

**PUBLIC HEARING
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT
RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE GRANT APPLICATION
5:45 P.M. OCTOBER 15, 2026
20 CHURCH ST. MEMORIAL BUILDING, 3RD FLOOR
HARDWICK, VT 05843**

Select Board

Ceilidh Galloway-Kane, Chair
Shari Cornish, Vice Chair
Tim Ricciardello - *absent*
Larry Fliegelman
Derek Richardson

Others Present

David Upson, Town Manager
Amanda Fecteau, Payroll Administrator

Others Present

Public Hearing

5:45 P.M. Ceilidh Galloway-Kane, Select Board Chair, called the Public Hearing to order.

5:45 P.M. Item #1 Select Board Chair to give reason for the hearing

The purpose of this public hearing is to provide information and receive public comment regarding the Town of Hardwick's intent to apply for funding through the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development, Rural Utilities Service Program.

The Town is seeking grant funding to assist with the wastewater treatment facility project. This hearing provides opportunity for residents and other interested parties to ask questions and provide comments regarding the proposed project and the Town's application for the USDA Rural Development funding.

5:46 P.M. Communication/Questions from the Audience

There were no questions. David provided an update on the project, noting that the Town has selected Aldrich & Elliott for engineering services. The Town is currently working with FEMA; however, the USDA is additional funding to cover any funding that needs to be supplemented for an elevation design or a relocation. The Town has not yet received a response from USDA. Hardwick, Johnson, and Ludlow have all applied for this funding.

The USDA funding requires a 20% match. The current funding structure includes a \$700,000 loan and \$1 million in forgivable funding, for a total of \$1.7 million. The Town will determine the actual funding need once the final FEMA figures and USDA funding approvals are received.

5:51 P.M. With no further comments from anyone, Select Board Chair, Ceilidh Galloway-Kane, adjourned the Public Hearing.

Minutes taken by: _____
Amanda Fecteau, Payroll Administrator

Minutes approved by: _____
Ceilidh Galloway-Kane, Select Board Chair