

Rye Civic News January 2019

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 [2018 Citizens' Handbook \(click here\)](#)
 RCL Monthly Meetings & Public Forum last Wednesday of the month RPL 7pm
[RCL Facebook Page](#)

Next RCL

Meeting:
 January 30th
 RPL 6:00 pm
 Presentation at
 7pm

Meetings (at Town Hall unless indicated)

Jan. 7th.
 Recreation
 Commission
 6pm. Rye
 Rec.

Jan. 8th:
 Sewer
 Commission
 8am RBVD.

Jan. 8th: Dogs
 at Large 6pm .

Jan. 8th:
 Trustees of
 the Trust Fund
 6:30pm.

Jan. 8th:
 Planning
 Board 7pm.

Jan. 9th:
 School Budget
 Hearing
 6:30pm RJH.

Jan 10th:
 Historic
 Commission
 4pm.

Jan. 10th:
 Town Budget
 5:30pm .

Jan. 10th:
 Conservation
 Commission
 7pm.

Key Upcoming Town Meetings and Dates:

1. January 8th **last day to file petitioned warrant** articles [Click Here](#)
2. January 9th Budget Committee **School Budget Public Hearing** 6:30pm RJH [Summary](#)
3. January 10th Budget Committee **Town Budget Public Hearing** 6:30pm Town Hall [Summary](#)
4. January 24th **Serving on a Board, Committee or Commission** 7pm RPL
 Current members will speak about the time commitment and what is involved. There are many opportunities to be an alternate and many positions are appointed (in March)
5. January 23rd to Febuary 1st **window to file** to run for an elected position
6. January 30th: **RCL Budget Analysis and Warrant Article Presentation** 7pm RPL
 RCL presents the budget "stories" and provides warrant article background
7. February 2nd **Town Deliberative Meeting** 9:00am RJH
 Residents can modify the wording of warrant articles (except land use regulations)
8. February 5th **Budget Committee Precincts** (Rye, Jenness Beach and Water District)
 Public Hearing 4:00pm Town Hall
9. February 5th: **School Deliberative Meeting** 6:30pm RJH
10. March 4th: **Town Candidates Night** 7:00pm Rye Public Library
11. March 12th **Official Ballot Town Election** 8am to 7pm RES

December Highlights

1. Town Operating Budget possibly up 5.8%, not including warrant articles. [Click Here](#) for more detail.
2. Impaired Parson's Creek Watershed 2018 report [Click Here](#)
 Of the 24 readings how many do you think were above the 104 level (count the red numbers in the Appendix) [Click Here](#)
3. Town Hall Historical Structure Report - [Click Here](#) for report. Recorded video of the presentation [Click Here](#) Note: Town Hall painting completed (first coat).
4. Webster at Rye (in a residential zone) asking to expand again. [Click Here](#) for diagrams. Note distance to residents on page 3.
5. Residents organizing to fight raised 4ft. filled platform and condo units at corner of Wallis Rd and Ocean Blvd. Driftwood/Atlantic Four Winds. [Click Here](#) for residents information after ZBA denied residents rehearing request. Planning Board set for February. Site Walk diagram [Click Here](#).
6. Town moving forward negotiating with Verizon for Port Way Cell tower. See section below.
7. Large crowd at Select Board as Dog Ordinance improperly noticed. [Click Here](#) for current draft ordinance. Rumors discussed about possible poisoning of dogs at Wallis Sands Beach. [Click Here](#) for Herald story.
8. Developer Dan Philbrick appears twice before the Select Board asking to speak regarding his Colony Cottages project, the Building Inspector and Town Ordinances in a 30 minute presentation. He was not allowed to speak per the guidance of the Town Attorney (threat of litigation). Select Board offered a non-public session, Mr. Philbrick indicated he would prefer a public discussion.
9. Planning Board denied the current plan for Harbor Rd/Ocean Blvd (across from Goss Farm) development.
10. If you haven't viewed the great RCL Rye: The Last 50 and the Next 50 years [Click Here](#) for Presentation. Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)
11. Jenness Beach Bath House project report update. [Click Here](#) (this link works, town website link still does not work)
- 12.. Open Volunteer Positions: Contact Select Board office [e-mail](#)

Rye Heritage Commission	1 Alternate
Rye Historic District Commission:	1 Alternate
Rye Recycling Education	2 Member vacancies
CIP Committee	1 Vacancy

 Could also be Planning Board alternates

Jan. 14th:
Select Board
6:30pm (check
time).

Jan. 16th:
School Board
5pm RJH.

Jan. 24th:
Serving in Rye
7pm RPL.

Jan. 28th:
Select Board
6:30pm.

Jan. 30th:
RCL Budget
and Warrant
Article
Presentation
RPL

Feb. 2nd:
Town
Deliberative
Meeting
9:00am RJH

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

Rye History
Museum:
[Click Here](#)

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)

General Announcements:

1. Trailgate Party January 13th 1pm Rand Woods (Sea Glass Lane). Come explore the marked trails.
2. Goss Farm Community Plots sign up [Click Here](#)
3. Friends of Rye Town Hall is forming [Click Here](#) for Portsmouth Herald story
4. Swap shop is jeopardy of closing unless volunteers organize and step in. If interested [e-mail](#)
5. New RCL 2018 Citizen's Handbook [Click Here](#) If you know anyone new or old who needs to understand how our town is organized, tell them about the RCL Citizen's Handbook.
6. Rye Art Study Jan. 28th 9:30am to 11am [Information](#) Rye Congregational Church Rye Art Study Website [Click Here](#) or [e-mail](#) questions
7. **Rye Recreation Winter Programs** [Click Here](#)
8. **Rye Recreation Senior Program:** : 2018-2019 Active, Alive [Click Here](#)
9. **Assessment Data:** Online views of town lots [Click Here](#)
10. **GIS Mapping** Software Presentation Video: [Click Here](#)
FYI see RCL [Conservation Commission notes](#) on finding locations with the GIS

Select Board: Cell Tower Road layout site walk/hearing Jan. 3rd

RCL Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

Town Meeting Minutes: Not available

1. Selectman Jenness read the petition, which refers to the need for a Class V highway to access a proposed cell site on town land off of Port Way. It is needed to correct serious deficiencies in cellular coverage in northern Rye (0:48 elapsed).
2. Town Attorney Donovan and Public Works Director McCarthy show the location of the 75 by 25 foot proposed layout. It includes only the side of the street adjacent to the Palma property, but not the Knapp property on the other side (4:35 elapsed).
3. Attorney Donovan explains that ideally, the road layout would have included the Knapps' side of the street, but they did not agree. Verizon says that they only need half of the street, he said. Only 75 feet is needed as the Gosselins own beyond this, and they are one of the parties to an easement agreement providing town access to the private road beyond this point (11:30 elapsed).
4. Attorney Donovan explains that cell towers cannot be disapproved based on health issues, if they comply with federal limits, under the federal 1995 Telecommunications Act. The proposed tower is about 1000 feet from this intersection, he said (14:29 elapsed).
5. The next steps are that the Planning Board will vote at its January 8 meeting on whether or not to recommend the road layout. It will then go to the Town Meeting for a March vote with 50% required if the Planning Board recommends, two-thirds if it does not. If it passes in March, the Selectmen will then assess damages to be paid to the property owner which will not include the Knapps as the road layout does not include their half of the road (16:35 elapsed).
6. Other possible sites were discussed, however it is revealed that the owners of these options are not enthusiastic (23:10 elapsed).

Select Board Meeting December 27th

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

Town Meeting Minutes: Not available

1. No decision has been made yet on the Porta Potty at Sawyers Beach. There may be another public meeting on the issue and the proponents may need to submit a petitioned warrant article (3:28 elapsed, 51:22 elapsed).
2. Dan Philbrick complained about the Town Attorney's refusal to meet with him to resolve an issue with his Old Colony restoration, saying that he thought that the Selectmen, not the Town Attorney, run the town. Selectman Jenness said that they are willing to meet with him in non-public session as the matter involves a town employee.(18:47 elapsed).
3. A representative from NH Natural and Cultural Resources was present to discuss putting the Town Hall on the National Register of Historic Places (26:41 elapsed).
4. The Selectmen agreed to a limited access easement granted by property owners in the area of the proposed cell tower site off of Port Way and Holland Dr. (off of Parson's Rd.). Once that has been signed by the owners, the Selectmen's second warrant article to add a second cell tower site to the overlay district, the adjacent Condon property, will be withdrawn (43:47 elapsed).

Select Board Working Session December 20th:

Video Recording: [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.

Rye Trust Fund

Draft Town Meeting minutes: Not Available

1. A warrant article to allow a sewer line along Lafayette Rd., from the Portsmouth line to Washington Rd., at no cost to taxpayers, was approved. Portsmouth has dropped their \$2 million fee for connecting. Developer Falzone and the attorney for Cibrowski (land owner in area) spoke in favor (0:21 elapsed).

2. The warrant article for \$200,000 for paving Shoals View Dr., to be paid from current taxation, was approved. A 2018 bond article to do this got a majority, but less than the necessary 60 percent. There are three other unpaved streets that may also eventually need to be paved (28:50 elapsed).

3. The 2018 operating budget of over \$9.7 million, up about 6 percent from 2018, was recommended by the Selectmen (47:43 elapsed).

4. A warrant article to require that dogs be leashed on town beaches on Saturdays from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. during the summer was recommended by the Selectmen (52:31 elapsed).

5. Four warrant articles related to a proposed cell tower near Port Way and Holland Dr., off of Parsons Rd., were recommended. These vote to retain tax-deeded property for town use, ratify a lease agreement with Verizon Wireless, layout a town road to provide access, and pay up to \$4000 in compensation to owners of property over which the road would pass (56:03 elapsed).

6. The Dogs-at-large Committee will be reconvened to consider revisions to the language of the proposed ordinance considered at the December 10, 2018 meeting. It appears that this will be a warrant article, not a Selectmen's Ordinance, as was proposed at that meeting (82:11 elapsed).

7. The Selectmen are recommending that a number of Public Works and Transfer Station fees be increased. A public hearing will be required before they can do so (122:34 elapsed).

Select Board Meeting December 10th:

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

Draft Town Meeting minutes: Not posted.

1. A public hearing on a proposed Selectmen's dog ordinance to tighten the definition of "under control" was held in a packed courtroom. Residents questioned whether any dog could satisfy the proposed criteria and whether the Selectmen could lawfully implement the proposed ordinance without Town Meeting approval. The Selectmen had announced at the outset that no action would be taken at that meeting (3:26 elapsed).

2. The Selectmen approved \$13,780 for replacement of a data cable between the Public Safety Building and Town Hall. The old cable had been chewed by a squirrel. The new one will be armored (76:12 elapsed).

3. State Senator Tom Sherman was present to discuss cancer cluster and Coakley Landfill water quality issues (94:14 elapsed).

4. Resident Dan Philbrick attempted to engage the Selectmen in discussion about avoiding potential litigation with him. He said that neither the Building Inspector nor the Town Attorney will meet with him and that the Town had engaged in what he termed "ridiculous fights," wasting thousands of dollars, with him regarding his various properties (173:38 elapsed).

5. The Selectmen approved a warrant article for the Salt Shed, a \$700,000 bond warrant article which failed to pass last year. The amount and design will apparently be the same (202:06 elapsed).

School Board Meeting December 31st:

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

Draft Town Meeting minutes: Not Available

1. The School Board approved \$8000 to send six teachers and both principals to a three day professional development opportunity in Milwaukee (1:03 elapsed).

2. The marketing program was discussed, with one member advocating for termination of the program and reallocation of the associated budget. The practice of School Board members talking with the Chairman to have items added to the agenda was alleged to be in violation of the right-to-know law. There was also discussion about community opposition to changing the name of Rye Junior High (8:27 elapsed). Editor's Note: RSA 91-A:2, I requires that meetings of a "quorum" of the board be publicly noticed and conducted.

Since a quorum of the five member School Board is three persons, two members may discuss school board business as long as these discussions do not circumvent the right-to-know law, for example through sequential discussions among members. RSA 91-A:2-a, II.

3. All of the topics of the paragraph above were deferred to the regular January meeting (24:30 elapsed).

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

School Board Meeting: December 19th

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

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

Rye PTA Website: [Click Here](#)

Superintendent's Bulletin: December 18 [Click Here](#)

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

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

1. Approved proposed School Warrant Article 1 - 2019/20 budget, 5-0.
2. Approved proposed School Warrant Article 2 - RESPA CBA, 5-0.
3. Board approved tuition agreement between the New Castle School District and the Rye School District, 5-0
4. Verizon is no longer considering the Rye Elementary site for a cell tower
5. Board discussed the possible addition of a Rye 8th grader as a non-voting member of the School Board

5th Grade Transition Meetings:

October 25th Meeting: Recorded Video [Click Here](#)

October 5th Meeting: Recorded Video [Click Here](#)

November 8th Meeting Recorded Video [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting Minutes: Not available

1. Fifth grade moving to Rye Junior High for 2019/2020
2. Sub-committee unanimously agreed to recommend a 3-person teaching team for the 5th Grade School Structure (similar to current grade 6-8 model).
3. School Board is expected to approve the sub-committee's recommendation
4. Staff announcements will be made in February

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](#)

1. February 5, 2019 Budget Committee public hearing on for 2019 District budgets

Rye Water District January 2nd

Draft Water District Meeting Minutes: Not available

RCL Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

1. The study of possible locations for an additional well is continuing. Access has not yet been provided for a site off of South Rd. which appears promising (30:50 elapsed).
2. The Commissioners are working with the Town Planning and Zoning Administrator regarding tightened Zoning Ordinance requirements for irrigation systems. It is too late for that to appear on the ballot this year (33:17 elapsed).
3. December PFAS test results at the three wells were revealed. There are some minor changes but overall the levels are about the same. DES may soon be expanding its list of related compounds to four (39:37 elapsed).
4. Capital projects for 2019 were discussed. The Garland Rd. Pump house improvements will probably not occur this year as revolving loan approval is needed. Water main replacements off of Route 1A near Harbor Rd. and on Wallis Rd. were discussed, as was an additional generator and hydrant replacements (44:10 elapsed).

Rye Water District December 5th:

2018 RWD Budget: [Click Here](#)

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

RCL Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

RWD 2018 Water Quality Report: [Click Here](#)

Sampling Results: December [Click Here](#)

EPA PFOA and PFOS fact sheet: [Click Here](#)

Water in Rye and Grove Landfill presentations: [Click Here](#)

1. Water main breaks on Ocean Blvd and Highland Park
2. Seacoast Drinking Water Report completed [Click Here](#) for final report
3. South Road, Rand Property and Cedar Run are being evaluated for a future well.
4. Water District Website is now online [Click Here](#)
5. Discussion of a new irrigation ordinance/building code regulation. Landscaping regulations were also discussed.

Planning Board meeting: December 18th:

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. 0 Ocean Road (corner of Harbor Rd - Goss Property) sub-division was denied 7-0 This is the plan the board has been reviewing. Board voted to not re-open the hearing to evaluate an alternate plan. Notice of Decision will be available January 8th.

Planning Board meeting: December 11th:

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Town Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. 23 Locke Road Lot Line adjustment accepted and approved
 2. 6 Blueberry Lane Lot line adjustment accepted and approved
 3. 655 Wallis Rd (Carey & Giampa); Installation of new septic system approved, all in favor
 4. [2019-09](#) Zoning Driveways - Public Hearing January 8th
 5. [2019-10](#) IDDE - Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Public Hearing January 8th.
- Note, a Rye IDDE Administration Program Implementation Procedure

Planning Board meeting: December 4th:

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

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

Public Hearing on Zoning Amendments

1. RZO Section 505.3 Wireless - add 0 Port Way Tax map 23 lot 1 approved 7-0
2. RZO Section 505.3 Wireless add Tax Map 23/lot 2 Condon property was postponed to January 8th as the Town is in negotiations with Verizon for this property.
[Click Here](#) to see impact to conservation land impact provided by a resident.
3. [2019-02](#) Frontage approved 7-0
4. [2019-03](#) Access to Lots approved 7-0
5. [2019-04](#) Yard Requirements for Corner Lots approved 7-0 with minor changes
6. 2019-05 Principal Building approved 7-0 Draft not posted
7. [2019-07](#) Coverage approved 7-0 with minor change

LRP Public Meeting (Master Plan) December 17th Meeting

What has happened since 2014: [Click Here](#) Additional 2016 information [Click Here](#)

Recorded video: [Click Here](#)

Draft meeting minutes: Not posted.

[Click Here](#) to see Durham's website and their master plan as reference.

1. Master Plan has been updated. [Click Here](#) to see Chapters

Rules & Regulations Committee December 19th

Recorded Video: Not recorded

Draft Meeting Minutes: Not posted

Planning Board January 8th Agenda

Agenda for meeting: [Click Here](#)

1. Public Hearings on Zoning Ordinances
See above in Planning Board notes
 - a. RZO Section 505.3 Condon Property [Click here](#)
 - b. [2019-09](#) Drive-ways
 - c. [2019-10](#) Illicit Discharge
 - d. [2019-11](#) Growth Ordinances
 - e. [2019-12](#) Fees
 - f. [2019-01](#) Floodplain
2. 1215 Ocean Rd (Driftwood/Atlantic Four Winds) demolition and four raised condo buildings (continued to February)
3. 85 Bracket Road - three lot subdivision
4. 0 Ocean Blvd (Harbor Rd - Goss) Notice of Decision vote - not a public hearing

Zoning Board of Adjustment: December 5th:

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

- 1./2. 655 Wallis - new septic system on non residential lot; tree cutting within 50' boundary. Approved 5-0
3. 140 Harbor Rd - expand non conforming structure on non-conforming lot; new septic system; set back and wetlands issue. Continued to January meeting
4. 1077 Ocean Blvd - administrative appeal from building inspector's notice of violation Continued to January meeting
5. 395 Washington Rd. - new driveway within 100' of vernal pool and wetlands setback buffer Approved 5-0
6. 395 Washington Rd. - new septic system: soils, setback and frontage issues; new structure on non-conforming lot Approved 5-0
- 7.. 234 Washington Rd. - new generator: side setback issue Approved 5-0
8. 361 Central Rd. - building addition: front property line set back issue Approved 5-0
9. 393 Brackett Rd. - expand non-conforming structure (garage, fence, deck) front and rear setback issues Approved 5-0
- 10.11. 27/29 Parsons Rd.- expand non-conforming structure, septic tank, porous driveway: front and side setback issues, septic system and driveway within wetlands buffer. Continued to January meeting

Zoning Board of Adjustment Agenda: January 2nd:

Agenda: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

1. 140 Harbor Rd. Expansion of a non-conforming structure and building in the tidal buffers (Approved 5-0)
2. 333 Washington Rd. Expansion of a non-conforming building (Denied 4-1)
3. 96 Pioneer Rd. Lot area variances for tear down and new build (approved)
4. 1248 Ocean Blvd. Variances for height and setbacks (continued)
5. Webster at Rye 795 Washington Rd. 21 new beds, 2 new assisted living beds and a square footage expansion of 18,325 s.f. (continued)
6. 60 Parkridge Ave.: Expansion of a non-conforming structure and driveway and garage in wetlands buffer (continued)

Conservation Commission (CC) December 13th

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

Conservation Land Maps: [Click Here](#)

Wetlands Map [Click Here](#)

Town Forest map: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

RCL Meeting Notes: [Click Here](#)

Goss Fram Community Garden Plots sign up: [Click Here](#)

1. Subdivision North of 85 Brackett Rd was found acceptable
2. 1248 Ocean Blvd. Rebuild of a house in the 100' tidal buffer. See site walk notes.
3. An updated UNH Extension Land Conservation Plan for NH Coastal Watersheds was presented to the Commission focused on water quality, flood storage, marsh migration, and water quality
4. The Rye Water District updated the Commission on its investigation of new potential water well sites on conservation land at Wallis Road/ Old Rand Lumber and Cedar Run/DD Cook, as well as on private land at 701 South Road. Results expected in December.
5. A proposed warrant article per the RSA is required to purchase land, some of which is in North Hampton, to be conserved at 81 West Road. The draft was judged to be too general and the Commission voted that the warrant article should only be for this acquisition

Conservation Commission Site Walks: December 17th:

Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. 1248 Ocean Boulevard, Tax Map 17.3, Lot 048, Owner: Lisa Lombard

Present: Lisa Lombard, Owner, and Henry Boyd, Millenium Engineering

An entirely new home replacing prior is to be constructed entirely in the tidal buffer. Prior holding tank septic is to be replaced with an enviro-tech system. Impervious surfaces will be reduced 11% by pervious pavers. Roof run off will be minimized using stone trenches.

Due to the sloping lawn and storm surges the commission recommends a buffer of at least 15' of native vegetation back from the retaining wall.

2. 11 Washington Road, Tax Map 13, Lot 049, Owner: Tanya Hsu

Vegetation including invasive species and some smaller trees were cut this summer, potentially using a tractor and bush hog in a low-lying area which may be wetlands but

should be delineated. Commission recommended NHDES get involved and that the owner clear debris and trash and consider native plantings to stabilize the area.

Budget Committee: School Budget December 12th:

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

Video of meeting: [Click Here](#)

Draft Budget Summary: [Click Here](#)

1. 2019-2020 proposed appropriations are up \$121,132 over 2018-2019, or .87%. The proposed contract with support staff (RESPA) will be a separate warrant article that will add an additional \$65,218 (5:11 elapsed).
2. Despite the transfer of fifth grade from Rye Elementary School to Rye Junior High School in 2019-2020, the teaching salaries for the fifth grade teachers remain in the Elementary School Budget. There are currently three fifth grade teachers. It is not yet known whether one, two or three will transfer to RJH. The most likely case is two, according to the Superintendent. Four or five letters indicating possible retirements have been received from teachers (49:29 elapsed).
3. Bus costs are increasing 6% due to 3% inflation in the bus contract and the addition of one bus not budgeted for in 2018-2019. The issue of buses running largely empty was discussed, along with ways to reduce bus costs (79:07 elapsed).
4. The School Board will look at reducing the Portsmouth High School attendance projection as it appears that current New Castle eighth graders were incorrectly included in the freshmen that the Rye School District will have to pay for in 2019-2020. The budget also assumes that all of the eighth graders continue on to Portsmouth High, while a significant proportion have always gone on to private high schools (100:40 elapsed).
5. While Special Education costs are decreasing overall, after major increases in recent years, the \$75,760 cost of the Lister Academy of the Portsmouth School Department remains in the budget. Furthermore, the multi-year agreement was never ratified by voters, as is required (102:35 elapsed).
6. Despite increasing New Castle students at Rye Junior High (increase from 4 to 9 between 2017-2018 and 2018-2019), at approximately \$15,500 annual tuition to Rye, the total budgeted tuition revenues are flat at \$70,000 (116:42 elapsed).
7. Discussion of the importance of revenues, following which the Budget Committee voted 9-1 to recommend the budget (126:34 elapsed).

Budget Committee: Town Budget December 6th:

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

Video of meeting: [Click Here](#)

Summary Analysis of Budget: [Click Here](#)

Budget Summary Table: [Click Here](#)

1. Various elements of the town budget and capital outlay items were reviewed and approved (6:21 elapsed).
2. The Building Inspector's budget was approved after the request to expand the assistant's position to full-time was withdrawn. The Budget Committee had tabled that budget at its November 8 meeting following a 5-4 vote against approving it. The committee added \$15,000 to the budget for software to streamline department processes in lieu of the \$35,000 cost of the additional hours and benefits from converting the position to full-time (21:02 elapsed).
3. The police cruiser purchase funding was questioned after, for the first time in a number of years, the accumulated revenue from outside police details is sufficient to pay for only half of the cruiser's cost. The other half will need to be raised from taxation. The Police Chief was unable to explain how, based on his estimate of hours billed, the revenues are insufficient to fully pay for one new cruiser each year. He will investigate the matter further (41:18 elapsed).
4. Several members of the Beach Committee were present to oppose the \$1200 Porta Potty addition at Sawyer's Beach, approved by a 9-1 vote at the November 8 meeting. The motion to withdraw the prior approval and reduce the budget by \$1200 failed in a tie, 5-5, vote (114:33 elapsed).
5. The warrant article to add \$100,000 to the ambulance and fire vehicle fund was tabled after it appeared that the name of the wrong fund was used (152:46 elapsed).

Recreation Commission Meeting November 5th: (no December mtg)

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

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

Fall program Registrations: [Click Here](#)

2018-2019 Active, Alive and over 55 Programs: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: Met at Rye Congregational Church gymnasium

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

1. Tour of the space at the Congregational Church for possible recreational uses. A long term lease will be pursued with the Church for room on the second floor.
2. Discussions are continuing with the School Board, as Recreation would like a long term lease agreement for the two lower level rooms at RES.
3. A tour and more discussions are required for the space under the RJH Gymnasium.
4. Discussion of the basketball and soccer late registration fees. They remain as is.
5. Basketball schedules have not been set as the RJH has yet to confirm the 5th Grade program.
6. Multi-Purpose winning bidder was approved to go to the Select Board for approval.
7. SAU 50 Superintendent sent an updated MOU, Recreation changed the number of participants from 25 to 15 for the shared space and signed.

Dogs at Large Committee :

[Click Here](#) for Charge from Select Board (only posted in meeting minutes)

[Click Here](#) for Final Report

[Click Here](#) for Ordinance Draft posted on the Town Website

Heritage Commission November 1st (no December mtg)

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

Heritage Commission Facebook page: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting Minutes: not available

Library Board of Trustees December 18th:

Trustee Home Page: [Click Here](#)

Library 2017 Usage Statistics; [Click Here](#) #1 NH Library [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: none available

Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. Strategic Plan progress report is available. [Click Here](#)
2. Six donations were received recently.
3. New Crazy8s mathematics enrichment program will begin in January
4. Board will develop a "why" statement for the planned expansion and renovation.

Mosquito Commission Meeting: December 18th:

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. Commission is recommending Dragon Mosquito, see minutes for quote comparison table.

Capital Improvement Plan: November 19th

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

1. CIP accepted by the Select Board (Nov 26th), posted document is still the draft. [Click Here](#) Select Board charge to Capital Improvements Plan Committee: to prepare and recommend a program of non-reoccurring municipal capital improvement projects with a cost of \$15,000 or more for the period 2019-2024.

Total \$14,421, 420M of proposed expenditures during the 6 years .

Conservation (\$3M), Rye Water District (\$9.3M)

Largest project submissions 2019

Pumper/Ladder: \$992K, Salt Shed (\$700K), Shoals View Paving (\$200K)

The 2019 projects total \$2,665,953.

The committee recommendations were:

- a. to complete the fire radio project as the number one priority.
- b. to build the Salt shed to protect groundwater;
- c. to purchase a stretcher to fit the new ambulance;
- d. to continue the Hampton waste water contract;

e. to acquire the fire truck & pumper with Capital Reserve Funds and a long-term lease/purchase because our current ladder truck is inoperable

2. Fire Chief has proposed a multi-year plan for the Fire Equipment.

[Click Here](#) for Presentation, [Click Here](#) cost table, [Click Here](#) for consultants report
How much Equipment do we have in our area (produced by a resident): [Click Here](#)
Fire Department 20 year Plan Public Hearing

November 1st Recorded Video: [Click Here](#) (note, end is cut off) RCL recording of missing portion (and discussion): [Click Here](#)

Next presentations January 31st and March 7th 6:30pm RPL

Sewer Commission Meeting December 14th

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

1. Letter received requesting Sewer Commission place a warrant article on the ballot to address a boundary condition (letter not attached)
2. There will be a 2019 Warrant Article to expand the Portsmouth Sewer line along Lafayette Road to Washington Rd.

Historic District Commission Meeting December 3rd

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

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

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

1. Discussion to move to get Town Hall on the Federal Registry (National). A representative did present to the Select Board on December 27th. The CLG grant will cover the costs of registration process.
2. 566 Washington Rd - Sotheby's Lights, approved with stipulations
3. Waiting for the draft of the Benefits of the District.
4. Discussion of Town Hall shutters and if they should be returned to the building or leave as is.

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. Rye's need for better planning: [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 November 1st:

Facebook Page [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. Discussion of Beach Grass plantings on G and F street by residents. NH DES granted permission, but the plantings encroach on the public beach.
2. Beach Committee is opposed to Port-A-Pot at Sawyers beach for multiple reasons.
3. Committee is in favor of increasing the fines for parking and littering.
4. Perkins Rd. residents attended over their continued concerns over parking on their street.

120 Brackett Rd Cell Tower ZBA

Planning Board has continued this to February 12th meeting.

Select Board is discussing expanding the Cell Tower Overlay District to include additional locations in the Parson's Creek Watershed area.

Sept 4th draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

Sept. 4th recorded video: [Click Here](#)

1. Additional Information to meeting minutes

[E-mails and School minutes](#), [Donovan 08-28-18 to BOA](#), [Case #09 and #10-2018 Gemmet Port Herald submittal](#), [Donovan 8-31-18 links](#), [appraisal](#), [Crawford Analysis](#)

2. The abutters (Friends of Brackett Rd.) have been active and provided this information to the Civic League. Informational Flyer from Friends of Brackett Rd. [Click Here](#) [5 things to Know](#) Additional information [Click Here](#)

Rye Energy Committee Meeting: July 10th:

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

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

1. Municipal Buiding Audits - Oil Tank monitors for Recreation, coordinating lighting audits, weather sealing for the Public Safety building
2. Master Plan - getting some best in class examples from Portsmouth, Keene and Durham

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

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](#)

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. Cancer Cluster Final Report September 2017 [Click Here](#)

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

7. 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](#)

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](#)
 December 2018 Report: [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. 120 Brackett Rd Cell Tower
2. How the School Board announced moving 5th Grade
3. Plan NH update
4. Road safety and paving

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.

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 1,100 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 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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