

## TOWN COUNCIL WORKSHOP AGENDA BACKGROUND AGENDA FOR JANUARY 7, 2021

Please join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://www.gotomeet.me/YarmouthTownMeetingRoom/tcworkshopjanuary7>

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**Access Code: 928-062-717**

- Item No. 1:** To hear the reports of the Council Chair, committees, delegates, liaisons and the Town Manager
- Item No. 2:** To consider issuance of a full-time malt, spirituous and vinous liquor license and Special Amusement permit to 233 Grill, Garrison at the Former Andy's Handy store and Dandelion Catering.
- Item No. 3:** To consider and appropriation of funds or other actions related to the Army Corps of Engineer's recent Federal Interest Determination for river restoration projects in the Royal River.

**Background:** The Army Corps of Engineers recently issued Federal Interest Determination reports for river restoration projects in the Royal River and made a public presentation in November (The reports and a powerpoint from that meeting is posted on the Town web site at [yarmouth.me.us/riverstudies](http://yarmouth.me.us/riverstudies)).

**At This Workshop:** Council will determine what if any next steps to take on the issue.

- Item No. 4:** To consider an amendment to Chapter 401 of the Yarmouth Town Code (Fees and Permits) regarding Sewer User Fees. (Table from the November meeting.)

**Background:** Town Council is considering increasing sewer fees by 20%, starting in the Fall 2021 billing cycle. Such an increase would generate an extra \$144,467 in additional revenue to the Town, to help pay for needed improvements to the Town's sewer system, which would otherwise be funded by property taxes. The Council established sewer fees in 2013, and has not raised those fees since. According to data collected by the Maine Rural Water Association, Yarmouth has one of the lowest sewer fee rates in the state. Only two other water districts have lower fees. Even if the Town increased fees by 20%, the Town would still be charging less than more than

more than 80% of other jurisdictions in Maine. See outline posted on web site for details on the fees. The proposal includes discounts for seniors and residents with low incomes. In all cases, in order to get the discount, the qualifying residents must contact the Town Engineer by October 1, 2021.

**At This Workshop:** Council will determine whether to vote on the issue.

**Item No. 5:** To consider an appropriation of funds for NPBI installations in town buildings. Looking for about \$12,000 support from the Town Council for Town Hall/PD and YCS office spaces.

**Background:** To combat the spread of COVID-19, the Town is looking for an appropriation to install Needlepoint Bipolar Ionization air filtration systems in Town Hall, the Police Department and YCS office spaces.

**At This Workshop:** Council will determine whether to vote on the issue.

**Item No. 6:** To consider a request and recommendation of the Committee on Energy Efficiency and Sustainability regarding a community solar project at Sligo Road.

**Background:** The Town's Committee on Energy Efficiency and Sustainability (CEES) has been discussing a potential solar project for property on a 34-acre property on Sligo Road known as the Pole Yard that is owned by CMP and the Town has an option to purchase if it accepts certain liability.

**At This Workshop:** Council will determine whether to schedule a vote on the issue.

**Item No. 7:** To authorize a LWCF grant application and agreement(s) for the Royal River Park and Rowe Tennis Courts.

**Background:** The Town's department of Parks & Recreation is applying for a federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant to fund improvements to Royal River Park and the Rowe School tennis courts. The park was originally built in the 1970s with LWCF funds. Funding would pay for design and permits, pricing estimates for improvements including pathway lighting and

relocation, reconstruction of the Rowe School tennis courts, invasive species eradication and revegetation, parking improvements and expansion and some drainage concerns. The grants are generally 50-50 matches.

**At This Workshop:** Council will determine whether to vote on the issue.

**Item No. 8:** To consider a proposal for a Southern Maine Public Works Compact (mutual aid agreements)

**Background:** Town staff is working with Greater Portland Council of Governments (GPCOG) to create a mutual aid agreement for Public Works, which would allow municipalities to assist one another in the event of emergencies or severe labor shortages.

**At This Workshop:** Council will consider a draft and determine whether to schedule a vote.

**Item No. 9:** To consider an appropriation of funds for Phase 2 implementation of the LED Street lighting conversion, to consider authorizing and delegating lease-purchase financing duties.

**Background:** The Town has completed phase 1 of the project, which included assessment, design, inspection and cost estimates to replace all the Town's streetlights to LED bulbs. In this second phase of the project, the consultant would solicit and review competitive bids for equipment, and contract with an installer to remove and replace the existing fixtures with new LED fixtures and ancillary equipment and negotiate a maintenance contract.

**At This Workshop:** Council will determine whether to vote on the issue.

**Item No. 10:** To consider or schedule other Council initiatives and requests as may be offered or introduced.

**Item No. 11:** To hold an Executive Session, if needed, including consideration of the recommendations of the Appointments Committee, and to consider authorizing a waiver of tax lien foreclosure.