

Note: Add agenda item to authorize the Town Manager to negotiate and sign a new contract with New England Municipal Consultants (Assessors).

Manager's Report

- Applied and received a \$8,000.00 grant from PACIF for an assortment of risk related equipment for all of our departments. Items include; 4 Body Worn Cameras for the PD, Cyber Security Assessment, 2 x Eye Wash Stations, 2 x Flammable Liquid Cabinets, 5 x Ergonomic Office Chairs.
- Hardwick Area Neighbor to Neighbor group and I held our second "Meet the new Town Manager" series. So far, close to 100 people have participated in the gathering. Looking forward to Atkin's Field (20th) & Mackville Pond (22nd) meetings next week and the East Hardwick Grange on the 27th.
- Gary Nolan Consulting LLC is preparing a cost analyses presentation on the Davis gravel pit property. Gary has our last four years of sand, gravel and crushed ledge purchase history, in order to help him determine the cost to extract that amount of material ourselves. Gary will also put together a plan for boring exploration to examine the amount of material left for extraction.
- There will be a third public meeting held for the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail (LVRT) on **Tuesday, June 21st, 2022 at 6:00 PM**, virtual or in person, at the Swanton Village Complex located at 120 1st St, Swanton, VT. Check out our website for more details.
- The annual Children's Parade in East Hardwick is this weekend (6/18) starting at 11:00 am. The parade starts at the Hardwick Chiropractic building and travels through The Village, ending at the United Church on Pleasant Street. Come one, come all, and support the children walking in the parade.

DWU

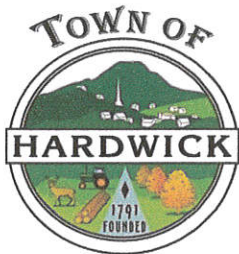
06/16/2022

Handwick Electric
report 6/16

NAT SMITH HED

- On May 23rd we had a ribbon cutting for the H11 solar project. Senator Kitchel and Representative Troiano were in attendance along with many others. We had HED crews take attendees up in bucket trucks to get a birds eye view of the 10 acre area of the facility
- Wolcott hydro has generated 1.16 million kWh so far this year – which is 36% OVER budget – good spring flows
- The H11 has generated 593,000 kWh so far this year – which is 8% under budget and mainly attributable to a lengthy shutdown that was necessary to replace some recalled switchgear components
- Purchased power costs are presently 30% over budget which was driven primarily by the highest market power costs ever seen by ISO New England this past January/February. We hope to recover somewhat during the summer months, but don't expect to recover this fully for 2022

HED has not had a rate increase since 2009 – which is unprecedented – but the fact is that HED has endured significant cost increases over these 13 years. Presently HED's basic monthly residential



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Memo

To: Hardwick Select Board
From: Casey Rowell, Business Manager
Re: WWTF Bond

At the last meeting, a resolution was made to increase the bond capacity by \$75,000 bringing the total to \$2,275,000.

However, to demonstrate our full borrowing capacity, the Select Board also needs to authorize the forgivable portion of the loan. (the subsidy we expect to receive) Engineering subsidy of \$52,413 and construction of \$836,270. The total of the subsidies is \$888,683.

Bond council just rounded the resolution amount up to \$900,000 to avoid any issues in case it was a couple dollars different. *Our loan after forgiveness will still not exceed \$2,275,000*, so this can be done without going back to the voters.

The pollution control grant is not factored into this. We do anticipate 10% of the project costs for that. However, it is a grant and not part of the borrowing, so it does not need to be addressed here.

Hardwick Town Manager
Hardwick Town Clerk
Hardwick Public Works Director

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Fuel Bids-----FY23

Gallons:	11,000	3,800	24,000
	Heating Oil	Propane	Diesel

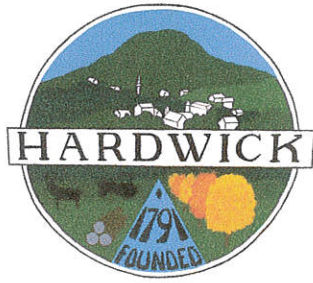
Dead River			
Fixed		\$ 1.9400	
Variable	Cost + .20	X	Cost + .20
Today's	\$ 4.7689	X	\$ 4.8794
Total Cost	\$ -	\$ 7,372.00	\$ -

Contract says 100%, but said they likely wouldn't charge as long as we used the majority of it

Irving			
Fixed		\$ 1.9460	
Variable	Cost + 0.015		Cost + .0.079
Today's	\$ 4.7420		\$ 4.8550
Total Cost	\$ -	\$ 7,394.80	\$ -

Use 95% to avoid penalty

We sent bid document to 5 companies and only received these two bids.



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June 09, 2021

Re: Downtown & Historic Preservation Conference

The Downtown and Historic Preservation Conference did not disappoint. It is sometimes difficult to set aside the day for this annual event that the Agency of Commerce and Community Development co-hosts with the Vermont Preservation Trust. COVID has forced a break in the tradition and it was nice to get back and see so many new methods and approaches that have developed over these 2 years. It is always in a different Vermont Town or City. This year was in St. Johnsbury. Our Hardwick contingent included three Downtown Commissioners, three members of East Hardwick Neighborhood Organization, representatives from the Hardwick Planning Commission and Opie. I expect it will only be a few years before Hardwick is ready to be the host of this event to draw folks from all corners of our state to see how great Hardwick is and/or will be by then:)

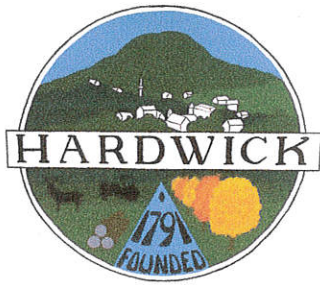
I came away with new ideas for how our downtown organization can work to connect our businesses with the LVRT alongside our Hardwick Trails. I heard stories about successes that other towns have had with community engagement activities and creation of recreation hubs. Panelists presented great information from their trail work and promotion in Waterbury and the Missisquoi Valley Rail Trail (<https://www.mvrailtrail.org>) that intersects with the LVRT. I took lots of notes about best practices for way-finding signage and dove into lots of images and information on <http://crossvermont.org>

My afternoon was focused on creative economic development. Jody Fried lead an inspiring conversation about economic development in the NEK by incorporating placemaking strategies & intersections of the creative, recreational and food sectors. Totally made me want to role up to Barton and visit <https://www.genuinejamaican.com> (Edgar would have loved this!). Afterward I mightily encouraged the owner, Derrick Samuels to "go ahead and

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get that food truck he is thinking about" (so he could bring it to Hardwick when we revive the First Fridays:). I also pitched the Town House to Jody Fried for an idea that came to me about an LVRT music tour.

I was further inspired by hearing more about the Vermont Creative Network, <https://www.vermontartscouncil.org/vermont-creative-network> I was already aware that arts and culture significantly bolster the local economy and are at the heart of Vermont's identity. I gathered lots of information about growing CreateVT action plan <https://www.vermontartscouncil.org/vermont-creative-network/action-plan> I came away with ideas and info about potential resources that I have passed on to further encourage the local group of creatives that are working with Ray Small to make something positive happen that include creative activities for teens and young adults in the Gazette building downtown. Some of those ideas also apply to marketing some of our empty storefronts.

Over all of the sessions, the housing challenge was of paramount interest. I came away with more to research and incorporate in to my thinking as we move forward in our efforts in planning, attracting and developing our both our vacant and built areas to create more housing opportunities.

Thanks for taking the time to read through this. St. Johnsbury is looking good. I had totally missed that the hardware store on Eastern Ave is now a distillery. They have 12 new businesses downtown that include 17 places to have food and drink!

It was a good day

Shari