July 2022 Highlights

1) Assessment notices were sent to residents, August 3rd is the deadline to schedule a hearing. See section below for more information and links.

2) A Level 1 Water Restriction has been issued. This means no lawn watering only between 10:00 am and 6 pm and lawn watering odd number addresses Mon, Wed, and Fri and even numbered addresses Tues, Thurs, and Sat. Lawn Watering Ordinance applies to Rye Water, Aquarion, Portsmouth Water (Rye) customers.

3) Rye Water Department says water cannot be provided for the proposed 80 units on the corner of Breakfast Hill Rd/Lafayette Rd. Key variables are current needs, water in aquifer, pumping and storing capacity. New State and EPA requirements for manganese and PFOAs will require RWD to build a treatment plant. See July 6th Draft meeting minutes.

4) Members for the Master Plan Steering Committee are needed. E-mail the Planning Administrator if interested and copy the Planning Board Chair (E-mail). Members of the Planning Board have started to reach out to people they know and have yet to communicate to all residents. Decisions may be made at the August 9th Planning Board. Reach out to Board Chair and Planning administrator before that meeting, if interested.

5) While Rye has approved new Land Use and other ordinances since 2020, they have yet to be made available to residents and developers in the official Rye Code Book at the town website. See Rules & Regulation section for more information. Also for 2022 there are 26 (so far) Land Development Regulations amendments proposed. Click Here with the public hearing on September 20th.

6) Rye was settled in 1623 and plans for the Rye 400 celebration are taking shape. Activities being planned include a Christmas Parade and Candlelight Walk, Art Contest, Rye Day in July, A trip to Isles of Shoals, scavenger hunt and more. Sponsorship opportunities are available. See Website

7) Select Board will be making the Parsons’ Creek pump out ordinance a "health ordinance" so legal action (Superior Court) can be taken for the approximately sixty properties who have yet to prove septic tank pump out. Discussed making an inspection as part of the process.

8) Police Chief Walsh is the acting Town Administrator. Over the past month the Select Board has shown no indications of having a public discussion about the organizational structure, skills and leadership the town needs moving into the future.

9) Town Clerk Office will now be closed Friday afternoons for public business. See notification here. Many neighboring towns have weekly closures and Rye has been getting a disproportionate amount of non
10) **Rockingham County Budget** has increased by 5%. Rye's 50% increase in assessed value may shift more of the county tax burden to Rye.


12) Rye Recreation Committee has not had meetings the past two months as there were not enough members for a quorum. There are two current openings and filling those will help.

13) 93 Board of Adjustment Variances YTD [Click Here](#). Dimensional relief, wetlands, non-conformed

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**Your Rye Night Out: [Click Here](#)**

END OF SUMMER BONFIRE - the Rye Night Out will be a bonfire at Sawyer's Beach on August 31st at 7pm (when we finish the RCL business meeting). It will be pot-luck.

It's Summer - come and be social with those who bring you the Civic News and others.

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**Open Town Board Positions: [Click Here](#)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Town positions e-mail</th>
<th>Planning or Zoning positions: e-mail</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rye Historic District Commission</td>
<td>1 Alternate Vacancies and 1 Member vacancy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy Committee</td>
<td>1 Member Vacancies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recycling Education Committee</td>
<td>2 Member Vacancies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recreation Commission</td>
<td>2 Member Vacancies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Demolition Review Committee</td>
<td>1 Alternate vacancy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Heritage Commission</td>
<td>1 Member vacancy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rye Town Center Committee</td>
<td>1 Member Vacancy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**General Announcements**

1) Town and other residents are changing electric sources to save money. [Click Here](#). Energy Committee cautions to not take a rate with early termination fees. Energy committee [information](#)

2) Sample ballots for [Republican](#) and [Democratic](#) Primaries are Tuesday, September 13th.

3) RCL together with Rye Conservation Commission will be sponsoring a presentation on "Why Healthy Marshes Matter" by David Burdick, an initiative initially led by 2 residents. [Sept 15](#), at the library. [More Information](#)

4) Start reading the [45 pages of changes to the Land Use rules](#) as the Public Hearing will be on September 20th.

5) Rye PTA Golf Fundraiser on September 27th: [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](#) 2022 Process Information [Click Here](#) 

9) GIS Town Mapping Software Presentation Video: [Click Here](#)

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**Assessment Information:**

[Presentation from the Rye Civic League](#) on how to access your data online.

Rye Civic League combined data onto one spreadsheet for residents. [You must download](#)

*Editor's Note: If the editor has time, he may create information on how to read the property data sheet.*

[Check Here](#)

July 21 Select Board information statement: [Click Here](#)

July 18th Select Board information statement: [Click Here](#)

Assessing Department Information page: [Click Here](#)

Hardcopies, maps and the comp sales are available at Town Hall and RPL
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.

Aug 1st: Recreation Commission
Aug 2nd: Energy Commission
Aug 3rd: Board of Adjustment
Aug 4th: Select Board Non-Public Session
Aug 4th: Select Board & Town Center Committee
Aug 8th: Capital Improvement Program
Aug 8th: Select Board
Aug 9th: Sewer Commission
Aug 9th: Planning Board
Aug 10th: Historic District Commission
Aug 11th: Conservation Commission
Aug 15th: Mosquito Control Commission
Aug 15th: Beach Committee
Aug 16th: Recycling Education Committee
Aug 18th: School Board planning retreat
Aug 22nd: Capital Improvement Program
Aug 22nd: Select Board

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 July 25th

Video Recording: Click Here
Draft Meeting Minutes: Not available

1) Energy Committee continues to keep the Select Board informed and are requesting a process change for more flexibility to be approved at the next meeting after town counsel can review.

2) Rye 400 plans were presented. See section below for more detail and links. Select Board approved use of some of the $20K budget for long lead items as initial plans and activities could add up to a $150K

3) DPW has been erecting the salt shed with internal resources as inflation pushed the contractor quotes
over the budget.

4) The new DPW Loader is available, but repairs do not sound possible for the tractor used to rake the beaches. No viable options are available.

5) Select Board will be making the Parsons Creek pump out ordinance a "health ordinance" so legal action (Superior Court) can be taken for the approximately sixty properties who have yet to prove septic tank pump out. Discussed making an inspection as part of the process.

6) Select Board would like insight into Rockingham County budget increase (up 5%). If Rye’s total assessed value grows more than other Rockingham county communities, Rye will pay a larger portion of county costs.

7) Now that Select Board member Epperson has had a full year as Chair, per tradition, member Winslow who is in his last year will be the new Select Board Chair starting in August.

Select Board Meeting July 11th

Video Recording:  Click Here
Draft meeting Minutes: None

1) Much discussion about the Seacoast Half Marathon, but the event is smaller now.

2) MRI presented findings for the assessment. Residential property has gone up by 49% and Select Board approved letters could be sent to residents. See information above.

3) Town Clerk/Tax Collector presented information on hours at other local towns and how they have scaled back hours. Rye being open Friday afternoons leads many people to use Rye for State business (State licenses take effort but no Rye revenue). New Town Clerk offices have been posted with the clerk's office now closed for transactions on Friday afternoon.

4) Rye Heritage Committee provided an update on the plan to deploy new Historic marker signs across Rye.

5) Chair Epperson showed the NH Municipal magazine that had reprinted the article on the Rye Civic League that was originally published by the National Civics League. There does not appear to be other groups in the country doing all that the Rye Civic League does.

Rye Schools

Meets 3rd Wednesday at RJH

School Policies: Click Here
Rye 2021-2022 Budget Details: Summary Details
Rye PTA: Click Here
SAU50 Superintendent Bulletin: February 2021
Rye Education Foundation: Click Here
Citizen's Handbook information: Click Here
Introduction to PTA, REF and RCL: Click Here
Rye 2021-2022 School Calendar: Click Here

No July meeting

School Summer Planning Retreat is planned for August 16th.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The Rye Civic League participated in two day of RJH Flex Friday programs. A half hour “Rye Civics” session focused on how Rye local government works, voting and how RJH students can make an impact (example used was the environment).

SAU 50 School Board Meeting:
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]

Portsmouth June 2022 Presentation: [Click Here]
2021 RWD Rate Increase: [Click Here]
2017 RCL Water in Rye Information: [Click Here]
PFAS Testing updates page: [Click Here]
2020 RWD Quality Report: [Click Here]
2022 Budget: [Detail Summary]
Conservation Tips: [Click Here]
2017 Infrastructure Report Card: [Click Here]
Imagine a day without water: [Click Here]

Rye Water District Meeting: July 6th

Water Use Guidelines: [Click Here]
Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here]

1) Pumping totals were up monthly and annually. YTD 2022 totals are up over 1 million gallons over the same 2021 period.

2) Cedar Run well has to run three times over the past week to address low water levels.

3) Leak detection survey shows concerns for leaks on Fairhill and Wallis Rd.

4) Discussion with Rye Select Board to discuss water needs for Route 1 Development
   - RWD will not be able to provide water to the Ciborowski development
   - In January 2023 State level for manganese is going from 0.84 to 0.3 and the Cedar Well is over 0.3 and will be out of compliance.
   - PFOS/PFOA standards are going from 7ppt to zero
   - When the EPA establishes the maximum contaminant level (MCL) for PFAS, RWD will need to build a treatment plant. Iron and Manganese should also need to be treated
   - Without another water tank and supply source, RWD cannot supply the water.
   - Irrigation is the main driver of low daily water levels
   - Town Land Use Regulations need to include irrigation ordinances
   - Interconnections with Portsmouth or Aquarion may not be possible now

Sewer Commission: July 12th

Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here] (no video as meetings are at the RBVD Building)

1) Rt 1 Sewer: At the Sewer Commission work session with the Rye Select Board on 30Jun22, City of Portsmouth indicated that a further capacity evaluation was a necessary step in sewer extension. Rye voted in favor of an expansion of City of Portsmouth's sewer system ending at Rte 1/Washington Road at no cost to Town.

2) Approved the CIP Submission for 2023-2028, which includes Hampton’s WWTP (bond schedule of the Rye’s 4% required contribution); update on Church Road Pump Station Generator Replacement and the Jenness Beach Pump Station Pumps Replacement and new CIP Project Request for the Abenaqui Pump Station Upgrades. It was noted that these projects are anticipated to be covered by grants and user fees.

3) At the end of June, 68% of the $147,672.87 sewer budget remains

4) A draft Request for Qualifications and Proposals design/build Abenaqui pump station was provided as an update as it was not 100% complete. RFQ/P should indicate the project should not exceed $100,000. Once complete, the Legal Notice will be posted.
**Route 1 Development**

**To Residents:**
To date only the RCL Board has stepped up to create a Route 1 information capture document. [Click Here] to see draft status and e-mail to coordinate small tasks you can help with.

1) Rye Water District cannot provide water to the planned 80 unit development on the Breakfast Hill Rd/Rt. 1

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**Long Range Planning (aka Master Plan) July 5th**

Recorded Video: [Click Here]
Draft Meeting minutes: none posted

1) Discussion about providing a budget estimate to the CIP for the upcoming update of the Master Plan which would also include a “Buildout Analysis.”

*Editor’s note: information about what a “Buildout Analysis” is with examples [Click Here]*

2) The Committee discussed and approved forming a “Master Plan Steering Committee” and this before finalizing the RFP. The LRP Committee (3 members) has been working on developing an RFP with the assistance of Julie LaBranch since April.

*Editor’s note: The Community and Municipal survey results as part of the Master Plan Visioning (Sept/Oct. 2021) were briefly posted in early June and were removed as per decision of the LRP Committee “until further discussion.” There was no discussion to that effect at the July 5th LRP meeting, namely when and how to repost the survey results and what edits may be needed.*

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**Other Information:**

Expanded Visioning Presentation from Julie Lebranch: [Click Here]
Visioning Survey Results (posted June 2022) [Click Here]
NH Statute re: Master Plan requirements [Click Here]
Current Rye Master Plan [Click Here]
References: Stratham Master Plan [Click Here] ... Bedford Master Plan RFP Exeter Action Plan
Resident synopsis of past Rye Master Plans. [Click Here]
Chronological History leading to the 1985 Master Plan [Click Here]
Information on what a Build Out Plan is: [Click Here]

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**Planning Board Technical Review Committee (TRC) Meeting:**

1) None

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**Planning Board Meeting: July 12th**

Recorded Video: [Click Here]

Town Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here]  
*Note: Second month running there have been no Notice of Decisions with the draft meeting minutes.*

1) The Land Development Regulations that were approved in 2020 now require 26 changes. See the Rules and Regulations section for more information. Public Hearing will be September 20th at 6pm.
2) Major Subdivision at 251-279 Pioneer Rd. has complications with the Septic systems. Continued to August.
3) Major Site Development at 33 Sagamore Rd (Across from the Atlantic Grill) has been granted a one year extension.
4) O Richards Rd. granted a driveway location waiver 7-0.
5) 931 Ocean Rd. Two driveway waivers granted with the 1st waiver having 2 No votes and the second waiver having one No vote.

6) Hungry Lobster is not a change or expansion of use by shifting the operation by one hour. Granted approval 7-0 for change of operating hours.

7) 6 Tower Ave. conditional use permit approved for Accessory Dwelling Unit on a 5,000 square foot lot 7-0. Subject to ZBA hearing

8) Master Plan was discussed. Timeline from the LRP Chair was discussed. Range of $95,000 to $145,000 will be provided to the CIP for Master Plan and buildout analysis. It was agreed that Planning Board members would reach out to people who may be interested in the Master Plan Steering Committee.

**Rules and Regulations: June 28th**

Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)
Recorded Video [Click Here](#)

No meeting in July even with the major updating of the Rye Zoning Ordinance in process.

1) Proposed Land Development Regulation Amendments are now posted on the Town of Rye website

*Editor's Note: not in minutes but discussed at the meeting: Initial contract misunderstandings. Yearly Code Book updates have not not budgeted for as new laws are adopted.*

*Editor's Note: Since 2020, no new voter approved land use laws have been codified or incorporated into Rye’s official online "Code Book”, the reference for land development regulations, zoning, floodplain, building codes, and more.*

*Editor's Note: New Rye laws adopted by voters since 2020 can be found at the vendor's site here as a non codified list which is not in context of the Code, under “New Laws” in the left margin with links to the Warrant Articles for each.*

**Planning Board Agenda August 9th**

Agenda: **Not posted for the public**

1) Master Plan Steering Committee members

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**Code of the Town of Rye**

COUNTY OF ROCKINGHAM
NEW HAMPSHIRE

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**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](#)

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**Zoning Board of Adjustment Meeting Minutes: July 6th**

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)
Draft meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

*RCL Notes and Relief/Variances Tracking Table: [Click Here](#) 93 Variances YTD*

1) 271 Harbor Rd. Granted variances 5 to 0 for demolition of a non-conforming home with seven line items of conditions. The KOI pond in the wetlands denied 5-0. [Case #28-2022](#)

2) 6 Richard Rd. Granted 3-2 eight variances for a non-conforming house with two conditions. [NOD Case #21-2022](#)

3) 33 Sagamore Rd. Extends variances for Cases #30a and 30b-2020 for one year [NOD](#)

4) There was a July 21st meeting to address for 2 Merrymeeting Lane Tax Map 15, Lot 18 [Recorded Video](#)

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**Zoning Board of Adjustment Agenda: August 3rd**
Agenda: Click Here
1) 163 Parsons Rd. Replacing a cesspool with a Septic system
2) 919 Ocean Blvd. Reconstruction of a non-conforming house and in the wetland boundary
3) 750 Brackett Rd. Expansion of a structure in a non-conforming lot in the wetlands.
5) 691 Brackett Rd. Driveway in the wetland, and an impervious walkway and removal of a tree.
6) 5 Park Ave. Expansion of an existing structure

Library Board of Trustees (LBOT) Meeting: July 13th
Draft Meeting Minutes: Click Here
Recorded Video Click Here
1) RPL moved to Direct Energy from Eversource as there is a $0.15 savings.
2) July 13th music program had about 50 people in attendance.
3) Discussed a new committee to lead the Library Common vision development
4) Working to set up a foundation to receive Library Common donations
5) Library Common architect will have new design sketches in September
6) LBOT responded to the resident who challenged the Lifting Up LGBTQIA program

Natural Resource Inventory December 2021
Full Report: Click Here
Executive Summary: Map 6 Sea level rise
Habitat section: Map 11 Soil limitations
all Maps
Map 2 Watershed Boundaries
Map 7 Water Quality
Map 3 Groundwater
Map 8 Forest Resources
Map 4 FEMA Flood 100 & 500
Map 9 Wildlife action
Map 5 Floodwater storage
Map 10 Productive Forest soils
Map 11 Soil limitations
Map 12 Farm lands
Map 13 Scenic Resources
Map 14 Conserved Land
Map 15 Unfragmented Land

Conservation Commission
Meets third Thursday of the month
Citizen’s Handbook information: Click Here
Engaging with CC Process: Click Here
Application Checklist for ZBA: 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: July 18th

July 18 Meeting Agenda [Click Here]
Draft Meeting Minutes: not available as of July 30, 2022
July 18 Meeting Video Streaming: [Click Here]
RCL CC Notes: [Click Here]

1) 5 Whitehorse Drive. Buffer restoration plan with owner also proposing to donate 3-5 acres of the back of the lot to conservation as mitigation, so as to locate a portion of the new pool’s hardscape in the wetland buffer.

2) Goss Farm well is in and working well

3) 60 Wentworth Rd. 150 page application to do repair work

4) 941 Ocean Blvd. 3 Fences for a dog run

5) 238 Parsons Rd. Planting plans

6) 3 Brackett Rd. New build in wetland buffer

7) 1595 Ocean Blvd. Plantings to be monitored

8) 750 Brackett Rd. Stormwater management discussion


10) 54 Conservation parcels not on certain GIS Maps

11) 136 New homeowner letters have gone out in 2022 to date

RYE 400th Anniversary

2023 is the 400th Anniversary for Rye and several other towns. This section will focus on those activities.

WEB SITE CLICK HERE

What is happening in 2023?

1) You can view what is currently planned on the Website [Click Here]

2) Email to get involved

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]

Recreation Commission Meeting:

No 2022 Meeting minutes this year.
No Meeting held in July, next Meeting Aug 1st - [Agenda]

Recreation Commission has 2 open positions

Heritage, Historic & Demolition
Citizen’s Handbook: [Heritage]
Citizens Handbook: [Historic District]
**Heritage Commission Meeting: July 7th**

No minutes posted for Jul Meeting [Agenda](#)

**Demolition Review: No July meetings**

No July meeting

**Historic District Commission Meeting:**

1) Topics discussed.
   - Rye 400th,
   - Rye Advocates,
   - Rye Demo update
   - Historic signage committee
   - Graveyard adoptions
   - Gazebo restoration
2) Updated HDC Application Process is nearing completion. A new town ordinance will be required to implement.

**Rye Town Center Committee Meeting: No July meeting**

No July 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: July 5th**

Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)
Community Power Public Meeting [July 12 Agenda](#)

1) Working hard to let residents know that Direct Energy is still lower than Eversource, but Direct recently raised their price. [Click Here](#) to learn about changing rates. [Compare Electric Energy rates](#).
2) If you pick a plan make sure you are aware of cancellation fees.
3) Public Safety Building AC units should move to heat pumps.
4) Consultant Henry Herndon presented and answered questions on Community Power program.
5) See minutes for detailed discussion and questions on community power
6) Information on having a heat pump at the Town Hall Annex will continue to be provided to the Select Board.
Rye Recycling Education Committee: No July meeting

No July 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: July 19th

Recorded Video: Click here
Public Notice about spraying: Click Here
1) Discussed supply chain issues.
2) The hot weather we've had hastens mosquito activity. Dragon sprayed on June 30th for mosquitos and ticks on the town trails around Parson's Field in anticipation of the Town's July 4th fireworks display.
3) Dragon has been busy treating the marshes, where trapping has begun for testing by State of NH for EEE, Jamestown Canyon Virus and West Nile Virus, with collections each Thursday for delivery to the State Lab.
4) No positive test results have been reported thus far.
5) There are 199 greenhead traps dispersed in the marsh systems in Rye, their location determined each year by the results from the prior year.
6) The RMCC received a request from a resident to add greenhead traps to the marsh adjacent to Harbor Road, and were happy to arrange with Dragon to accommodate this request.

Beach Committee

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

Beach Committee Meeting: July 18th

Draft Meeting minutes not available 30Jul22
Recorded Video: Click Here
RCL draft minutes: Click Here
From RCL member minutes:
1) Lengthy discussion of proposed additional parking and traffic survey for the beach. Chief Walsh was in attendance and discussed improvements regarding parking enforcement.
2) Select Board Member, Bill Epperson, mentioned a plan to discuss parking issues with regard to new sticker policy for an October Meeting

Budget, CIP and Trust Funds
Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) July 18th

Video Recording: Click Here
Draft Meeting minutes: Not available
1) Select Board reported that they expect the CIP to be presented to them for acceptance in early November.
2) Departments had to submit information by July 15th

Budget Committee Meetings: April 26th

Districts 2022
Rye Beach Village District
1) $140,852 Budget was approved, Click Here for details.

Jenness Beach District Budget
1) $92,545 budget was approved as the district funds are for the Hydrant costs and water, Click Here

Rye Water District Budget
1) Total operating budget of $1,761,760 Summary Details Pie Chart

Trustee of the Trust Funds Meeting: July 19th

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

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

ABOUT THE RYE CIVIC LEAGUE
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 email.

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 read the Civic News are members.

Our annual costs are:
- Website hosting and URL registrations
- Civic News Email 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 or by mail to Rye Civic League P.O. Box 971 Rye, NH 03870.

Get Involved:
The Rye Civic League is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and such organizations are only as good as their membership base whether that is through paid dues, gifts in kind and active participation. What RCL really needs at this time, in addition to regular $12 dues, is more
active members who can assist with RCL tasks relating to the writing of the Civic News and other activities.
- Summarize a town meeting for the Civic News
- Editing the Civic News content
- Helping with Candidates Night and other civic events
- Social Media savvy person
- Website and help to fulfill our "digital transformation" vision. We envisioned a more effective capture of meeting summaries, a much better website and more dynamic communication.

Contact Info
Rye Civic League: civicnews@ryecivicleague.org  Steven Borne - President

The Rye Civic League was re-formed to promote public awareness by informing residents about the town's business and its responsiveness to its citizens. The organization also offers townspeople an opportunity to bring issues forward for discussion and unbiased resolution. Its primary purpose is to help residents of Rye, NH to act as informed citizens and thereby improve and develop our community.