

Rye Civic News December 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:

December 29th 6:30 pm
Location Rye Public Library

Mid December update:

There have been a lot of Town Hall discussions that we could not get to in this addition, so we are working on a mid December update.

NEW 2015 Citizens Handbook is now updated. [Click Here](#) Hard copies available at RPL, Hungry Horse, Town Hall...

Upcoming Town Meetings and Events

(at Town Hall unless indicated)

December 7th: Recycling Education Committee 3:00 pm

December 7th: Recreation Commission 6:00 pm

December 8th: Sewer Commission 8:00 am
RBVD

December 8th: Planning Board 7:00 pm

December 8th: Town Hall Committee 5:30 pm RPL.

December 9th: Budget Committee Work Session: 5:30 pm

December 11: Heritage Commission 5:00 pm

December 14th: Board of Selectmen 6:30 pm

December 16th: School Board Meeting and SAU50 Budget Hearing 5:30pm
RJH

December 17th: Conservation

When and Where can you help Rye?:

The RCL is investigating how to help connect your talents, knowledge, experience and interests to when those topics are being discussed at Rye board meetings. When a topic is being discussed, you would be notified and could attend that meeting allowing the town to benefit from your inputs, guidance or support. We 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, such as this piece on Town Hall [Click Here](#). Please send us any other suggestions you may have.

- a) Ongoing pollution along Parsons Creek [More Information](#)
- b) Town Facilities Planning - Town Hall, Community Center, Transfer station.... [More Information](#)
- c) Two assessors in two years and a 1 year \$80 million increase in assessed value. [More Information](#)
- d) Professional Planning Support (Master Plan, Sea Glass Lane, Storm water and Rising Tides, Demographics, etc....) [More Information](#)
- e) Rye Schools - declining numbers and educational expectations. [More Information](#)
- f) Beach Issues - How to manage this public asset [More Information](#)

General Announcements:

Ski Friendly Basketball: Rye Rec basketball will have mid week and Saturday games, so there is still time participate.

Firefighters Toys for Tots program: [Click Here](#)

Absentee Ballot Form for Presidential Primary: [Click Here](#)

Parson's Creek Watershed Public Meeting: January 13th 6pm RPL [Click Here](#)

Tides to Storms Vulnerability Report: [Click Here](#)

UNH Town Hall Survey Report: [Click Here](#)

CIP (\$1,269,971 in 2016 projects) Approved [Click Here](#)

RCL 2015 Citizen's Handbook: [Click Here](#) Hard copies have been distributed around town (Town Hall, Library, RJH, Hungry Horse....)

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

Rye Recreation Senior Program (updated): 2015-2016 Active, Alive and over 55 [Click Here](#)

Rye Recreation Winter Registrations: [Click Here](#)

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

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

Board of Selectmen Meeting November 23rd:

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

Commission 7:00 pm

December 28th: Board of Selectmen 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

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.

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

RCL Meeting Notes: [Click Here](#)

Town Meeting minutes: not available

1. A septic tank pump out ordinance is being considered for parcels located in the Parsons' Creek Watershed. [More Detail](#)
2. MRI was awarded a three year assessing contract. This will be the fourth Town Assessor since 2010. [More Detail](#)
3. The Selectmen approved \$800,000 in warrant articles, including \$275,000 to replace an eight year old ambulance that was unavailable for 27 days this year. [More Detail](#)
4. Dump stickers will not be offered to North Hampton residents at this time, however contractors using the Recycling Center will be required to have them. [More Detail](#)
5. For the second meeting in a row, the Selectmen tabled consideration of Jane Holway's resignation from the Heritage Commission. [More Detail](#)

BOS Tax Rate Meeting November 17th:

RCL Video Recording (Town did not schedule): [Click Here](#)

Town Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

RCL Data Table: [Click Here](#) for PDF

RCL meeting notes: [Click Here](#) to get to the .xls of the RCL table

1. A combination of factors helped reduce the 2015 tax rate:
 - a) Public Safety building and conservation bonds are paid off, reducing total appropriations as the cost of government services continued to rise.
 - b) Of the \$823,141 surplus, \$400K was applied to reduce taxes while the remaining \$423,141 went into reserves. This is the first time in many years the maximum amount was not used to reduce taxes.
 - c) Without a re-assessment of property, we have a one year property value increase of \$81 million (4.5%), where we only had a 1% increase the previous year. The increased tax base contributes to the drop in tax rate.
 - d) The decline in revenues and larger budgets were offset by the tax base growth and the lower debt payments.

Category	2013	2014	2015	'14-'15 \$ chg.	% Change
Town Appropriations excl. debt service	\$8,009,735	\$9,219,174	\$8,624,989	(\$594,185)	-6.45%
Town Debt service	\$1,039,692	\$993,545	\$428,259	(\$565,286)	-56.90%
Total Town Appropriations	\$9,049,427	\$10,212,719	\$9,053,248	(\$1,159,471)	-11.35%
Less: Revenues	(\$3,030,483)	(\$3,596,518)	(\$3,372,210)	\$224,308	-6.24%
Plus: Other	\$322,830	\$248,000	\$242,000	(\$6,000)	-2.42%
Less: Prior year surplus applied	(\$818,648)	(\$268,722)	(\$400,000)	\$131,278	48.85%
Town Net Taxes to Raise	\$5,523,126	\$6,595,479	\$5,523,038	(\$1,072,441)	-16.26%
Town Valuation w/utilities (\$000s)	\$1,769,621	\$1,786,611.9	\$1,868,082.7	\$81,471	4.56%
Town Tax Rate	\$3.12	\$3.692	\$2.957	(\$0.74)	-19.91%
School and County Tax Rate	\$ 7.85	\$7.861	\$7.927	\$0.07	0.84%
Tax Rate Town & School (no districts)	\$10.97	\$11.553	\$10.884	(\$0.67)	-5.79%
Jenness Beach District	\$0.23	\$0.23	\$0.24	\$0.01	3.32%
Rye Beach District	\$0.30	\$0.40	\$0.25	(\$0.15)	-37.96%
Rye Water District	\$0.61	\$0.53	\$0.58	\$0.05	8.90%
Unassigned fund balance at prior YE	\$1,952,913	\$1,630,845	\$2,002,437	\$371,592	18.56%
Fund bal. at 5% retainage	\$1,134,265	\$1,362,123	\$1,179,296	(\$182,827)	-15.50%
Available to reduce taxes at 5%	\$818,648	\$268,722	\$823,141	\$554,419	67.35%

Board of Selectmen Meeting November 9th:

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

RCL Meeting Notes: [Click Here](#)

Town Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. It was agreed that a warrant article would be prepared leading to possible sale of the Parsonage Apartments for one dollar to the Housing Partnership. [More Detail](#)
2. The Selectmen requested more information on a proposal to dredge Sagamore Creek and deposit the sand off of Wallis Sands beach. [More Detail](#)
3. Jane Holway's resignation from the Heritage Commission was not accepted but rather the matter was tabled. [More Detail](#)
4. The Selectmen objected to the Heritage Commission setting up a meeting with the Town Administrator and the former Town Hall architect in connection with leveraging State resources following the selection of the Town Hall for the "Seven to Save" list. [More Detail](#)

Rye Police Homepage

Click Here

Facebook: Click Here

Rye Beach CommitteeFacebook Page **Click Here****Other Helpful Links:**

Live Free or Die Alliance

5. The study on installing parking kiosks along Ocean Blvd. has run into some snags, but a report is still due in December. If that shows a favorable cost/benefit analysis there may be a warrant article to fund further study next year. [More Detail](#)

6. The Selectmen expressed concerns regarding whether a proposed \$80,000 loan would provide the solution to bacterial contamination in the Parsons Creek watershed. Contamination warning signs at "Stinky Creek" will likely be needed for a number of years to come, one said. [More Detail](#)

School Board November 18th Meeting:Learn more about the Rye Schools: [Click Here](#)2015-2016 School Year Calendar: [Click Here](#)Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)RCL Video Part 1: [Click Here](#)RCL Video Part 2: [Click Here](#)Superintendent's Bulletin: November [Click Here](#)

1. December 9th discussion with the budget committee.

2. SAU 50 Budget Public Hearing December 16th at 5:30pm

3. All day budget meeting RCL video: Click for [Part 1](#) and [Part 2](#)a) RCL Time Stamps of budget meeting: [Click Here](#)

b) The 0% budget increase would mean reducing RJH teachers from 11 to 9. The 1.5% budget increase would require only one RJH teacher to be eliminated.

c) New Castle is considering Portsmouth for Junior High as the RJH tuition cost is at \$24,000 (Portsmouth is \$16,000). RJH students could be down to 140 (was 216 in 2010-2011).

d) Later PHS start time could increase Rye bussing costs (\$25,000 to \$75,000).

e) Additional Special Needs staff may be needed

4. School and Rye Rec are working on opening the RJH Gym for RJH age students one night a week, starting in January.

5. Good discussion with Student input on how best to incorporate sports for RJH has declining numbers is making inter-scholastic teams more difficult.

6. RJH has fully taken ownership of property and a Wedgewood Farm Committee has been established.

7. Middle School Structure Committee was not able to make recommendations for this budget cycle. A long term plan is needed for balancing Rye expectations, budgets and class sizes.

Planning Board meeting: November 10th:Learn more about the Planning Board: [Click Here](#)New FEMA maps have been posted: [Click Here](#)Video Recording: [Click Here](#)Town Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. 901 Ocean Blvd. - Condo conversion - Public hearing. Board approved unanimously on condition that two stipulations of Building Inspector be met

2. 50 Jenness Ave. - minor two lot subdivision. Board voted unanimously not to accept jurisdiction based on earlier votes by ZBA, BOS and advice of Town Attorney

3. 25 Big Rock Rd. - add driveway - site walk planned for Nov. 14

4. Public Hearing on zoning amendment - amend definition of "living space" (added to March 2016 ballot)

5. Proposed amendments for December meeting

- definition of "prohibited"

- frontage requirements for multi family dwellings

- certificate of occupancy for rentals and leases

Rules & Regulations meeting: November 17th.Video Recording: [Click Here](#)Town Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)RCL Notes: [Click Here](#)

1. Committee discussion of draft extensive Wetlands ordinance changes. Public hearings December
2. Discussion of citizen authored draft of changes to Storm Water Management ordinance, regulations, and definitions tabled until 2016.

Technical Review Committee meeting: November 24th.

Video Recording: None

Town Meeting Minutes: None

RCL Meeting notes: [Click Here](#)

1. 0 Wentworth Rd. (across from BGs Boathouse): Minor site subdivision and lot line change, RCL notes have explanations [Click Here](#) Minor subdivision request lacked proper information to be disused. Transferring land from the Wentworth County Club to this property to help development.

Planning Board December 8th Agenda:

Meeting Agenda: [Click Here](#)

1. Public hearing on lot line revision between 0 Wentworth Rd and 60 Wentworth Rd (Wentworth CC)
2. public hearing on zoning amendments:
 - frontage on multi family dwellings
 - definition of "prohibited"
 - certificate of occupancy for rentals and leases

Zoning Board of Adjustment: November 4th:

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

Town Meeting Minutes: No minutes posted

Recorded Video: No video available

1. No minutes or video for RCL to use to create a summary.

Zoning Board of Adjustment: December 2nd Agenda:

Meeting Agenda: [Click Here](#)

Meeting was held: [Click Here](#) for the video

1. 20 Spruce Ln. - install patio - set back issues
2. 2075 ocean Blvd. - add two car garage - set back issues
3. 746 Long John Rd. - add pool and patio - set back issues
4. 15 Park Ridge Ave. - fence on boundary line with abutter dispute
5. 1413 Ocean Blvd. - asessory apartment - frontage and non conforming use issues
6. 60 Park Ridge Ave. - expansion of bldg. - set back issues
7. 472 Wallis - request for rehearing of ZBA denied septic system at Oct. meeting.

Conservation Commission Meeting November 19th

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: Minutes not posted

RCL Meeting notes: [Click Here](#)

1. 0 Wentworth Rd.: Driveway crossing the wetlands and buffer. [Click Here](#) for TRC information. A site walk is planned.
2. 255 Washington Rd. Homeowner dug a sizable pond in the wetlands (violation), a site walk was planned.
3. Tracey Degnan of the Rockingham Conservation Commission updated the board on her work to provide the Planning Board with the wetland regulations recommendations. There is a need to educate the residents on the need and rationale for these regulations.
4. Goss Farm - Rye Fire will prepare the field to sow pollinators seeds by burning.

Town Hall Committee: December 2nd

2015 Charge: [Click Here](#) [Town Information page:](#)

The 2012 Space Needs Page has the most useful information: [Click Here](#)

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

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

1. A resident asserted that the Committee has been wasting its time as the parameters of square footage and cost have not been agreed to (part 1, 78:38 elapsed).

2. The Committee voted to advance five options to the next stage. The Selectmen will draft a warrant article to ask the town for funds to have an architect come up with cost estimates for each. These are (part 2, 0:00 elapsed):

a. Renovate the Town Hall preserving historic features (11-1 vote) (part 2, 17:32 elapsed).

b. Renovate the Town Hall with no regard to the historic features (9-2 vote) (part 2, 24:27 elapsed).

c. Tear down the Town Hall and rebuild it on the current site (7-4 vote) (part 2, 27:36 elapsed).

d. Construct a new Town Hall on the existing site, with the fate of the existing Town Hall to be decided later (passed at prior meeting) (part 2, 29:24 elapsed).

e. Construct a new Town Hall on a site just north of the Public Safety Building at 541 Washington Rd. It would cost \$500,000 to purchase the property and the existing house would be torn down (8-2 vote) (part 2, 29:54 elapsed).

3. Selectman Mills directed the Committee members to the video of the November 19, 2015 Heritage Commission meeting and took offense to their assertion that the Town, not the Selectmen, own the Town Hall (part 2, 59:09 elapsed).

4. A resident asked why the Parsonage Apartments site, which may be sold for one dollar, were not a better site for a new Town Hall than the one on Washington Rd. which would cost \$500,000 (part 2, 61:28 elapsed).

Town Hall Committee: November 24th

2015 Charge: [Click Here](#) [Town Information page:](#)

The 2012 Space Needs Page has the most useful information: [Click Here](#)

Recorded video: [Click Here](#)

Town meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

RCL Time Stamps: [Click Here](#)

1. Committee votes to dismiss using the Safety Building because it can't support 100% of Town Space needs, which is the committee's requirement.

2. Survey results do not support replacing Town Hall. Committee votes to include the replacing of Town Hall as an option.

Town Hall Committee: November 18th

2015 Charge: [Click Here](#) [Town Information page:](#)

The 2012 Space Needs Page has the most useful information: [Click Here](#)

Recorded video: [Click Here](#)

Town meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

RCL Time stamps: [Click Here](#)

1. The committee decides not to consider the use of available space in the Public Safety Building.

2. The Committee decides that all town offices should be under one roof.

3. With Recreation and Sewer in other buildings, the space needs are down below 7,500 sq. ft. There are 6,000 sq. ft at Town Hall.

Town Hall Committee: November 4th

2015 Charge: [Click Here](#) [Town Information page:](#)

The 2012 Space Needs Page has the most useful information: [Click Here](#)

UNH Survey Presentation: [Click Here](#)

RCL Recorded Video: [Click Here](#) RJH still does not have video

Town Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. The BOS stated that even though they used money for the TOWN Hall Survey, they cannot spend money to investigate the sue of existing building options for office space.
2. Committee votes to keep all offices under one roof. Committee does not say why town government cannot run efficiently from two buildings.
3. Committee is unclear as to what "space" is required and requested the Town Administrator to tabulate the findings from the last five years of work. Space for Recreation, Sewer and the eliminated position should be removed.

Budget Committee Work Session November 12th:

Budget Committee Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

BOS Budget Meeting Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

Town Meeting Minutes: Neither BOS or Budget Committee meeting minutes are available yet.

The RCL has created a summary table of all the issues with the time stamps, so you can jump to the meeting times and listen to specific discussions. The links to the video are above.

RCL Budget Meetings .xls file: [Click Here](#) You need to open it

RCL Budget Meetings PDF: [Click Here](#)

1. The Town Budget (General Fund only) currently stands at \$8,441,171 as recommended by the Board of Selectmen after reviewing all departments. This would be an increase of 4.7% over the 2015 (General Fund only) budget of \$8,064,142. This is despite the lack of any increase in retirement costs this year and a return to a more normal 52 week (vs. 53 week in 2015) year for employee pay. Of the increase, approximately \$120,000 is due to increasing debt service costs, largely arising out of the \$3 million conservation bond voted in 2014. After declining for a number of years as Public Safety Building, Sewer and earlier Conservation bonds matured, debt service (principal and interest payments) are now increasing again.
2. The General Fund budget would have been up 6.7 percent, but the Selectmen cut approximately \$160,000 from the department requests in their 10/22 meeting.
3. The Selectmen have approved \$845,000 out of \$865,000 in warrant articles requested during about 20 minutes of review at their 11/23/15 meeting. While 2015 warrant articles passed were down relative to 2014 because of the failure of the \$4.1 million Town Hall bond issue, the 2016 warrant articles so far approved are approaching the 2014 level (a high tax rate year) after adjusting for the \$3 million conservation bond passed in 2014 which did not affect the tax rate in either 2014 or 2015.
4. The Budget Committee thus far has cut an additional \$5000 from the budget and has not yet addressed any warrant articles. The Budget Committee has tabled \$26,500 in requests to be addressed at a future meeting.

Beach Committee No meetings since July:

Facebook Page [Click Here](#)

Last Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

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

Recreation Commission November 2nd:

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](#)

Winter program Registrations: [Click Here](#)

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

1. The Recreation Facilities Needs Assessment Committee is a Selectmen's committee, so they picked the members and set the charge.
2. The proposed 2016 budget has a 3% increase.
3. Discussion about the strain on staff from the increase in administration of Senior related activities.
4. There are low numbers for the K-5th grade basketball program. There will now be games during the week to accommodate skiing families.
5. Rye Rec. will be offering youth open gym time at RJH from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm.

Demolition Review Committee July 29th

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

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Heritage Commission Meeting November 19th

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

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

RCL Meeting Notes: [Click Here](#)

1. Special meeting to address the BOS confusion about the Heritage Commission utilizing State support and resources from the Seven to Save program. Who owns Town Hall, the Town or the Selectmen discussion - see [video 34:07](#).
2. Town Hall and Isles of Shoals Oceanic Hotel both named to Seven to Save [Click Here](#) for Portsmouth Herald story
Application has much interesting information. [Click Here](#) to see the Seven to Save Application

Rye Energy Committee Meeting: November 3rd:

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

1. Town Hall energy data will be in the next Selectmen's Newsletter.
2. Committee will check with Mike Magnant about progress on last year's Public Safety Building recommendations.
3. The 4th Annual Harvest Dinner for Goss Farm raised \$3,000.
4. Committee has availability for two new members.

Rye Recycling Education Committee November 17th

Town Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

Video Recording: Not available

1. Over 80 RES entries received for the Poster Contest
2. Discussion that the "Failure to Recycle" sign be changed to a more positive message.
3. Questioned on the status of the DPW Master plan that was funded years ago (\$50,000). There is a Transfer Station flyer: [Click Here](#)

Historic District Commission No November Meeting

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

Library Board of Trustees November 10th

Trustee Home Page: [Click Here](#)

Library Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

1. Five of the staff have been trained in CPR.
2. Children's Services continue to investigate which programs have the most participation.
3. RPL space needs survey is progressing with a plan for January.
4. Facilities meeting [Click Here](#) New options for stack-able chairs are being investigated.

Mosquito Commission Meeting November 10th:

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

Town Meeting Minutes: Nothing posted for September

Video of meeting: [Click Here](#)

November 10th agenda: [Click Here](#)

Sewer Commission Meeting November 10th:

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

Last Town Meeting Minutes: [July Click Here](#)

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

October meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

Capital Improvements Committee: October 14th

2016-2021 CIP Plan: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: BOS meeting presentation [Click Here](#)

1. CIP presentation to the BOS starts at 3:45 minutes [More Detail](#)

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:

Rye Town Hall Project Running off the rails. [Click Here](#)

Portsmouth Herald Stories of Interest:

1. Hampton Beach Parking: [Click Here](#)

2. Rye has NH's Top Library Director [Click Here](#)

3. Two Rye Sites make NH Seven to Save list [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 discussed:

1. Town Hall Survey - key findings

2. Parson's Creek action plans started in 2010 and pollution appears to be getting worse

2014 Climate Change Workshops:

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](#)

[Click Here](#) for a brief summary of the program and four workshops.

Appointed and Alternate Positions:

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

2015 Vacancies:

- Historic District Committee
- Recycling Education Committee
- Rye Energy Committee (two vacancies now)
- Mosquito Commission

Alternates still needed:

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

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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