Rye Civic News August 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 2018 Citizens' Handbook (click here)
RCL Facebook Page

Next RCL Meeting:
Aug. 29th  RPL 7:00 pm

Meetings (at Town Hall unless indicated)
July 30th:  CIP 6:30pm
July 31st:  Cell Tower Joint meeting 7pm RPL
Aug. 1st: Zoning Board of Adjustment 7pm
Aug. 2nd: Heritage Commission
Aug. 6th Recreation Commission 6pm Recreation
Aug. 6th: CIP 6:30pm
Aug. 7th Energy Committee 6:30pm
Aug 7th: Rules and Regulations 6:30pm
Aug. 9th: Conservation Commission
Aug. 13th: Select Board 6:30pm
Aug. 14th: Sewer

**July Highlights:**
1. Jenness Beach Bathhouse approved by Executive Council. Work will start after Labor Day (Click Here for project page).
2. Lang Rd. & Rt. 1 intersection work by Portsmouth to start in 2019. (Click Here for description)
3. Rt. 1 Sewer Extension discussion. See Sewer Commission notes. (Click Here)
4. 0 Airfield Rd. 40 units preliminary approval. Questions about monitoring workforce units and current plan is for more septic systems.
5. NH DES reports Jenness Beach homeowner is planting seagrass in what could be the public trust land.
6. Dogs at Large Committee should report to the Select Board in September
7. RWD outlines their view of Grove Rd Landfill (PFOA detected in the Garland Well aquifer protection) Click Here See recommendations from CMA to Select Board Click Here
8. Rye Rocks Geology Discussion at RPL full house. (Click Here for video)
9. Select Board will provide a supporting letter for Plan NH after review and agreement with completed application.
10. No updates or actions on Impaired Parsons Creek information sent to residents in the watershed.

**General Announcements:**
1. New RCL 2018 Citizen's Handbook (Click Here) If you know anyone new or old who needs to understand how our our town is organized tell them about the RCL Citizen's Handbook.
2. Rye Art Study meets at the Rye Congressional Church, next meeting September 17th.
3. Rye Recreation Summer Programs (Click Here)
4. Rye Recreation Senior Program: NEW: 2018-2019 Active, Alive (Click Here)
5. Assessment Data: Online views of town lots (Click Here)
6. GIS Mapping Software Presentation Video: (Click Here) FYI see RCL Conservation Commission notes on finding locations with the GIS

**Select Board Meeting July 23rd:**
Video Recording: (Click Here)
Draft Town Meeting minutes: Not Available
1. Rye has been ranked 13 by Coastal Living Magazine's list of the 20 most charming beach towns (2:54 elapsed).
2. The Fire Chief reported only one instance where Class B foam, containing PFCs, was used for firefighting (17:11 elapsed).
3. The Selectmen agreed to include a link to the RCL website in its Community Resources section (55:23 elapsed)
4. Contracting with Rockingham Planning Commission to drive the updating of Rye's Land Use Regulations. Note - while requested the draft agreement was not provided for inclusion in the Civic News.
5. Select Board agreed to provide a supporting letter for a Plan NH Application after reviewing and approving the application. (Click Here for outline provided to Select Board)
6. The Selectmen went through a long list of proposals being considered by the New Hampshire Municipal Association and supported some but not others. The list included allowing absentee ballots to be requested for any reason, a change to the SB2 adoption...
process and allowing towns to make the Town Clerk/Tax Collector a position appointed by the Selectmen (98:12 elapsed). Process will continue as only the first 15 were discussed.

Select Board Meeting July 9th:
Video Recording: [Click Here]
Draft Town Meeting minutes: [Click Here]
1. Former Selectman Musselman presented the latest results of PFAS testing of town landfills. His firm, CMA Engineers is now being paid to do this analysis. Some monitoring well tests of both the Breakfast Hill and Grove Road Landfills are above the state limit of 70 for drinking water (9:08 elapsed). [Click Here] for his report and recommendations.
2. Michael Rivet is being hired as a new Firefighter/Paramedic (95:44 elapsed).
3. The Selectmen expressed general approval of proceeding with the Plan NH Charette, to be financed by private funds, but still want to see more information, particularly on which buildings would be included (98:32 elapsed).

School Board July 25th Workshop:
Learn more about the Rye Schools: [Click Here]
2017-2018 School Calendar: [Click Here]
Rye PTA Website: [Click Here]
Superintendent's Bulletin: June [Click Here]
Draft School Board Meeting Minutes: meeting was less than a week ago workshop agenda: [Click Here]
Recorded Video: [Click Here]
1. Developed 2018-2019 goals
2. School Building use next steps - discussions of exploratory discussions with Greenland and of moving the 5th Grade to RJH
3. Discussion of how the School Board interacts with Staff and community

Rye Districts Information:
[Click Here] for information on Rye Districts
RBVD Budget: [Click Here] RBVD annual meeting RCL video: [Click Here]
JBVD Budget: [Click Here]
Jenness Beach Bathhouse: State Information: [Click Here]

Rye Water District July 11th:
2018 RWD Budget: [Click Here]
Draft Water District Meeting Minutes: [Click Here]
RCL recorded video: [Click Here]
RWD 2017 Water Quality Report: [Click Here]
Rye Water Testing June Data: [Click Here] Note no analysis included April Sampling Results: [Click Here]
Rate Increase Letter: [Click Here] Report is not yet posted for the public.
Water in Rye and Grove Landfill presentations: [Click Here]
1. Discussed setting up a Website for the Water District
2. RWD discussed meeting with Conservation Commission Chair and the town to discuss additional well locations.
3. Wright-Pierce will investigate for the source of the elevated iron levels at the Cedar Run well.
4. RWD Documents part of the history of the Grove Rd Landfill that has had PFOA levels above the current 70 reference level. [Click Here]
5. Seacoast Drinking Water Commission final report is due November 1st. Next meeting is in September. NH DES has issued a Drought Condition.

Planning Board meeting: July 10th:
Learn more about the Planning Board: [Click Here]
New FEMA maps have been posted: [Click Here]
Recorded Video: [Click Here]
Town Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here]
1. 110 Perkins Rd - Accessory Dwelling Unit Approved 5-0
2. 2263 Ocean Blvd - minor site development plan. Parking related to Carriage House continued to August meeting for more information. Twenty paid parking spots in the summer.
3. 0 Airfield Dr. - major subdivision, multi family and workforce housing. Conditional Use permit - Aquifer Protection District approved 5-0
Lot Line Adjustment and Conditional Use Permit (unclear which conditions are approved) approved 5-0
Preliminary Approved entire project. This is for all conditions 30 items.  Click Here.
Continued to August meeting to discuss items 7, 19, 20, 21 & 30. Historic challenge of how to assure Condo Associations remain compliant.
NOTE: Minutes or other online location do not include a concise overview of this Major Development and a list of all variances granted.
4. Conceptual consultation of 3 lot subdivision on 85 Brackett Rd

LRP Public Meeting (Master Plan) July 19th and 26th Meeting
What has happened since 2014:  Click Here  Additional 2016 information  Click Here
Master Plan has been updated with Chapter 3 only.  Click Here
July 19th Recorded Video:  Click Here
Draft Town Meeting Minutes:  Not posted
July 26th Recorded Video:  Click Here

Rules & Regulations Committee July 25th
Print Here

Planning Board August 14th Agenda
Print Here

Joint Planning & Zoning: Site walk July 27th:
Print Here

Town of Rye
Master Plan
(click here)
2014 FEMA maps:
Updated Dec 2017
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.

Next meeting is July 31st no Agenda posted
Print Here for Notice of the Hearing.  (Note, RCL posted as it was not in the ZBA or Planning Board online agendas)
1. Resident shares letter to boards discussing Distributed Antenna Systems and how N. Hampton denied a similar cell tower request.  Click Here

Zoning Board of Adjustment: July 11th:
Print Here

Joint Planning & Zoning: Site walk July 27th:
Print Here

Zoning Board of Adjustment: July 11th:
Print Here

Zoning Board of Adjustment Agenda: August 1st
August 1s Agenda:  Click Here  (Note posted by RCL as agenda was not on the website July 29th)
1. 4 Winslow Way  Variance for house height
2. 1611 Ocean Blvd.: Expansion of a non-conforming structure
3. 8 Old Ferry Landing Rd.: Equitable waiver for house height
4. 0 Cable Rd.  Variances for building height on non-conforming lots
5. 753 Ocean Blvd.: Expanding a non-confirming structure
6. 17 Pine St.: Variance for stairs and deck within the setback
7. 1174 Ocean Blvd.: Variances for a deck in setback, a non-conforming structure
8. 17 Brackett Rd.: Variances to fill within the 100’ wetlands setback
**Conservation Commission (CC) July 12th**
Learn more about the Conservation Commission: [Click Here](#)
Conservation Land Maps: [Click Here](#)
Wetlands Map: [Click Here](#)
Town Forest Map: [Click Here](#)
Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)
Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)
Draft Meeting Minutes of July 16th Site Walks: [Click Here](#)
1. 1161 Ocean Blvd., 261 Brackett Rd, 17 Brackett Rd
2. NH DES has hired a new compliance officer to follow up on all permits issued on the Seacoast over the last four years.
3. An idea from the Dogs at Large Committee for temporary leash requirements on certain Town Forest trails will need to be discussed by all parties before any proposal is brought to the table.
4. The Commission continues to deal with wetland buffer clearing and filling/raising violations, after the fact. Native re-plantings are generally being required.

**Recreation Commission Meeting July 2nd:**
Learn more about Rye Recreation: [Click Here](#)
[Click Here](#) to see the Rye Recreation Master Plan
Summer program Registrations: [Click Here](#)
Active, Alive and over 55 Programs: [Click Here](#)
Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)
Draft Town Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)
1. Rye After School returned checks from the waiting list people based on watching the School Board Meeting - not direct communication. Waiting list is currently 8 for Monday, 10 for Tuesday, 13 for Wednesday, 9 for Thursday and 6 for Friday.
2. Field Topographic survey was to complete and discussion to progress the Multi-purpose Recreation Storage Facility
4. 2018-2019 Active Alive and over 55 Programming is almost done
5. A facility use application was submitted for use of the third floor at Rye Congressional Church for Middle School programming.

**Dogs at Large Committee July 5th and 19th:**
[Click Here](#) for Charge from Select Board (only posted in meeting minutes)
July 19th Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)
July 5th: Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#) Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)
Presentation to the Select Board should be in September.
RCL could use help summarizing this Committee

**Heritage Commission Meeting July 17th**
Learn more about the Heritage Commission: [Click Here](#)
Heritage Commission Facebook page: [Click Here](#)
Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)
Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)
1. Heritage Cruise was a financial and goodwill success
2. Town Hall Brochures were discussed for feedback.
3. Discussion to write an article for the Rye Magazine as many residents are not clear on the charge of the commission.
4. Select Board reported Town Hall painter is contracted to start in the Fall, after the Historic Structures report.
5. Discussed the idea of Ordiorne 1623 to rally projects around this 400 year anniversary
6. Great progress reported at Pulpit Rock by the "Friends of Pulpit Rock Tower"

**Library Board of Trustees July 12th:**
Trustee Home Page: [Click Here](#)
Library 2017 Usage Statistics; [Click Here](#) #1 NH Library [Click Here](#)
Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)
Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)
1. Budget Committee and Select Board invited to the July 24th discussion of the compensation study. [Click Here](#) for video recording
2. CIP projects include carpet replacement, interior painting, window replacement and parking lot lighting. Projects may be impacted from findings of the Strategic Plan and Space Needs and Utilization study.

Mosquito Commission Meeting July 24th:
Learn more about the Mosquito Commission: Click Here
Draft Town Meeting Minutes: Click Here
Video of meeting: Click Here
1. Posters are available Ticked Off Wanted Not Bug Them
2. Fewer mosquitoes than last year. Drought helps

Budget Committee: July 18th:
Draft Town Meeting Minutes: Not posted
Video of meeting: Click Here
Draft Town Meeting minutes: Click Here
1. The School Budget was reviewed by School Business Administrator Amy Ransom, who has assumed full duties following the retirement of Jim Katkin. There may be some spikes in the salary line due to four retirements. Legal fees are being expended looking at the agreement with the R.J. Lister Academy for which $75,760 is paid annually, but only one student in recent years has been enrolled and only briefly (1:05 elapsed).
2. Town revenues are up, but mostly because higher spending has driven up taxation. Hampton is looking at a $45 million sewer upgrade, but Rye's share of that will be only about $440,000 and that will likely be financed over a number of years. Any increased costs will raise sewer rates, not taxes (61:40 elapsed).
3. The Committee discussed the process for the upcoming budget season, including ways to increase public input, dovetailing the CIP Plan into the process, and limiting over budgeting relative to actual expenditures which ties up the taxpayers' money for at least a year before the unspent money is returned to them (160:30 elapsed).

Capital Investment Committee: June 11th:
Draft Town Meeting Minutes: Not posted
Video of meeting: Click Here

Rye Energy Committee Meeting: February 6th:
Learn More about the Energy Committee: Click Here
Draft Town Meeting Minutes: Click Here
1. Michael Joyce has joined the Energy Committee.
2. The first municipal building energy report will be posted at the library.
3. The group will look at the 2012 Building Reports to see what has been implemented.

Rye Recycling Education Committee May 22nd
Video Recording: Not available
Draft town meeting minutes: Click Here
1. Discussions about alternative places to recycle what the Transfer Station does not accept
2. Discussion about a larger swap area, one that could hold furniture
3. Discussion about improving RJH recycling as RES does a good job

Sewer Commission Meeting July 10th
Draft Town Meeting Minutes: Click Here
1. Planning Board Chair attended to let the Sewer Commission know about the discussion of 20 units at the corner of Lafayette and Washington Rd. and the 20 units at 0 Airfield Drive. Connecting to a Sewer is less expensive for developers if the Portsmouth Sewer is extended to Rye. See the meeting notes for more discussions
2. Building inspector asked about 32 Old Beach Road as high Bacteria levels were detected at the beach.

Historic District Commission July 19th Meeting
Learn more about the Historic District: Click Here
Recorded Video: Click Here
Draft Town Meeting Minutes: Not Available

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]
2. Summary of PFC carcinogens impacting Garland Well. [Click Here]
3. Water in Rye Presentation from the RCL [Click Here]
4. RCL video of the November 29th presentation: [Click Here]
5. RCL (supported by State Rep. Messimer) has an up to date summary of what we know about PFC's in our area: [Click Here]
6. Cancer Cluster Final Report September 2017 [Click Here]
7. August 23rd Governor's Task Force Coakley Landfill Subcommittee Presentation (full overview) [click here]

Additional Information:
- NH Fish & Game restricts fishing in Berry's Brook. [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]

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.

Beach Committee August 28th and September 28th:
- Facebook Page [Click Here]
- Draft Meeting Minutes Aug. 28th: [Click Here]
- Recorded Video: Not available

Capital Improvement Plan:
- Completed and accepted CIP Plan [Click Here]
- Current: [Click Here] for a summary of the projects.

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]
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 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

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: 2018 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.

An Invitation to membership in the Rye Civic League
While the Civic News is free (distributed to over 1,100 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](http://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 effective capture of meeting summaries, a much better website and more dynamic communication.

**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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