

# TOWN COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

## January 21, 2021

Thu, Jan 21, 2021 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM (EST)

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

<https://www.gotomeet.me/YarmouthTownMeetingRoom/tcmeetingjanuary21>

You can also dial in using your phone.

United States: [+1 \(312\) 757-3121](tel:+13127573121)

**Access Code: 148-252-293**

**1<sup>st</sup> Order of Business:** Roll Call of Members

**2<sup>nd</sup> Order of Business:** Approval of the Minutes of Meeting 7-20/21 held Dec.17, 2020.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Order of Business:** To open the meeting to a Public comment period.

**Item No. 61:** To hear the reports of the Council Chair, committees, delegates, liaisons and the Town Manager

**Item No. 62:** To hold a public hearing and act upon issuance of a full-time malt spirituous and vinous liquor license and Special Amusement permit to each of the following establishments: 233 Grill and Thoroughfare (at the Former Andy's Handy store).

**Item No. 63:** To act upon 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 Meeting:** Council will vote on the issue.

**Item No. 64:** To hold a public hearing and act upon an amendment to Chapter 401 of the Yarmouth Town Code (Fees and Permits) regarding Sewer User Fees. (Tabled 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 Meeting:** Council will vote on the issue.

**Item No. 65:** To appropriate funds for NPBI installations in town buildings.

**Background:** To combat the spread of COVID-19, the Town is looking for an appropriation of \$12,000 to install Needlepoint Bipolar Ionization air filtration systems in Town Hall, the Police Department and YCS office spaces.

**At This Meeting:** Council will vote on the issue.

**Item No. 66:** 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 Meeting:** Council will vote on the issue.

**Item No. 67:** To authorize acceptance of a gift (donation) of three EV charging stations.

**Background:** In response to outreach from members of the Town's Committee for Energy Efficiency and Sustainability (CEES), Revision Energy has offered to donate 3 Electric Vehicle (EV) charging stations to the Town. These level 2 chargers must be free to the public for two years, publicly shared on mapping, and the Town must supply the power for two years. CEES is investigating the cost of installation and operation, as well as the best possible locations around town for these charging stations. Town Council would have to formally accept this gift in order for the initiative to move forward.

**At This Meeting:** Council will discuss the issue and decide whether to vote on it.

**Item No. 68:** To approve a proposed 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 Meeting:** Council will vote on the issue.

**Item No. 69:** 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.