

Your Rye
Engage for Change

Rye Civic News

Rye Questions for the Rye Civic League?

Rye Civic League will meet residents in person or host a discussion on town issue of concern and share what we know. Let us know and we will meet with you. [e-mail](#)

ELECTION ACTIVITIES:

January 31st: Rye Water District [Public Hearing](#) on Water Treatment Plant Warrant 7:30pm Town Hall

February 1st: 7pm Rye Library Civic League Budget and Warrant Article Presentation [Video Stream](#)

February 2nd: End of period to run for Public Office Open positions [Click Here](#)

February 3rd: Town Deliberative Meeting 9:00am Rye Junior High

February 3rd: [Town Civic Fest](#) (during the lunch break at the Deliberative meeting)

February 6th: School Deliberative Meeting RJH 6:30pm

February 15th: [Master Plan input](#) meeting 6pm/ RJH

March 7th: Candidates Night 7pm Rye Library

March 12th: Town/School Voting 8am to 7pm Rye Elementary [Absentee Ballot Form](#)

March 23rd: Rye Water District Annual Meeting 10:00am RJH

February 2024

2023 Citizen's Handbook [Click Here](#)

National Civic League RCL Story [Click Here](#) Fall 2023 update: [Click Here](#)



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Want to pitch in and help with the Rye Civic League [Contact Us Here](#)

***** THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO MADE JANUARY ANNUAL DONATIONS ******

[VIDEO of January Highlights & History Note CLICK HERE](#)

January Highlights

1) Epic double storm impacts Ocean Blvd. Click Here for [DPW Pictures](#). Fire Department had almost 70 calls across the two storms. Fire and DPW vehicles accumulated a long list of damages. Select Board discussing what this means moving forward. Sewer Dept was 1 foot away from taking emergency actions. [Video recording](#) to hear from Department Heads (Sewer is at the 1 hour mark). [Letter](#) about Aquarion Water Main damage. [NOAA Flood maps vs. flooding](#)

2) State Law says that rural speeds are 35 mph and urban residential 30mph. Select Board discussed how to determine if 35mph roads in Rye are no longer rural and are now urban. To change a designated speed limit requires a data supported study.

3) Select Board announced [warrant articles](#) that would change the currently elected position of Town Clerk/Tax Collector to an elected Town Clerk and a separately hired Tax Collector. Wording is confusing (due to state law requirements) and will be explained at the Feb 1st.7pm RCL presentation

4) Four petitioned warrant articles could not be recommended by Select Board because of the current wording (Attorney recommendation). [Building Permit Process](#), [Speed Limits](#), [Town Forest/Cemetery](#) and [Town Litigation Disclosure](#). Editors note: Past petitioned warrant article has legal costs included in the annual town report. [Click Here](#) for 2020 example.

5) School [Facility report](#) shows new RES playground rendering and other grounds and building improvements. [Draft 2024-2025 School Calendar](#) was shared.

6) Verizon has a "Portsmouth business issue" and is looking for a Rye cell tower location. A Rye tower will help Rye residents and safety, but Verizon may also find a Portsmouth location (less helpful to Rye). Currently discussing [RES backland property](#) and investigating if Sea Glass Lane conservation land is allowable (may not be if restricted by funding source).

7) [Sewer accepted Building Resilient Infrastructure Grant](#) of \$55.5K (Sewer Dept. will contribute \$18.5K) for Sewer System vulnerability assessment. Rye Sewer owns the 3.5 mile pipe along the Rt. 1A that runs through N. Hampton to Hampton.

8) Residents and groups continue effort to save the [237 Locke Rd home](#)

9) Alex Herlihy is now the "Official" Town Historian

10) Budget Public Hearings were only attended by a few residents. Analysis will be presented February 1st by the Civic League. See budget information below and the "narratives" from Department Heads.

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

Town positions [e-mail](#) Planning or Zoning positions: [e-mail](#)
Boards/Commissions/Committees Policy: [Click Here](#)
Town Employment Opportunities: [Click Here](#)

Select Board seeking Town Historian, 3 yr term [Click Here](#) for more information

Heritage Commission	3 Alternate Vacancies
Historic District Commission	3 Alternate Vacancies
Recycling Education Committee	1 Member Vacancy
Demolition Review Committee	1 Alternate Vacancy
Planning Board	1 Alternate Vacancy

General Announcements

1) Rye Civic League annual Budget and Warrant Article Presentation.

February 1st 7pm Library [Video Stream and Recording](#)

Were you upset about the Tax Increase? Can you understand how warrants, revenue, un-assigned account balances and other factors impact your taxes? Do you know what your share of town services are? Do you want Warrant Articles background information before the Deliberative Meetings and want to ask the RCL questions?

2) Deliberative Civic Fest - Saturday February 3rd at the Lunch Break

Meet and talk with Town Departments and Local Groups [Flyer](#)

Food donated by Seacoast Soup and Common Roots

3) Following the District (RBVD, JBVD and RWD) Budget meeting, the RWD will hold the first [Public Hearing](#) on funding for a Water Treatment Plant, January 31st at 7:30pm Town Hall. [PFOA article](#) that may be referenced during the meeting.

4) Presidential Primary results. 2,655 votes counted (2020 was 2,532). [Click Here](#)

5) Brits Bits building replacement will be at the [February 7th](#) Board of Adjustments

6) Portsmouth High School "Celebration Gradation" [Flyer](#) Help PHS 2024 Celebrate Safely

6) **Master Plan Public [Input Session](#)** is February 15th 6pm to 8pm RJH. Mark Your Calendars!

7) Rye Recreation needs part-time After School counselors: [Click Here](#)

8) New Rye "Friends" group to be started to take care of Rye Graveyards [More Information](#)

9) Rockingham County meetings can now be seen on Youtube. [Rockingham County Channel](#)

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

RCL [Conservation Commission notes](#) on how to find properties with the Rye GIS mapping.
NH Zoning Atlas [Click Here](#)

Calendar of Upcoming Meetings

Please check the agendas for Locations [Click here for Current Calendar](#) of town meeting

[Rye Water District](#) Jan 31 - 9:00am

[Select Board](#) Feb 12 - 6:30pm

[Budget Committee](#) Jan 31- 6:30pm

[Rye Water District Public Hearing](#) Jan 31 - 7:30pm

[Heritage Commission](#) Feb 1 - 5:30pm

[Deliberative Session](#) Feb 3 - 9:00am

[Master Plan Steering Committee](#) Feb 6 - 1:00pm

[Conservation Commission](#) Feb 6 - 5:30pm

[School Deliberative Session](#) Feb 6 - 6:30pm

[Rye Town Center Committee](#) Feb 7 - 5:30pm

[Board of Adjustment](#) Feb 7 - 7:00pm

[Conservation Commission](#) Feb 8 - 6:30pm

[Sewer Commission](#) Feb 13 - 8:00am

[Energy Committee](#) Feb 13 - 3:00pm

[Historic District Commission](#) Feb 14 - 5:30pm

[Cemetery Trustees](#) Feb 15 - 1:00pm

[Master Plan Public Forum Event](#) Feb 15 - 6:00pm

[Presidents Day - Town Offices Closed](#) Feb 19 - 8:00am

[Planning Board](#) Feb 20 - 6:00pm

[Recycling Education Committee](#) Feb 20 - 6:30pm

[Beach Committee](#) Feb 21 - 5:30pm

[Select Board](#) Feb 26 - 6:30pm



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 these topics unless a topic is pulled off the consent agenda. Remaining Consent agenda items are voted for in a single vote.

Citizen's Handbook information: [Click Here](#)

Town Organizational Chart:.....[Click Here](#)

Organizational Flow Diagram: [Click Here](#)

Town Facebook Page:..... [Click Here](#)

Select Board Meeting January 22nd

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting notes: Not available

- 1) Chief Walsh gave an update on the Traffic & Pedestrian Safety Workshop. Speeding tickets that are a violation of a town ordinance and not a moving violation are not reported to the State (insurance impact).
- 2) State Law says that Rural roads speed is 35 mph and Urban roads are 30 mph. Discussed how to determine if Rye roads posted as 35 mph are now urban and not rural.
- 3) State law says if you want to change speed limits from the Rural or Urban numbers there needs to be a data driven support study.
- 4) Rockingham County Conservation District updated on the Thriving NH Coast Projects
- 5) Verizon has a business need to support high density customers in Portsmouth and is looking for a tower location. If Rye can provide a location it will help with poor Rye coverage. Verizon started discussions with the School Board for a location [behind the Soccer/Baseball fields](#) and at the Rand Conservation property behind Sea Glass Lane.
- 6) Alex Herlihy has been "officially" appointed as the Rye Historian. Anyone in the next generation who is interested in apprenticing should contact the Historian. [e-mail](#).
- 7) Heritage/HDC members requested the Select Board create a new group dedicated to leading the Town Hall updates for better town utilization and preservation.
- 8) Transfer Station Use Application was modified to empower the Town Administrator to approve for Select Board, so applications do not need to wait for a Select Board meeting.
- 9) Four petitioned warrant articles were discussed ([Building Permit Process](#), [Speeding](#), [Town Forest/Cemetery](#) and Disclosing Town [Litigation information](#)). All four have wording/legal problems that required the Select Board to not recommend. After the Select Board requested the Town Attorney to help craft acceptable working for one article, this support was extended to three petitioned Warrant Articles.
- 10) Select Board warrant to change the Town Treasurer from an elected position to a be "hired" by the Selection Board.
- 11) Select Board is looking to remove the Town Tax Collector responsibilities from the elected Town Clerk/Tax Collector and hire a separate Town Tax Collector. State Law makes the [wording of this change confusing](#). Elected Town Clerk/Tax Collector spoke against this change on fiscal responsibility grounds. Resident questioned the rationale driving and the priority of taking this action.

Select Board Non Public Meetings

January 8th: Legal and Personnel

January 22nd: Reputation and Legal Advice

Select Board Meeting January 18th

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Minutes: None

- 1) Discussion by Department heads on the storm/flooding damage. [DPW Pictures NOAA Flood Maps for storm flooding pictures.](#)
- 2) First storm damaged the sea walls and berms, allowing the second storm to cause more damage
- 3) Incredible job by Town Departments responding to all the emergencies.
- 4) Aquarion had a 200 ft water main break at Causeway Rd/N. Hampton town line. [Letter to resident](#) who inquired.
- 5) DPW and Fire Equipment have saltwater issues requiring unplanned maintenance that puts maintenance budgets at risk the balance of the year.
- 6) Fire Department had twelve calls for the first storm and 55 calls from the second storm. There were 132 hours of storm coverage.
- 7) Fire trucks took damage from boulders responding to a garage fire. Front-end loaders were used for moving people from high waters and rescuing people. Mutual Aid was essential in getting people to hospitals.
- 8) Fire Chief will be looking to see if Insurance will help with the extensive equipment damage.
- 9) Harbor Road and Sea Road will need significant reserve funds for the road damages.
- 10) Building Inspector reported on observations and impact to their workloads. Need to investigate "floating" propane tanks. New house at 4 Washington Rd, designed for floods, fared very well.
- 11) Nights and weekend restrictions on seawall construction projects were waived.
- 12) Discussed use of Emergency Management reserved funds to pay for seawall and road repairs.
- 13) Sewer Dept showed pictures of how close pump stations (Chapel and Old Beach Rd) were to serious damage from the storms. Staff had to physically monitor equipment as water approached monitoring equipment. Eversource vehicles carried Sewer Dept. to the pump stations. Rye Sewer owns the sewer pipe through N. Hampton to Hampton. See pictures on [page 2](#).
- 14) Public Hearing to accept [\\$55.5K Grant](#) for a sewer vulnerability evaluation project.

Select Board Meeting: January 8th

Draft Meeting minutes: Not available

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

- 1) Resident asks if the Select Board plans to publicly discuss the 2023 Parsons Creek Watershed Fecal Contamination report. [Full Report Appendix.](#)
- 2) Mileage plan was approved along with a new accounting policy for check return.
- 3) Park Ridge residents communicated about the lack of clear crosswalk across Ocean Blvd. at Wallis Rd. Extension.
- 4) Ocean Blvd/Rt. 1A is a State Rd. If the town paints or maintains a State cross walk the State assumes the town will maintain going forward.
- 5) Select Board suggests residents reach out to State Representatives to get the NH DOT to make safety improvements.
- 6) The Cross Walk on Wallis is a town road and is maintained by the Town.

Rye Schools

Meets 3rd Wednesday at RJH

School Policies: [Click Here](#)

Rye 2023-24 Budget Details: [Summary](#)



Rye PTA: [Click Here](#)
 Rye Education Foundation: [Click Here](#)
 Citizen's Handbook information: [Click Here](#)
 Introduction to PTA, REF and RCL: [Click Here](#)
 Rye 2023-2024 School Calendar: [Click Here](#)
 RJH Solar Panels tracking: [Click Here](#)

School Board Meeting: January 10th

Recorded Video: not available

Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

Full meeting information packet (available prior to meetings): [Click Here](#)

Superintendent's Report: [Click Here](#)

Facilities Report: [Click Here](#)

Technology Report: [Click Here](#)

RES & RJH Principals Report: [Click Here](#)

- 1) [Finalized the warrant](#) Budget of \$17,854,947. Collective Bargaining salary increases for Educational Support staff, \$60K for maintenance fund from the un-assigned account balance. [Details](#)
- 2) Discussed the Verizon inquiry for a Cell Tower on School Property. There will be a presentation at the next School Board meeting. [Click Here](#) for NH State Report on 5G facilities. Editors Note: The 500 meter setback is from a referenced study (page 104), not one of the State recommendations.
- 3) Facilities Director called out the stellar work from Custodian Gordan, such as replacing the leaking 1933 valves, creating additional space for students, etc... See Picture in Facility report.
- 4) [Facilities Report](#) also shows RES playground rendering, landscape and facilities improvements. HVAC systems are getting Tender Loving Care. Lead testing continues and all SAU50 schools will be retested for PFAS/PFOS
- 5) SAU50 Technology report covers Multi-Factor Authentication and Cyber Security response plan
- 6) Jacquie DeFreeze led Mall in the Hall raised \$1600 and created 1500 "happy stockings". [See More](#)
- 7) [Draft 2024-25 Calendar](#) shared
- 8) School Deliberative Meeting is Tuesday, February 6th RJH at 6:30pm

SAU 50 School Board Meeting:

No January meeting

G. LISTING OF PROJECTS WITH CIP PRIORITY

Summary of Rye Capital Project Requests: 2019 - 2024
 Table 9

Projects under the Rye Board of Selectmen:

Town Buildings & Administration:	2018 Actual
Scanning Documents For Storage	\$60,000
Purchase of 500 Washington Road	\$0
Town Hall - Exterior Painting & Repair	\$120,000
Land Development Regulations Update	\$23,205
Old Police Station/Trolley Barn	
Town Buildings Total	\$203,205

This plan assumes no funding for Rye Town Hall or Rye town administrative

Budget, CIP and Trust Funds

CIP Plan 2024-2029: [Click Here](#)

Town 2022 Budget: [1 page summary](#)

Town 2021 MS-7: [Click Here](#)

Town 2020 Budget Sheet:

RWD 2022 Budget: [Click Here](#)

RBVD 2022 Budget: [Click Here](#)

JBVD 2022 Budget: [Click Here](#)

School Budget: [Click Here](#)

RCL Budget Analysis: [2022 presentation](#)

Capital Improvement Plan (CIP):

2024-2029 Capital Improvement Plan [\(Click Here\)](#)

Capital Improvement Plan Summary Table

Project List: [Click Here](#)

Full Project Summary: [Click Here](#)

Summary page (includes below table): [Click Here](#)

Budget Committee Meetings: January 10th and 11th

January 10th School Recorded Video: [Click Here](#) Draft Minutes: Not available

January 11th Town Recorded Video: [Click here](#) Draft Minutes Not Available

Town Budget Detail: [Click Here](#)

Pre-Deliberative Town "green sheet": [Click Here](#)

School Change summary: [Click Here](#)

School Pie Chart: [Click Here](#)

School Warrant: [Click Here](#)

School:

- 1) Discussion of Rye and Greenland experience/cost and differences. Resident offer prepare the Budget Committee meeting minutes as they are not posted five days after the meetings.
- 2) Budget Committee member (*Editor's note: also a Civic News editor*) raises the question of what Rye pays for schools above Greenland and if Rye students are that much better "Prepared to Succeed" at PHS. Also for what Rye pays PHS, how do we know the Rye PHS graduates are "prepared to succeed" post PHS.

Town:

- 1) Public Comment on the Conservation Budget, Planning Board and what is paid to Rockingham County Planning for support and the paving budget.
- 2) Discussion about the 2023 tax increase.
- 3) Request to discuss at the January 31st meeting, ideas for getting the public more engaged.

Operating Budget Department Narratives in the Budget Book:

Full time Animal Control Officer: [Click Here](#) Fire & Rescue Equipment: [Click Here](#)

Beach Committee: [Click Here](#)..... Life Guard Pay increase: [Click Here](#)

Building Dept: [Click Here](#)..... Building & Grounds: [Click here](#)

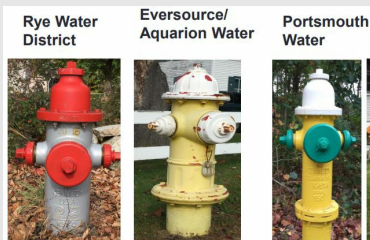
Conservation Commission: [Click Here](#)..... Library: [Click Here](#)

Emergency Management: [Click Here](#) Mosquito [Click Here](#)

Police Dept: [Click Here](#) Planning Dept: [Click Here](#)

Recreation: [Click Here](#) Regional Association: [Click Here](#)

Town Clerk: [Click Here](#) Zoning Board. [Click Here](#)



Rye Water District and Sewer

RWD: meets 1st Wednesday of the month 9am at 60 Sagamore Rd. [Water Suppliers](#)

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](#)

RWD 101 Information: [Click Here](#) 2021 RWD Quality Report: [Click Here](#)

PFAS Testing updates page: [Click Here](#) Conservation Tips: [Click Here](#)

[Ground and Surface Water Protection](#) How to read your meter: [Click Here](#)

2017 Infrastructure Report Card: [Click Here](#) Imagine a day without water: [Click Here](#)

RWD Monthly Meeting: January 9th

Draft Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

- 1) Wright-Pierce updates on SELT test wells (Brown property), Wallis Rd. project and Asset Management project.

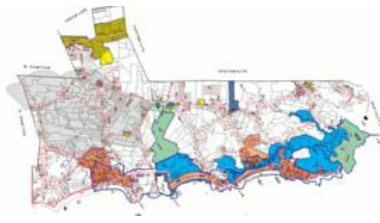
- 2) Unaccounted water is at 4% which is an improvement from the historic 6%-7% and below the goal of 10% and larger numbers in years past.
- 3) Proposal to fund a three year meter replacement project to be on the warrant.
- 4) January 31st Public Hearing for \$16M for Water Treatment Plant. [PFOA article](#) "The Cost of Freeing Drinking Water from Forever Chemicals" being shared.

Sewer Commission: January 9th

No video as the meetings are at the RBVD building

Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

- 1) December Church Rd. pumping volume was up 300K gallons from 2022.
- 2) 1st Quarter Sewer Charges and Fees were approved (see minutes).
- 3) Discussion of the Building Resilient Communities and Infrastructure [\(BRIC\) Grant Award](#). Federal Grans is \$55.5K and Rye will contribute \$18.5K
- 4) It was noted that many don't know that Rye owns a 3.5 mile main sewer line that carries the waste through N. Hampton to Hampton. See January 18th Select Board discussion starting at the 1 hour mark. [Click Here](#)



Planning Board

Meets the 3rd Tuesday of the month

Citizen's Handbook Information: [Click Here](#)

Master Plan Update Website: [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](#)

Hazard Mitigation Plan 2022: [Click Here](#)

Long Range Planning & Master Plan Steering Committee:

Rye 2035 Rye Future Website: [Click Here](#) Public Input February 15th 6pm to 8pm RJH

Master Plan update page: [Click Here](#)

Build Out Analysis: [Click Here](#) Shows where homes could fit, but not analysis of Rye supporting infrastructure.

NHIOP Phase 1 Report: [Click Here](#) Housing needs information [Assessment Report](#)

Master Plan Steering Committee January 9th

Draft Minutes: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

- 1) Draft of the "Existing Conditions" document was discussed and updates should be available for the public before February 15th.
- 2) February 15th format will be a short presentation and then residents answering a set of questions that will be available at stations. For those who can't attend there should be an online option to contribute afterwards.
- 3) Committee was invited to have a table at the Deliberative Fest on February 3rd.

Other Information:

Expanded Visioning Presentation from Julie LaBranche: [Click Here](#)

Visioning Workshop Results (posted June 2022) [Click Here](#)

NH Statute re: Master Plan requirements [Click Here Formatted for easier reading](#)

Current Rye Master Plan [Click Here](#)

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](#)

Formatted State guidance for Master Plans [Click Here](#)

Technical Review Committee (TRC) Meeting:

1) January 16th Planning Board discussed steps for re-establishing the process for the Technical Review Committee. Rockingham County Planning Commission was asked for assistance with funding coming from the current agreement.

Rules and Regulations:

Land Development Regulations are approved by the Planning Board and go into affect.

[2024-01](#) Homeowners Associations can ask to dissolve agreements.

[2024-02](#) Adds section M so the Fire Chief looks at driveways

[2024-03](#) RSA requirement of how developers can have funds returned

The following were moved to the ballot:

- 1) [RZO 2-24-01 190-2.2D](#) Condos are two dwellings on one lot and can't be expanded. Approved
- 2) [RZO 2024-02](#) Article XI makes the definition consistent. Approved
- 3) [RZO 2023-04](#) Storm Water Management.
- 4) [RZO 2024-06](#) Section 190 5.9 Updates to the Demo Review
- 5) [RZO 2024-07](#) Section 190 2.1 Amends the creator of the maps going to Public Hearing January 16th
- 6) [RZO 224-08](#) Section 1903.1H(1) & (2): Wetlands will start at the Mean High Water Mark.
- 7) [Floodplain Ordinance \(FP\) 2024-01](#) Section 60-6. Modified to be five years for changes to not be more than 50% of the value, starting after the election.

Planning Board Meeting: January 16th

Draft Meeting minutes: not available

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

- 1) LDR's were approved and other ordinances moved to the warrant. See above.
- 2) 2203 Ocean Blvd proposal has made several changes as a result of the TRC discussions. Only small points remain open and TRC will review drawings prior to the February 20th meeting. Diagram. Reconfiguration of parking spaces and curb along R.t 1A
- 3) Approved the use of RPC support funds to provide guidance as to how to re-implement the TRC process.
- 4) January 2nd Planning Board Meeting was for the Historic District Commission warrant that has been withdrawn. [Draft Minutes Recorded Video](#)

December Notice of Decisions

None

Planning Board Agenda February 20th

Not yet posted.

Code of the Town of Rye

COUNTY OF ROCKINGHAM
NEW HAMPSHIRE

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](#)

[NH Zoning Atlas](#)

Zoning Board of Adjustment Meeting Minutes: January 3rd and 17th

Recorded Video January 3rd [Click Here](#) Recorded Video: January 17th [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting minutes: not available for either meeting

- 1) 2230 Ocean Blvd. Approved Generator and coverage [Case #02-2024 NOD](#)
- 2) 29 Gray Court Approved expansion of nonconforming structure [Case#4-2024 NOD](#)
- 3) 32 Fairhill Ave. Approved Generator set-back [Case#3-2024 NOD](#)
- 4) 53 Spring Hill Rd. Special exception for driveway approved with RCC conditions [Case#05a-2024](#)
- 5) 105 Parson Rd. Variances for generator approved [Case #1-2024 NOD](#)
- 6) 0 Jenness Ave Tax Map 8.4 Lot 48. 2 Special exceptions for driveway in wetlands approved and five variances approved. Both have a shared seven conditions. [Case #6a,b 2024 NOD](#)

Zoning Board of Adjustment Agenda: February 7th

Agenda: [Click Here](#)

- 1) 154 Washington Rd. Septic system near ledge and estimated high water table
- 2) 117 Washington Rd. Demolish and replace shed
- 3) 14 Sagamore Rd. Demolish and build new mixed use building
- 4) 2203 Ocean Rd. Demolition and rebuild of two units
- 5) 125 Wentworth Rd. Demolish and replace Cutting trees and rinsing station in river buffer
- 6) 30 Straws Point. expansions, including height variances
- 7) 750 Long John Rd. Expanding a non-conforming structure
- 8) 114 Harbor Rd. Expansion of non-conforming
- 9) 267 Brackett expansion of non-conforming and in wetlands
- 10) 973 Ocean Blvd. Move parking in front yard



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: January 9th and 18th

Draft Meeting Minutes: Jan 9th [Click Here](#); Jan 18th Not available

Recorded Video Video January 9th [Click Here](#) Recorded Video: [January 18th](#)

- 1) Final 2023 year ending 0.5% over budget, primarily due to fuel, healthcare and media cost increase. If budget revenue sources are included, under budget by ~0.3%
- 2) AED has been installed. Date to be set for staff training on use of AED and Narcan
- 3) Discussion regarding RPL Common and plans to meet with the Advisory Committee to bring stakeholders up to date on planning process, meeting set for Jan 18th

Natural Resource Inventory December 2021

Full Report: [Click Here](#)

[Executive Summary.](#)

[Habitat section](#)

[all Maps](#)

Map 1 [Base-line](#)

Map 6 [Sea level rise.](#)

Map 11 [Soil limitations](#)

Map 2 [Watershed Boundaries.](#)

Map 7 [Water Quality.](#)

Map 12 [Farm lands](#)

Map 3 [Groundwater](#)

Map 8 [Forest Resources.](#)

Map 13 [Scenic Resources](#)

Map 4 [FEMA Flood 100 & 500](#)

Map 9 [Wildlife action.](#)

Map 14 [Conserved Land](#)

Map 5 [Floodwater storage.](#)

Map 10 [Productive Forest soils.](#)

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: January 11th (site walks Jan 10th and 18th)

Record Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Minutes: Jan 18 [Click Here](#); Jan 11 and Jan 10: not available

- 1) Jan 10th 14 Sagamore Rd and Jan 18th Town Forest - new section Green Trail
- 2) A site walk was conducted in Rye Town Forest to look at an addition that moves a portion of the trail that currently crosses private property. When the Rye Town Forest Management Plan was updated in 2020, a location for redirection of this trail was indicated. In Oct 2023, flagging was hung to mark the trail for future work. When weather conditions improve, RCC will start working on the new portion of the trail.



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: January 8th

No draft meeting minutes [Agenda](#)



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: January 4th

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

- 1) Success of recent town hall fund raising effort.
- 2) Gazebo reconstruction to begin this month.
- 3) Discussion of Stratham HC's capital reserve fund.
- 4) Discussion of new committee to study Town Hall restoration
- 5) update of effort to save historic house at 237 Locke Rd.
- 6) discussion of Neighborhood Historic Districts
- 7) Vote to establish a sub committee on historic graveyards
- 8) discussion: creation of a monument that acknowledges native people

Demolition Review: December 28th and January 25th

Jan 25 Recorded video: Dec 28 [Click Here](#) Jan 25 [Click Here](#)

Draft meeting Minutes: Dec 28 [Click Here](#), Jan 25: not available

Dec 28: 237 Locke Rd

- 1) Site visit was on Dec 20th.
- 2) Committee approved that the house at 237 Locke Road is architecturally important and historically significant and that there should have a public hearing, which is scheduled for Jan 25th at 6 pm at Town Hall
- 3) Owner is not withdrawing his demolition permit application; but will slow the teardown process in order to find a possible owner willing to move it.

Historic District Commission Meeting: January 10th

Draft Meeting Minutes: Not Available

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

- 1)

Rye Town Center Committee Meeting: January 3rd

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting minutes: Not Available

Agenda: [Click Here](#)



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](#)

Transfer Station Video: [Click Here](#)

RJH Solar Panel Tracking: [Click Here](#)

Rye Community Power: [Click Here](#)

Rye Energy Committee Meeting: January 9th

Draft Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

- 1) New Rye Community Power rates will begin on Feb 1st, and be reflected in March bill. The Granite Basic rate is 8.1 cents/kWh is the lowest default rate in NH.

- 2) Breakfast Hill Solar project update: Tom Pfau met with the Board of Selectman in a non-public session to explain why this project would benefit the town. It was suggested that a study committee be formed to determine the best use of the Breakfast Hill Landfill.
- 3) The desire is to prepare a Warrant article for 2025 on a community solar project.
- 4) The Rules and Regulations committee asked that Rye Energy work with the building inspector to adopt wording that would encourage builders to verify compliance to current NH code for energy efficiency
- 5) Rye Energy will have a table at Civic Fest with information on Rye Community Power, Opt-up materials, value of community solar and NH Saves.

Rye Recycling Education Committee: January 17th

Draft Minutes [Click Here](#)

- 1) Initiative to Rye Junior High to visit classes with the goal of supporting a recycling club at the school.
- 2) Update on status of Swap Shop.
- 3) Discuss plan to film a Civic News history segment at Swap Shop

Telecommunication Infrastructure Committee: January 18th

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Minutes: [Click Here](#)

- 1) Review background in preparation for upcoming meeting with Select Board (Jan 22)
- 2) Feb 21, School Board will be reviewing the Final Report of State Commission to Study the Environmental and Health Effects of Evolving 5G Technology
- 3) State Report [Click Here](#). Recommendations do not include the 500 meter setback. This is from a study that is in the supporting information. Page 104
- 4) Verizon has restated that the location near Rye Junior High meets all state laws. Location is desirable as it provides coverage for Rye and Portsmouth apartments on the corner of Lang Rd. Diagrams of [511 Sagamore Verizon Letter](#)
- 5) Other location being considered is lot 016-071-022, which is conservation land (behind Sea Glass Lane).
- 6) Expecting feedback from Francis Paris on potential tower locations for development in Rye.



Mosquito

Mosquito Complaint Form: [Click Here](#)
2020 Mosquito Control Notice: [Click Here](#)
Dragon Mosquito Program Overview: [Click Here](#)

Mosquito Commission Meeting: No January Meeting

No Meeting



Beach Committee

2018 Beach Committee Report: [Click Here](#)
Parking Assessment Study: [Click Here](#)

Beach Committee Meeting: No January Meeting

No Meeting

Trustee of the Trust Funds Meeting: Last Meeting November 22nd

Draft Minutes: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Municipal Records Committee June 20th

Draft Minutes:

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

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 400 page: [Click Here](#)

Rye Beach & Jenness Beach District Information: [Click Here](#)

NH's Citizen's Count: [Click Here](#)

Video about Rye PTA, Rye Education Foundation and the Civic League: [Click Here](#)

Rye Public Forum Discussion Topics at YOUR RYE NIGHT OUT

Join us each month for a public forum discussion about current topics in town. All are welcome to join this discussion. What is on your mind? What can make our town better? All town-related topics are on the table. Let's learn from each other.

[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 and contributors. Questions or comments? Ideas for news articles? Contact the RCL at civicnews@ryecivicleague.org

Rye Town Handbook from the Rye Civic League:

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.

NOTE: 2022 Update is available at the Library, the Town Clerk's Office and other locations. All sections are also posted on the Rye Civic League website.

[Click Here for a PDF version of the handbook](#)

An Invitation to membership in the Rye Civic League

The Civic News is free and distributed to over 1,400 people. Many people read the Civic News. Some people support it.

To support the Civic League and keep the Civic News going, become a member with a contribution \$12 (or more) each year.

Our annual costs include:

- Website hosting and URL registrations
- Civic News email distribution (Constant Contact)
- Fees for being a 501-C and NH Secretary of State filing fees
- Printing
- 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 to each RCL monthly meeting. Meetings are the last Wednesday of the month at 7 pm. Location announced in the Civic News
- 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.

Rye Civic League | RCL , PO Box 971, Rye, NH 03870

[Unsubscribe s.borne@comcast.net](mailto:s.borne@comcast.net)

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