

# 2021

## Hardwick Town Report



"Main Street" by Hazel Hall Rochester  
Image graciously provided by Lucinda Rochester Smith

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If you are interested in a copy of the audit, you can call the Town Manager's office at (802) 472-6120 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](http://www.hardwickvt.org). If you would like a copy of the Hardwick Electric Department audit report, please contact Hardwick Electric at (802) 472-5201.

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## **Dedication: Alberta Miller**



Alberta Farr Miller was born and raised in Hardwick, attending Hardwick Elementary and graduating from Hazen Union High School. Alberta has lived in Hardwick her whole life. She met her husband Charles (Chuck) while working at Edson Hill in Stowe. After they were married, they purchased Alberta's childhood home here in Hardwick. It was here that they raised their family that now includes six grandchildren. Anyone who knows her knows that family is everything to her.

Alberta started her career at the Town in 2001 working as the Assistant Town Clerk to Town Clerk Jerry Hall. When Hall retired in 2004, she ran for the position and won. She has been in the role ever since, running

unopposed each subsequent term. She is not seeking re-election to this position as of this Town Meeting.

In Vermont, the Secretary of State oversees the work of Town Clerks. According to the Secretary of State's Office, the Town Clerk: "Records, preserves, and certifies the public records of the town. Issues dog, marriage, and hunting and fishing licenses; as well as motor vehicle renewals. Runs the local elections, serves as clerk of the board of civil authority, and hears tax abatement requests and tax appeals." In Hardwick, the Town Clerk also manages the billing for the Water and Sewer system. The description by the Secretary of State's Office concludes with "Should have the patience of a saint and be a good ambassador for the town."

Alberta has lived up to that standard. Many people who go to the Town Clerk's office have something they want to question or complain about. One of her colleagues observed, "I admire how she handles the customers daily and doesn't allow others to drag her down; especially when they might be upset about their bills. She has a great attitude towards customers and is very professional and knowledgeable." She might also tell you that the job can also include being a counselor, confidant, and friend to many over the years. She has truly enjoyed her interactions with residents and other local Town Clerks who she became friends with as they helped each other navigate the ever-changing role through the years. Another colleague remarked, "I have heard residents talk about how knowledgeable she is about the Town, and they find her very helpful."

The Town Clerk must work closely with the Town Manager, the Select Board, and other Town Committees and Commissions, whoever they may include. Over her 20-year career, Alberta has seen people come and go; supported boards that worked well together and those that didn't; attended meetings that lasted an hour and meetings that lasted until midnight. She took these challenges in stride and handled them professionally.

Opportunities often arise that nobody anticipates but which the Town staff should respond to quickly for the good of the Town. One Selectboard member recalled, "When the Town had the opportunity to apply for grant money to digitize and index some of the Town land records, the timeline was very tight. Alberta helped prepare the grant, helped to select a contractor to do the work, and saw that the project was completed within the time frame. The availability of digitized land records has been a valuable addition to the offerings of the Town Clerk's Office." She never hesitated to share grant opportunities with the Town Manager's office if she heard about them first and it was going to help the Town.

Alberta has served Hardwick for more than 20 years. Hardwick truly thanks her for her service all these years and wishes her well in her next adventure.

## Town Officials

All terms expire Town Meeting 2022 unless otherwise noted.

Moderator.....	Orise Ainsworth	<b>Fire Department</b>	
Town Clerk, Term expires 2022	Alberta Miller	Chief	Tom Fadden
Town Treasurer, Term expires 2022	Alberta Miller	1st Assistant Chief	Perley Allen
<b>Select Board</b>		2nd Assistant Chief	Rick Sullivan
Term expires 2022	Michael Deering	Captain	Mike Gravel
Term expires 2022	Elizabeth Dow	1st Lieutenant	Mike Hall
Term expires 2022	Eric Remick	2nd Lieutenant	Ken LaCasse
Term expires 2023	Ceilidh Galloway-Kane	3rd Lieutenant	Charles Bartlett
Term expires 2024	Shari Cornish	Foreman	Lindsey O'Steen
<b>Listers</b>		Assistant Foreman	Dana Camp
Term expires 2022	Vacant	Pipeman	Dave Colburn
Term expires 2023	Vacant	Assistant Pipeman	Dana Camp
Term expires 2024	Vacant	Axe Man	Codey Marckres
<b>Auditors</b>		Safety Officer	Davey Chase
Term expires 2022	Vacant	Training Officers	Tom Fadden/Perley Allen
Term expires 2023	Ivan Menard	Secretary/Treasurer	Jennifer Bellavance
Term expires 2024	Michael Morin	Dispatcher	Lamoille County Sheriff
<b>Town of Hardwick Officials</b>		<b>School Directors</b>	
Delinquent Tax Collector	Town Manager	Term expires 2022	Appointed Kevin Moore
Town Agent	Karen Holmes	Term expires 2023	Katharine Ingram
Surveyor of Wood, Bark & Lumber	Lucian Avery	Term expires 2023	Mandy Spaulding
Tree Warden	Geoffrey Fehrs	Term expires 2024	Terri Vest
Town Grand Juror	David Shepard	Term expires 2024	Vincent Razionale
Trustee of Public Funds	Vacant	<b>Hazen Union Directors - Hardwick</b>	
Trustee of Public Funds	Mario Fradette	Term expires 2022	Appointed Patrick Kane
Trustee of Public Funds	Lorraine Hussey	Term expires 2022	Amy Holloway
First Constable	Arthur Chase	Term expires 2023	Brett Stanciu
Second Constable	Erwin Gilcris	Term expires 2024	Andrew Meyer
<b>Cemetery Trustees</b>		<b>Recreation Committee Members</b>	
Main Street	Trustees	Committee Chair	Holly Bolio
Maple Street	Trustees	Committee Vice Chair	Rhonda Hess
Fairview	Trustees	Committee Secretary	Mallory Greaves
Sanborn	Select Board	Committee Member	Vacant
West Hill	Select Board	Committee Member	Vacant
Hardwick Street	Select Board	Committee Member	Vacant
Hardwick Center	Select Board	Recreation Coordinator	Jason Bahner
<b>Library Trustees</b>		<b>Hardwick Electric Commissioners</b>	
Term expires 2022	Brendan Buckley	Term expires	June 30, 2022 Michael Ambrosino
Term expires 2022	Andrea Brightenback	Term expires	June 30, 2022 Roger Prevot
Term expires 2022	Kathleen Sampson	Term expires	June 30, 2023 Lynne Gedanken
Term expires 2023	Ross Connelly	Term expires	June 30, 2023 Vince O'Connell
Term expires 2023	Daphne Kalmar	Term expires	June 30, 2024 Nat Smith
Term expires 2024	Myles Tandy	<b>Hardwick Planning Commission</b>	
Term expires 2024	Jodi Lew-Smith	Term expires	June 30, 2022 Dave Gross (Chair)
<b>Hardwick Conservation Commission</b>		Term expires	June 30, 2023 Vacant
Term expires 2022	Vacant	Term expires	June 30, 2023 Shari Cornish
Term expires 2022	Renaud Demers	Term expires	June 30, 2023 Kenneth Davis (Vice Chair)
Term expires 2023	Rachel Kane (Chair)	Term expires	June 30, 2024 Jim Lewis
Term expires 2023	Vacant	Term expires	June 30, 2024 Joyce Mandeville
Term expires 2024	Ben Pougner	Term expires	June 30, 2024 Michael Haveson
Term expires 2024	Jerry Schneider	<b>Hardwick Development Review Board</b>	
Term expires 2024	Norma Wiesen	Term expires	June 30, 2022 Kate Brooke (Vice Chair)
Term expires 2025	Vacant	Term expires	June 30, 2022 Vacant
Term expires 2025	Ken Davis	Term expires	June 30, 2023 John Mandeville (Chair)
<b>Equity Committee</b>		Term expires	June 30, 2023 Vacant
Chair	Ceilidh Galloway-Kane	Term expires	June 30, 2024 Ruth Gaillard
Vice Chair/Secretary	Lucian Avery	Term expires	June 30, 2024 Edward Keene
Treasurer	David O'Brien	Term expires	June 30, 2024 Helm Notterman
Member	Chip Troiano	<b>Town Energy Committee</b>	Bill Chidsey (Chair)
Member	Vacant		
Member	Vacant		

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**WARNING**  
**TOWN OF HARDWICK ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**  
**MARCH 1, 2022**

The legal voters of the Town of Hardwick, Vermont are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Hardwick Fire Station at 333 Wolcott Street in said Town of Hardwick on Tuesday, March 1, 2022 from 9:00 o'clock in the forenoon to 7 o'clock in the afternoon for Australian Ballot Voting only to act on the following business:

*In the Year 2022, Approval of all Articles and 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. Masks are highly recommended. 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, 2021?

**Article 3.** Shall the Town have its current taxes collected by the Town Treasurer?

**Article 4.** To elect all Town Officers and School District No. 26 Directors as required by the public laws of Vermont and the Town Charter.

Town Clerk	3-year term
Town Treasurer	3-year term
Select Board	3-year term
Select Board	2 seats for 1-year terms
Hazen Union District #26 Director	3-year term
Hazen Union District #26 Director	1 year remaining on a 3-year term
Lister	3-year term
Lister	2 years remaining on a 3-year term
Lister	1 year remaining on a 3-year term
Auditor	3-year term
First Constable	1-year term
Second Constable	1-year term
Town Agent	1-year term
Surveyor of Wood, Bark and Lumber	1-year term
Tree Warden	1-year term
Cemetery Trustees for Main Street	1-year term
Cemetery Trustees for Maple Street	1-year term
Cemetery Trustees for Fairview	1-year term
Cemetery Trustees for Sanborn	1-year term
Cemetery Trustees for Hardwick Street	1-year term
Fire Dept. Officers	1-year term (each)
Library Trustee	3-year term
Library Trustee	3-year term
Library Trustee	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

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**Article 5.** Shall the Town vote a budget of three million five hundred sixty-four thousand eight hundred eight dollars (\$3,564,808.00) 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 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 7.** 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 8.** Shall the Town appropriate a sum of money not to exceed two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00) for the support of the Lamoille Family Center?

**Article 9.** 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 10.** 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 11.** 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 12.** 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 13.** 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 14.** 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 15.** 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 16.** 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 17.** 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 18.** 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 19.** Shall the Town require its government to provide notice on its website to its residents when the Town receives notice that sources of radiation generated by cell towers/transmitters, Wi-Fi tower transmitters, and 5G antennas are being proposed for licensing and installation within the Town limits?

**Article 20.** Shall the voters approve the establishment and operation of cannabis retailers within the Town of Hardwick, subject to regulation by the Vermont Cannabis Control Board and the Town of Hardwick Select Board, acting as the local cannabis control commission?

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**Article 21.** Shall the voters approve the establishment and operation of integrated licensees within the Town of Hardwick, subject to regulation by the Vermont Cannabis Control Board and the Town of Hardwick Select Board, acting as the local cannabis control commission?

**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?

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 24th day of January, A.D. 2022.

Eric Remick, Chair  
Ceilidh Galloway-Kane, Vice Chair  
Shari Cornish  
Elizabeth Dow  
Michael Deering

Hardwick Town Clerk's Office. Received for record this 24<sup>th</sup> day of January 2022 at 11 o'clock 00 minutes a.m., the instrument of which the foregoing is a true copy.

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Attest: Tonia L. Chase, Assistant Town Clerk

FY2023 Estimated Tax Rate based on Proposed FY2023 Budget	
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### FY2023 Estimated Tax Rate

FY 2023 Proposed Property Tax		\$2,696,669.75
Estimated Grand List July 1, 2021		\$189,019,600.00
FY 2023 Estimated Tax rate		\$0.01427
	Value per \$100	\$1.4267
FY2022 Municipal Tax rate		\$0.01309
	Value per \$100	\$1.3092

### Impact on a \$100,000 home

Estimated FY2023 municipal tax liability on a \$100,000 home	\$1,426.66
FY2022 tax liability on a \$100,000 home	\$1,309.20
Increase (decrease) in FY2023 before appropriations	\$117.46

### Impact of Appropriations on a \$100,000 home

	Without	With
Estimated value of Appropriations	\$0.00	\$39,761.00
Proposed Property Taxes	\$2,696,669.75	\$2,736,430.75
Fund Balance Contribution to Offset Tax Rate Increase	(\$175,000.00)	(\$175,000.00)
Proposed Taxes to be Collected after Offset	2,521,669.75	2,561,430.75
FY2023 Estimated Tax rate	0.01334	0.01355
Value per \$100	\$1.33	\$1.36
Estimated FY2023 municipal tax liability on a \$100,000 home	\$1,334.08	\$1,355.11
Increase (decrease) in FY2023 on a \$100,000 home	\$24.88	\$45.91

<b>Estimated increase in Tax Rate reflected in actual dollars/100</b>	<b>\$0.0249</b>	<b>\$0.0459</b>
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<b>Percent Increase (decrease) in Property Tax rate from FY2022 to FY2023</b>	<b>1.90%</b>	<b>3.51%</b>
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### Impact of Appropriations on Tax Rate

- |                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| <b>Article 6.</b>  | Greensboro Nursing Home, \$4,500.00                |
| <b>Article 7.</b>  | A.W.A.R.E., \$3,500.00                             |
| <b>Article 8.</b>  | Lamoille Family Center, \$2,500.00                 |
| <b>Article 9.</b>  | Hardwick Historical Society, \$3,000.00            |
| <b>Article 10.</b> | Northeast Kingdom Human Services, \$3,161.00       |
| <b>Article 11.</b> | Hardwick Area Food Pantry \$2,500.00               |
| <b>Article 12.</b> | Caledonia Home Health Care and Hospice, \$2,600.00 |
| <b>Article 13.</b> | Hardwick Community Television, \$3,000.00          |
| <b>Article 14.</b> | Rural Community Transportation \$3,400.00          |
| <b>Article 15.</b> | Northeast Kingdom Arts Council, \$3,500.00         |
| <b>Article 16.</b> | Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging, \$4,500.00     |
| <b>Article 17.</b> | North Country Animal League, \$2,100.00            |
| <b>Article 18.</b> | Craftsbury Community Care Center, \$1,500.00       |

The total requested appropriations are \$39,761.00. If all the requested appropriations are approved, we would need a tax rate of approximately \$.0206 cents. This means that you will be paying \$20.63 on your 2021-2022 tax bill for every \$100,000 of Grand List Value.



**2022-2023 HARDWICK TOWN BUDGET**

***Projected Revenues***

	<u><b>ACTUAL</b></u> <u><b>2020-2021</b></u>	<u><b>BUDGET</b></u> <u><b>2021-2022</b></u>	<u><b>PROPOSED</b></u> <u><b>2022-2023</b></u>	<u><b>\$</b></u> <u><b>DIFF.</b></u>	<u><b>%</b></u> <u><b>DIFF.</b></u>
School Tax Admin Fee	\$6,339	\$6,000	\$6,500	\$500	8.33%
PILOT	\$77,491	\$74,402	\$160,668	\$86,266	115.95%
Current Use Hold Harm	\$169,108	\$163,063	\$173,016	\$9,953	6.10%
Delinquent Charges	\$27,522	\$25,000	\$27,000	\$2,000	8.00%
Trailer Lease Revenue	\$0	\$25	\$0	(\$25)	-100.00%
Tax Sale Interest	\$747	\$200	\$600	\$400	200.00%
Zoning Permits	\$3,010	\$2,500	\$3,000	\$500	20.00%
Licenses and Fees	\$3,018	\$2,500	\$3,000	\$500	20.00%
Recording Fees	\$25,271	\$26,000	\$26,000	\$0	0.00%
Dog Licenses	\$1,187	\$2,500	\$2,000	(\$500)	-20.00%
DMV Fees	\$216	\$600	\$500	(\$100)	-16.67%
State Highway Aid	\$187,804	\$146,863	\$149,254	\$2,391	1.63%
Grant-in-Aid Revenue	\$10,329	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Copying Fees	\$6,739	\$5,000	\$6,000	\$1,000	20.00%
Greensboro Police Contract	\$267,938	\$245,053	\$0	(\$245,053)	-100.00%
COPS Grant	\$27,804	\$20,160	\$20,000	(\$160)	-0.79%
Hardwick PD Ticket Rev	\$8,921	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$0	0.00%
Outside Services-PD	\$950	\$250	\$500	\$250	100.00%
Sale of Equipment/Vehicles	\$100	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Interest on Investments	\$7,353	\$6,500	\$7,000	\$500	7.69%
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$1,118	\$500	\$500	\$0	0.00%
Water Transfer	\$153,146	\$158,746	\$140,883	(\$17,863)	-11.25%
Sewer Transfer	\$153,146	\$158,746	\$128,917	(\$29,829)	-18.79%
Fireworks Donations	\$0	\$1,500	\$1,000	(\$500)	-33.33%
Room Rent	\$0	\$100	\$100	\$0	0.00%
Restricted Donations	\$1,300	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
PD Vest Grant	\$0	\$800	\$800	\$0	0.00%
Gov Highway Safety Grants	\$2,035	\$0	\$2,000	\$2,000	100.00%
VCDP Grant Admin Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Misc. Grants	\$4,096	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
VLCT Grant	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Green Up Day Grant	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$0	0.00%
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$1,147,086</b>	<b>\$1,055,909</b>	<b>\$868,139</b>	<b>(\$187,769)</b>	<b>-17.78%</b>
<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>\$3,561,886</b>	<b>\$3,525,629</b>	<b>\$3,564,808</b>	<b>\$39,180</b>	<b>1.11%</b>
<b>Property Taxes</b>	<b>\$2,414,800</b>	<b>\$2,469,720</b>	<b>\$2,696,670</b>	<b>\$226,950</b>	<b>9.19%</b>

***Budget Summary***

Highway/Garage	\$ 836,921	\$ 947,720	\$ 963,516	\$ 15,795.29	1.67%
Police Department	\$ 864,513	\$ 981,803	\$ 825,884	\$ (155,919.19)	-15.88%
Office Expenses	\$ 427,086	\$ 448,208	\$ 481,844	\$ 33,635.48	7.50%
Payroll (Part-time & Elected)	\$ 53,087	\$ 73,002	\$ 65,007	\$ (7,995.50)	-10.95%
Fire Department	\$ 38,902	\$ 45,661	\$ 40,842	\$ (4,819.00)	-10.55%
Line Items	\$ 860,865	\$ 950,230	\$ 1,119,320	\$ 169,090.38	17.79%
Buildings	\$ 59,553	\$ 79,004	\$ 68,397	\$ (10,607.00)	-13.43%
<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>\$ 3,140,927</b>	<b>\$ 3,525,629</b>	<b>\$ 3,564,808</b>	<b>\$ 39,180.46</b>	<b>1.11%</b>

**2022-2023 HARDWICK TOWN BUDGET**

***Office Expenses***

	<b><u>ACTUAL</u></b> <b><u>2020-2021</u></b>	<b><u>BUDGET</u></b> <b><u>2021-2022</u></b>	<b><u>PROPOSED</u></b> <b><u>2022-2023</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b> <b><u>DIFF</u></b>	<b><u>%</u></b> <b><u>DIFF</u></b>
Town Manager's Office Payroll	\$183,234	\$183,197	\$192,430	\$9,233	5.04%
Town Clerk's Office Payroll	\$89,694	\$90,259	\$95,602	\$5,343	5.92%
Social Security Expense	\$20,996	\$21,876	\$20,162	(\$1,714)	-7.84%
Workers' Compensation	\$1,122	\$950	\$1,200	\$250	26.32%
Unemployment Insurance	\$447	\$750	\$850	\$100	13.33%
VLCT/PACIF	\$1,492	\$1,556	\$1,850	\$294	18.89%
Health Insurance	\$78,802	\$93,315	\$112,589	\$19,274	20.65%
Dental/Vision/Life/Disability	\$4,374	\$4,990	\$6,169	\$1,179	23.62%
Retirement Expense	\$16,299	\$17,091	\$19,442	\$2,351	13.76%
Town Manager Supplies	\$5,445	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0	0.00%
Town Clerk Supplies	\$3,586	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$0	0.00%
Town Report Expense	\$2,265	\$2,000	\$2,300	\$300	15.00%
Conferences/Dues/Mileage	\$268	\$1,500	\$500	(\$1,000)	-66.67%
Tax Billing/Collection Exp.	\$1,419	\$1,200	\$1,500	\$300	25.00%
Telephone	\$3,019	\$3,150	\$3,500	\$350	11.11%
Advertising	\$3,264	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	0.00%
Copier	\$0	\$500	\$0	(\$500)	-100.00%
Election Expense	\$846	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	0.00%
Computer Software/Services	\$3,788	\$5,750	\$5,750	\$0	0.00%
Web Site Maintenance	\$0	\$75	\$0	(\$75)	-100.00%
Equipment Purchases	\$2,505	\$3,000	\$2,500	(\$500)	-16.67%
Lister Supplies	\$2,172	\$2,800	\$2,500	(\$300)	-10.71%
Health Officer Supplies	\$0	\$50	\$0	(\$50)	-100.00%
Education/Training	\$195	\$1,200	\$500	(\$700)	-58.33%
Zoning Supplies	\$1,854	\$2,500	\$2,000	(\$500)	-20.00%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$427,086</b>	<b>\$448,208</b>	<b>\$481,844</b>	<b>\$33,634</b>	<b>7.50%</b>

***Payroll (Part-Time and Elected)***

Public Official's Liability	\$3,482	\$3,773	\$3,500	(\$273)	-7.24%
Lister's Salary	\$4,853	\$2,500	\$0	(\$2,500)	-100.00%
Election Officials	\$306	\$1,500	\$500	(\$1,000)	-66.67%
Zoning Administrator	\$22,615	\$23,150	\$26,000	\$2,850	12.31%
Planning/DRB Board	\$2,400	\$2,250	\$2,400	\$150	6.67%
Board of Civil Authority	\$24	\$100	\$25	(\$75)	-75.00%
Moderator	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$0	0.00%
Select Board	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0	0.00%
Energy Coordinator	\$0	\$50	\$50	\$0	0.00%
Solid Waste Rep	\$500	\$150	\$150	\$0	0.00%
TEC - Conference Fees	\$158	\$100	\$100	\$0	0.00%
Town Service Officer	\$100	\$150	\$50	(\$100)	-66.67%
Part Time Labor	\$500	\$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	\$9,068	\$28,000	\$22,000	(\$6,000)	-21.43%
Social Security Expense	\$2,834	\$4,529	\$3,482	(\$1,048)	-23.13%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$53,087</b>	<b>\$73,002</b>	<b>\$65,007</b>	<b>(\$7,996)</b>	<b>-10.95%</b>

## 2022-2023 HARDWICK TOWN BUDGET

### *Highway Department*

	<u>ACTUAL</u> <u>2020-2021</u>	<u>BUDGET</u> <u>2021-2022</u>	<u>PROPOSED</u> <u>2022-2023</u>	<u>\$</u> <u>DIFF.</u>	<u>%</u> <u>DIFF.</u>
Public Works Payroll	\$286,100	\$299,468	\$310,798	\$11,330	3.78%
Overtime	\$17,352	\$31,000	\$29,000	(\$2,000)	-6.45%
Sewer Operator	\$0	\$2,500	\$500	(\$2,000)	-80.00%
Social Security Expense	\$21,454	\$23,154	\$23,786	\$632	2.73%
Workers' Compensation	\$24,525	\$19,600	\$21,500	\$1,900	9.69%
Unemployment Insurance	\$333	\$650	\$650	\$0	0.00%
VLCT/PACIF	\$10,818	\$13,500	\$10,800	(\$2,700)	-20.00%
Health Insurance	\$117,187	\$129,787	\$131,011	\$1,224	0.94%
Dental/Vision/Life/Disability	\$8,172	\$8,707	\$8,434	(\$273)	-3.14%
Retirement Expense	\$18,687	\$20,654	\$22,936	\$2,282	11.05%
Operating Expense/Supplies	\$18,367	\$19,000	\$19,000	\$0	0.00%
Permits/Fees	\$4,821	\$4,000	\$5,000	\$1,000	25.00%
Telephone/Internet	\$1,397	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0	0.00%
Culverts	\$3,004	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$0	0.00%
Grant-in-Aid Expense	\$11,543	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Uniforms	\$5,259	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$0	0.00%
Line Painting/Crosswalks	\$1,306	\$2,000	\$1,500	(\$500)	-25.00%
Road Signs	\$1,323	\$500	\$1,000	\$500	100.00%
Streetscape Maintenance	\$1,041	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	0.00%
Storm Drains	\$541	\$2,000	\$1,000	(\$1,000)	-50.00%
Safety/Training	\$717	\$2,500	\$1,500	(\$1,000)	-40.00%
Building Maint./Repair	\$1,094	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0	0.00%
Equipment Repair	\$28,627	\$40,000	\$30,000	(\$10,000)	-25.00%
Equipment Expense	\$28,876	\$40,000	\$30,000	(\$10,000)	-25.00%
Gasoline Fuel	\$2,845	\$2,700	\$3,000	\$300	11.11%
Diesel Fuel	\$35,415	\$45,000	\$45,000	\$0	0.00%
Heating Fuel - Garage	\$4,367	\$6,000	\$5,500	(\$500)	-8.33%
Utilities - Garage	\$4,183	\$5,500	\$4,500	(\$1,000)	-18.18%
Gravel	\$29,759	\$35,000	\$60,000	\$25,000	71.43%
Ditch Stone	\$4,104	\$8,000	\$5,000	(\$3,000)	-37.50%
Hydroseeding	\$2,104	\$3,000	\$2,500	(\$500)	-16.67%
Mud Season Material	\$2,976	\$10,000	\$6,000	(\$4,000)	-40.00%
Chloride	\$22,601	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$0	0.00%
E. Hardwick Sidewalks	\$599	\$600	\$600	\$0	0.00%
Contract Mowing	\$4,950	\$5,200	\$5,500	\$300	5.77%
Paving/Patching	\$4,827	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$0	0.00%
Guardrails	\$25	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Brush Cutting	\$2,600	\$5,000	\$20,000	\$15,000	300.00%
Downtown Beauty	\$806	\$2,000	\$1,000	(\$1,000)	-50.00%
Street Sweeping	\$4,000	\$4,700	\$4,500	(\$200)	-4.26%
Winter Sand	\$21,248	\$33,000	\$29,000	(\$4,000)	-12.12%
Salt	\$76,969	\$85,000	\$85,000	\$0	0.00%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$836,921</b>	<b>\$947,720</b>	<b>\$963,516</b>	<b>\$15,795</b>	<b>1.67%</b>

## 2022-2023 HARDWICK TOWN BUDGET

### *Police Department*

	<u>ACTUAL</u> <u>2020-2021</u>	<u>BUDGET</u> <u>2021-2022</u>	<u>PROPOSED</u> <u>2022-2023</u>	<u>\$</u> <u>DIFF</u>	<u>%</u> <u>DIFF</u>
Police Department Payroll	\$406,092	\$480,878	\$438,124	(\$42,754)	-8.89%
Overtime	\$58,253	\$75,000	\$50,338	(\$24,662)	-32.88%
Part-Time Officers	\$19,179	\$7,500	\$20,000	\$12,500	166.67%
Social Security Expense	\$37,564	\$44,865	\$35,592	(\$9,273)	-20.67%
Workers' Compensation	\$35,738	\$36,500	\$34,500	(\$2,000)	-5.48%
Unemployment Insurance	\$612	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$0	0.00%
VLCT/PACIF	\$17,147	\$19,693	\$16,900	(\$2,793)	-14.18%
Health Insurance	\$69,101	\$81,550	\$54,181	(\$27,368)	-33.56%
Dental/Vision/Life/Disability	\$4,832	\$5,189	\$1,704	(\$3,485)	-67.16%
Retirement Expense	\$46,214	\$58,923	\$56,662	(\$2,262)	-3.84%
Supplies	\$8,098	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$0	0.00%
Training	\$4,860	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0	0.00%
Memberships	\$520	\$400	\$500	\$100	25.00%
Recruitment Expense	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Legal Expenses	\$810	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	0.00%
Internet Communications	\$4,606	\$5,000	\$3,500	(\$1,500)	-30.00%
Dispatch Services	\$31,784	\$27,566	\$28,332	\$766	2.78%
Telephone	\$4,132	\$4,500	\$3,500	(\$1,000)	-22.22%
Vehicle Maintenance	\$7,763	\$6,500	\$6,500	\$0	0.00%
Advertising	\$805	\$300	\$400	\$100	33.33%
Radio Service	\$670	\$1,500	\$700	(\$800)	-53.33%
Investigation Expense	\$894	\$2,000	\$1,000	(\$1,000)	-50.00%
Uniforms (Cleaning)	\$530	\$1,000	\$750	(\$250)	-25.00%
Uniform Purchases	\$4,398	\$5,000	\$4,500	(\$500)	-10.00%
Gasoline	\$9,998	\$11,000	\$11,000	\$0	0.00%
Tires	\$3,518	\$2,500	\$3,000	\$500	20.00%
Education	\$0	\$500	\$500	\$0	0.00%
Equipment	\$6,398	\$7,500	\$6,500	(\$1,000)	-13.33%
<b>Total PD Operating Exp.</b>	<b>\$784,516</b>	<b>\$899,565</b>	<b>\$792,884</b>	<b>(\$106,681)</b>	<b>-11.86%</b>
COPS Grant Officer	\$77,383	\$80,638	\$30,000	(\$50,638)	-62.80%
Governor's HW Safety Grant	\$1,636	\$0	\$2,000	\$2,000	100.00%
Governor's Equipment Grant	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Vest Grant	\$978	\$1,600	\$1,000	(\$600)	-37.50%
<b>Total Special PD Expenses</b>	<b>\$79,997</b>	<b>\$82,238</b>	<b>\$33,000</b>	<b>(\$49,238)</b>	<b>-59.87%</b>
<b>Total PD Expenses</b>	<b>\$864,513</b>	<b>\$981,803</b>	<b>\$825,884</b>	<b>(\$155,919)</b>	<b>-15.88%</b>

**2022-2023 HARDWICK TOWN BUDGET**

***Fire Department***

	<b><u>ACTUAL</u></b> <b><u>2020-2021</u></b>	<b><u>BUDGET</u></b> <b><u>2021-2022</u></b>	<b><u>PROPOSED</u></b> <b><u>2022-2023</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b> <b><u>DIFF.</u></b>	<b><u>%</u></b> <b><u>DIFF.</u></b>
Labor	\$6,400	\$9,000	\$7,500	(\$1,500)	-16.67%
Social Security	\$473	\$680	\$500	(\$180)	-26.47%
Workers' Compensation	\$1,299	\$1,250	\$1,350	\$100	8.00%
Liability Insurance	\$3,763	\$4,156	\$3,500	(\$656)	-15.78%
Operating Exp./Supplies	\$1,752	\$2,500	\$2,000	(\$500)	-20.00%
Dispatch Service	\$13,622	\$11,825	\$12,142	\$317	2.68%
Phone/Internet	\$1,503	\$1,300	\$1,500	\$200	15.38%
Gasoline	\$20	\$100	\$100	\$0	0.00%
Diesel Fuel	\$375	\$750	\$500	(\$250)	-33.33%
Equipment Purchases	\$7,069	\$8,100	\$8,000	(\$100)	-1.23%
Equipment Repair	\$2,626	\$5,500	\$3,500	(\$2,000)	-36.36%
Training	\$0	\$500	\$250	(\$250)	-50.00%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$38,902</b>	<b>\$45,661</b>	<b>\$40,842</b>	<b>(\$4,819)</b>	<b>-10.55%</b>

***Line Items***

Auditing	\$12,000	\$13,000	\$15,000	\$2,000	15.38%
Fireworks	\$0	\$3,000	\$4,000	\$1,000	33.33%
Animal Control	\$3,431	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0	0.00%
Professional Services	\$4,625	\$7,500	\$6,000	(\$1,500)	-20.00%
Lister Professional Services	\$18,750	\$19,350	\$42,000	\$22,650	117.05%
NVDA	\$2,258	\$2,258	\$2,258	\$0	0.00%
VLCT	\$4,823	\$4,823	\$4,778	(\$45)	-0.93%
Jeudevine Memorial Library	\$117,191	\$125,171	\$126,891	\$1,720	1.37%
Memorial Day	\$464	\$500	\$500	\$0	0.00%
Caspian Lake	\$3,250	\$3,300	\$3,300	\$0	0.00%
Cemeteries	\$17,323	\$19,000	\$18,000	(\$1,000)	-5.26%
Capital Equipment Fund	\$175,000	\$180,000	\$190,000	\$10,000	5.56%
Capital Road Fund	\$185,000	\$205,000	\$305,000	\$100,000	48.78%
Capital General Fund	\$120,000	\$132,000	\$149,500	\$17,500	13.26%
Capital Fire Fund	\$65,423	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$0	0.00%
Tax Mapping	\$3,900	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$0	0.00%
Solid Waste District	\$1,434	\$2,956	\$2,956	\$0	0.00%
Streetlights	\$22,083	\$23,500	\$22,500	(\$1,000)	-4.26%
Memorial Park Electricity	\$130	\$220	\$150	(\$70)	-31.82%
Employment Practices Ins.	\$6,349	\$6,500	\$5,500	(\$1,000)	-15.38%
Community Crime Ins.	\$1,459	\$1,600	\$1,400	(\$200)	-12.50%
Town Service Officer Expenses	\$336	\$250	\$500	\$250	100.00%
Hazard Mitigation Fund	\$0	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0	0.00%
Cyber Security	\$0	\$0	\$1,500	\$1,500	100.00%
Insurance Deductibles	\$0	\$2,000	\$0	(\$2,000)	-100.00%
Tax Sale Expense	\$753	\$2,000	\$1,000	(\$1,000)	-50.00%
Tax Abatement Expense	\$4,951	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Conservation Commission	\$500	\$500	\$1,500	\$1,000	200.00%
Restricted Donation Expense	\$416	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Equity Committee	\$0	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$0	0.00%
911 Signs	\$0	\$3,000	\$0	(\$3,000)	-100.00%
Recreation Dept.	\$15,361	\$26,251	\$22,375	(\$3,876)	-14.77%
Hardwick Trails	\$6,155	\$8,799	\$8,748	(\$51)	-0.58%
County Taxes	\$22,000	\$22,750	\$23,200	\$450	1.98%
Rescue Squad	\$45,501	\$45,502	\$71,264	\$25,762	56.62%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$860,865</b>	<b>\$950,230</b>	<b>\$1,119,320</b>	<b>\$169,090</b>	<b>17.79%</b>

## 2022-2023 HARDWICK TOWN BUDGET

### *Buildings*

	<u>ACTUAL</u> <u>2020-2021</u>	<u>BUDGET</u> <u>2021-2022</u>	<u>PROPOSED</u> <u>2022-2023</u>	<u>\$</u> <u>DIFF.</u>	<u>%</u> <u>DIFF.</u>
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#### *Memorial Building*

Custodial Services Expense	9,779	9,850	9,800	(50)	-0.51%
Custodial S.S. Expense	702	525	702	177	33.71%
VLCT/PACIF	2,868	3,365	2,600	(765)	-22.73%
Operating Exp/Supplies	3,819	3,000	3,000	0	0.00%
Building Maint./Repair	963	5,000	2,000	(3,000)	-60.00%
Utilities	5,073	6,000	5,100	(900)	-15.00%
Fuel Oil	5,067	9,000	9,000	0	0.00%
Elevator/Fire Alarm	1,890	2,000	2,000	0	0.00%
Generator	0	500	200	(300)	-60.00%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>30,160</b>	<b>39,240</b>	<b>34,402</b>	<b>(4,838)</b>	<b>-12.33%</b>

#### *Public Safety Building*

VLCT/PACIF	3,034	3,567	2,800	(767)	-21.50%
Operating Expenses	1,533	1,000	1,000	0	0.00%
Building Maint./Repair	1,124	3,000	1,500	(1,500)	-50.00%
Utilities	2,689	2,800	2,800	0	0.00%
Fuel Oil	2,296	5,000	4,500	(500)	-10.00%
Custodial Services Expense	5,277	6,000	5,500	(500)	-8.33%
Custodial Serv. S.S. Expense	404	450	385	(65)	-14.44%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>16,357</b>	<b>21,817</b>	<b>18,485</b>	<b>(3,332)</b>	<b>-15.27%</b>

#### *Fire Station*

VLCT/PACIF	2,675	3,156	2,500	(656)	-20.79%
Utilities	2,456	2,600	2,600	0	0.00%
Fuel Oil	4,007	6,000	6,000	0	0.00%
Building Maint./Repair	532	2,000	1,000	(1,000)	-50.00%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>9,671</b>	<b>13,756</b>	<b>12,100</b>	<b>(1,656)</b>	<b>-12.04%</b>

#### *Town House*

VLCT/PACIF	1,566	1,881	1,550	(331)	-17.60%
Building Maint./Repair	402	1,000	500	(500)	-50.00%
Utilities	226	350	300	(50)	-14.29%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2,194</b>	<b>3,231</b>	<b>2,350</b>	<b>(881)</b>	<b>-27.27%</b>

#### *Historical Depot*

VLCT/PACIF	167	195	175	(20)	-10.26%
Building Maint./Repair	333	400	400	0	0.00%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>595</b>	<b>575</b>	<b>(20)</b>	<b>-3.36%</b>

#### *Carey Rd. Property*

VLCT/PACIF	137	175	135	(40)	-22.86%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>(40)</b>	<b>-22.86%</b>

#### *Yellow Barn*

VLCT/PACIF	159	190	150	(40)	-21.05%
Maintenance	174	0	0	0	0.00%
Utilities	200	0	200	200	100.00%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>534</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>84.21%</b>

**TOWN OF HARDWICK  
CAPITAL EQUIPMENT PURCHASE SCHEDULE**

YEAR	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	Skidsteer	Loader (1) Loan	Loader (2) Grader (1)	Police Cruiser	SPEND EQUIP. TOTAL	APPROPRIATE	
															FUNDS SET ASIDE	ACCOUNT BALANCE
Bal 6/30/21															\$ 180,000	\$219,305
2022	\$180,000									\$50,000	\$12,000		\$45,000	\$287,000	\$180,000	\$112,305
2023					\$90,000						\$12,000		\$40,000	\$142,000	\$190,000	\$160,305
2024									\$125,000		\$12,000	\$55,000	\$30,000	\$222,000	\$200,000	\$138,305
2025				\$180,000								\$55,000	\$40,000	\$275,000	\$215,000	\$78,305
2026						\$40,000						\$55,000	\$0	\$95,000	\$225,000	\$208,305
2027							\$30,000			\$55,000		\$55,000	\$48,000	\$188,000	\$235,000	\$255,305
2028		\$120,000			\$95,000			\$12,000				\$55,000	\$48,000	\$330,000	\$245,000	\$170,305
2029			\$220,000									\$55,000	\$32,000	\$307,000	\$255,000	\$118,305
2030	\$210,000											\$55,000	\$49,000	\$314,000	\$265,000	\$69,305
2031											\$125,000	\$55,000	\$0	\$185,000	\$275,000	\$159,305
2032										\$60,000		\$55,000	\$49,000	\$164,000	\$285,000	\$280,305
2033				\$210,000	\$100,000	\$43,000						\$55,000	\$50,000	\$458,000	\$295,000	\$117,305
2034							\$33,000						\$34,000	\$67,000	\$305,000	\$355,305
2035								\$13,000					\$51,000	\$64,000	\$315,000	\$606,305
2036		\$130,000											\$0	\$130,000	\$325,000	\$801,305
2037			\$240,000							\$65,000			\$52,000	\$357,000	\$335,000	\$779,305
2038	\$230,000				\$105,000								\$53,000	\$388,000	\$345,000	\$736,305
2039									\$150,000				\$54,000	\$204,000	\$355,000	\$887,305
2040						\$46,000							\$36,000	\$82,000	\$365,000	\$1,170,305
2041				\$220,000			\$35,000						\$0	\$255,000	\$375,000	\$1,290,305

- 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 2031
- 4) Police Cruisers traded or replaced every 5 years

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

**TOWN OF HARDWICK**  
**CAPITAL FIRE EQUIPMENT PURCHASE SCHEDULE**

YEAR							<i>SPEND</i>	<i>APPROPRIATE</i>	ACCOUNT BALANCE
	E1 2014 Bond	E2 2021 Bond	Ladder L1	Pumper E1	Fire E2	Tanker W1	EQUIP. TOTAL	FUNDS SET ASIDE	
Bal 6/30/21								\$ 80,000	\$65,423
2022	\$ 34,161	\$ 3,816					\$37,977	\$75,000	\$102,446
2023	\$ 33,417	\$ 21,339					\$54,756	\$75,000	\$122,690
2024	\$ 32,613	\$ 21,259					\$53,872	\$80,000	\$148,818
2025	\$ 31,770	\$ 21,173					\$52,943	\$90,000	\$185,875
2026	\$ 30,897	\$ 21,078					\$51,975	\$95,000	\$228,900
2027	\$ 29,996	\$ 20,976					\$50,972	\$100,000	\$277,928
2028	\$ 29,070	\$ 20,860					\$49,930	\$105,000	\$332,998
2029	\$ 28,121	\$ 20,724					\$48,845	\$110,000	\$394,153
2030	\$ 27,154	\$ 20,569	\$400,000				\$447,723	\$115,000	\$61,430
2031		\$ 20,395					\$20,395	\$120,000	\$161,035
2032		\$ 20,201				\$250,000	\$270,201	\$125,000	\$15,834
2033		\$ 19,967					\$19,967	\$130,000	\$125,867
2034		\$ 19,341					\$19,341	\$135,000	\$241,526
2035		\$ 18,962					\$18,962	\$140,000	\$362,564
2036		\$ 18,549					\$18,549	\$145,000	\$489,015
2037							\$0	\$150,000	\$639,015
2038							\$0	\$155,000	\$794,015
2039				\$350,000			\$350,000	\$160,000	\$604,015
2040							\$0	\$170,000	\$774,015

- 1) E1 2014 Bond is done in 2029.
- 2) E2 2021 Bond is done in 2036.
- 3) Ladder Truck L1 is replaced every 25 years. Replace in 2030.
- 4) Pumper E1 is replaced every 25 years. Replace in 2039.
- 5) Pumper E2 is replaced every 25 years. Replace in 2046.
- 6) Tanker W1 is replaced every 25 years. Replace in 2032.
- 7) These are best guess estimates for used equipment.



**TOWN OF HARDWICK**  
**CAPITAL ROAD SCHEDULE**

						<i>Spend</i>	<i>Appropriate</i>	
	<b>Mackville</b>	<b>Center</b>	<b>Hardwick</b>	<b>Paving</b>	<b>Backroad</b>	<b>Road</b>	<b>Funds</b>	<b>Account</b>
<b>Year</b>	<b>Rd. Bond</b>	<b>Road</b>	<b>Street</b>	<b>(see below)</b>	<b>Rebuild</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Set Aside</b>	<b>Balance</b>
Bal 6/30/21								\$91,974
2022	-\$22,316			-\$140,000	-\$30,388	-\$192,704	<b>\$185,000</b>	\$84,270
2023	-\$21,962			-\$140,000		-\$161,962	<b>\$305,000</b>	\$235,012
2024	-\$21,575			-\$80,000		-\$101,575	<b>\$315,000</b>	\$297,695
2025	-\$21,167			-\$70,000		-\$91,167	<b>\$325,000</b>	\$468,845
2026	-\$20,738	-\$275,000		\$0		-\$295,738	<b>\$335,000</b>	\$212,369
2027	-\$20,288	-\$250,000		\$0		-\$270,288	<b>\$345,000</b>	\$16,793
2028	-\$18,818			-\$100,000		-\$118,818	<b>\$350,000</b>	\$129,157
2029	-\$19,334			-\$100,000		-\$119,334	<b>\$355,000</b>	\$245,489
2030				-\$100,000		-\$100,000	<b>\$360,000</b>	\$405,489
2031				-\$100,000		-\$100,000	<b>\$365,000</b>	\$570,489

**Paving Projects:**

FY 2023: Terrace Hill Road, Lower Cherry Street, Elm Street, Cottage Street, Upper Cherry Street, Dale Street, West Church St.

FY 2024: North Main Street, Vermont Ave.

FY 2025: Hideway Acres

FY 2026: Center Road (partial)

FY 2027: Center Road (partial)

*\*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 6/30/2021	<i>FY2022 Last Year</i>	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Future Balance
<b>Buildings</b>						
Memorial Building	-\$405	\$16,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$90,595
Public Safety Building	\$3,038	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$23,038
Highway Garage	-\$3,699	\$12,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$68,301
Fire Department	\$32,311	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$52,311
Library	\$27,361	\$2,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$32,361
Library Bond	\$0	\$10,000	\$20,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$90,000
Town House	\$21,173	\$5,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$56,173
Carey Rd. Property	\$11,360	\$2,500	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$16,860
Historical Depot	\$12,116	\$2,500	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$17,616
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$103,255</b>	<b>\$60,000</b>	<b>\$88,000</b>	<b>\$98,000</b>	<b>\$98,000</b>	<b>\$447,255</b>
<b>Public Works</b>						
Gravel Pit Reclaim	\$26,332	\$3,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$29,332
Bike Path (all Phases)	\$0	\$5,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,000
Sidewalk Expense	\$24,778	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$64,778
Guardrails	\$10,992	\$2,500	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$17,992
Brush Cutting	\$5,050	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,050
Road Signs/Crosswalks	\$948	\$2,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$17,948
Bridge #4 East Hardwick	\$96,034	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$156,034
Bridge Fund	\$73,144	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$133,144
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$237,278</b>	<b>\$52,500</b>	<b>\$46,500</b>	<b>\$46,500</b>	<b>\$46,500</b>	<b>\$429,278</b>
<b>General Government</b>						
Trails Capital Account	\$15,116	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$15,116
Recreation Capital Fund	\$5,036	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$6,036
Fire Department Equipment/Clothing	-\$330	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$39,670
Records Restoration/Vault Door	\$19,500	\$5,000	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$25,500
Cemetery Upgrades	\$14,500	\$4,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$27,500
Recruitment - Police	\$8,060	\$500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$8,560
Interest Accrued on Account	\$13,615	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$13,615
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$75,497</b>	<b>\$19,500</b>	<b>\$15,000</b>	<b>\$13,000</b>	<b>\$13,000</b>	<b>\$135,997</b>
<b>CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND</b>	<b>\$416,030</b>	<b>\$132,000</b>	<b>\$149,500</b>	<b>\$157,500</b>	<b>\$157,500</b>	<b>\$1,012,530</b>

**2022-2023 HARDWICK TOWN BUDGET**

*Library Budget*

	<u><b>ACTUAL</b></u> <u><b>2020-2021</b></u>	<u><b>BUDGET</b></u> <u><b>2021-2022</b></u>	<u><b>PROPOSED</b></u> <u><b>2022-2023</b></u>	<u><b>\$</b></u> <u><b>DIFF.</b></u>	<u><b>%</b></u> <u><b>DIFF.</b></u>
Library Payroll	\$70,716	\$77,569	\$82,657	\$5,088	6.56%
Social Security/FICA Expense	\$5,677	\$6,205	\$6,613	\$408	6.58%
Worker's Comp	\$576	\$510	\$575	\$65	12.75%
Unemployment	\$245	\$225	\$250	\$25	11.11%
VLCT/PACIF	\$408	\$600	\$450	(\$150)	-25.00%
Health Insurance - Librarian only	\$6,893	\$8,168	\$8,214	\$46	0.56%
Dental/Vision/Life/Disability	\$601	\$650	\$610	(\$40)	-6.15%
Retirement	\$2,586	\$2,759	\$3,158	\$399	14.46%
Books- Adult	\$3,954	\$3,000	\$3,500	\$500	16.67%
Books - Juvenile	\$2,650	\$2,200	\$2,200	\$0	0.00%
Books - Young Adult	\$762	\$600	\$700	\$100	16.67%
Magazines- Adult	\$351	\$400	\$600	\$200	50.00%
Magazines - Juvenile	\$30	\$50	\$50	\$0	0.00%
Audio books/ DVDs - Adult	\$174	\$600	\$600	\$0	0.00%
Audio books/ DVDs - Juvenile	\$139	\$600	\$600	\$0	0.00%
Computer Software/Technology	\$120	\$435	\$435	\$0	0.00%
Computer Databases	\$2,071	\$1,600	\$1,800	\$200	12.50%
Courier Expense	\$479	\$260	\$400	\$140	53.85%
Fiber Connect (Sovernet)	\$2,276	\$780	\$1,900	\$1,120	143.59%
Equipment	\$0	\$200	\$200	\$0	0.00%
Telephone	\$855	\$900	\$900	\$0	0.00%
Supplies - General	\$1,862	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$0	0.00%
Youth Supplies	\$478	\$600	\$600	\$0	0.00%
Postage	\$566	\$800	\$700	(\$100)	-12.50%
Professional Services	\$198	\$230	\$200	(\$30)	-13.04%
Conferences / Memberships	\$278	\$600	\$400	(\$200)	-33.33%
Mileage	\$32	\$400	\$200	(\$200)	-50.00%
Advertising	\$65	\$100	\$100	\$0	0.00%
Restricted Donation Expense	\$100	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Jeudevine Friends Expense	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Interlibrary Grant Expense	\$525	\$0	\$0	\$0	100.00%
Misc. Grant Expense	\$6,692	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
<b>Total Operating Budget</b>	<b>\$112,358</b>	<b>\$113,541</b>	<b>\$121,112</b>	<b>\$7,571</b>	<b>6.67%</b>
Custodial Services Expense	\$5,227	\$9,353	\$9,632	\$279	2.98%
Custodial Services S.S. Expense	\$400	\$716	\$737	\$21	2.93%
Building Insurance	\$1,153	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0	0.00%
Electricity	\$676	\$1,740	\$1,860	\$120	6.90%
Fuel Oil	\$1,700	\$4,071	\$3,500	(\$571)	-14.03%
Water/Sewer	\$743	\$750	\$800	\$50	6.67%
Maintenance Expense	\$418	\$1,500	\$1,000	(\$500)	-33.33%
<b>Total Library Building Budget</b>	<b>\$10,316</b>	<b>\$19,630</b>	<b>\$19,029</b>	<b>(\$601)</b>	<b>-3.06%</b>
<b>Friends of Jeudevine Donations</b>	<b>\$ -</b>				
<b>Restricted Donations</b>	<b>\$ (211.96)</b>				
<b>Interest on Investments</b>	<b>\$ (56.00)</b>				
<b>Grant Income</b>	<b>\$ (7,920.00)</b>		<b>\$ (500.00)</b>		
<b>Fiber Connect Credits</b>	<b>\$ (1,500.00)</b>		<b>\$ (1,500.00)</b>		
<b>Courier Revenue</b>	<b>\$ (293.19)</b>		<b>\$ (250.00)</b>		
<b>Misc. Income</b>	<b>\$ (1,333.43)</b>	<b>\$ (8,000.00)</b>	<b>\$ (4,000.00)</b>		
<b>Use of Fund Balance</b>			<b>\$ (9,000.00)</b>		
<b>Town Appropriation</b>	<b>\$117,191</b>	<b>\$125,171</b>	<b>\$126,891</b>	<b>\$1,720</b>	<b>1.37%</b>
<b>Fund Balance</b>	<b>9,050</b>				

## 2022-2023 HARDWICK TOWN BUDGET

### *Recreation Budget*

	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>PROPOSED</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>%</u>
	<u>2020-2021</u>	<u>2021-2022</u>	<u>2022-2023</u>	<u>DIFF.</u>	<u>DIFF.</u>
Recreation Coordinator Payroll	\$1,410	\$6,240	\$5,200	(\$1,040)	-16.67%
Social Security/FICA	\$108	\$440	\$364	(\$76)	-17.27%
VLCT Workers Comp/Insurance	\$241	\$175	\$250	\$75	42.86%
VLCT Unemployment Insurance	\$44	\$45	\$60	\$15	33.33%
VLCT PACIF/Liability Insurance	\$89	\$106	\$100	(\$6)	-5.66%
Youth Program: Soccer, Swim, Ski	\$6,109	\$10,973	\$9,801	(\$1,172)	-10.68%
Mileage	\$0	\$262	\$100	\$0	0.00%
Community Programming	\$0	\$0	\$5,000	\$5,000	100.00%
Holiday Programs	\$190	\$1,500	\$0	(\$1,500)	-100.00%
Green-Up Day	\$1,001	\$700	\$0	(\$700)	-100.00%
Senior Programming	\$0	\$2,200	\$0	(\$2,200)	-100.00%
Supplies and Advertising	\$66	\$500	\$500	\$0	0.00%
Transfer to Capital	\$5,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Maintenance	\$1,103	\$2,000	\$1,000	(\$1,000)	-50.00%
Training	\$0	\$310	\$0	(\$310)	-100.00%
Sports Programming	\$0	\$800	\$0	(\$800)	-100.00%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$15,361</b>	<b>\$26,251</b>	<b>\$22,375</b>	<b>-\$3,875</b>	<b>-14.76%</b>

## 2022-2023 HARDWICK TOWN BUDGET

### *Trails Budget*

	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>PROPOSED</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>%</u>
	<u>2020-2021</u>	<u>2021-2022</u>	<u>2022-2023</u>	<u>DIFF.</u>	<u>DIFF.</u>
Salaries	\$3,137	\$3,780	\$4,003	\$223	5.90%
Social Security/FICA	\$240	\$302	\$320	\$18	5.96%
Trail Repair & New Construction	\$233	\$800	\$800	\$0	0.00%
Equipment Repair and Maintenance	\$610	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	0.00%
Gas, Oil and Diesel	\$285	\$700	\$700	\$0	0.00%
Publicity/Advertising/Signage & Maps	\$173	\$400	\$400	\$0	0.00%
Program and Activities	\$1,018	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	0.00%
VLCT Workers Comp/Insurance	\$178	\$175	\$185	\$10	5.71%
VLCT Unemployment Insurance	\$36	\$40	\$40	\$0	0.00%
VLCT PACIF/Liability Insurance	\$246	\$350	\$300	(\$50)	-14.29%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$6,155</b>	<b>\$8,547</b>	<b>\$8,748</b>	<b>\$201</b>	<b>2.35%</b>

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### **Greensboro Nursing Home**

The Greensboro Nursing Home, founded in 1935 as the Greensboro Hospital Association, is a not-for-profit, rehabilitation and long-term care facility whose mission is to provide high quality care for residents from our community in a caring, homelike environment. One of the largest employers in the area, we are proud of our dedicated and professional staff who work hard to serve the community and elderly and disabled Vermonters. The past year, the second year of the COVID-19 pandemic, has been a year of challenges, accomplishments, and gratitude for the residents and staff of the Greensboro Nursing Home. Residents and staff faced many challenges related to COVID-19. Residents had fewer opportunities to see family and friends, to interact with one another, and to visit the wider world. Staff have had to perform the same heavy workload as ever, while also using personal protective equipment and carefully following strict infection control guidelines. The labor shortage and the high demands for and on health care workers meant that many staff members had to work extra shifts and longer hours. A number of familiar faces on the staff have retired or moved on. Projects designed before the pandemic, such as establishment of an outpatient rehabilitation service at Greensboro Nursing Home, had to be put on hold. The staff has done a heroic job meeting these challenges. At the beginning of the year, visits by friends and family were restricted to Zoom meetings or outdoor meetings behind plastic screens. As a result of the 100% vaccination rate among residents and nearly 100% among staff, as well as strict adherence to infection control procedures, and excellent cooperation by family members, there have been no cases of COVID-19 among the residents, and in person, indoor visits have become possible again. Kitchen staff continue to produce thousands of hot, nutritious meals annually to support the local Meals on Wheels program. With funding generously provided by the Tarrant Foundation, we began work on a walking path on our grounds to encourage walking and physical therapy for our residents. In spite of the labor shortage in the health care field, we have recruited enthusiastic and dedicated professionals at all levels in the staff, including a new Administrator, a new Director of Nursing, and a new Director of Social Services. Renovation of the telephone system and of individual resident rooms has continued in spite of the pandemic. The Board of Trustees of the Greensboro Nursing Home is deeply grateful to the strong community support we have received from many

donors. We have received critical grant support from the Town of Greensboro, the Greensboro Association, the Wisdom Connection, the Pleasants Fund, and the Towns of Hardwick and Craftsbury. Individual donors have supported us generously, including one anonymous donor whose large donation will allow renovation of the sunroom to support larger family visits than can be accommodated in residents' rooms, once the pandemic has eased. We are also very grateful for the generous support we receive from many community organizations and businesses, including desGroselliers Funeral Home, Calderwood Insurance Agency, Catholic Daughters of the Americas - St. Veronica chapter, Cellars at Jasper Hill, Hardwick Sons of the American Legion, Heather Hollow Farm, Hill Farmstead Brewery, Knights of Columbus Council #1568, Lussier Barn Builders, Northern Spy Apple Tree Pruning, and Wild Thyme Gardening. Greensboro Nursing Home exists to serve the community; if you have questions about the nursing home, about resources for elder care or rehabilitation in the area, if you would like to join the great team at Greensboro Nursing Home, or if you would consider volunteering to serve on the Board of Trustees, please be in touch.

*Respectfully,  
Bill Rogers  
Board President*

### **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. Many of the Center's usual activities and events have been curtailed by the Covid-19 epidemic, but the staff have been creative and diligent in providing activities and entertainment for the residents. The Center offers both employment and volunteer opportunities for local residents and many

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have been involved with the organization over its quarter century of service. The Center 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 gratefully welcomed by the Board, Staff, and Residents of the Center.

*Thank you,  
Jane Marlin, President of Board of Directors  
Kim Roberge, Executive Director*

### **AWARE**

AWARE is the local domestic and sexual violence agency and serves the people of Hardwick. AWARE provides services year-round, 24 hours a day. During the past year AWARE served 146 women, men, and children, who were directly affected by violence, 78 children who were exposed to violence and answered over 980 hotline and in-person requests for assistance. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, AWARE was unable to enter the schools for educational purposes. Those served by AWARE received services such as crisis intervention, legal support and advocacy, information and referrals, safety planning, emergency provisions, housing assistance, transportation, and education about domestic and sexual violence.

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

### **Lamoille Family Center**

*promotes the well-being of Lamoille Valley children, youth and families and supports them in meeting life's challenges through education, direct services, and advocacy.* The Lamoille Family Center is celebrating 45 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 the 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 2021, our caring and dedicated staff reached more than 4,000 children, youth, parents, and caregivers throughout the Lamoille Valley and have impacted many more. LFC continues to navigate the COVID-19 pandemic with flexibility, providing services through telehealth and masked, socially distanced visits. Examples of Hardwick and East Hardwick residents served include: our Children's Integrated Services team made roughly 200 home visits, providing family support and early intervention, to 20 families in Hardwick and East Hardwick; LFC donates \$500 every year to Hardwick Holiday Project to provide children with holiday gifts; 47 residents, including 30 children, received emergency assistance including funding for rent and fuel and goods such as diapers, clothing and furniture; 5 students received summer camp scholarships so that they could attend summer programs with their peer; 6 families were accompanied by a DULCE family specialist to their pediatric infant wellness visits; 8 youth facing severe crisis situations were attended to through LFC's Youth and Young Adult Program; 4 Hardwick families received Welcome Baby visits from our Maternal-Child Health Specialist; 98 Hazen students, in addition to many school staff, were provided with substance prevention materials and strategies from Healthy Lamoille Valley; dozens of families and several childcare providers received childcare support services including assistance with applications for financial assistance and help with referral to regulated programs; and 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,

independent, and resilient, and support through volunteer time, donation of goods and services, and financial contributions remain vital to the sustainability of the Lamoille Family Center. We cannot do this work without you. We invite you to visit our website to learn more about our organization. Please call if you would benefit from our services. Thank you for your support.

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

### **Hardwick Historical Society**

Although the threat of Covid-19 limited public activity at the Depot, the volunteers' continued their work. **Collections:** We spent the year documenting the collections in the Angell Room, and we've populated our website with inventories <<http://hardwickvthistory.org/research-archives/about-the-collections/>>.

*Please, before you clean out your attic/basement/closets/garage of all that old stuff, please give me (edowl1@protonmail.com or 802-472-6424) an opportunity to look for historical treasures in it.* Sarah Houston did, and we found some wonderful items. Ray Small, editor of the *Hardwick Gazette*, did – before he closed the *Gazette* building. Again, we acquired some significant material. **Exhibits:** The Exhibits Committee has begun to re-do many of our exhibits and all the exhibit space. When we open again in the spring, come and see what they have done. **Finances:** In 2020, the HHS had operating expenses of about \$11,500, paid for by a \$3,000 appropriation at the 2020 Town Meeting, membership fees, advertising in the *Journal*, donations, the St. Patrick's Day dinner, sales of cards and back issues of the *Journal*, and bottle redemptions at All Metals. **Membership:** Membership has grown to over 300; for \$15, you can join, too – contact me. **Personnel:** The volunteers logged 805 hours of free labor at the Depot in 2020. The logged hours do not include the work volunteers did at home or in outside venues, so that number vastly under-represents the amount of work volunteers have contributed to make to preserve Hardwick's history and make it accessible to the public. Independent Sector

<[http://independentsector.org/volunteer\\_time](http://independentsector.org/volunteer_time)> monitors the activities of non-profit organizations all over the country and calculates that, on average, a volunteer's time has a value of \$28.54/hour. That means that HHS volunteers contribute about \$23,000

in time; at minimum wage, \$11.75, they add about \$9500 to the budget. **Publications:** Every member household gets a copy of the quarterly *The Hardwick Historical Society Journal*; it now averages about 32 pages of good reading. Now that we're publishing our 11<sup>th</sup> volume, a member has funded the publication of bound copies of the first 10 volumes. We will place a set – over 800 pages in two volumes – in various local libraries, and we will happily order you a copy, although at this writing, we don't know what an “on demand” order will cost – assume \$75.00 or so. Contact me if you are interested. **We warmly invite articles and manuscripts from people who have stories to tell about Hardwick's history.** **Visitors:** After July 1, the HHS opened the Depot to the public every Tuesday and Thursday afternoons between 1:00 and 4:00, but we did not advertise that, and few people came; only 25 people signed the guest book. We hope we can entertain more visitors next summer. Thank you, volunteers: Lorraine Hussey, Donna Hale, Janet Slayton, Carmeline Williams, Mary Brochu, Elaine Gendron, Tracy Martin, Judy Nudd, Mark Sassi, Neil Stout, Mary Janes Fradette, Mario Fradette, Kris Lance, Diane Demers, Gail O'Brien, Meredith Putvain, Pat Hussey, and Mike Clark.

Elizabeth H. Dow  
President

### **Northeast Kingdom Human Services**

Good mental health is important for everyone. The Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc. (NKHS) mission is to empower individuals, families, and communities by promoting hope, healing, and support. Your Town's \$3,161 appropriation helped support your neighbors' facing challenges who could not otherwise afford care. Thank you for helping 75 neighbors, family members, and friends in your town access the supports they needed to live happy, fulfilling lives and be contributing members in your community. The appropriation was based on 2010 Census data at \$1.05 per person in your town and level funded from the prior year. NKHS's 464 professional employees, 5 from your town, worked diligently to maintain service delivery for 2945 individuals of all ages. We offered support to the communities of the NEK while rising to the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, a transition to interim leadership, conducting a comprehensive and inclusive search for a new executive director, responding to a corrective action plan from the Department of Mental Health, and acknowledging our staff for their extraordinary efforts,

professional skills, and their dedication to providing quality care to those we serve in our offices and in the community. NKHS Emergency Services employees responded 24/7 to mental health crisis. Requests for services were triaged. Our first priority is to serve the vulnerable populations of mental health, addiction, and/or developmental/intellectual disabilities challenges, where the “worried well” may need to wait for services such as outpatient therapy. NKHS shares the challenge of attracting qualified personnel to the region and offering more competitive wages. NKHS offered over 219 community consultation hours for parenting and suicide prevention trainings. The agency initiated warm support phone lines to assist those struggling through the pandemic Parent Support Line 802-749-1111 (7 days a week/6 AM – midnight) Recovery Support Line 802-749-1112 (M-F, 8:30 AM – 5 PM) Emotional Support Line 802-749-1113 (M-F, 8:30 AM – 5 PM) In June 2021, Northeast Kingdom Human Services worked with Vermont Department of Mental Health to implement the second National Suicide Prevention Lifeline Call Center in the state. Anyone calling the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-TALK (8255) with an 802-area code phone number will first be connected to a Vermont call center. The volunteer Board of Directors provide oversight and believes human services should be cost effective and responsive to local community needs. Volunteer Program Standing Committee members support the agency and programs. Your vote at the Town of Hardwick’s Town Meeting means a lot to us and your community.

*Northeast Kingdom Human Services Board of  
Directors and Leadership Team*

### **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 counties 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 1,791 visits to the town residents of Hardwick, VT. 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. **2022 Town Appropriation Visit Statistics Hardwick, VT:** Home Care (Therapy, Nursing, MSW) = **1,406 visits** Maternal Child Health= **83 visits** Hospice (Nursing, Therapy, Personal Care, Respite) = **89 visits** Long Term Care (Case Management, Personal Care, Respite) = **213 visits** **Total Visits in Hardwick, VT = 1,791 visits**

*Laurie A. Bellizzi  
(802)748-8116*

### **Northeast Kingdom Development Corporation**

The Northeast Kingdom Development Corporation (NEKDC) is a five-member private 501(c)(3) that works on significant economic development projects in the Northeast Kingdom (NEK). Our goal is to improve the quality of life in the NEK by creating jobs that pay well. We are currently focused on two major projects, one of which is the Hardwick Yellow Barn Business Accelerator. The Town of Hardwick is the owner of the historic Yellow Barn, and the NEKDC is borrowing money to complete construction, which involves renovations to the historic barn and a new two-story accelerator building alongside it. The NEKDC is also forming a subsidiary to receive New Markets Tax Credits for the project, which will minimize long-term debt on the project. In May, the NEKDC signed a long-term ground lease with the Town of Hardwick to manage and operate the Yellow Barn once construction is complete. We will be responsible for managing subleases as well as the day-to-day operational demands. The new construction will allow Jasper Hill to amplify their cheese aging capacity and create employment opportunities. The Yellow Barn will be rehabilitated into a cheese retail destination operated by Cabot, who will showcase other local producers along with their signature cheese. The barn’s location on the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail is guaranteed to become a major draw for trail users and is certain to result in increased business for Hardwick. We also have an accelerator tenant: the Center for an Agricultural Economy’s expanding supply-chain facilitation services, which support food producers who are too small or rural to be served by traditional distributors. The Yellow Barn is tax exempt, but we will make PILOT payments to the Town, (PILOT stands for “payment in lieu of tax”), achieving full valuation of the municipal share by Year 7. It’s been nearly two years since the start of the



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pandemic, and we continue to encounter challenges in the construction sector, due to global supply chain issues and rising prices. However, we are now focused on a mid-2022 construction start. You can learn more about the NEKDC and the Hardwick Yellow Barn at [http://nvda.net/yellow\\_barn/](http://nvda.net/yellow_barn/). Please note that the NEKDC does not receive, nor does it seek, an appropriation from the Town. Rather the terms of our executed ground lease require us to prepare a letter to the voters of Hardwick annually, in the interest of transparency. We value our partnership with the Town of Hardwick on this very important project, and we look forward to celebrating with you at the groundbreaking ceremony this year.

*NEKDC Board of Directors:  
Minty Conant, President  
Kim Butler, Richard Isabelle,  
Eric Remick, Tom Robinson,  
and David Snedeker*

### **Hardwick Community Television**

Hardwick Community Television – Comcast Channel 1080 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 2022, HCTV will be continuing to cover regular Select Board Meetings, Hazen Varsity Sports, Hardwick Electric Meetings, School Board Meetings, and other community events. We will offer free video workshops- a free “Vid-kids” workshop for area children to work creatively with video. In 2021, HCTV has maintained full internet accessibility to locally made programs. Every program is archived and available for viewing at [www.hctv.us](http://www.hctv.us). We also post each program on the Hardwick Community Television Facebook page. This includes Hazen Varsity Basketball, Baseball and Soccer games, Hardwick Select Board, the Memorial Day Parade, Jeudevine Library Events, Hardwick Electric 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 <https://www.hctv.us> at the time of the actual event. As always, HCTV’s full broadcast schedule can be viewed on Channel 1080 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. New

in 2021 is the Vermont Community Television Statewide HD Channel, which is available on Comcast Channel 1070 and on the [www.hctv.us](http://www.hctv.us) website. In 2022, HCTV will broadcast Hazen Union JV and Varsity Basketball, Varsity Baseball, and Varsity Soccer games. The games will be announced with full play-by-play and broadcast on the cable channel and the website. These games offer underwriting opportunities for local businesses to promote themselves while supporting HCTV and community events. 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.

*Michael Gray  
HCTV President*

### **Hardwick Area Food Pantry**

For our little pantry, 2021 was a big year. With incredible community support and collaboration, we have expanded to bring Craftsbury and Albany food shares securely under the umbrella of the Hardwick Area Food Pantry (HAFP). In the midst of the pandemic, all three sites kept their doors open and expanded services to our communities. We are extremely fortunate to be able to partner with the United Church of Christ in Craftsbury, the Town Hall in Albany, and St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church in Hardwick for the spaces out of which our programs operate. In this first year of a multi-site operation, **the number of participating households is almost three times greater than it was pre-Covid.** The new Craftsbury and Albany satellites have become Vermont Foodbank members and consistently account for more than half of the households served across the three sites. Among the collaborations fueled by the expansion, we are especially excited by the success of

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a new home delivery service reaching into six towns in order to address the transportation barriers experienced by so many in our rural setting. The collaboration has mobilized an unprecedented number of new volunteers and strong community engagement in support of the program. We are also proud of our growing capacity for sourcing from local farmers and food producers. Making fresh, quality food available to all is central to our mission. Supporting local growers while nourishing families is a virtuous cycle with waves of positive impact throughout the community.

*HAFP Board: Ruby Baker, Reeve Basom, Gina Campoli, Hannah Dreissigacker, Alice Fleeer, Erika Karp, Jake Lester, Diana Peduzzi, Regina Troiano, John Tuth*

*LauraLee Sweeney, Director:*

*[director@hardwickareafoodpantry.org](mailto:director@hardwickareafoodpantry.org)*

*Kris Coville, Satellite Site*

*Coordinator: [kris@hardwickareafoodpantry.org](mailto:kris@hardwickareafoodpantry.org)*

### **Northeast Kingdom Arts Council** **(Hardwick Town House)**

The mission and purpose of NEKArts is to preserve and operate the historic Hardwick Town House as a center for entertainment, education, and community engagement. 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 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 will actively pursue both public and private funding necessary to further rehabilitate this historic town asset. Though 2021 was another quiet year for indoor gatherings, live events did return to the Hardwick Town House. From June to October, we hosted the Craftsbury Chamber Players, the Greensboro Arts Alliance, the Hazen Drama Club, the Galaxy Bookshop, Modern Times Theater, and a summer-long series of Open House Saturdays. The thrill of welcoming neighbors and friends old and new into the space simply cannot be understated. We also rigged

our projection screen from the stage ceiling so that it lowers and raises completely out of sight, and even hosted our first ever lemonade stand on the front lawn. This trend of community engagement, combined with more and more people travelling directly past the Town House on the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail, all point to a bright future. The NEKArts Board continues to build its vision for that future. In September, we applied for and received a \$5,000 COVID-relief grant from the Vermont Arts Council/Vermont Humanities Council that will help offset our operating costs and provide a space for continued community gathering. We're eager to host what the community, asked for in last year's survey: open mic nights, lectures and discussions, talent shows, community theater, comedy, dance parties, film screenings, and more. We are also in the design stages of fabricating a new sign to highlight Hardwick's Historical District. Simultaneously we are moving forward with our plans for constructing an enclosed fire-escape, interior loading area, and a wheelchair lift to the stage. These upgrades will dramatically improve the safety of patrons seated in the balcony and make the stage ADA compliant for the first time. The previously awarded \$50,000 from the Preservation Trust of Vermont through its partnership with the Freeman Foundation continues to seed this project, fundraising activities are crucial and continue toward achieving this transformative project, which will turn the Town House into a safer, more inclusive and active space for all. If you would like to support NEKArts Council and know more about what is happening at the Hardwick Town House visit <http://hardwicktownhouse.org/> or on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/hardwicktownhouse>.

*Hardwick Town House (NEKArts Council) Board of Directors ~ Shari Cornish, David Gross, Tess Martin, Sally Anstey, Annie Houston, Brent McCoy, Maya McCoy, Barbara Graham, and Lynn Angebrannt*

### **North Country Animal League**

On behalf of the board, staff, volunteers, and the animals, thank you for your past financial support. North Country Animal League (NCAL) respectfully submits a request for \$2,100 in Town appropriation funds for the year 2022. These funds help us fulfill our mission of promoting compassionate and responsible relationships between animals and humans through education and adoptions, spay/neuter programs, support of cruelty prevention, and the sheltering of

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homeless animals. NCAL has accepted 17 stray or surrendered animals into our shelter thus far in 2021 from Hardwick. These 17 strays or surrenders amount to an approximate expense to NCAL of \$12,325 when using a minimum average expense of \$725 per animal for care, feeding and medical needs before adoption. Our adoption fees of \$275 per dog and \$100 per cat pay only a small amount of the expenses incurred: spay/neuter, deworming, vaccines, emergency medical, food and care. To ensure the adoption of homeless animals, we must keep our adoption fees as affordable as possible. We seek town-wide community support for our local stray and unwanted animals and help to provide them with humane care and permanent placement. Daily boarding fees at private kennels average \$25 per day. To board animals with an average stay of 22 days before adoption, your town would have spent a minimum of \$9,350 to house these strays, not including medical treatment, adoption services, overhead of staff and building, etc. NCAL is the best humane and financial solution for Hardwick's stray and unwanted animals. In addition to taking Hardwick's stray and surrendered animals, we served Hardwick families through our NCAL Meals outreach, adoptions and humane education programs. Our NCAL Meals program is a free pet food assistance program that began in 2020, in response to the pandemic, to provide much-needed monthly assistance to vulnerable families and pets in our community. In 2021, NCAL Meals has served 45 families in our community, providing 4,660 pounds of food for 86 pets in their homes. Our Humane Education programs serve over 217 local children annually through opportunities that teach compassion and responsibility with animals. These efforts include Humane Heroes summer camps, Horsemanship camps, riding lessons and afterschool horsemanship program. Our financial assistance towards tuition ensures all families, regardless of their financial status, can access these programs. Thank you for your consideration of our request for annual support from Hardwick, without which many animals would suffer from cruelty or be needlessly euthanized. Together, we are creating a more humane community.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Tracy Goldfine  
Executive Director*

#### **Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging**

For over 42 years, the Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging has been a valued and trusted resource for older

Vermonters to age independently, their way. Our mission is to deliver the person-centered support necessary for our older Vermonters 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 dietitian. 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 over 370 volunteers who serve as home-delivered meal drivers, wellness program leaders, friends who make neighborly check-in phone calls, and home-based caregivers. Our service area extends across the entire Northeast Kingdom. During this past year, 187 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, and transportation, among other services. Our website [www.nekcouncil.org](http://www.nekcouncil.org) provides information on many of our programs and services. 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 private 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 Helpline: 800-642-5119. The Staff at the NEK Council on Aging wish to extend a special note of thanks to all the residents of the Towns that supported us with an appropriation or donation during the COVID-19 pandemic. Requests for our services increased substantially and we remain grateful for the support of all our friends in the Northeast Kingdom as we continue to help our elders to remain healthy and safe.

*In gratitude,  
Meg Burmeister  
Executive Director*

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### **Rural Community Transportation, Inc.**

Rural Community Transportation, Inc. (RCT), is a private nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation which has provided public transportation services throughout Caledonia, Orleans, and Essex Counties since 1991, and now serves Lamoille County. RCT operates fare-free shuttle and commuter bus routes, allowing connections between towns in our region and the ability to travel throughout Vermont and beyond. RCT also provides demand-response transportation services under several programs, such as Medicaid, the Elderly & Disabled program, and Rides 2 Wellness. RCT runs four commuter routes to enhance access to employment, connecting Morrisville to the towns of Barre and Waterbury, and St. Johnsbury to Montpelier and to Littleton. We operate three shuttle routes tying Morrisville, Newport/Derby, and St. Johnsbury/Lyndonville residents and nearby Vermonters to essential locations, from grocery stores to medical centers. Shopping routes provide similar service spanning Morrisville and Stowe in the west, Newport and surrounding towns in the north, and Lyndon to New Hampshire in the east. A number of our 9,000 riders utilizing 74,000 trips in FY2021 have expressed their gratitude and noted their dependence on our services. Though the COVID-19 pandemic and RCT's practices of social distancing, mask requirement, and vehicle sanitization have had an impact on its passenger load, we have continued to operate uninterrupted and strive to provide safe, reliable, accessible, and affordable transportation. In FY2019, we provided over 300,000 rides; in FY2021, ridership decreased by about half. RCT continues to be greatly impacted by the pandemic; however, we are now operating at 100% capacity and do our part to keep healthy and safe those who may not have another means of pandemic-sensitive transportation. RCT gratefully benefits from a robust volunteer program, with fifty-five volunteers providing rides to neighbors and those needing non-shuttle transportation to access vital services. We depend on our volunteers to help meet the needs of their neighbors near and far. RCT operates with federal and state funding; however, our funding sources typically require between 20% and 50% locally matched dollars. All town appropriations received are used to provide the required local match and are therefore crucial to RCT's operations. Your generosity allows RCT to transform your funding into the ability to thrive, grow, and provide your community with reliable quality transportation service.

### **NEK Broadband Communications**

#### **Union District**

A Communications Union District (CUD) is a municipal entity made up of multiple towns. Our district is building fiber-optic based internet access that has a capacity far beyond most current services available. Each town appoints at least one representative to our Governing Board, which has chosen to develop a publicly owned network. We are excited to share the progress we've made towards bringing high-speed internet to the 50 member towns of NEK Broadband. Our pilot project in Concord, Waterford and Lunenburg will offer 100 Mbps symmetrical service or higher to 342 addresses in late 2021 and early 2022. We've received additional state and federal grant funding and are finalizing plans for a full-length construction season beginning the spring of 2022. The organization has matured with the addition of three key partners. The National Rural Telecommunications Cooperative (NRTC) is experienced in design, construction management, and materials procurement. Waitsfield Champlain Valley Telecom (WCVT) will be our network operator and internet service provider. WCVT brings over a century of experience in telecommunications and provides all the modern services customers expect. Mission Broadband serves as an advisor and adjunct staff. **Member Towns:** All but these five Towns in the Northeast Kingdom (Caledonia, Essex, and Orleans counties) have joined the district: Granby, Jay, Lemington, Norton, Victory. Wolcott in Lamoille County is also a member. **Project Plans:** The overall project will require roughly \$140 million and take at least five years to complete. Funding will be through grants and municipal revenue bonds, as well as income from subscribers. The team is establishing technical standards as well as analysis of all locations and their current internet access. Utility pole surveys are in progress, fiber optic cable has been ordered, and we will be ready to continue construction in the spring of 2022. **Grants Received:** NEK Broadband has received three different federal grants totaling \$1,045,000 for the Concord-Lunenburg-Waterford project, which began construction in November 2021. We have been awarded almost \$7 million for designing the entire network, hiring additional staff, and preparing for the 2022 construction season. Smaller grants were received from Vermont Community Foundation, Northeastern Vermont Development Association, Northern Community Investment Corporation, and Northern Enterprises.

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**Obligations:** Community National Bank Letter of Credit (\$3.5 million); Northern Enterprises loan (\$80,000).

*Evan Carlson  
Board Chair*

### **Town Clerk Report**

2020-2021 brought on a great deal of challenges working through COVID-19 here in the Hardwick Town Clerk's Office. We have continued to work on the Town Clerk's page of the Town's [hardwickvt.org](http://hardwickvt.org) website. Making election information and results, Water & Sewer information and rates, Property Tax information and rates, forms, and documents easily available to the Hardwick community. This continues to be a work in progress. The Hardwick Town Clerk's Office continues to be very happy with our Credit Card and E-Check payment options. Access to making payments through Municipay is available on our website. Please note the fees for processing these payments are the responsibility of the customer. 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 [hardwickvt.org](http://hardwickvt.org), highlight the Government tab, and click the Tax Maps link to be able to locate the information that you may need. Both options are available from the same link. The Town Clerk's Office began using a new digital record recording system for our land records in October 2020. The Cott System Record Hub program was initially paid for by a COVID grant from the State of Vermont. This system has allowed us to digitize 40 years of records by Volume with records from 2016 - the current year accessible by name. DMV registration renewal service is still offered at our office. To renew your registration with our office the following items are required: Your registration renewal form from the Vermont Department of Motor Vehicles. Please note renewals over 2 months past due will have to be renewed through the DMV. A check or money order made out to Vermont DMV for the registration fee. (Cash or credit card cannot be accepted.) There is a \$3.00 processing fee that can be cash or check made out to the "Town of Hardwick". From July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021, the Town Clerk's Office processed 72 renewals with revenue of \$216.00. 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 fees beginning April 1, 2022, to register in Hardwick will be: Spayed/Neutered - \$9.00 or Non-Spayed/Neutered - \$13.00 – after April 1<sup>st</sup> late fees are applied. The changes that the State of Vermont made regarding the process for getting certified copies of Vital Records back on July 1, 2019, have continued to give the Town Clerk's Office an influx of certified copy requests since 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. As many of you are already aware October 2021 was 20 years I have worked for the Town of Hardwick in the Town Clerk's Office. After a great deal of soul searching, I have decided not to run for the Town Clerk and Treasurer at Town Meeting in March 2022. Instead, my Assistant Tonia Chase, who has been working for me and training with me since July 2018, will be putting her name on the ballot for the offices. To make the transition as smooth as possible should Tonia be elected, I have agreed to let her appoint me as her Assistant Town Clerk and Treasurer for at least a year. I have genuinely loved my job and, as a lifelong Hardwickian, I have been proud to serve in this office in this community. I want to thank everyone in the Town of Hardwick for electing me to these very important offices since the retirement of Jerry Hall in 2004. And a very special thank you to Jerry Hall for hiring me as your assistant and putting your faith in me as you trained me to run for Town Clerk and Treasurer all those years ago. To Betty Dukette for stepping back in to help train me in 2001, and to Sue Cross and Tonia Chase for being my right hand through all the ups and downs that we have had in municipal government.

*Alberta Miller  
Town Clerk/Treasurer*

### **Select Board Report**

Last year when I wrote the Select Board report, I would not have predicted that the pandemic would still be raging around the world and yet here we are again trying to decide whether to hold a regular Town Meeting or whether to put everything on Australian Ballot again. By sending absentee ballots to all voters last year, we were able to get relatively high turnout but the act of participating in a paper ballot election is just not the same as participating in Town Meeting. When you fill out a ballot there is no opportunity to ask questions about the budget or about a particular

appropriation. There is no chance to just stand up and provide direct feedback to the Select Board and to the Town. There is no discussion at all. A paper ballot is a much-diminished form of participation compared to a meeting. Nevertheless, it may be in everyone's best interest to go the paper ballot route for one last year. The budget the Select Board is recommending to you this year was prepared, as always, by trying to assign the most realistic cost estimates to providing Town services. While there are no momentous changes, there are a few things in the budget that I'd like to call attention to. First, the Police Department budget has been trimmed to reflect the loss of the Greensboro contract. Though we've made substantial cuts, this department budget will be sufficient to provide public safety services that residents expect. The net cost to Hardwick (when taking into account the cuts and also the loss in revenue from Greensboro) is still about \$60k more than last year. This outcome illustrates the point that sharing police services across towns is advantageous to all. In the coming year we will explore contracting police services to neighboring towns. The second point is that we've added \$175k of our fund balance into the budget for FY2023. This move is prompted by two main factors: that our auditors tell us that our fund balance is getting too large at \$1.2M and that we're underfunded for some capital expenses. Moving money from the fund balance into capital accounts is a reasonable transfer for the Town and it will allow us to complete projects (such as paving Center Road) on schedule without drastically increasing taxes. The third and final point on this year's budget is that we've decreased many lines to align with the last known actual amount spent on that category. While we always try to base the new budget on the last known actuals, this year we've done more downward adjusting than in recent years. All these changes net out to a projected increase in municipal property taxes of just over 3%. The past year saw big changes in the Town Manager's office. After Shaun Fielder resigned as Town Manager, Jon Jewett stepped in as interim Town Manager while the Select Board conducted a search for a new Town Manager. The Select Board thanks Jon for serving the Town (again)! We'd also like to thank everyone who helped with the search especially the folks who joined our Ad-Hoc Town Manager Search Committee. After an exhaustive search, the Select Board selected David Upson, Jr. as our new Town Manager. David grew up in Hardwick and graduated from Hazen Union School which gives him an insider's perspective on Hardwick.

From his previous professional experience, David brings a wealth of technical knowledge about water and wastewater and a nuanced understanding of policing. We are exceptionally pleased to have David as our new Town Manager, and we look forward to working with him for years to come. In closing, I want to thank all the Town employees for their hard work and dedication to the Town. It's been another rough year and the Town employees have done a great job keeping everything running and up to snuff.

*Eric Remick*  
*Select Board Chair*

### **Town Manager Report**

The word pride comes to mind when I think of Hardwick. There are folks that have called the Town their home for generations and those that have recently made Hardwick their home. Together, we are a strong community, and when it comes to challenges we face, I believe we can all unite to accomplish those tasks. In the next few years, Hardwick will see even more noticeable uptick in tourism coming to the state and the Northeast Kingdom. Visitors driving through our town will have an option to stop and check out the Yellow Barn and Business Accelerator project slated to begin in the early Spring, and after a tour of a cheese production line, they will take to their bike or walk on the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail (LVRT) slated to be finished in November of 2022. A short loop off the LVRT will bring folks into the downtown for even closer look at what our community is about and has to offer. Hardwick needs to be ready to accept the influx of folks coming into our community not only for a day of shopping and recreation but also for those folks that see the strength and vibrancy of our community that will want to make it their home. If I were an outsider, I would want to make Hardwick my home. With the desire of more folks wanting to call Hardwick home, a new set of challenges come to the surface, areas such as housing, roads, water and wastewater infrastructure, and availability of goods and services. We are not alone with these challenges. They are a focus of many towns in Vermont communities and nationwide, but it is our job as a small community to stay informed as to how those changes will affect our systems, systems that have been in place for many years and will need to be in place for many years to come. It is my job as your Town Manager to think critically and problem solve to save where we can and invest when necessary but what I need from my community is to stay informed and ask questions about potential changes

they are affected by. This isn't about the other side or a different opinion on a matter, it is about moving forward with a common focus and working as one community. We need to have open minds and the ability to have the hard conversations with others to move to common ground. The more we work together, the more you pay attention to, and the more questions you ask, the greater potential for success. My door is always open and I am happy to have those hard conversations about the future and growth, which will affect our community whether we are ready or not.

*David Upson*  
*Town Manager*

### **Hardwick Police Department**

In the year ending June 30, 2021, Hardwick Police responded to 2,673 calls for service. There were 88 criminal arrests by Hardwick Police Officers. The categories with the highest number of arrests were: Driving with a criminally suspended license (31), Violation of Conditions of Release (6), Petit Larceny (6), Fugitive from Justice (5), Domestic Assault (5), and Sale of Narcotics (4). A combination of 386 tickets and warnings were issued by Hardwick Police Officers during fiscal year 2021. The "Take Back Drugs" program continues to be utilized by many of the residents of Hardwick and surrounding communities. The Drug Drop Box in our lobby is available to drop off unused drugs anytime. This program continues to be highly effective in getting unused prescription drugs out of the community. This past year has continued to be challenging with the pandemic and changes in personnel. We also have one of our officers away on deployment with the Vermont National Guard. We continue to take safety precautions and modified how we conduct our business to keep both the public and our Officers safe. We continue to provide coverage to the citizens of Hardwick on a 24/7 basis. We are always training to be able to provide better service to our citizens. The Officers of the Hardwick Police Department would like to thank the Hardwick community for their strong support and in assisting the Hardwick Police. Wishing everyone a safe and healthy year.

*Sincerely,*  
*Hardwick Police Department*

### **Hardwick Fire Department Report:**

The Hardwick Fire Department responded to a total of 63 calls this past year. Call volume was down this year due to a large reduction in vehicle accidents.

4 structure fire  
9 medical assists  
5 miscellaneous  
5 carbon monoxide  
2 car fires  
16 alarms  
9 mutual aids  
4 hazmat  
2 grass fires

I would like to thank the members for their dedication to the department and the community for their great support. Our new truck will be in the firehouse by the end of January after being delayed for 6 months.

*Tom Fadden*  
*Fire Chief*

### **Jeudevine Memorial Library**

Fiscal Year 2021 was a year like no other for our personal lives and our work. 2019-2020 had seen the rise of COVID, lockdowns, curbside pick-up and then finally the reopening of the library to visitors wearing masks. During the summer we had outdoor programming and worked with the Hardwick Neighbors group helping people and putting on outside movies. Fall 2020 arrived along with more cases of COVID. We went back to doing curbside pick-up only. Our relationships with those library patrons deepened as many depended on the staff to choose books for them. A number of people said we chose better books than they did themselves! By the winter and spring vaccines were becoming available. With warmer weather the library could open windows for air exchange, so we reopened to the public on May 14, restricting numbers to 4 people or one family. By July 14 we were open without restrictions for vaccinated people. Unvaccinated people were required to wear masks. However, with the Delta variant surging, we went back to requiring masks for all staff and visitors by the fall 2021. Our circulation decreased by 1,906 from the previous year. The average circulation of the pre-pandemic years was 14,666, so the circulation was 2,712 off the average. Understandably the number of visitors to the library was way down since most of the year we had curbside pick-up only or visits by appointment. We did increase our hours during the year to accommodate more visitors, but that wasn't enough to bring the numbers

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anywhere near the pre-pandemic average of 11,653. As for our expansion plans, prices for construction increased by 50% across the county. We had raised the original cost of the project, but we needed more funds. We sent out a fundraising letter in May 2021 and received an additional \$47,994. There were yard sales, lemonade stands and donut sales for the expansion. We also received \$200,000 from a donor who grew up in Hardwick. The Hardwick Select Board met and agreed to support our project up to \$2 million. We shaved off many items that weren't essential to get the main library built, but the requirement of a full \$200,000 contingency (10% for unexpected overruns) put the project still out of reach. The Chair of the Library Board, Jodi Lew-Smith heard from Senator Leahy's office that our project had been selected for a \$600,000 earmark via the national budget, however the money won't be secured until the Federal budget passes. As the taxpayers couldn't be expected to back that risk, in July 2021 the Library Board voted to put the project on hold. It is our hope that some of the increased building costs will have gone down by next spring and the earmark money from Senator Leahy's office will be confirmed. The library continues to do fundraising for the project. Joyce Slayton Mitchell proposed a fundraiser with her newest book, *Landmark Memories, A Vermont Village 1930s – 1950s*, a memoir of her childhood in Hardwick. Joyce and her publisher, Green Writer's Press, allowed us to purchase 100 copies of the book at half-price, sell them at full price. All the profit went to the Jeudevine Expansion Fund. Another fundraising letter went out this fall, and more fundraising is happening. In many local stores, there are cans for your spare change! Coming Feb 1<sup>st</sup>, we'll have a contest to see who comes the closest to guessing the number of pennies that Ross Connelly and his late wife, Susan, stuffed into a carboy. Come by the library and buy a chance! There will be prizes! The pandemic continues to affect all our lives, with the most infectious variant bringing the number of daily cases to the highest point so far. We wanted to keep the library open, so we invested in two air purifiers which clear the air of small particles and viruses. We require masks so that everyone is as safe as possible in the library. We do hope that the pandemic will fade away in 2022 and that construction will begin on our addition. We continue to help people with their computers, smart phones, scanning, faxing, copying and more. Give us a call: 472-5948!

*Lisa Sammet  
Library Director*

### **Hardwick Recreation Committee**

Hey neighbors! As the new Hardwick Recreation Coordinator, I am writing this update with what the Hardwick Recreation Committee provided to the greater Hardwick community during 2021. The Hardwick Recreation Committee had to assess what we could do and could not do regarding the current state of the COVID-19 pandemic still being present in our community. We decided that we would keep the annual Easter Egg Hunt and modify it according to COVID guidelines - we had a record number of easter eggs this year! Over the summer we worked on maintaining and adjusting the new playground at Mackville Pond and have seen it get a lot of use over the warmer months. A major success this year was The Hardwick Trails Committee and Hardwick Recreation Committee collaborating in securing a \$10,000 grant to clean up and improve existing trails in the Hardwick Trail network! The committee had a very successful Green Up Day event with a huge turnout. We made a few attempts to bring some activities to the Farmer's Market, and provided funds for REACH! and their programming, purchased new snowshoes for the Hardwick Trails cabin. In the fall we brainstormed with several community members (which has resulted in monetary assistance) regarding updating the local tennis courts. As fall approached, we held a COVID safe outdoor "Movie Night" at Atkins Field and followed that up by partnering on the second annual "Trunk or Treat" as a safe outdoor alternative for trick-or-treaters. As the weather became colder and the holidays approached, we held the holiday light contest to encourage the community to decorate and welcome in the holidays! We assembled the ice rink at Atkins Field with the help of many seasoned and new volunteers! Unfortunately, due to a damaged liner the rink was postponed until further notice. All events and activities (minus Green Up Day) were kept well below budget, thus resulting in a surplus. The committee has struggled this year trying to recruit and maintain volunteer members. If interested in more info on joining the committee, or sharing input on how to grow Hardwick's recreation opportunities please reach out to: [recreation.committee@hardwickvt.org](mailto:recreation.committee@hardwickvt.org)

*Jason Bahner,  
Recreation Coordinator  
Recreation Committee:  
Holly Bolio, Rhonda Hess,  
and Mallory Greaves*



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### **Hardwick Trails Committee**

This past winter, many found use of the Hazen Trails an antidote to the isolation of the pandemic. The Hardwick Trails committee volunteers regularly groomed the trails, and many more people used the trails. Skis, boots, and pole sets were loaned on a seasonal basis to increase access. The REACH program hosted enthusiastic Hardwick Elementary school students, who were fully outfitted with equipment. Committee volunteers staffed the cabin, helped with equipment distribution, and provided supervision during sessions. Prompted by COVID-19 to develop alternative instructional strategies, volunteers repurposed the trails as an alternative “nature’s classroom”. In the late spring, the Hardwick Trails committee partnered with the Jeudevine Library and the “Dare to Be Me” Hazen program to construct a “Storywalk”. Trailgoers follow ‘stations’ that contain pages of a story and are spaced along a readily accessible trailside. “Dare to Be Me” program participants authored and illustrated the first book. The Jeudevine library will rotate book offerings throughout the year. Local naturalists returned to guide Nature walks this summer and REACH once again used the trails as a centerpiece of their programming. Committee members updated maps and signage. We collaborated with the town Recreational Committee to secure a \$10,000 Northern Forest Recreation and Infrastructure grant, aimed at improving the trails. The Committee held a strategic planning meeting in late June to chart a course for the next five years. We organized a gathering of family, trails committee members and community members in September to honor Larry Michaels. Larry had initiated the development of the Hardwick Trails. We chose to name one of the inner trails “Larry’s Legacy” in his honor. We reinstituted the Pumpkin Walk, which was held virtually in 2019, on an in-person, but smaller, scale this year. Once again, the Hardwick Trails Committee secured pumpkins for every HE student to craft in art class and display trailside. Attendance was limited to Hardwick Elementary school students and family members. The trails group was delighted to revive this popular annual fall event. The Hardwick Trails Committee is participating in plans for optimizing the new Rail Trail system that will be completed through town this coming summer. This trail will span Vermont from St. Johnsbury to St. Albans. A large increase in recreational tourism is anticipated. A spur trail up to the Hazen woods will invite trail users to explore our trail network. The

committee has contributed to grant development to ensure readiness for increased recreational use.

*Respectfully submitted by  
Helen Beattie*

### **Hardwick Equity Committee**

The Equity Committee mission is to strive to make the Town of Hardwick a welcoming, inclusive, and safe community, where all people regardless of race, ethnicity, gender identity or expression of sexual orientation, immigration status, religious or political affiliation can feel protected, included, secure, safe and ensured of equal justice under the law. Currently, the committee is working on developing actions around our three main goals: *Education*: Educate/train ourselves, select board, town employees, and community. *Inclusion & Voices*: amplifying diverse voices and increasing awareness. *Governance*: Review town policies, procedures, and language to ensure inclusion. In March, our committee invited Building Fearless Futures to provide us with a training/conversation around the work that they do and challenges they see in Hardwick. Committee members have identified places in the Town website where the Town can make changes to be more equitable. Over the past year the committee members have been reading and discussing the book *How to be an Anti-Racist* (by Ibram X. Kendi). We have donated extra books to the Jeudevine Library for the public to use. In addition, we partnered with members of the community to present statements to the Selectboard around antisemitism. This Spring we will offer educational recommendations to the Selectboard. We would like to thank Audrey Grant, Beth Cate, and Rutu Shah for serving on the committee over the past year. We are seeking members of all backgrounds to join the equity committee. If you are interested in finding out more about the Equity Committee, please contact [equitycommittee@hardwickvt.org](mailto:equitycommittee@hardwickvt.org)

*Ceilidh Galloway-Kane, Chair  
Lucian Avery, Vice Chair & Secretary  
David O'Brien, Treasurer  
Chip Troiano, Member*

### **Hardwick Energy Committee**

The Energy Committee’s mission is to strive to make the Town of Hardwick a stronger more resilient community. The Hardwick Select Board demonstrated their commitment to our clean energy future August

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19<sup>th</sup> by appointing Bill Chidsey to the open position of Hardwick Energy Coordinator. Initial goals: Forming a Town Energy Committee, building on H.E.A.R.T. (Hardwick Energy Action Resource Team) accomplishments. Reaching out and welcoming citizens, students, and young adults to share their expertise and participate in our regular monthly Energy Committee meetings. Practical building science community training during the ongoing work of upgrading the Town's properties to conserve energy and fuel expenses. Currently: We are accounting the baseline fossil fuel and electricity consumption of our eleven municipal buildings. We have initiated an electrical consumption audit of the treatment plant's production equipment. Hazen and Green Mt. Tech & Career Center students have been invited to participate and join our committee. Regional networking: VECAN, Efficiency Vermont, Hardwick Electric Dept, NEK Regional Energy Committee, Northeastern Vermont Development Association, Energy Action Network, UVM, Craftsbury Energy Committee, Greensboro Energy Committee, Renewable Energy Vermont, VT League of Cities and Towns. 2022 goals: Increasing Energy Committee membership, Devise level municipal building HVAC controls and datalogging, Building Performance grants and implementation and a 50% reduction in municipal building thermal energy fuel consumption within the next three years. Committee Members as of Dec 31, 2021, include Chair: Bill Chidsey. Stakeholder: Vince O'Connell, Commissioner, Hardwick Electric Dept. We would like to thank the Town Manager David Upson, Hardwick Select Board members, Business Manager Casey Rowell, Amanda Fecteau, and Maya McCoy for their extraordinary support. We are seeking members to join the Hardwick Energy Committee. If you are interested in finding out more about the rewarding role you can have, please contact [Energy.Coordinator@hardwickvt.org](mailto:Energy.Coordinator@hardwickvt.org). Your call is always welcome 802-249-6004.

*Sincerely,  
Bill Chidsey*

### **Hardwick Conservation Commission**

With a combination of remote and in-person meetings, the Conservation Commission has been meeting regularly in 2021, though due to covid-19 concerns, we were not in a position to plan many public events. Several of our members took advantage of educational on-line workshops sponsored by VT Fish and Wildlife, and the Agency of Natural Resources. We

joined the Association of Vermont Conservation Commissions. Our hoped-for tree giveaway program through the VT Urban and Community Forest was unfortunately cancelled for 2021. We will apply again when the opportunity arises. In May, our members and volunteers accomplished some much-needed pruning of the crab apple trees planted along Wolcott Street, and the trees also received deep-root fertilizing, thanks to grant money. Some of us think they look better already! In August, we held a walk and talk about identifying Ash trees and signs of Emerald Ash Borer, and in September, we held a pollinator and butterfly walk. We held a public presentation about Natural Resource Inventories in October. An inventory will be invaluable to help make informed decisions regarding land-use, identify important wildlife areas and crossings, and focus land and water conservation efforts to maximize the impact of those efforts. We continue to look for funding options to pay for this, something which is called for in our Town plan. It might take us a year or two to accomplish this, and we will be keeping the public informed with information about the process. By the way, Act 171 was signed into law in 2017, and requires all Town plans "to manage Vermont's forestlands so as to maintain and improve forest blocks and habitat connectors." The Hardwick Town plan now includes this. We would like to remind readers that buying an annual VT Habitat Stamp, whether you are a hunter or not, really helps statewide conservation efforts. "Since 2015, and thanks to the many donors to the program, the Vermont Habitat Stamp has contributed to the conservation of several thousand acres of land, restoration efforts on numerous streams and rivers, and the removal of dysfunctional dams for fish passage... (it) raised more than \$241,968 in 2020 and used that money to leverage more than \$490,802 in federal funds for habitat conservation in Vermont. " ~VT Fish and Wildlife website. People can also donate to the VT Nongame Wildlife Fund on your VT income tax return. There are currently open seats on the Commission, and we will welcome interested and active new members. You may apply by sending a letter of interest to the Select Board. We meet on the third Tuesday of each month.

*Respectfully submitted by Rachel Kane, Co-Chair,  
on behalf of members Renaud Demers,*

*Ben Pougner, Ken Davis,  
Norma Weisen, and Jerry Schneider*

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### **Hardwick Downtown Commission**

The Hardwick Downtown Commission was formed in May of 2021 through resolution of the Select Board. The Town of Hardwick has had a Village Center Designation since February of 2003 with the most recent renewal in March of 2016. The pursuit of Downtown Designation has been a goal/priority in the Hardwick Town Plan; and the 2016 Hardwick Community Visit process identified enhancing Hardwick's Downtown and building a business and economic development network as a priority. Downtown Designation creates this network to further support civic, cultural, and economic activities alongside downtown revitalization. The Hardwick Downtown Commission is the governing body appointed by the Hardwick Select Board that partners with all local and regional allies needed to realize the full potential of Downtown Hardwick. The primary mission is to build a business and economic development network to further support civic, cultural, and economic activities alongside downtown revitalization and the achievement of "Downtown Designation" from the Vermont Department of Housing & Community Development/Downtown Program. The Downtown Commission is made up of 7 individual citizens appointed by the Select Board who will serve to complete the initial application and further serve in two-year appointments as the governing body that will partner with all local and regional allies needed to realize the full potential of downtown Hardwick. Interested individuals are welcome to attend the monthly meetings on the third Monday 9am at Front Seat Coffee. Since its formation the Hardwick Downtown Commission has succeeded in receiving grant awards to further downtown beautification projects to design two new sets of 15 pole banners and enhance the winter lighting decorations; both are efforts to promote a message of welcome and inclusivity to the community members and visitors to downtown. The most recent successful application is for Municipal Planning Grant funding that will be awarded to allow for the hiring of a consultant who will work with the Commissioners to create the organizational framework for a non-profit downtown organization and develop a 5-year strategic plan that will sustain the freestanding downtown organization that is modeled closely on the National Main Street Center model for downtown revitalization. Including the creation of a programmatic approach to identifying and attracting

new businesses that complement Hardwick's downtown business and residential resources.

#### ***Current Downtown Commissioners:***

*Shari Cornish: Business Owner of Whistle Emporium, Member of the Select Board, Planning Commission and NEKArts Council for the Historic Hardwick Town House;*

*Sandy Scott: Business Owner of Galaxy Books;*

*Gary Michaels: Retired Professional;*

*Bethany Dunbar: Community Programs Manager for Center for an Agricultural Economy;*

*Tobin Porter: Business Owner of Front Seat Coffee;*

*Katie Tandy: Business Owner of Birdsong Beer & Wine;*

*Emily Hershberger: General Manager of Buffalo Mountain Coop*

### **Hardwick Listers/Assessor**

This was the final year in a long and appreciated career for the Hardwick Listers. The Town owes a debt of gratitude to Jean Hackett and Jan Howard for their service to the community over many years. Their dedication and knowledge of the area will be missed in the office, as well as their friendship and kindness. It is our hope they will continue to stay in touch and stop by occasionally. Their company is always enjoyed. The Assessor, New England Municipal Consultants (NEMC), completed another year for the Town of Hardwick. NEMC has been the assessing consultant in Hardwick since 2018 and completed the Town-wide Reappraisals in 2006 and 2016. The Assessor assisted the elected Listers in Hardwick with all duties and responsibilities of the office over the fiscal year. Office hours were limited, so we asked you to contact our office by email as the preferred option. We did our best to accommodate requests in a timely manner. Property owners who had active building permits or homes under construction received an inspection attempt in the spring of 2021. Our goal is always to maintain fairness and equity within the community by collecting thorough and accurate data. If an assessment changed in value, a property owner received a letter by mail outlining the change and recourse options. We saw very few appeals as a result. We look forward to another year in the community and are happy to help in any way.

*Matthew Krajewski (NEMC)*

*Assessor*

*(802) 472-4054*

*listers@hardwickvt.org*

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## **Zoning Report**

The Hardwick Planning Commission (HPC) and the Hardwick Development Review Board (DRB) have continued to adjust to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. After a brief return to in-person meetings, both commissions have returned to Zoom meetings with an available physical location at the Memorial Building. We anticipate that outdoor meetings will again take place in the spring and summer months of 2022. Throughout 2021, the Hardwick Planning Commission continued the examination of traffic and pedestrian safety issues in both village centers. Three walkability audits were conducted on West Church Street, Mill Street, and Main Street. The final reports were submitted to the Select Board in November of 2021. The HPC also reviewed the plans for the 2023 repaving project in downtown Hardwick. The Commission was able to utilize the earlier Pedestrian and Traffic Safety Task Force recommendations to improve the final plans. In addition, the Commission facilitated community discussions about the proposed AT&T tower on Buffalo Mountain and the proposed addition to the existing tower on Hopkins Hill Road. The tower proposal for Buffalo Mountain was ultimately withdrawn from consideration by AT&T. The proposed addition on Hopkins Hill Road was reduced in size and scope and continues to be reviewed by the State of Vermont. The HPC hopes to continue with the momentum of the initial reviews of traffic and pedestrian safety issues and to support improvements throughout the Town of Hardwick. Additional work will focus on zoning bylaw updates for potential retail cannabis locations and other zoning issues, and updates to the zoning districts. If you would like to help, the Planning Commission currently has one vacancy. Letters of interest can be submitted to the Town Manager's office. In 2021, the Hardwick Development Review Board reviewed and approved the Jeudevine Memorial Library expansion proposal. Other DRB hearings focused on multiple Flood Plain requests, an expansion of an Industrial Park structure, a new car wash, and a new light industry building. An increase in development requests is anticipated during the upcoming year. If you would like to help, the DRB currently has two vacancies. Again, letters of interest can be submitted to the Town Manager's office.

*Kristen Leahy*  
Zoning Administrator  
(802) 472-1686  
[zoning.administrator@hardwickvt.org](mailto:zoning.administrator@hardwickvt.org)

## **Hardwick Electric Department**

The Hardwick Electric Department (HED) enjoyed a very successful 2021. The commissioning of our 1,650-kilowatt H11 solar project, the replacement of the surge tower foundation at the Wolcott hydro (which supports almost 600,000 pounds of steel and water), several distribution system re-configurations, and the purchase of 5.5 miles of 34,500-volt transmission lines were just a few of the major system improvements that were completed in 2021. These along with all the other projects in 2021 were completed to improve service quality, reliability, and to stabilize costs for all our customers. Expenses for 2021 were under budget, revenues were over budget, and purchased power (single largest annual expense at HED) had a solid performance coming in 1% under budget with a 95% coverage ratio. HED is also happy to share that we were successful in satisfying the annually increasing requirements of the Vermont Renewable Energy Standards for the year. HED hired several new employees in the Business Office this year, the most recent of whom is Beth Essary – HED's Controller and Business Office Supervisor. Beth is a systems expert with our customer billing and accounting systems, she has decades of electric utility experience, and is a Certified Public Accountant. HED completed a GIS pole location project this year using Light Detection and Ranging (Lidar) technology. Gathering this data was necessary for upcoming projects including Automated Metering Infrastructure and implementing an automated outage management system. The data will also be utilized by some of the state CUD's in developing and expanding high speed internet services infrastructure across HED's service territory. HED is very happy to report that the Board of Commissioners successfully brought the Joyce Bellevance embezzlement to final closure in 2021. This was a multi-year effort, but in the end HED was made whole and 100% of the stolen funds were recovered. We are very proud of HED's performance in 2021 and look forward to another successful year of service and performance for our customers in 2022.

*Very Truly Yours,*

*Commissioners:*

*Lynne Gedanken – Chair/Hardwick*

*Nat Smith – Greensboro*

*Roger Prevot – Hardwick*

*Michael Ambrosino – Hardwick*

*Vince O'Connell – Craftsbury*

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<b>CURRENT TAX RECONCILIATION: 7/1/2020 TO 6/30/2021</b>		
MUNICIPAL GRAND LIST AT 1%	\$	1,878,372.00
HOMESTEAD GRAND LIST AT 1%	\$	1,084,027.47
NON RESIDENTIAL GRAND LIST AT 1%	\$	795,634.53
<b>TAXES BILLED ON 8/18/2020</b>		
MUNICIPAL TAXES BILLED	\$	1,209,859.14
HIGHWAY TAXES BILLED	\$	1,204,600.00
LOCAL AGREEMENT BILLED	\$	20,098.81
HOMESTEAD TAXES BILLED	\$	1,963,390.49
NON RESIDENTIAL TAXES BILLED	\$	1,349,123.65
LATE HOMESTEAD PENALTY	\$	-
MISC. BILLING (GARBAGE)	\$	120.00
<b>TOTAL TAXES BILLED</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>5,747,192.09</b>
<b>TAX BOOK BILLING BALANCE 6/30/21</b>		
MUNICIPAL TAXES BILLED	\$	1,210,272.63
HIGHWAY TAXES BILLED	\$	1,205,011.72
LOCAL AGREEMENT BILLED	\$	20,105.69
HOMESTEAD TAXES BILLED	\$	1,995,354.56
NON RESIDENTIAL TAXES BILLED	\$	1,320,080.80
LATE HOMESTEAD PENALTY	\$	1,821.39
MISC. BILLING (GARBAGE)	\$	120.00
<b>TOTAL TAXES BILLED</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>5,752,766.79</b>
<b>COLLECTIONS REPORT 7/1/2020 TO 6/30/2021</b>		
ABATEMENTS	\$	(5,205.05)
ADJUSTMENTS	\$	3,900.96
COLLECTIONS	\$	4,780,063.88
CREDIT REFUNDS ( HS-122 & OVERPAYMENTS)	\$	(15,734.54)
<b>STATE TAX PAYMENTS TO SCHOOL DISTRICT 7/1/2020 TO 6/30/21</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>571,226.80</b>
STATE TAX PAYMENTS TO TOWN OF HARDWICK 7/08/2020	\$	137,359.68
STATE TAX PAYMENT TO TOWN OF HARDWICK 7/29/2020	\$	20,920.61
STATE TAX PAYMENTS TO TOWN OF HARDWICK 9/4/2020	\$	3,345.00
STATE TAX PAYMENTS TO TOWN OF HARDWICK 9/30/2020	\$	1,867.00
STATE TAX PAYMENTS TO TOWN OF HARDWICK 10/29/2020	\$	7,407.00
RETURNED CHECKS	\$	(1,230.49)
PROPERTY TAXES ACCOUNTED FOR ON JUNE 30, 2021	\$	5,503,920.85
DELINQUENTS	\$	250,114.99
<b>PROPERTY TAXES ACCOUNTED FOR ON JUNE 30, 2021</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>5,754,035.84</b>
<b>GENERAL FUND BALANCE AS OF JUNE 30, 2021</b>		
		\$1,190,018.00

## **Dog Licenses:**

<b><u>Town of Hardwick</u></b>			
<b><u>Dog License Report</u></b>			
<b>July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021</b>			
<b><u>Total Number of Licenses</u></b>	<b><u>Price Per License</u></b>	<b><u>Total Collected</u></b>	
7	\$ 3.00	\$	21.00
1	\$ 4.00	\$	4.00
235	\$ 8.00	\$	1,880.00
8	\$ 10.00	\$	80.00
63	\$ 12.00	\$	756.00
1	\$ 16.00	\$	16.00
<b>Total Licenses</b>	364		
1 Kennel Permit	\$ 31.00	\$	31.00
1 Pet Dealer Permit	\$ 25.00	\$	25.00
Late Collection Fees		\$	-
<b>Total Collected for FY21</b>		\$	2,813.00
Fees to State of Vermont		\$	(1,555.00)
<b>Total Revenue for FY21</b>		\$	1,258.00

Due to the COVID-19, the State of Vermont waived late fees for Dog Licenses due on April 1, 2021. In addition, the Town of Hardwick felt it was unsafe to use our usual protocols for delinquent registrations. These factors are the reason our total number of licenses were down for FY21, which also affected our total revenue for the year. We will be working extra hard this coming April to be sure all dogs in the Hardwick area get registered.

## **Vital Records:**

<b><u>Town Clerk's Office</u></b>
<b><u>Vital Records Information:</u></b>
<b>July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021</b>
<b>The following records were filed:</b>
21 Birth Certificates
21 Marriage Certificates
34 Death Certificates

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**Minutes  
For Town of Hardwick Annual Town Meeting  
March 2, 2021**

\*\*Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there was not an in-person meeting held on March 2, 2021. \*\*

In 2021, approval of all Articles and Election of Town Select Board and Union School District No. 26 Directors were voted on by Australian ballot.

**RESULTS OF AUSTRALIAN BALLOT VOTE:**

**Total votes cast: 604**

Article 1. Shall general obligation bonds or notes in the amount not to exceed Two Million Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,200,000.00), subject to reduction by application of federal and state grant-in-aid, and reserve funds for the purpose of financing the cost of upgrading and replacing components of the Town sewer collection system and its wastewater treatment facility, the estimated cost of such improvements being Two Million Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,200,000.00)

**Yes – 428      No – 107**

Article 2. Shall the Town accept the Town Report, year ending June 30, 2020?

**Yes – 516      No – 16**

Article 3. Shall the Town have its current taxes collected by the Town Treasurer?

**Yes – 511      No – 10**

Article 5. Shall the Town vote a budget of three million five hundred twenty-five thousand six hundred twenty-nine dollars (\$3,525,629.00) 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?

**Yes – 384      No – 152**

Article 6. 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?

**Yes – 433      No – 110**

Article 7. 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.?

**Yes – 429      No – 114**

Article 8. 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?

**Yes – 392      No – 148**

Article 9. 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?

**Yes – 421      No – 121**

Article 10. 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?

**Yes – 394      No – 197**

Article 11. 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?

**Yes – 486      No – 64**

Article 12. 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?

**Yes – 491      No – 60**

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Article 13. 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)?

**Yes – 405      No – 144**

Article 14. 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?

**Yes – 431      No – 118**

Article 15. 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)?

**Yes – 365      No – 185**

Article 16. 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?

**Yes – 452      No – 103**

Article 17. 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?

**Yes – 393      No – 147**

Article 18. 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?

**Yes – 405      No – 143**

Article 19: Shall the Town exempt the property of the Hardwick Area Rescue Squad from taxation for a period of five (5) years in accordance with section 3840 of Title 32, VSA?

**Yes – 522      No – 34**

Article 20: Shall the Town exempt the property of the Caspian Lake Lodge Masonic Temple Association, Inc. from taxation for a period of five (5) years in accordance with section 3840 of Title 32, VSA?

**Yes – 318      No – 221**

Article 21: Shall the Town exempt the property of the Caledonia Grange from taxation for a period of five (5) years in accordance with section 3840 of Title 32, VSA?

**Yes – 400      No – 142**

Article 22: Shall the Town exempt the property of the Knights of Columbus Association, Inc. from taxation for a period of five (5) years in accordance with section 3840 of Title 32, VSA?

**Yes – 345      No – 196**

Article 23. 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?

**Yes – 463      No – 79**

Article 24. 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



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an annual municipal tax upon such real property pursuant to provisions of Title 24, VSA, Section 2741?

**Yes – 465      No – 75**

***Election of Officers: All offices are elected for 1 year unless otherwise specified.***

**Town of Hardwick Moderator:**

Orise Ainsworth – 499 (elected)

**Town of Hardwick Select Board – 3-year term:**

Shari Cornish – 451 (elected)

**Town of Hardwick Select Board (2) 1-year terms:**

Gary Bellavance – 366 (elected)

Michael Deering – 323 (elected)

**Hazen Union School District # 26 Director - 3 Year Term:**

Andrew Meyer – 504 (elected)

**Hazen Union School District # 26 Director – 2 years remaining on a 3 Year Term:**

No one elected

**Town of Hardwick Lister - 3 Year Term:**

Josh Allen – 33 (elected)

**Town of Hardwick Auditor – 3 Year Term –**

Michael Morin – 26 (elected)

**Town of Hardwick First Constable:**

Arthur Chase – 36 (elected)

**Town of Hardwick Second Constable:**

Erwin Gilcris – 27 (elected)

**Town of Hardwick Town Agent:**

Karen Holmes – 41 (elected)

**Town of Hardwick Surveyor of Wood Bark and Lumber:**

Lucian Avery – 44 (elected)

**Town of Hardwick Tree Warden:**

Geoffrey Fehrs – 414 (elected)

**Town of Hardwick Grand Juror:**

David Shepard – 27 (elected)

**Town of Hardwick Cemetery Trustees for Main Street:**

Main Street Cemetery Association – 429 (elected)

**Town of Hardwick Cemetery Trustees for Maple Street:**

Maple Street Cemetery Association – 425 (elected)

**Town of Hardwick Cemetery Trustees for Fairview:**

Fairview Cemetery Association – 433 (elected)

**Town of Hardwick Cemetery Trustees for Sanborn:**

Hardwick Select Board – 434 (elected)

**Town of Hardwick Cemetery Trustees for Hardwick Street:**

Hardwick Select Board – 432 (elected)

**Town of Hardwick Library Trustees (2) 3-year terms:**

Jodi Lew-Smith – 107 (elected)

Elizabeth Rossano – 96 (elected)

**Town of Hardwick Trustees of Public Funds:**

Mario Fradette – 30 (elected)

Lorraine Hussey – 24 (elected)

**Town of Hardwick Fence Viewers:**

No one elected

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## **Town of Hardwick Fire Department Officers:**

Voted as a Block - 496 (elected)

Chief: Tom Fadden

1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Chief: Perley Allen

2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Chief: David Hale

Captain: Michael Gravel

1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant: Mike Hall

2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant: Ken LaCasse

3<sup>rd</sup> Lieutenant: Charles Bartlett

Foreman: Lindsey O'Steen

Assistant Foreman: Rick Sullivan

Pipeman: Dave Colburn

Assistant Pipeman: Dana Camp

Axe Man: Devon Whipple

Safety Officer: Davey Chase

Training Officers: Tom Fadden/Perley Allen

Secretary/Treasurer: Jennifer Bellavance

Dispatcher: Lamoille County Sheriff

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*End of Minutes*

# Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District

137 Barre Street, Montpelier, VT 05602 [www.cvswwmd.org](http://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 CVSWM District Board of Supervisors. CVSWM District is committed to providing quality programming, meeting state mandates, and providing information and resources to our member communities. The per capita assessment is set at \$1.00 this year.

In FY21, CVSWM District provided \$6,447.50 in School Zero Waste and Organizational Waste Reduction & Reuse Program Grants, and \$4,483.54 in Green Up Day Grants. The Town of Hardwick received a Green Up Day Grant in the amount of \$400.00. Black Dirt Farm was awarded \$5,000 in Organizational Waste Reduction & Reuse Grant funds to pilot a residential food scrap collection program in the area.

Also in FY21, CVSWM District provided \$9,500.00 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:** CVSWM District sells Green Cone food digesters, Soil Saver composting bins, recycling bins, and kitchen compost buckets to district residents at discounted rates.
- **Outreach and Education:** In FY21, CVSWM District provided 13 workshops and webinars on topics such as recycling, composting, safer cleaning, and reducing toxins in the home.
- **School Programming:** Our School Zero Waste Program works with 26 schools in the District, teaching solid waste lessons in classrooms and facilitating the recycling of paint, bulbs, electronics, batteries and more. In FY21, CVSWM District presented a 3-part virtual program on recycling simultaneously to three middle school classes at Hazen Union High School. Hazen Union was also provided with 25 free classroom recycling bins. Our School Program Coordinator works with maintenance staff and teachers to help schools compost on site and mentor's student groups who lead initiatives toward zero waste in their schools.
- **Special Collections:** In FY21, 5 collection events were held, in which CVSWM District collected 52.1 tons of household hazardous waste, paint, batteries, e-waste, and fluorescent bulbs. 874 households were served, and 85 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 10:30am-5:30pm and every third Saturday from 9am-1pm. 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](http://cvswwmd.org/arcc). In FY21, 237.7 tons of materials were collected and diverted from the landfill, and 23 visitors from Hardwick recycled at the ARCC.
- **Web Site:** CVSWM District posts useful information on what can (and can't) be recycled, what items are banned from the landfill (and how to dispose of those), what items can be recycled at our Additional Recyclables Collection Center (ARCC), what can be composted, how to safely store and dispose of household hazardous waste, leaf and yard waste disposal, Act 148, details about 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.

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# Town of Hardwick General Information:

Visit us at [www.hardwickvt.org](http://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 for convenience, but the mandatory due date for the entire amount 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 through the Town Clerk's Office. Please call 472-5971 or email a request to: [alberta.miller@hardwickvt.org](mailto:alberta.miller@hardwickvt.org) or [tonia.chase@hardwickvt.org](mailto:tonia.chase@hardwickvt.org)

## **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 8:00 A.M. – 10:00 A.M. and by Appointment  
Phone: 472-1686  
Email: [zoning.administrator@hardwickvt.org](mailto:zoning.administrator@hardwickvt.org)

Zoning permits are issued by the Zoning Administrator. 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.

**\*\*\* 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:**

Hardwick Town Garage:	472-6029	Hardwick Area Food Pantry:	472-5940
Hardwick Rescue Squad:	472-6343	Hardwick Health Officer (Richard Brochu):	472-8282
Hardwick Fire Department:	472-5482	Hardwick Water/Wastewater Operator:	472-5939
Hardwick Electric Dept.:	472-5201	Jeudevine Memorial Library:	472-5948

## **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 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) 80 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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 regarding 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

David Upson, Town Manager

*Effective Date 2022-2023*