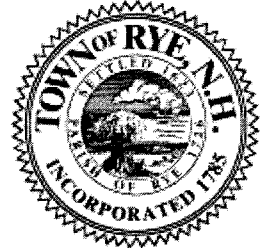


Rye Town Hall Survey



As you may know, a warrant article for \$4.1M to renovate the Rye Town Hall and build an addition on the building was defeated in March of this year. This survey is commissioned by the Town of Rye Board of Selectmen with the Rye Town Hall Committee to determine the opinions of Rye residents about the town's space needs and to give direction to the selectmen in their deliberations to meet those needs. This survey is being administered by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center. Your responses will be kept anonymous and only aggregated data will be reported. If you have any questions or concerns about this survey, please contact Michael Magnant, Town Administrator at the Rye Town Hall (603-964-5523) or Zach Azem at the University of New Hampshire Survey Center (603-862-4858, zachary.azem@unh.edu).

INSTRUCTIONS

For each item, please circle the response that best matches your opinion. If you have no opinion, or you do not know or the question is not applicable, circle the response for "DK/NA." If you have more than one adult who wishes to reply, additional copies of the survey are available at Town Hall or by contacting Zach Azem at the UNH Survey Center (603-862-4858, zachary.azem@unh.edu).

RYE TOWN HALL

Q1. How often do you use the Rye Town Hall?

- 1 At least once a week
- 2 One or two times per month
- 3 Every two to three months
- 4 Once or twice a year
- 5 Less often
- 6 Never
- 9 DK/NA

Q2. What types of business do you conduct at the Rye Town Hall?

(Circle all that apply)

- 1 Pay Taxes
- 2 Pay Car Registration
- 3 Apply for Permits
- 4 Attend Board of Selectmen or Committee Meetings
- 5 Other (please specify) _____

Q3. How would you rate ...

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	DK/NA
The <u>exterior</u> condition of the Rye Town Hall?	1	2	3	4	9
The <u>interior</u> condition of the Rye Town Hall?	1	2	3	4	9

Q4. In your opinion, does the current town hall...

	Yes	No	DK/NA
Meet the current space needs of the town of Rye?	1	2	9
Meet the future space needs of the town of Rye?	1	2	9

Q5. Please indicate how important each of the following are to you:

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Very Important	Not At All Important	DK / No Opinion
Keeping the Town Hall in the Town Center area	1	2	3	4	9
Preserving the historical aspects of the current Town Hall building (Great Hall, tin ceiling, spiral staircases)	1	2	3	4	9
Having a Town Hall that meets the American Disability Act requirements for accessibility	1	2	3	4	9
Having all town departments in one building	1	2	3	4	9
Being able to vote in the Town Hall instead of the Elementary School	1	2	3	4	9
Having space in the Town Hall for public meetings	1	2	3	4	9
Increasing space for administrative offices and storage in the Town Hall	1	2	3	4	9
Having an auditorium area in the Town Hall for performances and events	1	2	3	4	9
Having a Town Hall building that is energy efficient	1	2	3	4	9
A plan should be approved to address the current Town Hall situation as soon as possible	1	2	3	4	9

Q6. For each of the following, please indicate whether you support or oppose each of the following town hall options:

	Strongly Support	Somewhat Support	Somewhat Oppose	Strongly Oppose	DK / No Opinion
Renovating the existing Town Hall building and constructing a new addition on the building for town office use	1	2	3	4	9
Demolishing the existing Town Hall building and constructing a new Town Hall building on the same site with a similar architectural style	1	2	3	4	9
Constructing a new Town Hall at a different site and repurposing the existing Town Hall building	1	2	3	4	9
Constructing a new Town Hall at a different site	1	2	3	4	9
Leaving the current Town Hall building as is for town office purposes	1	2	3	4	9

Q7. Which of these options would you be the most likely to support if it were on the March 2016 ballot?

- 1 Renovating the existing Town Hall building and constructing a new addition on the building for town office use
- 2 Demolishing the existing Town Hall building and constructing a new Town Hall building on the same site with a similar architectural style
- 3 Constructing a new Town Hall at a different site
- 4 Constructing a new Town Hall at a different site and repurposing the existing Town Hall building
- 5 Leaving the current Town Hall building as is for town office purposes

Q8. What comes closest to your position about the possibility of demolishing the Rye Town Hall building, which was initially constructed as a church in 1839?

- 1 This building is an important landmark in town and should not be torn down under any circumstances
- 2 This building has outlived its usefulness and it is time to tear it down and replace it with a new building
- 9 Don't Know/Not Sure

2015 TOWN HALL PROJECT VOTE

Q9. Did you vote in the March 2015 town election? 1 Yes 2 No ->Skip to Q15 9 Don't Know->Skip to Q15

Q10. Did you vote for or against the proposed \$4.1 million renovation and addition to the Town Hall (Warrant Article 5)?

- 1 Voted for (Yes) -> Answer Q11 Below
- 2 Voted against (No) -> Answer Q12 Below
- 9 Did Not Vote/NA->Skip to Q15

Q11. What are the main reasons you voted for the Town Hall project? (Circle all that apply)

- 1 The town needs more office space
- 2 The Town Hall doesn't meet code/safety requirements
- 3 Prefer renovating and adding on to the existing building
- 4 Keeping the Town Hall in the town center
- 5 Other (specify):

Q12. What are the main reasons you voted against the Town Hall project? (Circle all that apply)

- 1 Cost too much
- 2 Poor communication about the project
- 3 The town doesn't need more office space
- 4 The proposed project was too big
- 5 Other (specify):

Q13. When you went to vote on election day, how informed did you feel you were about the Town Hall project?

- 1 Very Informed
- 2 Somewhat Informed
- 3 Not Very Informed
- 4 Not Informed at All
- 9 Don't Know/No Opinion

Q14. How confident were you that the town had thoroughly explored all options and chose the best option for the Town Hall project?

- 1 Very Confident
- 2 Somewhat Confident
- 3 Not Very Confident
- 4 Not Confident At All
- 9 Don't Know/No Opinion

2016 TOWN ELECTION

Q15. Which of the following best describes your likelihood of voting in the March 2016 town election?

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 I will probably <u>not</u> vote in the March 2016 town election | 4 I will definitely vote in the March 2016 town election |
| 2 I <u>may</u> vote in the March 2016 town election | 5 I just don't know at this time |
| 3 Unless some emergency comes up, I will vote in the March 2016 town election | |

Q16. The 2015 Town Hall warrant article was for \$4.1 million (project cost) which would have increased property taxes by 27 cents per thousand dollars valuation. For a \$558,000 home (the Rye average), this would have increased property taxes by \$150.66 per year for a 10 year bond term, totaling \$1,506.60 (based on a 2% interest rate). How reasonable do you think this is to renovate the Rye Town Hall and build an addition on the building?

- 1 Very Reasonable 2 Somewhat Reasonable 3 Somewhat Unreasonable 4 Very Unreasonable 9 DK/No Opinion

Q17. Due to safety, functional and space needs concerns, the existing Town Hall building will require renovation work in the near future. If the Town Hall Committee, with the endorsement of the Board of Selectmen determines that the necessary solution for building or upgrading Town Hall space would cost the following, which of the following options would you support? (Numbers are based on 3% interest rate, 10 year bond term, average home \$558,000)

- | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 \$2.0 million | 15 cents per thousand | \$82.82 per year | \$828.20 total over ten years |
| 2 \$2.5 million | 19 cents per thousand | \$103.52 per year | \$1,035.20 total over ten years |
| 3 \$3.0 million | 22 cents per thousand | \$124.23 per year | \$1,242.23 total over ten years |
| 4 \$3.5 million | 26 cents per thousand | \$144.93 per year | \$1,449.30 total over ten years |
| 5 \$4.0 million | 30 cents per thousand | \$165.64 per year | \$1,656.40 total over ten years |
| 6 Not willing to pay anything more | | | |
| 9 Don't Know/No Opinion | | | |

VOTING AT RYE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Q18. Although many towns and cities use their schools for voting, some have stopped this practice due to security concerns. How concerned are you about security issues raised by voting at the Rye Elementary School?

- 1 Very Concerned 2 Somewhat Concerned 3 Not Very Concerned 4 Not Concerned At All 9 DK/No Opinion

Q19. Which option do you prefer for voting in Rye?

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| 1 Building enough space in a new Town Hall to accommodate voting | 4 Other (Specify) _____ |
| 2 Continuing to vote at Rye Elementary, but closing school on election days | _____ |
| 3 Continuing to vote at Rye Elementary, making no changes | 9 Don't Know/No Opinion |

DEMOGRAPHICS (The following questions are for analysis purposes only)

D1. Are you a full-time or part-time resident of Rye?

- 1 Full-Time 2 Part-Time

D2. How long have you lived in Rye? _____ years

D3. How long have you lived in New Hampshire? _____ years

D4. How old are you? _____ years old

D5. Are you... 1 Male 2 Female

D6. How many adults do you have in your household? _____

D7. How many children live in your household? _____

D8. What is your highest level of education?

- 1 High school graduate (or less)
2 Some College/Technical School
3 College graduate
4 Postgraduate work

D9. What is your annual household income?

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 Less than \$25,000 | 5 \$100,000 - \$124,999 |
| 2 \$25,000 - \$49,999 | 6 \$125,000 - \$149,999 |
| 3 \$50,000 - \$74,999 | 7 \$150,000 - \$199,999 |
| 4 \$75,000 - \$99,999 | 8 \$200,000 or more |

D10. How frequently do you vote in Rye town elections?

- 1 Always 2 Usually 3 Occasionally 4 Never 5 Not Registered To Vote In Rye

Please provide any additional information you would like the town to consider below:

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey! Please fold the survey so that the return address is clearly displayed. Tape the survey together and place it in the mail

The Survey Center
University of New Hampshire
Huddleston Hall
73 Main Street
Durham, NH 03824-9987

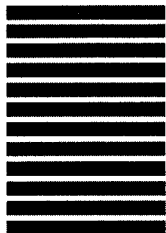
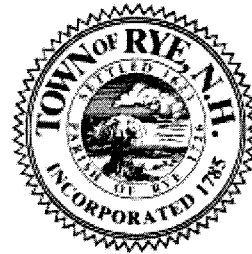
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Rye Town Hall Survey



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