

# Town Manager Report


Town of Lunenburg- December 8, 2020





## Contact Information

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## Announcement on Existing Vacancies:

The following is a list of vacancies on the following committees:

- Architectural Preservation District Commission (1 vacancy)
- Cultural Council (1 vacancy)
- Historical Commission (1 vacancy)
- TCP Building Design Committee (1 vacancy appointed by Select Board and Town Moderator for member at large)
- Zoning Board of Appeals ( 1 Associate vacancy)

Interested persons can find application forms on the Town Website and completed forms can be sent to the Select Board's Office.

## FY21 Tax Rate:

We received notification on Saturday, December 5th that the Division of Local Services certified our tax rate for FY 2021 at \$17.74 per thousand. The tax rate for FY 2020 was \$18.12 per thousand.

## Purchase of Streetlights from Unitil:

As required as part of the next steps in order to proceed with purchasing the streetlights from Unitil, I submitted a formal letter of intent to Unitil last week requesting a detailed cost estimate of the streetlights and notifying them of our intent to purchase. Typically an updated cost estimate has taken up to three months and in the meantime, our Green Communities Task Force will assist the Assistant Town Manager with information needed for the Request for Proposals to convert the streetlights to LED and maintenance companies for any maintenance needed prior to conversion and subsequent to purchasing the lights.

## Council on Aging Update:

Starting Monday, December 8th the Eagle House stopped doing indoor programming but will continue the Grief Support, Alzheimer's Dementia Friendly counseling, and SHINE through appointments. Also by appointment users can take out books and puzzles from the Eagle House. The Drive Thru events will still occur as planned and Meals on Wheels and MART van services are still available. The COA Director will make a recommendation about recommencing indoor programming in mid-January.

## Community Development Block Grant for Microenterprise Assistance Grants:

As previously reported, we participated in a regional Community Development Block Grant application for small business grant funds and assistance for local food banks along with 4 other towns. The Microenterprise Assistance grants are now available and are grants of up to \$10,000 for businesses with no more than five employees where the owner(s) are one of the employees.

Eligible types of businesses include food service and/or production facilities, restaurants, bed and breakfasts, housecleaners, laundromat or dry cleaners, car repair/garages, barber shops/beauty salons, health care and social assistance providers, and small retail shops.

Eligible uses of Microenterprise Assistance Grant (MAP) funds include rent, payroll, utilities, technical assistance, general support and stabilization of the business, and other working capital expenses that could have been recognized had the COVID-19 pandemic not occurred (i.e. purchase of personal protective equipment [PPE]).

Interested business owners can call or email Chris McDermott, the Economic Development Manager at MRPC at 978-345-7376, X304 or [cmcdermott@mrpc.org](mailto:cmcdermott@mrpc.org) to obtain a grant application and learn about program requirements.

## Meetings, Events and Other Announcements:

- The ZBA has a meeting through Zoom on Wednesday, December 9th at 7 p.m.
- The Finance Committee has a meeting through Zoom on Thursday, December 10th at 7 p.m.
- The TCP Building Design Committee has a meeting through Zoom on Monday, December 14th and Thursday, December 17th at 5:30 p.m.
- The Planning Board has a meeting through Zoom on Monday, December 14th at 6:30 p.m.

