

Rye Civic News February 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:
February 27th
RPL 7:00 pm

Meetings (at Town Hall unless indicated)

Feb. 11th.
Recreation Commission
6pm. Rye Rec.

Feb. 11th.
Select Board
6:30pm.

Feb. 12th:
Sewer Commission
8:00am RBVD

Feb. 12th
Planning Board 7pm

Feb. 13th:
School Board 5pm RJH
Feb. 14th
Conservation Commission
7:00pm.

Feb. 25th:
Select Board
6:30pm

March 4th:
7pm
Candidates Night RPL.

Town Reference Documents on the

Key Upcoming Town Meetings and Dates:

1. March 4th: **Town Candidates Night** 7:00pm Rye Public Library
Note: There are no competitive races so the format will be a chance for residents to meet and ask questions to the candidates. [Click Here](#) for the video to learn all about Rye's Boards, Commissions & Committees
2. March 12th **Official Ballot Town Election** 8am to 7pm RES
3. Understanding Town & School Budgets: [Click Here](#) to see the RCL Analysis, Video recording of presentation starts at 34:12 [Click Here](#)
4. RCL will be updating the Warrant Article presentation and will create Yes, No Table of all articles.

January Highlights

1. PlanNH for "Rye Town Center" has been scheduled for May 31st/June 1st. Friday May 31st will be when PlanNH listens to residents - so save the date. \$7,500 needs to be raised. More information coming soon.
2. Beach Committee presented to Select Board [Click Here](#) for the 2018 Beach Committee Report
3. Select Board signs lease for Port Way cell tower agreement, town must approve March 12th. [Click Here](#) to see lease
4. Conservation Commission reviewed the Wallis Rd/Ocean Blvd (Atlantic Four Winds/Driftwood) buildings with the 4,000 to 5,000 cubic feet of fill. Planning Board review is February 12th. [Click Here](#) to see diagram from resident
5. 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](#) Was not discussed at January Select Board meetings.
6. Resident and Developer Dan Philbrick still requesting a public discussion with Select Board and Building Inspector.
7. Webster at Rye (in a residential zone) asking to expand again. [Click Here](#) for diagrams. Note distance to residents on page 3.
8. 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](#)
9. Jenness Beach Bath House project report update. [Click Here](#) (this link works, town website link still does not work)
10. Open Volunteer Positions: Contact Select Board office [e-mail](#)

Planning Board:	2 Alternates
Zoning Board:	2 Alternates (3rd will also be open soon)
Rye Heritage Commission	1 Alternate
Rye Historic District Commission:	1 Alternate
Rye Recycling Education	2 Member vacancies
CIP Committee	1 Vacancy
New Parking Committee	Looking for volunteers
Could also be Planning Board alternates	

General Announcements:

1. February 12th Planning Board meeting agenda includes the raised 4 condo units at Wallis Rd/Ocean Blvd corner - Atlantic Four Winds/Driftwood cottages. [Click Here](#) to see diagram from resident
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.

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)
2014 FEMA maps:
Updated Dec 2017
Click Here

Rye Rec Master Plan (Click Here)

Town Forest Management Plan (Click Here)

2018 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.

6. **April 10th: RCL and RPL** will host Prof Emily Baer, UNH Political Science Dept: "Decline in local citizen participation in town government affairs and what can be done about it"
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

Town Deliberative Meeting : February 2nd

RCL Video Recording in 3 segments: [Part 1](#), [Part 2](#), [Part 3](#)

RCL Short Summary: [Click Here](#) More Detail

RCL is estimating only about 150 residents attended.

1. The Town Hall teardown/rebuild article was amended to eliminate mention of a specific architect.
2. The article prohibiting expenditures on Town Hall until there has been a warrant article passed was converted to requiring the Select Board to develop a renovation plan.
3. Attempts to amend the \$992,000 article for a pumper/ladder truck to first look at collaboration with surrounding towns and to decrease the lease amount by increased utilization of reserves failed.
4. The article to establish a committee to look into cell phone infrastructure survived without amendment, except for the deletion of the last sentence, which might have prevented the town from proceeding with a cell tower on Port Way until completion of the committee's work.
5. The dog-related articles survived relatively unscathed.
6. Several beach-related articles were amended but with their basic goals largely intact.

Select Board: January 28th Meeting

RCL Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

Town Meeting Minutes: Not available

1. (7:31 elapsed) Rye has been accepted by Plan New Hampshire for a visioning session, which will be May 31st (visioning) and June 1st.
2. (14:22 elapsed) The Beach Patrol Committee, consisting of a number of police officers, presented its report. They recommend that beach patrols be conducted by lower cost part-time employees.
3. (60:31 elapsed) Former State Representative Mindi Messmer was appointed to the Seacoast Cancer Cluster Commission with provisos for periodic reporting, notification to the BOS prior to major votes, and with the proviso that she may be terminated.
4. (86:08 elapsed) The Rails-to-Trails agreement relating to far Western Rye was agreed to.
5. (98:21 elapsed) After extensive discussion with residents and after a lengthy defense of the Beach Committee's work by its Chairman, a parking committee was agreed to. It's focus will be Perkins Rd. and safety issues.
6. (229:16 elapsed) An architectural study for the Parsonage Apartments will be rolled into ongoing work on Town Hall.

Select Board Meeting January 23rd: Budget and Parking Discussions

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

Town Meeting Minutes: Not available

1. (6:04 elapsed) The Select Board approved movement of the sentence relating to the 10% override in the Town Hall teardown/rebuild petitioned warrant article. This sentence alerts voters that they are also voting to override the 10% limitation above the total appropriations recommended by the Budget Committee if they vote to approve. The RSAs require that the sentence come first. The Budget Committee previously voted 6-4 to not recommend this article.
2. (10:12 elapsed) Revised wording of the pumper/ladder truck \$992K warrant article was approved based on extensive back and forth discussions with the Department of Revenue Administration (DRA).
3. (15:13 elapsed) There was a lengthy discussion about parking issues with many residents, particularly of Perkins Rd., weighing in. Ultimately, the Select Board voted 2-0-1 not to recommend a proposed warrant article creating new resident parking spaces to replace existing legal spaces in the Jenness Beach area. A committee will instead be formed. The Select Board have the power to implement parking and traffic ordinances on their own, so this can still occur before Summer 2019.

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
2019-2020 School
Budget.

Rye Trust
Fund
Summary:
Click Here

**Rye Library
Strategic
Plan:**
Click Here
How good is
our Library
Click Here

**Rye Police
Homepage**
Click Here
Facebook:
Click Here

Rye Beach
Committee
Facebook
Page **Click
Here**

**Other
Helpful
Links:**

Live Free or
Die Alliance

Select Board January 14th meeting:

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

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

1. (12:09 elapsed) A resident questioned the need for the proposed \$700K Salt Shed.
2. (30:47 elapsed) The wording of the \$992K pumper/ladder truck was questioned as no mention is made of interest being in addition.
3. (58:13 elapsed) After hearing both sides, the Select Board voted 3-0 not to recommend the \$3.5 million Town Hall teardown/rebuild
4. (110:47 elapsed) The Select Board noted a few issues to be worked out before the Rails-to-Trails agreement for a rail trail in far western Rye can be signed.
5. (156:25 elapsed) The Beach Committee presented its report. A number of residents of Old Beach Rd. were present to complain about the parking situation there.
6. (269:20 elapsed). A petitioned article to prohibit further spending on Town Hall until either a teardown/rebuild article or a complete renovation passes was not recommended by the Select Board, 3-0.
7. (283:18 elapsed). The cell tower lease with Verizon for the Port Way site was agreed to, subject to voter ratification.
8. (291:00 elapsed). The Select Board voted 2-0, with one abstention, not to proceed with a Porta Potty on Sawyers Beach.

Select Board Meeting Cell Tower Road Site Walk Jan 3rd:

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

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

School Deliberative Meeting February 5th:

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

1. (10:14 elapsed). Article 1, \$14.121 million operating budget article, is read by Moderator
2. (11:26 elapsed). Shawn Crapo, son of School Board member Deb Crapo, calls the question prior to any explanation of the article. The Moderator allows School Board Chairman to explain the article, which she does in approximately two minutes.
3. (13:46 elapsed). The Moderator asks who called the question. Randy Crapo, husband of School Board member Deb Crapo, seconds the motion to call the question. All five School Board members, plus Superintendent Sal Petralia (who is a Rye resident) vote in favor of the motion and it receives more than two-thirds. The six votes of the School Board and Superintendent are decisive as few members of the public are present. After having had no discussion or debate (see [RSA 40:13, IV\) Article 1](#) is placed on the ballot as written.
4. (15:53 elapsed). Article 2, the five year support staff labor contract, is introduced and briefly discussed.
5. (20:08 elapsed). The motion to reconsider Article 1, now needing 50% to pass, fails.

School Board Meeting: January 16th

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

Proposed 2019-2020 Budget: [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. K-8 Curriculum Committee focused on personalized learning was formed by Principal Lull
2. No School on March 12, Town Election Day, School will be held on March 22 instead. This was a swap of a Teacher Workshop Day.
3. Tuition Agreement with New Castle was signed
4. Superintendent Petralia's contract was renewed effective July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2021

5th Grade Transition Meetings - not updated:

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: Feb. 5th Budget Committee mtg:

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

NEW 2019 Budgets

Recorded Video of Budget Committee meeting: [Click Here](#)

[Rye Water District Budget](#)

[RBVD Budget](#)

[JBVD Budget](#)

1. (11:29 elapsed) The Rye Beach Village District budget of approximately \$139K was unanimously approved. There is a drop of approximately \$25K due to completion of a 2018 street lighting project.
2. ((32:19 elapsed) The Jenness Beach Village District budget of approximately \$95K, the same as 2018, was unanimously approved.
3. (43:50 elapsed) The Rye Water District budget of approximately \$1883K with warrant articles, up approximately \$227K or nearly 14%, was approved with one dissenting vote. The budget includes a \$399K water main replacement on Ocean Blvd. south of Harbor Rd. The line serves approximately 9 condominium units. The district is projecting an increase in the tax rate from \$.49 to \$.54, an impact of \$25 on a \$500K house.

Rye Water District January 2nd:

Rye Water District Website: [Click Here](#)

2018 RWD Budget: [Click Here](#)

Draft Water District Meeting Minutes: Not available

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. 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).
5. Seacoast Drinking Water Report completed [Click Here](#) for final report.
6. Water District Website is now online [Click Here](#)

Planning Board meeting: January 8th:

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. Public Hearing for Zoning amendments discussed and modifications made.
2. Growth Ordinance was withdrawn after public discussion
3. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Ordinance was tabled after discussion
4. 85 Brackett Rd. 3 Lot subdivision Conditionally approved [Case #24-2018](#) Three key points and seven conditions
5. O Ocean Blvd (Goss property) [Case #11-2018](#) (with application) Denied

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 February 12th Agenda

Agenda for meeting: [Click Here](#)

1. 1215 Ocean Blvd (Driftwood/Atlantic Four Winds). - major site development raze all buildings and infrastructure and replace with four duplex style town homes.
2. 1215 Ocean Blvd - special use permit, allow land use housing cabins to become, obsolete; and be redeveloped per section 304.6 of Rye Land Development Regulations.
3. 388 and 400 South Rd. - minor three lot subdivision and lot line adjustment
4. 96 Pioneer Rd - lot line adjustment lot 79 and 4 Elizabeth Way
5. Public hearing on Verizon Wireless, 120 Brackett Rd (Public closed; continued to March)
6. Conceptual Consultation - 170 Brackett Rd - two lot subdivision
7. Change planning board 3/12 meeting since it falls on election day
8. Discuss storage facility at Rye Recreation area; need for public hearing

Zoning Board of Adjustment: January 2nd:

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. 140 Harbor Rd. Expansion of a non-conforming structure and building in the tidal buffers (Approved 5-0) [Case #44-2018](#) Some Relief granted others denied
2. 333 Washington Rd. Expansion of a non-conforming building Continued
3. 96 Pioneer Rd. Lot area variances for tear down and new build (approved) [Case #02-2019](#)
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 Park Ridge Ave.: Expansion of a non-conforming structure and driveway and garage in wetlands buffer (continued)

Zoning Board of Adjustment Agenda: February 6th:

Agenda: [Click Here](#)

1. 27/29 Parsons Rd.: Variances for expanding a non-conforming structure and special exception (approved 5-0)
2. 333 Washington Rd. Expansion of a non-conforming building (Denied 4-1)
3. Webster at Rye 795 Washington Rd. 21 new beds, 2 new assisted living beds and a square footage expansion of 18,325 s.f.
4. 60 Park Ridge Ave.: Expansion of a non-conforming structure and driveway and garage in wetlands buffer
5. 0 Big Rock Rd. Administrative Appeal of Selectmen's settlement
6. 1393 Ocean Blvd. Administrative Appeal of denial to construct
7. 1 Willow Lane: Variances for a non-conforming structure
8. 47 Surf Lane: Variances after the fact for enclosure of a porch
9. 147 Washington Rd variances for expanding a non-confirming structure (approved 5-0)
10. 45 Pollock Drive: variances for a generator in the setbacks (approved)
11. 1681 Ocean Blvd.: variances for setbacks including septic in the wetlands
12. 55 Harbor Rd. Demolition and replacing a non-conforming structure

Conservation Commission (CC) January 10th

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

Conservation Land Maps: [Click Here](#)

Wetlands Map [Click Here](#)

Town Forest map: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: At RPL but not recorded

Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

RCL Meeting Notes: [Click Here](#)

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

January 15th Site Walk Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

January 16th Site Walk Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. Corner of Wallis & Ocean Blvd. NH DOT will provide 4,000 to 5,000 yards of clean fill. Total impervious surfaces will be reduced by 18,000 sq. feet.
2. 281 Sagamore Rd. See Jan. 15th Site walk notes. addition to home
3. 60 Park Ridge Ave. See Jan. 15th Site walk notes. No objections from CC

4. 795 Washington Rd. Webster at Rye: Wetlands to be delineated
5. 55 Harbor Rd. See Jan. 16th Site Walk notes.
6. 1 Willow Av. See Jan. 16th Site Walk notes.
7. 200 Parsons Rd discussed as there may be wrk in the wetlands. There was an August Notice of Violation.

Budget Committee: Town Budget January 23rd:

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

Video of meeting: [Click Here](#)

1. (0:59 elapsed) The Budget Committee approved the movement of the sentence in the Town Hall teardown/rebuild warrant article dealing with the 10% override of the Budget Committee's total recommended appropriations. The Budget Committee voted 6-4 not to recommend this article. The sentence must come first according to the RSAs. Without the override, the DRA would likely disallow appropriations in order of warrant article number until the 10% limit is reached, placing the operating budget in jeopardy.
2. (3:25 elapsed) The Budget Committee approved new language recommended by DRA relating to the \$992K pumper/ladder truck. However, several members disputed whether the language was in fact correct, and wanted further conversations with the DRA.
3. (18:50 elapsed) There was extensive discussion about the numerous issues with the budget form provided by the SAU 50 office for the Budget Committee members to sign. Although an approximately \$57,000 error was found and corrected, there are still discrepancies in the tens of thousands of dollars between the account-level detail provided to the Budget Committee in their budget books and the 2019-2020 budget numbers on the form that the members are now being asked to sign.
4. (27:47 elapsed) After it was revealed that the prior year budget and actual totals are missing from the form due to a bug in the Department of Revenue Administration software, but that it is possible to download the form into Excel and correct the problem. The problem prevents voters from easily comparing the 2019-2020 budget with prior years. The School Board representative to the Budget Committee said that voters can get out their calculators and add the numbers.

Budget Committee: Town Budget January 10th:

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

Video of meeting: [Click Here](#)

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

Budget Summary Table: [Click Here](#)

1. (4:04 elapsed) The \$1200 Porta Potty for Sawyers Beach was removed from the budget 9-0-1.
2. (18:31 elapsed) The \$700K Salt Shed article was recommended 9-1.
3. (43:57 elapsed) The \$200K Shoals View paving article was recommended 8-2 after discussion about the need for a plan to address all seven unpaved public streets in Rye before proceeding with this one.
4. (57:10 elapsed) The \$992K pumper/ladder truck article was recommended 10-1 after discussion about the more than \$2 million in fire truck replacements between now and 2023.
5. (99:45 elapsed). The operating budget of \$9,718,146, up 5.8% over 2018, was approved 10-1.
6. (118:27 elapsed). The \$3.5 million Town Hall teardown/rebuild article was not recommended 6-4.
7. (211:22 elapsed). The article to prohibit expenditures on Town Hall until either a warrant article to either rebuild Town Hall or to renovate it with enough space for all anticipated employees was not recommended, 9-0-1.

Budget Committee: School Budget Public Hearing Jan. 9th:

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

Video of meeting: [Click Here](#)

1. (3:51 elapsed) A Budget Committee member discussed a motion to transfer \$5000 allocated for looking at reasons why parents are choosing other schools to other uses. He said that the Rye schools are not the best that they can be, and comments that he is hearing are nine to one negative. That led into a discussion regarding the survey.
2. (22:25 elapsed) A resident complained about the lack of detail in a handout provided at the meeting, comparing it to the detailed budget book provided by former SAU 50 Business Manager Jim Katkin. New Business Manager Amy Ransom provided an abbreviated

version of the presentation provided at the Budget Committee meeting on December 12, 2018.

3. (28:16) A resident question about the number of teachers moving from Rye Elementary School to Rye Junior High in connection with the fifth grade transition led to a discussion. The School Board representative denied that a figure of two had been mentioned at the prior meeting, however this is incorrect (see video of December 12, 2018 meeting at 56:24 elapsed). The Superintendent neglected to mention his prior statement that "perhaps two," but possibly 1 or 3 teachers could be moving. Reassurances were provided by the School Board representative that there would be staff to provide a three person team for fifth grade in 2019-2020.

4. (36:27 elapsed) The \$14 million operating budget was approved 8-1.

5. (37:30 elapsed) A motion to have the Budget Committee establish a budget for revenues failed, notwithstanding RSA 32:3, III which includes both revenues and appropriations as elements of the budget that must be prepared by the Budget Committee.

6. (43:06 elapsed). The article to approve the contract with RESPA (support staff) was recommended 9-0 following a comment that the three years that the employees were without a new contract saved little due to the high increase in 2019-2020.

Recreation Commission Meeting January 7th

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: [Click Here](#)

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

1. SAU 50 signed the Memorandum of Understanding for 2018-2018 for After School Program Space.
2. Project has been awarded to JRK Builders and now a contract needs to be created.
3. Discussions of getting a lease with the Congregational Church for recreation activities.
4. School Board is discussing how to make modifications at the RES lower level for Rye Recreation next year.
5. Discussions of how to provide more community access to the RES and RJH gymnasiums.
6. Town Finance Director is working towards helping Recreation take credit card payments.
7. Congregational Church is interested in having a winter ice skating rink behind the church.
8. Discussions about Summertime HoRYEson Day camp changes and options
9. The after school ski/snowboard program has 30 participants.

Dogs at Large Committee January 8th:

[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

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

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

Heritage Commission January 10th

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

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

Recorded Video: Held upstairs at Town Hall

Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. Update on the window replacement project
2. Discussion of the vacant position on the Commission
3. Next meeting to discuss signage and the Graveyard project

Library Board of Trustees January 15th:

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. Jessica Ryan is the new Assistant Youth Librarian
3. Continue discussions of possible designs for an expansion

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.

Beach Committee January 19th:

Facebook Page [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

Sewer Commission Meeting January 8th

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

1. List of sewer charges were presented and discussed. See minutes for table
2. Discussion of the warrant article to allow Portsmouth Sewer and developers to expand the Portsmouth Sewer into Rye.

Historic District Commission Meeting January 10th

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

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

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

1. Discussion of the Historic District guidelines and those of other communities
2. Everyone who lives in the Historic District should have received the District Handbook at the end of last year.

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.

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](#)

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

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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