

**Town of Yarmouth**  
**Water Resources Advisory Committee**  
Minutes of Meeting – February 3, 2020  
Yarmouth Town Hall Room A – 4:00pm

**Members Present:** Curt Sears - Chair, Spyro Mistrokoskas, Tom Durkin, George Perkins, and Lee Rowley-Vice Chair.

**Others Present:** Kara Johnston - CDM Smith, Rich Bienvenue - Interim Assistant Town Administrator, Jeff Colby - DPW Director, Mary Vibon - Executive Director of the Yarmouth Chamber of Commerce, Kyle Pedicini - Economic Development Coordinator, and Kathy Williams - Town Planner

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Sears at 4:00pm

**Summary:**

Rich Bienvenue, Interim Assistant Town Administrator, presented a revised cost recovery plan to the committee. He explained that the Community Preservation Committee has proposed a \$100,000 property tax exemption in lieu of a 1.5% cut in taxes, which could result in an offsetting .78% Water Infrastructure Investment Fund tax. Mr. Bienvenue explained that in order to compensate for the expenses associated with the wastewater project, the .78% tax would have to be increased to 1.5% in 2025. Committee members agreed that the most important thing was to get the wastewater project off the ground and to not worry as much about what may need to happen in 2025.

It was noted that the WRAC would be presenting an update to the Board of Selectmen on February 10<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Bienvenue explained that he would have answers to the questions Selectmen posed during the last wastewater update, such as items related to the DHY operating agreement and the potential closure of the Bass River Golf Course. One aspect of the decision on whether or not to join DHY that was noted was that the competitive bid environment would be more favorable if the town pursued the regional solution. Another factor in the DHY decision is that it would put the Town in better position to receive a 0% loan from the State for the project, which would save roughly \$40 million as opposed to if the Town received a 2.5% loan.

The Committee also discussed the plan for public outreach going forward. Town staff explained that two new water quality videos would be published shortly, focusing specifically on drinking water and aquaculture. Lee Rowley explained that he would be presenting an update on Yarmouth's wastewater planning a Kingsway in Yarmouth Port at some point in April. Chairman Sears requested that there be a plan in place for marketing going forward at the next WRAC meeting.

**Approval of Minutes**

The January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020 minutes were approved with a motion by Spyro Mistrokoskas, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tom Roche Vote 5-0.

**Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting will be held on March 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Yarmouth Town Hall Conference Room A at 4:00pm.

**Meeting Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Tom Roche at 5:40pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lee Rowley, Vote 5-0.