

Rye Civic News

May 2024

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

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



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[VIDEO of April Highlights and Rye History Note CLICK HERE](#)

April Highlights

- 1) NH DOT has received \$20M in Federal Funding for N. Hampton/Rye Sea Wall replacement, total expected cost is over \$80M (planning FEMA for this \$60M). [Portsmouth Herald Article](#), [NH DOT Presentation Video Recording](#) more information below (including the maps).
- 2) Select Board moved forward with changes to the process for re-appointments when a term ends [Click Here](#) for modified process. [New Form](#) will be utilized. April 2nd [video](#) draft [meeting minutes](#) See all the opportunities below.
- 3) Master Plan Outreach [Summary Report](#), [full list of responses](#) and [timeline](#). Please provide comments, questions and inputs prior to the **May 7th** meeting. [e-mail more information](#)
- 4) Select Board determine only some additional speed data on Washington Rd is required to satisfy [Article 30](#). Police Chief reiterates that most speeders are Rye residents. [2019 Letter to Residents](#). [PHS Educational Sign](#)
- 5) Conservation Commission held a public hearing to acquire Conservation Easement for 981 Washington Rd (previously approved and signed off by the Select Board). [RCC Presentation and A_Q Documents](#) Recorded Video. May 3rd at 2pm RCC/Select Board meeting about a second land acquisition (0 Appledore). [Click Here Diagrams](#)
- 6) DPW has been repairing potholes using the new Hotbox to put down tar, not patch material.
- 7) School [Facilities Plan](#) and [Technology Reports](#) updated in April. These and [RES/RJH Principal](#) updates are also very informative.
- 8) Aquarion Water provided its quarterly update to the Select Board. [Click Here](#)
- 9) FB Environmental delivered the final report from the \$100K grant. [Click Here](#). Planning Board discussed data about even new septic system failing when land is inundated with rising water. Post Planning Board meeting, Rockingham Planning Commission information shared that showed potential property at risk from possible sea level rise and storm surges. [Click Here](#)
- 10) Rye Recreation adding two new events. Join the Rye Recreation Track and Field team. [Click Here](#). Improv Comedy fund raiser for RJHS [Click Here](#)

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

Town positions [e-mail](#)

Planning or Zoning positions: [e-mail](#)

Boards/Commissions/Committees Policy: [Click Here](#)

Appointment Submission form: [Click Here](#)

Town Employment Opportunities: [Click Here](#)

Heritage Commission

2 Member and 3 Alternate Vacancies

Historic District Commission	3 Alternate Vacancies
Recycling Education Committee	2 Member Vacancies
Demolition Review Committee	1 Alternate Vacancy
Planning Board	2 Alternate Vacancies
Town Center Committee	1 Member and 2 Alternate Vacancies
Town Hall Restoration Advisory Committee	7 Member Vacancies
Conservation Commission	2 Member Vacancies
Beach Committee	1 Member and 1 Alternate Vacancy
Rye Community Engagement Committee	4 Member Vacancies
Mosquito Control Commission	1 Member Vacancy
Recreation Commission	2 Member Vacancies
Energy Commission	1 Member Vacancy

General Announcements

- 1) Conservation Commission acquisition Public Hearing May 3rd at 2pm Town Hall. [Click Here](#)
[Diagrams](#) This is \$200K total, \$120K from Rye and \$80K from abutters.
- 2) Supervisors of the Checklist May 2nd meeting 9:30am to discuss the use of electronic poll books. [Click Here](#)
- 3) EPA has moved forward with the new PFOA requirements which means Rye Water, Private Well and Aquarion water may not meet the new safety standards.
- 4) RJHS Fund raiser with Rye Rec. Improve in Rye. May 31st [More Information](#)
- 5) New Rye "Friends" group to be started to take care of Rye Graveyards [More Information](#)
- 6) Rockingham County meetings can now be seen on Youtube. [Rockingham County Channel](#)
- 7) 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 Town Center Committee](#): May 1, 5:30pm
[Board of Adjustment](#): May 1, 7:00pm
[Supervisors of the Check List](#): May 2, 9:30am
[Heritage Commission](#): May 2, 5:30pm
[Demolition Review Committee](#): May 3, 12:30pm
[Select Board & Conservation Commission Public Hearing](#): May 3, 2:00pm
[Beach Committee](#): May 6, 5:30pm
[The Master Plan Steering Committee](#): May 7, 1:00pm
[Energy Committee](#): May 7, 3:30pm
[Historic District Commission](#): May 8, 5:30pm

[Conservation Commission](#): May 9, 6:30pm
[Select Board](#): May 13, 6:30pm
[Sewer Commission](#): May 14, 8:00am
[Cemetery Trustees](#): May 16, 1:00pm
[Mosquito Control Commission](#): May 21, 5:00pm
[Planning Board](#): May 21, 6:00pm
[Recycling Education Committee](#): May 21, 6:30pm
[Memorial Day - Town Offices Closed](#) May 27, 8:00am
[Select Board](#): May 28, 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 April 22nd

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting notes: Not available

- 1) Additional Rye Recreation programs. Join the Rye Recreation Track and Field team. [Click Here](#). Improv Comedy fund raiser for RJHS [Click Here](#)
- 2) RJHS 7th Grade will be having a Renaissance Fair on Parson's Field as part of a Social Studies project. June 6th 10:00am to 2:45pm. Rain Date June 7th.
- 3) Beach Permit Applications presented. Summer Sessions approved with insurance filing completed. Common Roots Yoga approved, Cinnamon Rainbow surf lessons approved, MKN LLC mission Portsmouth yoga - approved with additional days from last year. These are four of the eight permits Rye has historically approved.
- 4) Aquarion Water [Quarterly update](#). Reminded Select Board of the Environmental Champion Program. Correct deadline for application sis May 13th. [Click Here](#)
- 5) Hampton Little River treatment plant to support some of the new wells Aquarion is looking at. Water treatment for PFAS is not planned. Discussed water main breaks (many pictures) from January storms. [See pictures in report](#) Also promoting Rain Barrel Program [More Information](#).
- 6) Aquarion also reported that NH DES is looking at a Seacoast water interconnection project.
- 7) Planning Board recommended Dania Seigle for the Rockingham Planning Commission Rye representation on the Technical Advisory Committee. Select Board approved.
- 8) Paving bid to Pike Industries as they were tied for the low bid and have the closest asphalt plant. The larger paving projects this year have attracted the larger firms. Looking at paving three miles of roads. Rye DPW staff to prepare the roads is the constraining factor.
- 9) Retired Police Cruiser will be retrofitted to be used by the new Deputy Fire Chief. When the Fire Chief gets a new vehicle, that will go to the Deputy Chief. Long discussion about spending money retrofitting a vehicle that may only have a few years of service left. Approved the work to move forward.
- 10) Discussion with resident who had the granite mailbox that was destroyed by a Town Snow plow. Mailbox posts must follow [these rules](#). Town policy is not to replace in kind, but to install a functioning wooden post mailbox. Select Board will make a special exception and transfer the cost of the replacement post so a similar post can be installed.
- 11) Rt. 1A Seawall listening session to get public information to the NH DOT. Looking at May 8th to have a listening session and Select Board member McGrath agreed to help residents document information with pictures.
- 12) Received the quote for the Town Hall Annex security system. Update slightly lower than the September response (below the \$50K budgeted). Approved to be sole sourced as it connects with the existing Safety Building system.
- 13) Regional Association Review committee proposal was tabled by the Select Board. Looking to have a working session with the committee in early June.

Select Board Meeting April 17th

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting notes: Not available

- 1) Residents spoke about next steps the Rt. 1 Seawall work (see below). Select Board McGrath suggested working with residents to document personal experience and observations for NH DOT.

2) With EPA PFAS limits and Eversource trying to sell Aquarion Water, what can be done to protect Rye residents on Aquarion water.

3) Discussion of [Article #30](#) Speed limits in town. State law says Urban roads are 30mph and Rural are 35mph. The question is which sections are which and what is logical consistency for speed limits.

4) Chief Walsh believes the analysis is complete and roads are currently compliant. [Chief Letter](#) to the Select Board. Many speeders are Rye residents so a focus should be on changing the culture of residents driving in Rye. [Letter from Police Chief](#)

5) Chief discussed the education program with Portsmouth High School ([Poster](#)) and relayed stories of poor driving behavior and bicycles not single file.

6) Discussed additional digital signs, these can be labor intensive for the Police Department. Resident engagement has led to changes in police activity and investments in new approaches across the seacoast.

7) Police Chief will collect new data on the road sections that are marked at 35mph and will investigate grant funds for additional electronic signs.

8) [Article 33](#). Discussion of the perception of the process problems.

9) Building Inspector covered some of the improvements that have been made with the additional people, space and expanded hours. Discussed a [draft of a document](#) that describes what is needed for building permit. Step one will be to invest in the draft document the Building Inspector has started.

11) Building Inspector has been working fast tracking some issues that are zoning violations but could be done differently or via changes to the current ordinances.

12) Select Board will draft a charter for Article 33 and be ready to discuss at the August 22nd.

13) HDC requested a waiver of the new policy so that people can be appointed as there is not a quorum. Process was waived and appointments made so the HDDC could continue operations.

Select Board Non Public Meetings

April 2nd: Reputation, Acquisition, Legal Advice

April 8th: Acquisition, Personnel, Hiring

April 17th: Reputation

April 22nd: Acquisition, Personnel, Hiring and Reputation

Select Board Meeting April 8th

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Minutes: [Click Here](#)

1) Abatements reviewed ([see agenda](#)) All were approved

2) State Representatives Grote, Balboni and Malloy gave an update. Discussed NH DOT April 15th meeting. There will be about \$20M for seawall work to be discussed at the meetings.

3) Update on that State's effort to have adequate education across the State (Donor town issue). Discussion of revenue from Rooms & Meals and Liquor Stores.

4) Select Board will schedule a work session for the Warrant articles that require action, Only two discussed on April 17th

5) Catch Basin Cleaning, (MS4 requirement), Pavement Markings and Street Sweeping bids accepted and approved. Of the 800 catch basins, DWP goal is to clean 200 catch basins each year. Some Catch Basins need to be cleaned yearly.

6) DPW is in ownership of the Hot Box and is using it to repair potholes

7) Reviewed the expedient process for approving seawall repair. Inputs from Primex (Town insurance firm) was incorporated.

8) Town Custodian has resigned after eight years of services.

9) Fire Department had a Paramedic resignation.

10) Select Board is moving to consolidate Town legal matters go to the current legal firm.

11) Select Board is looking to create an application form to be used for applying for Select Board appointed positions. Will attempt to have the form available as soon as possible.

12) Planning Board will recommend the TAC representation. Then it will go to the Select Board.

Select Board Meeting April 2nd

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Minutes: [Click Here](#)

- 1) Residents spoke about the proposed changes to the process of Select Board appointments to commissions and committees.
- 2) Moving forward, at the conclusion of an appointed term, a new appointment will not be made for thirty days and does not need to come from the commission or committee chair before Select Board approval.
- 3) Select Board Chair Epperson attempted to continue the discussion to a further work session, but failed due to lack of a second.
- 4) Select Board Member Wright moved to approve the policy change, seconded by member McGrath. Approved 2-1.
- 5) Motion approved to waive the thirty days for appointments with current recommendations so committees and commissions can have a quorum.
- 6) DPW approved to hire a part-time custodian to replace the retiring Town Custodian.

NH DOT N. Hampton & Rye Seawall April 15th Meeting

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

[NH DOT Presentation](#): [North Map](#), [Central Map](#), [South Map](#), [Narrative](#), [Postcard](#)

Portsmouth Herald Story on \$20M Grant: [Click Here](#) [Draft Project Schedule](#)

[Presenter contacts and agenda](#) [Resources Handout](#) (scan so links are not active)

- 1) Executive Counselor Stevens stressed the importance for Rye residents to attend hearings for 10 Year projects.
- 2) Seawall repair will be an \$80M plus Rye/N. Hampton project. \$20M just approved from Federal PROTEXT Discretionary Grant Program. Remaining funds to come from FEMA.
- 3) FEMA funds can only be used to restore to past conditions, so nothing larger, but new technologies can be utilized.
- 4) Rye and N. Hampton can pursue additional funding to augment what can be done.
- 5) Residents are eager to share knowledge, especially to improve safety and to address trouble spots as project may extend into 2030.
- 6) Resident shares that during the January flooding and fire at their residence, many hazardous materials were swept out of their garage and into the wetlands.
- 7) The project does not include Swayers Beach as that is Rye's responsibility.



Rye Schools

Meets 3rd Wednesday at RJH

School Policies: [Click Here](#)

Rye 2024-25 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](#)

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

RJH Solar Panels tracking: [Click Here](#)

School Board Meeting: April 17th

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting Minutes: Not available

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

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

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

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

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

- 1) Mr. Russo shared an update on the Frontline software that our SAU is currently rolling out to improve our Human Resources job functions. He and Ms. Kirby have joined the National Community of Directors

to discuss benefits of Special Education and the use of AI. Based on Mr. Helfrich's report, the school board approved up to one hundred thousand dollars for safety film for the windows for RES.

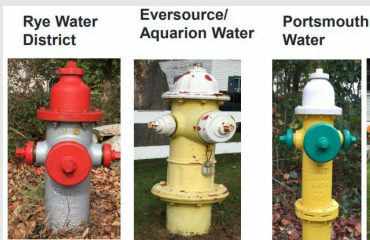
2) Mr.Zadravec noted the general theme of the feedback has been that our SAU is very fortunate to have three incredibly skilled and qualified finalists. He indicated that Mr. David Hobbs, the current Assistant Superintendent of SAU 21 in Hampton has accepted the position and will be joining SAU 50 in July as our new Assistant Superintendent

3) To ease community communications the Board agreed to ask the Rye Select Board to include the school websites on the list of town offices online and to allow the schools to provide school election information in the town newsletter along with the town election information.

SAU 50 School Board Meeting:

March SAU 50 Sensations [Click Here](#)

1) Next meeting is May 22nd 6:30pm at MHT New Castle



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](#)

2024 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: April 3rd and 17th

Draft Meeting minutes: Apr 3 [Click Here](#) and Apr 17 [Click Here](#)

April 17th

- 1) Stephen Parkinson from Municipal Resources Inc met with the Commissioners to discuss the recommendation for an administrator position in the Water District to help run overall district operations.
- 2) The Commissioners asked Mr. Berg, Wright-Pierce to reach out to Raffelis with regard to finalizing the rate study and ask them to come to the May meeting.
- 3) The Commissioners approved the authorization for Chair Scott Marion to sign the Authorization to Borrow from the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund, Drinking Water & Groundwater Trust Fund, and PFAS Remediation Loan Fund, and all other necessary paperwork for the Rye Water District Central Treatment Plant funding.

April 3rd

- 1) The Portsmouth usage side of the system has increased from this time last year
- 2) Lead Service Line Inventory process is continuing and there may be between 40 and 50 properties requiring further investigation.
- 3) Commissioners will work with Jenn Mates at NH DES about preparing the RFP for the Engineering and Design phase. Wright-Pierce is working on a Pilot Study using the Strategic Planning Grant to support the the Engineering and Design.

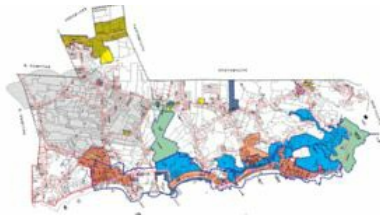
Sewer Commission: April 9th

No video as the meetings are at the RBVD building

Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

- 1) Church Rd Pump Station was at 6,691,700 gallons compared to 4,449,100 gallons in March 2023. Rainfall this year was 11.58 inches compared to 3.61 inches last March.

- 2) Church Rd. Pump station generator replacement may be 50KW and a new propane tank explored.
- 3) Owners should be maintaining and emptying their grease traps.
- 4) Hampton Sewer will be looking at the Jenness Beach Pump station because of increased inflow/infiltration.
- 5) Hampton is looking at funding to help with inflow/infiltration issues from flood waters as this impacts the Sewer system capacity.
- 6) 21 Vin Mary Court is looking at adding a second dwelling on that property.



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](#)

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](#)

1) Planning Board is reapplying for the Phase II NHIOP Grant. This will fund a review of current Land User rules and suggestions for what Rye could change to enable additional housing inventory.

Master Plan Steering Committee: April 9th

Draft Minutes: Not available

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Listening Session (320 responses): [Summary Report](#)

Full listing of all public responses: [Click Here](#)

Proposed Timeline: [Click Here](#)

1) First year Planning Board member Peter Moynahan is the new chair of the Master Steering committee.

2) Timeline was discussed and is now posted. [Click Here](#)

3) Town Departments have not been engaged beyond initial inputs. No discussion about other Town Master Plans and how to include them.

4) Discussion or Outreach and engagement report. Visioning readout of 320 person input, produced 160 pages of data.

5) Discussion of focus groups and if RJH Students can be engaged.

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 Analysis is: [Click Here](#)

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

Technical Review Committee (TRC) Meeting:

1) RCC will be drafting updated TRC procedures for Rye.

Rules and Regulations:

1) Pat Losik will Chair, with Don Cavallaro. John Shaw is now an alternate.

Planning Board Meeting: April 16th

Draft Meeting minutes: not available

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

1) Planning Board created an additional set of communication tasks for the Rockingham Planning Commission (RPC) Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) appointee. [Click Here](#). [TAC overview from RPC](#)

2) TAC appointment expired in 2023, but current appointee Dania Seigle has continued in this role and requested re-appointment. John Moynahan also requested that the Planning Board recommend him to be assigned to this position by the Select Board.

3) After hearing from both residents and asking questions, the Planning Board recommends that Dania Seigle be assigned this role and John Moynahan can serve as the alternate if he so chooses.

4) After completion of the [NH Housing Opportunity Planning](#) (HOP) Phase I work, funding was suspended. Funding is now available again and the Board approved re-submitting the Phase II HOP Grant. If awarded this \$26,250 will provide an analysis of potential changes to Rye rules that would create the opportunity for additional housing inventory.

5) As there are three new Planning Board members and one new Alternate (there are more Alternate openings), RPC Presented a Planning Board Member training presentation.

6) FB Environmental provided the Select Board with the last part of the \$100K Grant. [Report](#) describes how rising sea level and the corresponding rising Groundwater Levels put septic systems at risk, even new systems.

7) Member Borne requested the Parson's Creek Watershed agenda item to determine if the Planning Board will play a role in the FB Environmental budget RFP to update the Parsons Creek Watershed Plan ([click here](#)). Member Borne shared the 2017 State data presented to the Select Board that the Parsons Creek Watershed has too many leach fields. [Click Here](#) for page. [More information](#) with diagrams.

8) Discussion of what other communities have done and if it is possible to have a special overlay district to address unique requirements. At the Feb. 15th NH DOT meeting a resident reported that environmentally hazardous material was washed out of their garage and into the wetlands during the January storm events.

9) Chair Losik showed this report ([click here](#)) that a resident located and shared that discusses the D+ grade of the Wallis Sands area (page 31). Editor's Note: Post meeting the chair shared with the Board a data table that RPC created in 2018 that estimated the property risk under theoretical sea level and storm surge rises. [Click Here](#) for summary of Rye data created by the Civic League. [Click here](#) for the full data table.

10) Master Plan update was discussed. Board members and the public should get inputs and questions form the [Out Reach Report](#) or the [full results](#) prior to the May 7th meeting. [e-mail here](#). [Timeline](#)

11) Subdivision update

Thompson Landing (Rt. 1/Dow Lane): Additional units are being occupied. [14 Thompson Way Listing](#)
THP off Airfield Drive. Looks like construction will be continuing.

1215 Ocean Blvd. Out of the courts and moving forward, but under what was approved in 2018

665-667 Wallis Rd: New Third floor now required a full demolition. Should not be returning to the planning board.

Planning Board Agenda May 21st

Not yet posted.

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

**Code
of the
Town of Rye**

COUNTY OF ROCKINGHAM
NEW HAMPSHIRE

the Rye ZBA. [Click Here](#)

GIS Information: [Click Here](#)

NH Zoning Atlas

Zoning Board of Adjustment Meeting Minutes: April 3rd

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

- 1) 30 Straws Point. Granted three variances, along with three conditions from the Conservation Commission. [NOD Case #07-2024](#)
- 2) 140 Harbor Rd. Did not accept jurisdiction of this case.
- 3) 750 Long John Rd. Granted six variances for expansion of a non-conforming structure. [NOD Case #08-2024](#)
- 4) 2242 Ocean Blvd. Granted five variances to raze existing structure and replace with new [Case #15-2024](#)
- 5) 2231 Ocean Blvd. Granted 4-0-0 Adding an expansion and deck in the wetlands. [Case #16-2024](#)
[NOD](#). RCC conditions letter not included with the NOD

Zoning Board of Adjustment Agenda: May 1st

Agenda: **NOT POSTED on line** but has been available for a week (sent to abutters)

- 1) 117 Washington Rd. Demolish and replace shed
- 2) 154 Washington Rd. Expansion and septic where there is ledge
- 3) 1085 Old Ocean Blvd Septic System in seasonal high water
- 4) 14 Sagamore Rd. Mixed use development replacing Brits Bits
- 5) 312 Wallis Rd. Generator in the side boundary
- 6) 4 Patriots Way setbacks and height
- 7) 11 Huntervale Ave. adding a garage and expanding a non-conforming structure
- 8) 50 Brackett Rd. dry stack stone wall
- 9) 42 Washington Rd. parking space in the wetlands set back

Zoning Board of Adjustment Agenda March 6th Notice of Decisions

Meetings are the first Wednesday of the month. Notice of decisions have not been available at the end of the month when the RCL publishes the Civic News. This is what should have been in the April Civic News.

- 1) 0 Jenness Rd. Unanimously voted to [deny the request](#) for rehearing the January 17th 2024 decision.
- 2) 114 Harbor Rd. Voted unanimously granted two variances for a mini-split and non-conforming use expansion. [NOD #10-2024](#)
- 3) 973 Ocean Blvd. Voted unanimously to grant parking in the front boundary [NOD Case\\$12-2024](#)
- 4) 267 Brackett Rd. Voted (not reported) to grant three variances along with four Conservation recommendations for expansion of a non-conforming structure. [NOD Case#11-2024](#)
- 5) 2023 Ocean Blvd (Common Roots). Voted 4-1 to grant four variances for replacing two of the condonits. NH DOT approval is still required. [NOD Case#61-2023](#)

Meeting adjourned at 11:47pm the following were continued.

- 1) 0 Jenness Beach Rd. Rehearing not open to public comments
- 2) 750 Long John Rd. Expanding a non-conforming structure
- 3) 117 Washington Rd. Demolish and replace shed
- 4) 30 Straws Point Rd. New Septic system, generator and retaining wall



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: April 18th

Draft Meeting Minutes: Not available

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

- 1) Director Richmond has received several phone calls, emails and one written note commending the RPL on the Eclipse event (first outside event of the season). 70+ people attended with all ages represented. A donation of \$100 was received after the event.
- 2) Highlights from Director's report include: Friends of the RPL to fund the Summer Reading Program. Position of StoryTime Librarian is open after a recent resignation. Plan to revise the policy regarding managing accumulation of vacation hours to ensure that the current practice matches the employee handbook. Plan to proceed with subscription to the WSJ for one year and then assess usage. Furnace to be evaluated for volatile compounds. Radon test to be completed. Plan to provide free feminine hygiene products moving forward. Training for CPR and Narcan pending (Red Cross training in May).
- 3) Trustees Hodgdon, Tucker and Marttila to attend the NHLTA Spring Conference on June 5 in Concord,
- 4) Ms. Julie Tucker made an offer to attend to the plantings along the sidewalk and entranceway.

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) April 1st, 11th, 17th and 22nd

Draft Meeting Minutes: April 11 [Click Here](#)

Recorded Videos: April 11th [Video](#), April 17th [Video](#) April 22nd [Video](#)

RCL Meeting notes: [Click Here](#)

April 22nd 981 Washington Rd. Conservation Easement

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Overview and A_Q Documents: [Click Here](#)

- 1) In response to public comments about the quality of the documents, the Conservation Committee explained that they can no longer use the experienced Conservation attorney and now must utilize the Town attorney.
- 2) Many expressed the importance of protecting the upland to our aquifer and acting on the Berry's Brook Management plan that calls for protecting aquifer lands.
- 3) Discussion of the access lane to this property.
- 4) Some questioned the assessed value and if this land could be developed. Others cited how other properties have received variances and others have purchased other properties to access back lands.

April 11 Meeting

RCL Meeting Notes: [Click Here](#)

Highlights:

1) The RCC will not recommend the latest proposal for 14 Sagamore Road (Brit Bits) redevelopment as the current building is 70' away from the wetlands and proposed is 20'.

Concern that ZBA is throwing out RCC recommendations, even "good ones" and that the ZBA may need reeducation as to the RCC's role in protecting resources.

2) 18 Acorn Acres, Tax Map 16, Lot 96 (Town GIS info and location) Variances 190-2.3.C(3): front yard setback; 190-3.1.H(2)(a)(f)(g): driveway in 75' freshwater buffer; 190-5.0.C: parking in front setback. Special Exception: 190-3.1.G(2): driveway in 75' freshwater buffer, expansion of existing house and deck (out of buffer), remove existing driveway and replace with a smaller driveway slight increase in lot coverage to 13.6% with new driveway of porous pavers reducing impervious surfaces in the buffer itself. Site walk was scheduled.

3) 11 Straw's Point Road, Tax Map 91, Lot 9 (Town GIS info and location)

TBD Proposed wetland crossing. The existing driveway to a neighboring house (an easement on 11 Straw's) crosses and pinches the wetland. As part of the project at 11 Straw's, discussion on how the driveway might be relocated and its effects on wetlands mitigated. A site walk was scheduled

4) 1248 Ocean Blvd, Tax Map 173, Lot 48 (Town GIS info and location)

TBD Buffer plantings, retaining wall.

Recent storms ripped out the plantings and it is proposed to relocate the retaining wall 5' closer to the ocean with new plantings. The Commission agreed the new plan makes sense and will send a letter to the Building Department with further work to come on how actual wall will be constructed by the engineers/architect



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: April 8th

Draft Minutes: Not available (only January are posted)

No video as the meetings are in the Wave room [Wave Club Flyer](#)

1) Commission could not meet as there was not a quorum. Two members could not attend and two members whose terms just ended have not been re-appointed by the Select Board.

March 21st Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

March 4th Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

May 31st: Improve Fund Raiser. [Click Here](#)

Granite State Track & Field: [Click Here](#) to Join the Rye team

Many activities:

2024 Pickleball Clinic Youth and Adult June/July: [Click Here](#)

Women's Golf Lessons: [Click Here](#)

Upcoming Recreation Program trips:

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

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

November 14th: The Sicilian Tenors "Downtown Abbey" [Click Here](#)

December 3rd. Kenny and Dolly [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: April 4th

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

- 1) update on gazebo and future location
- 2) vote to pay for Rye Advocates web site
- 3) Rye Advocates update
- 4) Demo Review Com. update
- 5) Historic Signage update
- 6) Historic graveyard committee update
- 7) Status of new town hall sub com
- 8) RHC web site - needs update
- 9) Volunteers needed for Mem. Day refreshments

Demolition Review Committee: April 18th

Recorded video: [Click Here](#)

Draft meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

- 1) 1215 Ocean Blvd. (corner of Wallis Rd). Approval that buildings at 1215 Ocean Blvd are neither historically significant or architecturally important, and their demolition will not be detrimental to the neighborhood.

Historic District Commission Meeting: April 24th

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Select Board gave an exemption to the new policy so the HDC could meeting.

Rye Town Center Committee Meeting: April 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: April 9th

Draft Meeting minutes: Not available

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

- 1) Community Power Update. Suggested a dedicated training for new Select Board Member Wright.
- 2) Community Power now services 120K customers in twenty-seven communities
- 3) Safety Building is the biggest municipal electricity consumer.
- 4) Rye Energy DOES NOT recommend buying the Breakfast Hill Landfill. Engineering studies show a solar array does not negatively impact the Landfill Cap. Select Board has until May 28th to respond to the Landowner.
- 5) Discussing Solar for the Safety Building and the DPW buildings.
- 6) Energy Committee would like to participate in the Library HVAC decisions.
- 7) Proposing suggestions for the excess exterior lighting at the Town Annex.
- 8) Committee discussed suggesting the Town be purchasing Hybrid vehicles as there are still challenges with EV.
- 9) Rye Water Treatment plant location could support a ground based Solar Array.

Rye Recycling Education Committee: April 16th

Draft Minutes [Click Here](#)

- 1) Schools are doing well with single stream for trash, plastics, tin. There is a separate dumpster for paper and cardboard. Mr. Fox is used for food compost.
- 2) Carpenter is needed to make repairs to the back area panels.
- 3) Education is needed to increase residents' usage of Mr. Fox food composting. There will be a social media effort.
- 4) Once the new member is appointed, more focus on social media with regular posts.
- 5) Discussed PBS documentary "A Brief History of the Future" focused on Plastics Industry in the 90's.
- 6) Discussing facility tour of Troiano single stream
- 7) Open actions: Turnkey Landfill vs. WIN Waste, Clothing/toy swap, recycling at beaches

Telecommunication Infrastructure Committee: No Meeting

No recent meetings

Mosquito

Mosquito Complaint Form: [Click Here](#)

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

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



Mosquito Commission Meeting: April 16th

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft minutes: Not available

1)



Beach Committee

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

Parking Assessment Study: [Click Here](#)

Beach Committee Meeting: April 1st

Draft Minutes: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

- 1) New Select Board representative McGrath introduced. Discussed initiative he is leading for better welcoming of visitors with better signage at beaches and website information.
- 2) Planning for the April 26th Beach Clean up with the Blue Ocean Society.
- 3) More Eco-Posters from the schools are coming and 4th graders have been working on beach sticker designs.
- 4) Chris Grippo from Surfrider discussed training for residents for the beach pollution testing they do as the State NH DES only tests water during the busy season. [March presentation](#).
- 5) Residents are concerned with the boulders on the beaches as private seawalls are repaired.
- 6) Town website should better identify public beach access points and the Committee would like to have a site walk of the access points with DPW Director Rucker.
- 7) Committee will reiterate support for Dog Waste barrels and Pirates Cove (Wallis Rd. Extension) and Cable Rd.

Trustee of the Trust Funds Meeting: March 13th

Draft Minutes: [Not Available](#)

Recorded Video: [Not Available](#)

Agenda: [Click Here](#)

Municipal Records Committee June 20th

Draft Minutes:

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

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](#)

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:

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](#)

ABOUT THE RYE CIVIC LEAGUE

About the Rye Civic League and the Civic News

The Rye Civic League was founded in 1968 by Frances Holway, Joan LaFrance and Marjorie Miller, disbanded in 1992 and revived in 2009. The RCL 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 of \$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.

[Unsubscribe s.borne@comcast.net](#)

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Sent by civicnews@ryecivicleague.ccsend.com