

Rye Civic News October 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:

October TBD

RPL 6:30 pm

Meetings

(at Town Hall unless indicated)

October 3rd:

Recreation

Commission

6:00 pm Rye

Recreation

October 4th:

Rye Energy

6:00 pm RPL

October 5th:

Zoning Board

of Adjustment

7:00 pm

October 6th:

Heritage

Commission

6:30 pm

October 11th:

Sewer

Commission

8:00 RBVD

October 8th:

Planning Board

7:00 pm

October 12th:

Wetlands Sub

committee

October 12th:

Board of

Selectmen

6:30pm

October 13th:

Cancer Cluster

Task Force -

Coakley 6pm

RJH

October 13th:

CIP

General Announcements:

1. State Candidates Night October 18th 6:30pm RJH

State Senate District 24, House Reps (R D-18), Executive Council (District 3)

Live Free or Die Alliance Election page: [Click Here](#)

2. 2013 Article 4 vote for a Facilities Master Plan has not been fully implemented.

[Click Here](#) for RCL recommendation presented to Selectman that was not reacted to.

[Click Here](#) to learn about current buildings and other information

3. South Rd. 21 Lot Subdivision Public Hearing October 11th 7:00pm

[Click Here](#) for diagram. Technical Review Video [Click Here](#)

Conservation Commission Site Walk, RCL video: [Click Here](#)

See August 30th Conservation Commission below for more information

4. Jenness Beach Bathhouse petition [Click Here](#) State project page [Click Here](#)

5. Water Conservation - Please water outside before 8:00 am and after 7:00 pm

6. Architect's Report on Rye Recreation Needs Assessment. [Click Here](#)

7. Cancer Cluster October 13th RJH 6pm: Open Governor's Task Force meeting - Coakley discussion

EPA 5 year report plan: [Click Here](#) Foster's Story: [Click Here](#)

February 2nd Report: [Click Here](#) Other links [Click Here](#)

Community Group Facebook page: [Click Here](#)

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

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

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

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

12. Discussion of issues facing Rye. [Click Here](#)

13. RJH Harvest Fest October 25th RJH

Board of Selectmen Meeting September 26th:

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

Draft Town Meeting minutes: Not available

RCL Meeting Notes: [Click Here](#)

1. A conservation acquisition of the parcel just north of the Surf Shack, near Wallis Rd. and Ocean Blvd., was approved for \$13,400. [More Detail](#)

2. The new septic pump out ordinance has revealed five previously unknown parcels using holding tanks rather than leach fields for sewage disposal. Several have water use much higher than what is being pumped from the holding tanks. Records on State holding tank permits issued are allegedly unavailable. [More Detail](#)

3. After extensive public comment, the Selectmen voted to proceed with design/build requests for proposal on two Town Hall options significantly smaller than discussed previously. Prices will be obtained for renovation of the existing Town Hall as well as the cost of demolishing it and building a new replica. [More Detail](#)

4. The Selectmen did not react to a suggestion from the Rye Civic League that they provide the Facilities Master Plan contemplated by 2013 Article 4 and also use NH Listens and Plan NH to look at all of our needs and buildings (Transfer Station, Recreation, space in Public Safety Building and schools), conduct a Charrette, and achieve community consensus to avoid unsuccessful votes in the future.

[Click Here](#) for the letter and [Click Here](#) for information on our facilities. [More Detail](#)

Board of Selectmen Meeting September 12th:

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

Town Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

RCL Meeting notes: [Click Here](#)

1. An eight member group will be formed to look further into the possibility of sharing a ladder truck with North Hampton. [More Detail](#)

2. Rye will look again at allowing North Hampton residents to use the Rye Recycling Center for an annual fee, however the Selectmen are divided and lukewarm about the issue. A

Committee
7:00pm

warrant article would be required. [More Detail](#)

3. A number of residents complained about dog problems on the beach. The current ordinance reflects changes made at the 2009 Deliberative Session to a stronger ordinance proposed by the Selectmen. Police Chief Kevin Walsh stated that loose dogs should be prohibited, and indicated that he would be proposing an ordinance change. [More Detail](#)

October 18th:
Mosquito
Control
Commission
5:00pm

4. The acquisition of the back of the former Rand Lumber parcel had not occurred as of this meeting and a contract extension was approved. The transaction has since closed. [More Detail](#)

October 19th:
Wetlands Sub
committee.

5. The town will be conducting a revaluation of assessments in 2017, as required every five years. The current assessing firm, MRI was selected for this work. [More Detail](#)

October 20th:
Board of
Selectmen All
day budget
meeting
8:30am

6. The town is asking the Attorney General to take enforcement action against Ray's Lobster for allegedly discharging greywater into the marsh. Water usage is 50,000 gallons annually, while only 8000 gallons annually is being pumped from their holding tank, which was approved 30 years ago on a temporary basis, according to discussion at the meeting. [More Detail](#)

Parson's Creek Pollution Committee September 6th:

Organized Additional Information: [Click Here](#)
Information from the Planning Department: [Click Here](#)
Committee Charge from the BOS: [Click Here](#)

October 20th:
Conservation
Commission
7:00pm

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

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

Septic System Presentation: [Click Here](#)

1. FBE presented on testing program [Click Here](#) for summer results

2. DES described grant program that could provide \$15K to help homeowners replace septic systems.

October 24th:
Board of
Selectmen
6:30pm.

3. Committee is preparing recommended new ordinances for Selectmen's warrant articles for 2017 Town Meeting.

4. Discussion of ordinance and signs to address the growing problem of dog waste

5. 207 of 650 Septic Reports have been received as of the time of the meeting

October 24th:
CIP
Presentation to
the Board of
Selectmen

6. Discussion of permanent signs warning visitors not to swim at the Parson's Creek outlet because of the pollution

Parsonage Apartments Committee September Meetings:

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

September 12th: Video [Click Here](#) Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

September 26th: Video [Click Here](#) Draft Meeting Minutes: Not available

1. Final report is being reviewed by the committee to be presented to the BOS on October 12th.

**Town
Reference
Documents
on the
Town Web
Site:**

Rye Districts Information:

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

Jenness Beach Bathhouse State Public Hearing

[Click Here](#) for the video

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

1. State is concerned about losing funding and not having the work completed before next Summer

Capital
Improvement
Plan (CIP)
Click Here

Rye Water District September:

Draft Water District Meeting Minutes: Not Available yet

This plan is
updated annually
and
is a great way to
see what the
Town is planning
for future capital
expenditures

School Board September 12th Meeting:

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

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

RCL Video: [Click Here](#)

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

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

[Click Here](#) to see RCL 2016-17 Budget overview

Town of Rye
Master Plan
(click here)
2014 FEMA
maps:
Click Here

1. One of the two Junior High boilers is leaking and no longer usable, a fact discovered in July or August. It may be necessary to sole source the new boiler procurement to ensure heat by November 1 because of problems getting an engineering firm that will write a specification. The board voted to expend up to \$100,000 from the Buildings and Grounds Expendable Trust for a replacement boiler. [More Detail](#)

2. School Board member Kevin Brandon decried the lack of planning on school facilities

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

**Town Forest
Management
Plan**
(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**

issues and referred to the \$300,000 spent on Town Hall as an "egregious example of waste of taxpayer money with no true overarching plan." [More Detail](#)

3. Another set of Elementary School water tests have come back. Copper levels are barely within the acceptable range after replacing several fountains with units with filters. The problem is likely in the pipes. The Board voted to spend another \$4000 on filtered fountains. [More Detail](#)

4. The various dates for budget meetings for the 2017-2018 budget were noted, and the 2017 Deliberative Session was scheduled for Wednesday, February 8, 2017 (snow date February 9). [More Detail](#)

Planning Board meeting: September 13th:

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. Public Hearing - Eversource application to trim and cut trees on Washington and Grove roads Accept jurisdiction - all approve. Accept application: all approve with three conditions
2. 22 Odiome Drive - amend major site development and condo conversion issues: demo one building and build new house, septic. Accept jurisdiction - all approve Accept application: approved 6-1 with five conditions
3. Proposed zoning amendment - public hearing Re: accessory dwelling unit over use, especially in densely populated beach areas needed: further response from town attorney

LRP Public Meeting (Master Plan)

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

[Click Here](#) for the current Master Plan 2013.

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

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

1. Draft Chapters for Climate Change: [Click Here](#)
2. May and June Public Comments [Click Here](#)
3. Master Plan chapters are now with the Planning Board

Rules and Regulations Committee and Zoning Amendments:

September 7th meeting: Canceled

September 29th Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

RCL Meeting Notes: [Click Here](#)

1. Ordinance changes are being discussed for wetlands, apartment, corner lots, drinking water and Retirement Community Developments. The Seaglass Ln. development should not have been approved in its eventual form according to the Planning Board Chairman.

Wetlands Subcommittee September meetings:

Draft Meeting Minutes include the charge from the Rules & Regulations/Planning Board: [Click Here](#)

September 7th Video Recording: [Click Here](#) Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

September 28th Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

1. Sally King, Chair of the Conservation Commission was approved as the CC voting member of the committee.
2. Chair Winslow to contact Mark West to determine if maps defining Rye wetlands at a scale more granular than currently available can be produced and at what cost.
3. Committee determined that fully researched complete recommendations as to changes to the Wetlands Conservation District ordinance are not practical. Another committee, or a continuation of the current committee, should continue work into 2017 with a goal of fully developing scientifically based recommendations for the 2018 warrant
4. Each member will submit partial, specific and formally drafted recommendations for the Oct 12th meeting.

Technical Review Committee September 27th:

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

1. Lawyer's letter to Planning Board: [Click Here](#)

2. The application for the proposed 22 lot subdivision on South Rd. was advanced to the full Planning Board at its October 11, 2016 meeting.

3. The TRC voted unanimously to recommend that the full Planning Board determine that the application is not complete because of the lack of a hydrogeological study, meaning that the

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](#)

application would not proceed. Since Selectman Jenness is recusing herself as one of the property owners and will not be voting, it is very unlikely that the full Planning Board will overrule the TRC

Planning Board October 11th Agenda:

Meeting Agenda: [Click Here](#)

1. 175 Harbor Rd, (Moorings of Rye Harbor): Public Hearing to remove pier access easement.
2. 421 South Rd 22 Lot subdivision - public hearing (see TRC notes)
3. 655 Wallis Rd.: Adding to the existing building
4. Zoning Amendment for Accessory apartments
5. Zoning Amendment for Expirations of variances and special exceptions
6. Zoning Amendment for height

Zoning Board of Adjustment: September 7th:

Recorded Video [Click Here](#)

RCL Meeting notes: [Click Here](#)

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

1. 51 Brackett Rd. - build new house on vacant non-conforming lot, issues: coverage, frontage, septic. Approved 3-2 with three conditions
2. 20 Hunterville Ave. - expand a non-conforming building. Issues: side set back. Approved 5-0 with three conditions
3. 250 Locke Rd. - administrative appeal of revocation of a building permit. Denied 4-1

Zoning Board of Adjustment: October 5th Agenda:

[Click Here](#) for agenda

1. 245 Pioneer Rd. Administrative Appeal of notice of violation
2. 1647 Ocean Blvd.: Tear down and build new
3. 250 Locke Rd.: Construct new building where a non-conforming building once existed
4. 161 Harbor Rd.: Remove non-conforming building and construct a new building with variances
5. 12 Robin Rd.: Variances for a shed
6. 1112 Ocean Blvd: Variances for a concrete patio
7. 24 Big Rock Rd.: Expansion of a non-conforming structure
8. 963 Ocean Blvd.: Expansion of a non-conforming structure
9. 13 Ocean View Ave.: Demolish a non-conforming building and replace with a new structure

Conservation Commission (CC) September 15th Meeting:

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

Conservation Land Maps: [Click Here](#)

Wetlands Map [Click Here](#)

Town Forest map: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

RCL Meeting Notes: [Click Here](#)

1. Public hearing to discuss acquisition of a Conservation purchase of .42 acres at O Ocean Blvd for \$13,400.
2. Eversource: telephone pole replacement within the tidal wetlands
3. Wetland update: 245 Pioneer Road, the owner is refusing to comply despite notices of violation.
4. Wetland update: 1112 Ocean Boulevard, after site walk members reported concerns regarding the size of patio and that storm water is draining directly onto the beach.
5. Wetland update: 130 Harbor Road, an application for a project to add a gangway to an existing float/dock in Rye Harbor.
6. Wetland update: WBTSCC relief request for a fence 90' high and 350'+/- long where 6' is allowed. Members discussed their concerns regarding the request in terms of protecting wildlife.
7. Town Trails: Danna Truslow expressed her concerns regarding the Trails subcommittee's recommendations not to allow more bog bridges to be built in Town Forest.

Conservation Commission Special Meeting South Rd August 30th:

Recorded Video of Site Walk Meeting discussion : [Click Here](#)

RCL Video of the August 1st Site Walk: [Click Here](#)

August 1st South Rd. Site Walk Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. Conservation Commission agrees to accept donation of back acreage of South Rd. 21 lot subdivision land.
2. Conservation Commission will express concerns to the Planning Board regarding ledge and other issues associated with the South Rd. 21 lot subdivision

Recreation Commission September 6th Meeting:

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

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

Recorded Video: Held at Rye Recreation, no video

Draft Town Meeting Minutes: Not Available

Fall program Registrations: [Click Here](#)

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

1. There will be a January meeting for all groups who utilize the Recreation fields
2. Late insurance paperwork was discussed for Rye Travel Soccer
3. Temperature controlled storage is needed for some equipment
4. Recreation Soccer has 180 children and 41 coaches
5. Summertime Horiesons Summer program had increased participation and the staff stepped up and met the challenge.
6. Video Game Design and Coding workshop has been added to the Fall programmms

Recreation Space Needs Committee September 19th

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

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

RCL Notes: [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting minutes: Not posted yet

1. Committee agrees that there is an immediate need for heated storage for Rec.
2. The Committee is looking at a 10,000 to 15,000 sq. ft. facility in the future. The square footage of the current sub-standard buildings is detailed to show that 10,000 sq. ft. is not that many.
3. Two residents oppose the plans for the 10,000 sq. ft. and note declining school enrollments, unused space, the need for a Town-wide (including School District) Facilities Master Plan and the "horrible attitude" of the School District on facilities use.

Heritage Commission Meeting September 1st

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

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

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

1. Continued work on the Town Hall bell.
2. Commission is moving forward with the archeologist for the Farragut Hotel Dig.

Mosquito Commission Meeting September 20th

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

Draft Town Meeting Minutes: Not available yet

Video of meeting: [Click Here](#)

1. Posters are available [Wanted Not](#) [Bug Them](#)
2. The State had its first West Nile Virus positive mosquito pool in Nashua, but no positives in Rye. For the remainder of the season we will be testing all mosquitoes that are potential disease vectors, regardless of pool size.

Rye Energy Committee Meeting: September 6th:

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

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

1. Solar Project research results were reviewed and will be presented to the Selectmen
2. Group will be helping residents understand options for installers of Solar Pannels
3. Attendance is down at the Rye Farmers market this year

Rye Recycling Education Committee No Meetings

Town Meeting minutes: from August 9th: [Click Here](#)

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 September Meetings

View Current CIP: [Click Here](#)

September 8th: Recorded Video [Click Here](#)

September 22nd: Recorded Video [Click Here](#)

September 29th: No Recorded Video

1. CIP will be presented to the Selectmen at the October 12th or 26th BOS meeting. Please check the agendas.

Library Board of Trustees September 8th

Trustee Home Page: [Click Here](#)

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

August 16th Draft Library Facilities Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

September 8th Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

September 19th Facilities Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

1. Hoopla movies, music and books are being added
2. Investigating a bike repair station
3. Summer Children's Reading program was a huge success again

Sewer Commission Meeting June 14th July mtg canceled

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:

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..

Past topics:

- a) Cancer Cluster: [Click Here](#) for more information
- b) Parson's Creek Pollution: Will a Selectmen's Committee fix this problem? [Click Here](#)
- c) 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. Town Hall - Selectmens Design/Build approach and lack of facilities planning
2. No updates on Jenness Beach Bathhouse
2. Parson's Creek pollution and actions - discussion of the holding tanks
3. If the town will be able to implement Climate Change and Stormwater protection
4. South Road major development
5. Town Assessing - the 9-26 BOS meeting and the \$200K abatement

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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