

Rye Civic News February 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)

Feb. 1st:

RWD 9:00 am
60 Sagamore
Rd.

Feb. 1st:

Zoning Board
of Adjustment
7:00 pm

Feb. 2nd:

Heritage
Commission
6:30pm.

Feb. 4th:

Deliberative
Town Meeting
RJH 9:00 am.

Feb. 6th:

Recreation
Commission
6:00 pm

Feb. 7th:

Districts
Budget
Committee
6:30pm

Feb. 8th:

Planning Board
Work session
for 421 South
Rd. 5:00pm

Feb. 8th.

School
Deliberative
Meeting 6:30
pm RJH

Feb. 11th

Snow day for
Town

General Announcements:

1. Town Deliberative Meeting February 4th 9:00am Rye Junior High School

Rye Rec. has activities at RJH for elementary school age children

Still open and un-contested office positions (February 3rd 5pm is the last day) page 4

[Click Here](#) Town Deliberative Meeting snow date is February 11th

Warrant Articles: [Click Here](#) for explanations and supporting information from the RCL

Please review before the Town Deliberative Meeting. If you have questions, please come to the [RCL meeting January 31st 6:30pm at the RPL](#). Pre town meeting text of warrant

articles: [Click Here](#)

2017 Taxes, Town and School Budget Analysis: [Click Here](#) from the RCL

2. School Deliberative Town Meeting February 8th 6:30 pm RJH (see the links above)

3. Candidates Night: March 9th 7pm RPL [Click Here](#) for positions

4. 421 South Road Development Working Session February 8th 5pm (not for public comment)

Resident diagram showing how the current proposal encroaches on wetlands and buffer zones: [Click Here](#)

Petition by residents: [Click Here](#) or [Click Here](#) for mail in post cards

5. Rye Historical Society Cabin Fever Tea February 18th 3pm to 5pm [Click Here](#)

6. 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](#)

7. Coakley Landfill & Cancer Cluster fact sheet: [Click Here](#) [Recent Herald Story](#)

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

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

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

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

12. Older Discussion of issues facing Rye (not updated) [Click Here](#) Rye Challenges [Click Here](#)

- Opinion piece on Parsonage Apartments and Retirement Community Development proposed zoning amendment [Click Here](#)

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

Board of Selectmen Meeting January 23rd:

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

Draft Town Meeting minutes: Not available

RCL Meeting Notes: [Click Here](#)

1. A deputy Building Inspector may be appointed pending a full-time hire if the budget passes. [More Detail](#)

2. Rather than selling or trading in the old ambulance, the Town will keep it as a spare, with the issue to be revisited in six months. [More Detail](#)

3. A new warrant article was added to deal with the possibility that both bond articles dealing with Town Hall (one to tear down and rebuild, and the other to renovate) pass. [More Detail](#)

Board of Selectmen Meeting & Town Hall Bond Hearing January 17th:

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

Town Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

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

1. A public hearing was held on two bond issues: An approximately \$3.4 million bond to tear down and rebuild Town Hall and a \$3.2 million bond to renovate and expand the Town Hall somewhat. [More Detail](#)

2. Rye resident David Choate, who is on the Board of the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance, spoke about the availability of grants if the renovation option is chosen. [More Detail](#)

3. A resident summarized the findings of various architects and engineers retained by the Town in connection with Town Hall since 2010 and stated that the structural issues are likely overblown, particularly if the building expansion is limited and code-compliance requirements

Deliberative
meeting

Feb. 13th:
Board of
Selectmen
6:30 pm

Feb. 14th
Sewer
Commission
8:00 am
RBVD.

Feb. 14th:
Planning Board
7:00 pm RJH

Feb. 15th:
School Board
6:00 pm RJH.

Feb. 15th:
Coakley Task
Force 3pm
Portsmouth.

Feb. 16th:
Conservation
Commission
7:00 pm.

March 14th:
Town Election
Day

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

are reduced. [More Detail](#)

4. The Selectmen voted not to recommend all petitioned warrant articles, except one that was deferred to the January 23 meeting, at which they voted not to recommend that article.

[More Detail](#)

Board of Selectmen Meeting January 9th:

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

Town Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

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

1. The Selectmen approved placement of six warrant articles seeking approval of three collective bargaining agreements. Selectman Mills, who had not been to a meeting in many months, was conferenced in by telephone for the vote on the Public Works Employee contract as Selectman Jenness recused herself inasmuch as her son works at the Transfer Station. [More Detail](#)

2. The Selectmen voted in favor of placing their \$3.4 million warrant article to tear down and rebuild Town Hall, but voted not to recommend the \$3.2 million Heritage Commission article to renovate the building. Selectman Musselman complained that the Heritage Commission's action ensured that neither article would pass. [More Detail](#)

3. The Selectman voted not to recommend a \$500,000 petitioned warrant article to perform several repairs to Town Hall. Selectman Musselman asserted that it was not enough money and said that if the article passes and the Board of Selectmen agree they would not have to do anything. [More Detail](#)

Board of Selectmen Meeting & Town Hall Tear-down January 5th:

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

Town Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

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

1. The Selectmen met to consider which option to take on Town Hall. Selectman Jenness spoke first, but focused on the configuration, not the key issue of whether or not to tear down the Town Hall. [More Detail](#)

2. Selectman Musselman provided his reasons why the Town Hall should be torn down and a replacement replica built. [More Detail](#)

3. After a resident expressed doubt that the voters would favor a \$3.4 million proposal for 8000 sq. ft. when they had already voted down a \$4.1 million, 12,000 sq. ft. proposal, Selectman Musselman agreed. [More Detail](#)

4. The Selectmen voted to schedule a bond hearing for January 17 on the bond to finance the tear down and rebuild. [More Detail](#)

Board of Selectmen Meeting January 3rd:

Video Recording at RPL has been lost. RCL audio recording: [Click Here](#).

Town Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

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

1. Selectman Musselman explained the purpose of the meeting, which was to take public input on which of two options for Town Hall (tear down and rebuild a replica, or renovate), should be chosen, or whether neither should be. Soft costs have been estimated at \$300,000, so the cost of the replica is \$3.4 million, and of the renovation, \$3.2 million. [More Detail](#)

2. Many members of the public spoke. More seemed to be in favor of a new building, but few, if any, thought that a replica was an appropriate choice. [More Detail](#)

3. A straw poll was conducted. Two favored renovation, twelve favored tear down and rebuild of a replica, and twelve favored neither. [More Detail](#)

4. It was announced that the Selectmen would reach a decision at a meeting on January 5. [More Detail](#)

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](#)

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

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

Recorded Video January 5th: [Click Here](#)

**Rye Rec
Master Plan**
(Click Here)

Rye Districts Information:

[Click Here](#) for information on Rye Districts
February 7th Budget Committee Meeting for the Districts 6:30 pm

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

Rye Water District January 4th:

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

1. Resident shared a draft warrant article to help move the Water District to ballot voting. This is to avoid future situations like the one in 2013 when the Water District distributed meeting notifications only to those who were served by the proposed \$3.4 million water main upgrade and not to 100% of the people who would share the cost.
2. 421 South Rd Development Planning Board meeting minutes state that the estimated impact of water usage are not correct. The Water District meeting minutes have the correct figures.
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](#)

**2015 Beach
Report** Click
Here

**GIS Parcel
Data:** Click
Here

**Transfer
Station and
Recycling
Flyer:** Click
Here.

School Board January 18th Meeting:

- Learn more about the Rye Schools: [Click Here](#)
Superintendent's Bulletin: (website is down)
School Board Update e-mail January: [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](#)
RCL video of special Jan. 3rd Meeting for SAU 50 position: [Click Here](#) Minutes [Click Here](#)
1. 2017-18 Calendar was approved, but is not yet available for the public
 2. RJH is looking into the high percentage of RJH (2/3) who did test as being proficient in Science.
 3. RJH Social Studies Feedback session will be on February 23rd at 6:30pm
 4. There is a warrant article to study the feasibility of combining RES and RJH at some point in the future. More time was spent on the concern over voters dictating actions to the school board than discussing the warrant article.
 5. Ms. Garcia's 4th grade class won a national writing award and the book will be illustrated and published. The class was awarded many books and \$500.
 6. Mr. Marion will be representing SAU 50 at the PHS School Board meeting as the elimination of Freshman Honors options was being discussed. Meeting held Feb. 24th.
 7. There was discussion around who and how student test scores are utilized. The answer should be clearly communicated to parents, as it did not appear to be clear.
 8. Parent spoke highly of the results seen from the Kindness Club.
 9. Resident asserted that the School Default budget may not be correctly calculated.
 10. Resident made suggestions for improving the budgeting process to better engage parents and residents.

**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

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](#)
Jan 11th Budget Committee RCL Video: [Click Here](#)
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](#)
 2. RCL Budget Analysis [Click Here](#)

**Jenness
Beach Budget:**
Click Here

**School
Budget:**
Here is a link to
the Proposed
2017-2018 School
Budget.

Planning Board meeting: January 10th:

- Learn more about the Planning Board: [Click Here](#)
New FEMA maps have been posted: [Click Here](#)
RCL Video Recording (part 1 South Rd): [Click Here](#)
RCL Video Recording (part 2): [Click Here](#)
Draft Town Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)
1. 421 South Rd - major subdivision [Click Here](#) for resident's diagram
Public hearing - Traffic - extensive discussion, many concerns expressed about

Rye Trust
Fund
Summary:
Click Here

**Rye Library
Strategic**

Plan: Public hearing - impact on Rye water wells - extensive discussion, many concerns expressed, about potential degradation of water supply
 Click Here
 How good is our Library
 Click Here
 Public Planning board work session on this application scheduled for February 8th

2. O Big Rock Rd. - move to February meeting
3. Zoning amendments
 - Amend the definition of frontage - after discussion, moved to warrant
 - Storm water management ordinance - after discussion, moved to warrant

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 February 8th and 14th Agenda: at RJH

February 8th Work session for 421 South Rd. 5pm No public input

[Click Here](#) for residents drawing showing details

No agenda posted for the February 14th meeting

Zoning Board of Adjustment: January 5th:

Recorded Video [Click Here](#)

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

1. 245 Pioneer Rd. Administrative. appeal of building inspector violation withdrawn
2. 13 Ocean Ave. Demo non conforming building and replace it with new building issues: septic system, rear and side setback, bedrock and high water table conditional approved 5-0
3. 243 Parsons Rd. Accessory building. Issues: rear and side setback from wetlands; surface alteration of building.
 - Conditional approval of setback - 4-2 (alternate voted)
 - Conditional approval of surface alteration of building 4-1
4. 32 Porpoise Dr. Shed, issues: front and side setback. Approved 5-0
5. Other applications continued to February meeting

Zoning Board of Adjustment: February 1st Agenda:

[Click Here](#) for agenda

1. 1154 Ocean Rd.: Septic System and other variances
2. 23 Locke Rd. Building height variance
3. 740 Washington Rd. Administrative Appeal
4. 129 Wentworth Rd.: Requesting a two year extension on variances

Conservation Commission (CC) January 19th 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. Wetland application: 92 Old Beach Road. Mark West, Wetland Scientist, presented on behalf of the applicant, Matt O'Connor, a plan to build a sea wall.
2. Trails Subcommittee: the subcommittee was dissolved.
3. Brian Murphy presented a petitioned warrant article to establish a Trail Access Feasibility Committee.
4. Request by Heather Reed and Lawton Struble to become alternate members. All in favor. A letter of recommendation will be sent to the BOS.
5. Discussion about the Conservation Commission budget: planning; categorizing; prioritizing.
6. A member of public expressed her concerns regarding a lack of communication between Town Boards and Commissions, and about better protecting the Rye wells and its water.

Recreation Commission Meeting January 11th:

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](#)

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

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

1. The \$80,000 for the next phase is to study what are the options to address Rye's Recreation space requirements. Only \$40,000 will impact taxes as 1/2 (\$40,000) will come from the Rye Recreation revolving fund.
2. Residents are encouraged to view the large volume of programs for Kindergarten to Senior Citizens that Rye Recreation delivers.
3. Recreation Space Needs findings:
 - 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. The CIP plan to include
 - 2017 Step 1: \$80,000 for researching options (\$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

Budget Committee Meeting January 9th

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

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

Draft Budget Committee School Budget meeting minutes: Not available

RCL Budget Analysis Presentation: [Click Here](#)

1. The Budget Committee voted 6-3 not to recommend the Selectmen's \$3.4 million warrant article to tear down and rebuild Town Hall.
2. The Budget Committee voted 7-1 not to recommend two petitioned warrant articles to deal with Town Hall. The first was a \$3.2 million warrant article submitted by the Heritage Commission to renovate Town Hall. The second was a \$500,000 warrant article to repair and refurbish Town Hall and provide handicapped access.
3. The Budget Committee voted 7-1 to recommend three collective bargaining agreements. The member voting against cited the 2.5 percent increase at a time when Social Security recipients are receiving only .3 percent increases.

Budget Committee Public Hearing: School Budget January 11th

RCL Recorded Video of the School Budget: [Click Here](#)

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

Draft Budget Committee School Budget meeting minutes: Not available

RCL Budget Analysis Presentation: [Click Here](#)

1. The increase in Special Education costs from about \$1 million in 2013 to over \$1.7 million in the 2017-2018 budget was questioned, particularly in light of the constant cutting of the Elementary School and Junior High budgets (excluding Special Education) in order to keep the budget flat as teacher salaries increase.
2. The calculation of the default budget, which is supposed to be based on the prior year's budget, was questioned. It is only \$120,000 less than the proposed operating budget, which is up approximately \$650,000 over the 2016-2017 budget.
3. There was significant discussion of a petitioned warrant article to form a committee to study combining the two schools.

Budget Committee Public Hearing: Town January 12th

Recorded Video of the Town Budget Public Hearing : [Click Here](#)

Draft Town Meeting minutes of Town Budget Public Hearing: Not available

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

RCL Budget Analysis Presentation: [Click Here](#)

1. The Budget Committee addressed the \$80,000 warrant article to advance the Recreation Community Center and voted 7-1 to recommend it. Peggy Balboni voted against, citing the unused space at Rye Junior High and the need for an overall plan.
2. The Collective Bargaining Agreement increases are much higher than three years ago because of stipends to employees who choose lower cost health care plans. The town will

actually save much more than the cost of the stipends, according to Town Administrator Magnant.

3. There was more discussion of the three Town Hall warrant articles with appropriations attached. One of the signatories of the \$500,000 warrant article to repair and refurbish Town Hall described how the Town Hall process had gotten off track, and that this was the only warrant article with a chance of passing this year, given the survey responses indicating a maximum supported cost of \$2 million and that over 60 percent do not want to tear down the Town Hall.

Heritage Commission Meeting January 5th

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

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Town Meeting minutes: Not available

1. Created two warrant articles to hopefully prevent the BOS from having Town Hall demolished.
2. [Click Here](#) to see Town Hall Document

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: January 3rd:

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

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

1. Solar array's are being discussed for RES and RJH.
2. Solar panels are also being investigated for Adams Mobile Home Park
3. SAU50 researched and obtained better electric rates for the schools and there is an action to investigate potential savings for additional town buildings.

Rye Recycling Education Committee January 10th

Video Recording: Not available

Library Board of Trustees January 10th

Trustee Home Page: [Click Here](#)

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

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

1. Staff was very appreciative of the many sympathy cards in Tricia Quinn's memory.
2. Library used 99% of the budget, which reflects extremely well on the Library budgeting process.
3. Listening feedback is soon due to support the Strategic Planning process.

Sewer Commission Meeting December 13th (No January meeting)

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

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

1. Jenness Beach pump seal was leaking and has been replaced
2. Building Inspector denied a permit for 14 Brown Court
3. Big Rock Road resident attempting to use the Sewer commission to help prevent properties on that road from being developed. **Note:** Rye's Assessor quit after one year, the next Assessor was fired by the BOS after Rye's total assessed value increased by \$80M. Complaints about a property on this street may have played a role in the release of the Assessor.

Trustees of the Trust Funds January 24th

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

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

1. Audit report was submitted and reviewed by the Trustees

2. Discussed the Library's Excess Liquidity Investment Guidelines that they helped develop.
3. Reviewed and discussed economic conditions and the most prudent investment strategies.
4. Trustee's voted to move away from a fund that had done well in the past but has been recently trending in the opposite direction.

There is helpful information included in the sections for commissions and committees that are not actively meeting. Opinions, Public Discussion and additional content are also included below.

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.

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 neither sell the Parsonage 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 charrette
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.

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. South Road stressing the land
3. Warrant Articles
4. Town Hall & lack of a overall facilities plan

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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