

Rye Civic News August 2016

from the Rye Civic League

"Informing citizens, enhancing direct democracy and supporting the will of the voters"

RCL, PO Box 971, Rye, NH 03870 RyeCivicLeague.org

Please share with your Rye friends & neighbors

[Citizens' Handbook \(click here\)](#)

Next RCL Meeting:

August 30th RPL 6:30 pm

Meetings

(at Town Hall unless indicated)

August 1st: Conservation
Commission Site Walk
9:30am

August 1st: Parsonage
Appts Committee 5:00 pm

August 1st: Recreation
Space
Needs Committee 6:00pm.

August 1st: Parsons
Creek
Pollution Committee 6:00
pm RPL

August 2nd: Rye Energy
Committee 6:30 pm RPL

August 3rd: CIP
Committee
6:30 pm.

August 3rd: Zoning Board
of
Adjustment 7:00 pm

August 4th: Heritage
Commission
6:30 pm.

August 8th Board of
Selectmen
6:30 pm

August 9th: Sewer
Commission
8:00am RBVD

August 9th: Planning
Board
7:00 pm

August 16th: Mosquito
Commission 5:00 pm

August 17th: Long Range
Planning (Master Plan)
Committee 12:00 pm

August 18th: CIP

General Announcements:

1. **South Rd. 21 Lot Subdivision** initial discussions at July 12th 7pm Planning Board meeting [Click Here](#) for diagram
2. Rye Farmers Market: [Click Here](#) Wednesdays from 2:30 to 5:30 pm Congregational Church.
3. **Architect Report on Rye Recreation Needs Assessment.** [Click Here](#)
4. **Mosquito Posters** completed [Bug-Them](#), [Wanted Not](#)
5. **Family Picnic & Old Fashioned Games.** August 2nd 4:30pm to 6:30pm at Parson's Field sponsored by the RPL
6. **Coastal Risk and Hazard Commission:** [Click Here](#) for public comment [Click Here](#) for draft report
7. **Draft Rye Master Plan Chapter changes for Climate Change:** [Click Here](#)
8. **Cancer Cluster February 2nd Report:** [Click Here](#) Other links [Click Here](#) Community Group facebook page: [Click Here](#) April Rye Water Testing results [Click Here](#)
9. **Rye Recreation Senior Program (updated):** 2015-2016 Active, Alive and over 55 [Click Here](#)
10. **Rye Recreation Summer Programs Registration:** [Click here](#)
11. **Assessment Data:** Online views of town lots [Click Here](#)
12. **GIS Mapping** Software Presentation Video: [Click Here](#)
13. **Portsmouth Youth Football Registration:** [Click Here](#)
14. **Rye Travel Soccer Registraion:** [Click Here](#) Younger children play Rye Rec Soccer
15. **Discussion of issues facing Rye.** [Click Here](#)

Board of Selectmen Meeting July 25th:

Video Recording: [Click Here](#) see RCL time stamps

Draft Town Meeting minutes: Not available

RCL Meeting Notes: [Click Here](#)

1. Various beach-related issues were discussed. Although there has been good weather, congestion seems to be down. Efforts to beat the bushes for lifeguards have been successful, although many will be leaving to go back to college around August 19. [More Detail](#)
2. The contract to haul refuse from the Transfer Center will be awarded to Shipyard Waste, the low bidder. The incumbent Triano and JGM Trucking (the firm of Selectman Mills' son) submitted higher bids. [More Detail](#)
3. Tom McCormick has resigned from the Planning Board. [More Detail](#)
4. No conflict of interest was seen by Selectman Musselman resulting from the retention of his firm, CMA Engineers, by North Hampton for drainage-related work. There are ongoing discussions between Rye and North Hampton relating to the consolidation of fire and other services. [More Detail](#)
5. The written decision denying the unmerger request of SKRJ Realty (Stephen Brown, Trustee) for lots on Big Rock Rd. was adopted. [More Detail](#)

Board of Selectmen Meeting July 11th:

Video Recording: [Click Here](#) See RCL Time stamps

Town Meeting minutes: Not available

RCL Meeting notes: [Click Here](#)

1. The Police and Public Works Departments were commended for arranging for removal of the whale from Foss Beach with the cost to be paid by the State. [More Detail](#)
2. An unmerger request on Big Rock Rd. was denied after lengthy legal arguments regarding whether a denied variance application could constitute "overt action" by the property owner sufficient to block reversal of the Town's merger "by operation of law." The owner expressed concern that persons resident in Rye for 30 years were attempting to prevent the unmerger and that he was being unfairly treated. [More Detail](#)
3. Two members of Rye's State Legislative delegation were present while a hydrologist on a committee of which they are members, presented evidence that PFCs and PFOAs have been found in wells near the Coakley Landfill and are migrating into the Berry's Brook

Committee
6:30 pm.

August 18th: Conservation
Commission
7:00pm.

August 22nd: Board of
Selectmen
6:30pm.

August 29th: Recreation
Space needs Committee
6:00 pm

Town Reference Documents on the Town Web Site:

Capital Improvement Plan
(CIP) [Click Here](#)
This plan is updated annually
and
is a great way to see what the
Town is planning for future
capital expenditures

Town of Rye Master Plan
(click here)
2014 FEMA maps:
[Click Here](#)

Rye Rec Master Plan
(Click Here)

**Town Forest Management
Plan**
(Click Here)

2015 Beach Report
[Click Here](#)

GIS Parcel Data: [Click
Here](#)

**Transfer Station and
Recycling Flyer:** [Click
Here.](#)

Town Budgets
Budget Analysis:
[Click Here](#)

Town Budget Worksheet:
[Click Here.](#)

MS-7 Reporting document:
[Click Here](#)

**Rye Water District
Budget:**
[Click Here.](#)

Rye Beach Budget:
[Click Here.](#)
RBVD Treasurer's Report.
[Clcik Here](#)

watershed. There was also discussion about 1, 4 Dioxane. Selectman Musselman questioned some of the methodology and conclusions. [More Detail](#)

4. The Selectmen are searching for consensus on how to proceed with Town Hall after a succession of committees. Several residents provided input and there was apparent agreement that a Charrette was needed. [More Detail](#)

5. Sixty residents near Bass Dr. are petitioning for the installation of steps or a ramp over the shale pile near there. [More Detail](#)

6. Town Administrator Magnant was designated as the Town representative to a committee on Cancer Clusters called for by Governor Hassan. [More Detail](#)

Parson's Creek Pollution Committee June 20th:

Organized Additional Information: [Click Here](#)

Information from the Planning Department: [Click Here](#)

Committee Charge from the BOS: [Click Here](#)

Video Recording: None - held at the Public Safety Building

Septic System Presentation: [Click Here](#)

August 1st Agenda @ 6:00 pm RPL: [Click Here](#)

1. Legal Issues: Ordinance, Dog Waste Ordinance, Septic System
2. Marsh Rd. discussion
3. Parson's Creek Outlet pipe mystery
4. Beach Bacteria Testing Results

Parsonage Apartments Committee July 18th :

Committee Charge from the BOS: [Click Here](#)

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

Town Meeting Minutes: Not available

August 1st Agenda: [Click Here](#)

Rye Districts Information:

[Click Here](#) for information on Rye Districts

Jeness Beach LED Lighting Meeting at the RPL

[Click Here](#) for the video

Rye Water No June or July meetings posted:

School Board July 15th Workshop Meeting:

Learn more about the Rye Schools: [Click Here](#)

Draft School Board Meeting Minutes: Not available

RCL notes: [Click here](#) Includes time stamps of the discussion

RCL Video Part 1: is only audio [Click here](#)

Town Video Part 2: [Click Here](#)

Superintendent's Bulletin: June [Click Here](#)

[Click Here](#) to see RCL Budget overview

1. Surplus will be retained to the maximum allowed level of 2.5% of District taxation RJH could be required to install a new boiler. Editors Note: The current budget only put \$25,000 into the maintenance fund, not \$30,000 as in previous years and there has been budget surpluses the past two years.

2. Teacher Kim O'Connell has resigned.

3. Discussion of a facilities plan based around future enrollment projections (decreasing number of students).

4. Number of parent survey responses were so low that it will be hard to draw conclusions or to take actions based on the allegedly statistically insignificant number of responses.

5. School Board will include funding for RJH video streaming as the RCL videos of meetings are receiving many views (120 in June)

Planning Board meeting: July 12th:

Learn more about the Planning Board: [Click Here](#)

New FEMA maps have been posted: [Click Here](#)

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

Draft Town Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. 2 Marjorie Way: Requesting to not install a stone wall that was part of the original plans. Approved as long as the four conditions were met.

2. Conceptual Consultation for 22 Lot Major Subdivision on South Rd. [Click Here](#) to see RCL diagram. A number of concerns were raised by the Board and the Public.

Jeness Beach Budget:[Click Here](#)**School Budget:**

Here is a link to the Proposed 2016-2017 School Budget.

Rye Trust Fund

Summary:

[Click Here](#)**Rye Library Strategic Plan:**[Click Here](#)

How good is our Library

[Click Here](#)**Rye Police Homepage**[Click Here](#)Facebook: [Click Here](#)**Rye Beach Committee**Facebook Page [Click Here](#)**Other Helpful Links:**[Live Free or Die Alliance](#)

a) Property lies within the Wellhead Protection Zone. Editors Note: It has been raised that Rye's storm-water run-off requirements may be inadequate.

b) Safety issues with the Woodland Road Intersection. Residents on the opposite side of the street explained the current safety problems and activities at those properties. The second proposed access will put headlights directly at the house on the opposite side of South Rd. This old house is very close to the road.

c) New road and driveways may be in the wetland buffer zones

d) One of the existing houses sandwiched between the two new roads has a private well. Storm-water runoff will directly impact their well.

e) The developer stated that the back land will be donated as conservation land.

f) School Board members stated that the RJH population is expected to drop 50% in a 10 year period ending in 2022. They request housing affordable to younger families.

g) Request for the Town to keep a running list of all waivers, variances and special exceptions.

LRP Public Meeting (Master Plan) No July Meetings

Three Chapters are being updated for Climate Change impacts, Land Use, Transportation and Natural Resources

[Click Here](#) for the current Master Plan.

1. Draft Chapters for Climate Change: [Click Here](#)

2. May and June Public Comments [Click Here](#)

3. It is unclear how public comments will be incorporated in the current draft of the "Coastal Hazard and Adaption" chapter and current Land Use, Natural Resources and Transportation chapters.

4. No LRP committee meeting took place in July despite the need to process and incorporate public comments in the draft chapter(s). September deadline to complete this update as per grant money requirements.

5. Natural Resources chapter was not discussed at the June 22nd Master Plan Public Forum - meeting started late and ended early.

6. Ex-officio Planning Board member Priscilla Jenness has characterized public comments made at the May 14th Master Plan Forum as "opinions." She was the only official/land use board in attendance at the June 22nd Master Plan Forum along with only 6 members of the public.

7. Under the guidance of Kim Reed, RPC Julie LaBranche has thus far tailored the draft of the "Coastal Hazard and Adaption" chapter to what planning board members have deemed adequate so that they will put their stamp of approval on the document (i.e. the term "climate change" is not part of the chapter title).

Rules and Regulations Committee and Zoning Amendments Update

1. No Rules and Regulations meeting scheduled to date - Committee Chair Kerriann Roman asked that meetings be scheduled on Saturday mornings given her limited availability.

2. Amendment to the Wetland Zoning Ordinance - no budget allocated to Tracy Degnan, who drafted the amendment (11 pages), which was tabled at the December 22, 2015 public hearing.

3. No inventory/list of zoning amendments to be drafted has been compiled to date. No cataloguing of regulations in regards to preparing for climate change.

4. MS-4 Permit, EPA Stormwater Permit. Plan to form a sub-committee with DPW. No mention of a stormwater management ordinance drafted by a resident in 2015, tabled for review in 2016.

5. Member Mel Low requested that Attorney Donovan revise the RCD (Retirement Community Development) Ordinance to ensure that remaining allowed units (10) be affordable.

5. Attorney Michael Donovan has drafted a Zoning amendment for "Accessory Apartment" to make changes to the ordinance in relation to 2016 Senate Bill 146: [Click Here](#)

Planning Board August 9th Agenda:

Meeting Agenda: [Click Here](#)

1. Public Hearing for Eversource Tree cutting on Washington Rd.

2. 22 Ordione Drive: Demolish and build a new home

3. Public Hearing on Zoning Amendment: SB 146 for Accessory Dwelling Units [Click Here](#)

Zoning Board of Adjustment: July 6th:

Recorded Video [Click Here](#)

Draft Town meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. 22 Odiome Dr. - demo existing building and construct new one, issues: setback, parking, wetlands, septic approved 5-0
2. 228 Parsons Rd. - expand non conforming structure and add height approved 5-0
3. 442 Ocean Blvd. - request equitable waiver for dimensional requirements approved 5-0
4. 31 Myrica Ave. - build two car garage with family room issues - setback approved 5-0
5. 30 La Mer Dr. - add accessory apartment conditional approval 5-0
6. 1314 Ocean Blvd. - demo non conforming building and build new house issues: height, etc. denied 3-2
7. 767 Ocean Blvd. - request for rehearing on existing case denied 5-0

Zoning Board of Adjustment: August 3rd Agenda:

[Click Here](#) for agenda

1. 51 Brackett Rd.: New build on a non-conforming lot
2. 20 Hunterville Ave: Construction within the set backs
3. 250 Locke Rd.: Administrative Appeal request

Conservation Commission July 21st Meeting

Learn more about the Conservation Commission: [Click Here](#)

Conservation Land Maps: [Click Here](#)

Wetlands Map [Click Here](#)

Town Forest map: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting minutes: Not available

RCL Meeting Notes: [Click Here](#)

1. Wetland application for a generator on 100 Locke Road [More Detail](#)
2. Presentation of South Road Conceptual Consultation - applicant explained his intent of donating 38 acres (wetlands) as part of the 100 + acres of land he plans to develop to build 22 homes. [More Detail](#)
3. Tracy Degnan (RCCD) provided an update on different projects (land acquisition, controlling invasive species...) [More Detail](#)
4. Mike Garvan provided an update on the work of the Trail Subcommittee. [More Detail](#)
5. Discussion about signage: design, purpose, cost.

Conservation Trail Management July 18th Meeting:

Town Forest Trail Map: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting minutes: Not available

Recreation Commission July 5th:

Learn more about Rye Recreation: [Click Here](#)

[Click Here](#) to see the Rye Recreation Master Plan

Recorded Video: Not available

Draft Town Meeting Minutes: Not Available

Summer program Registrations: [Click Here](#)

Active, Alive and over 55 Programs: [Click Here](#)

Recreation Space Needs Committee June 20th

Updated Charge: [Click Here](#) to review

[Click Here](#) for survey to print When complete [e-mail](#) or mail in

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. June 20th Needs Assessment Report from the Architect: [Click Here](#)

Heritage Commission Meeting July 7th

Learn more about the Heritage Commission: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Town Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. Progress on the Farragut Dig continues. Volunteers will need to be vetted and trained in

the process for artifacts needs to be established.

2. Progress continues on getting Rye's one and only school bell to be moved to the Town Hall belfry.
3. Brochure in progress for fund raising for both projects.

Mosquito Commission Meeting July 26th

Learn more about the Mosquito Commission: [Click Here](#)

Draft Town Meeting Minutes: Not available yet

Video of meeting: [Click Here](#)

1. Posters are available [Wanted Not Bug Them](#)
2. Following up and complaints (yours for example) and checking out new mosquito breeding grounds -due to unusually (not today) dry weather.
3. Still getting awareness posters out and up at locations, [Click Here](#) to e-mail suggestions or to get some.
4. Keeping tabs on Zika, but no concerns for us in the NE at present

Rye Energy Committee Meeting: No July Meeting:

Learn More about the Energy Committee: [Click Here](#)

Draft Town Meeting Minutes: Not Available

Rye Recycling Education Committee No July Meeting

Town Meeting minutes: Not available

Video Recording: Not available

Historic District Commission April 6th Meeting

Learn more about the Historic District: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Town Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. Reviewed the Star Island project for egress stair replacement. Changes were approved.
2. Reviewed 1984 Historic District Plan to see if changes or updates are required.

Capital Improvement Plan May 26th Meeting

View Current CIP: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Two meetings are scheduled for August.

Library Board of Trustees July 14th

Trustee Home Page: [Click Here](#)

Draft Library Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

Draft Library Facilities Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

1. Summer programs going well. Crazy 8s Math Club is very popular.
2. Running and Reading program may have a second session.
3. Progress being made towards the new fence
4. Historic Plaque Event set for September 9th

Sewer Commission Meeting June 14th July mtg canceled

Draft Town Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

No Video Recording as meetings are at the Rye Beach Post Office building.

1. Sewer connection for 17 Foss Circle was reviewed and approved.

Beach Committee: July 20th:

Facebook Page [Click Here](#)

Last Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

2015 Beach Report was presented to the BOS. [Click Here](#) for the report

Beach Parking Report: [Click Here](#)

Selectmen disbanded the Beach Commission (voter supported) and now this group has not met since December, leaving the Selectmen in control of the beach.

1. Beach Committee met with Chiefs Walsh , Lambert and Jake MacGlashing.

Current Topics & When and Where can you help Rye?:

When a topic is being discussed at Town meetings, let us know if you would like to be notified, so you could attend so that the town can benefit from your inputs, guidance or

support. The RCL will need to develop an automated system so please [e-mail](#) the RCL with topic(s) on which you may wish to be notified.

In order promote dialog, the Civic News has an "Opinion" section where views can be expressed, Please send us any other suggestions to help you stay educated, informed and engaged..

a) South Road 21 unit development is before the Planning Board on July 12th for an initial discussion.

Past topics:

b) Cancer Cluster: [Click Here](#) for more information

c) Parson's Creek Pollution: Will a Selectmen's Committee fix this problem? [Click Here](#)

d) 2015 Beach Report [Click Here](#) What do you think?

e) Other Discussion topics: [Click Here](#)

Rye Opinions:

The Rye Civic League Website posts opinions and discussions for Rye. These opinions reflect the views of residents, **NOT** the Rye Civic League.

The purpose is to help residents share their views and to have an online discussion between residents. We encourage you to share your opinions in the online discussions or sending an e-mail to the [RCL e-mail](#)

Recent posted opinions:

None

Rye Public Forum Discussion Topics:

Once the RCL monthly meeting concludes, there is a public forum discussion about some of current topics in town. All are welcome to join this discussion and introduce town-related topics.

Topics discussed:

1. Lighting at Jenness Beach State Park
2. Parking along the beach

Other Town Activity

How Good is our Library?

2015 Our Library has done a great job quantifying the huge value we get from our annual investment. [Click Here](#) to see the details

Have you seen the Library Strategic Plan: [Click Here](#)

Rye Library Events Page [Click Here](#)

Rye Town Handbook from the Rye Civic League:

NOTE: 2015 Update are available at the Library, the Hungry Horse and other locations. All sections are also posted on the Rye Civic League website

The Rye Citizens' Handbook has been created by the Rye Civic League ("RCL") to provide a consolidated resource to assist citizens in interacting with the various employees, board and commission members of the Town. It contains a description of each of the positions and groups, together with the contact information for each. It provides a road map to assist citizens in interacting with each function. The document is fluid. The intention of the RCL is to revise the Handbook at least annually in response to changes in staff, board and committee memberships, and the laws.

Special thanks to **Mae Bradshaw** who created and maintains the handbook.

[Click Here for a PDF version of the handbook](#)

About the Rye Civic League and the Civic News

The Rye Civic League (founded in 1968 by Frances Holway, Joan LaFrance and Marjorie Miller, disbanded in 1992 and revived in 2009) is a voluntary association that educates and motivates people to act as informed citizens of Rye.

To receive Town News via bcc go to the [Rye Civic League Website](#) and enter your name and e-mail.

All articles are written by the RCL editors. Questions or comments feel free to contact the RCL at civicnews@ryecivicleague.org

An Invitation to membership in the Rye Civic League

WE ARE ALL CONCERNED CITIZENS. We all share the goal of making our town the best it can be. We want our kids to have a great education. We want our community to be safe, beautiful and thriving. We want to balance our budget and to see our tax dollars spent wisely.

We benefit from an open town government, and we depend on it to keep things running smoothly. In turn, we owe it to our government and our fellow citizens to be informed and to get involved for the benefit of our community. This is why we are inviting you to participate in the Rye Civic League (RCL). This is your opportunity to engage in a positive way, to do your part as a Rye resident, and to keep our town acting for the good of us all.

[Click Here](#) to make an online payment.

[Click Here](#) to read the invitation and complete the membership form

Contact Info

Rye Civic League: civicnews@ryecivicleague.org

Steven Borne - President

The Rye Civic League was re-formed to promote public awareness by informing residents about the town's business and its responsiveness to its citizens. The organization also offers townspeople an opportunity to bring issues forward for discussion and unbiased resolution. Its primary purpose is to help residents of Rye, NH to act as informed citizens and thereby improve and develop our community.

Rye Civic League, PO Box 971, Rye, NH 03870

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