

Rye Civic News July 2016

from the Rye Civic League

"Informing citizens, enhancing direct democracy and supporting the will of the voters"

RCL, PO Box 971, Rye, NH 03870 RyeCivicLeague.org

Please share with your Rye friends & neighbors

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

Next RCL Meeting:
July 27th RPL 6:30 pm

Meetings
(at Town Hall unless indicated)

July 6th: Zoning Board of Adjustment 7:00 pm

July 7th: Heritage Commission 6:30 pm.

July 11th: Board of Selectmen 6:30 pm

July 12th: Sewer Commission 8:00am RBVD

July 12th: Planning Board 7:00 pm

July 13th: Parsonage Apts Long Range Planning 5:00 pm.

July 15th: School Board Meeting 8:00am RPL

July 21st: Conservation Commission

July 25th: Board of Selectmen 6:30 pm

July 28th Recreation Space Needs 6:00 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: [Click Here](#)

Rye Rec Master Plan

General Announcements:

- 1. South Rd. 21 Lot Subdivision** initial discussions at July 12th 7pm Planning Board meeting [Click Here](#) for diagram
- 2. Jenness Beach Street Light Social** July 13th 9pm [Click Here](#) for information [Infromational Flyer](#)
- 3. Architect Report on Rye Recreation Needs Assessment.** [Click Here](#)
- 4. Mosquito Posters** completed [Bug-Them](#), [Wanted Not](#)
- 5. Family Picnic & Old Fashioned Games.** August 2nd 4:30pm to 6:30pm at Parson's Field sponsored by the RPL
- 6. Coastal Risk and Hazard Commission:** [Click Here](#) for public comment [Click Here](#) for draft report
- 7. Draft Rye Master Plan Chapter changes for Climate Change:** [Click Here](#)
- 8. Cancer Cluster February 2nd Report:** [Click Here](#) Other links [Click Here](#) Community Group facebook page: [Click Here](#) April Rye Water Testing results [Click Here](#)
- 9. Rye Recreation Senior Program (updated):** 2015-2016 Active, Alive and over 55 [Click Here](#)
- 10. Rye Recreation Summer Programs Registration:** [Click here](#)
- 11. Assessment Data:** Online views of town lots [Click Here](#)
- 12. GIS Mapping** Software Presentation Video: [Click Here](#)
- 13. Portsmouth Youth Football Registration:** [Click Here](#)
- 14. Rye Travel Soccer Registraion** (opens June 5th): [Click Here](#)
- 15. Discussion of issues facing Rye.** [Click Here](#)

Board of Selectmen Meeting June 27th:

Video Recording: [Click Here](#) see RCL time stamps

Draft Town Meeting minutes: Not available

1. Neighbors complain about lack of action addressing the excessive algae on the Ocean Blvd. Duck Pond. DES will be contacted.(0:32)
2. Selectman Jenness discusses her ownership in part of the land for the 21 unit South Rd. subdivision and tax card discrepancy. (34:17) [More Detail](#)
3. Bedford NH women attends meeting to ask about not ticketing during Sawyer's Beach Surf Camp drop off. She was late and missed all of the accommodations made for camper drop offs. (41:15)
4. Cable Rd. Extension bathrooms were returned to the previous location because of accumulation of trash.
5. Approval of purchasing a new ambulance for approximately \$270K. Specific model of Fire Department radios are no longer sold and maintained so the will all need to be replaced. Fire Chief argues for keeping the old ambulance so that the Town has two ambulances, since the trade-in value is only \$9000. Decision on that issue is deferred (77:28)
6. A thirty to forty ton whale, named Snow Plow, was discovered dead on Foss Beach. A group ended up taking the bones and the Town and State funded moving the balance of the remains to a farm to be buried. 102:06

Board of Selectmen Meeting June 13th:

Video Recording: [Click Here](#) See RCL Time stamps

Town Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. Edward Hudson appointed as a Full Time Police Officer. 15:02 elapsed
2. Wendy Bookholz will be the new Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector and Amy Thibodeau will be the part-time Town Clerk assistant. 17:34
3. Protracted discussion about 0 Big Rock Lane un-merger request. Tabled until the July 11th meeting after vigorous opposition from residents, including Deb, Randy and Shawn Crapo, and accusations regarding the

(Click Here)

2015 Beach Report

Click Here

GIS Parcel Data: Click Here

Transfer Station and Recycling Flyer: Click Here.

Town Budgets

Budget Analysis: Click Here

Town Budget Worksheet: Click Here.

MS-7 Reporting document: Click Here

Rye Water District Budget: Click Here.

Rye Beach Budget: Click Here. RBVD Treasurer's Report. Click Here

Jenness Beach Budget: Click Here

School Budget:

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

Rye Trust Fund Summary: Click Here

Rye Library Strategic Plan: Click Here
How good is our Library Click Here

Rye Police Homepage Click Here
Facebook: Click Here

Rye Beach Committee Facebook Page **Click Here**

Other Helpful Links:

Live Free or Die Alliance

former assessor. 20:38

4. New parking ordinance to prohibit parking on both sides of Recreation Rd. was approved.94:54

5. \$42,590 was approved to repair the Public Safety Building floor. 107:04

6. Additional letters to be sent to Washington Rd. about the next round of aggressive tree removal and timing by Eversource. 121:00

7. Eight Tax Abatement requests were evaluated, seven reductions approved, one increase was approved. 136:28

Parson's Creek Pollution Committee June 20th:

Organized Additional Information: [Click Here](#)

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

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

Video Recording: None - held at the Public Safety Building

Meeting Agenda: [Click Here](#)

1. Septic Social June 22nd at a home in the Parsons Creek Watershed Chris Albert of Jones and Beach Engineers gave an extensive presentation on the evolution of septic system design over the decades, how they function, Do's and Don'ts and the signs of failure. Must read for all Rye homeowners with septic systems regardless of location.

Presentation [Click Here](#)

Parsonage Apartments Committee June 20th :

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

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

Parsonage Apartments Committee June 6th:

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

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

Rye Districts Information:

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

Rye Water No June meeting posted:

School Board June 17th Meeting:

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

Draft School Board Meeting Minutes: Not posted

RCL Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

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

[Click Here](#) to see RCL Budget overview

1. Financial, administrative and school reports

2. Public Comment - Jeanne Brown, RJH, shared a letter from Rye teachers Assn. The letter was highly critical of the process used by the superintendent and school board which led 7th grade teacher John Waters to think he had a chance to apply for a new Language Arts/Social Studies position which would first be advertised internally.

Mr Waters was working with the administration to get certified in Language Arts, only to find out this spring that the position was advertised publicly and a new teacher was chosen. (see #3 below) Waters is an eleven year veteran social studies teacher at RJH and many teachers, parents, students and members of the public spoke strongly in his behalf, questioning the ethical practices of the administration and the Board in this process and what kind of a model that presented to the students. There was a strong sentiment among the speakers that Mr. Water's case should be given reconsideration.

School Board chair Marion said the board could not comment since it was a personnel issue; two people from the audience said the Board did have to comment but they could if they wanted to. 55:46 elapsed

3. The Board voted 4-0 to accept the nomination of Jennifer Miller as the new Language Arts/Social studies teacher

4. School Board retreat will be Friday July 15th from 8-4; If the schedule allows, it will be held at Rye Public Library

Planning Board meeting: June 14th:

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

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

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

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

1. 50 Jenness Ave. - lot line adjustment Approved 7-0
2. Major Site Development, 795 Washington Rd (Webster at Rye) - cutting trees for ease of snow removal Approved 7-0
3. Master Plan Update: Julie LaBranche, Rockingham Planning Commission Goals and Recommendations outlined, etc.

LRP Public Meeting (Master Plan) June 2nd & 15th

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

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

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

Draft Town Meeting Minutes June 2nd: [Click Here](#)

Draft Town Meeting Minutes June 15th: [Click Here](#)

If you attended the May 12th Public discussion, some of those comments are included in the meeting minutes. [Click Here](#) to see some of those public comments from the meeting minutes.

LRP Public Meeting (Master Plan) June 22nd:

1. Draft Chapters for Climate Change: [Click Here](#)
2. A public participation forum was held to discuss updates of the Master Plan regarding the Transportation Chapter, Natural Resources Chapter, and Land Use Chapter, as part of the Coastal Hazards and Adaptation draft Chapter.
3. Only 7 members of the public were in attendance with Priscilla Jenness the only land use board member/town official in attendance. Only two chapters were discussed due to the lack of time.
4. Lack of participation was discussed as the additional paid facilitators were not needed. There was conflicting ZBA meeting and Septic Social that evening/day.. No newspaper notice, no signs or other communication efforts (there were e-mail server problems that week)..

Planning Board July 12th Agenda:

Meeting Agenda: [Click Here](#)

1. 2 Marjorie Way - not building a stone wall
2. Conceptual Consultation for 21 Unit subdivision on South Rd. See diagram from RCL [Click Here](#) [Click Here](#) for June 7th BOS discussion.

Zoning Board of Adjustment: June 22nd:

Recorded Video [Click Here](#)

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

1. 345 Central Rd. - Request for Rehearing of case regarding shed location at 355 Central Rd. discussed at first ZBA meeting in June. Request for Rehearing: Denied 3-2

Zoning Board of Adjustment June 1st:

Recorded Video [Click Here](#)

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

1. 34 Brackett Rd. - build barn in wetland buffer within 30' of high tide mark where 100' is required. All in favor
2. 30 La Mer Dr. - accessory apartment - application incomplete and there were ample opportunities to remedy application denied without prejudice - All in favor
3. 1146 Ocean Blvd. demo non-conforming structure and build new house on same foot print All in favor
4. 1535 Ocean Blvd. - convert seasonal units to year round issue - lot size below minimum square footage Conditional approval - all in favor
5. 500 Jenness Ave and 31 Breakers Rd. - issues: non conforming lot sizes, transfers, demo structure, new construction on no conforming lot, setback, etc Conditional approval - All in favor
6. Two requests for administrative appeals to Building Inspector withdrawn

by Three Rivers Trust

7. Last four applications continued to July meeting

Zoning Board of Adjustment: July 6th Agenda:

[Click Here](#) for agenda

1. 22 Ordiorne Rd. Tear down and replace a non-confirming dwelling
2. 228 Parsons Rd.: Expand a non-confirming structure
3. 1142 Ocean Rd. Requesting an equitable waiver of dimensional requirements. Also seeking variances
4. 31 Mycrica Ave. Seeing an extension to granted variances
5. 30 LaMer Drive: Special exception for accessory apartment
6. 1314 Ocean Blvd.: Tear down a non-confirming house and rebuild
7. Petition for Rehearing and Reconsideration for 9 Pollock Rd.

Conservation Commission June 16th Meeting

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

Conservation Land Maps: [Click Here](#)

Town Forest map: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting minutes: Not available

RCL Meeting Notes: [Click Here](#)

1. Odiorne Drive Condominiums 22 and 26, various variance relief and wetland setbacks are required to rebuild a condo and a new septic system. A site walk was planned. [More Detail](#)
2. 20 Brackett Road, to fill an old man-made fire pond with gravel and loam. The property abuts the marsh, which is Town property. A site walk was planned. [More Detail](#)
3. 1314 Ocean Boulevard to tear down an existing home and build a new home with a new septic system further away from the high tide line setbacks. A site walk was planned. [More Detail](#)
4. Member Suzanne McFarland has been working with DES and Town Hall to streamline the wetland application process with the ZBA and the building inspector. [More Detail](#)
5. Report by member Mike Garvan regarding the work of the Trail Management Subcommittee. A draft with recommendations regarding the use of the Town Forest and the maintenance of the trails is almost complete. [More Detail](#)

Conservation Commission Site Walk: June 23rd:

Agenda of Site Walks: [Click Here](#)

- 1, 22 & 26 Ordiorne Drive
2. 20 Bracket Rd.
3. 1314 Ocean Blvd.

Conservation Trail Management June 20th Meeting:

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting minutes: Not available

Recreation Commission June 6th:

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

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

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

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

Summer program Registrations: [Click Here](#)

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

1. New parking ordinances for Recreation Road and a guard rail for the pond was discussed.
2. Rye Little League's improvement plans were discussed.
3. Discussion of a February meeting of all groups who use the fields for coordination.

Recreation Space Needs Committee June 20th

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

[Click Here](#) for survey to print When complete [e-mail](#) or mail in

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. June 20th Needs Assessment Report from the Architect: [Click Here](#)

Heritage Commission Meeting June 2nd

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

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

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

1. Commission is working on the feasibility of an Archaeological dig at the site of the old Farragut Hotel.
2. There will be a Rye Magazine published by NH Publishers. The Heritage Commission and other groups have the option of providing content for the magazine.
3. Discussion on financing and next steps for the restoration of the Town Hall Bell.
- 4 There is a great photo exhibit of old Rye pictures at the Rye General Store, residents are encouraged to visit.
5. Book Party for "Rye's Battle of the Century" was June 18th and was very well attended. The book is available at the Town History Museum and other local locations.

Mosquito Commission Meeting June 21st

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

Draft Town Meeting Minutes:

Meeting Notes: [Click Here](#)

Video of meeting: [Click Here](#)

1. Posters are available [Wanted Not Bug Them](#)
2. Surplus Swallow box can be available.
3. Town is requesting that skiff owners to bail boats and not leave standing water in them.
4. The Federal Gov't is providing precautionary boxes for testing Zika virus boxes

Rye Energy Committee Meeting: June 7th:

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

Draft Town Meeting Minutes: Not Available

Rye Recycling Education Committee June 23rd

Town Meeting minutes: Not available

Video Recording: Not available

Historic District Commission April 6th Meeting

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

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

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

1. Reviewed the Star Island project for egress stair replacement. Changes were approved.
2. Reviewed 1984 Historic District Plan to see if changes or updates are required.

Capital Improvement Plan May 26th Meeting

View Current CIP: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Town Meeting Minutes: Not Available

Library Board of Trustees June 9th

Trustee Home Page: [Click Here](#)

Library Meeting minutes: Not Available

Video Recording: Not Available

Sewer Commission Meeting June 14th:

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

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

1. Sewer connection for 17 Foss Circle was reviewed and approved.

Beach Committee Last Meeting December 16th:

Facebook Page [Click Here](#)

Last Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

2015 Beach Report was presented to the BOS. [Click Here](#) for the report

Beach Parking Report: [Click Here](#)

Selectmen disbanded the Beach Commission (voter supported) and now this group has not met since December, leaving the Selectmen in control of the beach.

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 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..

- a) South Road 21 unit development is before the Planning Board on July 12th for an initial discussion.

Past topics:

- b) Cancer Cluster: [Click Here](#) for more information

- c) Parson's Creek Pollution: Will a Selectmen's Committee fix this problem? [Click Here](#)

- d) 2015 Beach Report [Click Here](#) What do you think?

- e) Other Discussion topics: [Click Here](#)

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. Lighting at Jenness Beach State Park
2. Parking along the beach

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: 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

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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