

Rye Civic News September 2017

from the Rye Civic League (www.ryecivicleague.org)

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

Please share with your Rye friends & neighbors [Citizens' Handbook \(click here\)](#)
[RCL Facebook Page](#)

Next RCL

Meeting:
Sept. 27th RPL
6:30 pm

Meetings

(at Town Hall
unless
indicated)

Sept 5th:
Energy
Committee
6:30pm RPL
.
Sept. 6th: Rye
Water District
9am 60
Sagamore Rd.

Sept. 6th:
Zoning Board
of Adjustment
7:00pm .

Sept. 7th:
Heritage
Commission &
Historic
District Joint
meeting
6:30pm.

Sept. 11th.
Rules &
Regulations
3:00pm.

Sept 11th.
Board of
Selectmen
6:30pm.

Sept 12th:
Sewer
Commission
RBVD

Sept. 12th:
Wetlands Sub-
Committee
10:00am.

Sept 12th:
Planning
Board 7:00pm.

August Highlights:

1. Property Revaluation in process. Make sure there are no mistakes on your property. [Click Here](#) for how to access the information online.
2. Carcinogens in our water, RCL has summarized what we know to date. [Click Here](#)
3. Protecting & Maintaining Rye - changes to our Master Plan [Click Here](#) Time line of current changes [click here](#)
4. Sanders Poynt: Scathing letter [click here](#), Herald article Sept 17th deadline: [click here](#)
5. Jenness Beach Bathhouse. Aug. 9th Presentation [click here](#), on Sept 12th Planning Board agenda, E-mail Public comments by September 15th [here](#)
6. Dow Lane residents asking BOS to act to address safety concerns from increased traffic [Click Here](#)
7. Heritage Commission working to raise funds to paint Town Hall. BOS investing in building modifications.
8. Rye PTA National Recognition Herald article [click here](#)
9. Increased fines for dog waste Herald article [click here](#)
10. Rye Aftercare program is full, there is a waiting list.
11. Video streaming now available in the [RJH Cafe](#) and [RPL](#) New Hampshire room
12. It was reported that the TD Bank Rye branch will be closing

General Announcements:

1. Rye Cub Scouts Pack 181 2017/2018 1st to 5th grade registration [Contact](#)
2. Dogs need to be registered by September 5th
3. HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION DAY, Saturday, September 16, 2017, 9:00 a.m. through 12:00 Noon Highway Garage, Route 111A, 207 Middle Road, Brentwood, NH
4. Heritage Commission Thomas Leigton cruise October 2nd. [Click Here](#).
5. Open Appointed and Alternate Positions: [Click Here](#)
6. Steve Clarkson book discussion Sept 13th 6pm to 8pm RPL [Click Here](#)
7. **Rye Recreation Senior Program:** 2017-2018 Active, Alive (**NEW**) [Click Here](#)
8. **Rye Recreation Fall Programs Registration (NEW):** [Click here](#)
9. **Assessment Data:** Online views of town lots [Click Here](#)
10. **GIS Mapping** Software Presentation Video: [Click Here](#)

Board of Selectmen Meeting August 28th:

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)
Draft Town Meeting minutes: Not Available
RCL Meeting Notes: [Click Here](#)

1. The new Fire Chief, Mark Cotreau, was introduced. [More Detail](#)
2. A doctor or registered nurse is being sought to serve on the Seacoast Cancer Cluster Investigation Commission, formed by State legislation. Apply prior to the next Board of Selectmen meeting on September 11. [More Detail](#)
3. The Town will continue to support the Coalition Communities (communities opposing Donor Towns) after it was revealed that a State legislative committee is looking into school funding. [More Detail](#)
4. Numerous residents were present to complain about safety issues on Dow Ln., many proposing that it be made a dead end. Despite repeated attempts to get the selectmen to agree to next steps and a timetable, Selectman Musselman said that it would appear on the agenda if and when they decide to take up the issue again. [More Detail](#) [Click Here](#) for statements and documents
5. The bid for Shoals View Dr. paving, authorized by a \$125,000 warrant article this year, came in above the budgeted amount. [More Detail](#)
6. Town Hall improvements, including replacement of the back stairs and enclosure of the Town Finance Director's office, are being considered for this year. [More Detail](#)

Board of Selectmen Meeting August 14th:

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

- Draft Town Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)
- RCL Meeting Notes: [Click Here](#)
- Sept. 13th: Well 5A Sitewalk (Rules & Regs). 4:00pm
- Sept 14th: School Feasibility Committee 8:00am
- Sept 14th: CIP 6:30pm
- Sept 18th: Recreation Commission 6:00pm.
- Sept. 19th: Mosquito Commission 5:00pm.
- Sept. 20th: School Board RJH
- Sept. 21st: CIP 5:00pm
- Sept 21st: Conservation Commission 7:00pm.
- Sept 25th: Board of Selectmen 6:30pm.
1. An abutter of the Wentworth-by-the-Sea Country Club expressed multiple complaints, and said that the Chairman of the Planning Board should be replaced because of his behavior at a recent Planning Board meeting. [More Detail](#)
 2. Selectman Musselman chose not to provide any information about the acquisition on the agenda for the non-public session at the beginning of the meeting. [More Detail](#)
 3. Lavon Reynolds was appointed as the Assistant Town Clerk Tax Collector. [More Detail](#)
 4. The Selectmen voted to accept and expend approximately \$116,000 in Highway Block Grant funds from the State. They assert that the funds may only be used for projects that are in addition to current spending plans. [More Detail](#)
 5. The Recreation Department is complaining that, two weeks prior to the start of school, there is no commitment to suitable space at Rye Elementary School for them to conduct their After School Program. [More Detail](#)
 6. New Hampshire DES is requiring additional testing of monitoring and private drinking water wells near the Breakfast Hill Landfill. [More Detail](#)
- School Board August 30th Meeting:**
 Learn more about the Rye Schools: [Click Here](#)
 2017-2018 School Calendar: [Click Here](#)
 Rye PTA Website: [Click Here](#)
 Superintendent's Bulletin: [Click Here](#) (note nothing posted)
 First School Board Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)
 RCL video of the beginning (technical issue with first part of school video) [Click Here](#)
 Draft School Board Meeting Minutes: Not available
1. Jim Katkin gave an update on the Unassigned Fund Balance. There is a much larger amount this year due to lower health insurance rates than predicted. He also presented the water testing results. These results will be handed off to Mindi Messmer for result interpretation.
 2. Amy Ransom, the assistant business administrator presented a budget timeline. She is planning on attending the all day budget session and meetings with the budget committee. Special Ed director Sarah Reinhardt made her report. Special Education discussion to happen with Portsmouth on September 26th will all SAU 50 & Portsmouth School District.
 3. The new math curriculum was adopted.
 4. The Rye PTA received an honorable mention from a national PTA organization for their outstanding after school enrichment programming.
 5. The science curriculum will be reviewed, likely starting this Fall.
 6. SAU Assessment committee to look at the newly passed NH House Bill 166-students will take tests once in elementary, once in middle school & once in HS. NH is asking for a waiver from ESSA (supersedes any state bill) which requires students to take a test once a year in grades 3-8. Until the waiver is granted, we still need to comply with testing (Smarter Balance).
 7. Schoology was selected as the new Learning Management System for SAU 50. You can check it out here: <https://www.schoology.com/>
 8. Project Based Learning Consultant worked with both RES & RJH before school started. Positive response from staff.

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

School Building Feasibility August 31st Meeting:

- Recorded Video; [Click Here](#)
 Draft School Building Meeting Minutes: Not available
 RCL Meeting Notes: [Click Here](#)
1. Anecdotal data from two realtors reveals that only thirty percent of Rye properties are being sold to families with children. [More Detail](#)
 2. Rye Junior High School enrollment, as of the start of the 2017-2018 school year is 134, 12 fewer than projected in the budget. The sixth grade class is 45 students, compared to 60 in the 2016-2017 fifth grade. The decline is attributed to private school attendance and families moving out of town. All space is currently utilized, according to the Principal. [More Detail](#)
 3. Rye Elementary School attendance, as of the start of the 2017-2018 school year is 275, 13 more than projected in the budget, largely due to a Kindergarten enrollment of 50 vs. 38 projected using live birth data from five years earlier. All space is currently utilized, according to the Principal. [More Detail](#)
 4. The total enrollment of 409 is only nine more students than the stated Rye Elementary School capacity, raising the importance of accurate enrollment projections in considering the school consolidation option, according to one resident. [More Detail](#)

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

**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
2017-2018 School
Budget.

5. The November 9th committee meeting has been moved to November 16th due to conflict with the Budget Committee.

School Building Feasibility August 3rd Meeting:

Recorded Video; [Click Here](#)

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

RCL Notes: [Click Here](#)

1. Enrollment at the two schools is now 431, compared to a capacity of 400 students at Rye Elementary School, and 280 students at Rye Junior High School. [More Detail](#)
2. Between 2011 and 2019, there is projected to be a decline of 156 students at the two schools, or about 30 percent. [More Detail](#)
3. While live birth data has been used to project kindergarten enrollments, the former is of no predictive value. [More Detail](#)
4. Greenland is going to full-day kindergarten. The SAU 50 pre-school will be moving to Rye Elementary School to accommodate that. [More Detail](#)
5. A resident warned of basing decisions on faulty hypotheses. Enrollment from 1983 to 1993 plummeted to below what it is now, only to rebound. [More Detail](#)

Rye Districts Information:

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

Rye Beach Village District Budget: [Click Here](#)

Jenness Beach Village District Budget: [Click Here](#)

Jeness Beach Bathhouse: Sept 12th Planning Board. Sept 15th deadline for public comments [e-mail](#) Presentation: [Click Here](#)

Rye Water District August 2nd:

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

Rye Water Testing Data: [Click Here](#) Note no analysis included

July 2017 PFOA and PFOS Testing: [Click Here](#)

Rate Increase Letter: [Click Here](#) Report is not yet posted for the public.

1. New Ford F150 to be delivered in September
2. Commissioner Art Ditto to be Rye's representative to a State commission on drinking water.
3. RWD should be notified when when auxiliary apartments are added.
4. The State has recommended monthly samples from the Garland Well because of an increase in recent testing results. Samples will also be taken from the distribution system for blended water.
5. RCL Summary of carcinogens. [Click Here](#)

Clean Water Issues:

RCL (supported by State Rep. Messimer) has an up to date summary of what we know about PFC's in our area: [Click Here](#)

1. Testing shows PFCs are present in RWD and Aquarion Water.

Rye Water District (red & silver hydrants), Aquarion (yellow hydrants), Portsmouth Water (White hydrants)

2. PFCs from landfill seep from Coakley, Breakfast Hill and Grove Rd. landfills have been detected at high levels in monitoring wells.

3. Storm run-off into Berry's Brook near the Coakley Landfill and from neighborhoods impacting homes with private wells.

4. August 23rd Governor's Task Force Coakley Landfill Subcommittee Presentation (full overview) [click here](#) Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Additional Information:

NHDHHS Confirms CDC-defined Pediatric Cancer Cluster [Click Here](#)

Community Facebook page for the Cancer Cluster: [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](#)

NHDHHS confirms uptick in pediatric brain cancers in cluster: [Click Here](#)

Planning Board meeting: August 8th:

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

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

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

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

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

1. 421 South Rd. (major subdivision) Board agrees to final draft from July meeting on lot line adjustment and conditional use permit Notice of Decision - Denied 5-0
2. 784 Ocean Blvd. - request deck with bench application approved 7-0
3. Proposed zoning changes: Both are accepted for public hearing in September
 - a) Temporary permits for mobile homes and house trailers [Click Here](#)
 - b) Septic system in wetlands buffer (removes 100 foot requirement) [Click Here](#)

LRP Public Meeting (Master Plan) On Sept 12th Planning Board agenda

1. What has happened since 2014: [Click Here](#) Additional 2016 information [Click Here](#)
2. Master Plan update discussions: [Click Here](#) (has links to draft sections)
3. Sanders Poynt letter also discusses Master [Plan Click Here](#)
[Click Here](#) for the current Master Plan 2013.

Rules & Regulations Committee & Zoning Amendments August 1st and 22nd:

Aug. 1st: Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

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

Aug 1st; Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

Aug 22nd: [Click Here](#)

August 1st Meeting:

1. Chair Pat Losik, memeber Jeff Quinn and Planning Admin Kim Reed the only people at this meeting

August 22nd Meeting:

1. Aquarion representatives attended the August 22nd, 2017 meeting of the Rules and Regulations Committee to discuss Well 5A on Central Road Rye and more generally their water supply system
2. Site walk planned Sept 11th at Well 5A [Click Here](#) for Well 5A background information
3. Planning Board is considering amending the Aquifer and Wellhead Protection Ordinance to include this currently missing well
4. Discussion of zoning and building code amendments for fencing of pools and hot tubs to align with state code and International Residential Code.
5. Mention of changes to Rules of Procedures per Selectmen request regarding ex parte communications as well as update to referenced Parliamentary Rules version.

Planning Board September 12th Agenda:

Agenda for meeting: [Click Here](#)

1. Moved to October meeting: Airfield Drive Major Subdivision. WBTSC 90 foot nets, nine 90 ft steel poles
2. Public Hearing on Zoning Amendments
 - [2018-01](#) amend Section 400.1 for a typo (does not say what it is)
 - [2018-01](#) Building Code Amendment - Wetlands ordinance
3. 0 Airfield Rd. Conceptual Consultation
4. Jenness Beach Bath House - Conceptual consultation
5. Master Plan to move to Public Hearing (listed as Old Business)

Zoning Board of Adjustment: August 9th:

Recorded Video: Planning Admin did not schedule the video

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

1. 0 Big Rock Rd - request rehearing on denial of a variance request Denied 5-0
2. 421 South Rd (major subdivision) - Request rehearing on denial of two special exceptions Denied 5-0 Denied 5-0

Zoning Board of Adjustment: September 6th Agenda:

[Click Here](#) for agenda

1. 2 West Road: Variance for porch setbacks
2. 610 Central Rd. Expansion of a non-conforming building
3. 51 Central Rd. Expansion of a non-conforming building
4. 24 Park Ridge Rd. Shed located within the setback
5. 320 Brackett Rd. Requesting an Administrative Appeal
6. 320 Brackett Rd. Detached Accessory dwelling
7. 5 Libbey Lane. Equitable waiver for a swimming pool within the wetland buffer
8. 300 Washington Rd. Variances for a non-conforming structure
9. 1025 Ocean Blvd. Variances for a generator and LP Tank

10. 1373 Ocean Blvd. Variances for a non-conforming structure**Zoning Board of Adjustment: August 2nd:**Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)Town meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. 740 Washington Rd. - request for rehearing of a denial of an administrative appeal Denied - 4-0; one abstained
2. 531 Brackett Rd. - request for an 8' fence where 6' is required Approved 5-0
3. 11 Surf Ln. - expansion of a non conforming building Issues: setback, building coverage, parking, On set back and building coverage - Approved 5-0 with conditions On parking - Approved 3-2
4. 236 Sagamore Rd. - request for a pest control business in a barn Approved 5-0 with conditions
5. 7 Robin Rd. - expansion of a non conforming building Issues - setback Approved 5-0

Conservation Commission (CC) August 17th:Learn more about the Conservation Commission: [Click Here](#)Conservation Land Maps: [Click Here](#)Wetlands Map [Click Here](#)Town Forest map: [Click Here](#)RCL Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)Town Draft Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. RCC approved (pending proper permitting) 22 Harbor Road, Tax Map 9.0, Lot 12: Proposal to dredge out the area between the docks at 122 and 126 Harbor Road.
2. RCC approved proposal for 23 F Street, Tax Map 5.3, Lot 55: Removal of 530 sq. ft. of beach sand accumulated against retaining wall and expansion of existing deck.
3. RCC to provide a detailed recommendation to ZBA on swimming pool and related structures on 5 Libbey Lane, Tax Map 16, Lot 162-3 that appears to be in violation of Rye Zoning Ordinance 507.2.
4. Discussion, since Sea Glass Homeowner's Association because they felt that the Commission was not maintaining the parking lot for the conservation land. There will be access from the Liberty Common also
5. Forest Management Plan will be completed by the end of August. The members agreed that this should be on the agenda for September for discussion.
6. August 30th Site Walk minutes: [Click Here](#)
 - a. 23 F Street
 - b. 122 Harbor Rd
 - c. Liberty Lane
 - d. 60 Park Ridge

Recreation Commission Meeting August 7th:Learn more about Rye Recreation: [Click Here](#)[Click Here](#) to see the Rye Recreation Master PlanSpring program Registrations: [Click Here](#)Summer program Registrations: [Click Here](#)Active, Alive and over 55 Programs: [Click Here](#)Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)Draft Town Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. Commission will meet with Stephen King and Todd Cronin at the September 18th meeting as they have both expressed interest in the vacancy.
2. Working on getting information for bids for the drainage, guardrail and fence improvements.
3. 2018 budget will include funds for a recreational land use master plan.
4. Rye Elementary will have different uses for the shared After School program, see notes for details.
5. New Active and Alive schedule is available, [Click Here](#)
6. Discussions about the feasibility of continuing the Summer Program.

Heritage Commission Meetings August 3rd and 31st.Learn more about the Heritage Commission: [Click Here](#)Recorded Videos: August 3rd [Click Here](#) August 31st: [Click Here](#)Town Meeting minutes: August 3rd: [Click Here](#) August 31st Not available

1. Joint NH Division of Historical Resources meeting September 7th at RPL
2. Thomas Leighton Boat Cruise - Monday, October 2nd Tickets \$25 [Click Here](#)

3. Merchandise will also be sold to help raise the minimum of \$60,000 for the matching grant for painting Town Hall
4. Discussion of the old police station/trolley barn to be torn down as that cost is in the CIP for 2019.

Mosquito Commission Meeting August 21st:

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](#) More have been posted in town
2. Discussion of "Tick Awareness" poster
3. Discussion of the 32 new greenhead traps
4. Approval of spraying for RES, RJH and Rye Recreation
5. Commission is discussing a name change, as they do more than mosquitos

Rye Energy Committee Meeting: June 6th: No July or August meetings

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

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

1. [Energize 360](#) Energize 360 (a consortium with five other seacoast communities to help residents with energy efficiency) held a well-attended event.
2. ReVision Energy will donate a solar panel and hardware for each Rye residential installation.
3. Town municipal energy report is almost concluded
4. No July meeting
5. There are 3 vacancies on this committee.

Rye Recycling Education Committee August 15th

Video Recording: Not available

Draft town meeting minutes: Not available - [Click Here](#) for Agenda

Openings for three new members.

Library Board of Trustees August 24th:

Trustee Home Page: [Click Here](#)

Library 2016 Usage Statistics; [Click Here](#)

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

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

1. HVAC work has been completed. Discussions of the concrete and curbing work
2. Board will meet with the Strategic Planning Committee in September

Sewer Commission Meeting August 8th

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

1. List of manholes that had exterior pavement issues and repair was discussed

Historic District Commission June 8th Meeting

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

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Town Meeting Minutes: Not Available

1. Hearing on barn renovation at 2 Lang Road. Approved.

Capital Improvement Plan August 24th:

Approved CIP presented on 11-28-16: [Click Here](#)

Current: [Click Here](#) for a summary of the projects.

Current: [Click Here](#) for a list of all of the projects

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. CIP Table 9 showing all projects was reviewed
2. Public session September 21st
3. Presentation to the Board of Selectmen October 23rd

Beach Committee July 20th:

Facebook Page [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: Not available

1. Beach Access signs are missing and residents have been posting signs and taking other actions to deter the public from beach access.
2. Not all dog owners are following the rules. There is trash and dog waste. Responsible dog owners have been helping.
3. Discussion of Sawyers swim zones and placement of flags
4. Discussion that the State picks up trash at the State beach, but not at Rye's beaches.

Trustees of the Trust Funds August 22nd

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

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

1. Discussions of the current economic state and risks.
2. Reviewed and discussed the current allocations and cash positions
3. Decided to reduce JNJ position based on possible negative impact of recent lawsuit
4. Next meeting will review ultra-short bond funds to support strategic liquidity

Budget Committee August 17th

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

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

1. See resident letter committee rejected. [Click Here](#) *Editor's note: This is a case of the members not being able to see the forest through the trees.*

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:

1. Camden Green Lawn Program: [Click Here](#)

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.

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](#)

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 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 and the Board of Selectmen
2. South Road stressing the land
3. Maine town that posts where the Chemical Free lawns are.

Other Town Activity

How Good is our Library?

2016 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

While the Civic News is free (distributed to over 1,000 people), the Civic League does have annual costs that are covered by members (people who contribute \$12 or more each year).

Our annual costs are: Note only about 10% of the people who open the Civic News are members.

- Website hosting and URL registrations
- Civic News E-mail distribution software (Constant Contact)
- NH Attorney General's fees for being a 501-C and NH Secretary of State filing fees
- Printing and other expenses
- Post Office Box

Members receive:

- Invitation to annual meeting in the Fall where members may discuss anything about the organization including the Civic News. Voting for directors, policy, etc... (NOTE, moved to the early Fall).
- Invitation with agenda to each end of the month RCL meeting at the library where RCL business is discussed followed by an open public forum (no longer an RCL meeting). Meetings are the last Wednesday of the month.
- The knowledge that you are participating in raising citizen awareness of, and promoting participation in Rye's important civic affairs.

Become a member or renew!!!!

[Click Here](#) to make an online payment.

[Click Here](#) to read the invitation and complete the membership form

Membership and donations can be made by credit card via our Paypal link at www.ryecivicleague.org or by mail to Rye Civic League P.O. Box 971 Rye, NH 03870.

Get Involved:

The Rye Civic League is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and such organizations are only as good as their membership base whether that is through paid dues, gifts in kind and active participation. What RCL really needs at this time, in addition to regular \$12 dues, are more active members who can assist with RCL tasks relating to the writing of the Civic News and other activities.

- Summarize a town meeting for the Civic News
- Editing the Civic News content
- Helping with Candidates Night and other civic events
- Social Media savvy person
- Website and help to fulfill our "digital transformation" vision. We envisioned a more dynamic capture of meeting summaries, a much better website and more dynamic communication.

We would be happy to discuss these opportunities with you at you if you so desire.

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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