

Rye Civic News December 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

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

Next RCL Meeting:
December 29th
RPL 6:30 pm

Meetings (at Town Hall unless indicated)

Dec. 5th:
Recreation Commission
6:00 pm

Dec. 6th::
Energy Committee
RPL 6:30pm

Dec. 7th:
Jeness Bch Street Light Bid Opening
5:15 pm.

Dec. 7th RWD meeting 9:00 am
Sagamore Rd.

Dec. 7th:
Budget Committee
School 6:30 pm

Dec. 7th
Zoning Board of Adjustment
7:00 pm

Dec. 8th
Budget Committee
Town 5:30 pm

Dec. 9th
Heritage Commission
6:30pm.

Dec. 12th
Board of Selectmen
6:30 pm

General Announcements:

- 1. Town Postions for 2017.** [Click Here](#) to see open poistions. Incumbents for Selectmen and at least 1 school board seat are open. There are more openings, vacancies and alternates. Febuary 3rd is the filing deadline for the March ballot.
- 2. Zoning Amendments** (see [Planning Board agenda section](#) below) **and 421 South Road** will be discussed at the December 13th Planning Board meeting 7:00 pm RJH. Note Zoning Amendments can't be changed at the Deliberative meeting, so now is your chance to be heard. See planning board section for links to proposed amendments. [Click Here](#) for Public Notice or stand outside the town hall to read or at RPL. Note the Planning Department has not provided a copy of the South Rd. development at the Public Library. [Send e-mail](#) here if you would like that to happen.
- 3. Town Museum Holiday Open House** - Thursday December 15, 3-7 PM , Refreshments, music, new donations, shopping
- 4. Rye Recreation Senior Program:** 2016-2017 Active, Alive and over 55 [Click Here](#)
- 5. Rye Recreation Winter Programs Registration:** [Click here](#) (New)
- 6. Assessment Data:** Online views of town lots [Click Here](#)
- 7. GIS Mapping** Software Presentation Video: [Click Here](#)
- 8. Older Discussion of issues facing Rye** (not updated) [Click Here](#) Rye Challenges [Click Here](#)
 - New Opinion piece on Parsonage Apartments and Retirement Community Development proposed zoning amendment [Click Here](#)

Board of Selectmen Meeting November 28th:

- Video Recording: [Click Here](#)
Draft Town Meeting minutes: Not available
RCL Meeting Notes: [Click Here](#)
- The total of major CIP Plan projects is now \$12,397,000 after Recreation and culvert projects were added. [More Detail](#)
 - The Parsons Creek Watershed Restoration Committee presented its final report. A mandatory septic system inspection may be proposed at the 2018 Town Meeting. Under the new pump out ordinance approved by voters in March, only about a third of Parsons Creek Watershed property owners have provided their last septic tank pump out information as required, and at least five previously unknown (to the Town) holding tanks have been identified. [More Detail](#)
 - Town Hall design/build bids are due December 8. Written comments from former Town Hall Committee members will be due by December 22. It appears that a warrant article for construction will likely be proposed for next year's Town Meeting. [More Detail](#)
 - The Police Chief's proposed amendment to the Beach Ordinance, to be presented at the 2017 Town Meeting, to require dogs on the beach to be leashed during the summer months was approved. The Selectmen made a change to permit unleashed dogs, at times when dogs are presently allowed on town beaches, on Foss Beach. [More Detail](#)
 - Over \$1 million in warrant articles and capital outlay items was approved. Funding of capital reserves of \$255,000 was approved, plus another \$325,000 for capital expenditure warrant articles and \$427,500 for Capital Outlay items in the budget that will not be separate warrant articles. [More Detail](#)

Board of Selectmen Meeting November 14th:

- Video Recording: [Click Here](#)
Town Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)
RCL Meeting notes: [Click Here](#)
- The tax rate of \$10.68, compared to \$10.90 in 2015, was announced. The reduction is entirely accounted for by the portion of the School District's 2015-2016 surplus that is being returned to taxpayers this year. [More Detail](#)
 - The Recreation Facilities Need Committee presented their report. They would like a Recreation Community Center to be built within 5-10 years. [More Detail](#)
 - The Red Mill Lane culverts are going to need to be larger and more expensive than

Dec. 13th:
Sewer
Commission
8:00 am
RBVD

originally anticipated. [More Detail](#)

4. South Hampton is interested in purchasing Rye's ambulance once it has been replaced by the new one. A decision on maintaining two ambulances has not yet been made so it may not be for sale. [More Detail](#)

5. The fence around the Outer Marker will be removed and the site named Outer Marker Park, so that the Town can comply with a federal requirement to use the land for recreation. [More Detail](#)

Dec. 13th.
Recycling
Education
Committee
6:30pm

6. The Selectmen's view that the Jenness Beach Bathhouse is too tall will be communicated to the State. [More Detail](#)

Board of Selectmen Meeting November 4th & 9th Tax Rate Setting:

Video Recording: Was not scheduled to be recorded

November 4th Town Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

Dec. 13th
Planning Board
7:00 pm RJH

November 4th RCL Video: [Click Here](#) Revolving funds were left out so another meeting was required

November 9th Town Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

November 9th RCL Video: [Click Here](#)

Dec. 15th:
Heritage
Commission
6:30 pm.

RCL Meeting Notes and Explanation notes: [Click Here](#)

See RCL Spread sheet that helps visualize tax rate setting: [Click Here](#)

1. The 2016 tax rate is down \$.22 from 2015 to \$10.68. More than the entire reduction is accounted for by a reduction of the School tax rate of \$.26 (State and Local).

2. The Town tax rate is up \$.04 to \$3.00 despite \$1 million from prior year surpluses (a record since 2007) applied to keep the tax rate down.

Dec. 15th
Conservation
Commission
7:00 pm

3. Town appropriations are up nearly \$1 million over 2015 even though \$525,000 in warrant articles did not pass. [Click Here](#) for more detail

4. In 2015, for the first time in many years, nearly \$425,000 that could have been used to reduce taxes was retained by the Town. In 2016, most of these funds were released,

resulting in a misleading year-to-year comparison as the 2015 rate was artificially increased, and the 2016 rate artificially reduced.

Dec. 21st:
SAU 50
Budget Public
Hearing 5:30
pm RJH

5. While the School tax rate has dropped from \$6.73 to \$6.57 from 2013 to 2016, the rate is projected to increase \$.55 in 2017 according to the preliminary budget prepared by the SAU business manager despite maturing of school bond eliminating nearly \$300,000 in debt service costs.

Dec. 21st
School Board
RJH 6:00 pm

6. A major increase in taxes for 2017 is likely unless the budget and Town Meeting processes prevent it.

Board of Selectmen N. Hampton Fire Consolidation Dec. 1st:

Dec. 27th:
Board of
Selectmen
6:30 pm

N. Hampton Video: [Click Here](#)

In attendance were the two Fire Chiefs, the two Town Administrators, one firefighters' representative from each town and one Selectman from each town.

1. Rye and North Hampton representatives met to discuss sharing of equipment, in particular a ladder truck to replace aging trucks owned by Rye and North Hampton (Rye's truck is actually a quint, which provides a pumping function as well).

2. There was also discussion about Rye's second ambulance and whether three ambulances between the two towns would be beneficial. North Hampton's Fire Chief asserted that they could not justify a second ambulance based on their call volumes and the need to outfit the second ambulance with up-to-date medical equipment.

3. While there were concerns, no show stoppers were apparent.

4. The Fire Chiefs of the two towns will get together to sketch out how the sharing would work operationally so that an economic analysis can be done.

**Town
Reference
Documents
on the
Town Web
Site:**

Parson's Creek Pollution Committee November 15th Final Report:

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

Organized Additional Information: [Click Here](#)

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

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

RCL Discussion Page: [Click Here](#)

Summer Pollution Testing Results: [Click Here](#)

RCL Notes of 9-28 Final Report: [Click Here](#)

Video Recording Sept 6th: [Click Here](#)

RCL Meeting Notes:

Septic System Presentation: [Click Here](#)

NH Storm Water Management Guide: [Click Here](#)

Town of Rye
Master Plan

Committee Final 11/28 Report to Selectmen [Click Here](#)

(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.
Click Here

**Jenness
Beach Budget:**
Click Here

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

**Rye Trust
Fund
Summary:**

1. Owners of only 36% of septic systems in the Parsons Creek Watershed have reported being inspected, per the 2016 ordinance.
2. Process to date has discovered 5 or 6 decades old temporary holding tanks
3. Committee recommending a septic system inspection ordinance for the watershed when homes are sold.

Parsonage Apartments Committee Final Report Completed:

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

Final Report submitted to BOS on October 12th: [Click Here](#)

See RCL memo to the BOS: [Click Here](#)

Opinion piece on Parsonage Apartments and RCD: [Click Here](#)

Additional Information on the report from the RCL: [Click Here](#)

1. The Town should not sell the Parsonage to, nor enter into a long term lease with The Housing Partnership (THP), or any other entity.
2. The number of units at the Parsonage is not to be increased (on site).
3. The Town should hire Plan NH to conduct a design charrette for the future of the Rye Center.
4. The Town lease the Parsonage to THP or someone else following the expiration of the lease for a term not to exceed twenty-years with a number of conditions attached.
5. The Town explore potential alternate Town-owned sites for low income/workforce housing.
6. Additional information on the report from the RCL [Click Here](#)

Cancer Cluster & Governor's Coakley Landfill Taskforce:

Community Facebook page: [Click Here](#)

RCL Meeting Notes from October: [Click Here](#)

NHDES and EPA Presentation 10/20 meeting: [Click Here](#)

US Geological Survey Presentation 10/20 meeting: [Click Here](#)

Full USGS 2009 Study of Seacoast Ground Water Resources: [Click Here](#)

Draft Subcommittee Recommendations to Task Force: [Click Here](#)

Google Drive of documents related to subcommittee's work; [Click Here](#)

RCL Nov. 10th Site Walk Video: [Click Here](#)

CLF Article: [Click Here](#)

Seacoast Herald Article: [Click Here](#)

Note to readers: There is much people need to know, but we don't have someone to summarize the key points for residents.

Rye Districts Information:

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

Jenness Beach Bathhouse

Recorded Video of Jenness Beach Street Lighting November 15th: [Click Here](#)

[Click Here](#) for updated State Information page and links to more information

[Click Here](#) for Seacoast Herald article on lawsuit from Dunes Motel

Rye Water District November 2nd:

Draft Water District Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

RCL Video: [Click Here](#)

Documents from David Borden on connecting water supplies

January 2006 Study: [Click Here](#) DES response: [Click Here](#)

School Board November 16th Meeting:

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

Draft School Board Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

Recording of the Nov. 10th Budget Workshop: [Click Here](#)

RCL Video part 1: [Click Here](#)

RCL Video part 2: [Click Here](#)

RCL Meeting Notes with time stamps: [Click Here](#)

Superintendent's Bulletin: November [Click Here](#) (Includes Math & Literacy scores)

[Click Here](#) to see RCL 2016-17 Budget overview (the year we are in now)

1. PHS is considering eliminating 9th grade honors. [Click Here](#) to see information Dec. 5th 4pm PHS Parent meeting, Jan. 10th 6:30pm PHS Information, January 24th 7pm PHS School Board meeting
2. PHS voted to change starting time to 8:25 am for next year [Click Here](#) for Seacoast Herald article (re-posted by RCL [Click Here](#))

[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](#)

3. An updated maintenance plan will be prepared for the February board meeting
4. RJH Dress Code will be reviewed
5. School Board and RJH Principal refuse to let a parent of a 7th grade private school student attend the Project Safeguard presentations. This conflicts with [RSA 193:1 C](#)
6. Multiple parents expressed concerns about the process, communication and the reduction of the Librarian and Music teachers to four days a week. Later in the meeting the board voted to support this reduction.
7. 2017/2018 budget includes \$25,000 for a consultant to support the project based learning activities
8. \$50,000 was approved to get the boiler operational.
9. Resident asked if the Board was going to investigate what can be done to get a higher percentage of RJH 8th graders to be proficient in science.

School Board Budget Meetings:

Recording of Nov. 10th Workshop: [Click Here](#)

Draft November 10th Workshop meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

Budget Committee meeting on the School Budget is December 7th 6:30 pm RJH [Agenda](#)

January 11th is the Budget Committee Public Hearing 6:30 pm RJH

February 8th is the School Deliberative Meeting 6:30pm RJH

Parents Input Meeting, November 28th:

Video Recording : [Click Here](#)

Presentation Slides: [Click Here](#)

Output provided to the School Board

First, by a unanimous vote, the group in attendance approved a motion to communicate to the School Board its strong desire to keep the current library position at 1.0 FTE.

Secondly, by an overwhelming majority, the group approved a motion to communicate to the School Board its strong desire to keep the music position at 1.0 FTE.

The rationale for these considerations included:

- * Has the effect on teacher morale been considered?
- * Will we be able to retain or attract the highest quality professionals when a full-time position is not being offered?
- * Retaining these positions at 1.0 FTE represents a small increase in the overall budget
- * Specifically for the library position, will the staff still be fully supported for their curricula

School Board Budget Presentation and Approval December 2nd:

RCL Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Context Setting Slides presented: [Click Here](#)

1. School Board Chairman Scott Marion explains the budget process to correct alleged misconceptions from Tuesday's parents meeting (0:00 elapsed). [Click Here](#)
2. SAU 50 Business Manager Jim Katkin explains the \$14,020,044 proposed budget. The tax rate is projected to rise by 55 cents (impact on \$500,000 house would be \$275) (20:28 elapsed).
3. Public comment. Numerous parents and other community members express concerns (32:53 elapsed).
4. The School Board defends the process and explains why the reductions to the music and library positions should stand. It votes to approve the \$14,020,044 budget without changes (70:51 elapsed).

Planning Board meeting: November 1st:

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

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

RCL Video Recording Part 1: [Click Here](#)

RCL Video Recording Part 2: [Click Here](#)

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

1. 421 South Rd - Major Subdivision (22 lots)
 - hydro study, lot line adjustment, traffic study submitted, vote 6-0 to take jurisdiction
 - site walk 11/5
 - voted 6-0: subdivision declared be a development of regional impact with notification of Rye Beach, No. Hampton, county and state
 - voted 7-0 - application declared complete
2. 0 Big Rock Rd. voted 7-0: application is incomplete
3. 23 Locke Rd - lot line adjustment voted 7-0 to take jurisdiction

4. 421 South Rd. lot line adjustment and conditional use permit (site walk - 11/19), public hearing application moved to Dec 13 meeting
5. Public Hearing - proposed zoning amendments
 - a. expiration of variances and special exceptions
 - b. applications to building codes board of appeals
 After discussion and changes - approved 7-0
6. New Business: proposed zoning amendments, revision of accessory dwelling units, building height, fences, RCD's (Retirement Community Development), voted 7-0 to move to public hearing
7. Amendment to wetlands conservation district
 - after discussion and changes, voted 7-0 to move to public hearing

LRP Public Meeting (Master Plan)

NO CHANGES SINCE FROM THE OCTOBER CIVIC NEWS

[Click Here](#) to see the history of the meetings and activities in 2016.

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

[Click Here](#) for the current Master Plan 2013.

Rules and Regulations Committee and Zoning Amendments:

No November meeting.

Planning Board December 13th Agenda: at RJH

Meeting Agenda: [Click Here](#)

1. Public Hearings

Major Subdivision 421 South Rd See links above in general announcements

[Click Here](#) RCL dropbox link of photo's of the documents. You can zoom in to read.

[Click Here](#) for early diagram. Technical Review Video [Click Here](#)

Conservation Commission Site Walk, RCL video: [Click Here](#)

November 1st Planning Board meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

2. Public Hearing on Zoning Amendments

December 13th Public Notice: [Click Here](#)

[2017-01](#) Accessory Dwelling Units

[2017-02](#) Substantial Construction (note this is not on the agenda)

[2017-03](#) Building Height change

[2017-04](#) Retirement Community Development RCL additional information [Click Here](#)

[Click Here](#) for Opinion that sheds some light on one of the actions that enabled

Sea Glass Lane (former Rand Lumber) to receive approval for 2 additional units for excellence in design

[2017-05](#) Wetland Buffers [Click Here](#) for information from DES

[Additional information](#) from the RCL from the Wetlands subcommittee meetings

[2017-06](#) Fences

Zoning Board of Adjustment: November 2nd:

Recorded Video [Click Here](#)

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

1. O Big Rock Rd. (this item taken out of order to be heard first) request for rehearing and reconsideration of administrative appeal from Selectmen which denied unmerger of lot.

Unanimously Denied

2. 245 Pioneer Rd. - request for administrative appeal of two violations issued by the Building Inspector Con'd. to Dec. meeting

3. 161 Harbor Rd. - demo of existing non-conforming building and replacing with new.

Issues: septic, front and side setback, parking. With six conditions - unanimously approved

4. 13 Ocean View Ave. - demo existing non-conforming building and replace with new. Issues: septic and setback con'd. to Dec meeting

5. 146 Harbor Rd. - install generator. Issues - setback form wetland with conditions - Unanimously approved with conditions

6. 306 Pioneer Rd. - request two year extension to demo house and garage and replace with new. Issues: wetlands and setback. Unanimously approved

7. 259 Grove Rd. - request administrative appeal of two violations from building inspector con'd. to Dec. meeting

8. Board discussed the fact that abutters are not noticed when there is a request for rehearing or subsequent appeal.

Zoning Board of Adjustment: December 7th Agenda:

[Click Here](#) for agenda

1. 245 Pioneer Rd. Administrative Appeal
2. 259 Grove Rd. Administrative Appeal
3. 100 Locke Rd. Variance for a generator
4. 22 Odiome Drive Variance for expanding building
5. 14 Brown Court. Variances for expanding building

Conservation Commission (CC) No November Meeting:

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

Conservation Land Maps: [Click Here](#)

Wetlands Map [Click Here](#)

Town Forest map: [Click Here](#)

1. No November meeting
2. October 27th Site Walk: No minutes posted
3. November 23rd Site Walk: No minutes posted

Recreation Commission Meeting November 21st:

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

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

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

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

Winter program Registrations: [Click Here](#)

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

1. Recreation Basketball has increased numbers, a new format. More grade 3 to 5 grade coaches are needed. Note, there are two RES 5th grade teams playing in the Portsmouth REC league.

2. Recreation Space Needs Committee

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

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#) Go to:

- a. [Click Here](#) for Report to BOS
- b. . Architect's Report and Summary [Click Here](#)
- c.. Architect's Presentation: [Click Here](#)

Summary:

1. Address lack of storage - \$50,000 to \$100,000
2. Updating of the Rec. Master Plan
3. Have a multi-year agreement with the school
4. Multi-year agreement with the school
5. CIP plan to include
 - 2017 Step 1: \$80,000 for prelim. planning (\$40,000 from revolving fund)
 - 2018 Step 2: \$150,000 for planning/design/engineering
 - 2019 Step 3: \$2,250,000 for building and \$250,000 for site preparation
3. Discussion about addressing the poor drainage on the playing fields

Heritage Commission Meeting November 3rd

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

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Town Meeting minutes: Not available

1. The Heritage Commission selected the 2016 recipient of the Louise Tallman historic preservation person of the year. The announcement will be made at the December 9th meeting at the Town Museum.
2. The Commission also voted to move forward on a Spring "DIG" at the historic site behind the Farragut. Fundraising for that dig and other heritage projects is ongoing.

Mosquito Commission Meeting November 1st

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. Light trap data was sent to Concord. All negative for Zika, West Nile etc.
3. Overall, Mosquito numbers were down due to unusually dry year but this resulted in salt marshes drying up and fish dying which increased mosquito activity in certain areas.
4. There has been an increase in residential mosquito sprayers. Many of whom, are ill trained and don't know where or how to deal with wells, where and what not to spray etc. Make sure they are approved by the State or Town before you hire them.

Rye Energy Committee Meeting: November 2st:

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

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

1. Solar Project research continues for town buildings
2. Bids for Jenness Beach District Street lights close December 2nd
3. Solarize and Button up programs will be offered in February or March
3. Additionl committee members are needed

Rye Recycling Education Committee October 11th

Town Meeting minutes: from August 9th: [Click Here](#)

Video Recording: Not available

Historic District Commission October 19th Meeting

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

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

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

1. 541 Washington Rd building updates discussed
2. 520 Washington Rd replacements of windows
3. Update on the Parsonage Apartments. The key suggestion is to work with Plan NH to hold a charette
4. The Housing Partnership should be raising money to make renovations to upgrade the apartments [Click Here](#) for report submitted to BOS

Capital Improvement Plan Presented to BOS November 28th:

Approved CIP presented on 11-28: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video [Click Here](#) Starts at 4:09 on the video

[Click Here](#) for a summary of the projects.

[Click Here](#) for a list of all of the projects

After Six months of work with the Town of Rye Departments and Commissions the Capital Improvement Plan [CIP] Committee has completed the six year [2017-2022]study of capital outlay needs. The CIP Committee recommendations are based upon a scale of priorities.

Priority One is to secure life and property. Priority Two is to maintain the present standard of living. Priority Three is to improve the community consistent with the Rye Master Plan.

The Recommendations made in this CIP are:

- 1.The CIP Committee agrees school security is the number 1 priority.
 - 2.The CIP Committee recommends the replacement of the Public Works Dump Truck #108. It is in poor condition.
 - 3.The Town Hall redesign reflects a revised placeholder of \$2.9MM in 2018.
 - 4.To fund a new Quint Fire Truck in 2018 the CIP recommends a warrant articles to add to the Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund. A new Quint Fire Trust is estimated at \$575k.
 5. The CIP Committee recommends the delay of the Conservation Bond \$3MM and the Recreation Community Center Building at \$2.5MM pending the Town Hall design decision.
- The CIP was accepted by the Board of Selectmen at their meeting on November 28, 2016.

Library Board of Trustees November 9th

Trustee Home Page: [Click Here](#)

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

1. Parsonage Fence will be removed
2. Most of the meeting was non-public

Sewer Commission Meeting November 8th

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

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

1. See draft meeting notes for summary

Beach Committee: *No current member plans on serving on this Selectmen's Committee in 2017*

Facebook Page [Click Here](#)

Selectmen disbanded the Beach Commission (voter supported) and last met in July.

While the Beach Commission was appointed and was in a position manage the beaches, this "committee" does not have authority and hence, the beaches are managed directly by the Selectmen.

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 to 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..

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. School Budget, meeting minutes, PHS, Testing results
2. Jenness Beach Bathhouse
3. Warrant Articals
4. South Rd. Development

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: 2016 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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