

Town of North Yarmouth COVID-19 Hours of Operation

Town Office
Open to General Public
Monday - Thursday
8:00 am to 1:00 pm

By Appointment Only
Mondays 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Tuesday thru Thursday
1:00 pm - 5:00 pm
(207) 829-3705 Option #2

We strongly encourage residents to take advantage of our online services or utilize our drop-box/mail-in services. Details are available at www.northyarmouth.org



The following offices are available by appointment only.

Town Manager
(207) 829-3705 Option #4

Assessing
207-829-3705 Option #1

Code Enforcement
(207) 829-3705 Option #1

Town Clerk
(207) 829-3705 Option #3

Fire Rescue
(207) 829-3025

Public Works
(207) 829-3274

REMINDER

4th Quarter
Real Estate & Personal Property Taxes
Due June 15, 2020

Payments can be made online, mailed or brought to the Town Office.



Reminders from Town Hall
Produced by the
Communications Advisory Committee
in Conjunction with Living Well in North Yarmouth

North Yarmouth ME 04097

Resident

PRSR
US Postage
PAID
Permit #55
North Yarmouth
Maine 04097
ECPWSS

Town of North Yarmouth
10 Village Square Road
North Yarmouth, ME 04097



Connections

Town of North Yarmouth Maine

July 14th ~ Election Day ~ COVID-19

Dear Residents of North Yarmouth,

The influx of COVID-19 has certainly created challenging times for everyone. One of these challenges is our inability to hold the town's Annual Meeting, where the operating budget for the upcoming fiscal year is voted on. Municipal officials have reviewed the budget carefully, making reductions of 14.71%, following the onset of COVID-19. For the town to establish a budget, it is mandatory that the Townspeople vote on it. A new budget is very important to the continued financial well-being of the town, for we would see significant shortfalls, if the current budget were carried over for 2020-2021.

The questions on the Budget Referendum are the same and do not vary from what is regularly presented in the town meeting warrant articles. However, there is a new option: voters may choose to use funds from the Village Center Tax Increment Financing District (TIF) to offset spending in specified departments. Explanations of each referendum question are provided in this publication. A virtual public hearing will be held on the proposed budget, and residents are encouraged to attend. Additional information follows in this publication.

In addition to the FY21 Budget Referendum, voters will receive ballots for the Town's Municipal Officers, the MSAD #51 Education Budget, and the State of Maine's Primary & Referendum Ballots, a total of five (5) ballots. Sample ballots can be viewed on the Town's website.

In closing, it is my sincere desire that you and your families are well, and please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

With kind regards,
Rosemary E. Roy, Town Manager
manager@northyarmouth.org

Tuesday, June 30th ~ 7:00 pm



View live on: Spectrum Cable Channel 1301,
Townhallstreams.com (live stream)
Zoom (zoom.us)

Moderator is former Selectperson Rob Wood. Watch, hear, and join the candidates running for office. Event link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86273530461>

And the Candidates are...

Select Board	Select Board	MSAD 51 Directors	Cemetery Commission
1 Seat 1-year term Steve Berry Paul Hodgetts	2 Seats 3-year terms Al Alhers Austin Harrell Brian Sites	1 Seat 3-year term Michael Simmons	1 Seat 5-year term Nicholas Thibeault
Budget Committee			
2 Seats 3-year terms - No Candidates			

A Note from the Vice-Chair

Many thanks to our adaptable and hard-working staff for all the extra efforts they have made to help the town through the last many weeks. Thanks also to Chief Payson and his staff for taking on the responsibility of keeping in touch with residents who might need assistance. And to the 32 volunteers among you, who stepped up with offers to help.

Now that the town office is re-opened, the town has adopted standard operating procedures, as recommended by the Maine CDC. The complete list is posted on the home page of the town website. By following these procedures, we can help minimize risk to all. Our town meeting was cancelled, which will make it even more important for townspeople to learn about the proposed budget using the Zoom meeting format.

We have become more comfortable using this distancing technology, but it has required new learning and patience while we did. When you attend any (and hopefully, all) of these meetings, please be patient.

You may also call me or Town Manager Roy with questions at any time. It is vitally important that residents learn about the budget and vote in July. I, along with the entire Select Board, send best wishes along to you all.

Sincerely,
Steve Morrison, Vice-Chair
North Yarmouth Select Board

REFERENDUM BUDGET BALLOT (2-SIDED)
Fiscal Year July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021

Question 1: Shall the Town raise and appropriate for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021 an amount of **\$3,007,128.00** for the following Departmental Expenditures?

Municipal Administration	\$ 472,725.00
Community Services	\$ 228,638.00
Community Center	\$ 60,561.00
Public Safety	\$ 448,539.00
Public Works	\$ 464,058.00
Buildings & Grounds	\$ 127,860.00
Solid Waste & Recycling	\$ 230,733.00
Fixed Expenses	<u>\$ 974,014.00</u>
TOTAL	\$3,007,128.00

EXPLANATION: Departmental expenses are the essential operating service needs of the Town. Services include such things as registration of vehicles, fire rescue service, code enforcement permitting, road maintenance & plowing, trash pickup, insurances, library shared uses, and community center use.

Question 2: Shall the Town raise and appropriate for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021, an amount of **\$380,000.00** for Capital Improvement Reserves?

EXPLANATION: Reserve funds are purposed each year for future capital purchases/replacements. This spreads the expenditure over several years to lower the impact to the taxpayer. Capital Improvement Planning includes assets such as computers, facility upkeep, public safety apparatus, plow trucks, heavy equipment, and roads.

Question 3: Shall the Town accept and apply for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021, **\$1,654,534.00** of the following **non-property tax revenues** to reduce the total amount authorized to be raised by taxation.

State Municipal Revenue Sharing	\$ 271,799.00
Motor Vehicle Excise	\$ 828,750.00
Solid Waste & Recycling	\$ 148,000.00
Ambulance Service Fees	\$ 60,000.00
Local Road Assistance	\$ 27,400.00
All Other Anticipated Revenues	<u>\$ 318,585.00</u>
TOTAL	\$1,654,534.00

And authorize the Select Board and Treasurer to accept any additional revenues or funds that may be used to reduce the amount required to be raised by taxation.

EXPLANATION: The Maine Revised Statutes (MRS) require the governing body or the Townspeople to approve the acceptance of all anticipated

revenues for the ensuing fiscal year. These revenues offset what will need to be raised and appropriated through taxation.

Question 4: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to expend from the Village Center Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District an estimated total amount of **\$186,000**, dependent upon actual mil rate, as follows:

Estimated Revenue:	\$224,395
Street-related Public Safety Measures (P3):	\$ 20,000.00
Professional Services - Consulting,	
Legal, Other (P11)	\$ 83,000.00
Administrative Costs (P12)	\$ 76,000.00
Economic Development Programs (P13)	<u>\$ 7,000.00</u>
TOTAL	\$186,000.00

EXPLANATION: At the 2018 Town Meeting, townspeople voted to create a TIF district in the Village Center as a part of the Town Comprehensive Plan approved by the Town in 2017. The TIF allows the town to capture and shelter tax revenue generated by new growth and to apply those funds towards specific programs and projects. These funds will be used towards expenditures included in Question 1.

Question 5: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to transfer from the Town's undesignated fund balance an amount not to exceed **\$300,000.00** for the purpose of reducing the total amount authorized to be raised by taxation.

EXPLANATION: Undesignated funds are available for use to reduce the impact of unforeseen situations, such as what is currently being experienced with COVID-19.

Question 6: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to transfer **\$65,000** from the Town's undesignated fund balance to be set aside in a committed fund balance account to be expended for providing the property tax assistance, in accordance with the Town's Property Tax Assistance Ordinance.

EXPLANATION: Undesignated funds can also be used for other purposes such as the senior property tax program.

Question 7: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to allocate funds received from the registration of snowmobiles to Town established snowmobile clubs for the purpose of maintaining their snowmobile trails to be open to the use of the public at all times.

EXPLANATION: State statutes require towns to approve the receipt and reallocation of these funds; this does not affect the mil rate.

Question 8: Shall the Town exceed the maximum property tax levy limit (LD1) established by State law in the event that the municipal budget approved results in a tax commitment in excess of the property tax levy otherwise allowable, such that the increased maximum property tax levy hereby established will equal the amount committed.

EXPLANATION: The FY21 budget is not projected to exceed the tax levy limits established by the state; however, this is presented as a preventive measure to avoid further costs to the town should the maximum amount be exceeded.

Question 9: Shall the Town authorize the following:

To make all taxes assessed for the Town's fiscal year, July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, due in four (4) installments, with the first quarter (1/4) of the total amount assessed due and payable on **September 15, 2020**, the second quarter (1/4) due **December 15, 2020**, the third quarter (1/4) due **March 15, 2021**, and the remaining quarter (1/4) due on **June 15, 2021**; and to charge interest at the rate of nine percent (9.00%) per year computed on a daily basis on any portion of the installment due that remains outstanding as of September 16, 2020, December 16, 2020, March 16, 2021, and June 16, 2021.

To authorize the Tax Collector or her designee to waive unintentional tax interest payment shortages in an amount not to exceed \$5.00; and

To authorize the Tax Collector to accept payment of real estate property taxes not yet due or assessed pursuant to M.R.S. Title 36, Section 506-A. The Town does not apply interest on such collections, and

To authorize the Treasurer to release payment of tax abatements and applicable interest approved by the Town's assessor from the property tax overlay account.

EXPLANATION: Standard requirement to obtain townspeople approval.

Question 10: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board and the Treasurer, on behalf of the Town and any of the Town's departments, to accept gifts, real estate, donations and other funds, including trust funds that may be given or left to the Town and to grant the Select Board the further authority to expend up to **\$25,000** from undesignated funds, if necessary, to match the grant, funding such sums of money as they deem necessary from these funds for their designated purposes. These expenditures may be reflected outside of the Town's approved budget.

EXPLANATION: Standard requirement to obtain townspeople approval.

Question 11: Shall the Town authorize the Town Manager acting in concurrence with the Select Board to accept and expend, on behalf of the Town, any Federal or State funds received in the form of grants during the period July 1, 2020, until June 30, 2021. These expenditures may be reflected outside of the Town's approved budget.

EXPLANATION: Standard requirement to obtain townspeople approval.

Question 12: Shall the Town authorize the transfer of all unexpended balances to the Undesignated Fund Balance and authorize any overdrafts that may occur in Town operations during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, to be taken from Undesignated Fund Balance.

EXPLANATION: Standard requirement to obtain townspeople approval.

The Select Board and Budget Committee recommend approval of Questions 1 through 12.

PUBLIC HEARING

PROPOSED BUDGET
Fiscal Year July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021
Thursday, June 18th at 6:00 pm

The purpose of a public hearing is to allow townspeople to express their opinion on the proposed budget. Amendments cannot take place at this time. All comments will be taken into consideration by the Select Board, Budget Committee, and the Town Manager. Questions will be addressed after all citizens have had a chance to speak or following the end of the hearing in a follow-up message.

Due to COVID-19, this hearing will be held through Zoom. You can enter Zoom using your computer, tablet, iPad, iPhone, or Smartphone by going to zoom.us and downloading the free app.

Event link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82178319142>

If you would like assistance in accessing Zoom and the link to attend the meeting, please contact the Town Office, and a member of our staff will be happy to assist you. We encourage individuals who do have electronic devices to reach out to those who do not and with social distancing share access to this meeting.

ELECTION DAY

Polls Open Tuesday, July 14th
7:00 am to 8:00 pm
Wescustogo Hall & North Yarmouth Community Center
120 Memorial Highway

FACE COVERINGS AND 6 FOOT DISTANCING ARE REQUIRED AT THE POLLS.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Absentee Ballots are available on Monday, June 15th! **We strongly encourage residents to utilize the [online Absentee Ballot Request service](https://www.maine.gov/cgi-bin/online/AbsenteeBallot/index.pl):** <https://www.maine.gov/cgi-bin/online/AbsenteeBallot/index.pl>

You can request your ballots ahead of time, and we will mail them to you when they are available. After you receive and vote your ballots, you can drop them in the drop box located outside the front entrance of the Town Office, or you can mail them back.

Registered voters may vote in person up through Election Day, Tuesday, July 14th.

TOWN OFFICE CLOSED

The Town Office will be closed to the public on Election Day, **July 14th**, and the day following, **July 15th**. All staff will be assisting with the election processes. We apologize for the inconvenience, but these steps are necessary under the current COVID-19 guidelines and procedures.