sum of money not to exceed three thousand five hundred dollars (\$3,500.00) for the support of A.W.A.R.E.?

Moved by Robin Grant
Seconded by Ann Gilcris
Motion passed unanimously

Article 9. Shall the Town appropriate a sum of money not to exceed one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00) for the support of the Lamoille Family Center?

Moved by Kevin Moore Jr.
Seconded by Ann Gilcris
Motion passed unanimously

Article 10. Shall the Town appropriate a sum of money not to exceed three thousand dollars (\$3,000.00) for the support of the Hardwick Historical Society?

Moved by Kevin Moore Jr.
Seconded by Ronald Wiesen

Lorraine Hussey reminded the audience of the Historical Society's Corn beef and Cabbage dinner at the Hardwick American Legion on Saturday, March 16, 2019 at 6 p.m.

Motion passed unanimously

Article 11. Shall the Town appropriate a sum of money not to exceed three thousand one hundred sixty-one dollars (\$3,161.00) for the support of the Northeast Kingdom Human Services?

Moved by Griffin Lussier
Seconded by David Shepard
Motion passed unanimously

Article 12. Shall the Town appropriate a sum of money not to exceed three thousand dollars (\$3,000.00) for the support of Hardwick Area Community Justice Center?

Moved by Robin Grant
Seconded by David Shepard
Motion passed unanimously

Article 13. Shall the Town appropriate a sum of money not to exceed two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00) for the support of Hardwick Area Food Pantry?

Moved by Griffin Lussier
Seconded by Karen Collier
Motion passed unanimously

Article 14. Shall the Town appropriate a sum of money not to exceed two thousand six hundred dollars (\$2,600.00) for the support of Caledonia Home Health Care and Hospice?

Moved by Griffin Lussier
Seconded by David Shepard
Motion passed unanimously

Article 15. Shall the Town appropriate a sum of money not to exceed three thousand dollars (\$3,000.00) for the support of the Hardwick Community Television (Channel 16)?

Moved by Griffin Lussier
Seconded by David Shepard
Motion passed unanimously

Article 16. Shall the Town appropriate a sum of money not to exceed three thousand four hundred dollars (\$3,400.00) for the support of Rural Community Transportation?

Moved by David Shepard
Seconded by Kevin Moore, Jr.
Motion passed unanimously

Article 17. Shall the Town appropriate a sum of money not to exceed three thousand five hundred dollars (\$3,500.00) for the support of Northeast Kingdom Arts Council (the Hardwick Town House)?

Moved by David Shepard
Seconded by Kevin Moore, Jr.
Motion passed unanimously

Article 18. Shall the Town appropriate a sum of money not to exceed four thousand five hundred dollars (\$4,500.00) for the support of the Northeastern Kingdom Council on Aging?

Moved by David Shepard
Seconded by Kevin Moore, Jr.

Paul Fixx asked if the spelling of Article 18 was correct as he believed it was "Northeast" not Northeastern.

Orise checked the report on page 24-25 and found that Paul was correct. She read Article 18 again with the correction to the name.

Motion passed unanimously

Article 19. Shall the Town appropriate a sum of money not to exceed two thousand one hundred

dollars (\$2,100.00) for the support of the North Country Animal League?

Moved by David Shepard
Seconded by Robin Grant
Motion passed unanimously

Article 20. Shall the Town authorize the Select Board, for the period of one year, to enter into contracts with new industrial and commercial owners, lessees, bailees, of real property, or with existing or new owners, lessees, bailees or operators who construct, acquire or renovate industrial and/or commercial real property, including additions to existing property for the purpose of fixing and maintaining the municipal rate applicable to such real property or for the purpose of fixing the amount of money which shall be paid as an annual municipal tax upon such real property pursuant to the provision of Title 24, VSA, Section 2741?

Moved by David Shepard
Seconded by Kevin Moore, Jr.
Motion passed unanimously

Article 21. Shall the Town authorize the Select Board, for the period of one year, to enter into contracts with operators of agricultural real property, or with existing or new owners, lessees, bailees, or operators who construct acquire or renovate, or who intend to construct, acquire or renovate agricultural real property for the purpose of fixing and maintaining the valuation of such real property in the Grand List for the purpose of fixing and maintaining the municipal rate applicable to such real property or for the purpose of fixing the amount in money which shall be paid as an annual municipal tax upon such real property pursuant to provisions of Title 24, VSA, Section 2741?

Moved by David Shepard
Seconded by Kevin Moore, Jr.
Emily Lanxner asked for an explanation of this article.

Eric Remick explained that this gives the Select Board permission to enter into Tax Stabilization agreements with people who are potentially looking into opening a new business in the Town of Hardwick. A brief description of this is available on pages 6 and 7 of the Town Report.

Motion passed unanimously

Article 22. To transact any other nonbinding business proper to be brought before said meeting.

Orise asked for a show of hands of the voters who would like to see the Town of Hardwick have a composting place available.

Shari explained that there are grants that are available to communities up to \$10,000 to set up composting stations. However, eventually these stations either have to be funded by the Town or they fail.

David Shepard stated that the popularity of these composting stations may increase as we get closer to the State mandates of next summer.

Deborah Hartt asked if anyone had spoken with the Center for Ag to see if they would be able to help set up a site.

Ann Batten stated that it is difficult for senior citizens to have to drive long distances just to compost. She stated she is amazed by how much is actually collected, she's afraid we may run out of dump space very soon.

Robin Grant stated that all the collections from All Metals Recycling goes directly to Black Dirt Farm in Stannard.

Paul Fixx, the former representative to Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District, thanked Shari for keeping our connection to them. He stated that All Metals does charge for composting, and that maybe the Town of Hardwick could save everyone money if we opened our own location.

Danny Hale reminded everyone that nothing is free. Even if we get the grant, it will eventually cost the Town. It will be taxes or fees at the end. He said that the thing he would like to see a show hands as to how many people are willing to pay to compost if the Town opened a facility.

Robin Leslie asked why Black Dirt Farm is charging for collection if they are benefiting from the sale of composted soil?

Eric stated that they are a business not a Non-Profit and that this is a part of their business plan. He then offered that the Select Board could create a task force

to explore further options for the composting process.

Andrew Meyer spoke for the Center for Ag and thanked the Select Board for all their help with the Yellow Barn project.

He stated that as a Board member for the Center for Ag, they have been discussing tearing down the old building at the Granite Street location and replacing it with a new community pavilion.

Andrew also believes that the Center for Ag would be willing to be involved in the composting process.

Deborah Hartt stated that she works for Buffalo Mountain Food Co-Op and they have been working to come up with ideas for composting options. They have had someone inspect the store and give them very specific examples of what can actually be recycled. She offered to be a resource for anyone with recycling questions or composting ideas, you can contact her at the Buffalo Mountain Co-Op.

Shari Cornish advised that there are several different flyers in the voting area regarding CVSWM.

Robin Leslie suggested that the Town and The Hardwick Gazette attempt to work on ways to educate people on these recycling rules.

Orise reminded everyone that the Select Board is offering to set up the task force to see if we can find some solutions.

Mary Gagnon thanked Hardwick Community TV for covering the Select Board Meetings and reminded everyone that even if you don't have cable access you can watch meetings and events on line.

James Nudd had some questions regarding the work that the Road Crew did last fall on a section of the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail.

How much was spent on the work we did and where did that money come from?

Is the rail trail open to snowmobiles?

Did we seed that area at the time we did the work?

Eric explained that the road crew replaced culverts and brought in some Town gravel to fix up that area. We

spent about \$4,500 on the materials from the Highway budget.

Tom explained that the \$4,500 was for the materials only and then there was the labor costs for the road crew to do the work.

Eric explained that we have some funds set aside in the Capital Fund that we are preparing to spend this year. The overall project costs for the rail trail are large but it will benefit the community.

Wendy Tanner asked if possibly some changes could be made to our winter parking policy. With the abundance of snow this year, cars parking on the sides of roads can lead to one-way traffic. Road crews are doing their best, but when we have this much snow, we have lots of correlating issues.

Ross Connelly explained that last year at Town Meeting he raised some concerns about the sidewalks being plowed on West Church Street. He thanked the road crew for working hard to keep them clear this year.

At 11:49 a.m. our State Representative, Chip Troiano took the podium to address the crowd.

Chip spoke about several important issues being debated in the House of Representatives this session.

Act 46 had been a topic of discussion in the first three weeks of the new session.

Chip told the crowd that he had been assured that the Orleans Southwest Supervisory Union would not need to consolidate. Two consultants had been hired to look over the OSSU structure and had assured everyone involved with the district that there would be no need to consolidate the OSSU district.

Chip stated that in November the Department of Education dropped the consolidation bomb. The Secretary of Education and the Chair of the Education Committee included the OSSU in the order requiring districts to consolidate.

The House has passed an amendment that is now in the Senate which will delay for one year the mandated July 1, 2019 consolidation launch date. The members of the House hope that this will give time to school

boards to ask questions and get the answers that will have the most benefit to our students.

Chip has met with the Chair of the Senate Education Committee and he has invited Chip to testify before the committee.

The word from the Governor is that he will support the 1-year delay if the amendment passes out of the Senate.

There was no good news this year regarding the rules on vehicle inspections.

The DMV was supposed to be reviewing their rules and looking into changes that reflect safety issues rather than minor rust and wear and tear.

However, the focus of the Transportation Committee has been on subsidizing electric vehicles this session. Chip stated that the Agency of Transportation is not being realistic on the real issues especially those being faced by the senior citizens and low-income Vermonters who cannot afford these massive bills to repair their vehicles.

Vermont's Opioid crisis is still serious. But we are definitely making some inroads with our Hub and Spoke model of treatment. It is being noticed and copied nationwide.

In Vermont this year we found that 2,000 to 3,000 more people are in treatment and overdose deaths in Vermont are slightly down.

The question is still on the table as to how we can keep Vermonters from leaving the State. The New England States are losing their populations as residents move to southern states. However, Vermont actually has the highest % of inbound migration.

The understanding throughout the House and Senate is that we have to keep Vermont affordable to retain residents. This is the third year in a row that a balanced budget with no new fees has been passed.

Vermont has a small economy and small population to afford them. When Chip asks residents what they need to keep them in Vermont, he always hears that they require better pay.

The House and Senate are working to raise the minimum wage.

Mental Health worker pay needs to increase as we are having difficulty in recruitment and retention is a struggle.

Child care needs to be more affordable, as some people are working solely to pay for their daycare costs.

The loan forgiveness for Medical Professionals is a great program. With a five-year commitment for doctors and nurses to Vermont medical centers, your education loans can be forgiven.

They passed the free tuition to in-state colleges for Vermont National Guard members and recruits.

Chip stated that his Town Meeting Reports are available on the table at the back of the room.

Chip opened the floor to questions.

Emily Lanxner questioned if the practice of charging fines to stores for selling E-cigarettes to children was the best way to stop it.

Chip explained that the revenue from the fines will go directly into prevention programs.

David Shepard asked what the status of the H-57 abortion bill was and where does Chip stand on that bill.

Chip explained that H-57 passed out of the house with a large margin in favor and is now in with the Senate. If the Senate passes the bill the Governor has indicated that he will support the bill. Chip stated that he did support and vote in favor of H-57. He cited many historical reasons why he was in support of this bill in Vermont.

Janice Davison questioned if minimum wage was being increased, will they also see an increase in SSI benefits? Because when you see an increase in minimum wage, things like fuel oil and groceries always seem to increase as well.

Chip stated that statistics show that local economies show an increase in profits as people tend to spend more after a pay increase.

At 12:18, with no further questions of Chip, he thanked the crowd.

Orise stated if there were no further questions, she would entertain a motion to adjourn.

Motion to adjourn at 12:18 p.m. made by Norma Wiesen
Seconded by Ronald Wiesen.

Minutes prepared and submitted by:

Alberta Miller, Town Clerk

RESULTS OF AUSTRALIAN BALLOT VOTE FOR TOWN & SCHOOL OFFICERS:

Total Votes Cast: 332

Select Board- 3-year term:

Eric Remick.....299 (elected)

Select Board – 1-year terms:

Lucian Avery.....278 (elected)

Shari Cornish256 (elected)

Hardwick Town Clerk – 3-year term:

Alberta Miller.....311 (elected)

Hardwick Town Treasurer – 3-year term:

Alberta Miller.....305 (elected)

Hazen Union School Director #26 – 3-year term:

Amy Rosenthal Holloway281 (elected)

Hardwick Town School District Director – 3-year term:

Jennifer Laundry. 275 (elected)

Hardwick Town School District Director –2 years remaining on a 3-year term:

(No one elected)

Hardwick Town School District Director – 1-year terms:

Katharine Ingram261 (elected)

Kevin Moore, Jr..... 242 (elected)

Bridgman Hill Reservoir Roof Bond Vote:

262 Yes

67 No

**Hazen Union School District # 26 Budget of
\$6,674,487.00****Total Votes:** 483 (Greensboro, Hardwick & Woodbury
Co-Mingled)

335 Yes (Budget Passed)

145 No

*End of Minutes***Dog License Report:**

Town of Hardwick			
<u>Dog License Report</u>			
July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019			
<u>Total Number of Licenses</u>	<u>Price Per License</u>	<u>Total Collected</u>	
25	\$ 3.00	\$	75.00
1	\$ 5.00	\$	5.00
272	\$ 8.00	\$	2,176.00
88	\$ 10.00	\$	880.00
62	\$ 12.00	\$	744.00
21	\$ 16.00	\$	336.00
Total Licenses	531		
4 Kennel Permits	\$ 31.00	\$	124.00
1 Kennel Permit	\$ 46.00	\$	46.00
2 Pet Dealer Permits	\$ 25.00	\$	50.00
Total Collected for FY19		\$	4,436.00
Fees to State of Vermont		\$	(2,119.00)
Total Revenue for FY19		\$	2,317.00

Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District

137 Barre Street, Montpelier, VT 05602 www.cvswwmd.org 802-229-9383

The Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District serves 19-member cities and towns and approximately 52,000 residents to reduce and manage solid waste. Shari Cornish represents Hardwick on the CVSWMD Board of Supervisors. CVSWMD is committed to providing quality programming, meeting state mandates and providing information and resources to our member communities.

In FY19, CVSWMD provided \$11,809.33 in School Zero Waste and Organizational Waste Reduction & Reuse Program Grants, and \$6,921.94 in Green Up Day Grants. The Town of Hardwick received a Green Up Day Grant in the amount of \$400.00.

Also in FY19, CVSWMD provided \$12,661.00 in Municipal Services Program grants. The District invites all member municipalities to apply for an annual Municipal Services Program Grant.

The District continues to provide award-winning programming, including:

- **Residential Composting:** CVSWMD sells Green Cone food digesters, Soil Saver composting bins and kitchen compost buckets to district residents. CVSWMD also offers free workshops about backyard composting, recycling, safe non-toxic cleaning, and zero waste initiatives.
 - **Events Assistance:** CVSWMD offers a bin loan program providing recycling, compost, and trash bins with signs; an event kit for events under 300 people, providing reusable dishware, flatware, linens and more to help community events reduce waste; and staff assistance to larger event organizers, including downloadable templates for zero waste events on our website. cvswwmd.org/zero-waste-events.
 - **School Programming:** Our School Zero Waste Program works with all 26 schools in the District, teaching solid waste lessons in classrooms and facilitating the recycling of paint, bulbs, electronics, batteries and more. In FY19, we led 5 classrooms lesson and two waste audits at Hardwick Elementary. We led 3 classroom programs and supported onsite composting at Hazen Union School. School Program Coordinators work with maintenance staff and teachers to help schools compost on site and mentor student groups who lead initiatives toward zero waste in their schools.
 - **Special Collections:** In FY19, 8 collection events were held, in which CVSWMD collected hazardous waste, paint, batteries, e-waste, and fluorescent bulbs.
 - 51 households participated in the Hardwick household hazardous waste collection.
 - **Additional Recyclables Collection Center (ARCC):** The ARCC, at 540 N. Main St. in Barre, is open M, W, F 11:30am-5:30pm and the third Saturday of each month from 9am-1pm. **Please note that ARCC hours may change in 2020.** The ARCC is a recycling drop-off for hard-to-recycle materials. *Blue bin recyclables are not accepted at the ARCC.* More info at cvswwmd.org/arcc.
 - In FY19, 37 visitors from Hardwick recycled at the ARCC.
- Web Site:** CVSWMD posts useful information on what can be recycled, what can be composted, how to dispose of hazardous waste, leaf and yard waste disposal, Act 148, details of our special collections, and an A to Z Guide listing disposal options for many materials. For specific questions, call 802-229-9383.

All households and businesses in the Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District are now required to recycle:

- Glass - all colors (empty)
- Tin, steel, aluminum cans (empty)
- Foil and pie plates
- Aerosol cans (empty)
- Newspaper
- Magazines, catalogs, paperbacks
- White and colored office paper
- Paper mail and envelopes
- Brown and colored paper bags
- Boxboard
- Corrugated cardboard
- Phone Books
- Plastics #1-#7 (Except Styrofoam!) Learn more about plastics coding & recycling.

* The fee charged to recycle materials cannot exceed 50% of the cost charged to collect the same quantity of trash.

* If your trash hauler or landlord is not offering recycling of these items, please call the Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District at 800-730-9475 X 105.

Town of Hardwick General Information:

Visit us at www.hardwickvt.org

Town Manager's Office Hours: Monday – Friday 7:30 A.M. – 3:30 P.M.
Phone: 472-6120 or 472-3789 Fax: 472-3793

Town Clerk/Treasurer's Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.
Phone: 472-5971 Fax: 472-3108

Property Tax Collection Information:

Taxes are due to be paid in full by May 10 of each year. Each tax bill is issued with four quarterly payment coupons, but the mandatory due date is May 10. An 8% penalty is assessed once on May 11 of the year in which the property tax is due. A 1% per month interest charge will be applied against all taxes owed on the 11th of each month for the first 90 days and 1.5% per month thereafter until all taxes are paid in full.

Voter Registration:

Hardwick residents who are not currently on the Voter Checklist can register at the Town Clerk's Office. Please call 472-5971 or stop by for more information.

DMV Registration Renewals:

For your convenience, the Hardwick Town Clerk's Office can process Vermont DMV renewals. If you have your renewal card from the DMV and it is not more than 2 months past the renewal date, you can renew it at our office. DMV fees can be paid with either a check or money order. There is also a separate \$3.00 processing fee to the Clerk's Office that can be cash or another check.

Hardwick Zoning Office Hours: Monday & Tuesday 8:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.
Phone: 472-6120

Zoning permits are issued by the Zoning Administrator and/or the Development Review Board. These permits are required for all property development in the Town of Hardwick. Permit applications and fee schedules are available on the Town of Hardwick website or can be picked up from the Zoning Administrator or in the Town Clerk's Office.

***** All fees double if application is filed after development/construction has begun.**

Hardwick Police Department: Monday – Friday 8:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.
Located at 56 High Street (the former Hardwick Health Center Building) Entrance is at the rear of the building.
Phone: 472-5475

Other Important Contact Numbers:

Town Garage: 472-6029
Hardwick Rescue Squad: 472-6343
Hardwick Fire Department: 472-5242

Hardwick Area Food Pantry: 472-5940
Hardwick Health Officer (Richard Brochu): 472-8282

TOWN OF HARDWICK

WINTER OPERATIONS PLAN

1. Plow Routes are set up to open the major traffic bus routes first. After all bus routes are finished, staff will plow the roads which appear historically to cause the most problems for the public. This is based on traffic volume, steepness and curves. Staff will continue plowing until all roads are open. Please note that good winter tires are necessary for safe driving in the particular climate we live in and Hardwick does not have the resources to maintain bare roads throughout the Town.
2. The Town of Hardwick has six road crew members to maintain (plow, sand, salt) 65 miles of Town roads and Town sidewalks. Town plow vehicles do not travel at high rates of speed while performing road maintenance operations. Each member of the road crew has their own specific route, which takes anywhere from three - five hours to complete. These routes only vary in instances of emergency needs.
3. The Town does not plow or sand class four roads, private roads or driveways.
4. Road operations generally start at 3:00 a.m. on the weekdays to have the bus routes clear by 6:30 a.m. The Road Foreman and the Police Department monitor conditions and respond accordingly. Highway maintenance staff will be called in to work at the discretion of the Road Foreman.
5. Salt is not effective when the road temperature is below 20 degrees.
6. The Town's sand and salt resources are to be used for winter maintenance of the roads, not for private commercial use, though individual public use of Town sand is permitted.
7. Please be aware that the Town is not responsible for items left or placed in the Town road right of way without permission of the Town and these may be damaged or destroyed during road maintenance activities. Per the Town Traffic Ordinance, during the period from the 15th day of November of each year to the 15th day of April of the following year, no person shall park any vehicle or permit any vehicle to remain parked on any public highway in the Town between the hours of 12:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m.
8. If there is an emergency after regular working hours in regards to water, sewer or highway, please call the Police Department at 472-5475 to have them contact the necessary resources.

Please give yourself some extra time when the weather is bad and please drive safely.

Tom Fadden, Public Works Foreman

Shaun Fielder, Town Manager

Effective Date 2020-2021