

RCL 2021 VOTER PREPARATION

Pre-deliberative recorded Video:

Warrant Articles

[Click Here](#) to review the full ballot

Candidates Night July 6th

[Go to www.ryecivicleague.org](http://www.ryecivicleague.org) election support to
access the links in this document

Contact: civicnews@ryecivicleague.org

Table of Contents

- Elected and Appointed Positions Update
- Warrant Articles
 - Town
 - School

Links to Warrant Article Information

Article 1	Elections	Article 17	\$5K Library Maintenance
Article 2	School	Article 18	\$3K Grove Rd.
Article 3 Amdmt 1	Demolition Review	Article 19	Sell Parsonage
Article 3 Amdmt 2	Demolition Review	Article 20	Town Accept Streets
Article 3 Amdmt 3	Rye Harbor Zoning	Article 21	Amend Swap
Article 3 Amdmt 4	Pervious	Article 22	Fair redistricting
Article 3 Amdmt 5	9 ft parking width	Article 23	Sell Property
Article 3 Amdmt 6	Wetlands Disputes	School 1	\$14,860,999 Budget
Article 3 Amdmt 7	Past 10 years wetlands	School 2:	\$50K Technology Fund
Article 3 Amdmt 8	Wetland definition	School 3	Retainage
Article 4 Amdmt 1	Mobile Home section	School 4	RJH Solar Panels
Article 5	\$10,754,665 Town Bdgt		
Article 6	\$300K RTCC TAP Grant		
Article 7	\$350K Salt Shed		
Article 8	\$300 Mini-Pumper		
Article 9	\$200K Backhoe		
Article 10	\$100K DPW Vehicles		
Article 11	\$100K Fire & Ambulance		
Article 12	\$50K Town Employee		
Article 13	\$45K Conservation		
Article 14	\$35K Municipal Bldgs		
Article 15	\$30K Reevaluation		
Article 16	\$10K Library Employee		

Position	Candidate(s) on ballot
1 Board of Selectmen (3 years)	Mae Bradshaw, Tom King
1 Budget Committee (1 year)	Suzanne Barton, Kevin Brandon
2 Budget Committee (2 seats, 3 years)	Dana Seiglie, Doug Abrams
1 Cemetery Trustee (3 years)	Kenneth Moynahan
2 Library Trustees (3 years)	Bruce Valley, Thomas Moulton, Jeff Ross, Anne Decker, JoAnn Hodgdon
1 Trustees of the Trust Funds (3 years)	Kerry Pope
2 Planning Board (2 seats, 3 years)	Stephen Carter, Kevin Brandon
1 Planning Board (1 seat, 1 year)	James Finn
1 Treasurer (1 seat, 3 years)	Jane Ireland
1 Zoning Board of Adjustments (1 seat, 1 year)	Patty Weathersby
2 Zoning Board of Adjustment (2 seats, 3 years)	Christopher Piela, Patrick Driscoll
Sewer Commission (3 years)	Susan Labrie
1 School Moderator (1 seat, 3 years)	Nina Parrott
1 School Board (1 seats, 3 years)	Heather Reed
School Clerk (1 seat,3 years)	None

Article 3 Amendment 1; 2021-02 Section 190-5.9 (c) Demolition [Click Here](#)

By excluding the Historic District, it leaves one set of Demolition rules to apply to homes in the Historic District

Yes: Limit demolition rules applied to the Historic District to just the Historic District Rules

No: All homes in the Historic District remain subject to both Historic District demolition requirements and Planning Board demolition requirements

Article 3 Amendment 2; 2021-03 Section 190-5.9 (E)(2)(b) Demolition Review Mailing
[Click Here](#)

Like ZBA notifications, abutters will be notified 5 days before the public hearing.

Yes: Give Abutters mailed, written notice that the structure is going before the Demolition Review Committee 5 days ahead of the hearing.

No: Keep the current rule which does not specifically notify abutters. Written notice is posted in 2 public places 5 days ahead of the hearing.

Article 3 Amendment 3; 2021-5 Zoning Map Change [Click Here](#)

This changes the zoning for the Rye Harbor area of the former Sanders, Pilot House/Hemingway's from business to Single Resident.

Note: This and another zoning change amendment (regarding "The Breakers") were initiated by the Town Attorney. Residents were not consulted before the amendment was added. The Breakers residents hired a lawyer to have the amendment relevant to them removed. Residents in this area have not spoken for or against this specific zoning change.

Yes: Changes the zoning of the Rye Harbor area where Sanders used to be to Single Residence reflecting current use.

No: Leaves the area zoned as a Business District.

Article 3 Amendment 4; 2021-7 Pervious Definition [Click Here](#)

Adds this definition that comes from the [NH RSA 483-B:4](#) Shoreland Water Quality Protection.

Yes: Add a definition for "Pervious" which is consistent with NH RSA 483-B:4, Shoreland Water Quality Protection Act

No: Leave "Pervious" undefined.

Article 3 Amendment 5; 2021-8 Off-Street Parking [Click Here](#)

Background: This amendment has appeared in the past with some issue in wording. The current amendment would reduce the minimum width of parking spaces from 10ft to 9ft

Yes: Make the minimum parking space width 9ft.

No: Keep the minimum parking space width 10 ft.

Article 3 Amendment 6; 2021-9 Wetland Boundary Dispute [Click Here](#)

Makes disputes about wetland boundaries go to the Planning Board before the Zoning Board. Also allows for the Planning Board to leverage a Soils Scientist to weigh in.

Yes: Require disputes about the locations of wetlands boundaries to go before the Planning Board and allow Planning board to bring in a Soils Scientist to report findings on the boundaries.

No: Keep current process allowing wetland boundary disputes to go before ZBA without involvement of the Planning Board

Article 3 Amendment 7; 2021-10 Delineation of Wetlands [Click Here](#)

Vernal Pools are areas that are not wet 100% of the year. Adds text that says a Scientist identifies these and it is done with-in 10 years of the application

State document on [Vernal Pools](#)

Yes: Require identification of wetlands and vernal pools by Certified Wetlands Scientist within 10 years of application

No: Leave process as is with no specific identification of who will identify the wetlands and vernal pools or the timeframe within which they should have been delineated.

Article 3 Amendment 8; 2021-11 Wetlands [Click Here](#)

Vernal Pools definition from the State [Click Here](#)

Adds the word “generally” to wetlands and updates the references used for wetland and vernal pool identification to be the current references

Yes: Update definition and references to be current and use up to date references.

No: Keep existing language and technical references.

Article 4 Amendment 1; 2021-01 Wetlands [Click Here](#)

Removes Mobile Home Definition from section 35, because it is repeated in Section 60 Flood Plain ordinance.

Yes: Remove section specific to mobile homes because it's covered elsewhere

No: Keep separate section for mobile homes

Article 5: \$10,754,665 Town Budget

See Full Presentation on Town Budget.

If the budget fails, the town uses the Default budget that is based on last year and mandatory increases. The Town has been operating on the 2020 budget limits since January 1st.

Article 10 Transportation Safety Improvements

2021 language makes this non-lapsing until December 31, 2025.

Town Hall Center Committee is suggesting safety and sidewalk improvements. Town is applying for Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) Grant which would pay \$500K of the \$800K project. Rye must have the \$300K Matching Funds

Proposed Work

- Sidewalk along Washington Road from Wallis Rd to Town Hall
- Dedicated bike lanes on each side of Washington Rd
- Enhanced and possibly relocated sidewalks
- Lighting and landscaping

Pictures and a presentation will be made at the Town Deliberative Meeting.

[Schematic](#)

[Washington Rd Today](#)

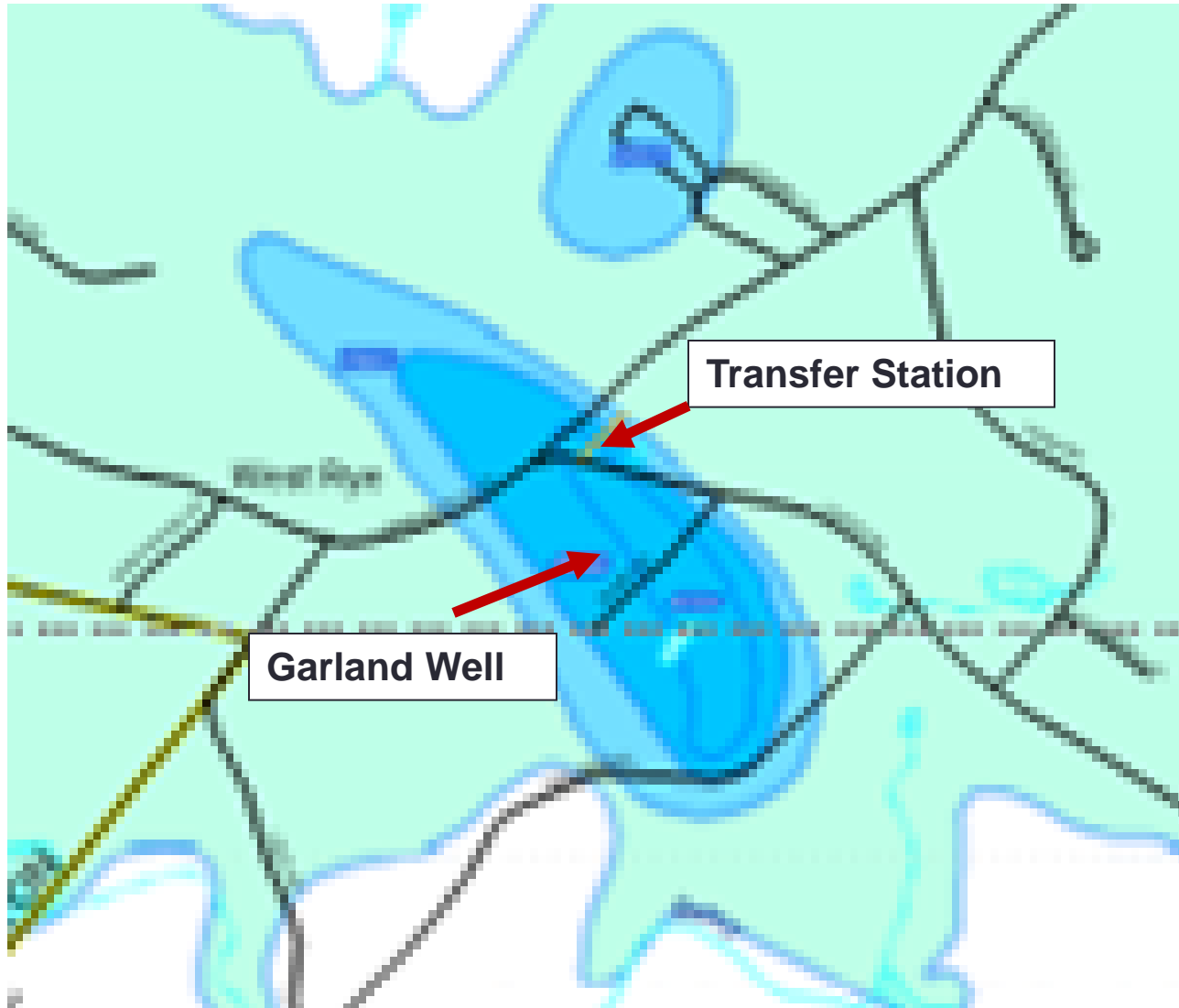
[Future look](#)

RTCC letter to Charette participants. [Click Here](#)

Yes: Commit funding and enable the town to leverage State funding when granted

No: Decline providing the funds that would enable to town to complete the project and leverage state funding

The darker the blue, the higher the transmissivity.
Transfer Station is 1,610 ft. uphill from the Garland Well



See the Water in Rye presentation to see more information about our Hydrology.

[Click Here](#)

DPW washed the “blue safe paths paint” near the Salt shed and the paint leaked from the trucks and ran down towards the aquifer. (August 21, 2018 photo)



Article 7: \$350,000 Salt Shed site work

Site work was funded and completed in 2020. \$92K from Salt Shed Trust fund will be used so only \$258K from current taxes.

Current Fund Balance is: \$93,291.32 as of March 31, 2021

Background:

2005: Salt Shed Replacement Fund created

2017: \$25K was approved (1018 to 541 or 65%) for design and build work

2018: \$700K requested / failed as 3/5 is needed: Yes: 820 No: 741 52% in favor

2019: \$700K requested / failed as 3/5 is needed: Yes: 920 No: 711 56% in favor

2020: Split in two parts. A majority vote needed to pass. 1077 to 527 or 67% in favor (above the 3/5 or 60% a bond would have required)

Yes: Commit \$350K, using \$92K from trust fund, to complete the work of the Salt Shed.

No: Do not commit funds to complete the work of the Salt Shed

Note: NH DRA confirmed that Rye can close out this fund and move the balance to the General Fund this year.

What do we already own:

- 1) Ambulance 1 2008 Chevrolet C-4500 w/ Advanced Life Support
- 2) Ambulance 2 2017 Ford F550 4-wheel drive w/ Advanced Life Support
- 3) Engine 3 2003 Emergency 1 Typhoon
- 4) Engine 1 1994 KME Navstar Pumper
- 5) New Pumper/Ladder
- 6) Utility 1 2006 4X4 Chevrolet Pick-up
- 7) Air 1 – Breathing Air Unit – One of three units in the 42-town district
- 8) 1931 Ford Antique engine

[Click Here](#) to see this table

Table produced by Steven Borne for the Select Board October 10, 2018

Category	Rye	N. Hampton	Greenland	New Castle	4 Town Total	Portsmouth II	Hookset	Windham	Exeter	Milford
Population	5,440	4,456	4,035	979	14,910		14,175	14,562	15,082	15,449
Ambulance (Rescue)	2	1	1	1	5	1	3	2	2	1
Engine - Pumper	2	2	2	2	8		4	2	4	3
Ladder	1	1			2	2	1	1	1	1
Pumper/Tanker		2	1		3		1	2		
Command Vehicle	1	2	1		4			3	3	2
Utility Vehicle	1	1	1		3	2	1	1	2	
Forestry Unit		1		1	2	1	2	1		1
Air Unit	1				1		1			
Marine - Boat				1	1		1	1		
Hose Truck				1	1					
John Deere Gator							1			
Resue or Maintenance Truck								1	1	
HazMat Truck						1				

Article 8 \$300K Mini pumper to replace Engine 1

\$200K from the Ambulance and Fire Special Revenue Fund(money from Grove Rd Cell Tower on Conservation Land).

\$100K from Fire and Ambulance Capital Reserve Fund (\$282,197.29 as of March 31, 2021)

Engine 1 acquired in 1994.

Yes: Replace a 28-year-old vehicle with new vehicle funded using special revenue and reserve funds

No: Rye, New Castle, N. Hampton and Greenland are over saturated with equipment, but short qualified people to be on duty.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION & RATIONALE

Engine 1 is a 1993 Class A pumper. This vehicle is 28 years old. It is rusting especially in the area of the split frame. We are proposing to replace this pumper in 2021 with a more efficient and more economical mini-pumper. We propose to fund this mini-pumper with CRF and the Special Revenue Fund.



Article 9: DPW Highway Equipment 2021

<u>Department Designation</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Manufacturer</u>	<u>Model</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Purchase Price</u>	<u>Replacement Cost</u>	<u>Service Life</u>	<u>Replacement Life</u>	<u>Replacement Year</u>
207	2011	John Deere	310SJ	Backhoe	\$113,230	\$180,000	10	10	2021
204	1996	Cat.	IT28F	Wheel Loader	\$111,900	\$200,000	25	26	2022
114	2012	Ford	F450	One Ton Rack	\$63,748	\$70,000	10	11	2023
107	2008	International	7400	Six Wheel Dump	\$70,664	\$180,000	15	16	2024
116	2014	Ford	F450	One Ton Dump	\$65,569	\$70,000	10	11	2025
206	1989	Woodchuck	W/C-17	Chipper	\$10,000	\$30,000	30	37	2026
117	2015	Ford	F350	3/4 Ton Pick Up	\$61,882	\$70,000	10	12	2027
115	2014	International	7400SFa4	Six Wheel Dump	\$148,009	\$180,000	15	15	2029
120	2020	Ford	F450	One Ton Dump	\$69,260	\$70,000	10	10	2030
118	2016	International	7400SFa4	Six Wheel Dump	\$175,000	\$180,000	15	15	2031
119	2017	International	7400SFa4	Six Wheel Dump	\$175,000	\$180,000	15	16	2033
210	2018	John Deere	316GR	Skid Steer	\$39,876	\$40,000	15	16	2034
209	2018	John Deere	5075M	Mow/Tractor	\$45,000	\$45,000	15	17	2035
208	2014	Volvo	L60G	Wheel Loader	\$177,839	\$200,000	25	25	2039
				TOTAL	\$1,326,977	\$1,695,000	16	17	AVERAGE
					Minimum Yearly Cost		\$107,864	\$100,693	

Article 9: \$200,000 New Backhoe (Front End Loader)

Current Backhoe is 9 years old. CIP says service life expectancy is 25 years. Rye replaces the backhoe every 10 years. Scheduled for replacement in 2022. Estimated cost \$150K with trade-in. Article is for \$200K

Funds coming from the Highway Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund
Balance of \$268,927.69 as of March 31, 2021

Yes: Allow town to use \$200K from reserve fund to replace 9-year-old Backhoe

No: Do not allow funds to be used to replace backhoe. Continue to use existing equipment.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION & RATIONALE

The J/D Backhoe is designated Equipment #207. It is a John Deere 310 SJ backhoe, purchased in 2011 for \$111,000. It is used primarily by the Highway Department for excavation and clean up plus by the Recycling Department for moving containers . It is currently 9 years old and has 10,500 hours on it. Its service life expectancy is 25 years, however the Town normally trades in their backhoe for a new model every 10 years. This loader is scheduled for replacement in 2022. Replacement cost for this Backhoe is anticipated to be \$180,000 without trade-in, for estimated total cost of \$150,000.



Article 10 DPW Highway Equipment Capital Reserves (\$100K)**DPW:**

- ~ \$1.4M of DPW trucks/equipment used for the transfer station and road maintenance. Lifetimes vary. Rolling replacement plan works out to about \$100K per year.
- Rolling replacement rotates out the oldest equipment as maintenance costs and inconveniences increase; and smooths taxes with contributions each tax year to this capital equipment reserve.
- DPW staff plans on purchasing one vehicle a year, each purchase consumes a fair amount of DPW time and effort, so multiple purchases in a year should be avoided

Current Fund Balance is **\$268,927.69 (3/31/2021) \$200K going to the new backhoe (Article 9)**

Yes: Add \$100K to the reserve fund to support the rolling replacement plan. Keep tax rate steady despite periodic large ticket items purchased

No: Leave the reserve fund balance as is with no additional funds this year.

Article 11: Fire and Ambulance Capital Reserve fund**Fire & Ambulance:**

- Request \$100K for this year
- A separate Ambulance & Fire Vehicle Fund is funded through Grove Rd. Cell Tower at \$50K a year

Current Balance of Fund: **\$282,197.29 (as of 3/31/21) \$100K going to the Mini-pumper Article 8**

Yes: Add \$100K to the reserve fund to support future equipment purchases

No: Leave the reserve fund balance as is with no additional funds this year

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Article 12: Town Accumulated Leave Fund: \$50,000

Current Balance: **\$197,378.69 (as of 3/31/21)**

Estimated liability:

Fund created in 1990 to fund Town Employee's Accumulated Leave Accounts

Article 16: Library Accumulated Leave Fund: \$10,000

Current Balance: **\$19,765.48 (as of 3/31/21)**

Estimated Balance:

Estimated Liability:

Fund created in 2018 and \$10,000 was put in it. Plan is to fund at \$10K per year until the fund is at 50% of the liability.

Article 17: Rye Public Library Building Maintenance Fund: \$5,000

Current Balance: **\$30,617.08 (as of 3/31/21)**

Fund created in 2005 as a maintenance fund for Library

On all the above

Yes: Add the requested funds to each account to accrue funds over time

No: Do not add the requested funds to each account

Article 13: \$45,000 for Conservation Maintenance Expendable Trust

Establishes a new maintenance trust fund to be used for the repair and maintenance of Rye Conservation Commission managed buildings (Goss Farm....) and Land.

Yes: Establish fund and deposit \$45K into fund.

No: Do not establish fund

Article 14: \$35,000 for Municipal Buildings Maintenance Fund

Current Balance: **\$159,981.23 (as of 3/31/21)**

Select Board discussed projects that will extract funds from this account.

Fund is used for major repairs to municipal buildings

The similarly named Municipal Building Construction and Renovation Fund with **\$280,017.88** (as of 3/31/21) is used for construction and renovation.

Yes: Add \$35K to the maintenance fund

No: Leave the fund balance as is with no additional funds this year

Article 15: Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund \$30,000

Fund was established in 2020 to fund revaluation. State law requires property revaluation at a minimum every five years. The last was completed in 2017. Next must be completed for 2022 and will start in 2021.

Total cost is estimated to be \$60,000. \$30k per year over two years fully funds the revaluation.

2020 \$30K was approved for this fund. (\$30,001.91 as of 3/31/21)

Yes: Add \$30k to the fund Reduced the 5th year cost of funding the re-evaluation.

No: Leave the fund balance as is with no additional funds this year

Article 18: Grove Rd. Land Fill Capital Reserve \$3K

Current Balance is: \$12,632.21 as of 3/31/21

Annual Cost estimates are: Not disclosed

Fund covers the cost of the monitoring and testing of the samples for PFOA.

This is the old Rye Town Dump. When Testing for PFOA started, readings in the harmful range were recorded around the landfill.

This dump and the current Transfer Station are uphill from the Garland well. The soil here is transmissive (i.e., pollutants are less abated as they make their way toward our drinking water)

Yes: Add \$3K to the fund to maintain the testing and monitoring

No: Leave the fund balance as is with no additional funds this year

Article 19: Allows the Select Board to sell the Parsonage Land

Expected that the Select Board will modify this article since:

- The Courts oversaw a settlement that had the town pay \$700,000 for the TD Property
- The Library contributed \$400,000 for this purchase in exchange for custodial rights to the Parsonage property
- Rye Conservation is contributing \$300,000 and receives 2.3/4.7 acres of the TD Bank land
- Select Board is lending \$300,000 to the Rye Conservation so the purchase can proceed
- Select Board is paying for what was spent to demolish the Parsonage Buildings.

The amendment is replaced by the court settlement agreement.

Yes: N/A

No: N/A

Article 20: Allows the Town to accept a new road after public hearing

Today, once a developer completes a road, they wait for the next town meeting for the Town to take ownership of the road.

Future state, Town would be able to take over the road after holding a public hearing. This moves the burden of maintaining the road from the developer to the town.

Yes: Allow the Town to take ownership of the road when the development is completed

No: Require Town to wait to take ownership of a road until the next town meeting.

Article 21: Amends the November 2020 agreement signed by the Select Board

This agreement is replaced by the court settlement agreement.

Yes: N/A

No: N/A

Article 22: Fair and Effective Representation of New Hampshire Voters

Urge the NH General Court to ensure maps for political districts are redrawn without gerrymandering. Requires Select Board to communicate the result of the vote to our State Legislators.

1st Paragraph: Transparent and fair redistricting through public meetings.

Background: **62 communities as of May 16th** have already passed this resolution.

2nd Paragraph: NH Constitution [Part 2, Article 11](#) allows a town with sufficient people to have its own State Representative. Rye has sufficient population to have at least one exclusive Representative and should petition for that seat. Rye's population is close to qualifying for two dedicated State Representatives.

Open Democracy Presentation: [Click Here](#) April 10th video Recording

Yes: Urge that a fair and transparent process is used for redistricting and Rye petitions for an exclusive state representative

No: Take no action

Article 23: Allows the Selectmen to sell Surplus Equipment

Note: Allows for public auction or sealed bid. Potential for surplus to be acquired at less than market value.

Yes: Permit the Town to sell surplus equipment through auction and receive revenue without needing to wait for Town Meeting approval.

No: Keep the current process

School Article 1: Operating Budget of \$14,860,999

See RCL Budget analysis: [Click Here](#)

Deliberative meeting video: [Click Here](#)

Yes: Approves the proposed budget and over the Default Budget of \$14,626,583

No: Rejects the proposed budget and requires School Board and administration to use the Default Budget

School Article 2: Technology Expendable Trust Fund \$50,000

Technology has become as crucial to learning as the physical building. Similar to maintenance of a building, there will be unexpected needs during the school year, significant upgrades or new technology requirements. This fund will balance contributions out over multiple tax years.

Note: The Rye Education Foundation has helped the school's experiment with new technologies before making larger investments.

Yes: Establish fund and deposit \$50K

No: Do not establish fund

School Article 3: Retainage of general funds

Several years ago, the State began allowing Schools to hold on to money not used during a school year. Prior to that, all funds were returned to the Town to be used to lower the tax rate.

The amount retained initially was to not exceed 2.5% of the current year net assessment (what the school needs to raise with taxes). The State has now increased this to 5%. This warrant makes retaining funds standard practice available for the School Board to utilize.

Yes: Allows the School Board to retain money not used during a school year up to 5% of the current year net assessment

No: Do not make any changes and the School Board can continue to retain money not used during a school year up to 2.5% of the current year net assessment

School Article 4: RJH Solar System

Authorizes the School Board to enter an easement agreement with the ReVision Energy to install a solar energy system and sign a Solar Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with ReVision Energy.

Yes: Allow School Board to enter easement agreement, install solar panels and sign purchase agreement

No: Do not allow School Board to enter easement agreement, install solar panels and sign purchase agreement

This Presentation

Was created by the Rye Civic League to help taxpayers be prepared for the deliberative town meeting

The Rye Civic League publishes the monthly Rye Civic News. You can add yourself to the Rye Civic News at www.ryecivicleague.org