

# Rye Civic News November 2019

from the [Rye Civic League](http://www.ryecivicleague.org) ([www.ryecivicleague.org](http://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](#)

**If you find value in the Civic News, please forward to 3 others who are not on distribution.**  
*Over 550 people opened the October Civic News, from the 85 different links, there were 429 clicks, but only two new people were added to distribution.*

RCL  
Annual  
Meeting:  
November 18th  
RPL 7:00 pm

Meetings  
(at Town Hall  
unless  
indicated)

Nov. 4th  
School Board  
all day Budget  
8:30am

Nov. 4th  
Recreation  
Commission  
6pm Rye Rec.

Nov. 5th: Rules  
& Regs  
8:00am.

Nov. 6th: RWD  
9:00am 60  
Sagamore Rd.

Nov. 6th:  
RTCC 5:30pm.

Nov. 6th:  
Parent  
University 6pm  
Greenland  
School.

Nov. 6th  
Zoning Board  
of Adjustment  
7:00pm.

Nov. 7th:  
Sewer  
Commission  
Public Hearing  
RBVD 8:00am.

Nov. 7th:  
Budget

## **Rye Civic League Annual Meeting Nov. 18th 7pm RPL**

1. How good are **your Cookies**? Want to claim the best Rye Cookies? Have your entry at the Rye Public Library by 7pm for sampling and judging.
2. Rye pays over \$2M every year for Rockingham County Services - do you know what we are getting and why? Come hear from Rockingham County Commissioner Keven Coyle.

## **October Highlights**

1. Town Hall organizational changes
  - a) Becky Bergeron is now the full time Town Administrator, but will retain some high level Financial responsibilities.
  - b) Janice Ireland will be the new Finance Administrator
  - c) Selectman's Executive Assistant position is being posted (Janice's old job)
2. Bracket Rd. resident appears to be moving towards building on a Parsons Creek wetlands lot that is currently coded as non build-able (paying lower taxes). Possibly taking the ask forgiveness approach. [See boulders](#) deposited on a lot.
3. EEE detected on Lafayette Road outside of Rye. [See more](#) information from Mosquito Commission.
4. Capital Improvement Plan Draft is available [Click Here](#)  
[Click Here](#) for CIP recommendations  
[Click Here](#) for projects by year
5. 1/3 of Septic Systems in the Parson's Creek Watershed have not been inspected, deadline is June 2020. See Dec. 2018 report [Click Here](#). 2018 testing [Click Here](#) (red and over 104 is bad)
6. Rye Town Center Committee is up and running with 4 meetings in October. [Click Here](#)
7. Now is the time to comment on Zoning Ordinances Chances. [Click Here](#)
8. Open Volunteer Positions: Contact Select Board office [e-mail](#) or Planning Admin  
Planning Board: 2 Alternates ([e-mail](#))  
Zoning Board: 1 Alternate ([e-mail](#))  
Rye Heritage Commission 2 Alternates  
Rye Historic District Commission: 2 Alternates  
Rye Recycling Education 1 Member vacancy  
CIP Committee 1 Member Vacancy  
Rye Energy Committee 1 Member Vacancy

## **General Announcements:**

1. Important 2020 Election dates  
January 14th: Last day for petitioned warrant articles [Click Here](#) [E-mail](#) the RCL if you need help.
2. Parent University Nov. 6th 6pm Greenland Special Section 504 and House Bill 1612
3. [Sewer](#) Commission Public Hearing November 7th 8:00am at the RBVD 830 Central Rd on two proposed amendments to the Rye Sewer Usage Fee Ordinance.
4. Flood Risk reduction workshop (Public Welcome) November 18th 5pm RJH [Click Here](#)
5. Public Hearing on Zoning Amendments November 12th. [Click Here](#)
6. RJH Play Wizard of Oz November 21st to 23rd
7. **Development updates:**
  - Webster at Rye 795 Washington - NOD says November meeting.
  - 120 Brackett Rd Cell Tower pushed to December 10th, this is so Verizon can keep this location in their back pocket
  - 1244 Washington Rd. 5 four building units - discussed October 8th continued
  - 1215 Ocean Blvd (Wallis Rd/Ocean Blvd) continued to November 12th
8. Rye After School Program Staff is needed. [Click .](#)
9. **Rye Recreation Fall Programs** [Click Here](#)

Committee all day work session 8:30am.

Nov. 7th: Long Range Planning 9:30am.

Nov. 7th: Energy Committee 6:30pm.

Nov. 7th Heritage Commission 6:30pm.

Nov. 8th: Rye Telephone Infrastructure Committee 3:00pm.

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

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

Nov. 12th Planning Board 6:00 RPL.

Nov. 13th: RTCC 5:30pm.

Nov. 14th: Conservation Commission 7:00pm.

Nov. 18th: Flooding Work shop 5pm RJH

Nov. 18th: CIP 5:30pm.

Nov. 18th: RCL Annual meeting. 7pm RPL

Nov 19th: School Board 5pm RJH

Nov. 19th: Mosquito Commission.

Nov. 19th:

10. Rye Recreation Program: 2019-2020 Active, Alive [Click Here](#)

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

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

FYI see RCL [Conservation Commission notes](#) on finding locations with the GIS

### **Select Board Meeting October 28th**

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

Draft meeting notes: Not available

1. Select Board continues to have Non-public meetings, subjects have been Personnel and Acquisition.
2. Rye is accepting FEMA/Homeland Security funding of \$182K for breathing equipment.
3. Janice Ireland is moving from Selectman's Executive Assistant to Finance Administrator
4. Perkins Road Safety Committee is advocating for a traffic study that will need to be coordinated with the State.
5. About 1/3 (230) of Parson's Creek Watershed Septic systems have not been inspected with the deadline of June 2020. Less than ten failed septic systems have been identified. A letter will go out from the building inspector. *Editor's Note: The town is still operating under the belief that the polluted watershed is from failed septic systems and not the over saturation of leach fields as communicated to the Select Board in December 2018.* [Click Here](#) for report. Review the [2018 results](#) (red and above 104 is bad) No 2019 testing results have been posted for the public.
6. The security system for the safety building needs to be updated.
7. The State is giving Rye \$22K in unrestricted funds. Rockingham Planning support for Town Center Committee mapping was discussed.
8. 720 Brackett Rd was designated as unusable and the property was acquired at an unusable cost. The new owner appears to be taking actions to develop the property that has insufficient uplands to support developing. [Click Here](#) for pictures of stones deposited for a brick wall. See letter from neighbors to Select Board. [Click Here](#)

### **Select Board Meeting October 15th**

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

Town Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. If Rye Harbor Dredging maintains the funding work would start the Fall of 202 to be completed in the Spring of 2021.
2. Resident comments that town organization decisions continue to be made without the opportunity for public discussion.
3. Adjustments to the Town Wide Fee schedule - redundant LP Propane and Oil Fee removed, Fire Department Detail rate will be the same as police. There will be a \$100 fee for Historic District Commission application fee.
4. Becky Bergeron is the full time Town Administrator, not Town Manager.
5. Select Board signing the quitclaim Deed to move 14-acre Port Way parcel as part of the process to provide Verizon Wireless a cell tower location. Shot clock for has been extended.
6. Town is moving forward with Social Media.
7. State Rep. Jaci Grote updated the Select Board on the budget and legislation in process.
8. The \$270M increase in Rye's total property value raises Rye's share of the Rockingham County Budget to 4.6%. Rye buys over \$2M of Rockingham County Government services each year. See what communities paid in 2018 [Click Here](#) Learn more about what we are getting at the Nov. 18th RCL Annual Meeting.

### **School Board Meeting: October 16th**

Proposed 2019-2020 Budget: [Click Here](#)

Rye PTA Website: [Click Here](#)

Superintendent's Bulletin: October 2019 [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. The Fire Panel at RES will need to be replaced-it is at least 20 years old and is faulty. This will be a costly replacement. Currently, the Board is gathering quotes.
2. Cameras will be purchased for classroom use. Due to the Staff Handbook Policy, teachers and staff are prohibited to use cell phones for photos of students. The PTA will help with the cost of some cameras.
3. Single Use Plastic Bottles are being phased out in the district. The Rye Junior High School Student Council purchased reusable water bottles for every student. Water is always available at both schools via water fountains and/or cups.
4. Mrs. Lull reported and explained the new Play Based Kindergarten legislation.
5. Eighth graders are looking to do community service. Please contact the school with any opportunities. It is now required that eighth graders complete 10 hours of community service in order to attend the class trip in the spring.
6. Continued discussions regarding how Rye students perform when transitioning to

Recycling  
Education  
Committee.

Nov. 20th:  
RTCC 5:30pm.

Nov. 25th:  
Select Board.

Nov. 27th  
RTCC 5:30pm.

## 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](#))

Flood  
Managment:  
[Click Here](#)

Rye Rec  
Master Plan  
([Click Here](#))

Town Forest  
([Click Here](#))

2018 Beach  
Report [Click  
Here](#)

GIS Parcel  
Data: [Click  
Here](#)

Transfer  
Station and

Portsmouth High School. Ongoing talks continue between SAU 50 & 54.

7. The Board voted to retain 2.5% of the fund balance.

### Upcoming Dates:

a) SAU 50, in collaboration with Parent University, will host a Parent Forum on Wednesday, November 6, 2019, beginning at 6:00 at the Greenland Central School. Topics to be presented: Special Education, Section 504 and House Bill 1612 (Data Privacy for Students & Staff) Representatives from SAU 50 Central Office Staff will be there

b) Rye School District Budget Meeting: November 4th 8:30-3:30 at Rye Town Hall

c) SAU 50 Joint Board Meeting will be November 13, 2019

8. RJH Report [Click Here](#). Superintendent's [Click Here](#). Play Based Kindergarten Report [Click Here](#)

## **Rye Districts Information:**

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

### **2019 Budgets**

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

[Rye Water District Budget](#) [RBVD Budget](#) [JBVD Budget](#)

## **Rye Water District October 2nd Meeting:**

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

2018 Portsmouth Water Report: [Click Here](#)

2019 Rye Water Rates: [Click Here](#)

Draft meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. Continuing discussion on Cedar Run well evaluation..
2. Booster station generator work is continuing.
3. Goss Farm subdivision has passed all testing and is read to go.

## **Planning Board meeting: October 8th:**

Learn more about the Planning Board: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

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

1. 1244 Washington Rd. Major Subdivision - 20 unit residential was discussed in detail with public comment and was continued to November.
2. 1196 Ocean Blvd. Surf Club Condominium agreement approved for unit #2, condition that no bedrooms in the basement below the BFE [NOD Case #14-2019A](#)
3. Eversource is cleared to trim and remove more trees. Conditionally approved [NOD Case #19-2018](#) on Elywn Road, Pioneer and Brackett Road
4. Two proposed Zoning Ordinances were discussed. See below under Rules and Regulations and [Click Here](#) for information on Illicit Discharge.

## **LRP Public Meeting (Master Plan) Oct. 17th Meeting**

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

Draft meeting minutes: No cancellation but we believe there was no meeting

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

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

As the meeting minutes of the LRP meetings have recently "surfaced" the RCL is filling a gap by providing a summary - meeting by meeting - with key points of the LDR updates. [Click Here](#)

2. The LDR are not the Zoning Ordinances, but they are similar as they do set what is permissible for new sub-divisions, redevelopment and commercial properties.

Land Development Regulations for commercial, new sub-divisions and redevelopments. [More Information](#)

## **Rules & Regulations October Meetings**

October 30th: Recorded Video [Click Here](#)

October 24th: Recorded Video [Click Here](#) Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

October 15th: Recorded Video: [Click Here](#) Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

October 2nd Recorded Video: [Click Here](#) Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. The Rules and Regulations Committee met three (3) times in October, however, no meeting minutes are available.
2. According to meeting agenda(s) - the Committee has been working since September on the following topics and proposed zoning amendments:
  - a). Chemical Free pools
  - b). Height in the coastal overlay district and SFHA (Special Flood Hazard Areas)
  - c). Demolition zoning ordinance
  - d). Detached ADU's (Accessory Dwelling Units)
  - e). IDDE's for MS4 (Illicit Discharge and Elimination Ordinance)
  - f). Hardship

**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  
[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](#)

Rye PTA  
Webpage

- g). Codification
- h). RVs and other setbacks
- i). SUP for costal overlay district
- j). Accessory dwelling/amnesty

3. At the November 12th Planning Board meeting, members will be hold a public hearing regarding the following two Proposed Zoning Amendments:

[Amendment No. 2020-01:](#) Amend Sections 304 Height (within the Coastal Area District) to allow for construction within the Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHA) to accommodate the 2-foot freeboard;

[Amendment No. 2020-02:](#) Amend Section 507 to add a new Section 507A: Illicit Discharge and Elimination Ordinance to comply with the MS4 permit. [More Detail](#)

## **Planning Board November 12th Agenda**

November 12th Agenda for meeting: [Click Here](#)

1. Public Hearing: (see above)
2. Lafayette Rd to store trailers and boats
3. 371 Washington Rd. Accessory Dwelling Unit
4. 0 Airfield Drive: 18 month extension
5. 1215 Ocean Blvd.: raze existing structures, build 4 new buildings
6. 1244 Washington Rd. 20 Unit residential town houses
7. 137 Lafayette Rd. The Rug Store wants to sell CBD Oil
8. 0 Lafayette Rd (Kector's Site) 40 unit multi-family mixed use Conceptual Consultation
9. Proposed ordinance for conversion to legal apartments
10. Release request Rye Farm/Ceda Run
11. Land Development Regulations Final Draft discussion for Public Hearing

## **Zoning Board of Adjustment: October 2nd:**

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. 200 Parsons Road continued to November 6th as requested by applicant
2. 824 Ocean Blvd and 1 Cable Rd applications were also continued to Nov. 6th
3. 112 Perkins Rd. Four variances granted 5-0 for tear down with condition that they follow the CC recommendations. [Case #38-2019](#)
4. 61 Parsons Rd. Two variances granted 5-0 to expand non-conforming structure. [Case #29-2019](#)

## **Zoning Board of Adjustment Agenda: November 6th**

Agenda: [Click Here](#)

1. 200 Parsons Rd. Variances for boundaries and with in 100' of the wetlands
2. 1 Cable Rd. and 3 Cable Rd - Tear down and new build
3. 161 Clark Rd. Addition to a non-conforming structure and setback variances
4. 8 Holland Drive: Shed 6ft from boundary

## **Conservation Commission (CC) October 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: [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting Minutes: Note posted

RCL CC Notes: From Sept 12, 2019 meeting. [Click Here](#)

Oct 16th: Site walks draft minutes: [Click Here](#) 177 West Rd., 16 Richard Rd., 24 Robin Rd.:

1. Public Education and Outreach Program on climate, flood reduction and natural resources scheduled for Monday, November 18th, 5:30 p.m. with a light dinner for attendees starting at 5:00 p.m., Rye Junior High. More info [Click Here](#)
2. No progress with developers or homeowners on unfinished elements related to Rand Lumber development conservation easement
3. Burke Pond Dam (Abenaqui) to be replaced in kind
4. 16 Richard Road project issued a cease and desist

## **Library Board of Trustees: October 15th:**

Trustee Home Page: [Click Here](#)

Library 2018 Usage Statistics; [Click Here](#) #1 NH Library [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. Fence and gate are painted.
2. Library meeting space uses are up 93% from a year ago. Nineteen youth programs last

[Click Here](#)

Rye  
Elementary  
School [Click  
Here](#)

Rye Junior  
High School  
[Click Here](#)

Portsmouth  
High School  
[Click Here](#)

**Other  
Helpful  
Links:**

[Live Free or  
Die Alliance](#)

month with 160 children and teens.

### **Recreation Commission Meeting: September 30th Meeting**

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

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

New: Fall program Registrations: [Click Here](#)

New: 2019-2020 Active, Alive and over 55 Programs: [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. Rye After Care with the two dedicated rooms now has more children and is no longer at capacity. Monday 46, T-45, W-48, Th-44 and Friday 33
2. Soccer program had 1/2 the 4 year olds as compared to last year
3. Multi-purpose Storage facility is progressing, garage doors will be white.
4. The Skyler Mikolaities Eagle Scout project should be completed by now. The project was funded by proceeds of a a car wash, donation from Lowes and discounted supplies from Ricci Lumber.
5. Continuing to work on the space lease agreement with the Congregational Church.
6. Land survey was discussed to support the Recreation Master Plan.
7. First week of the summer camp was full with 40 students and numbers for the rest of the summer were higher than last year. This was attributed to the first two weeks being at New Castle and other weeks having trips.

### **Heritage Commission: October 3rd meeting**

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

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

Draft Meeting Minutes: No quorum

1. Commission toured Pulpit Rock Tower.

### **Demolition Review Committee: Oct. 4th**

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. 39 Jenness Rd.deemed not significant

### **Historic District Commission Meeting October 17th and 29th**

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

October 17th: Recorded Video: [Click Here](#) Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

October 29th: Recorded Video: [Click Here](#) Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

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

1. The Commission met to review the materials for the refacing and reroofing of the so called TD bank building.
2. The materials are replacing synthetics with more natural products and the Chair exercised the prerogative to not require a formal Public Meeting to allow the applicant to proceed to obtain a building permit. The siding, roof and shutters will be replaced with materials and appearance more in harmony with the Historic District.

### **Capital Investment Plan (CIP) Committee Meeting: September 15th**

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Town Meeting Minutes: Not available

Draft Capital Improvement Plan 2020-2025: [Click Here](#)

1. Largest requests:
  - a) Conservation Commission: \$3M
  - b) Fire Department: \$1,066,000
  - c) RWD: \$11,783,000 (multiple projects)
  - d) Public Works Culverts: \$550,000
  - e) Paving projects: \$2,160,000

### **Mosquito Commission Meeting: Oct 15th:**

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

Draft Town Meeting Minutes: Not published

Video of meeting: [Click Here](#)

1. As one incident of EEE has now been detected on the outskirts of Rye - on Lafayette Road - strategies and long term plans were discussed to combat the virus and keep it out of Rye.
2. EEE is spread by mosquitoes that feed on infected birds. To be proactive, the school fields, the rec area and paths were re-sprayed for ticks and mosquitoes. Humans, horses and other mammals can become infected from a bite but the virus cannot be transferred from mammal to mammal.
3. You cannot get EEE from a horse. Catch basins will be surveyed throughout November. Until there is a hard frost mosquitoes activity will not diminish.

4. To avoid bites and the possible risk of infection, residents going into wooded areas should use spray containing DEET.
5. Pets should also be treated, consult your vet. We also urge residents to drain any standing water area and brush from their property.
6. Green-head traps have been stored back in Goss Farm, we are now up to strength with the number of traps needed for next year.

### **Rye Energy Committee Meeting: October 3rd:**

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

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

1. Meetings will now be on Thursdays.
2. RJH and RES Lighting upgrades are almost completed. The Library approved the Library upgrades.
3. Solar RFP responses were received, reviewed and will be moving forward to interview applicants.
4. No public funding will be requested and hence no Warrant Articles for funding.

### **Rye Recycling Education Committee Sept. 17th**

Video Recording: Not available

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

1. Letter suggesting multiple ideas for the Swap Shop were discussed. See the meeting minutes for details.
2. "Recycle; Keep it out of the landfill"
3. Rye Food Scrap Collection Information [Click Here](#)
4. Rye Recycling Center Brochure [Click Here](#)

### **Sewer Commission Meeting October 8th**

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

1. 21 Crabtree Drive is requesting to be connected to the Sewer as the house is for sale.
2. Discussion that flow to Hampton was approaching limits of the agreement
3. Jenness Beach Pump station failure was detected on September 16th and repaired.
4. Abenaqui Pump station will have valves, plug valves and gaskets replaced, the work is being planned.
5. Licenses for a number of installers were approved.
6. NHDES responded to the 2017 and 2018 reports submitted and the inspection from those years.
7. Current activity for sewers 9 Cable Rd. O Richards, 16 Myrica Ave., 8 Maple Ave.
8. E-mails were provided to the Sewer Commission on the process for extending the Portsmouth Rt. 1 Sewer. It was noted that those driving this work have not met with or presented to the Rye Sewer Commission.
9. Amendments to Sewer User Fee Ordinance Public Hearing on November 7th 8am RBVD Office.  
Amendment 1: Amends the Hook-Up Fee by providing that it increases 2.5% annually on January 1st.  
Amendment 2: Repeals the Capital Recovery charge.

### **Rye Town Center Committee October Meetings**

October 29th: Recorded Video [Click Here](#) No minutes yet

October 23rd: Recorded Video [Click Here](#) No minutes yet

October 16th: Recorded Video: [Click Here](#) Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

October 9th: Recorded Video: [Click Here](#) Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

October: 1st: Recorded Video: [Click Here](#) Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. In July, town planning experts with Plan NH visited Rye and held a charrette - listening sessions - to evaluate the town center and help devise a plan for its future. Community participants expressed interest in creating a more welcoming historic town center, and Plan NH's recommendations included:
  - preserving/expanding the area's historic charm,
  - employing traffic-calming measures,
  - expanding sidewalks and bike lanes, and
  - proposing new uses for town-owned buildings
2. The Select Board then created the Rye Town Center Committee (RTCC) to look at each recommendation in earnest- discussing its feasibility, priority and financial implications. Made up of eight Rye residents: Karen Stewart (chair), Mae Bradshaw, Victor Azzi, John Loftus, Kaitlyn Coffey, Nina Parrott, and Phil Winslow as the BOS representative, the committee has been meeting weekly at town hall to discuss the report and its findings.
3. RTCC is charged with writing a warrant article for the March ballot. So far, "safety" has been identified as the first priority, and the committee has zeroed in on narrowing Washington Road, connecting the Rye Public Library and Rye Junior High by sidewalk, adding delineated

bike lanes from Central to Wallis, and reimagining the intersections leading in to the town center.

4. Next steps will be to secure funding for a survey of property lines and utilities, as well as initial design planning to shed light on project costs. We will then research and evaluate possible funding mechanisms, including federal grants.

5. After writing the warrant article, the RTCC plans on compiling a comprehensive five-year plan to address other Plan NH recommendations.

6. The RTCC typically meets Wednesdays from 5:30-7pm, and welcomes public comment at both the beginning and end of the meeting.

### **Cell Tower Committee October 22nd**

Draft Town Meeting Minutes: Not posted

1. The committee along with the Isotrope consultant reviewed the projected coverage improvement for Rye from several town owned properties. The committee is meeting Nov. 8 to draft recommendations for the Select Board.

### **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 Meeting September 18th:**

Facebook page for Beach Committee: [Click Here](#)

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

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

1. Major point of discussion was the dune grass in the area of F St and G St ocean front whereby the property owners planted well beyond the boundaries of their own property and planted on the public beach taking a good portion of access to the public's beach (including town residents) at high tide.

2. The beach committee sent a letter to the BOS which was entered into record at the 9/23/19 BOS meeting

3. The beach committee expects a course of action to be outlined by the BOS at the next meeting 10/7/19.

4. The committee is expecting to have a site walk of our beaches the week of 9/30/19 though no firm date has decided.

### **Budget Committee August 6th:**

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. School Budget 2018/2019 year to date was reviewed. Boiler work is progressing.

2. Reviewed year to date of Town budget.

3. No closing or summary statement for the public

### **Trustees of Trust Fund Meeting August 15th:**

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

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

1. Accounts liquidity positions were discussed. Large accounts at approximately 9%.

2. Market conditions and political environment discussed.

3. Trustees decided to maintain liquidity levels.

4. Average performance of the Trust Funds were 11.23% YTD through July 31st.

### **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. Messmer) 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](#)

### **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](#)

### **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:

### **Other Town Activity**

### **Rye Town Handbook from the Rye Civic League:**

**NOTE:** 2018 Update are available at the Library, the Lazy Bird, Native 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](mailto: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 partly 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...
- 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, RPL 7pm
- 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](mailto: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.*