

Your Rye
Engage for Change

Rye Civic News

Rye Questions for the Rye Civic League?

Rye Civic League will host a public meeting on request by any resident to discuss a town issue of concern. Let us know and we will meet with you. [e-mail](#) For example: RCL created this slide to help explain the 2023 Tax rate increase. [Click Here](#) for diagram. Seven key points: [Click Here](#)

January 2024

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

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



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[Click Here](#)

Want to pitch in and help with the Rye Civic League

[Contact Us Here](#)

**** Great way to start the new year - being more Civically Engaged! ****

[Watch December Highlights
in 4 mins Click Here!!!](#)

December Highlights

[VIDEO: Watch the Highlights](#) & History Note about Rye Historic Hotels (starts at 3:52)

December Highlights

- 1) Rye Fire Department unexpectedly lost twenty year employee Lt. Chuck Gallant. Our thoughts are with his wife Kelly and the Gallant family.
- 2) The historic 237 Locke Road house is threatened by demolition. The owner has offered the home for free to be moved to a new site in Rye. If interested in moving or dismantling and storing the house, please [e-mail](#) Alex Herlihy
- 3) Rye Holiday tree light was held and if you have not seen how good the tree looks [Click Here](#)
- 4) Rye 400 wrapped up an incredible year with a monument commemorating these great events [Group picture](#)) and many generous donations. - Rye Police Relief Fund \$2,000, Rye Fire: Defibrillator \$2,000, Senior SERVE van: \$10,000, Rye Heritage Commission: \$1,650 for Gazebo repair, Rye Heritage Commission: \$7,000 for 3 additional Historic Markers, Blue Ocean Society: \$5,000 for Rye Beach Cleanups, Rye Conservation Commission: \$5,000 for local trails development and documentation.
- 5) Much discussion about the increase in the December property tax bill. [Click Here](#) for RCL diagram/data and [Seven Key Points](#). Budget Committee Public Hearings January 10th & 11th and RCL Budget presentation February 1st 7pm RPL.
- 6) Select Board and Rye Water District will begin working on a Memorandum of Understanding for the steps and process of getting a Water Treatment plant built. The Town is the responsible party for the PFOA that enter the Rye Water well from the Grove Rd. Dump. [RWD points](#)
- 7) Select Board chose to delay the \$1.4M Fuel station at the Transfer Station warrant article and investigate alternatives. [CIP project page](#)
- 8) 2023 Parsons Creek [Watershed report](#), while numbers are not getting worse, [24 of 31 samples](#) are still way above the safe level for fecal contamination. **"The low-lying topography and high ground water table in the watershed make leach fields susceptible to malfunctions, which is likely the primary source of fecal contamination..." (page 6).** [2017 report communicated](#) there are too many leach fields in the watershed and variances/waivers/approvals continue to be granted.
- 9) Chief Walsh suggested new parking ordinances aimed at preventing overnight stays on town property. [Click Here](#)
- 10) Verizon confirmed they stopped the 3G signal this past year and that is why coverage in the

Washington Rd./Wallis Rd. area went from marginal to not working for some. Coverage will not improve until additional towers are added.

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	2 Alternate Vacancies

General Announcements

- 1) January Budget Public Hearings are for residents questions. School is January 10th 6:30pm RJH, Town is Thursday, January 11th 6:30pm Town Hall. See overview narratives in the Budget Committee individual links **below** and [here](#). After hearing from the Public, Budget Committee can make change amounts or re-vote on recommendations.
- 2) There is \$210K for new vehicles in the 2024 Town Budget. Do you have a Pick Up Truck to donate to the Town. Fair condition cars for the Building inspector and others? [Town Vehicles](#) (does not include RWD, Cemetery or others)
- 3) January 9th is the last day to get Petitioned Warrant Articles submitted. [Click Here](#) for more information. The Rye Civic League will provide guidance to any groups looking to create a petitioned Warrant Article. Please [e-mail](#) Rye Civic League.
- 4) January 23rd will be the Presidential Primary. [Click Here](#) for the absentee ballot form.
- 5) Town Deliberative Meeting will be February 3rd. The School Deliberative Meeting is February 6th. The Civic League Budget and Warrant Article presentation will be the February 1st 7pm RPL.
- 6) **Master Plan Public [Input Session](#)** is February 15th 6pm to 8pm RJH. Mark You Calendars!
- 7) Rye Recreation needs part-time After School counselors: [Click Here](#)
- 8) Rye Town historian website has 80 topic narratives on town history [Rye History Rocks](#)
- 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](#)

Civic Responsibility Time:

Presidential Primary January 23rd. [Absentee ballot form](#) Sample Ballots [Republican](#) and [Democratic](#)
Register to run for Rye Town offices **January 24th to February 2nd** Town positions School positions
January 9th is the last day to file a Petitioned Warrant Article [Click Here](#) for Town Form
Budget Public Hearings: School January 10th and Town January 11th
RCL 2024 Budget and Warrant Article Annual Presentation. **February 1st. 7pm RPL**
Note: The RCL explains what drives your tax rate [2023 Increase explainer](#) . See [2023 presentation](#) on 2023 budget.
February 3rd. Town Deliberative Meeting & Civic Fest (meet town boards, groups, committees...)
******Volunteers needed to help with food donations, working with boards/groups, set up, clean up???** [e-mail the RCL](#)

Calendar of Upcoming Meetings

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

[New Year's Day - Town Offices Closed](#) Jan 1, 8:00am
[Rye Town Center Committee](#) Jan 3, 5:30pm
[Board of Adjustment](#) Jan 3, 7:00pm
[Heritage Commission](#) Jan 4, 5:30pm
[Select Board](#) Jan 8, 6:30pm
[Sewer Commission](#) Jan 9, 8:00am
[Master Plan Steering Committee](#) Jan 9, 1:00pm
[Energy Committee](#) Jan 9, 3:00pm
[Historic District Commission](#) Jan 10, 5:30pm
[Budget Committee](#) Jan 10, 6:30pm

[Conservation Commission](#) Jan 11, 6:30pm
[Budget Committee](#) Jan 11, 6:30pm
[MLK Civil Rights Day - Town Offices Closed](#) Jan 15, 8:00am
[Recycling Education Committee](#) Jan 16, 5:30pm
[Planning Board](#) Jan 16, 6:00pm
[Beach Committee](#) Jan 17, 5:30pm
[Board of Adjustment](#) Jan 17, 7:00pm
[Select Board](#) Jan 22, 6:30pm
[Presidential Primary](#) Jan 23, 8:00am to 7:00pm
[Budget Committee](#) Jan 31, 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 December 26th

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting notes: Not available

- 1) Announced two new per-diem Firefighters (part time). Fire Chief is very grateful for all the support from the Town Staff, residents and other town fire staff who provided coverage personnel.
- 2) Resident requests Town to modify Article 25, 2016 for collecting petitions in town to make the "purpose" or content of the petition will be optional. Board will consult counsel. Note [article currently](#) says "Only based on safety and operational considerations"
- 3) Approved Town wide fees for parking fees from \$100 to \$125 for beach parking violations and from \$50 to \$75 for all other parking violations. They have not been increased since 2018.
- 4) Town accepts \$21,806.69 Federal funds restricted to bridge work and \$38,414.49 restricted for highway work. Funds will be encumbered to next year through the current Harbor Rd. Bridge project.
- 5) Accepted Dragon Fly for the 2024 Mosquito management, acknowledging that they were not the low cost vendor.
- 6) Agreed to the new ambulance purchase contract as prices will increase there is a national backlog because of supply chain problems. This vehicle may not be delivered for three years.
- 7) Discussion of the proposed draft joint Select Board/Conservation Commission on 120 Garland Rd was tabled for review by Town Counsel. [Full legal](#) history is found by following RCC provided instructions. RCC approved [this version](#). Diagrams showing the dam size (from RCL) [Click Here](#)
- 8) Resident requests the Town provide ADA compliant porta-potty at Town beaches. Board discussed options such as renting and will work with the Beach Committee.
- 9) Board approved [MTS](#) created sole source for new Finance/accounting software contract and encumbered \$45,200 to purchase next year. Annual maintenance will be the annual \$6,500 maintenance through MRI (firm Rye uses for staffing and re-evaluation support).
- 10) Approved over \$500K of encumbrances into 2024. [Click Here](#) (Ambulance \$370K is most of this).

Select Board Meeting December Budgets, Capital and Warrants

December 4th: Minutes [Recorded Video](#)

December 5th: Minutes [Recorded Video](#)

December 15th Minutes [Recorded Video](#)

- 1) Discussion of Capital Expenditures and Warrant articles was spread across dedicated work sessions and at the December 11th Select Board meeting.
- 2) While numbers can change there is approximately \$820K in capital outlays, \$979,500 warrant article spending and another potential \$1M in warrants that would come from the un-assigned fund balance.
- 3) The Select Board worked with departments to reduce requests as much as possible.
- 4) It was decided that the \$75K for Recreation Facilities work would be in the budget and the \$75,000 for a Recreation Softball field would be a warrant article.
- 5) The \$1.4M for the Fuel Station at the Transfer Station will not be funded this year and alternatives investigated.

Select Board & Rye Water District Joint Meeting - December 13th

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting notes: Not available

- 1) Rye Water District is requesting a Memorandum of Understanding that the Select Board and Rye Water would cooperate to get a Water Treatment Plant built. RWD points made [Click Here](#)
- 2) There are approximately \$16M in available loans with \$2M in forgiveness, but the application deadline is May 1st. [Notice of \\$5M](#) available loan.
- 3) All of Rye deposited trash at the Grove Rd. Dump, so the town (not just the Water District) is the responsible party for those PFAS getting into the Garland Well. The Town with DES approval chose to not cap the Grove Rd. Dump, but to monitor the area to assure the Garland Well remained safe.
- 4) inDepth NH on State PFAS legislation. [Click Here](#)

Select Board Only. Recess ends at 1:42 on the video.

- 1) Board decides to not move forward with the Fuel Station replacement for \$1.4M this year at the Transfer station.
- 2) Board has protracted discussion on the tax rate.

Select Board Non Public Meetings

December 4th: Personnel and Legal

December 11th: Acquisition

December 26th: Hiring

Select Board Meeting: December 11th

Draft Meeting minutes: Not available Agenda: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

- 1) Discussion by Chief Walsh and others about speed limits. Portsmouth High School project will be creating yard signs.
- 2) Select Board agrees to accept the Rye400 acknowledgement monument and a new "Rye Founding Families" monument as gifts.
- 3) Community Power update and how to communicate to people who had moved from Eversource to Direct Energy commitments. Community Power will be providing multi-year options in the future.
- 4) HDC discussed expansion of the Historic District along Central. One property will be left out by request of the current owners.
- 5) Select Board discussed a new "Community Engagement Committee" who will focus on consistent and welcoming signs for the beaches and improvements to the town website.
- 6) Fire Chief gets approval to accept an older Seadoo and Trailer to be used to train staff on how to right the Seadoo if it capsizes. The active Seadoo has electronics and can't be used for training.
- 7) Chief Walsh discussed a [suggested new ordinance](#) to prevent overnight camping on town property and overnight parking. Legal review and additional discussions are needed on the wording.
- 8) Select Board acknowledges citizens petitions on holding current speed limits. Copies were not

available to the public.

9) Budget Discussion on Library plans to get HVAC design work completed and be prepared to replace the HVAC before it fails.

10) Library discussed the Library Common plans that could cost around \$500K. \$160K would be from a warrant with the balance coming from Library fundraising and past donations.

11) The Coalition of towns who are opposing donor towns to fund NH Schools requires more than the \$5K budgeted, so this amount was increased.

12) As the Budget Committee reduced the Transfer Station budget for waste removal, what can residents do to help the Transfer station stay within budget.

13) A list of "encumbrances" so funds not used this year that can be carried to next year was approved (not provided to the public).



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: December 13th

Recorded Video: not available

Draft Meeting Minutes: None

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

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

Special Education Report: [Click Here](#)

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

1) Above documents are from the December meeting, but there are no meeting minutes yet.

2) The School Board voted (4-0) to enter into a Power Purchase Agreement with Revision Energy to fund the installation of a solar array on the roof of Rye Elementary School. This project will provide lower cost energy to the school district at no cost to Rye taxpayers. The installation schedule is yet to be determined.

3) The January Rye School Board Meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 10 (5:30P) at Rye Junior High School.

4) The School Budget Public hearing will be held on Wednesday, January 10, 2024 (6:30P) at Rye Junior High School

5) The Rye School District Deliberative Session will be held on Tuesday, February 6, 2024 (6:30P) at Rye Junior High School

SAU 50 School Board Meeting:

No November meeting

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](#)

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	

Capital Improvement Plan (CIP): Select Board meeting

Recorded Video: November 13th not available

Recorded Video: November 7th: [Click Here](#)

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](#)

Department	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2024-2029 Total
Town Buildings	\$ 334,695	\$ 850,890	\$ 220,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,405,585
DPW	\$ 3,349,000	\$ 775,000	\$ 1,545,000	\$ 675,000	\$ 975,000	\$ 625,000	\$ 7,944,000
Police	\$ 157,000	\$ 65,000	\$ 65,000	\$ 65,000	\$ 65,000	\$ 65,000	\$ 482,000
Fire & Rescue	\$ 38,000	\$ 350,000	\$ 152,000	\$ 190,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 132,000	\$ 1,062,000
Conservation	\$ 42,489	\$ -	\$ 3,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,042,489
Library	\$ -	\$ 217,800	\$ 57,546	\$ 45,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 320,346
Recreation Dept	\$ 190,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 140,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 330,000
Sewer Dept	\$ 152,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 152,000
School Dept	\$ 653,000	\$ 440,000	\$ 470,000	\$ 425,000	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ 2,488,000
Water District	\$ 1,570,000	\$ 950,000	\$ 16,950,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 19,470,000
Cemetery Total	\$ 60,000	\$ 40,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,000

Budget Committee Meetings: December 6th, 7th and 14th

December 6th School Recorded Video: [Click Here](#) Draft Minutes: Not available

December 7th Town Recorded Video: [Click here](#) Draft Minutes Not Available

December 14th Town Capital Outlays & Warrant Articles Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

School Budget Public Hearing January 10th 6:30pm RJH

Town Budget Public Hearing January 11th 6:30pm Town Hall

School:

1) No changes made by Budget Committee to the \$17,499,947 [School Budget](#). [Two page changes memo](#) Increase is \$645,065 Increase (3.83%). Committee member questions funds for guitars, pianos and Canobie Lake trip.

2) Budget Committee member points out the rising maintenance costs. [Handout](#) Schools explain there is a lot of catch up for deferred maintenance. Rye pays \$3M more than Greenland for approximately the same number of students. Rye has smaller classes, pays teachers more and has two buildings. With the RJH almost 100 years old, Budget Committee member asks when do the discussions start to consolidate down to one school building.

Town:

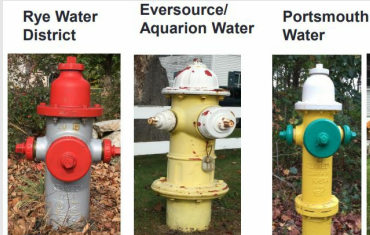
1) Some changes to budget numbers, but still tracing to be up around \$1M not counting warrants or capital outlays.

2) Budget Committee removed the \$25K for the scanning of road conditions. Conservation Committee reduced and then removed funding for 0 Pioneer work. Capital Outlays are just over \$820K

3) Warrant Articles for \$947,500 were recommended. \$1M from the un-assigned fund balance was recommended to fund the Harbor Rd. Bridge work and Perkins Rd. Culvert.

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: December 6th

Draft Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

- 1) Lead and Copper ruling was released, there is not much impact to RWD. PFAS ruling still expected in early 2024.
- 2) Rye is eligible for \$16M in loans for Water Treatment. Town and RWD warrants must be passed and the loans finalized by May 1st.
- 3) Water usage was down from this time last year.
- 4) Reviewed job description for the new proposed administration position.
- 5) Moderator Josh Scott is resigning. Commissioners agreed to vote Steven Borne as Moderator at the March 2024 meeting.

Sewer Commission: No December Meeting

No December Meeting



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

Master Plan Steering Committee December 12th

Draft Minutes: None

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

- 1) Public input session will be February 15th at the RJH. Flier
- 2) Discussion of the existing conditions and editing. Comments to be reviewed for the January 9th meeting.
- 3) Brainstorming on how to promote the February 15th event. Feel free to reach out with ideas for promoting and supporting.

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: December 4th

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

- 1) December 5th Site walk at 2203 Ocean Blvd (Common Roots building).
- 2) Discussion will be at the January 16th meeting.

Rules and Regulations December 1st and 11th

Recorded Videos: [December 1st](#) and [December 11th](#)

Draft Meeting Minutes: None posted

[Public Notice](#) for Planning Board December 19th meeting. Below information is from the December 19th Planning Board Meeting.

- 1) Land Development Regulation: 2024-01 Section 202-5.5 was approved. This allows a Homeowner' Association to request to dissolve the association. It is unknown if there is a list of where these are and if the HOA needs to maintain approval conditions. Approved
- 2) LDR 2024-02 Appendix G, Section 5-E(M): For the Fire Chief to review driveways. Approved
- 3) LDR 2024-03 Section 202-7.1 State law change for Surety - approved
- 4) RZO 2-24-01 190-2.2D Condos are two dwellings on one lot and can't be expanded. Approved
- 5) RZO 2024-02 Article XI makes the definition consistent. Approved
- 6) RZO 2024-03 Section 190-5.7. HDC District Expansion. [See diagram](#). Board would like to have the district not include the back of properties or to have the current owners acknowledge the use of lot lines. Planning Board agreed on 12-19 to have a dedicated meeting to not delay this getting on the warrant.
- 7) RZO 2023-04 Storm Water Management. Moved to Public Hearing on January 16th
- 8) RZO 2024-05 Certifications of Occupancy. Discussed at Planning Board, Building Inspector and Energy Committee will work on wording, but this may not make the 2024 warrant.
- 9) RZO 2024-06 Section 190 5.9 Updates to the Demo Review going to Public Hearing January 16th
- 10) RZO 2024-07 Section 190 2.1 Amends the creator of the maps going to Public Hearing January 16th
- 11) RZO 224-08 Section 1903.1H(1) & (2): Wetlands will start at the Mean High Water Mark. Moved to Public Hearing January 16th
- 12) Floodplain Ordinance (FP) 2024-01 Section 60-6. Modified to be five years for changes to not be

Planning Board Meeting: December 19th

Draft Meeting minutes: not available

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

- 1) Using the modified LDR for Surtey relief. Approved relief for the Housing Partnership on) Airfield Drive.
- 2) 2023 Ocean Rd. (Common Roots) continued to January. December 4th and 5th Site walk and Technical Review meeting were productive in helping the applicant move forward.
- 3) See above Rules and Regulation section for the actions taken at the Planning Board meeting.
- 4) There will be a special Planning Board meeting on January 2nd to review the updated Historic District zoning change. [Click Here](#) for updated map of what will be added.

November Notice of Decisions

- 1) 5 Douglas Circle. Approved 5-0 ADU [Case #23-2023](#)
- 2) 665-667 Wallis Rd. [Case #12-2023](#) Small changes to NOD. Four pages of conditions.

Planning Board Agenda January 16th

Not yet posted.

RZO Public Hearings

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: December 6th

Recorded Video [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting minutes: None

RCL Notes and Relief/Variations Tracking Table (will now be semi-annually): [Click Here](#) for January thru July

- 1) 45 Perkins Rd. Approved expansion of a non-confirming building. [Case #60-2023](#)

Zoning Board of Adjustment Agenda: January 3rd and 17th

January 3rd Agenda: [Click Here](#)

- 1) 117 Washington Rd. Replace existing shed
- 2) 125 Wentworth Rd. Demolish and replace 100ft from river
- 3) 105 Parsons Rd. Adding a generator
- 4) 2230 Ocean Blvd: Adding a generator and lot coverage in Parsons Creek Watershed
- 5) 32 Fairhill Drive adding a generator
- 6) 29 Gray Court Expanding a non-confirming building
- 7) 52 Spring Rd. Expanding a non-confirming building
- 8) 30 Straws Point Rd. New Septic system

January 17th Agenda: [Click Here](#)



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 12th

Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video Video: [Click Here](#)

1) Library director's report highlights include a January date will be set for staff training on the use of AED and Narcan, still collecting engineering plans for new HVAC system, and continued review of overtime policy.

2) Discussion continued of RPL Common. Select Board supports plan for \$160K warrant article. Project cost will be around \$500K, with the balance coming from existing Library trusts and fund raising.

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](#)

[2023 Rockingham Planning Commission Regional Housing Needs](#)



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: December 14th and others

December Meeting Agenda [CLICK HERE](#)

December Meeting Draft Minutes (not available as of 12/30/203)

Video Streaming December 14 Meeting [CLICK HERE](#)

1) Residents have been voicing objections to the Conservation Committees' use of public funds for legal actions for 120 Garland Rd. that went in favor of 120 Garland Rd. [Click Here](#) to see summary of all

published town legal costs.

2) [RCL analysis](#) shows the unpermitted (at the time) dammed area of Bailey Brook, 1000-1880 feet upstream from town wells (and watersheds) went from 0 square feet in 2008 to 64,000 square feet in 2023. RCL Summary and Analysis of dammed pond growth 2008-2023 and distance to Rye Water District Wells

3) Joint Statement of Conservation Commission (adopted) & Select Board (unadopted) [Click Here](#)

4) RCC provided link to full court documents (follow instructions). [Click Here](#)



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: December 20th

No draft meeting minutes [Agenda](#)

- 1) Looking to establish a Fund Raising Committee
- 2) Updating Site Plan renderings.
- 3) Still looking for Wave Club staff [Click Here](#)



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 7th

Recorded Video: Not available

Draft Meeting minutes: not available

- 1) Met with three members of Stratham Heritage Commission to learn what they are doing
- 2) Presented the annual Louise Tallman Historic Preservation award to David Choate

Demolition Review: December 15th

Recorded video: [Click Here](#)

Draft meeting Minutes: not available

Agenda: [Click Here](#)

Historic District Commission Meeting: December 6th and 13th

Draft Meeting Minutes: Dec 6th [Click Here](#), Dec 13th Not Available

December 6th Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

December 13th Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

- 1) Chair Coffey and Member Choate have been meeting with the Rules and Regulations Committee to work on the expansion plan for Historic District.
- 2) In review of the scope of the Historic District expansion plans and removal of 70 Central Rd from the plan and addition of the Town Green (strip of green space in front of Town Cemetery), if possible to the plan. The Committee voted in favor of both changes.
- 3) A meeting will be held by the Commission sometime in January to give more information about the Historic District expansion to the owners of the proposed properties. There will also be a presentation at the Town's Deliberative Session on Saturday, Feb 3rd.

Rye Town Center Committee Meeting: December 6th

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

- 1) Committee agreed to create a subcommittee for the town monuments
- 2) Committee reviewed draft suggestions for the Town Center project.

Benches: a bench that seems historically accurate was selected

School traffic: subcommittee encouraged to get letters from school principals and parents as back up to give the engineering firm. It was noted that other stakeholders want to be involved and that the engineering firm will have a meeting with the Town. so people can express their thoughts then. A concern regarding the carpool lane was noted and it is not part of the current scope. Subcommittee will put concerns in writing and the Committee can send a letter to the Select Board.

Street Lighting: Lights from a company in Pennsylvania that have been manufacturing street lights for over one hundred years have been identified. The lantern style light fixture samples that have been shown are historically appropriate. The lights will have to be presented to the HDC.

Intersection of Washington and Central: Engineering firm has information: PowerPoint, photographs, and videos of school arrival/dismissal.



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: December 5th

Draft Meeting minutes: Dec Not Available

Agenda: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Rye Recycling Education Committee: No meeting in December

No December meeting

Telecommunication Infrastructure Committee: December 12th

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Agenda: [Click Here](#)

Draft Minutes: Not available

- 1) Cell Tower builder, Vertex's, Francis Perisi, explained the role of Vertex and how they could assist. Vertex has been leading the Hampton and N. Hampton cell tower additions.

2) Confirming where the next towers go are interconnected. The location and height of the first tower must be fixed first, then the second and third tower.

3) Discussions with the School Board about the back property have started and will be discussed again on at the January 10th School Board meeting. There has been one investigative site walk.



Mosquito

Mosquito Complaint Form: [Click Here](#)

2020 Mosquito Control Notice: [Click Here](#)

Dragon Mosquito Program Overview: [Click Here](#)

Mosquito Commission Meeting: December 19th

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Agenda: [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting Minutes: Nov [Click Here](#)



Beach Committee

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

Parking Assessment Study: [Click Here](#)

Beach Committee Meeting: November 20th (no December Meeting)

No December Meeting.

Trustee of the Trust Funds 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](#)

Rye Police Home page: [Click Here](#)

Fire Department Facebook: [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](#)

Town Facebook page: [Click Here](#)

Rye Police Facebook Page: [Click Here](#)

Rye 400 page: [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(c)(3) 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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Sent by civicnews@ryecivicleague.org