

Rye Civic News January 2017

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:
January 31st
RPL 6:30 pm

Meetings

(at Town Hall
unless
indicated)

Jan. 3rd: Board
of Selectmen
Town Hall 6:30
pm

Jan. 4th RWD
9:00 am 60
Sagamore Rd.

Jan 4th
Conservation
Commission 6:00
pm

Jan. 4th: Zoning
Board of
Adjustment
7:00pm

Jan. 5th:
Heritage
Commission
6:30pm

Jan 5th:
Coakley Landfill
7:00 pm RPL

Jan. 9th Board
of Selectmen
6:30pm

Jan. 10th Sewer
Commission
8:00am RBVD

Jan. 10th
Planning Board
7:00 pm RJH

Jan. 11th:
Governor's Task
Force 7:00 pm
RPL

General Announcements:

1. Town Positions for 2017. [Click Here](#) to see open positions. Incumbents for Selectmen and at least 1 school board seat are open. There are more openings, vacancies and alternates. One School Board member is not running for re-election.

Key Dates:

January 3rd: Special BOS meeting on Town Hall (Town Hall at 6:30pm)

Public Hearing to give input on the Design/Build proposal and the replica option (approximately \$3 million plus contingencies and other costs to be borne by the town for temporary modulars, architect, project management, etc). Voice your concerns that Rye needs a plan that comprehensively looks at current assets, long term needs, priorities and reasonable spending for infrastructure investments. "If the BOS decides to proceed with construction this year, it will determine the amount of the bond at the Jan. 3 meeting and schedule a bond hearing on or before Jan. 17 in order to meet legal deadlines

January 10th: Town Petitioned Warrant Articles with Signatures due at Town Hall

January 10th: PHS discussion about elimination of 9th Grade Honors 6:30pm PHS

January 11th & 12th: Public Hearings on School & Town Budgets

January 24th: PHS School Board 7pm PHS Library - Public Discussion on Honors classes

January 26th: RCL Budget and Warrant Article Presentation RPL 7pm

February 3rd: Last day for filling for elected town positions

February 4th: RJH 9:00 am Town Deliberative Meeting

February 8th: RJH 6:00pm School Deliberative Meeting

2. Sanders Poynt will return to Public Access thanks to Bob Jesurum, but he incurred over \$100K in legal fees. [Click Here](#) to see how you can help. Herald story [Click Here](#)

3. Coakley Landfill & Cancer Cluster fact sheet: [Click Here](#)

4. Town pays \$75,000 for Transfer Station Land: [Click Here](#)

5. Eversource Notice on Tree Trimming: [Click Here](#)

6. Rye Recreation Senior Program: 2016-2017 Active, Alive and over 55 [Click Here](#)

7. Rye Recreation Winter Programs Registration: [Click here](#)

6. Assessment Data: Online views of town lots [Click Here](#)

8. GIS Mapping Software Presentation Video: [Click Here](#)

9. 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](#)

10. Budget Process FAQ: [Click Here](#)

Board of Selectmen Meeting December 27th:

Video Recording at Town Hall: [Click Here](#)

Video Recording at RPL: [Click Here](#)

Draft Town Meeting minutes: Not available

RCL Meeting Notes: [Click Here](#)

1. The Selectmen refused to provide further details or answer questions about the acquisition of Transfer Station land that the Town already thought it owned for \$75,000, citing the pending court case. [Meeting Detail](#) Additional information and documents from the RCL [Click Here](#)

2. The bids for the two Red Mill Ln. culverts were received. The low bid was \$220,000 for each culvert, a total of \$440,000 or an estimated \$500,000 after engineering costs and contingency. The warrant article voted earlier this year provided only \$150,000. The Town will augment that with \$110,000 in the 2017 operating budget (rather than presented as a separate warrant article) and complete only the first of two culverts. [More Detail](#)

3. No agreement has been reached with any of the three town employees unions, whose contracts are expiring. The sticking point is health care. [More Detail](#)

4. The timing of meetings on Town Hall was agreed. Public meetings are scheduled for January 3, January 9 and January 17. The cost appearing in any warrant article will need to

Jan. 11th
Budget
Committee
School Public
Hearing 6:30 pm
RJH

be decided after hearing public input on January 3 so that the hearing notice can appear in time for the January 17 hearing which would occur on the last possible date. [More Detail](#)

Jan 12th Budget
Committee
Town Budget
Public Hearing
6:30pm

5. Hutter Construction, the sole responding bidder for the Town Hall project, explained its two bids (one for renovation, the other for tear down and rebuild) both for approximately \$3 million. Extensive public input and questions were taken. Key issues are (a) the long-term suitability of the building in terms of durability and meeting future town space needs; (b) the high \$400 to \$500 per sq. ft. cost likely once "soft" costs are added; (c) the location of the meeting room in the addition vs. in the Great Hall; (d) the concessions needed with the renovation option relative to the new build option; and (e) the massing of the proposed building relative to that of the existing Town Hall [More Detail](#) Town Hall background information from the RCL [Click Here](#)

Board of Selectmen Meeting December 12th:

Jan 18th: School
Board 6:00 pm
RJH

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

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

RCL Meeting notes: [Click Here](#)

Jan 19th:
Conservation
Commission
7:00pm

1. The Selectmen refused to release an opinion of the Town Attorney that, they assert, permits Shawn Crapo (lost in the last election) to continue to serve on the Budget Committee as a representative of the Rye Beach Village District, even though he is not a Commissioner of that District. [More Detail](#)

2. The plan for the Emergency Planning Zone evacuation was approved, notwithstanding an assertion by Selectman Jenness that it had some aspects of martial law. [More Detail](#)

3. The design/build proposal for Town Hall was received from Hutter, the sole bidder. The bids were approximately \$2.9 million for a renovation and small addition, and approximately \$3.1 million for a tear down/rebuild of a very similar building. Additional "soft costs" would need to be borne by the Town. [More Detail](#)

Hutter Full Proposal [Click Here](#) Recorded Video of 12-27 presentation: [Click Here](#)

BOS meeting to discuss Town Hall. January 3rd

Jan. 23rd:
Board of
Selectmen 6:30
pm

4. Cooperation with North Hampton on two issues was discussed. The Fire Chiefs of North Hampton and Rye will be reporting back in the Spring on a plan to share a ladder truck. A traffic and impact report is due in September on the possibility of allowing North Hampton residents to use the Rye Transfer Center for an annual fee. [More Detail](#)

5. An \$80,000 warrant article to advance the Recreation Community Center was approved. [More Detail](#)

Jan
31st RCL
Budget and
Warrant Articles

Feb. 4th 9:00m
Deliberative
Session RJH

Cancer Cluster & Governor's Coakley Landfill Taskforce:

Feb. 8th School
Deliberative
Session RJH
6:30 pm

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](#)

Coakley-Greenland Cancer Fact Sheet: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video of December 21st meeting: [Click Here](#)

January 5th: Community Discussion Coakley Landfill - RPL 7:00 pm

January 11th: Governor's Task Force Meeting - RPL 7:00 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:

Rye Districts Information:

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

Jenness Beach Bathhouse

1. Bathhouse Project is being re-designed [Click Here](#) for Herald story

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

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

Rye Water District December 7th:

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

RCL Video: [Click Here](#)

1. Commissioners are providing Planning Board with chief concerns of South Rd development, excessive water usage, blasting near the wells and the pending report from Wright Pierce.

[Click Here](#)

Documents from David Borden on connecting water supplies

Rye Rec Master Plan

[\(Click Here\)](#)

2. Waiting for more information on Airfield Drive developemnt
3. Per the Coakley Landfill Task force, PFCs and 1,4-Dioxane will be tested twice a year.
January 2017 tests will set the base line.

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

Town Forest Management Plan

[\(Click Here\)](#)

School Board December 21st Meeting:

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

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

School Board Update e-mail December: [Click Here](#)

RCL Video of SAU 50 Budget Hearing: [Click Here](#)

RCL Video of School Board Meeting: [Click Here](#)

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

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

Parents Summery of Meeting: [Click Here](#)

See next section for School Budget information

1. Business Manager Jim Katkin will be retiring in the next few years. To prepare for that, the SAU has increased its budget to provide for an Assistant Business Manager who would be able to assume his responsibilities. This will add approximately \$140,000 to the annual SAU50 budget, approximately half of which is paid by the Rye School District. [More Detail](#)

2. There will be a meeting set up in January or February to obtain parent feedback on the new Social Studies instruction model. [More Detail](#)

3. At the request of Selectmen Musselman, the School Board is looking at the possibility of renting unused Junior High School space to the Town. [More Detail](#)

4. The School District obtained a legal opinion on the School Board's ability to spend money that might be added to the budget by voters at the Deliberative Session, or by warrant article, for other purposes. That opinion was, however, incorrect with regard to special warrant articles, where the Board may not lawfully spend that money for other than the stated purpose. [More Detail](#)

5. Two parents with children in private schools corrected the School Board's interpretation of a State statute requiring access to school programs for private and home schooled students. [RSA 193:1-c](#) [More Detail](#)

6. School Board members expressed concern that a parent's group meeting had disseminated erroneous information and was creating dysfunction by taking votes on matters over which the School Board has purview. [More Detail](#)

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](#)

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

School Board Budget Meetings:

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

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

Proposed 2017-2018 Full Budget [Click Here](#)

December 7th Budget Committee on School Budget RCL Video: [Click Here](#)

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

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

1. Draft School Budget Sections (click to open).

[Intro & Test Results](#), [RES Principal Report](#), [RJH Principal Report](#), [Special Ed.](#), [Exec. Summary](#), [Budget Overview A](#), [Budget Overview B](#), [Summary & Chart of Accounts](#), [Default Budget](#), [Salary Data](#), [Maintenance](#), [Enrollment Data](#)

Planning Board meeting: December 13th:

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

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

RCL Video Recording Zoning Amendments: [Click Here](#)

RCL Video Recording South Rd Development: [Click Here](#)

Draft Town Meeting Minutes: Not Available as of January 2nd.

RCL Meeting Notes with Time Stamps: [Click Here](#)

1. Zoning Amendments were discussed - text has not been updated on the town website [Click Here](#) The five zoning amendments dealing with structure heights, golf course netting and fences, accessory apartments, retirement community developments and wetlands are moved to the March 2017 ballot after extensive public input. None of the changes requested by the public were made, except for the correction of obvious typos apparently missed by the Board, the Town Attorney and the Planning and Zoning Administrator.

2. The 22 lot subdivision at 421 South Rd. received lengthy discussion and questioning by the board of both the applicant's and town's experts on the first of seven issues: impact on the nearby Rye Water District wells. Despite the fact that approximately 50 members of the public were present, largely for this issue, less than 1/2 hour of comment, out of the over

[Click Here](#)

four hour long meeting, was permitted by them on the water issue. Case was continued to January 10, 2017 meeting on the other six issues.

**Rye Police
Homepage**

[Click Here](#)

Facebook:

[Click Here](#)

Rye Beach
Committee

Facebook Page

[Click Here](#)

**Other Helpful
Links:**

Live Free or Die
Alliance

LRP Public Meeting (Master Plan)

NO CHANGES, MEETINGS, UPDATES SINCE 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 January 10th Agenda: at RJH

Meeting Agenda: [Click Here](#)

1. Public Hearings on Zoning Amendments

Updates from the last Public Hearing or text for these have not been posted yet, please [check here](#) after January 3rd.

2017-07 Frontage to amend definition: Nothing Posted

2017-08 Amend the Stormwater management ordinance Nothing Posted

2. 0 Big Rock Road merging two lots

3. 421 South Rd Major Subdivision

[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](#)

4. Information from the last Public Hearing on the Zoning Amendments (documents have yet to be updated on the town website)

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

Wetland Buffers: [Click Here](#) for information from DES

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

Zoning Board of Adjustment: December 7th:

Recorded Video [Click Here](#)

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

1. 259 Grove Rd -Request an administrative appeal for a building inspector notice of violation request denied 5-0, but Building Inspector letter altered to give applicant until 8/1/17 for fully approved septic system

2. 100 Locke Rd - install new generator, issues: wetlands, approved 5-0

3. 22 Odiorne Dr. - expand building on lot with two or more buildings, issues: setback and wetlands, approved 5-0

4. 14 Brown Ct. - expand non-conforming building, issues, setback and lot coverage approved 4-1

Zoning Board of Adjustment: January 4th Agenda:

[Click Here](#) for agenda

1. 245 Pioneer Rd Administrative Appeal

2. 13 Ocean View Ave. Replace a non-conforming building with a new non-conforming building

3. 243 Parsons Rd. Special exception for an accessory building

4. 32 Porpoise Drive Variances for a shed

5. 0 Big Rock Rd. reconfigure lots

6. 1154 Ocean Blvd. Septic system variances

7. 23 Locke Rd. building height variances

Conservation Commission (CC) December 15th 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](#)

Town Draft Meeting minutes: Not available

RCL Detailed Notes & information: [Click Here](#)

1. Wetlands: Jeffrey Katz, 1146 Ocean Boulevard, proposal to tear down the house and rebuild it on the footprint, keeping existing driveway and septic system. A site walk was planned on Dec. 22nd.
2. Wetlands: Alex and Joanne Zadeh, 245 Pioneer Road, review of a remediation plan following the cutting of trees in the wetland buffer.
3. Wetlands: John E. McCune Jr, 234 Parsons Road, request variance relief for an accessory building in the wetlands buffer. Members are against the request.
4. Wetlands: William and Donna Purdie, 1154 Ocean Blvd, request relief for a septic system and a shed in the wetlands buffer. A site walk was planned on Dec. 22nd.
5. Wetlands: Salvatore and Kathleen Petralia, 25 Appledore, follow-up regarding violations in the wetland buffer. A site was planned on Dec. 22nd.
6. Update on the role and responsibilities of the Trails subcommittee - member Mike Garvan is working on a draft with recommendations.
7. Mindi Messmer, State Representative for Rye and New Castle, and Hydrologist, made a presentation regarding the need for more testing of PFCs in wells surrounding the two landfills in Rye.
8. Susan Shepcaro requested to be considered as a member of the Rye Conservation Commission.
9. Tracy Degnan, Rockingham County Conservation District, talked about wetland buffer education and provided an update on marsh restoration.
10. Members discussed placing a warrant article with a bond on the March ballot - some members were not in favor; the item was tabled until the next meeting.
11. Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A:3 (d) Acquisition.

Recreation Commission Meeting December Canceled:

Learn more about Rye Recreation: [Click Here](#)
[Click Here](#) to see the Rye Recreation Master Plan
 Winter program Registrations: [Click Here](#)
 Active, Alive and over 55 Programs: [Click Here](#)

1. 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

Heritage Commission Meeting December 15th

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

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Town Meeting minutes: Not available

Mosquito Commission Meeting December 20th

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

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

Video of meeting: [Click Here](#)

1. Posters are available [Wanted Not](#) [Bug Them](#)
2. Dragon Pest Control was recommended for 2017 with the provisions that resident complaints be addressed within 24 hours and if street spraying is needed it would be directed by the Mosquito Commission.
3. No January meeting is planned.

Rye Energy Committee Meeting: December 6th:

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

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

From last month:

1. Solarize and Button up programs will be offered in February or March
2. Additional committee members are needed

Rye Recycling Education Committee December 13th

Video Recording: Not available

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

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](#)

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

1. Owners of only 36% of septic systems in the Parsons Creek Watershed have reported last pump out dates, despite 2016 ordinance requiring all to have reported by now.
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](#)

Committee Recommendations:

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 should 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 should explore potential alternate Town-owned sites for low income/workforce housing.
6. Additional information on the report from the RCL [Click Here](#)

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 article to add to the Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund. A new Quint Fire Truck 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 December 8th

Trustee Home Page: [Click Here](#)

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

Draft Facilities Meeting: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

1. Memorial activities are in place for the loss of Tricia Quinn

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 Articles
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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Sent by civicnews@ryecivicleague.org