

Rye Civic News January 2018

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 [NEW Citizens' Handbook \(click here\)](#)
[RCL Facebook Page](#)

Next RCL
Meeting:
January 24th
RPL 6:30 pm

Meetings
(at Town Hall
unless
indicated)

Jan. 2nd:
Energy
Committee
6:30pm RPL

Jan. 3rd: Rye
Water District
9:00am 60
Sagamore Rd.

Jan. 3rd. ZBA
7pm

Jan. 4th:
Heritage
Commission
6:30pm.

Jan. 8th:
Board of
Selectmen
6:30pm.

Jan. 9th:
Sewer
Commission
8am RVBD.

Jan 9th:
Recreation
Commission
6pm.

Jan 9th:
Planning
Board 7pm
RJH.

Jan. 10th:
School Budget
Public Hearing
6:30pm RJH.

Jan. 11th:
Town Budget
Public

It's Civic Season for Rye

Jan. 9th: Petitioned Warrant Articles due 4:30pm Town Hall [Click Here](#) blank form from town or download the blank form from the RCL [Click Here](#)

Note: School warrant articles need to be delivered to the SAU50 building in Greenland

Jan 9th: Public Hearing on Zoning/Building changes 7pm RJH [Agenda](#)

Jan. 10th: School Budget (RJH) Budget Committee Public Hearing 6:30pm

Jan.11th: Town Budget (Town Hall) Budget Committee Public Hearing 6:30pm

Jan. 31st RCL Budget and Warrant Article Presentation 7pm RPL

Feb. 2nd: Last day to file to run for an elected office. [Click Here](#) for positions

Feb. 3rd: Town Deliberative Meeting 9:00am RJH

Feb. 6th: Village District Budget Public Hearings (RWD, JBVD, RBVD) 4pm Town Hall

Feb. 7th: School Deliberative Meeting "evening" RJH

Now is a great time to spread the word about the Civic News to friends and neighbors and to show your continued financial support to help defray our operating costs. Money is nice, but participation is better and there are lots of ways you can help.

Additional information: [Click Here](#)

December Highlights:

1. Parson's Creek is an impaired body of water. [Click Here](#). Under the NH DES definition, more Rye water may be impaired from septic systems in the wetland buffer areas.

2. Proposed Parson's Road Cell tower in a residential area (Moved to February meetings) [Click Here](#) for the applications

3. Town pays \$400K to settle 421 South Rd. legal suit and allows 13 building lots [Click Here](#) to see settlement. [Click Here](#) to see BOS public statement

4. Town pushing forward to buy TD Bank building for Town Clerk's office. No statement about using space in Safety Building, [Click Here](#). Finally discussing selling old Police Station.

5. Master Plan has been updated with ONLY chapter 3. [Click Here](#)

6. School Building Feasibility work completed and presented to School Board and BOS. Next steps need to be established.

7. Why is your tax bill so high. [Click Here](#) Also see information below.

8. Bob Jesurum working against the town and WBTSCC to restore the historic marker at Sanders Point. [Click Here](#)

9. PREP Estuary report sounds alarm. Herald Story [Click Here](#)

10. N. Hampton is allowing Aquarion to build a water treatment plant. [Click Here](#) for Herald story.

11. No actions yet on PFCs in our water. [Click Here](#) for more information.

General Announcements:

1. Budget Reviews: Draft Town Budget [Click Here](#) Draft School Budget: [Click Here](#)

Public Hearings: Jan 10th School Budget, Jan 11th Town Budget 6:30pm

Editor's Note: The Budget Committee can change their recommendations..

2. Current open Appointed and Alternate Positions: [Click Here](#)

3. Open 2018 Elected and Appointed Positions [Click Here](#) Last day to file for an elected office is should be Feb 2, 2018 Example File forms from 2017 [Town School](#)

4. Help create New High Tech "Rye Stories" Exhibit at the Town Museum [Click Here](#)

5. RCL New 2017 Citizen's Handbooks are available [Click Here](#)

6. **Rye Recreation Senior Program:** 2017-2018 Active, Alive [Click Here](#)

7. **Rye Recreation Winter Programs Registration NEW** [Click here](#)

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

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

2017 Tax information:

There was high interest in understanding this, so the RCL has provided additional information.

Detailed explanation: [Click Here](#) Detailed Table [Click Here](#) Historic Tax Rates [Click Here](#)

Hearing.
6:30pm .
.
Jan. 17th:
School Board
RJH.
.
Jan. 22nd:
Board of
Selectmen
6:30pm.
.
Jan. 23rd:
Planning
Board Work
Session
6:30pm.
.
Jan. 31st:
RCL Budget
and Warrant
Article
Presentation
6:30pm RPL
.
Feb. 3rd:
Deliberative
Town Meeting
9:00am RJH

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

Town
Org chart.
Click Here

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:
Updated Dec
2017
Click Here

Summary:

1. Town and School required \$1.4M more to be raised
Less revenue, less surplus applied and increased school spending
2. If there had been no town wide revaluation, the tax rate would have been up \$0.77 less the districts
3. Assessment increases added \$250 million in value, so this lowered the tax rate, but not enough to cover the \$1.4M increase.
4. [Click Here](#) for the abatement application

Category	2016	2017	Change	Percent
Town Appropriations less revenues and other adj.	\$6,671,724	\$7,062,695	\$390,971	5.86%
School Appropriations less revenues	\$12,878,458	\$13,655,387	\$776,929	6.03%
County taxation	\$2,091,396	\$2,155,402	\$64,006	3.06%
Town Surplus to lower taxes	(\$1,000,000)	(\$955,218)	\$44,782	-4.48%
School Surplus to lower taxes	(\$510,168)	(\$346,553)	\$163,615	-32.07%
Total (excluding districts) to raise through taxes	\$20,131,410	\$21,571,713	\$1,440,303	7.15%
Town Assessed valuation	\$1,884,140,400	\$2,134,061,700	\$249,921,300	13.26%
Tax Rate	\$10.68	\$10.11	(\$0.58)	-5.39%
Theoretical 2017 Rate if no reavluation		\$ 11.45	\$ 0.76	

Board of Selectmen Meeting December 26th:

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

1. The Town will pay the 421 South Rd. developer \$400,000 to reduce the planned development from 17 house lots to 13 and settle the lawsuit arising out of the denial of the application by the Planning Board. [More Detail](#)
2. The Selectmen voted to authorize the prepayment of taxes. [More Detail](#)
3. The Selectmen will send a letter to Governor Sununu seeking membership on a task force to address offshore wind farms. [More Detail](#)
4. The Selectmen voted to sign a purchase and sale agreement for the former TD Bank building, subject to voter approval. A warrant article for the \$540,000 purchase price and \$84,800 in related costs is being prepared. A final decision on whether or not to fund the purchase with a bond will be made at the January 8, 2018 meeting. [More Detail](#)
5. The costs of painting Town Hall and an Historic Structures Report on the building (\$119,000 total) were added to the operating budget. [More Detail](#)
6. Another \$475,000 of warrant articles were approved, including for the second Red Mill Ln. culvert, a garage at the Recreation area, and Harbor Rd. bridge repairs. [More Detail](#)
7. A warrant article to sell the Trolley Barn (Old Police Station) was approved. [More Detail](#)
8. Over \$238,000 in unspent 2017 appropriations were encumbered so that the money can be spent in 2018 rather than being set aside for potential use to reduce 2018 taxes. [More Detail](#)

Board of Selectmen Meeting December 11th:

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)
Draft Town Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)
RCL Meeting Notes: [Click Here](#)

1. Consideration of the Library Budget was tabled for a fourth time. [More Detail](#)
2. The final design for the new \$700,000 Salt Shed was approved, as was a bond article for this amount. Bids are due January 18, 2018 and will likely be lower than this, according to one Selectman. [More Detail](#)
3. The School Use Feasibility Committee reported its results. Moving fifth grade from the Elementary School to the Junior High to free up space for Recreation appears to be the most supported option. Combining the schools and using part of the Junior High for town offices appear to have been rejected. [More Detail](#)
4. High bacterial levels in the Parsons Creek Watershed (an impaired body according to the State) are still being detected, particularly near Marsh Rd. Failing septic systems in the area have been identified. [More Detail](#)
5. A town consultant and representative from the State DES were present as a push was made for the strengthening of septic system requirements, however this was met with skepticism by at least one Selectman. [More Detail](#)
6. The town was awarded a grant related to Town Hall, but only to do a Historic Structures Report, not to paint the building. A warrant article to paint the Town Hall was tabled for now. [More Detail](#)
7. The Public Works budget was increased to provide for an additional part-time employee (32 hours per week). [More Detail](#)

**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.

**Rye Trust
Fund
Summary:**
Click Here

**Rye Library
Strategic**

8. A warrant article to purchase the former TD Bank building to "land bank" it was tabled, pending completion of contract negotiations and generation of a budget to transform the building for town use. Selling the Old Police Station to help fund the purchase will be explored, although two of the Selectmen were skeptical. [More Detail](#)

School Board December 20th Meeting:

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

2017-2018 School Calendar: [Click Here](#)

Rye PTA Website: [Click Here](#)

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

Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

School Board Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

1. There was a special budget preparation meeting on December 4th.
[Click Here](#) for Meeting minutes [Click Here](#) for video recording
2. At the SAU50 Joint School board meeting, the Boards declined the SAU request to hire a full time SAU50 IT Technical person and use consultants for the coordination and big picture IT discussions.
3. Final School Building Use Feasibility was discussed with the Board
Public Presentation [Click Here](#) Note to Parents: [Click Here](#)
4. Kevin Brandon will not seek re-election in March 2018. There is one open seat on the School Board.
5. Online lunch ordering is still being considered & researched at RES & RJH
6. Water testing at both schools continues. Lowering the acceptable levels of contaminants was encouraged by Mindi Messmer, resident and NH State Representative.

Budget Committee Meeting December 21st:

Draft Meeting Minutes: Not posted

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

1. The Library budget was unanimously approved as requested, notwithstanding the lack of a recommendation from the Board of Selectmen on the issue after they tabled the matter four times (with all or most Library Trustees present each time) based on a dispute and confusion over employee wages.
2. Warrant articles funding capital reserves and expendable trusts for a total of \$190,000 were approved, with one dissenting vote on the municipal buildings reserve.
3. Two warrant articles for a mower and a skid steer for Public Works totaling \$85,000 were approved.
4. A \$700,000 salt shed was approved by a vote of 6-1 with concerns expressed about the high cost relative to examples of purchases of similar facilities by other government entities and the suitability of the location that would increase the amount of salt stored only about 1800 ft. from the town's most important well.
5. A \$200,000 warrant article to remove extensive ledge and pave Shoals View Drive was unanimously approved.
6. A \$150,000 warrant article for a Recreation storage, garage and concession facility was unanimously approved.
7. Four capital outlay items totaling \$73,000 were unanimously approved.

Budget Committee Meeting December 13th - School Budget:

Draft Meeting Minutes: Not posted

School Board Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

RCL notes: [Click Here](#)

1. Proposed School Budget Information - Public Hearing January
[Click Here](#) for Budget Overview presentation prepared for Budget Committee
[Click Here](#) for 1 page budget summary
[Click Here](#) for detailed school budget sheets
2. Budget is up at \$14,023,944. This is the adjusted number after the correction identified by the budget committee. [More Detail](#)
3. Budget assumes all RJH 8th graders going to PHS. Historically an estimate of less than 100% has been used.
4. Questions about why Rye continues to contribute to the Robert J. Lister Academy when only one Rye student has briefly attended in years past. Query has the SAU50 investigating the contract and possible options for this \$75K line item.

Rye Districts Information:

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

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

Rye Beach Village District Budget: No 2018 update yet
 Jenness Beach Village District Budget: No 2018 update yet
 Jenness Beach Bathhouse: State Information [Click Here](#)

Rye Water District December 6th:

Draft Water District Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)
 RCL recorded video: [Click Here](#)
 Rye Water Testing Data: [Click Here](#) Note no analysis included
 Rate Increase Letter: [Click Here](#) Report is not yet posted for the public.
 Water in Rye and Grove Landfill presentations: [Click Here](#)

1. Waiting for the new generator for the Garland Well, expected to be completed by mid January.
2. Water main replacement on Harbor Road will be this Spring and residents will need to coordinate around construction and water limitations during construction.
3. There was a non-public meeting for personnel.
4. RCL Summary of carcinogens. [Click Here](#)

Clean Water Issues:

1. DES informs BOS that Parson's Creek is an impaired body of water. See more information on Parson's Creek. [Click Here](#)
1. Summary of PFC carcinogens impacting Garland Well. [Click Here](#)
2. Water in Rye Presentation from the RCL [Click Here](#)
3. CMA Engineers Grove Rd. Landfill presentation: [Click Here](#)
 RCL video of the November 29th presentation: [Click Here](#)
 New - RWD Presentation: [Click Here](#)
4. RCL (supported by State Rep. Messimer) has an up to date summary of what we know about PFC's in our area: [Click Here](#)
5. Storm run-off into Berry's Brook near the Coakley Landfill and from nearby neighborhoods are impacting homes with private wells.
6. Cancer Cluster Final Report September 2017 [Click Here](#)
7. 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](#)
 RCL Water in Rye Presentation: [Click Here](#)
 Grove Rd. Landfill CMA Presentation: [Click Here](#)
 PFC's 101 from Rep. Messmer: [Click Here](#)
 RWD presentation: [Click Here](#)

Planning Board meeting: December 12th:

Learn more about the Planning Board: [Click Here](#)
 New FEMA maps have been posted: [Click Here](#)
 Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)
 Town Draft meeting minutes: NO Draft meeting notes published

1. Master Plan was amended with ONLY chapter updated: [Click Here](#)
2. January 9th 7pm RJH Public Hearing on Ordinance and Regulation changes [Agenda](#)
 RZO 2018-01 Amend 400.1 Mobile Homes: [Click Here](#)
 RZO 2018-02 Amend 506.3 Auxiliary Dwelling Units: [Click Here](#)
 RZO 2018-03 Aquifer & Wellhead: [Click Here](#) Map [Click Here](#)
 BC 2018-1 Septic and Wetland Buffer [Click Here](#) See [Parson's Creek information](#)
 BC 2018-2 Amend 7.12 Pools [Click Here](#)
 Flood Plain 2018-01 [Click Here](#)
 Land Development 2018-01 [Click Here](#)
3. 0 Airfield Drive: Major Subdivision by The Housing Partnership, residential, mixture of multi-family dwellings with a portion dedicated to workforce housing. Lot Line Adjustment, work session scheduled January 23rd. [Agenda](#)

Editors Note: *This is a Major Subdivision and once again the Planning Department is not providing an overview, summary and list of variances and other pertinent information for*

residents.

4. 432 Wallis Rd. Remove trees on a senic road. Trees are down.

LRP Public Meeting (Master Plan)

1. What has happened since 2014: [Click Here](#) Additional 2016 information [Click Here](#)
2. Master Plan has been updated with Chapter 3 only. [Click Here](#)
3. No commitment to develop a Best in Class Master Plan, including funding and expertise.

Rules & Regulations Committee November Meetings

Proposed Zoning Amendments: - See above with Planning

1. January 9th Public Hearing on changes: [Agenda](#)

Wetlands & Surface Water Committee:

Subcommittee is on hold waiting for additional information.

[Click Here](#) for the details of the October meetings.

[Click Here](#) for more information on Parson's Creek

Planning Board January 9th Agenda:

Agenda for meeting: [Click Here](#)

1. 17 Pine St. Accessory Dwelling Unit
2. 421 South Rd. Lot line adjustment for 13 lot subdivision
3. Public Hearing on zoning changes (see above)
4. 0 Ocean Blvd. Conceptual consultation for subdivision of lots
5. January 23rd 6:30pm Town Hall 0 Airfield Rd Major Development work session [Agenda](#)

Zoning Board of Adjustment: December 6th:

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

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

1. A single application was heard for variances for the construction of a residence on a vacant lot on Brackett Road just off Washigton Road due to intrusion into the wetland buffer. The application was **declined** 5-0.

Zoning Board of Adjustment: January 3rd:

[Click Here](#) for agenda

1. 0 Richard Rd. Construction on a non-conforming lot
2. 16 West Rd. Administrative appeal
3. 17 Pine St. adding an Accessory Dwelling Unit on a non-conforming home
4. 16 Myrica Ave. Multiple variances for setbacks

Conservation Commission (CC) December 21st:

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

Conservation Land Maps: [Click Here](#)

Wetlands Map [Click Here](#)

Town Forest map: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: Held up stairs at Town Hall - no video

Town Draft Meeting minutes: Not posted

Recreation Commission Meeting December 4th:

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

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

Winter program Registrations: **NEW** [Click Here](#)

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

Recorded Video: Held at the Recreation building (no video)

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

1. Ski and snow board program has over 32 people registered.
2. Ralph Morang under-drain project was completed, but re-seeding will be required.
3. Heated storage facility warrant article will be on the ballot.
4. Conservation commission requested a temporary sign on Recreation property introducing the Town Forrest entrance.
5. Recreation is formally requesting Selectmen support from the town to shovel, remove rubbish and clean the bathrooms, as the BOS preforms those tasks for Town Hall and the Safety Building. Recreation depends on the DPW to plow the road and parking area.

Heritage Commission Meetings December 7th

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

Recorded Video: none

Town Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. Discussions about appropriate sales locations and vehicles for the Heritage merchandise to be sold and a need for residents to understand this is more of a contribution than purchasing merchandise.
2. Discussions about funding the Historic Structural Report as this will help qualify for L-Chip grants. Member expressed concern about the Selectmen funding the HSR work.
3. Town Museum Building needs more help to maintain the building

Mosquito Commission Meeting December 26th:

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

Draft Town Meeting Minutes: Not posted

Video of meeting: [Click Here](#)

1. Posters are available [Ticked Off](#) [Wanted Not](#) [Bug Them](#)
2. Evaluating vendors for 2018

Rye Energy Committee Meeting: December 5th:

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

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

1. Rye Energy would like a seat at the table as the Federal Gov't looks at offshore wind farms for the Maine and NH coast.
2. Municipal Building energy reports were reviewed and discussions for producing posters.
3. Discussed the Residential Energy survey. Looked at the Durham questions.
4. Discussion of delaying the discussion of enforcing State Energy building codes until after the current building inspector retires.
5. Discussion about updating the Energy Chapter or the Rye Master plan and reviewing the 2012 Municipal Energy report.

Rye Recycling Education Committee August 15th

Video Recording: Not available

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

Openings for three new members.

Library Board of Trustees December 11th:

Trustee Home Page: [Click Here](#)

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

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

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

1. December 4th Budget Discussion - Recorded Video [Click Here](#)

Sewer Commission Meeting November 14th

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

No December meeting

Beach Committee August 28th and September 28th:

Facebook Page [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting Minutes Aug. 28th: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: Not available

No updates available prior to publishing.

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.

Budget Committee All Day Town Budget Meeting November 16th

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

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

RCL Notes: [Click Here](#)

See draft Town budget summary: [Click Here](#)

School Budget information: [Click Here](#)

1. Public Hearings
 - January 10th: School Budget at RJH
 - January 11th: Town Budget at Town Hall
2. [Click Here](#) to see the summary of this meeting

Capital Improvement Plan:

Completed and accepted CIP Plan [Click Here](#)

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

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

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.

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 J&J position based on possible negative impact of recent lawsuit
4. Next meeting will review ultra-short bond funds to support strategic liquidity

Parson's Creek Pollution Committee November 15th 2016 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](#)

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. Cancer Cluster Report
3. Discussion of the School Use Feasibility hearing

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: 2017 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, is 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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