

On 4 September 2019, on a motion by Tom Roche, seconded by Mary Ann Walsh, the committee voted 9-0 to approve these minutes.

TOWN OF YARMOUTH
COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
MINUTES for 26 June 2019

PRESENT: Gary Ellis, Tom Roche, Mary Ann Walsh, Thomas Kelley, Paul Huggins
ABSENT: Nate Small, Heather McElroy, Beverly Bachand, Dorcas McGurrin
GUESTS: Christine Marzigliano, George Slama, Kurt Sears
STAFF: Michael Barry, Kyle Pedicini, Rich Bienvenue
LOCATION: Room A, Town Hall, 1146 Rt 28, South Yarmouth, MA

CONVENE

Chairman Ellis opened the meeting at 3:03 p.m.

YARMOUTH TOWN CLERK
19SEP19PM2:32 REC

DISCUSSION WITH WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COUNCIL

Rich Bienvenue, Acting Technical Services Director, provided some background on the Town's efforts and planning for wastewater treatment in the coming years. He noted that Yarmouth has been in discussion with Dennis, Harwich, and Barnstable on the issue for some time. At the fall 2019 Special Town Meeting, there may be a presentation about a way forward on wastewater. Financing is the key. The goal is to pay for this without raising the tax burden. Sources of funding under consideration include: the new short-term rental tax, solar PV projects savings, the Cape & Islands Water Protection Trust Fund, and user charges (betterments and capital surcharges). Phase 1 of the wastewater financing plan would total about \$3.8 million a year in debt servicing. There will be 8 phases over 40 years, \$440 million in total estimated costs.

Paul Huggins asked why no increase in tax burden is anticipated. Mr. Bienvenue noted that the sources cited so far do not provide sufficient financing to cover the anticipated \$3.8 million in debt servicing. He explained that state legislation provides for the establishment of a Wastewater Infrastructure Fund (WIF) that would allow for an up-to 3% tax surcharge. It is similar to the CPA surcharge, which also is 3%. The Town could institute a 3% WIF on top of the 3% CPA surcharge. Some Selectmen are concerned about the additional burden on taxpayers of an additional 3% WIF. Mr. Bienvenue estimates that a WIF of 1.5% would fill the gap in needed funds each year if his calculations of other incomes hold true. This would mean a 1.5% WIF on top of the 3% CPA surcharge.

Mr. Bienvenue noted that there is a sentiment among voters and among some Selectmen to find a solution that has zero impact on taxes for the wastewater plan. Mr. Bienvenue noted that in 2020 the CPA surcharge is eligible for reduction or discontinuation according to state legislation. Mr. Ellis noted that the CPC needs to consider what voters will want at Town Meeting. Mr. Roche noted that clean water is the highest priority for the Town. Mr. Ellis noted that there are many CPA projects coming up in the near future that will warrant CPA funding and if these do not receive funding there will be a negative impact to the Town. He compared CPA funds to good marketing investment that should not be neglected. He also