



**March 2024**

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

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



## DO YOU CARE ABOUT RYE?

### VOTE

**March 7th: Candidates Night 7pm**  
MOVED TO Rye Junior High  
[Video Live & Recording](#)

**March 12th: Election 8am to 7pm RES**

**Tools:**

- Town Sample Ballot: [Click Here](#)
- School Sample Ballot: [Click Here](#)
- School Warrant: [Click Here](#)
- RCL Voting Sheet: [Click Here](#)
- RCL Short Warrant Table: [Click Here](#)
- RCL Budget Analysis: [Click Here](#)
- Town Green sheet: [Click Here](#)
- Town Budget: [Click Here](#)
- School Budget: [Click Here](#)
- School Pie Chart [Click Here](#)

RCL Warrant Article Presentation: [Click Here](#)

RCL Budget & Warrant [Video](#)

**March 18th: Water Treatment Plant**  
**6:30pm Rye Junior High**

RWD Water Treatment Plant Information Presentation from 1/31: [Click Here](#)

**March 23rd: Water District 10am RJH**

RWD Budget: [Click Here](#)

RWD Pie Chart: [Click Here](#)

RWD Warrant: [Click Here](#)

### CONTRIBUTE TO THE MASTER PLAN

*Get your Inputs submitted before **March 15th***

[Click Here](#) to complete the Survey

**Posters to Review before each section**

- What is a Master Plan: [Click here](#)
- Master Plan Vision: [Click Here](#)
- Build Out Plan Constraints: [Click Here](#)
- Climate Change Poster: [Click Here](#)
- Community: [Click Here](#)
- Natural Resources: [Click Here](#)
- Housing: [Click Here](#)
- Land Development: [Click Here](#)
- Municipal: [Click Here](#)

**Supporting Information:**

Rye 2035 Website: [Click Here](#)

**Build Out Analysis:** [Click Here](#)

Shows where homes could fit, but not an analysis of Rye supporting infrastructure.

**NHIOP Phase 1 Report:** [Click Here](#)

**Housing needs information** [Assessment Report](#)

2021 Natural Resources Inventory from RCC. [Click Here](#) Links to sections below

Help others get on the Civic News Distribution List ..... [Sign Up](#)  
 Make a contribution and become a member: ..... [Click Here](#)  
 Want to pitch in and help with the Rye Civic League ..... [Contact Us Here](#)

**VIDEO of February Highlights CLICK HERE.. (Alex's history note will be back in April)**

### **February Highlights**

1) Town Deliberative Meeting only had just over one hundred people (134 is the estimated count). Minor changes to some warrant articles and Select Board attempt to make the Treasurer and Town Tax Collector appointed positions must be studied first.

2) Civic Fest at the Town Deliberative Meeting Lunch break featured food donated by Seacoast Soups and Common Roots. Residents got to meet directly with Town Departments and organizations.

3) Rye Water \$13.95 million loan for [Water Treatment Plant](#) was discussed with the Select Board and Budget Committee. Bring your questions to the **March 18th 6:30pm** [Information Session](#) at RJH

4) Master Plan input session was held. Residents have until March 15th to [complete the survey](#). See information above.

5) School Board says no to potential new Cell Tower adjacent to Rye Elementary School [Diagrams](#) Response to [School Board questions](#), [Verizon safety document](#).

6) DPW Furnace that heats two of the three bays failed and will be replaced (\$11K). Furnace burned used oil collected at the Transfer Station.

7) Library Common Warrant article change surprised the Library Board at the Deliberative meeting. Board [statement to Select Board](#) with diagrams.

8) Regional Association Review Committee presented the [Select Board with an Update Summary](#) of the requests and grants. [Recommended Policies and Procedures](#) to move forward. While the work was praised by the Select Board, member McGrath questioned if the Town (Public) donations should be going to these social services or if voters should approve each year or leave it up to each resident to make a donation.

9) 237 Locke Rd Home getting press in major news outlets [Herald](#), [Globe](#), [WMUR](#)

10) District Budgets are available. [RWD Budget](#), [Rye Beach Village District Budget](#), [Jenness Beach Village District Budget](#).

11) DPW Director updates Planning Board on MS4 (storm water) activities. NHDWS 2021 [list of Rye properties](#) where Best Practices should be implemented

12) Rye Conservation Commission now will not build a parking lot at the Junkins Property, but wants to not close the door to public access if the current access is lost and is consulting with legal counsel.

### **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](#)

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
Town Center Committee	1 Member and 2 Alternate Vacancies
Town Hall Restoration Advisory Committee	7 Member Vacancies

### **General Announcements**

1) Rye Beach and Jenness Beach District meetings are at the end of March and beginning of April.

2) In Depth NH story on Coakley and PFAS [Click Here](#)

3) Four Rye points from the Town Historian [Click Here](#)

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

5) Rye Recreation needs part-time after school counselors: [Click Here](#)

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

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

8) 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

[Supervisors of the Check List](#): Mar 2 -

11:00am to 11:30am

[Ballot Tabulator/ Memory Card testing](#): Mar 4 -

10:00am

[Beach Committee](#): Mar 4 - 5:30pm

[Recreation Commission](#): Mar 4 - 6:00pm

[Conservation Commission Site Walk](#): Mar 5 - 8:30am

[Ballot Clerk Training](#): Mar 5 - 9:00am

[Demolition Review Committee](#): Mar 5 - 11:00am

[The Master Plan Steering Committee](#): Mar 5 -

1:00pm

[Energy Committee](#): Mar 5 - 3:30pm

[Ballot Counting](#): Mar 6 - 10:00am

[Rye Town Center Committee](#): Mar 6 - 5:30pm

[Board of Adjustment](#): **Mar 6 - 7:00pm**

[Heritage Commission](#): Mar 7 - 5:30pm

[Select Board](#): Mar 11 - 6:30pm

[Municipal Election](#): Mar 12 - 8:00am to 7:00pm

[Sewer Commission](#): Mar 12 - 8:00am

[Begin Processing Absentee Ballots](#): Mar 12 -

10:00am

[Trustees of Trust Funds](#): Mar 13 - 5:30pm

[Historic District Commission](#): Mar 13 - 5:30pm

[Conservation Commission](#): Mar 14 - 6:30pm

[Planning Board](#): Mar 19 - 6:00pm

[Recycling Education Committee](#): Mar 19 - 6:30pm

[Cemetery Trustees](#): Mar 21 - 1:00pm

[Select Board](#): Mar 25 - 6:30pm

[Beach Committee](#): April 1 - 5:30pm

[The Master Plan Steering Committee](#): April 2 -

1:00pm



## 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 February 26th

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting notes: Not available

- 1) Resident pushes for resident programs to remove litter from Rye streets, through citizen efforts.
- 2) MRI assessment update showed Rye has a 76% equalization and homes are selling at higher than listing prices.
- 3) Library Trustees [presented an overview](#) of the Common Plans for the Select Board. Town Attorney suggested changes to the \$160K warrant article that the Library Trustees were surprised by and that the current wording will be confusing to the voters. See new wording in Article 9 on [sample ballot](#).
- 4) Regional Association Review committee [presents a statement](#), an [updated process, summary of 2024 requests and approvals](#)
- 5) Select Board member questions if the Town (public) should be contributing to regional agencies or if it should be up to the individual to donate. Any changes will be discussed in the future.
- 6) Approved notifying Regional Associations immediately after the election.
- 7) DPW Director that the Transfer Station Furnace that runs off waste oil for two of the three garage bays has failed (no heat now). The furnace reduces the amount of propane by using Rye household waste oil. New furnace will be around \$11K to be replaced. There is no current budget for the new furnace. The new furnace will be funded from the Municipal Building Reserve fund.
- 8) Select Board Member McGrath offered to refresh older photos he had donated with more current

pictures in Town Hall.

9) Selectman McGrath moved that the draft RCC/Select Board clarification statement on 120 Garland Rd. will not be adopted by the Select Board, so it will stay "as is" as a Conservation only statement, approved 2 to 1.

10) Select Board has been informed campaign signs have come down. It is hoped that it has been weather related and not individuals as it is a criminal offense to remove signs.

## **Select Board Non Public Meetings**

February 12th: Hiring and Personnel  
February 26th: Personnel and Acquisition

## **Select Board Meeting February 12th**

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Minutes: None

- 1) Rye Recreation Assistant Director gave an overview of all the new and upcoming activities. Travel with Rye Rec [Click Here](#). The new online registration system: [Click Here](#) and Programs [Click Here](#). Youth Summer Programs HoRYEZons signups are open. Wave Room is open: [Click Here](#) Counselors are needed: [Click Here](#)
- 2) Request that the Select Board create an Advisory Committee for the restoration of the Historic Town Hall. The charter should include organizing all that is currently known and suggesting ways to get the restoration completed. Select Board will meet to create the charter.
- 3) Harbor Rd Bridge abutments and additional erosion during the January storms. DPW Director was approved to sole source this emergency work.
- 4) Discussion of creating an Arts Council to promote the Arts in Rye. Goal is to capture the cultural lift created by Rye 400 and to keep it going.
- 5) Rye currently leverages a centralized source for management of the Lien Process. Contract approved to continue with the existing vendor.
- 6) Deputy Police Chief Kevin Wunderly is now the Assistant Health Officer.

## **Select Board and Water District Meeting January 31st**

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Minutes: None

- 1) Wright Pierce Presentation about the Water Treatment Plant: [Click Here](#)
- 2) \$13.95M Loan, 2M of loan forgiveness. 20 year loan with first payments in 2028-2029
- 3) Next public information session is March 18th 6:30 pm RJH [Click Here](#)



## **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: February 21st**

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting Minutes: Not available

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

Superintendent's Newsletter January 2024: [Click Here](#)

January Facilities Report: [Click Here](#) (worth reading)

January Technology Report: [Click Here](#) (worth reading)

Superintendents Rye Report for February: [Click Here](#)

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

1) School Board approved [leave of absence](#) policy as allowed under agreements. [Click Here](#)

2) Rye 2024-2025 Calendar: [Click Here](#)

3) School Board did not approve Verizon's request to move forward with a cell tower.

Diagrams: [Click Here](#)

Responses to School Board questions: [Click Here](#)

Verizon safety report: [Click Here](#)

4) Assistant Superintendent Kelli R. Killen will be leaving SAU 50 on March 1 as she has been named the Director of Human Resources with Sanborn Regional School District.

## **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 31st**

Draft meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

Recorded video: [Click Here](#)

Town Budget Detail: [Click Here](#)

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

School Change summary: [Click Here](#)

School Pie Chart: [Click Here](#)

School Warrant: [Click Here](#)

Rye Water District: Budget: [Click Here Pie Chart](#)

Rye Beach Village Budget District: [Budget Treasurers Report](#)

Jenness Beach Village District Budget: [Click Here](#)

### **Town 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](#) ..... 2022 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](#)  
 2023 Rye Civic League Water Presentation: [Click Here](#)

### **RWD Monthly Meeting: February 7th**

Draft Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

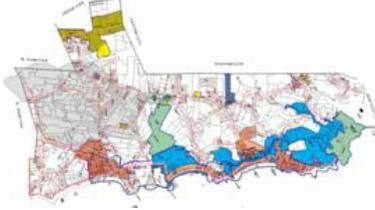
- 1) The NHDES funded (\$ 40K) lead service line inventory is projected to be complete October 2024
- 2) While RWD is no longer required to sample for e coli monthly, the monthly practice continues.
- 3) Using the \$50K DES Strategic Planning Grant Wright Pierce is testing for the best Iron and Manganese removal process. This is also funding preliminary work to support the Treatment Plant loan request.
- 4) Brown property well testing is planned for late February/early March.
- 5) RWD has submitted the MOU to the Select Board for attorney review, there has been no updates from the Select Board.
- 6) Budget Committee approved the Water Treatment Loan warrant article 8-0.

### **Sewer Commission: February 20th**

No video as the meetings are at the RBVD building

Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

- 1) January Church Rd. Pump station was 5,000,000 gallons more than last year. January had 7.43 inches of rain and the tides from the two storms. Pump flapper at the Jenness Beach Station also got stuck for a short period.
- 2) January 10th storm had both pumps at Church Rd. running for 28 hours straight, while January 13th storm had these pumps running 37 straight hours. Jenness Beach pumps ran for 12 straight hours for the 1/10 storm and then 19 hours straight for the 1/13 storm. This spiked the electric bill 38% more than last year.
- 3) All Town paperwork has been submitted to DES for the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Grant for the sewer infrastructure vulnerability assessment. The \$74K project will be funded \$55K from the Gran and \$18.5K from the Sewer Department
- 4) This work will help the Sewer Department meet the new EPA National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit Requirements.
- 5) EPA Creating Resilient Water Utilities initiative is providing free webinars for waste water utility owners who require the new permits. Sewer Director Arthur will attend.



## 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 February 6th**

Draft Minutes: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

- 1) Coordination and logistics for the February 15th input session.
- 2) Inputs can be provided online. [Click Here](#) See section at the top of the Civic News.
- 3) Next steps and timing of those not available

### **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) RCC is being contracted to help define a new process for the TRC. It was the old process that contributed to the Town having to pay to settle the 420 South Rd development.

## **Rules and Regulations:**

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

[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: February 20th**

Draft Meeting minutes: not available

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

1) DPW Director Rucker discussed the MS4 (StormWater Management) requirements and what DPW is doing. See 2021 NHDES list of properties with the most impervious coverage issues. [Click Here](#)

2) 2203 Ocean Rd. Condominium project was approved after more than six months of working with the Planning Board. Diagram [Draft NOD #17-2023](#) including the conditions [Diagram](#)

3) 53 Spring Rd was approved 5-0 for a second driveway access point. [Diagram Draft NODC #01-2024](#)

4) Ocean Blvd Lot merger was approved after the past obstacles were removed (as in one owner). [Diagram](#)

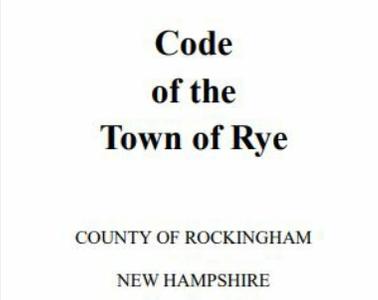
5) Rockingham Planning Commission will help the Planning Board with procedures to bring back the Technical Review Committee (TRC) process. [Circuit Rider](#). The TRC ended as it contributed to the 420 South Rd out of court settlement (\$400K total).

### **January Notice of Decisions**

None

## **Planning Board Agenda March 19th**

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: February 7th**

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting minutes: not available for either meeting

1) 125 Wentworth Rd. Two variances approve demolition of an existing building and a new home with trees begin to be cut and a spa and rinsing station within 100ft of the river. There is a three page RCC recommendation list with the [NOD #58-2023](#)

2) Nine other applications were continued to future meetings.

## **Zoning Board of Adjustment Agenda: March 6th**

Agenda: [Click Here](#)

1) 0 Jenness Beach Rd. Rehearing not open to the public

2) 750 Long John Rd. Expanding a non-conforming structure

3) 114 Harbor Rd. Expansion of non-conforming

4) 973 Ocean Blvd. Move parking in front yard

5) 267 Brackett expansion of non-conforming and in wetlands

6) 2203 Ocean Rd. Demolition and rebuild of two units

7) 117 Washington Rd. Demolish and replace shed (moved to April)

8) 30 Straws Point. expansions, including height variances

9) 39 Parsons Rd. Expansion of a non-conforming home



## 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: February 13th**

Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

- 1) Investigating adding digital subscriptions of the NYT and WSJ.
- 2) New AED installed and staff will be trained.

### **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: February 6, 8, 15 (Site Walk), 23, 27**

Feb, 6, 2024 Conservation Comm. Meeting Draft Minutes [CLICK HERE](#)

Video Streaming Feb. 6 Meeting [CLICK HERE](#)

Feb 8, 2024 Conservation Comm. Draft Minutes [CLICK HERE](#)

Video Streaming Feb. 8 Meeting [CLICK HERE](#)

Video Streaming February 23rd Meeting: [Click Here](#)

#### Highlights

- 1) After hearing extensive public comment, the Conservation Commission will not pursue a parking area at the Junkins Conservation Property (0 Pioneer Road). They will be asking for legal advice on language

for the motion so that if current access is removed options can be considered. See Feb 8 Draft Minutes HERE and Feb 6 Minutes HERE including letters and information submitted by residents.

2) As a result of the January storms, 26 emergency DES repair permits for ocean front properties have been requested so far.

Feb 6: PUBLIC HEARING The purpose of the hearing is to hear public comment on the future plans of the Junkins Family Conservation Land, 0 Pioneer Road, Map 022, Lot 073

*Editors note: Resident who raised point about RCC and a State House Bill was to allow a transaction to continue since the public process was not exactly met.*

Feb 8:

1) 2231 Ocean Boulevard, Tax Map 5.3, Lot 11 - Variance: §190-3.1.H.2(a): 75' Freshwater Wetland. Site walk scheduled for Feb 13th.

2) 30 Straw's Point Road, Tax Map 8.4, Lot 93 - Variance: §190-3.1.H.2(a): 100' Tidal Wetland Buffer  
Chair McFarland noted that the application for 30 Straw's Point was before the ZBA at their February meeting. RCC's jurisdiction is the 100 ft. buffer. The ZBA was concerned with fill outside of the 100 ft. buffer and storm water management, because of the recent storms. A revision to the plan showing the intent to provide more treatment to the storm water runoff was reviewed. Member Shepcaro agreed to follow up with a recommendation letter to the ZBA.

3) 57 West Atlantic Avenue, Tax Map 84, Lot 23 - Wetland Scientist Variance: §190-3.1.H.2(a): 100' Vernal Pool Wetland Buffer. Site walk scheduled Tuesday, February 13th.

4) 1264 and 1266 Ocean Boulevard, Tax Map 17.3, Lots 55 and 57 - Variance: §190-3.1.H.2(a)(b): 100' Tidal Wetland Buffer. Planting Plan. This application went before the ZBA and received all the variances needed. A wetland application is now prepared, which has been submitted to NH DES. Mr. Riker reviewed the proposed planting plan for the Commission. The Commission agreed to the planting plan. Member Shepcaro will prepare a letter for DES.

5) 106 Old Beach Road, Tax Map 84, Lot 123 - Variance: §190-3.1.H.2(a): 100' Tidal Wetland Buffer. Site Walk scheduled for Feb 13th.

6) 50 Brackett Road, Tax Map 22, Lot 91 - Variance: §190-3.1.H.2(a): 100' Berry's Brook Watershed. Site walk scheduled for Feb 13th.



## 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 February meeting**

Draft Minutes None

1) Travel with Rye Recreation [Click Here](#) Britian and Switzerland/Austria and Bavaria

2) Additional Staff is needed: [Click Here](#)

3) The Wave Club is open [Click Here](#)

4) New Rye Recreation Desk is open [Click Here](#)

Youth, Adult and Senior programs and activities

### **Upcoming Recreation Program trips:**

April 25: The Beach Boys Tribute [Click Here](#)

July 16th Jimmy Buffett Tribute [Click Here](#)

September 19th: Happy 2 Gather [Click Here](#)

November 13th: The Sicillian Tenors [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: February 1st**

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

- 1) Voted to pay for five house plaques
- 2) The following items were discussed
  - gazebo reconstruction after delay
  - publicity for 237 Locke Rd free house
  - new Select Board sub-committee on Town Hall renovation and space needs
  - need for an RHC sub com. to upgrade historic graveyard info on website
  - Neighborhood historic Districts - reach out to Planning Board
  - Rye Advocates and Demo Review Com updates

### **Demolition Review: February 2nd**

Recorded video: [Click Here](#)

Draft meeting Minutes: Not Available

- 1) 54 West Atlantic Avenue

### **Historic District Commission Meeting: No February Meeting**

Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

### **Rye Town Center Committee Meeting: February 7th**

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

- 1) Library Trustees met with the Town Center Committee to discuss the plans for the Library Common. The Library Trustees reviewed the proposal for the former Parsonage parcel, with the focus making it a more welcoming spot for library programs, and events, as well as a place for information gatherings. The Town has spoken time and time again about how they want a vibrant town center. The goal is to have this parcel be the centerpiece of creating a more vibrant town center.
- 2) Trustee Moody noted that in terms of funding, the Trustees have initial estimates and it's felt that the project can be completed with a \$500,000 budget. The Library has asked the Town, through a warrant article, to fund a third of the project. The Library is committed to using existing funds, as well as doing some fundraising to reach the goal. He pointed out that for a house that is assessed at \$800,000, this is a one-time ask of \$38.00 from the taxpayers. The Trustees feel this is a small ask for a project that will have a big impact on the Town Center.
- 3) Discussion focused on how this plan fit into the overall plan for the library property (in regards to

previous plans to move Museum etc...). Rye Town Center Committee Chair Loftus commented that he would rather see a whole plan developed with the Library trying to raise the funds for that plan. If that were to fail, the Library could then scale back to something like this proposal.

4) Member Azzi stated that the Library has done a lot of planning; strategic planning, master planning, and programming planning. The Library has a master plan that shows a lot more than the development in the Library Common. In working out the details, the Library has gone out of their way to avoid compromising the future needs of the remainder of the land that was acquired for library purposes in 1995.



## 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: February 13th

Draft Meeting minutes: Not Available  
Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

### Rye Recycling Education Committee: February 20th

Draft Minutes [Click Here](#)

The following items were discussed:

- potential new members to get to a full complement of five
- record Civic News video at Swap Shop in spring
- use social media more effectively
- different site for kids clothing and toy exchange
- expand hours for Swap shop
- initiative of the committee to do environmental program at RJH

### Telecommunication Infrastructure Committee: No February Meeting

Recorded Video:  
Draft Minutes:



## Mosquito

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

## **Mosquito Commission Meeting: No February Meeting**

No Meeting



### **Beach Committee**

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

## **Beach Committee Meeting: February 21st**

Agenda: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

- 1) The Beach Committee has moved the regular meeting day to the first Monday of the Month, @5:30pm.
- 2) The Beach Committee voted to support the proposal for a Rye resident to place one ADA compliant porta potty at both Cable and Wallis (Pirates) Beaches in place of one non-compliant one.
- 3) The Beach Committee continues to strongly support the placement of dog waste barrels at Cable and Pirates and they have heard from many residents who would like to see the barrels stay in place.
- 4) The next meeting will be Monday, March 4. Chris Grippo, the Chair of the NH Chapter of Surfrider will be our guest speaker. Shoulder season water sampling and testing will be discussed as well as adding and supporting another beach in the off season, possibly Pirates.

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

Draft Minutes: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Next Meeting March 13th

## **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](mailto: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](http://www.ryecivicleague.org) or by mail to Rye Civic League P.O. Box 971 Rye, NH 03870.

### **Get Involved:**

The Rye Civic League is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and such organizations are only as good as their membership base whether that is through paid dues, gifts in kind and active participation. What RCL really needs at this time, in addition to regular \$12 dues, is more active members who can assist with RCL tasks relating to the writing of the Civic News and other activities.

- Summarize a town meeting for the Civic News
- Editing the Civic News content
- Helping with Candidates Night and other civic events
- Social Media savvy person
- Website and help to fulfill our "digital transformation" vision. We envisioned a more effective capture of meeting summaries, a much better website and more dynamic communication.

## **Contact Info**

Rye Civic League: [civicnews@ryecivicleague.org](mailto: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

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.ccsend.com](mailto:civicnews@ryecivicleague.ccsend.com)