

2022

Hardwick Town Report



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If you are interested in a copy of the Town 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.gov. If you would like a copy of the Hardwick Electric Department audit report, please contact Hardwick Electric at (802) 472-5201.

Dedication



Richard Michael Brochu, 1950 – 2022

You would have to work hard to find a community-related activity in Hardwick that Richard Brochu didn't help: Kiwanis Club, Historical Society, Knights of Columbus, Hardwick Academy/Hazen Union Alumni Association, Men's Softball League, Rescue Squad, and Select Board, just to name a few. Between May 17, 1962, when he appears as an Alter Boy for a pageant at St. Norbert's, and December 28, 2017, when he's quoted as one of the organizers of the Spring Festival, Richard's name appeared in the *Hardwick Gazette* 850 times – that's more than once a month for 55 years. Frequently he was the subject of a thank you letter for some service or kindness. Equally as often, a reporter contacted him because he was organizing some community event or promoting a good cause.

Born in Greensboro on May 2, 1950, Richard lived almost his entire life in Hardwick. He owned and operated Brochu Citgo Service for over four decades, serving his customers, old and new, with good work at a fair price. He helped all lost travelers that stopped by, even if they were Yankees fans. He sponsored every team or club that ever asked him.

When he was just six, Richard pulled the braids of the girl who sat in front of him in class, Marsha Louise Kallahan. They became friends, and, after their junior prom, a couple. On June 2, 1973, just after he finished his BA from Johnson State College, they married. They settled in Hardwick, had two daughters, and worked to make their home a welcome spot for everyone.

Richard loved the Boston Red Sox, weathering the bad seasons and celebrating the good. He also enjoyed playing sports, especially golf. His Tuesday night round at Mountain View was the highlight of his summer schedule. Good food, good conversation, good laughter, and mediocre beer were never far from Richard.

The Select Board dedicates this Annual Report to Richard as a statement of his community's gratitude for all he did for so long.

TOWN OF HARDWICK OFFICIALS

TOWN MODERATOR Term Expires 2023	Orise Ainsworth
SELECT BOARD 1 Year Term Expires 2023 1 Year Term Expires 2023 3 Year Term Expires 2023 3 Year Term Expires 2024 3 Year Term Expires 2025	Eric Remick Elizabeth Dow Ceilidh Galloway-Kane Shari Cornish Danny Hale
TOWN CLERK & TOWN TREASURER 3 Year Term Expires 2025	Tonia Chase
TOWN AGENT 1 Year Term Expires 2023	Vacant
SURVEYOR OF WOOD, BARK & LUMBER 1 Year Term Expires 2023	Vacant
TREE WARDEN 1 Year Term Expires 2023	Geoffrey Fehrs
TOWN GRAND JUROR 1 Year Term Expires 2023	Vacant
FIRST CONSTABLE 1 Year Term Expires 2023	Vacant
SECOND CONSTABLE 1 Year Term Expires 2023	Vacant

CEMETERY TRUSTEES

1 Year Term Expires 2023

MAIN STREET CEMETERY	Trustees
MAPLE STREET CEMETERY	Trustees
FAIRVIEW CEMETERY	Trustees
SANBORN CEMETERY	Select Board
WEST HILL CEMETERY	Select Board
HARDWICK STREET CEMETERY	Select Board
HARDWICK CENTER CEMETERY	Select Board

DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR

1 Year Term Expires 2023	Town Manager
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LIBRARY TRUSTEES

3 Year Term Expires 2023	Ross Connelly
3 Year Term Expires 2023	Daphne Kalmar
3 Year Term Expires 2023 – Appointed for 1 year remaining on 3-year term	Kathleen Sampson
3 Year Term Expires 2023 – Appointed for 1 year remaining on 3-year term	Andrea Brightenbach
3 Year Term Expires 2023 – Appointed for 1 year remaining on 3-year term	Brendan Buckley
3 Year Term Expires 2024	Myles Tandy
3 Year Term Expires 2024	Jodi Lew-Smith

FIRE DEPARTMENT

1 Year Term Expires 2023

Chief	Tom Fadden
1 st Assistant Chief	Perley Allen
2 nd Assistant Chief	Rick Sullivan
Captain	Mike Gravel
1 st Lieutenant	Mike Hall
2 nd Lieutenant	Ken LaCasse
3 rd Lieutenant	Charles Bartlett
Foreman	Lindsey O'Steen
Assistant Foreman	Dana Camp
Pipeman	Dave Colburn
Assistant Pipeman	Joe Donna
Axe Man	Codey Marckres
Safety Officer	Davey Chase
Training Officers	Tom Fadden/Perley Allen
Secretary/Treasurer	Jennifer Bellavance
Dispatcher	Lamoille County Sheriff

SCHOOL DIRECTORS - HARDWICK

Term Expires 2023 – Appointed	Adam Gann
Term Expires 2023	Mandy Spaulding
Term Expires 2024	Terri Vest
Term Expires 2024	Vincent Razonale
Term Expires 2025	Kevin Moore

HAZEN UNION DIRECTORS – HARDWICK

Term Expires 2023 – Appointed	Rose Friedman
Term Expires 2023	Brett Stanciu
Term Expires 2024	Andrew Meyer
Term Expires 2025	Patrick Kane

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

HARDWICK CONSERVATION COMMISSION	
2 Year Term Expires 2023	Vacant
2 Year Term Expires 2023	Ken Davis
4 Year Term Expires 2023	Vacant
4 Year Term Expires 2023	Rachel Kane
4 Year Term Expires 2024	Norma Wiesen
4 Year Term Expires 2024	Ben Pougner
4 Year Term Expires 2024	Jerry Schneider
3 Year Term Expires 2025	Kathy Hemmens
3 Year Term Expires 2025	Lucy Zendzian
EQUITY COMMITTEE	
Chair	Ceilidh Galloway-Kane
Vice Chair/Secretary	Lucian Avery
Treasurer	David O'Brien
Member	Chip Troiano
Member	Bradford Smith
Member	Vacant
RECREATION COMMITTEE	
Chair	Mallory Greaves
Vice Chair	Emily Varvir
Secretary	Lanna Lawson
Treasurer	Samantha Collins
Member	Emily Hale
Member	Sara Behrsing
Recreation Coordinator	Jason Bahner
HARDWICK ELECTRIC COMMISSIONERS	
2 Year Term Expires 2023	Lynn Gedanken
3 Year Term Expires 2023	Vince O'Connell
2 Year Term Expires 2024	Roger Prevot
3 Year Term Expires 2024	Nat Smith
2 Year Term Expires 2025	Michael Ambrosino
HARDWICK PLANNING COMMISSION	
3 Year Term Expires 2023	Ken Davis
3 Year Term Expires 2023	Shari Cornish
3 Year Term Expires 2023	Vacant
3 Year Term Expires 2024	Jim Lewis
3 Year Term Expires 2024	Joyce Mandeville
3 Year Term Expires 2024	Michael Haveson
3 Year Term Expires 2025	Dave Gross
HARDWICK DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD	
3 Year Term Expires 2023	John Mandeville
3 Year Term Expires 2023	Kole
3 Year Term Expires 2024	Ruth Gaillard
3 Year Term Expires 2024	Vacant
3 Year Term Expires 2024	Helm Notterman
3 Year Term Expires 2025	Kate Brook
3 Year Term Expires 2025	Vacant
TOWN ENERGY COMMITTEE	
	Bill Chidsey

What are the roles of the Town Officials? This question comes up frequently. People may not seek out serving in roles within the Town because they may not understand what the position is and what is expected of them. Here is a brief overview of the various positions and what is expected of the people in these roles.

Select Board Member - General supervision and control over town; enacts ordinances, regulations, and policies for the town; oversees town property and personnel, prepares, presents, and manages budget; and oversees roads, including laying out, discontinuing and reclassifying roads. Sits on the local board of health, liquor control commission and sewer commission. Should know the town well and be able to understand all sides of complex issues. 17 V.S.A. § 2646 (4) 17 V.S.A. § 2649

First & Second Constables – (elected or appointed) Hardwick voted several years ago to repeal the powers of the First and Second Constables as Vermont Law was requiring them to receive training from the Vermont Police Academy and certain certifications that were deemed unnecessary.

In some towns the constable is the town’s local law enforcement officer, with all powers to search, seizure, and arrest within the town. In other towns, the constable only has the power to serve civil process, assist the health officer in the discharge of his or her duties, destroy unlicensed dogs, kill injured deer, remove disorderly people from Town Meeting, and, if the first constable, to collect taxes if no tax collector is elected. 17 V.S.A. § 2646 (7); § 2651a.

Town Agent – Agent to convey real estate- Executes deeds on behalf of the Town. 24 V.S.A. § 1601

Surveyor of Wood Bark & Lumber – Upon request, to examine, measure, and classify the quality of lumber, shingles and wood sold within a town. 24 V.S.A. § 871

Town Tree Warden – Plans and implements a shade tree preservation program for the purpose of shading and beautifying public spaces. Removes diseased, dying, or dead trees, which create a hazard to public safety or threaten the effectiveness of disease or insect control programs. 24 V.S.A. § 871

Grand Juror – The Select Board may appoint a Grand Juror who shall inquire into any person’s offenses under the Authority’s rules or applicable law and present them to the proper authority. If the Attorney General or the State’s Attorney is unwilling to prosecute such offenses, the Grand Juror may do so. For these purposes, the Grand Juror shall have the same authority within the Authority as the State’s Attorney. 24 V.S.A. § 901 & 22.

Development Review Board – A quasi-judicial board which meets on an as-needed basis on the first and third Wednesday night of each month. Board members are required to be Hardwick residents. The DRB reviews, interprets, and applies the Hardwick Unified Development Bylaws to a variety of zoning applications. Recent DRB hearings have focused on Flood Plain Review, Subdivision Review, and Conditional Use Reviews (such as Home Industry, Restaurant, and other uses).

Hardwick Planning Commission – The Commission is currently working on Pedestrian and Traffic Safety issues in Hardwick. The Commission will also be focusing on updating the Hardwick Unified Development Bylaws in an effort to improve housing issues in the Town. Meets on the second Tuesday night every month at 6:30 pm.

If you are wondering about specific Commissions or Committees, we recommend that you contact the Chair of the respective Commission or Committee, which can be found in their respective reports here in the annual report. If you have questions about how you can get involved, contact the Town Manager’s office at 472-6120. *Some positions may require a petition of signatures of support - contact the Town Clerk’s office for more information 472-5971.*

**WARNING TOWN OF HARDWICK
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MARCH 07, 2023**

The legal voters of the Town of Hardwick, Vermont are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Hardwick Elementary School in said Town of Hardwick on Tuesday, March 07, 2023 at 10:00 o'clock in the forenoon to act on the following business:

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

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

Article 2. Shall the Town accept the Town Report, year ending June 30, 2022?

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

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	1 year term
Main Street, Maple Street, Fairview, Sanborn, Hardwick Street, West Hill, Hardwick Center	
Fire Dept. Officers (can be voted as one vote)	1 year term
One Library Trustee	3 year term
One Library Trustee	3 year term
One Library Trustee	2 year remaining on a 3-year term
One Library Trustee	2 year remaining on a 3-year term
One Library Trustee	2 year remaining on a 3-year term
Grand Juror	1 year term

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

Article 5. Shall the Town vote a budget of three million seven hundred thirty-six thousand twenty-nine dollars (\$3,736,029.00) 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 four thousand five hundred dollars (\$4,500.00) for the support of the Northeastern Kingdom Council on Aging?

Article 16. 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 17. 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 18. Shall the Town appropriate a sum of money not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) for the support of Justice For Dogs?

Article 19. 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 20. Shall the Town authorize the Select Board, for the period of one year, to enter into contracts with operators of agricultural real property, or with existing or new owners, lessees, bailees, or operators who construct acquire or renovate, or who intend to construct, acquire or renovate agricultural real property for the purpose of fixing and maintaining the valuation of such real property in the Grand List for the purpose of fixing and maintaining the municipal rate applicable to such real property or for the purpose of fixing the amount in money which shall be paid as an annual municipal tax upon such real property pursuant to provisions of Title 24, VSA, Section 2741?

Article 21. To transact any other nonbinding business proper to be brought before said meeting.

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

Dated at Hardwick, Vermont this 24th day of January, A.D. 2023.

Eric Remick, Chair

Ceilidh Galloway-Kane, Vice Chair

Shari Cornish

Elizabeth Dow

Danny Hale

Hardwick Town Clerk's Office. Received for record this 24th day of January, A.D. 2023 at 9 O'clock 00 minutes a.m., the instrument of which the foregoing is a true copy.

Attest: Tonia L. Chase, Town Clerk: _____

**FY2024 Estimated Tax Rate based on Proposed FY2024 Budget
and Impact on a \$100,000 home**

FY2024 Estimated Tax Rate

FY 2024 Proposed Property Taxes		\$2,835,071.94
<i>Fund Balance Contribution to Offset Tax Rate</i>		(\$125,000.00)
FY 2024 Proposed Property Taxes <i>after Fund Balance Contribution</i>		2,710,071.94
Estimated Grand List July 1, 2023		\$195,609,700.00
FY 2024 Estimated Tax rate		\$0.0139
	Value per \$100	\$1.385
FY2023 Municipal Tax rate		\$0.0133
	Value per \$100	\$1.326

Impact on a \$100,000 home

Estimated FY2024 municipal tax liability on a \$100,000 home	\$1,385.45
FY2023 tax liability on a \$100,000 home	\$1,326.40
Increase (decrease) in FY2024 before appropriations	\$59.05

Estimated increase in Tax Rate reflected in actual dollars/100 \$0.0590

Percent Increase (decrease) in Property Tax rate from FY 2023 to FY2024 4.45%

Impact of Appropriations on a \$100,000 home

Estimated value of Appropriations		\$37,261.00
Proposed Property Taxes with Appropriations		\$2,747,332.94
FY2024 Estimated Tax rate		\$ 0.0140
	Value per \$100	\$1.404
Estimated FY2024 municipal tax liability on a \$100,000 home		\$1,404.50
Increase (decrease) in FY2024 on a \$100,000 home		\$78.10

Estimated increase in Tax Rate reflected in actual dollars/100 \$0.0781

Percent Increase (decrease) in Property Tax rate from FY2023 to FY2024 5.89%

Impact of Appropriations on Tax Rate

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

The total requested appropriations are \$ 37,261.00. If all the requested appropriations are approved, we would need a tax rate of approximately \$.0190 cents. This means that you will be paying \$19.05 on your 2023-2024 tax bill for every \$100,000 of Grand List Value.

2023-2024 HARDWICK TOWN BUDGET

Projected Revenues

	<u>ACTUAL</u> <u>2021-2022</u>	<u>BUDGET</u> <u>2022-2023</u>	<u>PROPOSED</u> <u>2023-2024</u>	<u>\$</u> <u>DIFF.</u>	<u>%</u> <u>DIFF.</u>
School Tax Admin Fee	\$6,602	\$6,500	\$6,900	\$400	6.15%
PILOT	\$79,605	\$160,668	\$161,433	\$765	0.48%
Current Use Hold Harm	\$173,193	\$173,016	\$174,020	\$1,004	0.58%
Delinquent Charges	\$27,001	\$27,000	\$27,000	\$0	0.00%
Trailer Lease Revenue	\$2,722	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Tax Sale Interest	\$271	\$600	\$300	(\$300)	-50.00%
Zoning Permits	\$3,580	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0	0.00%
Licenses and Fees	\$2,959	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0	0.00%
Recording Fees	\$24,980	\$26,000	\$26,000	\$0	0.00%
Dog Licenses	\$1,505	\$2,000	\$1,500	(\$500)	-25.00%
DMV Fees	\$309	\$500	\$350	(\$150)	-30.00%
State Highway Aid	\$165,773	\$149,254	\$149,254	\$0	0.00%
Grant-in-Aid Revenue	\$20,340	\$0	\$31,000	\$31,000	100.00%
Copying Fees	\$10,158	\$6,000	\$10,000	\$4,000	66.67%
COPS Grant	\$4,433	\$20,000	\$0	(\$20,000)	-100.00%
Hardwick PD Ticket Rev	\$6,499	\$8,500	\$9,000	\$500	5.88%
PD SIU Revenue	\$1,670	\$0	\$5,000	\$5,000	100.00%
Outside Services-PD	\$772	\$500	\$1,000	\$500	100.00%
Sale of Equipment/Vehicles	\$764	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Interest on Investments	\$3,014	\$7,000	\$4,000	(\$3,000)	-42.86%
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$1,230	\$500	\$750	\$250	50.00%
Insurance Payout	\$6,013	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Water Transfer	\$138,746	\$140,883	\$141,671	\$788	0.56%
Sewer Transfer	\$138,746	\$128,917	\$128,550	(\$367)	-0.28%
ARPA One-time Funds	\$0	\$0	\$9,929	\$9,929	100.00%
Fireworks Donations	\$2,060	\$1,000	\$0	(\$1,000)	-100.00%
Room Rent	\$25	\$100	\$50	(\$50)	-50.00%
Restricted Donations	\$775	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
PD Vest Grant	\$489	\$800	\$850	\$50	6.25%
State Highway Safety Grants	\$337	\$2,000	\$6,000	\$4,000	200.00%
Misc. Grants	\$10,488	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
VLCT Grant	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Green Up Day Grant	\$395	\$400	\$400	\$0	0.00%
Total Revenues	\$835,454	\$868,139	\$900,957	\$32,818	3.78%
Total Budget	\$3,310,090	\$3,564,809	\$3,736,029	\$171,219	4.80%
Property Taxes	\$2,474,635	\$2,696,670	\$2,835,072	\$138,402	5.13%

Budget Summary

Highway/Garage	\$ 870,162	\$ 952,016	\$ 1,072,644	\$ 120,628	12.67%
Police Department	\$ 774,421	\$ 825,884	\$ 854,451	\$ 28,567	3.46%
Office Expenses	\$ 463,053	\$ 481,844	\$ 537,236	\$ 55,392	11.50%
Payroll (Part-time & Elected)	\$ 43,234	\$ 65,007	\$ 75,983	\$ 10,976	16.88%
Fire Department	\$ 44,912	\$ 40,842	\$ 45,409	\$ 4,567	11.18%
Line Items	\$ 940,827	\$ 1,119,320	\$ 1,050,791	\$ (68,529)	-6.12%
Buildings	\$ 83,057	\$ 79,897	\$ 99,516	\$ 19,619	24.55%
Total Budget	\$ 3,219,667	\$ 3,564,809	\$ 3,736,029	\$ 171,219	4.80%

2023-2024 HARDWICK TOWN BUDGET

Highway Department

	<u>ACTUAL</u> <u>2021-2022</u>	<u>BUDGET</u> <u>2022-2023</u>	<u>PROPOSED</u> <u>2023-2024</u>	<u>\$</u> <u>DIFF.</u>	<u>%</u> <u>DIFF.</u>
Public Works Payroll	\$293,666	\$310,798	\$357,290	\$46,492	14.96%
Overtime	\$17,218	\$29,000	\$32,000	\$3,000	10.34%
Sewer Operator	\$280	\$500	\$500	\$0	0.00%
Social Security Expense	\$21,901	\$23,786	\$27,250	\$3,464	14.56%
Workers' Compensation	\$18,161	\$21,500	\$20,000	(\$1,500)	-6.98%
Unemployment Insurance	\$607	\$650	\$750	\$100	15.38%
VLCT/PACIF	\$10,886	\$10,800	\$14,900	\$4,100	37.96%
Health Insurance	\$122,165	\$131,011	\$139,952	\$8,941	6.82%
Dental/Vision/Life/Disability	\$8,434	\$8,434	\$8,124	(\$310)	-3.68%
Retirement Expense	\$20,920	\$22,936	\$26,277	\$3,341	14.57%
Operating Expense/Supplies	\$16,062	\$19,000	\$18,000	(\$1,000)	-5.26%
Permits/Fees	\$4,196	\$5,000	\$4,300	(\$700)	-14.00%
Telephone/Internet	\$1,393	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0	0.00%
Culverts	\$2,822	\$4,000	\$8,000	\$4,000	100.00%
Grant-in-Aid Expense	\$6,804	\$0	\$6,200	\$6,200	100.00%
Uniforms	\$5,275	\$6,000	\$5,800	(\$200)	-3.33%
Line Painting/Crosswalks	\$590	\$1,500	\$1,000	(\$500)	-33.33%
Road Signs	\$3,626	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$500	50.00%
Streetscape Maintenance	\$521	\$1,000	\$700	(\$300)	-30.00%
Storm Drains	\$2,085	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$1,000	100.00%
Safety/Training	\$1,451	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0	0.00%
Equipment Expense	\$54,501	\$60,000	\$65,000	\$5,000	8.33%
Gasoline Fuel	\$4,145	\$3,000	\$5,500	\$2,500	83.33%
Diesel Fuel	\$41,861	\$45,000	\$95,000	\$50,000	111.11%
Gravel	\$46,000	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$0	0.00%
Ditch Stone	\$4,409	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0	0.00%
Hydroseeding	\$0	\$2,500	\$2,000	(\$500)	-20.00%
Mud Season Material	\$28,168	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$0	0.00%
Chloride	\$17,225	\$20,000	\$17,000	(\$3,000)	-15.00%
E. Hardwick Sidewalks	\$599	\$600	\$600	\$0	0.00%
Contract Mowing	\$4,950	\$5,500	\$7,000	\$1,500	27.27%
Paving/Patching	\$4,336	\$4,000	\$4,500	\$500	12.50%
Brush Cutting	\$3,000	\$20,000	\$12,000	(\$8,000)	-40.00%
Downtown Beauty	\$2,216	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$500	50.00%
Street Sweeping	\$3,000	\$4,500	\$4,000	(\$500)	-11.11%
Winter Sand	\$22,413	\$29,000	\$10,000	(\$19,000)	-65.52%
Salt	\$74,277	\$85,000	\$100,000	\$15,000	17.65%
Totals	\$870,162	\$952,016	\$1,072,644	\$120,628	12.67%

2023-2024 HARDWICK TOWN BUDGET

Office Expenses

	<u>ACTUAL</u> <u>2021-2022</u>	<u>BUDGET</u> <u>2022-2023</u>	<u>PROPOSED</u> <u>2023-2024</u>	<u>\$</u> <u>DIFF</u>	<u>%</u> <u>DIFF</u>
Town Manager's Office Payroll	\$171,776	\$192,430	\$219,918	\$27,488	14.28%
Town Clerk's Office Payroll	\$92,353	\$95,602	\$102,698	\$7,096	7.42%
Social Security Expense	\$19,406	\$20,162	\$22,583	\$2,421	12.01%
Workers' Compensation	\$952	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$0	0.00%
Unemployment Insurance	\$734	\$850	\$850	\$0	0.00%
VLCT/PACIF	\$1,723	\$1,850	\$3,075	\$1,225	66.22%
Health Insurance	\$100,711	\$112,589	\$116,441	\$3,852	3.42%
Dental/Vision/Life/Disability	\$5,740	\$6,169	\$6,544	\$375	6.08%
Retirement Expense	\$15,995	\$19,442	\$21,777	\$2,335	12.01%
Town Manager Supplies	\$5,305	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0	0.00%
Town Clerk Supplies	\$3,906	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$0	0.00%
Town Report Expense	\$2,632	\$2,300	\$2,800	\$500	21.74%
Conferences/Dues/Mileage	\$2,175	\$500	\$1,000	\$500	100.00%
Tax Billing/Collection Exp.	\$1,558	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0	0.00%
Telephone	\$3,389	\$3,500	\$3,600	\$100	2.86%
Advertising	\$2,847	\$1,000	\$1,750	\$750	75.00%
Copier	\$0	\$0	\$500	\$500	100.00%
Election Expense	\$3,337	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	0.00%
Computer Software/Services	\$6,089	\$5,750	\$12,500	\$6,750	117.39%
Misc Grant Expense	\$14,365	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Equipment Purchases	\$2,848	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$0	0.00%
Assessor Supplies	\$2,641	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$0	0.00%
Education/Training	\$263	\$500	\$1,000	\$500	100.00%
Zoning Supplies	\$2,309	\$2,000	\$3,000	\$1,000	50.00%
Totals	\$463,053	\$481,844	\$537,236	\$55,392	11.50%

Other Payroll

Public Official's Liability	\$2,973	\$3,500	\$3,900	\$400	11.43%
Lister's Salary	\$1,455	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Election Officials	\$0	\$500	\$500	\$0	0.00%
Zoning Administrator	\$23,272	\$26,000	\$28,522	\$2,522	9.70%
Planning/DRB Board	\$1,925	\$2,400	\$2,000	(\$400)	-16.67%
Board of Civil Authority	\$0	\$25	\$25	\$0	0.00%
Moderator	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$0	0.00%
Select Board	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0	0.00%
Energy Coordinator	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$0	0.00%
Solid Waste Rep	\$150	\$150	\$150	\$0	0.00%
TEC - Conference Fees	\$40	\$100	\$100	\$0	0.00%
Town Service Officer	\$150	\$50	\$150	\$100	200.00%
Part Time Labor	\$0	\$500	\$500	\$0	0.00%
Health Officer	\$600	\$600	\$600	\$0	0.00%
Town Website Coordinator	\$600	\$600	\$600	\$0	0.00%
Comm. Dev. Coordinator	\$4,398	\$22,000	\$29,120	\$7,120	32.36%
Social Security Expense	\$2,570	\$3,482	\$4,716	\$1,234	35.43%
Totals	\$43,234	\$65,007	\$75,983	\$10,976	16.88%

2023-2024 HARDWICK TOWN BUDGET

Police Department

	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>PROPOSED</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>%</u>
	<u>2021-2022</u>	<u>2022-2023</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>	<u>DIFF</u>	<u>DIFF</u>
Police Payroll	\$371,775	\$438,124	\$379,902	(\$58,222)	-13.29%
Overtime	\$64,457	\$50,338	\$57,398	\$7,060	14.02%
Part-Time Officers	\$56,835	\$20,000	\$115,200	\$95,200	476.00%
Social Security Expense	\$38,746	\$35,592	\$38,675	\$3,083	8.66%
Workers' Compensation	\$28,816	\$34,500	\$34,800	\$300	0.87%
Unemployment Insurance	\$958	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$0	0.00%
VLCT/PACIF	\$16,433	\$16,900	\$23,700	\$6,800	40.24%
Health Insurance	\$32,299	\$54,181	\$54,726	\$545	1.01%
Dental/Vision/Life/Disability	\$1,704	\$1,704	\$4,104	\$2,400	140.85%
Retirement Expense	\$38,111	\$56,662	\$46,458	(\$10,204)	-18.01%
Supplies	\$7,672	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$0	0.00%
Training	\$1,620	\$5,000	\$4,000	(\$1,000)	-20.00%
Memberships	\$180	\$500	\$350	(\$150)	-30.00%
Legal Expenses	\$5,565	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$500	50.00%
Internet Communications	\$2,844	\$3,500	\$3,000	(\$500)	-14.29%
Dispatch Services	\$27,566	\$28,332	\$30,588	\$2,256	7.96%
Telephone	\$3,757	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$0	0.00%
Vehicle Maintenance	\$7,114	\$6,500	\$5,500	(\$1,000)	-15.38%
Advertising	\$746	\$400	\$400	\$0	0.00%
Radio Service	\$3,933	\$700	\$1,000	\$300	42.86%
Investigation Expense	\$8,246	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$500	50.00%
Uniforms (Cleaning)	\$516	\$750	\$750	\$0	0.00%
Uniform Purchases	\$1,991	\$4,500	\$3,500	(\$1,000)	-22.22%
Gasoline	\$10,691	\$11,000	\$15,000	\$4,000	36.36%
Tires	\$1,664	\$3,000	\$2,000	(\$1,000)	-33.33%
Education	\$0	\$500	\$500	\$0	0.00%
Equipment	\$8,166	\$6,500	\$5,500	(\$1,000)	-15.38%
Total PD Operating Exp.	\$742,408	\$792,884	\$841,751	\$48,867	6.16%
COPS Grant Officer	\$27,301	\$30,000	\$0	(\$30,000)	-100.00%
SIU Expense	\$720	\$0	\$5,000	\$5,000	100.00%
State Highway Safety Office Grant	\$201	\$2,000	\$6,000	\$4,000	200.00%
State Highway Equipment Grant	\$1,735	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Vest Grant	\$2,056	\$1,000	\$1,700	\$700	70.00%
Total Special PD Expenses	\$32,013	\$33,000	\$12,700	(\$20,300)	-61.52%
Total PD Expenses	\$774,421	\$825,884	\$854,451	\$28,567	3.46%

2023-2024 HARDWICK TOWN BUDGET

Buildings

	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>PROPOSED</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>%</u>
	<u>2021-2022</u>	<u>2022-2023</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>	<u>DIFF.</u>	<u>DIFF.</u>

Memorial Building

Custodial Services Expense	\$9,571	\$9,800	\$10,751	\$ 951	9.70%
Custodial S.S. Expense	\$662	\$702	\$700	\$ (2)	-0.28%
VLCT/PACIF	\$2,476	\$2,600	\$3,275	\$ 675	25.96%
Operating Exp/Supplies	\$4,300	\$3,000	\$3,500	\$ 500	16.67%
Building Maint./Repair	\$4,103	\$2,000	\$3,000	\$ 1,000	50.00%
Utilities	\$4,457	\$5,100	\$5,037	\$ (63)	-1.24%
Fuel Oil	\$8,236	\$9,000	\$13,000	\$ 4,000	44.44%
Elevator/Fire Alarm	\$2,054	\$2,000	\$2,500	\$ 500	25.00%
Generator	\$324	\$200	\$200	\$ -	0.00%
Totals	\$36,185	\$34,402	\$41,963	\$ 7,561	21.98%

Public Safety Building

VLCT/PACIF	\$2,680	\$2,800	\$3,675	\$ 875	31.25%
Operating Expenses	\$1,560	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$ 500	50.00%
Building Maint./Repair	\$4,374	\$1,500	\$2,500	\$ 1,000	66.67%
Utilities	\$2,496	\$2,800	\$2,821	\$ 21	0.74%
Fuel Oil	\$4,768	\$4,500	\$7,500	\$ 3,000	66.67%
Custodial Services Expense	\$5,734	\$5,500	\$6,034	\$ 534	9.70%
Custodial Serv. S.S. Expense	\$432	\$385	\$500	\$ 115	29.87%
Totals	\$22,045	\$18,485	\$24,529	\$ 6,044	32.70%

Fire Station

VLCT/PACIF	\$3,023	\$2,500	\$3,300	\$ 800	32.00%
Utilities	\$2,191	\$2,600	\$2,476	\$ (124)	-4.75%
Fuel Oil	\$6,904	\$6,000	\$9,500	\$ 3,500	58.33%
Building Maint./Repair	\$917	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$ -	0.00%
Totals	\$ 13,036	\$ 12,100	\$ 16,276	\$ 4,176	34.52%

Highway Garage

Heating Fuel	\$4,148	\$5,500	\$5,500	\$ -	0.00%
Building Maint./Repair	\$130	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$ -	0.00%
Utilities - Garage	\$4,424	\$4,500	\$5,088	\$ 588	13.07%
Totals	\$8,702	\$11,500	\$12,088	\$ 588	5.11%

2023-2024 HARDWICK TOWN BUDGET

Buildings continued...

	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>PROPOSED</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>%</u>
	<u>2021-2022</u>	<u>2022-2023</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>	<u>DIFF.</u>	<u>DIFF.</u>

Town House

VLCT/PACIF	\$1,392	\$1,550	\$1,975	\$425	27.42%
Building Maint./Repair	\$250	\$500	\$500	\$0	0.00%
Utilities	\$309	\$300	\$349	\$49	16.49%
Totals	\$1,952	\$2,350	\$2,824	\$474	20.19%

Historical Depot

VLCT/PACIF	\$150	\$175	\$175	\$0	0.00%
Building Maint./Repair	\$351	\$400	\$400	\$0	0.00%
Totals	\$501	\$575	\$575	\$0	0.00%

Carey Rd. Property

VLCT/PACIF	\$119	\$135	\$135	\$0	0.00%
Totals	\$119	\$135	\$135	\$0	0.00%

Yellow Barn

VLCT/PACIF	\$143	\$150	\$175	\$25	16.67%
Maintenance	\$174	\$0	\$500	\$500	100.00%
Utilities	\$200	\$200	\$450	\$250	125.00%
Totals	\$517	\$350	\$1,125	\$775	221.43%

2023-2024 HARDWICK TOWN BUDGET

Fire Department

	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>PROPOSED</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>%</u>
	<u>2021-2022</u>	<u>2022-2023</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>	<u>DIFF.</u>	<u>DIFF.</u>

Labor	\$6,650	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$0	0.00%
Social Security	\$492	\$500	\$500	\$0	0.00%
Workers' Compensation	\$1,219	\$1,350	\$1,400	\$50	3.70%
Liability Insurance	\$3,279	\$3,500	\$4,900	\$1,400	40.00%
Operating Exp./Supplies	\$2,830	\$2,000	\$2,500	\$500	25.00%
Dispatch Service	\$11,814	\$12,142	\$13,109	\$967	7.96%
Phone/Internet	\$1,301	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0	0.00%
Gasoline	\$0	\$100	\$200	\$100	100.00%
Diesel Fuel	\$731	\$500	\$1,400	\$900	180.00%
Equipment Purchases	\$8,975	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$0	0.00%
Equipment Repair	\$7,275	\$3,500	\$4,000	\$500	14.29%
Training	\$347	\$250	\$400	\$150	60.00%
Totals	\$44,912	\$40,842	\$45,409	\$4,567	11.18%

2023-2024 HARDWICK TOWN BUDGET

Line Items

	<u>ACTUAL</u> <u>2021-2022</u>	<u>BUDGET</u> <u>2022-2023</u>	<u>PROPOSED</u> <u>2023-2024</u>	<u>\$</u> <u>DIFF.</u>	<u>%</u> <u>DIFF.</u>
Auditing	\$14,518	\$15,000	\$17,750	\$2,750	18.33%
Fireworks	\$5,000	\$4,000	\$0	(\$4,000)	-100.00%
Animal Control	\$2,427	\$3,000	\$3,200	\$200	6.67%
Professional Services	\$13,127	\$6,000	\$7,500	\$1,500	25.00%
Assessor Services	\$22,200	\$42,000	\$41,400	(\$600)	-1.43%
NVDA	\$2,258	\$2,258	\$2,258	\$0	0.00%
VLCT	\$4,823	\$4,778	\$4,949	\$171	3.58%
Jeudevine Memorial Library	\$125,171	\$126,891	\$138,528	\$11,637	9.17%
Memorial Day	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$0	0.00%
Caspian Lake	\$3,300	\$3,300	\$3,650	\$350	10.61%
Cemeteries	\$17,047	\$18,000	\$18,000	\$0	0.00%
Capital Equipment Fund	\$180,000	\$190,000	\$150,000	(\$40,000)	-21.05%
Union Bank Loader Payment	\$0	\$0	\$12,000	\$12,000	100.00%
Loader & Grader Lease-to-Own	\$0	\$0	\$55,000	\$55,000	100.00%
Capital Road Fund	\$205,000	\$305,000	\$170,000	(\$135,000)	-44.26%
Mackville Rd. Bond Payment	\$0	\$0	\$21,575	\$21,575	100.00%
Capital General Fund	\$132,000	\$149,500	\$129,000	(\$20,500)	-13.71%
Gravel Pit Bond Payment	\$0	\$0	\$18,500	\$18,500	100.00%
Capital Fire Fund	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$20,000	(\$55,000)	-73.33%
2014 Fire Truck Bond Payment	\$0	\$0	\$32,613	\$32,613	100.00%
2021 Fire Truck Bond Payment	\$0	\$0	\$21,259	\$21,259	100.00%
Tax Mapping	\$3,900	\$4,000	\$7,500	\$3,500	87.50%
Solid Waste District	\$2,861	\$2,956	\$2,920	(\$36)	-1.22%
Streetlights	\$21,047	\$22,500	\$23,783	\$1,283	5.70%
Memorial Park Electricity	\$168	\$150	\$175	\$25	16.67%
Employment Practices Ins.	\$4,723	\$5,500	\$6,425	\$925	16.82%
Community Crime Ins.	\$1,072	\$1,400	\$1,200	(\$200)	-14.29%
Town Service Officer Expenses	\$0	\$500	\$1,000	\$500	100.00%
Hazard Mitigation Fund	\$0	\$5,000	\$3,000	(\$2,000)	-40.00%
Cyber Security	\$0	\$1,500	\$2,500	\$1,000	66.67%
Tax Sale Expense	\$948	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	0.00%
Tax Abatement Expense	\$268	\$0	\$275	\$275	100.00%
Conservation Commission	\$500	\$1,500	\$500	(\$1,000)	-66.67%
Downtown Partnership	\$2,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Equity Committee	\$611	\$2,500	\$2,000	(\$500)	-20.00%
911 Signs	\$2,416	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Recreation Dept.	\$20,067	\$22,375	\$24,245	\$1,870	8.36%
Hardwick Trails	\$8,845	\$8,748	\$9,185	\$437	5.00%
County Taxes	\$23,030	\$23,200	\$24,635	\$1,435	6.19%
Rescue Squad	\$45,501	\$71,264	\$72,765	\$1,501	2.11%
Totals	\$940,827	\$1,119,320	\$1,050,791	(\$68,529)	-6.12%

**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	Toolcat	Loader (1) <small>*Trading not replacing*</small>	Loader (2) Grader (1)	Police Cruiser	SPEND TOTAL	FUNDS SET ASIDE	ACCOUNT BALANCE
Bal 6/30/22																\$54,517
2023					\$90,000						\$12,000		\$40,000	\$142,000	\$190,000	\$102,517
2024									\$145,000					\$145,000	\$150,000	\$107,517
2025				\$180,000									\$48,000	\$228,000	\$170,000	\$49,517
2026						\$40,000							\$32,000	\$72,000	\$190,000	\$167,517
2027							\$30,000			\$55,000			\$48,000	\$133,000	\$210,000	\$244,517
2028		\$120,000			\$95,000			\$12,000					\$48,000	\$275,000	\$220,000	\$189,517
2029			\$220,000											\$220,000	\$230,000	\$199,517
2030	\$210,000												\$48,000	\$258,000	\$240,000	\$181,517
2031													\$35,000	\$35,000	\$250,000	\$396,517
2032										\$60,000			\$48,000	\$108,000	\$250,000	\$538,517
2033				\$210,000	\$100,000	\$43,000							\$50,000	\$403,000	\$250,000	\$385,517
2034							\$33,000						\$34,000	\$67,000	\$250,000	\$568,517
2035								\$13,000					\$50,000	\$63,000	\$260,000	\$765,517
2036		\$130,000											\$0	\$130,000	\$260,000	\$895,517
2037			\$240,000							\$65,000			\$52,000	\$357,000	\$260,000	\$798,517
2038	\$230,000				\$105,000								\$52,000	\$387,000	\$260,000	\$671,517
2039									\$170,000			\$600,000	\$54,000	\$824,000	\$270,000	\$117,517
2040						\$46,000							\$36,000	\$82,000	\$270,000	\$305,517
2041				\$220,000			\$35,000						\$0	\$255,000	\$270,000	\$320,517
2042										\$70,000			\$55,000	\$125,000	\$270,000	\$0

- 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 FY 2024
- 3) Police Cruisers traded or replaced every 5 years
- 4) Dump trucks 1, 2, 3, 4 are traded every 8 years

- 5) Truck 5 is traded every 5 years
- 6) Truck 6 is traded about every 7 years
- 7) Truck 7 is traded about every 7 years
- 8) Not replacing Loader 1 - trading with #2 for one new

TOWN OF HARDWICK
CAPITAL FIRE EQUIPMENT PURCHASE SCHEDULE

YEAR	Ladder L1	Pumper E1	Fire E2	Tanker W1	SPEND TOTAL	FUNDS SET ASIDE	ACCOUNT BALANCE
Bal 6/30/22							\$140,423
2023					\$0	\$75,000	\$215,423
2024					\$0	\$20,000	\$235,423
2025					\$0	\$40,000	\$275,423
2026					\$0	\$60,000	\$335,423
2027					\$0	\$80,000	\$415,423
2028					\$0	\$100,000	\$515,423
2029					\$0	\$125,000	\$640,423
2030	\$750,000				\$750,000	\$145,000	\$35,423
2031					\$0	\$120,000	\$155,423
2032				\$250,000	\$250,000	\$130,000	\$35,423
2033					\$0	\$100,000	\$135,423
2034					\$0	\$100,000	\$235,423
2035					\$0	\$100,000	\$335,423
2036					\$0	\$100,000	\$435,423
2037					\$0	\$100,000	\$535,423
2038					\$0	\$100,000	\$635,423
2039		\$350,000			\$350,000	\$100,000	\$385,423
2040					\$0	\$100,000	\$485,423
2041					0	\$100,000	\$585,423

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

TOWN OF HARDWICK
CAPITAL ROAD SCHEDULE

	Center	Hardwick	Paving	Backroad	Spend	Funds	Account
Year	Road	Street	(see below)	Rebuild	Total	Set Aside	Balance
Bal 6/30/22							\$96,525
2023			-\$140,000		-\$140,000	\$300,000	\$256,525
2024			-\$130,000		-\$130,000	\$170,000	\$296,525
2025			-\$70,000		-\$70,000	\$175,000	\$401,525
2026	-\$550,000		\$0		-\$550,000	\$180,000	\$31,525
2027			-\$100,000		-\$100,000	\$185,000	\$116,525
2028			-\$100,000		-\$100,000	\$190,000	\$206,525
2029			-\$100,000		-\$100,000	\$195,000	\$301,525
2030			-\$100,000		-\$100,000	\$200,000	\$401,525
2031			-\$100,000		-\$100,000	\$205,000	\$506,525

Paving Projects:

FY 2024: North Main Street, Vermont Ave.
 FY 2025: Hideaway Acres
 FY 2026: Center Road partial
 FY 2027: To Be Determined
 FY 2028: To Be Determined

**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 6/30/2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	Future Balance
Buildings	<i>Last Year</i>					
Memorial Building	-\$1,205	\$25,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$83,795
Public Safety Building	-\$905	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$19,095
Highway Garage	\$8,301	\$20,000	\$26,000	\$26,000	\$26,000	\$106,301
Fire Department	\$37,311	\$5,000	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$66,311
Library	\$29,361	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$33,361
Library Bond	\$10,000	\$20,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$30,000
Town House	\$26,173	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$51,173
Carey Rd. Property	\$13,860	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$14,860
Historical Depot	\$12,216	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$16,216
Subtotal	\$135,112	\$88,000	\$66,000	\$66,000	\$66,000	\$421,112
Public Works						
Gravel Pit Reclaim	\$29,332	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$29,332
Bike Path (all Phases)	-\$4,972	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	-\$4,972
Sidewalk Expense	\$24,071	\$10,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$94,071
Guardrails	\$13,492	\$1,500	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$20,992
Brush Cutting	\$5,050	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,050
Road Signs/Crosswalks	\$2,948	\$5,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$13,948
Bridge #4 East Hardwick	\$111,034	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$171,034
Bridge Fund	\$85,475	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$145,475
Subtotal	\$266,430	\$46,500	\$54,000	\$54,000	\$54,000	\$474,930
General Government						
Trails Capital Account	\$19,004	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$19,004
Recreation Capital Fund	\$5,176	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$6,176
Fire Department Equipment/Clothing	\$3,301	\$10,000	\$8,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$41,301
New Vault Door	\$24,500	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$25,500
Cemetery Upgrades	\$18,500	\$3,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$24,500
Recruitment - Police	\$6,561	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$6,561
Interest Accrued on Account	\$15,458	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$15,458
Subtotal	\$92,500	\$15,000	\$9,000	\$11,000	\$11,000	\$138,500
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND	\$494,043	\$149,500	\$129,000	\$131,000	\$131,000	\$1,034,543

2023-2024 HARDWICK TOWN BUDGET

Library Budget

	<u>ACTUAL</u> <u>2021-2022</u>	<u>BUDGET</u> <u>2022-2023</u>	<u>PROPOSED</u> <u>2023-2024</u>	<u>\$</u> <u>DIFF.</u>	<u>%</u> <u>DIFF.</u>
Library Payroll	\$77,851	\$82,657	\$82,128	(\$529)	-0.64%
Social Security/FICA Expense	\$5,844	\$6,613	\$6,345	(\$268)	-4.05%
Worker's Comp	\$496	\$575	\$550	(\$25)	-4.35%
Unemployment	\$247	\$250	\$275	\$25	10.00%
VLCT/PACIF	\$381	\$450	\$425	(\$25)	-5.56%
Health Insurance - Librarian only	\$7,052	\$8,214	\$19,309	\$11,095	135.07%
Dental/Vision/Life/Disability	\$607	\$610	\$1,541	\$931	152.62%
Retirement	\$2,727	\$3,158	\$2,971	(\$187)	-5.92%
Books- Adult	\$3,800	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$0	0.00%
Books - Juvenile	\$1,881	\$2,200	\$2,200	\$0	0.00%
Books - Young Adult	\$549	\$700	\$700	\$0	0.00%
Magazines- Adult	\$170	\$600	\$600	\$0	0.00%
Magazines - Juvenile	\$40	\$50	\$50	\$0	0.00%
Audio books/ DVDs - Adult	\$545	\$600	\$600	\$0	0.00%
Audio books/ DVDs - Juvenile	\$352	\$600	\$600	\$0	0.00%
Computer Software/Technology	\$120	\$435	\$435	\$0	0.00%
Computer Databases	\$1,168	\$1,800	\$1,800	\$0	0.00%
Courier Expense	\$521	\$400	\$400	\$0	0.00%
Fiber Connect (Sovernet)	\$2,899	\$1,900	\$1,000	(\$900)	-47.37%
Equipment	\$1,086	\$200	\$200	\$0	0.00%
Telephone	\$910	\$900	\$950	\$50	5.56%
Supplies - General	\$1,992	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$0	0.00%
Youth Supplies	\$143	\$600	\$600	\$0	0.00%
Postage	\$577	\$700	\$700	\$0	0.00%
Professional Services	\$98	\$200	\$200	\$0	0.00%
Conferences / Memberships	\$326	\$400	\$400	\$0	0.00%
Mileage	\$0	\$200	\$200	\$0	0.00%
Advertising	\$706	\$100	\$100	\$0	0.00%
Restricted Donation Expense	\$1,762	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Jeudevine Friends Expense	\$59	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Interlibrary Grant Expense	\$537	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Misc. Grant Expense	\$1,700	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Total Operating Budget	\$117,145	\$121,112	\$131,279	\$10,167	8.39%
Custodial Services Expense	\$5,280	\$9,632	\$9,632	\$0	0.00%
Custodial Services S.S. Expense	\$399	\$737	\$737	\$0	0.00%
Building Insurance	\$1,002	\$1,500	\$1,700	\$200	13.33%
Electricity	\$825	\$1,860	\$1,860	\$0	0.00%
Fuel Oil	\$2,838	\$3,500	\$7,520	\$4,020	114.86%
Water/Sewer	\$766	\$800	\$800	\$0	0.00%
Maintenance Expense	\$1,699	\$1,000	\$1,200	\$200	20.00%
Total Library Building Budget	\$12,810	\$19,029	\$23,449	\$4,420	23.23%
Friends of Jeudevine Donations	\$ -				
Restricted Donations	\$ (1,650.00)				
Interest on Investments	\$ (98.00)				
Grant Income	\$ (6,512.90)	\$ (500.00)			
Fiber Connect Credits	\$ (2,040.00)	\$ (1,500.00)			
Courier Revenue	\$ (221.88)	\$ (250.00)	\$ (200.00)		
Fund Balance Contribution		\$ (7,000.00)	\$ (12,000.00)		
Misc. Income	\$ (2,841.28)	\$ (4,000.00)	\$ (4,000.00)		
Town Appropriation	\$125,171	\$126,891	\$138,528		
Fund Balance	17,631				

2023-2024 HARDWICK TOWN BUDGET

Recreation Budget

	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>PROPOSED</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>%</u>
	<u>2021-2022</u>	<u>2022-2023</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>	<u>DIFF.</u>	<u>DIFF.</u>
Recreation Coordinator Salary	\$3,450	\$5,200	\$5,200	\$0	0.00%
Social Security/FICA	\$264	\$364	\$364	\$0	0.00%
VLCT Workers Comp/Insurance	\$142	\$250	\$120	(\$130)	-52.00%
VLCT Unemployment Insurance	\$40	\$60	\$60	\$0	0.00%
VLCT PACIF/Liability Insurance	\$74	\$100	\$100	\$0	0.00%
Youth Program: Soccer, Swim, Ski	\$9,875	\$9,801	\$9,801	\$0	0.00%
Mileage	\$0	\$100	\$100	\$0	0.00%
Community Programming	\$4,000	\$5,000	\$7,000	\$2,000	40.00%
Holiday Programs	\$839	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Green-Up Day	\$395	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Senior Programming	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Supplies and Advertising	\$0	\$500	\$500	\$0	0.00%
Transfer to Capital	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Maintenance	\$987	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	0.00%
Training	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Sports Programming	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Total Expenses	\$20,067	\$22,375	\$24,245	\$1,870	8.36%

2023-2024 HARDWICK TOWN BUDGET

Trails Budget

	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>PROPOSED</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>%</u>
	<u>2021-2022</u>	<u>2022-2023</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>	<u>DIFF.</u>	<u>DIFF.</u>
Trails Salaries	\$3,648	\$4,003	\$4,351	\$348	8.69%
Social Security/FICA	\$279	\$320	\$305	(\$15)	-4.69%
Trail Repair & New Construction	\$1,706	\$800	\$800	\$0	0.00%
Equipment Repair and Maintenance	\$1,244	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	0.00%
Gas, Oil and Diesel	\$538	\$700	\$1,000	\$300	42.86%
Publicity/Advertising/Signage & Maps	\$79	\$400	\$400	\$0	0.00%
Program and Activities	\$1,125	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$500	50.00%
VLCT Workers Comp/Insurance	\$109	\$185	\$125	(\$60)	-32.43%
VLCT Unemployment Insurance	\$36	\$40	\$50	\$10	25.00%
VLCT PACIF/Liability Insurance	\$81	\$300	\$950	\$650	216.67%
TOTALS	\$8,845	\$8,748	\$10,481	\$1,733	19.81%

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

What is the intent of ARPA funds?

The State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF, aka ARPA) program provides governments across the country with the resources needed to:

- Fight the pandemic and support families and businesses struggling with its public health and economic impacts
- Maintain vital public services, even amid declines in revenue resulting from the crisis
- Build a strong, resilient, and equitable recovery by making investments that support long-term growth and opportunity

The Town of Hardwick received \$855,429.03 in ARPA funds and elected to take the standard allowance which gives us more flexibility in spending.

What is the \$10 million standard allowance for revenue loss?

On January 6, 2022, Treasury issued its long-awaited Final Rule which guides the use of ARPA funds. It contains many changes, among them the treatment of revenue loss.

"The Final Rule offers a standard allowance for revenue loss of \$10 million, allowing recipients to select between a standard amount of revenue loss or complete a full revenue loss calculation. Recipients that select the standard allowance may use that amount – in many cases their full award – for government services with streamlined reporting requirements."

In July 2022, the Select Board reviewed applications from various local organizations and allocated ARPA funds based on those applications. The applicants had to answer a series of questions about how their request benefits the community. The Select Board also committed other expenditures later in the year. It was decided that \$500,000 of ARPA funds would go to the wastewater upgrade project, which benefits the entire community through increased capacity for new and existing connections. The Select Board is planning to take the remaining uncommitted funds and transfer to the FY24 budget to increase the revenues making less to collect from taxpayers. Here is a breakdown of where the money was committed and what has been disbursed to date. In next year's report, we'll provide an update on how the money was spent by these organizations.

	<u>Disbursed</u>	<u>Allocation</u>	<u>Remaining</u>
Wastewater Plant Upgrade Project	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 500,000.00	\$ -
NEK Broadband	\$ -	\$ 139,500.00	\$ 139,500.00
Hardwick Town House (NEKArts)	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -
Caledonia Grange #9	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 40,000.00	\$ -
Civic Standard	\$ -	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 35,000.00
Jeudevine Library Expansion	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 35,000.00	\$ -
Conservation Commission for NRI	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ -
Hardwick Food Pantry	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ -
Downtown Partnership, Inc.	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Use in FY24 Budget Revenues		\$ 9,929.03	\$ 9,929.03
Mobilize Software	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ -
Craftsbury Community Care Center	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ -
	\$ 666,000.00	\$ 855,429.03	\$ 189,429.03

AWARE

AWARE's mission strives to prevent and heal the trauma of domestic and sexual violence in the greater Hardwick area in such a way that people of all ages are empowered to act towards themselves and others with awareness, empathy, respect, and personal responsibility. During the past year AWARE served 176 women, men and children who were directly affected by violence, 113 children who were exposed to violence and answered over 1,000 hotline and in person requests for assistance. AWARE educated over 1,600 people through community events and outreach and educated 83 professionals about domestic and sexual violence. Those served by AWARE received services such as crisis intervention, legal support and advocacy, information and referrals, safety planning, emergency provisions, housing assistance, transportation, support groups and education. Educational classes included topics such as healthy relationships/friendships, gender and society, domestic and sexual violence, managing emotions, social media, and sexual harassment. Mailing address is P.O. Box 307 Hardwick, VT 05843 Website: AWAREVT.org

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

Caledonia Home Health Care & Hospice

Caledonia Home Health Care & Hospice Visit Statistics for 2023 Town Appropriations 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 provide high quality, accessible, patient-centered health care, and our vision is to be a key partner in building healthy families and thriving communities. In the last year, our team was honored to provide 4,426 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 more. We work together with primary care providers so that care is specific and structured to treatment goals.

2023 Town Appropriation Visit Statistics Hardwick, VT:

of residents served: **165**, Home Care (Therapy, Nursing, MSW): **3,149 visits**, Maternal Child Health (Nursing, Therapy): **75 visits**, Hospice (Nursing, Therapy, Personal Care, Respite) **524 visits**, Long Term Care (Case Management, Personal Care, Respite) **678 visits** Total Visits in Hardwick **4,426 visits**

Testimonials:

"The support received from Caledonia Home Health & Hospice was most welcome, comforting, and assuring. The sense of security that they create was very much appreciated."

"This agency is great. I have a great team; they all work together and are very caring and compassionate. I could not ask for better care and very lucky to have them."

"I had the best care from Caledonia Home Health, they were all very good and treated me with respect." To learn more about our programs and services please visit www.nchcvt.org or call (802) 748-8116.

Craftsbury Community Care Center

For nearly three decades, the Craftsbury Community Care Center has been a trusted resource for elders and their families, 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 have been involved with the organization over its quarter century of service.

The Center has an active and engaged Board of Directors, three 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. Your support and generosity are more important to us than ever as we enter a new year with significantly increased salary, food and fuel expenses that we must reconcile with our commitment to maintain affordable rental rates for our residents and their families. One-third of our twenty-four private rooms 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. 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*

Greensboro Nursing Home

The Greensboro Nursing Home is a 30-bed skilled nursing rehabilitation and long-term care facility. As a not-for-profit organization, our only priority is to provide high quality care to our residents in a caring, homelike environment. We are one of the largest employers in the area and are very proud of our dedicated staff who work hard to take care of the elderly and disabled in our community. After the constraints and restrictions of the first two years of the pandemic we were able to bring the residents some taste of normalcy this year. The very high vaccination rate among residents, staff, and the community meant that even when cases of COVID-19 infection appeared in the facility they were most often mild and not life-threatening. As a result, family visits were easier, and grants from the Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging and the Pleasants Fund allowed us to organize trips for the residents to the Orleans County Fair, ice cream shops, and other local attractions. In September we opened a walking path from GNH up to Maggie's Pond, which will allow residents and family members to get outdoors and enjoy the landscape. Within the building, fresh paint and other renovations have warmed the atmosphere. On a practical level, dedicated hard work by our Administrator, Michelle Pippa, and the rest of the staff has ensured that our revenue has stayed in line with expenses, even as federal, pandemic-related assistance has drawn down.

A major project in the coming year will be the replacement of the more than 35-year-old, 17,000 square foot roof on the nursing home. We have received generous support from the Wisdom Connection, the Vermont Department of Human Services Building Fund, and many individual donors, and have applied for support from the US Department of Agriculture Rural Development Fund and the American Recovery Plan Act. We hope to see the new roof installed this summer. 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. We are also very grateful for the generous support we receive from many community organizations and businesses, including the American Legion Hardwick, Calderwood Insurance, the Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court of St. Veronica, the Cellars at Jasper Hill, DesGroseilliers Funeral Home, Hillstead Farm Brewery, the Greensboro Garage, Stannard Farms, the Hardwick Sons of the American Legion, and Heather Hollow Farm. 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*

Hardwick Area Food Pantry

In 2022 the HAFP continued to serve our community at our sites in Hardwick, Craftsbury, and Albany. Demand for our services continued at a level similar to 2021, after an increase due to the pandemic. We have continued our delivery program, which connects many of our clients to food throughout a wide service area. We also are proud to purchase food from many local farmers and producers. We also want to extend a warm thank you to all of our staff, volunteers, and donors. Your continued support is making our mission possible.

*HAFP Board: Reeve Basom, Gina Campoli,
Hannah Dreissigacker, Alice Fleeer, Erika Karp,
Jake Lester, Diana Peduzzi, John Tuthill, Liz Baum
Heather Davis, Director
Kris Coville, Satellite Site Coordinator
(802) 472-5940
www.NourishHardwick.org/pantry*

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 has maintained full internet accessibility to locally made programs. Every program is archived and available for viewing at www.hctv.us. We also post each program on the Hardwick Community Television Facebook page. This includes Hazen Varsity Basketball, 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. When streamed live, the programs can be viewed live on www.hctv.us, our YouTube channel, or on Channel 1080 at the time of the actual event. As always, HCTV's full broadcast schedule can be viewed on Channel 1080 by cable subscribers. HCTV operates on an annual budget of under \$40,000. We record over 130 programs annually. From station programming to live events to creative workshops and technical training, this small station is a great asset for Hardwick, Woodbury, and Greensboro. 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. HCTV is going through a transition period right now.

We had our new executive director, Elizabeth Rossano, come on board in March of 2022. As life happens, Elizabeth is needing to take family leave from approximately January through April of 2023. Elizabeth has many hopes and dreams for the growth of HCTV's programming and services and is excited to start rebuilding these as soon as she can return in full capacity. 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, email us at hardwicktv@comcast.net.

*Elizabeth Rossano
Executive Director*

Justice For Dogs

Justice For Dogs (and cats too) is a local animal rescue based out of Wolcott, VT and has been serving only local dogs and cats since 2007. Justice For Dogs operates with all volunteers with no paid staff at all. Our rescued animals are never brought in for adoption from out of state. Our mission is to rescue only local dogs and cats whether the animals are being surrendered, rescued from abusive situations, or found lost. Since there are many animals in need of rescue, JFD has a lot of expenses in caring for them. Vet costs include all vaccines, spaying and neutering, and any other medical needs that must be addressed prior to adoption. As there are plenty of these animals to rescue, pay for their vet costs and find them their "forever" home, Justice For Dogs has lots of expenses to help these animals. Over the years, Justice For Dogs has increasingly been helping Hardwick residents with their animal situations. Many Hardwick dogs and cats have been surrendered to Justice to find new homes. Some situations have required Justice to provide food for some Hardwick residents in need in order to keep their animals. Hardwick has had a feral/stray cat population that has required these animals to be trapped, vetted, and then homes found for them. Justice For Dogs has helped with that mission.

Justice For Dogs has over the years had a close working relationship with Hardwick's dog officers to provide assistance in whatever manner was needed. Most recently in the summer of 2022, when another local animal rescue was unable to take in any Hardwick dogs for a period of 5 months, the Hardwick animal problems did not just go away. Justice For Dogs was called upon by the Hardwick dog officer to help. Justice For Dogs took on the task of helping these Hardwick dogs. These expenses included boarding, vet bills, and providing care and finding new homes. No dog that was brought to Justice's attention went unassisted. Since Justice For Dogs has been helping for so many years without any support from the town of Hardwick and with the increased services Justice has provided to the town of Hardwick, our organization has found a need to now make a financial request for the town to support our animal work. Thus, we are requesting an appropriation of \$1000 to help us sustain our animal work, as we continue to help Hardwick residents with the animal rescue situations that arise. We thank you for your consideration for our request. For more information, please give us a call at 802-472-3894, visit our website www.justicefordogsvt.org, email: justicefordogs@aol.com, or Facebook www.facebook.com/justicefordogs.

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 46 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 2022, our caring and dedicated staff reached more than 4,000 children, youth, parents, and caregivers throughout the Lamoille Valley and have impacted many more. Examples of Hardwick and East Hardwick residents served include:

- Our Children's Integrated Services team made roughly 200 home visits, providing family support and early intervention, to 23 families in Hardwick and East Hardwick
- LFC donates \$500 every year to Hardwick Holiday Project to provide children with holiday gifts
- 56 residents, including 36 children, received emergency assistance including funding for rent, groceries, fuel, and goods such as diapers, clothing, and furniture
- 7 students received summer camp scholarships so that they could attend summer programs with their peers
- 11 families were accompanied by a DULCE family specialist to their pediatric infant wellness visits
- 6 youth facing severe crisis situations were attended to through LFC's Youth and Young Adult Program
- 3 families received Welcome Baby visits from our Maternal-Child Health Specialist
- 25 families received childcare support services including assistance with applications for financial assistance and help with referral to regulated programs
- 7 parents and/or caregivers attended Parent Education workshops
- HLV, LFC's prevention coalition, provided policy information for the town Select Board and workgroup
- 25 Hardwick 5th graders attended a two-part refusal skill workshop through Healthy Lamoille Valley (HLV) and many 5th – 8th grade students participated in HLV's Live Your Why: Passport Edition
- Many Hardwick coaches, athletes and community members benefited from HLV's prevention resources

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. 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: <https://www.lamoillefamilycenter.org>. Please call if you would benefit from our services. Thank you for your support.

Carol Lang-Godin, Executive Director
clang-godin@lamoillefamilycenter.org
480 Cady's Falls Road Morrisville, VT 05661
(802) 888-5229 ext. 124

North Country Animal League

On behalf of the board, staff, volunteers, and animals, thank you for your past financial support. At this time, North Country Animal League (NCAL) respectfully submits a request for \$2,100 in town appropriation funds for the year 2023. These funds help us fulfill our mission of promoting compassionate and responsible relationships between animals and humans through sheltering of homeless animals, pet adoptions, spay/neuter programs, support of cruelty prevention, and humane education. Through November 10, 2022, NCAL has accepted 4 stray or surrendered animals into our shelter to date from Hardwick. These 4 strays or surrenders amount to an approximate expense to NCAL of \$3,076 when using a minimum average expense of \$769 per animal for care, feeding and medical needs before adoption. Our adoption fees range between \$200 to \$450 for dogs and \$50 to \$225 for cats, which cover only a small amount of the expenses incurred: veterinary exams, spay/neuter, vaccinations, routine testing, deworming, emergency medical needs, micro chipping, food, and care.

To ensure the adoption of homeless animals, we must keep our adoption fees as affordable as possible. We seek town-wide support for our local stray and unwanted animals and help to provide them with quality care and placement into permanent homes. Daily boarding fees at private kennels average \$25 per day. To board animals, with an average stay of 27 days before adoption, your town would have spent a minimum of \$2,700 to house these strays, not including medical treatment, adoption services, overhead of staff and building, etc. NCAL offers 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 pet adoptions, outreach, and humane education programs. Our humane education programs served 262 community members of all ages so far this year, with the goal of teaching responsible pet ownership and fostering compassion and curiosity for animal life. The Equine Center provided horsemanship and riding opportunities for 112 community members of all ages and abilities through group riding lessons and between the Pet Adoption and Equine Centers, 150 young people were served at our Humane Heroes, Horsemanship and Be a Vet summer camps. We also bring humane education to schools by offering group shelter tours and classroom visits. 64 additional children were reached through these shelter tours/school visits, and we also have 27 young people recruited and serving our mission as Junior Volunteers/Reading Buddies. To increase accessibility to our program offerings, scholarships are available to our community's low-income families. NCAL Meals, a free monthly pet food assistance program that began in 2020 in response to the pandemic, provided 43,529 free meals in 2022 for over 78 cats and dogs belonging to underserved households in our community. Thank you for your consideration of our request for annual support from Hardwick. Together, we are providing a safe haven for animals in crisis and building a more humane community.

*Respectfully submitted,
Tracy Goldfine
Executive Director*

NEK Broadband Communications Union District

We are a Communications Union District (CUD), a municipal entity representing our 51 member communities in Caledonia, Essex, and Orleans counties, plus Wolcott in Lamoille County. Our district is building high-speed broadband internet infrastructure for underserved communities in the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont. NEK Broadband had a successful and busy year. Construction continued throughout 2022, and customers in Concord, Waterford, and Lunenburg were connected to our fiber-optic internet network! We prepared multiple grant applications, received significant funding from a multitude of sources, and were able to procure and purchase most of the materials needed to continue construction throughout our district.

Preparation for Construction: We purchased over 700 miles of fiber optic cable. More than \$2 million in hardware and equipment was ordered. We submitted the necessary applications to eight electric and communication utility companies, giving us access to more than 12,000 utility poles spread over 500 miles of roadways in 24 towns. We are now able to prepare these poles for installation.

Building Capacity: We hired three full-time employees in 2022 and are in the process of hiring additional staff. Contracts have been finalized with all major construction and operations companies. We secured warehouses in both Saint Johnsbury and Brighton.

Grants and Financing in 2022: This year, the Vermont Community Broadband Board (VCBB) approved \$8,023,915 in Pre-Construction Grants and \$20,865,889 in Construction Grants. We secured American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Fiscal Recovery Funds from 13 towns, totaling \$941,750 plus an added \$941,750 in matching funds from the VCBB. We secured and completed a USDA Rural Business Development Grant to build seven miles, serving 90 premises.

Sign up for updates: To order our service, get updates, or sign up for our newsletter, fill out the form at get.nekbroadband.org.

Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging

For over 44 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 14 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 320 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, all Caledonia, Essex, and Orleans counties. During this past year, 176 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, our e-learning portals Trualta and GetSetUp, fuel assistance, and transportation, among other services. Our website 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 or (802) 748-5182. 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 our friends in the Northeast Kingdom as we continue to help elder Vermonters to age positively.

*In gratitude,
Meg Burmeister
Executive Director*

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 accelerator building alongside it. The NEKDC has formed a subsidiary to receive New Markets Tax Credits for the project, which will minimize long-term debt. NEKDC will be responsible for the management and oversight of the Yellow Barn once construction is complete. We will also manage subleases, as well as the day-to-day operational demands.

More than two years since the start of COVID, we continue to encounter a challenging construction market. In April 2022, we received a single construction bid, which was significantly over budget. While this was disappointing, we worked all summer to reposition this project to align with a post-pandemic economy. We expect to open bids on the revised project shortly. The iconic Yellow Barn will still be rehabilitated as a retail destination for Cabot, who will showcase their signature cheese, as well as other local foods at the gateway to downtown Hardwick. The redesigned Accelerator (new construction alongside the barn) will now host two anchor tenants: the Center for an Agricultural Economy (CAE) and Jasper Hill Farm. Jasper Hill will expand its e-commerce fulfillment and consolidate inventory from scattered locations statewide. Space for the CAE will be the new headquarters for their innovative distribution and logistics service, Farm Connex, which has more than doubled since CAE started operating it in 2020. The new space will also increase CAE's farm-to-supply chain work for institutions and food access.

The new facility is about 23,000 square feet, and space will be divided among the two tenants equally. Collectively, tenants will create or save 25 full-time equivalent jobs, more than half of which will be made available to low- and moderate-income individuals. Yellow Barn 2.0 will be a magnet for locals and visitors to shop and be a point of interest to users of the newly completed Lamoille Valley Rail Trail, which intersects with the Yellow Barn. You can learn more about the NEKDC and the Hardwick Yellow Barn at http://nvda.net/yellow_barn/

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. 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
Kimberly Butler, Richard Isabelle,
Eric Remick, Thomas Robinson,
and David Snedeker*

Northeast Kingdom Human Services

Thank you, Town of Hardwick voters, for your appropriation support at your Town Meetings. Annual appropriations are a vital funding source to provide needed services to residents who cannot otherwise afford care. The 2023 appropriation request of **\$3,161** is the same amount voted on at the 2022 Town Meeting. This represents 3.28% of appropriation requests from 48 towns. We offer supportive confidential program services for Emergency/Crisis Services, mental health, addiction, and/or developmental/intellectual disabilities. *Our mission* is to empower individuals, families, and communities by promoting hope, healing, and support.

Summary Activity Report July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022:

- **2887** individuals of all ages in our service area utilized support services.
- **82** individuals **from the Town of Hardwick** accessed supportive care at NKHS.
- Employees provided **over 94 hours** of community consultation, education, and outreach in community meetings, events, and trainings in NKHS offices, area schools, and businesses at no cost to participants. We offered QPR (Question, Persuade, and Refer) suicide awareness and prevention trainings, Youth Mental Health First Aid, and other educational opportunities to at least 200 Northeast Kingdom community members.
- **552** total dedicated professional employees, **6 from the Town of Hardwick**, support community members in the Derby or St. Johnsbury offices, the satellite office in Hardwick, telehealth, in homes, in schools, and throughout Northeast Kingdom communities.

Good mental health is important for everyone. As a Designated Agency serving the Vermont's system of care, NKHS has a responsibility for assuring that a comprehensive range of services are available regardless of an individual's ability to pay. A sliding fee scale is available for those in financial need. Northeast Kingdom Human

Services is asking the Town of Hardwick voters to consider helping neighbors, family members, and friends receive the supports they need to live a happy, fulfilling life and be an active and contributing member in your community. **Thank you so much for your support!**

*Respectfully submitted,
Kelsey Stavseth, Executive Director
Board of Directors
Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc.*

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.

Our neighbors who utilized over 130,000 rides in FY2022 have expressed their gratitude and noted their dependence on our services. As COVID-19 restrictions are relaxed and Vermont moves forward, RCT remains committed to providing safe, reliable, accessible, and affordable transportation, and continues to be responsive to the safety needs of riders, including those who may not have another means of pandemic-sensitive transportation. RCT gratefully benefits from a robust and growing volunteer program, with sixty 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.

*Jessy M Pelow
Office Administrator
jpelow@riderct.org
802-748-8170 x.1319*

Hardwick Assessor

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 Town-wide Reappraisals in 2006 and 2016. NEMC filled the roles of both Assessor and Assessing Clerk for the Town of Hardwick in 2022. Overall, it was a very successful year with the structural changes in the office. The Assessing Clerk held regular office hours every Thursday and the Assessor maintained office hours every first and third Wednesday of each month. We anticipate that schedule to remain for 2023. Our office can assist property owners or members of the public by email, telephone, or in-person. The following assessment statistics were applied for 2022:

CLA (Common Level of Appraisal) – **88.45%**

This is a measure of current assessment value compared to recent market sales that have occurred in the community. It tells us on average how close to market value we are assessing property.

COD (Coefficient of Dispersion) – **13.23%**

This is a measure of uniformity among all assessments in the community. This statistic can be summarized as a measure of equity.

Our goal is always to maintain fairness and equity within the community by foundationally collecting thorough and accurate data. If an assessment value was revised, a property owner received a letter by mail outlining the change and recourse options. In 2022, the Assessor mailed roughly 95 change of appraisal letters, with 7 property owners filing a grievance appeal. Out of the 7 grievance appeals to the Assessor, 2 property owners chose to appeal the decision to the Board of Civil Authority. There were no appeals brought to the State Hearing Officer or Superior Court in 2022. In the end, the net Grand List growth in 2022 was roughly \$4,100,000. The Assessor's Office looks forward to another year working with The Town of Hardwick in 2023.

*Matthew Krajewski (NEMC), Assessor
(802) 472-4054
assessor@hardwickvt.gov*

Hardwick Conservation Commission

During 2022, the Hardwick Conservation Commission (HCC) has been active and made progress on its goals of providing public education and creating a Natural Resources Inventory (NRI) for the Town. As Covid restrictions lessened, the HCC (and the whole community) participated in Memorial Day festivities. The HCC provided an Information Table with materials about topics in the natural environment, free seed packages and a raffle. Jonathon Shapiro of the Fox Paw School led an Animal Tracking Event on the Hardwick Trails.

The Hardwick Select Board granted the Conservation Commission \$15,000 from the ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds received by the Town. These funds are earmarked for a Natural Resources Inventory, a priority for the HCC for several years. A Request for Proposal went out in September, and the HCC selected Matt Peters, Consulting Ecologist and Botanist, of East Calais to conduct the project. The work will entail using existing background data as well as fieldwork on publicly owned lands and privately-owned lands where landowners have granted permission. (Landowners who grant permission for fieldwork get the benefit of learning more about their lands and what natural features exist on it.) The overall goal of the NRI project is to provide easily accessible information about Hardwick's natural resources. It can enable Hardwick to make effective conservation efforts, protect and promote public health, and prepare for environmental changes with responsible development. The Hardwick Conservation Commission believes all of us in the community benefit. The timeline for the NRI is March 2023-March 2024. The work steps are gathering existing data, prioritizing sites for fieldwork, site fieldwork (with permissions), and report/map production of the NRI. Throughout this period there will be public meetings and field trips with Peters. (HCC will provide information about these events and our progress in the Hardwick Gazette and on Front Porch Forum.) The Hardwick Conservation Commission is extremely grateful to the Hardwick Select Board for making this project possible.

Judy Bellairs led a Raising Butterflies event at Atkins Field, with her "nursery" boxes and information about butterfly species in Vermont. Jerry Schneider led a Butterfly Tagging event at Atkins Field, where children got to tag and release Monarch butterflies. Jerry also spoke about the history of insect tagging begun in the 1930s. Tagging has allowed science to learn about these butterflies' range and winter home in Mexico. The Hardwick Conservation Commission meets the second Monday of the month and welcomes the public. Meeting agendas and minutes are available on the Hardwick Town website.

*Rachel Kane, Chair
Jerry Schneider, Treasurer
Norma Wiesen, Secretary
Ken Davis
Kathy Hemmens
Ben Pougner
Lucy Zendzian*

Hardwick Downtown Partnership, Inc.

The mission and purpose of our newly registered 501(c)3 organization focused on continuing the work of the former Downtown Commission now that we have received “Downtown Designation” from the VT Downtown Board through the Vermont Department of Housing & Community Development/Downtown Program. 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 board members of the Hardwick Downtown Partnership work closely with Town leadership to improve Downtown Hardwick’s infrastructure by acting as an ally with the Town of Hardwick, providing energy, input, and staff time to address bicycle, pedestrian and vehicular access, wayfinding, parking, lighting, street-scaping, accessibility, connectivity, and other infrastructure issues that may arise. We leverage state and federal funding for Downtown Hardwick priority projects by writing grants and exploring other funding sources to capitalize on all available outside resources. Our efforts are focused on maintaining and encouraging downtown vibrancy by providing a “one-stop-shop” for business and property owners seeking information and technical assistance with accessing available downtown incentives.

The Partnership works to build relationships with downtown property owners to help address high-visibility vacancies in Downtown Hardwick by leveraging available State and Federal resources. All with the overall support of downtown grand list growth and revitalization as a priority. The Hardwick Downtown Partnership Organization is modeled closely on the National Main Street Center model for downtown revitalization. If you are interested in further information, making a tax-deductible donation toward achieving our mission or volunteer to serve on a committee and assist the Downtown Partnership please contact the Town Manager, Hardwick Town Community Development Coordinator, or any Board member.

Current Board Members: Shari Cornish-Whistle Emporium, President & Secretary
Sandy Scott-Galaxy Books, Treasurer, Gary Michaels -Retired Professional
Bethany Dunbar-CAE, Tobin Porter -Front Seat Coffee
Katie Tandy -Birdsong Beer & Wine, Emily Hershberger - Buffalo Mountain Market
Nora Lakhani-The Flower Basket

Hardwick Electric Department

2022 was another positive and successful year for the Hardwick Electric Department (HED). Challenges included highly volatile monthly energy costs - primarily driven by the global energy market and the war in Ukraine - and successes included two new system re-configuration and safety projects that will further improve service quality and reliability for our customers. Prudent investments with a long-term focus have allowed HED to span the last fourteen years without a rate increase. Continuous and ongoing improvements in plant/facilities, fleet, system conversions and upgrades, vegetation management, a professional/competent staff, implementing new technologies, and adding only the best renewable energy options to our power portfolio are just a few of the areas where HED is proud to share our success.

HED remains proud of providing stable rates since 2009, but we have been communicating the imminent need for a rate increase since about the end of August 2022. The development and calculations for this increase were completed, and the proposal was finalized to present to the Vermont Public Utility Commission (PUC) in December 2022. Operating revenues for the year were 2.46% under budget, and expenses were 5.23% over budget. This performance – where our normal expenses exceeded our normal revenues - was the final driver in creating the need for this rate increase. As a not-for-profit entity, HED must at least be net zero income each year and cannot operate at a loss. The requested increase is for 13.03% and the new rates as approved by the PUC will take effect in the first quarter of 2023. Operational improvements were completed at HED’s Wolcott hydroelectric generating facility, on our 34.5 kV transmission lines, as well as on two of our main line distribution feeder circuits. These were part of HED’s focus on continuous and ongoing improvement in providing quality reliable energy services to our customers in 2022.

For many months in 2022 HED has been working through the calculations and evaluating investments in two very large projects. The first is an Automated Metering Infrastructure (AMI) project, and the second is a 5-megawatt energy storage battery project. If approved the AMI project will be the single biggest investment HED has made in at least the last 15 years with a cost well over \$1 million. The HED Commissioners are fully evaluating the long-term effects and benefits to our customers over the expected life of each project, and final decisions will be made - and information will be shared - on these projects in early 2023. We are very proud of HED's performance in 2022 and especially proud of the spectacular performance our team delivered to the 2022 Christmas windstorm. The storm struck us with over 2,200 customer outages, and our crews had this down to only eleven within sixty hours. We are excited about 2023 and look forward to another year of delivering exceptional service and performance for our customers.

*Very Truly Yours,
Commissioners:
Lynne Gedanken – Chair/Hardwick
Nat Smith – Greensboro
Roger Prevot – Hardwick
Michael Ambrosino – Hardwick
Vince O'Connell – Craftsbury*

Hardwick Energy Committee

Our Energy Committee's mission is to strive to make the Town of Hardwick a stronger, more resilient community.

The Hardwick Select Board continued their commitment to our clean energy future by supporting Bill Chidsey serving as Hardwick Energy Coordinator. Many thanks to Town Manager David Upson, along with Casey Rowell and Amanda Fecteau, Town Clerk Tonia Chase, Assistant Clerk Alberta Miller, and Zoning Administrator Kristen Leahy for their tireless efforts with my orientation to Hardwick.

On January 21, 2023, we began our Window Dressers initiative with an informational meeting at the Memorial Building. Fifteen Hardwick and Woodbury residents participated in an introductory presentation lead by Glover's Jack Sumberg and Craftsbury's Kevin Gregoire. Window Dressers, a Maine based nonprofit, started producing inserts in 2011 and expanded into Vermont in 2018. Glover, Craftsbury and Greensboro were among the first towns to join in and in 2022 twenty-two community builds produced 4,376 window inserts for Vermonters. Other NEK towns to participate in 2022 were Sutton, Peacham, Danville, Ryegate, and Barnet. More information is available on the web at: windowdressers.org

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.

2023 goals:

- Implementing Hardwick's Window Dressers initiative
- Updating Municipal building Energy Audits and project funding with State of Vermont grants
- Increasing Energy Committee membership
- Device level municipal building HVAC controls and datalogging
- Building Performance grants and implementation

Committee Members as of Dec 31, 2022, include Chair: Bill Chidsey.

Stakeholder liaison: Vince O'Connell, Commissioner, Hardwick Electric Dept.

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.gov. Your call is always welcome 802-249-6004.

Hardwick Equity Committee

Over the past year the Hardwick Equity Committee has been working hard to support equity and inclusion in our town. Our 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, physical and neurological differences, religious or political affiliation can feel protected, included, secure, and safe. Some highlights from the year:

- Advocated for the Hardwick Select Board to sign the “Declaration of Inclusion” (can be found on the Vermont League of Cities and Towns website). A state-wide initiative with the goal of having all Vermont towns commit to inclusion.
- Presented the Select Board with a variety of suggestions and edits to make the town website more inclusive including language changes and adding information about indigenous history. Changes were made based on these suggestions.
- Sponsored a successful training with the Peace and Justice Center with over 20 attendees from the town, and local committees and non-profits.
- Developed a prototype “equity assessment tool” to help town boards and committees evaluate policies and budgets with an equity lens.
- Completed a book club reading of “How to be an Anti-Racist” by Ibram X. Kendi and donated copies to the Jeudevine Library.
- Recommended that the Select Board support an anti-racial resolution raising awareness about attacks on Asian Americans (approved by the Select Board).
- Hardwick was accepted as one of 14 towns to participate in the statewide IDEAL program (Racial Equity Initiative: racialequity.vermont.gov).

Looking forward to and will continue to work on recommendations for the town, support education initiatives, advocate for equity, and work to make Hardwick welcoming and inclusive for all. We meet the first Monday of the Month at 6pm in the memorial building. All are welcome. There are seats open for this committee. Please email ceilidh.gallowaykane@hardwickvt.gov for more information.

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

Hardwick Fire Department Report:

First and foremost, I would like to thank the members of the fire department for their continued support. This year, we have seen an uptick in mutual aid calls because of less members for each department, including our own. More volunteers are needed, so if anyone is thinking about joining the fire department, please contact any of our members. The Hardwick Fire Department responded to a total of 75 calls this year: 8 structure fires, 12 medical assists, 18 accidents, 4 carbon monoxide alarms, 13 fire alarms, 1 grass fire, 13 mutual aids, and 6 miscellaneous. Thank you to the community for your continued support.

Tom Fadden, Fire Chief

Hardwick Historical Society

The HHS had another busy year collecting and preserving evidence of the lives and activities of the people, businesses, and government of Hardwick. **Collections:** We received several large collections this year — two extensive medical collections and two personal collections containing materials from the mid-20th century. *Please, before you clean out your attic/basement/closets/garage of all that old stuff, give me (edow1@protonmail.com or 802-472-6424) an opportunity to look for historical treasures in it.*

Exhibits: The Exhibits Committee has redone all our exhibits and exhibit spaces. Come see us.

Finances: In 2022, the HHS had operating expenses of about \$10,000, paid for by a \$3,000 appropriation at the 2022 Town Meeting, membership fees, advertising in the *Journal*, donations, a chicken barbeque, and bottle redemptions from All Metals Recycling.

Membership: Membership has grown to over 300; for \$15, you can join, too – contact me.

Personnel: Volunteers logged 660 hours of free labor at the Depot in 2022. 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 they contributed to preserve Hardwick’s history and make it accessible to the public. What is volunteer time worth? A group called Independent Sector [http://independentsector.org/volunteer_time] calculates that in Vermont a volunteer’s time has a value of \$28.14/hour. By that calculation, the HHS volunteers contribute about \$18,572.40 to the HHS budget. Even if we ascribe only minimum wage, \$12.55 per hour, they add about \$8,283. Thank you, volunteers: Donna Hale, Elaine Gendron, Elaine Bellavance, Tracy Martin, Judy Nudd, Mark Sassi, Neil Stout, Mary Jane Fradette, Mario Fradette, Debbie Brown, Kris Lance, Mike Lance, Diane Demers, Gail O’Brien, Dave O’Brien, Norma Spaulding, Ted Graham, Christy Clark, Ryan Brown, Jeff LeCours, Pat Hussey, and Mike Clark.

Publications: Every member household gets *The Hardwick Historical Society Journal*, published quarterly and now in its 12th volume. If you want to catch up, you can find bound copies of the first 10 volumes at a local library.

We warmly invite articles and manuscripts from people who have stories to tell about Hardwick’s history. Our website contains inventories of our various collections, digital versions of the Journal, videos related to Hardwick history, and a great deal more. Check it out at www.hardwickvthistory.org

Special Projects: We privately raised funds for two special projects this year. First, we had the three small newspapers published in Hardwick — Roger LeCours’ *Hardwickian*, Patrick Hussey’s *Sports Express*, and Sherry Lussier’s *Our Community Journal* — microfilmed and digitized. The microfilms will go to the Vermont State Archives and the digitized version will, in a few months, appear on Newspapers.com. The originals have returned to our collection. Second: we had a sprinkler system installed to protect the Depot. Over the past several decades the HHS has spent upwards of \$400,000 in restoring that 1882 wooden building and creating a museum and a secure archival repository in it. We do not want all that to go up in smoke. **Visitors:** Between June and mid-October, 87 people signed our guest book — more than during the COVID years, but fewer than pre-COVID years. We know we will entertain more visitors next summer; consider being one of them.

Elizabeth H. Dow
President

Hardwick Police Department

The Hardwick Police Department had a busy year responding to 2,526 calls for service in 2022. The top five types of service calls during the year are as follows:

Suspicious Event	245
Assist – Agency, Public, Motorist, & Other	228
Motor Vehicle Complaint	146
Traffic Crashes	124
Fingerprints	84

The Hardwick Police Department responded to a total of 126 reported traffic crashes. Most of these crashes were property damage without injuries at 86. There were 11 injury crashes and 1 fatal crash. In addition, there were 29 crashes in which the operator left the scene of the crash.

In the first half of the year, motor vehicle complaints were the number one complaint in the community. The Hardwick Police stepped up motor vehicle enforcement and issued 320 traffic tickets and 571 written warnings for a total of 891 stops. This is more than double the traffic stops made in 2021.

The top five traffic tickets issued were as follows:

Operating without Insurance	55
Persons Required to Register	48
SL2 11-20 MPH over Speed Limit	44
Operating After Suspension/Revocation	34
BR 11-20 MPH over Speed Limit	26

The top five traffic warnings issued were as follows:

Vehicle Not Inspected	136
Condition of Vehicle	94
Persons Required to Register	56
SL2 11-20 MPH over Speed Limit	45
Failure to Display Rear Plate	38

The Hardwick Police Department arrested 98 individuals during the 2022 calendar year. It should be noted that some of these arrested individuals were referred to the Community Restorative Justice Program. The top five arrest types are as follows:

Arrest on In-State Warrant	16
Driving w/Criminally Suspended License	15
Violations of Conditions of Release	7
Leaving Scene of an Accident	5
False Information to Police Officer	5

The opioid epidemic continues to surge in our area. The Hardwick Police Department investigated 4 fatal opiate overdose deaths in 2022. Members of the community raised safety concerns with the drug traffic in their neighborhoods. The Hardwick Police Department responded with increased patrols, search warrants and regular contact with known drug distribution houses.

In the first six months of the year, the Hardwick Police Department faced critical staffing shortages. We were forced to prioritize calls, which was no different than many other law enforcement agencies. We were fortunate to have neighboring agencies to help us through the tough times. We would like to thank the Morristown Police Department, Lamoille County Sheriff's Department, and the Vermont State Police for their assistance.

During the 2022 year, two full-time officers, Aaron Cochran, and Robert J. Caldwell, resigned to pursue careers outside of Hardwick. In addition, part-time Officer Zachary Willey resigned to pursue a career in EMS. We wish them the best in their new careers.

In February, we hired Andrew Force, who was new to law enforcement, but had an outstanding military career. Officer Force attended the Vermont full-time basic police academy and graduated in July of 2022. He completed his field training in October of 2022. Officer Force is community oriented and has quickly become a well-respected member in the community.

In April, we hired Officer Paul Barnard who was working for the Orleans County Sheriff's Department. In addition to being a Level II certified law enforcement officer, Officer Barnard was also certified as a school resource officer, child forensic interviewer and SAR Tech-III. Officer Barnard was the perfect fit for a community-based police officer. He helped restart the bike patrol and was highly visible on foot patrol and in the schools.

The Hardwick Police Department needed experienced police officers. In May, we were fortunate to hire retired Trooper George Sheldrick and retired Morristown Police Officer William Morley as part-time officers. Trooper

Sheldrick retired from the Vermont State Police in 2004. He continued his law enforcement career working for Lamoille County Sheriff's Department until 2022. Officer Morley began his law enforcement career in Hardwick in 1984 and soon after joined the Morrystown Police Department. After retiring from Morrystown Police Department in 2014, Officer Morley worked for Lamoille County Sheriff's Department. We were extremely fortunate to have Officer Morley and Sheldrick join our team.

In July of 2022, we hired Steven Mitchell as a full-time sergeant. Mitchell started working as a part-time police officer for the Hardwick Police Department in September of 2011. He became a full-time law enforcement officer for HPD and was promoted to Corporal in July 2019. In December 2020, he resigned from HPD and started working for Lamoille County Sheriff's Department. We are happy to have Sgt. Mitchell back at HPD.

I began my law enforcement career at Stowe Police Department in 1993. In 1996, I was selected to serve for the Vermont State Police as a trooper. I served in many roles throughout my VSP career, to include Special Investigations Unit, Vermont Police Academy Instructor, Patrol Commander, Major Crimes Detective, Crime Scene Search Detective, Station Commander and ultimately the Northern Troop Commander where I retired. After my retirement, I continued working as an Auxiliary Trooper in the recreational enforcement division at Vermont State Police. I began my service for the Hardwick Police Department in January of 2022 as the Interim Police Chief.

In closing, I would like to commend the Hardwick Police Officers for their continued commitment to the community, professionalism, and continued effort to keep our community safe. The officers ensure that coverage is always provided 24 hours a day and 7 days a week. On behalf of the Hardwick Police Department, I would like to thank the Hardwick Select Board for their support and understanding during our difficult times. We are appreciative of the support we receive from the Hardwick Rescue Squad, Fire Department, and town employees. We are also appreciative of the continued support we receive from the community members and local businesses.

*Sincerely,
Chief Michael Henry*

Hardwick Recreation Committee

It has been a pleasure to continue to be part of such a community that is growing, striving, and demanding recreational opportunities! The Hardwick Recreation Committee grew this year, adding 5 new members, Sam Collins, Emily Hale, Sara Behrsing, Emily Varvir, and Lanna Lawson. The committee did lose two great members, Holly Bolio and Rhonda Hess, who resigned early in the year. Both were active members of the committee, and we appreciate all they have done for Hardwick.

The year started off with the construction and assembly of the ice rink at Atkins Field. The rink was quickly vandalized, and the liner was torn, thus resulting in no rink. From there the committee began planning the "post Covid" Easter Egg Hunt. The hunt was very well organized and attended. More than 3000 eggs were collected in less than 5 minutes by Hardwick's kiddos!! The committee then moved forward with two other projects: Springfest and the Hardwick Trails Committee Bike Rodeo. The Bike Rodeo was a blast: minor tune ups, in town practice/safety loop, and included a mountain bike ride of Hazen Trails. We are currently collaborating with the trails committee to ensure another successful rodeo in 2023! For Springfest we encouraged townfolk to come out and participate in a "family fun run". This one-mile run/walk was attended by roughly 30 folks.

The plan for 2023 is to bring back the Springfest 5k that used to take place! The committee voted in Spring to collaborate with the Greensboro Rec Committee and contract with Teach America to Swim to ensure swimming lessons for all local kids. This program took place at the Lake Caspian Beach and was open to Hardwick, Greensboro, and the surrounding towns youth. This was very successful, and all spots sold out in two days. The committee will bring back Teach America to Swim in 2023 for 2 weeks! The committee brought back our outside movie nights and utilized the Townhouse for some Fall movies. This activity will be continued in 2023 as it is a great way to bring families together! The committee asked town folks to assist with the resurfacing of the Hazen Tennis Courts. The donations raised were around \$10,000 and were a big boost financially for such a great

cause. Several purchases were also made to support recreation in town. Bicycles and gear were purchased for use by the Hardwick Elementary kids in collaboration with the REACH! program. These materials were used during the summer programming of REACH!

The rec committee assisted with set up and delivery of pumpkins for the annual pumpkin walk and participated in the annual "Trunk or Treat" festivities here in town, winning the best trunk(s) award for the second year in a row! Fall also brought the first Hardwick Youth Soccer Clinic held by Megan Mercier and many Hazen Union student volunteers. This event was extremely successful and had around 30 kiddos under the age of 5! The clinic will continue in 2023, adding ages 4 to 7. To wrap up 2022 we purchased \$1,600 of new skis and poles for the use of townsfolk on the Hardwick Trails, assembled the new 50 by 95 ice rink at Atkins Field, and held the annual Hardwick Holiday Light contest! Thanks again for letting us be part of such a growing and energetic community!

Hardwick Recreation Committee would like to honor late Joe Brosseau for his long-term commitment to our community. During his time on the recreation committee, he served as a member (before 2017) and as the Chair of the committee from March 2017 through the end of 2020 when he retired from his position. During his time, he brought back the ever-loved skating rink to the Hardwick community, planned, and prepared for a new playground at Mackville Pond, created the best duck drop of all time in 2018 from the top of a ladder truck supplied by Hardwick Fire Dept which he had to climb twice (footage can be found on the Hardwick Recreation Facebook page), and so much more. One of his many designs can be found at the Mackville Pond as he created the Mackville sign. He was very pleased with the design when he presented the idea to the committee in mid-2019, we all loved it as well, especially the loon! It was a privilege to work alongside Joe on the many projects he helped coordinate for this town. His humor and dedication will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

*Jason Bahner,
Recreation Coordinator
Recreation Committee:
Mallory Greaves, Emily Varvir, Sara Behrsing
Emily Hale, Samantha Collins, Lanna Lawson*

Hardwick Trails Committee

The Hardwick Trails Committee has continued to meet monthly throughout the year to expand program offerings, form new partnerships, and continually improve the trails network. Hardwick Trails hosted the REACH program this past winter, supporting enthusiastic Hardwick Elementary students as they honed their cross-country skiing skills. Unfortunately, REACH is not offering programming this coming year. In response, the Hardwick Trails and Recreation Committees are partnering to host a Thursday afternoon ski program this season. Our ski equipment loan inventory is being updated to accommodate increasing demands, including: 1) Hardwick Elementary ski program, 2) Friday Hazen Wellness offering, 3) Dare to be Me program, 4) new Saturday multigenerational ski lessons for the community, and 5) community member loans.

The Hardwick Trails Facebook and web pages are regularly updated, including daily trail grooming reports throughout the winter. We remain committed to minimizing the financial barrier to residents who would like to learn to ski or utilize the trails during the winter months. This spring, the Hazen cross-country track team utilized the trails as their training ground and hosted several races throughout the season. May bird walks were offered. A Bike Rodeo was added to our annual programming, encouraging elementary school age participants to develop their biking skills and learn key safety practices. The Jeudevine Library joined in the event, sharing some inspiring books about biking. Hardwick Trails donated two "strider bikes" (a beginner bike without pedals) to the Jeudevine Library so that parents of children just learning to ride can "check out" this equipment and head to the adjacent Lamoille Valley Rail Trail to support their child's interest in biking. We continue to partner with the Jeudevine Library to develop the Story Walk as a community asset.

It was a joy to once again to extend the Pumpkin Walk invitation to the entire community, who came by the hundreds to enjoy the 500 pumpkins carved by Hardwick Elementary school students. Representatives from the committee have become members of NEK and Hardwick Lamoille Valley Rail Trail (LVRT) groups, expanding

the scope of our trail efforts. Grant funding has been secured to finalize a connector trail from the LVRT to the Hazen trail network and create a trailhead kiosk, with a completion date of spring 2023. The committee is anticipating increased use of Hazen Trails in the coming years, as LVRT users become more aware of this remarkable resource. The Hardwick Trails collaboration with the GMTCC Forestry program, under teacher Megan Luther, continues to expand based on our shared commitment to stewardship of the Hazen Forest. New, more detailed, maps have been created for both the wide general recreational use trails and our Single-Track network. Check out the Trailhead Kiosk and the downtown display cases for the most up to date map. It can also be found on our web site (<https://hardwicktrails.com>). The committee continues to work on signage and virtual means to facilitate easy navigation.

This past summer the Shepard family, who generously donated use of their land at the inception of the trails network, has extended the invitation to further develop single track trails on their property located on the east side of the Bridgman Hill Road. This will be a significant focus of committee planning in the coming year. The Hardwick Trails Committee, a volunteer sub-committee of the Hardwick Town Recreation Department, welcomes everyone to our meetings on the first Monday of the month at 5:30 pm. The Trails Committee thanks the Town of Hardwick for its support.

*Respectfully submitted by
Helen Beattie*

Jeudevine Memorial Library

Perhaps it is difficult to remember but, in the fall of 2021, we were still in the pandemic mode. Indeed, COVID continues to infect people. During the warm months we did programs outside. We bought two high-quality air purifiers and a CO₂ monitor so we could measure the air exchange and stay open. Our circulation inched upward. We ended the fiscal year having checked out 13,312 items, and 7,349 people came through our doors. Library usage is almost at pre-pandemic levels.

For fundraising events, we held a coin drive throughout the late winter and spring that raised \$1800 toward the expansion project. In the summer we organized a very successful Garden Tour of five area gardeners. There was a great turnout. The event raised \$2,675 for the addition. Trustee Ross Connelly donated a large carboy jug filled with pennies and a contest was held to see who could guess the closest to the actual number of pennies in the jug. First-place winner was Jonah Fliegelman, who guessed 35,000! The actual number of pennies was 35,944, which is equal to \$359.44. The sum was donated to the building fund by Ross, plus \$170 for the guesses that were sold.

Summer saw youth programs, including Aquatic Creatures presented by the Lamoille Nature Center, Let's Go Fishing with a volunteer fisherman through VT Fish & Wildlife, and Watershed Wildlife with VINS. Fall 2022 saw the Headstart preschool resume weekly visits and the public story time resumed. A Dungeons and Dragons group formed, led by Dungeon Master Jesse Mayer, that meets on the first and third Sundays of each month welcoming teens and adults. The library has many services for you. (Check them out on our website!)

Big staff changes have happened in 2022. Diane Grenkow, our Youth Librarian since October 2014 resigned at the end of June. Marilyn McDowell, formerly the Youth Librarian at the Pope Memorial Library in Danville took over that position. Lisa Sammet, Library Director since May of 2000, turned in her resignation effective Dec. 31, 2022, after 22.5 years at the helm. Diane Grenkow was selected as the new Library Director. She began her new position on January 17, 2023.

The library received numerous grants in FY2022, including two ARPA-funded grants (Federal American Rescue Plan Act) administered by the VT Department of Libraries. These two grants totaled \$5,676 and were used to buy lounge chairs for the addition and some Young Adult books. The library received \$4,819 from the Association of Rural and Small Libraries New England Division. This grant was used to purchase 81 very comfortable meeting room chairs for the addition and some chair dollies to help stacking. All the chairs are in storage waiting for the construction of the addition. We were also awarded \$35,000 by the Hardwick Select Board from the town ARPA funds, directed toward the expansion. We were also the grateful recipients of \$600,000 in congressionally directed spending (aka earmark funds) through Senator Patrick Leahy's request in the national budget.

Regarding the expansion project, this year was another challenging one that saw us unable to break ground in the throes of unprecedented inflation that saw bids increase by over 50%. Out of that challenge, however, we saw a new path forward by making a shift to a new construction model that will allow us to build in 2023. Where our last two “Design/Bid/Build” hard bids came with a 60-day window to fully fund the costs, the Construction Management model provides a more flexible process. Working with a construction company as a construction manager (rather than a general contractor) allows us to build a budget together as a team. We can incorporate the expertise of the builders and the back-and-forth process means we have more time to raise funds to meet costs. Also, with the input of the builders, we will have the ability to reduce costs if that’s what is needed. However, costs are slowly stabilizing after the soaring inflation of early 2022 and it looks promising that we’ll be able to build in 2023 for less than what was proposed in 2022. This past October we put out a Request for Proposals for a construction manager and were greatly impressed with the proposal we received from ReArch Company of South Burlington. The ReArch team specializes in restoring historic buildings to meet modern needs and is extremely excited to work on the Jeudevine expansion. They have done extensive work in historic buildings in Vermont, including on the Billings Library at UVM and the expanded Waterbury Public Library. They are currently working toward soliciting bids from subcontractors for work to begin in early spring. Once bids are received and assembled, the Trustees will know exactly what further funds are required and will jump into gear to raise them. Fortunately, we have good options and are already working behind the scenes to submit applications. Get ready for construction this spring!

*Jodi Lew-Smith
Library Trustee/Chair*

Select Board Report

Over the past months, the Select Board has been working with Town staff to craft a budget that continues to fund all the services that we are accustomed to the Town providing. You will notice that this year’s budget proposes a slightly larger increase than we have proposed in recent years. The main upward pressures on the budget are increases in wages and insurance and unstable fuel markets. Both the police union and the highway union contracts were up for renewal this past winter in the setting of increased costs of living and, as a result, wages are up. We are sensitive to the market pressures on all Town employees, and we want the Town to be an employer that can attract and retain valuable employees. As always, the budget that we are presenting to the voters this year represents the Select Board’s best effort to balance the need to continue providing services against the rising costs of almost everything, all the while trying to minimize the impact on property taxes. Creating the budget is never an easy task and this year was more challenging than most, but the Select Board is confident that the final budget will meet the needs of the Town. Our budget proposes an increase of about 5% over last year which, when compared to the Social Security Cost of Living Increase of 8.7%, seems very reasonable. Please review the budget presented in this report and bring your questions to Town Meeting.

One of the many annual Select Board tasks, in addition to creating a budget, is to appoint townspeople to various committees. In addition to Select Board appointments, many positions are elected at Town Meeting. Many important Town functions are carried out by volunteers. Some positions come with a small stipend, and some do not. We are always looking for people to help the Town in the way that most suits their interest and experience. Even now we have openings on the Planning Commission, the Development Review Board, the Conservation Commission, the Energy Committee, and the Equity Committee. The Fire Department and Hardwick Rescue are always looking for volunteers. If you see a position or committee in this report that you’re interested in knowing more about, please contact the Town Manager at 802-472-6120.

There are some major projects around Town that we expect to see under construction in 2023. The ongoing wastewater treatment facility upgrade is on schedule and on budget. After gathering much community input, we’re planning to see a new pedestrian bridge replace the broken swinging bridge this year. The library has been working diligently to bring expansion plans to fruition this year. After many setbacks, the Yellow Barn project is scheduled to break ground this spring. With the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail nearly complete (hurrah!!!) the Town is making plans for trailside amenities that will improve the experience for trail users and also inform visitors of all our Town has to offer them.

In closing, I wish to applaud all the Town employees who keep our Town running smoothly all year round. Through the challenges of COVID, through changes in leadership, and despite supply-chain issues, our Town employees continue to do the work that keeps our community vital and vibrant.

*Eric Remick
Select Board Chair*

Town Clerk Report

2022-2023 has been an exciting first year for me as your new Town Clerk and Treasurer. While I had 4 years prior working as the Assistant Clerk/Treasurer, I continue to learn more through courses, seminars, other clerks around the state and former clerk, Alberta Miller. Effective February 01, 2023, the Town Clerk's office will no longer offer Notary Public services. We thought long and hard about this decision, but because of the increasing number of legal documents we are requested to notarize that we are not comfortable with, we have decided to eliminate this service. If you need a Notary Public, you can access a list of notaries on the Vermont Secretary of State's website. We apologize for the inconvenience this may cause.

We have updated the Town Clerk's page on the Town's website. You can access forms, election information, water and sewer rates, tax rates, Hardwick assessor cards and tax maps, digital land records, unredacted tax bills and much more. Please visit the site at: <https://hardwickvt.gov/government/town-clerk/>

We continue to offer DMV registration renewals. To renew your registration at the Town Clerk's office you will need to have the following: your registration renewal form from the DMV (please note that renewals more than two months past due cannot be processed at the Town Clerk's office), a check or money order made out to Vermont DMV for the registration fee (cash or credit card cannot be accepted), and a separate cash or check fee for \$3.00 to the Town of Hardwick.

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 1st of each year. To register your dog, you must show proof of a current rabies vaccination. The fees From January 11st – April 1st are: Spayed/Neutered \$9.00 Non-Spayed/Neutered \$13.00 After April 1st late fees are applied.

*Tonia Chase
Town Clerk/Treasurer*

Town Manager Report

It is an important task keeping the Town of Hardwick moving forward. Sometimes the progress seems slow; sometimes it feels like there is no progress at all, but I can assure you we are moving forward. Last summer, I partnered with the Hardwick Neighbor-to-Neighbor group for a series of community gatherings to "Meet the New Town Manager." During five events, I spoke with over 200 people, and realized most of all how much people loved the feel of their community here in Hardwick. Our discussions were productive and provided me with a baseline of information of what residents wished to see in the future and what should remain unchanged. The balance of preserving life in Hardwick to what we have come to appreciate and providing for necessary growth is a high priority and one that is not taken lightly. As the push for more housing echoes throughout Vermont and as we figure out ways to do our part in welcoming into town new families, young and old, we want to make sure we are not sacrificing what we have grown to cherish about our Town.

The downtown paving project this past summer provided us with smooth roads, new signs, and freshly painted lines. Wolcott Street has never been that smooth! With all roads leading to Hardwick, the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail will host visitors from all over New England and Canada. Hardwick will be living up to our name as the Gateway to the Northeast Kingdom. As traffic coming through Town will be on the increase, people will surely stop to enjoy the scenery. With the completion of the Pedestrian Bridge slated for late in 2023, they can return the following summer to visit the Gateway Park just across the river from Main Street.

One of the other aspects of preparing for growth is being able to handle an increase of water and wastewater usage. The wastewater plant refurbishment that started in June of 2022 has reset one of the Lagoons with a new

liner and free of solids. The second lagoon will get a reset in the Spring of 2023 along with three new blowers and a new aeration system. All of these improvements will increase water quality discharging into the Lamoille River and allow for some future residential growth within the village.

In the Spring of 2023, the Planning Commission will be utilizing a by-law modernization grant to look at infill and higher density housing development in our urban compact and village neighborhood districts. Developing plans to move our town garage will also be a goal in 2023. With the potential to move and create a town garage complex located off Carey Road, we would free up some space in our newly designated downtown boundary to execute a small housing project in years to come right along the Rail Trail. The new housing could entice current visitors interested in calling Hardwick home to relocate here.

With all these plans for growth, we must not forget the current infrastructure and assets that need repairs and upgrading; roads, sidewalks, guardrails, catch basins, underground water and wastewater, vehicles large and small just to name a few. Planning, preserving, and rebuilding existing assets is the ultimate balance of how and where we spend our tax dollars. Ideally, this could all be achieved by making sound and well researched decisions to move forward but there are occasional setbacks. Pipes break, sidewalks deteriorate, roads need rebuilding after weather events are just to name a few. The Town continues to set funds aside annually for capital projects but as costs increase to do these projects, sacrifices must be made. We want to be proactive, not reactive in preserving our assets.

Historically speaking, our Town has been managed well and, in my opinion, continues to be. At the end of Fiscal Year 22, our fund balance reached \$1.2M. No one could have planned for the current economic climate and to keep things moving forward, the Select Board agreed to offset some of the tax increases with our fund balance over the next several years. This is a way for the Town to ease the burden on taxpayers and keep the ball moving forward.

In closing, there is no magic formula or playbook on how to operate a Town. There are local stakeholders, regional and state partners; but what it really comes down to is community and public trust in the people you elect to make decisions. I strongly encourage you to stay informed, ask questions, and most importantly get involved in your community. There are groups and organizations that could use your help and expertise to make Hardwick even better than it already is. I consider Hardwick the center of the universe...thank you for being a part of it!

*David Upson
Town Manager*

Zoning Report

The Hardwick Planning Commission (HPC) and the Hardwick Development Review Board (DRB) have transitioned to a hybrid model for their meetings. Both entities meet virtually by ZOOM and in-person on the third floor of the Memorial Building. We anticipate that this approach will continue throughout 2023. The Hardwick Planning Commission was busy in 2022. The Commission continued the examination of traffic and pedestrian safety issues throughout Hardwick. Two walkability audits were conducted in the East Hardwick Village Center and a final report was submitted to the Select Board in July of 2022. The HPC also reviewed the plans from Local Motion regarding pedestrian and traffic safety updates in East Hardwick.

In the fall of 2022, the Hardwick Planning Commission proposed updates to the Unified Development Bylaws. The updates focused on enhancing the Accessory Dwelling unit rules and amending the Tax Map to expand the Highway Mixed Use zoning district from Wolcott Street to Granite Street. 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 the expansion of housing stock. 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 2022, the Hardwick Development Review Board reviewed and approved changes of use in the Downtown section of Hardwick. The Buffalo Mountain Co-op relocated to the former Village Market building and requested

adjustments to the parking and access. The Flower Basket relocated to the former Buffalo Mountain Co-op building and expanded the types of Mixed Uses in the building. The former Brochu Service Station received an approval for expansion and for a conversion to a new restaurant. Other DRB hearings focused on multiple Flood Plain requests, an expansion of an Industrial Park structure, a new health clinic, a major subdivision, an additional restaurant, and five indoor cultivation structures. 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.gov

End of Town and Appropriation Reports

<u>Town of Hardwick</u>			
<u>Dog License Report</u>			
July 01, 2021 to June 30, 2022			
<u>Total Number of Licenses</u>	<u>Price Per License</u>	<u>Total Collected</u>	
10	\$ 3.00	\$	30.00
2	\$ 4.00	\$	8.00
5	\$ 8.00	\$	40.00
184	\$ 9.00	\$	1,656.00
3	\$ 10.00	\$	30.00
67	\$ 11.00	\$	737.00
5	\$ 12.00	\$	60.00
41	\$ 13.00	\$	533.00
10	\$ 17.00	\$	170.00
1 Kennel Permit	\$ 31.00	\$	31.00
1 Pet Dealer Permit	\$ 25.00	\$	25.00
329		\$	3,320.00
Total Collected for FY22		\$	3,320.00
Refunds		\$	(13.00)
Fees to State of Vermont		\$	(1,570.00)
Total Revenue for FY22		\$	1,737.00

<u>Town Clerk's Office</u>
<u>Vital Records Information:</u>
July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022
The following records were filed:
31 Birth Certificates
16 Marriage Certificates
54 Death Certificates

CURRENT TAX RECONCILIATION: 7/1/2021 TO 6/30/2022		
MUNICIPAL GRAND LIST AT 1%	\$	191,067,800.00
HOMESTEAD GRAND LIST AT 1%	\$	1,088,824.03
NON RESIDENTIAL GRAND LIST AT 1%	\$	821,545.97
TAXES BILLED ON 7/20/2021		
MUNICIPAL TAXES BILLED	\$	1,279,007.81
HIGHWAY TAXES BILLED	\$	1,202,580.83
LOCAL AGREEMENT BILLED	\$	19,870.99
HOMESTEAD TAXES BILLED	\$	1,936,146.92
NON RESIDENTIAL TAXES BILLED	\$	1,396,965.16
LATE HOMESTEAD PENALTY	\$	74.68
MISC. BILLING (GARBAGE)	\$	120.00
TOTAL TAXES BILLED	\$	5,834,766.39
TAX BOOK BILLING BALANCE 6/30/22		
MUNICIPAL TAXES BILLED	\$	1,265,009.31
HIGHWAY TAXES BILLED	\$	1,189,418.83
LOCAL AGREEMENT BILLED	\$	19,653.50
HOMESTEAD TAXES BILLED	\$	1,952,220.21
NON RESIDENTIAL TAXES BILLED	\$	1,353,139.54
LATE HOMESTEAD PENALTY	\$	1,810.78
MISC. BILLING (GARBAGE)	\$	120.00
TOTAL TAXES BILLED	\$	5,781,372.17
COLLECTIONS REPORT 7/1/2021 TO 6/30/2022		
ABATEMENTS	\$	(225.93)
ADJUSTMENTS	\$	(9,523.50)
AVAILABLE CREDITS FOR FY22	\$	(4,177.47)
AVAILABLE CREDITS FOR FY23	\$	(6,043.56)
COLLECTIONS	\$	4,855,359.78
CREDIT REFUNDS (HS-122 & OVERPAYMENTS)	\$	(7,684.59)
STATE TAX PAYMENTS TO SCHOOL DISTRICT 7/1/2021 TO 6/30/22	\$	730,157.97
STATE TAX PAYMENTS TO TOWN OF HARDWICK 7/07/2021	\$	139,067.00
STATE TAX PAYMENT TO TOWN OF HARDWICK 8/03/2021	\$	1,255.00
STATE TAX PAYMENTS TO TOWN OF HARDWICK 9/08/2021	\$	737.00
STATE TAX PAYMENTS TO TOWN OF HARDWICK 11/2/2021	\$	11,618.96
PROPERTY TAXES ACCOUNTED FOR ON JUNE 30, 2022	\$	5,710,540.66
DELINQUENTS ON JUNE 30, 2022	\$	72,264.71
PROPERTY TAXES ACCOUNTED FOR ON JUNE 30, 2022	\$	5,782,805.37
ACCOUNTING SOFTWARE - NEMRC	\$	(5,781,372.17)
DIFFERENCE	\$	1,433.20
GENERAL FUND BALANCE AS OF JUNE 30, 2022		\$1,240,041.00

**Minutes
For Town of Hardwick Annual Town Meeting
March 1, 2022**

**Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there was not an in-person meeting held on March 01, 2022. **

In 2022, approval of all Articles and Election of Town Offices and Union School District #26 Directors were voted on by Australian Ballot.

RESULTS OF AUSTRALIAN BALLOT VOTE:

Total votes cast 363

Article 2. Shall the Town accept the Town Report, year ending June 30, 2021?

Yes – 338 No – 8

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

Yes – 342 No – 4

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?

Yes – 273 No – 81

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 – 305 No – 48

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 – 304 No – 47

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?

Yes – 278 No – 73

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 – 298 No – 55

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 – 282 No – 74

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 – 320 No – 41

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 – 324 No – 34

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 – 286 No – 68

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 – 292 No – 57

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 – 263 No – 89

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 – 297 No – 59

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 – 269 No – 86

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 – 273 No – 81

Article 19: Shall the Town require it's government to provide notice on it's website to it's 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?

Yes – 249 No – 100

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

Yes – 185 No – 172

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

Yes – 190 No – 162

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?

Yes – 296 No – 51

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?

Yes – 295 No – 51

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

Town of Hardwick Moderator – Orise Ainswoth – 309 (elected)

Town of Hardwick Select Board – 3-year term – Danny Hale – 309 (elected)

Town of Hardwick Select Board – 2 – 1- year terms – Elizabeth Dow – 242 (elected) & Eric Remick – 282 (elected)

Town of Hardwick Clerk – 3-year term – Tonia Chase – 323 (elected)

Town of Hardwick Treasurer – 3-year term – Tonia Chase – 320 (elected)

Hazen Union School District # 26 Director - 3 Year Term – Patrick Kane – 301 (elected)

Hazen Union School District # 26 Director – 1 year remaining on a 3 Year Term – No one elected

Town of Hardwick Lister - 3 Year Term – No one elected

Town of Hardwick Lister - 2 years remaining on a 3 Year Term 3 Year Term – No one elected

Town of Hardwick Lister - 1 year remaining on a 3 Year Term 3 Year Term – No one elected

Town of Hardwick Auditor – 3 Year Term – No one elected

Town of Hardwick First Constable – No one elected

Town of Hardwick Second Constable – No one elected

Town of Hardwick Town Agent – No one elected

Town of Hardwick Surveyor of Wood Bark and Lumber – No one elected

Town of Hardwick Tree Warden – Geoffrey Fehrs – 281 (elected)

Town of Hardwick Grand Juror – No one elected

Town of Hardwick Cemetery Trustees for Main Street – Main Street Cemetery Association – 286 (elected)

Town of Hardwick Cemetery Trustees for Maple Street – Maple Street Cemetery Association – 286 (elected)

Town of Hardwick Cemetery Trustees for Fairview – Fairview Cemetery Association – 284 (elected)

Town of Hardwick Cemetery Trustees for Sanborn –Hardwick Select Board – 286 (elected)

Town of Hardwick Cemetery Trustees for Hardwick Street – Hardwick Select Board – 286 (elected)

Town of Hardwick Library Trustees –3 – 3-year terms – No one elected

Town of Hardwick Trustees of Public Funds – No one elected

Town of Hardwick Fence Viewers – No one elected

Town of Hardwick Fire Department Officers – Voted as a Block- 332 (elected)

Chief	Tom Fadden
1 st Assistant Chief	Perley Allen
2 nd Assistant Chief	Rick Sullivan
Captain	Michael Gravel
1 st Lieutenant	Mike Hall
2 nd Lieutenant	Ken LaCasse
3 rd Lieutenant	Charles Bartlett
Foreman	Lindsey O’Steen
Assistant Foreman	Dana Camp
Pipeman	Dave Colburn
Assistant Pipeman	Dana Camp
Ax Man	Codey Marckres
Safety Officer	Davey Chase
Training Officer	Tom Fadden/Perley Allen
Secretary/Treasurer	Jennifer Bellavance
Dispatcher	Lamoille County Sherriff

Minutes taken by Alberta Miller and presented exactly as written.

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End of minutes

Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District

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

The Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District (CVSWMD) serves 19-member cities and towns and approximately 52,000 residents. CVSWMD's mission is to provide education, advocacy, and services for residents and businesses in reducing and managing their solid waste to protect public health and the environment. CVSWMD is committed to providing quality programming, meeting state mandates, and providing information and resources to our member communities. The per capita assessment has been established at \$1.00 for fiscal year 2024.

Hardwick's appointed representative to CVSWMD's Board of Supervisors is Shari Cornish; Danny Hale serves as an alternate. CVSWMD continues to provide valuable programs and services to its residents, including:

Additional Recyclables Collection Center (ARCC): The ARCC is located in Barre City, Vermont. We work with the State of Vermont to recycle TVs, computers and computer peripherals, architectural paint, household batteries, mercury bulbs and thermostats for free for Vermont residents. We also accept dozens of hard-to-recycle items that cannot be recycled in curbside recycling. In FY22, 403,896 lbs. of materials were collected and diverted from the landfill.

Grants: In FY22, CVSWMD awarded \$33,218 in grant funding to towns, businesses, organizations, and schools in our District. Through our Municipal Services Program (MSP), the city of Barre received \$5,000 and the town of Chelsea received \$2,764 for solid waste management projects. Samuel Morey Elementary School and Walden School were granted \$2,000 and \$2,500 respectively through our School Zero Waste (SZW) program to reduce solid waste and achieve sustainability goals. And, finally, the Green Mountain Returned Peace Corp Volunteers received \$285 from our Organizational Waste Reduction and Reuse Program (OWRRP) for their Pedals for Progress collection event in Montpelier. Green-Up Day grants of \$400 are available to each of CVSWMD's member municipalities.

Outreach and Education: CVSWMD maintains its website with useful information on what can (and can't) be recycled, what is landfill banned (and how to dispose of those), what 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, and an A-Z Guide providing guidance to dispose of all types of waste. CVSWMD provides monthly newsletters and is active on social media, communicating waste management information and program updates to residents. Our knowledgeable staff provides guidance to residents and local businesses regarding all their waste management questions and concerns.

Household Hazardous Waste: In FY22, CVSWMD held five one-day collections throughout the District and helped 637 resident households dispose of their hazardous waste. CVSWMD continues to work to acquire land and site a year-round collection facility within the District that will be conveniently accessible to all residents, and small business generators of waste.

School Program: The School Zero Waste Program continued to deliver services to CVSWMD member schools in FY22. A total of 941 students in grades K-12 were reached through the delivery of 97 programs and initiatives that included: programs on living sustainably, recycling, and composting; support of student Farm-to-School groups, recognition of student leadership efforts in on-campus food scrap disposal, school community zero-waste events, field trips to the Additional Recyclables Collection Center (ARCC), and support for the 2022 VT Youth Climate Rally. Informational take-home packets were provided for primary grade students, which reached upwards of 350 households. School food services departments continued to be supported in reducing cafeteria waste, and school custodial and facilities staff were supported in proper disposal of books, batteries, mercury-containing bulbs, and electronic waste through the ARCC, as well as the management and proper disposal of school-generated hazardous waste via District collection events. Our School Zero Waste Coordinator also tabled at 3 farmers markets and one community event.

Compost and Zero Waste: CVSWMD sells Green Cone food digesters, Soil Saver composting bins, recycling bins, and kitchen compost buckets to district residents at discounted rates. We also continue to offer our Event Kit and Bin Loan programs on a first come, first-serve basis to help reduce and manage waste at events held within the District. The Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District serves 19-member cities and towns and approximately 52,000 residents to reduce and manage solid waste. Shari Cornish represents Hardwick on the CVSWMD Board of Supervisors. CVSWMD is committed to providing quality programming, meeting state mandates, and providing information and resources to our member communities. The per capita assessment is set at \$1.00 this year.

Town of Hardwick General Information:

Visit us at www.hardwickvt.gov

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. Closed 12:00-12:30 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: tonia.chase@hardwickvt.gov or alberta.miller@hardwickvt.gov

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.gov

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 Rescue Squad: 472-6343

Hardwick Fire Department: 472-5482

Hardwick Electric Dept.: 472-5201

Hardwick Area Food Pantry: 472-5940

Hardwick Health Officer (Eric Remick): 472-8025

Hardwick Water/Wastewater Operator: 472-5939

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 15th day of April of the following year, no person shall park any vehicle or permit any vehicle to remain parked on any public highway in the Town between the hours of 12:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m.
8. If there is an emergency after regular working hours 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 2023-2024

Hardwick Streets & Roads

M	W	A	B	C	O	Y	D	U	T	T	O	N	O	V	L	B	W
A	B	A	R	M	A	F	D	C	R	E	A	M	E	R	Y	U	P
C	E	W	I	J	O	T	E	B	R	I	D	G	M	A	N	F	L
K	L	E	C	H	E	N	A	G	C	S	O	M	A	I	N	F	E
V	F	S	K	A	O	W	T	M	L	E	T	I	I	N	A	A	A
I	R	T	H	T	M	P	W	G	O	E	D	R	W	B	L	L	S
L	Y	H	O	K	Q	A	K	A	O	U	N	A	A	K	P	O	A
L	U	I	U	I	G	D	X	I	R	M	N	S	R	T	T	W	N
E	Q	L	S	N	N	E	O	V	N	D	E	T	I	N	T	C	T
J	E	L	E	S	O	T	P	E	J	S	U	R	Q	D	L	O	D
U	E	W	U	G	V	E	R	M	O	N	T	J	Y	D	E	P	N
L	A	M	O	I	L	L	E	L	Q	M	C	H	E	R	R	Y	B

Find the following words in the puzzle.

Words are hidden → ↓ and ↘ .

ATKINS
BELFRY
BRICKHOUSE
BRIDGMAN
BUFFALO
CATAMOUNT
CEDAR
CHERRY

CREAMERY
DUTTON
GLENSIDE
HOPKINS
LAMOILLE
MACKVILLE
MAIN
MONTGOMERY

PLEASANT
STRATTON
VERMONT
WARD
WEST HILL

