

Rye Civic News September 2015

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 \(click here\)](#)

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.

Next RCL Meeting:

September 29th 6:30 pm
Location Rye Public Library

NEW 2015 Citizens

Handbook is now updated.
[Click Here](#)

Please see the new
Opinion Section and the
"Public Forum Discussion"
section.

Upcoming Town Meetings and Events

September 8th: Sewer
Commission 8:00am

September 10th: CIP
Committee 7:00 pm

September 14th: Board of
Selectmen 6:30 pm

September 14th: School
Board RJH 6:00 pm

September 15th:
Mosquito Control
Commission 6:00 pm.

September 15th: Planning
Board 7:00 pm

September 16th: CIP
Committee 7:00 pm

September 17th:
Conservation Commission
7:00 pm

September 22nd: Rules
and Regulations 7:30 AM

September 28th: Board of
Selectmen 6:30 pm

General Announcements:

Please complete the Town Hall Survey: [Click Here](#) for RCL information
[Click Here](#) for a scanned copy or go to Town Hall

RCL 2015 Citizen's Handbook: [Click Here](#) Hard copies available soon.

Rye History Trolley Tour: September 7th 10 AM [Click Here](#)

Rye Lions Car Show: September 20th Parson's Field [Click Here](#)

Parson's Creek Pollution Warning: [Click Here](#)

Rye Recycling Video: [Click Here](#)

Food Composting at the Transfer Station Open to Everyone: [Click Here](#)
and see video from RJH student [Click Here](#)

Sanders Poynt Public Access: [Click Here](#) for Herald article, [Click Here](#)
for the court's decision.

Rye Recreation Senior Program: 2014-2015 Active, Alive and over 55
[Click Here](#)

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

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

How good is our Library: [Click Here](#) to see the numbers

UPDATED: Appointed and Alternate Positions:

[Click Here](#) for all positions (not updated from last Civic News)

2015 Vacancies:

- Historic District Committee
- Recycling Education Committee
- Mosquito Commission

Alternates still needed:

- Conservation Commission
- Planning Board
- Recreation Commission
- Zoning Board of Adjustment

Board of Selectmen Meeting August 26th:

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

RCL Meeting Notes: [Click Here](#)

Town Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. Lifeguard staffing of Town beaches ended August 23 due to school year starting. [More Detail](#)

2. Grant for \$121,000 to be applied towards the former Rand Lumber property purchase was accepted. If a second grant comes in, taxpayers will end up paying approximately \$1 million of the \$1.25 million purchase price. Cleanup at additional cost will be needed. A second purchase for \$300,000 to \$350,000 on South Rd. is pending. Both will be paid for from the \$3 million conservation bond voted in 2014. [More Detail](#)

3. The parking ordinance was amended to reflect newly-striped no parking areas adjacent to driveways on Ocean Blvd. [More Detail](#)

4. The Selectmen declined to endorse the Heritage Commission's application to have the Rye Town Hall included among seven New

September 30th: CIP
Committee 7:00pm

October 1st: Heritage
Commission 6:30 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)

GIS Parcel Data: [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.

Jenness Beach Budget:
[Click Here](#)

School Budget:
Here is a link to the Proposed
2015-2016 School Budget.

Rye Trust Fund
Summary:
[Click Here](#)

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

Rye Police Homepage
[Click Here](#)
Facebook: [Click Here](#)

Hampshire buildings to receive support towards renovation, citing the pending resident survey. [More Detail](#) [Click Here](#) to see the application

5. Selectman Mills stated that he would be voting to tear down the Town Hall and incorrectly stated that voters had rejected the Town Hall in 2014. [More Detail](#) The Town has voted four times in favor of Town Hall work.

6. The contract with Assessor David Hynes firm was terminated and a new company hired to do temporary assessing services for the next 2-3 months. A separate contract was entered into with a consultant to look at the Town's assessed valuations following concerns expressed by the Department of Revenue Administration. The Town has had four different assessors since 2010. [More Detail](#)

Board of Selectmen Meeting August 10th:

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

RCL Meeting Notes: [Click Here](#)

Town Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. One of two signs requested by the Heritage Commission indicating that the Town Hall is on the State Registry is approved. [More Detail](#)
2. Conservation Commission request for approval of \$121,000 grant to be applied towards former Rand Lumber purchase is tabled after it is discovered no public hearing was held. [More Detail](#)
3. Summer Sessions provides update on their camps. Parent drop-offs at Sawyers Beach are highlighted as a problem. [More Detail](#)
4. Engineering design for \$31,000 for two culvert replacements on Red Mill Ln. is approved. Replacement planned for 2016 at an estimated total cost of \$150,000. [More Detail](#)
5. Attempted give-away of surplus greenhead traps to Wentworth-by-the-Sea by the Mosquito Commission prompts new town policy. [More Detail](#)
6. Selectmen agree with parking ordinance change to reflect new driveway striping, question why parking is prohibited on both sides of South Rd. [More Detail](#)
7. Selectmen approve building permit for construction on Class VI Old Ferry Landing Rd., condition on no more than ½ bath in accessory carriage house. [More Detail](#)

School Board August 13th Meeting Minutes:

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

2015-2016 School Year Calendar: [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

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

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

1. September meeting will discuss how to make the gymnasiums more available for public use.
2. Department of Homeland Security grant to install the COPsync911 system for Rye schools.
3. The Learning Compact has been suspended until it can be determined if it is needed or not.
4. \$60,000 will be released from the Buildings and Grounds Expendable trust for boiler maintenance and asbestos removal.
5. September vote on an Curriculum Advisory Board between SAU50 and the PHS (SAU 52).
6. November 13th will be the full day School budget meeting at RPL.
7. RJH RTI will be for 45 minutes, once a week.
8. RJH Structure Committee will be making updates at board meetings with a goal of having recommendations in the May/June time frame.

Planning Board meeting: August 11th:

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

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

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

Rye Beach Committee
Facebook Page [Click Here](#)

Other Helpful Links:

[Live Free or Die Alliance](#)

Town Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. Planning Board approved Rockingham Planning Commission quote of \$1430 was to provide recommendations to update the Wetlands Conservation District Ordinance.
2. Conceptual consultation for Rye II, a second Sanctuary Care building at 335 Lafayette Rd.
3. Proposed Zoning Amendment 2016-01: Tourist Accommodations Records. Changes wording to comply to recent Supreme Court ruling.
4. Proposed Zoning Amendment 2016-02: Frontage Requirement for Multi-family house. Adds Private Streets and roads.

Planning Board: Tides to Storms Meeting August 25th:

Town Meeting Minutes: Not available

Video Recording: Not available at RJH - not scheduled

1. About 20 people heard Julie La Branch from Rockingham Planning Commission present the Rye vulnerability assessment. Work was funded from the NH Homeland Security, through a FEMA pre-disaster grant.
2. Final report and information will be posted on the town website soon.

Planning Board: Rules & Regulations: August 26th:

Town Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

1. Proposed Amendment 2016-03 to be discussed September 15th
2. Amendment 2016-04 for Prohibited Use - so Septic Systems are not allowed in the Wetlands buffer, but variances are argued for based on new technology.
3. Discussion of how to measure living space was discussed.
4. Discussed adding a section 802.A to address Certificates of Rental Occupancy.

Planning Board: Rules & Regulations: August 6th:

Town Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

Town Video Recording: Was not scheduled to be recorded

RCL Video: [Click Here](#)

1. Two Zoning ordinances discussed (see above)
2. Building percentage cap in the Growth Management Ordinance will be discussed in September.
3. Looking at Seabrook and Hampton for guidance for Seasonal Units.
4. Kim Reed is looking at rezoning of business, commercial and residential zones.
5. Wetlands buffers were discussed and the volume of Conditional Use Permits allowed for wetland buffers.
6. Looking at the definition for "prohibited uses"

Planning Board September 15th Agenda:

Meeting Agenda: [Click Here](#)

1. Public Hearing on Zoning Amendment 2016-1 see above.
2. 31 Parsons Rd.: Request to waive driveway regulation.
3. 0 Wentworth Rd: 2 lot subdivision
4. Discussion of Zoning Amendment 2016-2
5. Discussion of Sign Ordinance

Zoning Board of Adjustment: August 19th:

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

Town Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

1. 2227 Ocean Blvd.: Variances for patio denied, all in favor
2. 257 Washington Rd.: Increase the bulk of a non-conforming building. Approved all in favor.
3. 20 Spruce Lane: Variances for a shed. Approved all in favor.

Zoning Board of Adjustment: August 5th:

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

Town Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

1. 2230 Ocean Blvd.: Raze existing house and build a new house. Variances approved 4-1
2. 14 Eagle Rock Rd.: Build a home on a non-conforming lot. Variance denied, all in favor

Zoning Board of Adjustment: September 2nd:

Meeting Agenda: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

1. 6 Big Rock Rd.: Variances for a generator
2. 270 West Rd.: Variances for new garage and patio
3. 6 Spruce Lane: Variances for garage addition
4. 0 Frontier St.: Allow a house on a non-confirming lot

Conservation Commission Meeting August 20th

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

Conservation Land Maps: [Click Here](#)

Town Forest map: [Click Here](#)

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

Town Meeting Minutes Not available

1. Wetlands application, 80 Causeway. Site walk scheduled for 8/26 (1:20 elapsed)
2. Tracy Degnan of Rockingham County Conservation District provides update on Goss Farm (11:50 elapsed)
3. Tracy Degnan update on grants. Applying again to NRCS for former Rand Lumber parcel (didn't get last year). Discussion of other grants (29:54 elapsed).
4. Information on State wetlands permits issued (36:13 elapsed):
 - a. Southeast Land Trust, Ocean Blvd., tax map 13, lot 33. For roadside information kiosk at Awcomin Marsh.
 - b. Harvey Bines, 2230 Ocean Blvd., tax map 5.3, lot 66. Tear down and replace house, 5606 sq. ft. impact.
5. Non-public session on land acquisition (39:05 elapsed)

Town Hall Committee: No August Meetings

2015 Charge: [Click Here](#)

[Town Information page:](#) Not updated since March Election

Beach Committee No August Meeting:

Facebook Page [Click Here](#)

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

Town Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

Recreation Commission No August Meeting

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

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

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Town Meeting Minutes: Click Here

Capital Improvements Committee: August 27th

2015-2019 CIP Plan: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Town Meeting Minutes: Not available

Capital Improvements Committee: August 13th

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Town Meeting Minutes: Not available

Demolition Review Committee July 29th

Demolition Review Procedure: [Click Here](#) to review

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Heritage Commission Meeting August 6th

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

Town Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

1. Report on the Star Island trip to view the new solar power installation
2. Odiome Monument, the Dames have asked the Heritage Commission to participate in a public event.
3. [Click Here](#) to see the Seven to Save Application for the Town Hall Building
4. Photos were reviewed for the Historic Markers for Town Hall

Rye Energy Committee Meeting: No August meeting:

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

Town Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

Video Recording: not available

Rye Recycling Education Committee August 18th

Town Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

Video Recording: Not available

1. Recycling Video was created [Click Here](#) to view
2. There are trash containers at the beach, but not recycling containers
3. Food Composting bags are available at the Hungry Horse and hopefully additional locations soon.
4. There will be a K-8 Poster Contest this year
5. Discussed better signs for material and food recycling
6. Discussed education on where to take materials that cannot be left at the dump

Historic District Commission No August Meeting

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

Town Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. HDC had a tour of Star Island - see notes for details

Library Board of Trustees August 13th

Trustee Home Page: [Click Here](#)

Library Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

Mosquito Commission Meeting July 21st:

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

Town Meeting Minutes: Nothing posted

Video of meeting: No video available

Sewer Commission Meeting July 14th:

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

Town Meeting Minutes: Nothing posted

Video Recording: Not available

2014 Climate Change Workshops:

These have been completed and there was a presentation to the BOS, but actions have yet been committed to. Residents need to continue to insist the town update the Master Plan and the town boards act accordingly.

Town Page with reference documents: [Click Here](#)

New FEMA maps: [Click Here](#)

Documents from Workshop #4

21 Things You Can Do: [Click Here](#)

28 Things A Municipality Can Do: [Click Here](#)

Overview of Rye, County and State Activities: [Click Here](#)

Vulnerability Assessment: [Click Here](#)

From Tides and Storm Preparing for NH's Future Coast: [Click Here](#)

NH Climate Change Past and Future: [Click Here](#)

Work Shop #4 RPL Presentation: [Click Here](#)

1. A lot was discussed, including how these findings need to be incorporated into the Master Plan. [Click Here](#) for a brief summary of the program and four workshops.

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:

Does Rye need an IT Strategy? [Click Here](#)

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 from the May 28th Discussion

1. Town Hall Committee
2. How meeting minutes are posted and maintained

Other Town Activity

How Good is our Library?

2014 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

Forward email



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