

DELIBERATIVE SESSION JUNE 5TH AT WENTWORTH GOLF COURSE

I am writing to remind you that the Rye Deliberative Session will be at **9:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 5, 2021**, in the pavilion at the **Wentworth-by-the-Sea Country Club** at 60 Wentworth Road in Rye. The pavilion is extremely well-ventilated. There will be several **changes** this year to keep us safe from COVID-19, including the following:

- Facemasks will be required for all people entering the pavilion – masks will be available.
- There will be a separate covered area, with a microphone, for people who cannot wear or choose not to wear a face mask.
- There will be an additional outside area, with a microphone, if the number of people attending exceeds the social distancing capacity of the pavilion.
- There will be an Assistant Moderator at each outside area to help those wishing to speak, and to record their votes.
- **All speakers, including article sponsors, will be limited to 3 minutes.** After 2½ minutes, speakers will be shown a large yellow card. At 3 minutes, he or she will be shown a red card.
- All public microphones will be disinfected after every speaker.
- All seating, except family units, will be 6 feet apart.
- Hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes will be available throughout the venue.
- Plexi-glass shields will be used where appropriate.
- Check-in will be outside if weather permits (checkers will wear sanitary gloves).
- Each warrant article being discussed will be projected on a screen inside the pavilion.
- The Deliberative Session will be live streamed and recorded.
- As always, motions to amend must be in writing. **Submit your amendments ASAP, even before an article is taken up; try to email them to me before the Deliberative Session.**

There are 18 articles on the 2021 warrant that are subject to discussion and debate. Article 5 seeks approval of an Operating Budget of \$10,754,665.

13 articles seek separate appropriations: \$800,000 for transportation safety improvements (only \$300,000 from taxes); \$350,000 to finish the salt shed at the Public Works property (only \$258,000 from new taxes); \$300,000 for a new fire engine (\$0 from new taxes); \$200,000 for a new backhoe or front-end loader (\$0 from new taxes); \$100,000 for the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund; \$100,000 for the Fire & Ambulance Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund; \$50,000 for the Town Employees'

Accumulated Leave Fund; \$45,000 to fund a new Conservation Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund; \$35,000 for the Municipal Buildings Expendable Trust Fund; \$30,000 for the Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund; \$10,000 for the Library Employees' Accumulated Reserve Fund; \$5,000 for the Rye Public Library Building Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund; and \$3,000 for the Grove Road Landfill Capital Reserve Fund.

Article 19 relates to the sale of the old Parsonage property and is moot. Article 20 seeks to authorize the Select Board to accept new streets if certain contingencies are satisfied. Two articles are brought by citizen petition: Article 21 also deals with the Parsonage property and is also moot. Article 22 seeks to urge the Legislature to redraw the State's political district maps fairly, and to petition the Legislature to give Rye a House seat/s that is/are not shared with another town.

[Click here](#) to see the full warrant and budget:

Please feel free to forward this message to your Rye friends. I look forward to seeing you at the Deliberative Session and at the Town and School District elections on July 13th. Finally, let's all work together to keep our neighbors safe – **DON'T FORGET YOUR FACE MASK**

Sincerely,

Bob Eaton
Town Moderator