Rye Civic News

January 2022.... Sign Up to get the Civic News
2021 Citizens’ Handbook your guide to Rye government
Get involved with the Rye Civic League VOLUNTEER
YOUR RYE NIGHT OUT: CLICK HERE

Have you ever asked yourself if you could be one of those incredible volunteers who put together the monthly Civic News and the other tools/support for Rye residents? There are many small tasks to help you get started.
E-mail the Rye Civic League with questions
Join the monthly "Your Rye Night Out" to meet the Rye Civic League volunteers and get involved.
Too busy - suggested donation is $12 a year to be an RCL member (Civic News is free to all)

December 2021 Highlights

1) Port Way cell tower maybe operational by the end of January. Town did not require Verizon to camouflage the pole.

2) Confusion over how the water-in (consumption and fire) for the 30 Units (across from Dow Lane) and the adjacent 78 bed assisted living expansion. January 6th workshop agenda. Note, Washington Green (1244 Washington), these developments and more are all septic systems and there is no plan for the water (in and out) for all potential Rt. 1 Rye and adjacent development.

3) Select Board deferred resident request to discuss the need for Town Strategic Planning Leadership to the January 11th Planning Board (agenda not posted yet). Click Here for points on Master Plan, monitoring approved Work Force Housing, Parson’s Creek fecal contamination and root causes of why an additional Administrator position is required. Have opinions? Join the discussion at the Jan. 11th Planning Board Meeting (RPL 6pm).

4) Cost for Salt Shed procurement and installation now exceeds the budgeted $350K, plan is to attempt to buy direct and use DPW staff for installation.

5) The "No mask required" Vision Session has been cancelled (no facilitators wanted to be that close to people who insist on not wearing masks). SWOT survey can be completed and submitted before January 12th.

6) Twenty-seven variances and special exceptions granted to one applicant NOD Case #49-2021
Curious about trends and total 2021 Zoning variances granted Click Here

7) 1550 sq. f.t of wetlands and buffer filled in at 5 Whitehorse Drive More Information

8) Capital Improvement Plan accepted by the Select Board. $21M in possible expenditure over the next 5 years. Does not include any actions for Parson’s Creek fecal bacteria, Rt. 1 Septic and water issues, or a Master Plan re-write.

9) Rye Community Power plan and warrant article approved More Information.

10) Roofs at the RJH and RES have ten years of life left, but expenditure now is to install new roofs
before solar panels. School Budget Public Hearing January 12th 6:30pm RJH

11) Town Hall Annex RFP for renovation work was released but not yet available for the public. Warrant article for $100K to be added to the Maintenance and Renovating Fund (there is the $200K plus from the Trolley Barn sale).

12) Rye Elementary School Principal Susan Lull announced her retirement at the end of the 2021/22 school year.

13) Rye Water District is applying for 70% funding and 30% grant from the State Drinking Water Trust Fund. Designs may need to be updated for the 2022 water quality testing.

Rye CIVICs in January and February:

Town and School Budget Committee Public Hearings: OVER $25 Million
$15M+ School: January 12th 6:30pm RJH (zoom links or video not available yet)
$10M+ Town: January 13th 6:30pm Town Hall (zoom links or video not available yet)
Budget Analysis: RCL will present with warrant articles February 1st 7pm at RPL and ZOOM

Running for Town or School Office:
Candidate Filing Period is Wednesday, January 19th to Friday January 28th at 5pm
If you want to learn more about a position the RCL can introduce you to current members or chairs if you do not know them e-mail
Click Here to see the elected positions from the Citizens Handbook
Other positions are appointed and that discussion should begin with the Chair.
Note: There will be two open School Board seats (incumbents are not running) and one more next year.

Warrant Articles: Due January 11th.
It is your town and all it takes is 25 resident signatures to get a petitioned warrant article to the Town
Process overview from the RCL many years ago: Click Here
2022 Warrant information from the town: Click Here
February 5th Town Deliberative meeting. 2022 Warrant information from the town: Click Here
February 8th School Deliberative meeting 6:30pm RJH

Master Plan Information (Long Range Planning Committee)

Care about Rye’s Future? Get involved with the Master Plan Update
1) Long Range Planning is focused on updating the "Visioning Chapter" of the Master Plan. If you did not attend the Nov. 10th visioning session you have until January 12th to complete this SWOT form
2) For more information on the Master Plan see the Long Range Planning section bellow Note, Town Board members appear to not clearly understand this.
From RCL: Master Plan Investing? Click Here
From Resident: Chronology of Early Rye Master Plans and Studies leading to the 1985 Master Plan Click Here Conservation Commission completed a Natural Resource Inventory in 1978 More Detail

Open Town Board Positions: Click Here
Town positions e-mail Planning or Zoning positions: e-mail
Rye Historic District Commission 2 Alternate Vacancies
Rye Heritage Commission 2 Alternate Vacancies
Energy Committee 2 Member Vacancies
Recycling Education Committee 2 Member Vacancy

General Announcements

1) Vaccination Clinic, Sunday January 23rd from 11am to 7pm Rye Public Safety Building More Details
2) Public Hearings on the School (January 12th) and Town (January 13th) is the time to ask questions and learn about the $25M of planned spend. RCL Budget Analysis presentation will be February 1st at 7pm RPL and Zoom. Click Here ID: 863 6425 4778 Passcode: 542859

3) Town Deliberative Meeting is February 5th 9am RJH. Wording can be changed on all but the zoning ordinances. School Deliberative meeting is February 8th at RJH.

4) Rye is entering into a Community Power Electric Aggregation Plan. There will be information sessions in January 20th More Information

5) Rye Art Study Meeting December 13th Rye Congregational Church More Information

6) Have a home built before 1901? Learn what is being done by Rye Advocates Click Here

7) Rye PTA, Rye Education Fund and Civic League Presidents explain their groups Click Here

8) Assessment Data: Online views of town lots Click Here

9) GIS Town Mapping Software Presentation Video: Click Here RCL Conservation Commission notes on how to find properties with the Rye GIS mapping.

Calendar of Upcoming Meetings

TOWN Meetings will be at the Town Hall unless otherwise noted. Please check the agendas as locations are changing with the Covid 19 restrictions removed.

Jan. 4th Energy Committee . Jan. 18th Recycling Education
Jan. 5th. Rye Water District. Jan. 19th Beach Committee
Jan. 5th Long Range Planning Jan. 19th School Board
Jan. 5th Board of Adjustments Jan 20th Long Range Planning
Jan. 6th Planning Board s . Jan 20th Community Power presentation
Jan. 10th Select Board Jan 24th Select Board
Jan. 11th Planning Board.
Jan. 12th Historic District..
Jan. 12th School Budget Public Hearing
Jan. 13th Town Budget Public Hearing
Jan. 13th Heritage Commission
Jan. 13th Conservation Commission
Recreation and Sewer meetings not posted yet.

Select Board

Meetings are 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month.
Public Comments: At the beginning of meeting. 5 minute limit.
Consent Agenda: Select Board will not discuss unless it is pulled off the consent agenda. Consent agenda is voted for as a block.
Citizen’s Handbook information: Click Here

Town Organizational Chart: Click Here
Organizational Flow Diagram: Click Here
Town Facebook Page: ........ Click Here

Select Board Meeting December 27th

Video Recording: Click Here
Draft Meeting Minutes: Not available

1) Port Way Cell tower may be operational by the end of January. Town did not require Verizon to camouflage the pole.

2) Sea View Drive residents request the Town to plow the west end of this road.

3) Select Board defers resident letter to the Planning Board for first discussion. Topics are funding for a Best-in-class Master Plan, Communicating status of approved Work Force Housing units, Parson's Creek Fecal contamination and addressing the root causes that have lead to the plans for an additional full time
Town employee. Click Here for letter. Attend the Jan. 11th Planning Board if you have opinions.

4) Town approves tax easements for old barns under RSA 79D, see FAQs from NH Preservation.org
State RSA 79D and State FAQ on RSA

5) Town is implementing a Mask Mandate for town buildings to be reviewed at the January 24th Select Board meeting.

6) While not the low bidder, Dragon Mosquito was awarded the 2022 contract based on recent performance.

7) Town renewed the MOA with the State Parks and Recreation for Rye Police enforcements on State Beaches and Parks in Rye.

8) Town Hall Annex RFP was approved with minor changes. Drawings and details will be posted online, but are not yet available.

9) No one stepped up to produce the annual town report, so Select Board Administrator will be paid to complete off hours.

10) The members of the Select Board committee who will re-evaluate which community services groups Rye contributes to, have been set, but information is not yet public.

11) Rye 400 Year committee is still looking for a way to collect donations without the cost/effort of becoming a 501 3C. The Historic Society maybe an option and the Rye Civic League offered to help.

12) $100K additional funds warrant article for Town Building Maintenance and Renovation Reserve fund was approved. Board agreed that any allocation over $25K will be reviewed with the Budget Committee.

13) Approved $100K Grant Request of a Parson’s Creek Investigation, Evaluation and Regulation of Septic Systems. Town is only paying the interest on the money. Application does state that past investigation efforts point to leach field inundation in the low-lying areas, but current wording does not indicated that there will be action on this problem that was communicated to the town in 2017.

14) Approved $30K grant request for Sewer maintenance and asset inventory where town is only liable for the interest.

Select Board Meeting December 13th

Video Recording: Click Here
Draft Meeting Minutes: Not available

1) Gregg Mikolaities resignation from the Recreation Commission was recognized and applauded as he has served for twenty-five years.

2) The Public Hearing on the Capital Improvement Plan was held and the Select Board accepted the plan. Note, it was only posted on Saturday for the Monday Public Hearing.

- 2022 to 2027 largest projects account for $18M of the $21M
  - $3,500,000 Conservation
  - $1,504,000 Fire Department
  - $2,635,000 Rye Water projects
  - $7,500,000 Rye Water Treatment plant
  - $2,925,00 Paving projects
  - $525,000 Culverts

3) The Community Power Electric Aggregation Plan and proposed warrant article were approved.

Plan Overview from Rye Community Power

4) The cost estimates to purchase and install the Salt Shed now exceed the $350K in the budget. Outgoing DPW Director suggested that if Rye can purchase the shed directly, that DWP staff install. Not all of the first $350K was used for the site work, but since this was not bonded and came out of the operational budget, unused funds were moved to the un-assigned fund balance at the end of the year.

5) The contracted assessors will be in the Field in 2022, besides car detail stickers it was discussed that MRI employee pictures will be posted on the website and other ways for residents to recognize the people evaluating their property.

6) Select Board confirmed they will be moving forward with the additional Town employee as a Land Use Admin Assistant.

7) Former Beach Committee member letter is acknowledged but not read. Click Here

Select Board Non Public Meetings

December 27th: Personnel
December 20th: Personnel and Legal Advice
School Board Meeting: December 15th

Recorded Video: Click Here
Draft Meeting minutes: Click Here

1) The Budget Committee unanimously approved the Rye School District FY2023 budget in the amount of $15,709,861
2) Rye Elementary School Principal Susan Lull announced her intent to retire following the end of the 2021/2022 school year. The Board accepted her resignation with regret.
3) A Mobile Vaccination Clinic was held on Tuesday, December 21st from 3:30 PM – 6:30 PM at Rye Elementary School.
4) The Rye School District Public Hearing is scheduling for Wednesday, January 12, 2022, 6:30 PM, Rye Junior High School
5) The Next Rye School Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 19, 2022, 5:00 PM, Rye Junior High School
6) RJH has instituted Flex Fridays. Community members to come in and work with students for sessions of time on these days. If you have an area of expertise (health, wellness, fitness, career, finance, etc.) that you’d like to share with students, please e-mail RJH Principal

SAU 50 School Board Meeting: December 15th

1) Board voted to approve the FY 2023 preliminary budget in the amount of $1,905,450.00. Discussion. Vote: 15-0
2) The Superintendent application process is open and applications have already been received. Application window closes January 7, 2021. Portsmouth is also searching for a new SAU Superintendent.
3) Updates on the Superintendent search can be seen here: https://sites.google.com/sau50.org/super-search/
4) March 23, 2022- SAU 50 Joint Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m. at Greenland Central School

Rye Water District and Sewer

RWD: meets 1st Wednesday of the month 9am at 60 Sagamore Rd.
Rye Water Citizen's Handbook information: Click Here
Sewer: Meets 2nd Tuesday of the month
Citizen's Handbook Sewer information: Click Here

PFAS Testing updates page: Click Here
Conservation Tips: Click Here
2021 Projects presentation: Click Here
2017 Infrastructure Report Card: Click Here
Imagine a day without water: Click Here
Rye Water District Meeting: December 1st

Water Use Guidelines: [Click Here]
Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here]
Wallis Rd. and Garland Well project overview. [Click Here]
1) Discussion with Benchmark for the 78 Bed assisted living expansion and leveraging water for Aquarion.
2) New cost estimates for the Wallis Rd. work may be needed with the increased costs going to the RWD Meeting in March.
3) Options for applying for asset management, strategic planning, water audits and energy efficiency grants discussed.
4) Water Treatment plant will not get ARPA funds. Moving forward with Drinking Water Trust Fund application for a 70% loan and 30% grant.

Sewer Commission Meeting: December 14th

Draft meeting minutes: [Click Here]
1) Church Rd. Pump 2 is down, could not be fixed and will hopefully be replace by year end.
2) The State will be resurfacing Ocean Blvd from Cusack Rd in Hampton to a spot ∼0.2 miles North of Harbor Rd. The Town needs to inform the State of impacted structures and will be responsible for raising the manhole covers.
3) Board informed of the January 12th Visioning meeting (note it had already been canceled).
4) Adams Mobile Home Part is contracting Altus Engineering to propose plans to prevent a future septic overflow.
5) Long list of requirements for Cable Rd [Map 8.1, Lot 13] sewer connection
6) The 1993 warrant article for the Sewer Capital Reserve Fund did not explicitly remove the Select Board as spending agents and assign responsibility to the Sewer Commission, that should be made clear.

Planning Board

Meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month
Citizen's Handbook Information: [Click Here]
Master Plan: [Click Here]
Master Plan since 2014: [Click Here] and [Here]
FEMA Floodplain presentation: [Click Here]
Rye Code Book: [Click Here]
Parson's Creek Pollution Information: [Click Here]
GIS Information: [Click Here]

Long Range Planning (aka Master Plan)

Tracked above to help draw attention to the Master Plan Visioning Chapter update.
NH Statute re: Master Plan requirements [Click Here]
Current Rye Master Plan [Click Here]
Rockingham Planning Commission contract [Click Here]
References: Stratham Master Plan [Click Here] … … Bedford Master Plan RFP
Lessons learned document to Boards from resident: [Click Here]
Resident synopsis of past Rye Master Plans. [Click Here]
Chronological History leading to the 1985 Master Plan [Click Here]
What other towns Invested on Master Plans [Click Here]
In 2021 Rye Planning budgeted $8,000 for the Visioning Chapter, while Rye Recreation budgeted $10,000. Rye Public Library has a methodical Strategic Planning process. Kittery just announced $65,000 for Climate Change.
December 2nd. Posted but public not informed of the cancelation.
Planning Board Technical Review Committee (TRC) Meeting:
1) November 30th meeting was not a TRC, but a workshop on the 30 units on Rt. 1 across from Dow Lane (former Hectors property).
2) Click Here for recorded video
3) There is still no public dashboard to help residents see drawings, variances, waivers and impact information.

Planning Board Meeting: December 14th

Recorded Video: Click Here.
Town Draft Meeting Minutes: Not posted two weeks after the meeting
1) Ordinances approved for the 2022 ballot
   2022-01: Reduces the # of dwelling units at a multi-family development
   2022-06: Adds wording so that Appeals can go to the Housing Appeals Board
   2022-07: Drive way setbacks must be 10ft.
   2022-10: Correct a Reference
2) Amendments discussed and moved to January 11th Public Hearing (text is not available for the public)
   2022-02: Multi-family Development increase spacing from 25' to 35'
   2022-08: Bio-Retention ponds in the setback
   2022-09: Amend definition of structure to define retaining walls
3) 6 Goss Farm Lane. The deck was built bigger than approved and in the wetland buffer. Builder was instructed to reduce the deck to adhere to the approved plans
4) 295 Lafayette Rd (78 bed assisted living expansion) and 0 Lafayette Rd (30 units across from Dow Lane).
   • Major confusion of what the plan is for fire and potable water. Who said what?
   • Complex agreement discussion about the fire access road required for both properties. Note: No idea why the road is just not built first across both properties
5) 60 Wentworth Rd. WBTSCC to install permanent frame so the event tent can be up all season. Continued to see if the permanent frame can also come down at the end of the season. Requesting variances to not update impact reports. Resident request to understand “continuous creep impact” dismissed by Board.
6) 15 Sagamore Rd. conceptual discussion of tear down and rebuild. No drawings available for the public.

Rules and Regulations:

See Planning Board minutes. No information for the other proposals.

Planning Board: January 11th

Agenda: Not available as of January 3rd AM
1) Resident letter to the Select Board moved to Planning Board for discussion

Zoning Board of Adjustments:
Meets 1st Wednesday
Citizen's Handbook information: Click Here
Town of Rye Code Book: Click Here
Rye Beach Village District Zoning is independent of the Rye ZBA. Click Here
GIS Information: Click Here
Zoning Board of Adjustment Meeting Minutes: December 1st

Draft Meeting Minutes: Click Here
Recorded Video: Click Here
RCL Notes and Relief Tracking Table: Click Here
1) 152 Harbor Rd. Granted 5-0 Twenty-seven (15 variances and twelve special exceptions) for house expansion, deck and shed. Case #49-2021

Zoning Board of Adjustment: January 5th

Agenda: posted at town hall, but not online
1) 4 Breakers Rd. Expansion of an existing structure
2) 10 Shoals View Drive Tear down and rebuild in the wetland buffer
3) 1 Rand Rd. Patio in the wetland buffer
4) 50 Brackett Rd. Generator in the wetland buffer
5) 16 Wentworth Rd. Demolition and rebuild, cutting trees

Rye Library

Library Strategic Plan page: Click Here
Library Usage Statistics: Click Here
Friends of RPL: Click Here
RPL Facebook page: Click Here
Citizen's Handbook information: Click Here
Sign up for Monthly Newsletter: Click Here

Library Board of Trustees (LBOT) Meeting: December 6th

Draft Meeting minutes: Click Here
Recorded Video. Click Here
1) Department of Labor completed the final safety review with no findings.
2) Approximately 75% of people entering the library are wearing masks and the staff is very appreciative.
3) Trustees agreed they would wear masks for meetings.
4) Library Trust funds will be leveraged for the not to exceed $7K for engineering work on the Library Common concept work.
5) Library Trustees will present the current Library Common concept at the January 10th Select Board meeting.

Conservation Commission

Meets third Thursday of the month
Citizen's Handbook information: Click Here
Maps of Rye Conservation Maps Click Here
Conservation Parcels: Click Here
GRANIT Conservation Properties: Click Here
Goss Farm Information: Click Here
Land Conservation for Wetlands: Click Here
Town Forest Management Plan: Click Here
Town Forest Map: Click Here
Town Forest trails: Click Here

Conservation Commission (CC) Meetings: Nov. 15th & Dec. 9th
December 28th: Recorded Video Click Here
December 9th: Draft Meeting Minutes Click Here Recorded Video: Click Here
November 15th: Draft Meeting Minutes Click Here Recorded Video: Click Here
RCL Meeting notes; Click Here
1) 16 volunteers participated in trenching 300’ for the new Goss Farm water line
2) A 40' x 120’ tent paddock proposed for the David Tromp Horse Center (Washington Rd)
3) 1550 sq feet of wetland and buffer filled, trees cut (5 Whitehorse Drive)
4) $16,350 approved for invasive control on Recreation Road and at Wallis Marsh and Brackett

Rye Recreation
First Monday of the month
Citizen's Handbook information: Click Here
Program Flyers: Click Here
Online Registration page: Click Here
Recreation 2011 Master Plan: Click Here
Memorial Day Video Celebration: Click Here
4th of July Photo contest: Click Here

Recreation Commission Meeting: December 6th
Draft meeting minutes December 6th: Not available
Recorded Video: None as the meeting was in the Wave Community Center room at the Congregational Church
1) Recreation Commission Vacancy has been filled
2) December 20th Non-public, Hiring. Assuming for the open director position
3) Ski/Snowboarding program has low registration
4) January meeting with the Conservation Commission
5) Master Plan update from contractor Ironwood

Heritage, Historic & Demolition
Citizen's Handbook: Heritage
Citizens Handbook: Historic District
Rye Heritage Merchandise: Click Here
Heritage Commissions donations: Click Here
Heritage Facebook Page: Click Here
Historic District Booklet #4: Click Here
Demolition Review Procedure: Click Here
Graveyards needing adoption: Click Here
Graveyard Histories: Story 1 Story 2
Shop Rye Historical Merchandise: Click Here

Heritage Commission Meeting: December 9th
Draft meeting minutes: Click Here
Recorded Video: None - held at the Town Museum
1) Discussion about creating a letter of planned Town Hall projects for the Budget Committee and Select Board.
2) Tallman Award funding approved and will be sent to Ann Arnold, the 2021 award recipient

Historic District Commission Meeting December 8th
Recorded Video Click Here
No meeting minutes
RCL meeting notes: Click Here
1) October workshops considered a success and good feedback for improvements
2) HDC will become a member of the national CLG in January
3) New guidelines will be published and distributed to departments, realtors and at the RPL.

Demolition Review: December 8th

Recorded Video: Click Here
Draft Meeting minutes: Click Here
1) 999 Washington Rd. Not architecturally important nor historically significant
2) Reviewed and discussed improvements to the website
3) Continued discussions on when a property owner should engage the DRC

Rye Town Center Committee Meeting: No December meeting

Energy & Recycling

Rye Energy Reports: Click Here
Recycling Brochure: Click Here
Food Compost Program: Click Here
Zero Waste Presentation: Click Here
Community Power Information: Click Here

Rye Energy Committee Meeting: December 7th & 9th

December 7th Recorded Video: Click Here
Draft December 7th meeting minutes: Click Here
December 9th Public Session video: Click Here Slides: Click Here
December 9th Meeting minutes: Click Here
1) Public Safety Building (PSB) lighting upgrade in process. Space heaters are used to prevent pipes from freezing in the upstairs. A 2015 audit recommended insulation but this was never acted on.
2) Details of the 11/16 Community Power questions are in the minutes
3) Updated Energy Aggregation plan was updated and was presented to the Select Board on 12-14.
More Information HERE Additional meeting planned for January 20th
4) NH House and Senate are allowing the Public Utilities Commission to reduce funding to NH Saves, the Clean Energy NH program. Program is saving Rye tax dollars as the lighting program has lowered Rye energy usage. Committee will contact House Rep Grote.

Rye Recycling Education Committee: No December meeting

Telecommunication Infrastructure Committee: March 31st

Recorded Video: Click Here

Mosquito

Mosquito Complaint Form: Click Here
2020 Mosquito Control Notice: Click Here
Dragon Mosquito Program Overview: Click Here
Mosquito Commission Meeting December 14th:

Recorded Video: Click Here
Draft meeting minutes: Click Here
Click Here for information flyer on 2021 spraying and plans

1) Board discussed in detail the pricing on the three bids. Two were very close and the low bid was packed with "free" tasks that concerned the board.
2) Board decided to stay with Dragon Mosquito as its approach has approve effective, they were the middle priced bidder and they have proven to be a good vendor.

Beach Committee

2018 Beach Committee Report: Click Here
Parking Assessment Study: Click Here

Beach Committee Meeting: No December meeting

Surf Rider Foundation is stepping in to help with the Fecal contamination on Seacoast beaches Click Here for presentation.

Budget, CIP and Trust Funds

CIP Plans: Click Here
Town 2020 Budget:
Town 2021 MS-7: Click Here
Town 2020 Budget Sheet:
RWD 2020 Budget: Click Here
RBVD 2021 Budget: Click Here
JBVD 2021 Budget: Click Here
School Budget: Click Here
RCL Budget Analysis:

Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) No Minutes

1) Capital Improvement Plan accepted by the Select Board.
2) Plan was posted on Saturday for the Public Hearing on Monday, so voters did not have time to review before hand.

Trustee of the Trust Funds Meeting: December 7th

Draft Meeting Minutes: Click Here
Recorded Video: Click Here

1) Trustees feel the at the portfolios are well positioned in the high dividend paying equities
Budget Committee Meetings December 7th, 9th and 16th:

- December 7th: Recorded Video [Click Here] No meeting minutes or drafts posted
- December 9th: Recorded Video None No meeting minutes or drafts posted
- December 16th: Recorded Video [Click Here] No meeting minutes or drafts posted

1) School Budget Public Hearing January 12th 6:30pm $15M
2) Town Budget Public Hearing January 13th 6:30pm over $10M

Additional Town related Web Sites

- Rye Historical Society: [Click Here]
- Town Facebook page: [Click Here]
- Rye Police home page: [Click Here]
- Rye Police Facebook Page: [Click Here]
- Fire Department Facebook: [Click Here]
- Rye Beach & Jenness Beach District Information: [Click Here]
- NH's Citizen's Count: [Click Here]

Rye Public Forum Discussion Topics at YOUR RYE NIGHT OUT

Once the RCL monthly meeting concludes, there is a public forum discussion about current topics in town. All are welcome to join this discussion and introduce town-related topics. [CLICK HERE] for details

Other Town Activity

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 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

Rye Town Handbook from the Rye Civic League

NOTE: 2020 Update is available at the Library, Native and other locations. All sections are also posted on the Rye Civic League website.

The Rye Citizens' Handbook has been created by the 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]

An Invitation to membership in the Rye Civic League

While the Civic News is free (distributed to over 1,300 people), the Civic League does have annual costs that are partly covered by members (people who contribute $12 or more each year). Currently, only about 10% of the people who open the Civic News are members.

Our annual costs are:
- 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 (currently hosted online) 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 7:30pm
- 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!!!!**
The Rye Civic League is a non-profit 501 c3 organization
[Click Here](#) to make an online membership donation via Paypal including via a credit card.
[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.

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**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.