

Hardwick Planning Commission  
August 12, 2025  
Hybrid – In-Person and Zoom options  
Minutes

HPC Members Present: Dave Gross, Chair; Kole; Ken Davis; Larry Fliegelman; Jim Lewis; and Gillian D’Acierno (Alternate)

HPC Members Absent: Bud Stevens and Michael Haveson (Gillian D’Acierno assumes his seat)

Also Present: Kristen Leahy, Hardwick Zoning Administrator and Tracy Martin, Community Development Coordinator

Chair Dave Gross opened the meeting at 6:31 pm. Larry Fliegelman moved to approve the agenda as written. Ken Davis seconded. All members were in favor. Ken Davis moved to approve the draft July 8, 2025 minutes as written. Larry Fliegelman seconded. All members were in favor.

**Updates from the Community Development Coordinator – Tracy Martin**

*Transportation Alternatives* – The Town has officially hired VHB to conduct the feasibility and scoping study for the Mill Street and Main Street area. VHB will host a local concerns meeting to solicit input from area stakeholders on August 13, 2025 from 6pm to 8pm. The meeting is hybrid with a zoom option and an in-person option in the Parker Ladd Community Room at the Jeudevine Memorial Library. Once the input has been received, the goal is to have three options for the community’s consideration and the chosen option will be developed with cost estimates.

*Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Relief (CDBG-DR)* – These funds are loosely based on the damage from the July 2023 flooding event. Hardwick was not identified by HUD as a majorly damaged town but we were identified by the State of Vermont. Hardwick applied for an implementation grant and a planning grant. The planning grant would focus on the phased design and engineering that is needed for downtown Hardwick. The implementation grant would focus on the floodplain restoration of the HED property below the intersection of Cooper and the Lamoille. Tracy received REDI support to pay Heather Carrington to submit the 2 applications. The pre-applications were already submitted and have been green lighted by the State of Vermont.

*Act 181 – Certified Local Government* - Application for Tier 1A would require Hardwick to adopt River Corridor bylaw rules (*in process*). In addition, the Town would need to adopt regulations that address historical aspects. The Select Board made a motion on August 7, 2025 to pursue Certified Local Government in Hardwick. CLG would allow the town to meet the requirements for Tier 1A application. The program provides access to money for preservation projects and educational projects in the municipality.

*Local LVRT information* – The initial LVRT committee from Hardwick requested a reconvening. This group was temporarily suspended because there was a regional committee being formed by NVDA. The regional version is still working on aspects. A grant was received for regional support by NVDA and this grant will provide 2 bike repair racks, benches, 4 bike racks, and picnic tables for the trailheads in Hardwick and East Hardwick. The trailhead at the Depot will not be completed until October after the Historical Society lifts and repairs the existing train tracks. The East Hardwick trailhead is waiting for their wetlands delineation. They need to be

outside of the wetland buffer with their development (both parking spaces and the pavilion). The location on Stevens Lane will eventually have a handicap accessible parking space, a kiosk, a pavilion, bike repair rack, and a picnic table. This will hopefully be completed by the fall of 2025. In addition, State way finding signs are on their way.

#### **New Zoning Bylaw Changes:**

River Corridor rules are now incorporated into the update. The changes were discussed. Most of the language is mandated by the state with little flexibility. A few additional prohibited aspects were added. The development that is not allowed in the floodplain was added to the River Corridor prohibition list. In addition, language about private cemeteries was added to the bylaws.

***Motion: To send the draft zoning bylaw changes to the Floodplain Managers and to NVDA for review and response.***

Ken Davis made the motion and Larry Fliegelman seconded. All members were in favor.

The Public Hearing is scheduled for November 11, 2025.

The Commission will re-visit the question of the Mobile Home Park language at future meetings.

#### **Updates from Commission Members:**

N/A

***Motion: N/A.***

#### **Updates from the Zoning Administrator: N/A**

***Motion: To conclude the Hardwick Planning Commission Meeting.***

Ken Davis made the motion and Larry Fliegelman seconded. All members were in favor.

The meeting ended at 7:50 pm.

The next HPC meeting will be at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, September 9, 2025 on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor of the Memorial Building.

~ Respectfully submitted, Kristen Leahy, ZA