

January 2025

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2024 Citizen's Handbook [Click Here](#)
National Civic League RCL Story [Click Here](#) Fall 2023 update: [Click Here](#)



January is Rye Civic League Membership month:

While the monthly Civic News is free, the Rye Civic League does have annual operations costs. If you have not recently donated, please consider making a **CONTRIBUTION** We suggest \$12 annually (\$1 a month), but most are much more generous (and appreciative of all that the Civic League volunteers do - [you too could be one](#) of the volunteers).

VIDEO of December Highlights & Rye History Note [Click Here](#)

December Highlights (video)

- 1) Rye will be helping out N. Hampton by lending them Police Chief Walsh as N. Hampton searches for a new Police Chief. Deputy Chief Blaisdell will oversee Rye Police in the interim. [Click Here](#)
- 2) The Select Board is looking to buy the Breakfast Hill Landfill property for \$85K. While the Purchase & Sales may have been approved, the A-Q documents are not available to the public yet or a Public Hearing date. Select Board also discussed a warrant article to undo the past portioned warrant articles that required public discussion and a public option to move approval the the ballot. [Click Here for past warrants](#)
- 3) The Save Rye Harbor Group has updated the [information page](#). Next PDA meeting is January 7th 8:30am and the [RFP](#) should be discussed. Agenda is not yet posted. [Live Stream Portsmouth Herald story](#).
- 4) The Select Board and Town Clerks office are at an impasse over moving the Assistant Clerk to Full Time from Part Time. The disagreement is over hours of operation. The Budget Committee included funding for a Full Time position hoping there will be a resolution. Discussion/need for three full time people goes back to before 2016 (when Beth Yeaton retired). See November 15th Select Board [minutes](#) and [video](#).
- 5) Budget Committee has yet to vote on the School Budget. Discussion is over longer term plans over rising budgets than the current budget. Budgets continue to grow while estimates using this new [State Report](#), the 290 housing units built over the past 20 years could have added around 70 more students, yet actual enrollment is done around 200 students over the past 20 years.. Build Out analysis for Rye estimates best case of just over 500 housing units could be added under existing zoning.
- 6) Budget Committee is working on a presentation format for the January 16th Town Budget Public Hearing. See posted department narratives below.
- 7) Select Board discussions continue to banter about how/when Bonding should be used. From the [Beach Committee minutes](#) (page 3) and Select Board meeting public comments there may have been a non-posted "Dog Committee" meeting with the topic of returning the Saturday No Dogs on the beach to 7pm to be consistent.
- 8) Rye Recreation had a Senior Luncheon. See [January 9th](#) and [February 13th](#) information. Also [Canasha Card group](#).
- 9) Library Strategic Planning Survey had 311 responses (comparable to 320 for the Master Plan update).
- 10) The [draft Master Plan](#) update has moved to the Planning Board for review as the Master Plan Steering Committee sunset in December. Should be discussed at [January 7th Planning Board](#).

11) The NH DRA is showing an equalized Rye Assessed value of over \$4.8B [Click Here](#). In 2021 Ryes' Assessed value was \$2.4B before the 2022 re-assessment increased assessed value to \$3.2B. So, Ryes' assessed value (equalized) has doubled since 2021.

General Announcements

1) Upcoming **Budget Committee Public Hearings**

January 15th: Public Hearing School Budget 6:30pm RJH (please review the information below)

[Summary](#), [Rye Pie Chart](#), [Data by School](#), [School Staffing](#), [Expandable Trusts](#), [Enrollment](#), [SAU-50](#)

January 16th: Public Hearing Town Budget 6:30pm Town Hall

NEW: Please visit the Town Website as the Budget Committee is working on posting what will be presented before the meeting.

2) [Land Use and Zoning changes Public Hearing](#) **January 7th 6:30pm Town Hall** (January 21st possibly also)

RZO [2025-04 Solar Energy](#), RZO [2025-06 Fences and walls](#), RZO [2025-10 Accessory Building and structures](#), RZO [2025-12 Parking Calculations](#), RZO [2025-13 Effluent test pits](#), Building Code [2025-01 removes from building code to Zoning and Land Use](#), LDR 2025-02 Outdoor Lighting

3) RCL Annual Town & School Budget analysis and Warrant Article education -**January 30th 7pm Rye Public Library**. Town Deliberative meeting is Saturday, February 1st at 9am RJH. There will be a Civic Fest at the lunch break.

4) "Rye Roots" Genealogy Research Group meets monthly. see [RHS website](#) for details

5) Rye Advocates for Historic Preservation [see new website](#) - Ryeadvocates.com in which the history of old houses can be searched by road.

6) Updated Rye Historic **Family Graveyard** committee report. [Click Here](#)

7) Online Rye History Information from the Town Historian. [Click Here](#)

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](#)

Elected Positions with Expiring Terms

Additional positions may be available if people resign early.

Filing period to run will be the **last two weeks in January as the Deliberative Town Meeting** is February 1st.

Select Board -	1 3 year term
Cemetery Trustee -	1 3 year term
Library Trustee -	1 3 year term
Trustee of the Trust Funds -	1 3 year term
Budget Committee:	2 3 year terms
Planning Board:	2 3 year terms
Board of Adjustment (ZBA):	1 3 Year Term
Sewer Commission:	1 3 year term

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 -	1 Member Vacancy, 2 Alternate Vacancies
Historic District Commission –	3 Member Vacancies
Demolition Review Committee -	2 Alternate Vacancies
Town Center Committee -	2 Alternate Vacancies
Energy Committee –	7 Member Vacancies, 2 Alternate Vacancies
Land Use Informational Guide Advisory Committee --	1 Member Vacancy
Rye Coastal Infrastructure Review Committee –	1 Member Vacancy
Community Engagement Committee –	1 Member Vacancy
Beach Committee -	1 Alternate Vacancy
CIP Committee –	1 Member Vacancy

Calendar of Upcoming Meetings

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

[Heritage Commission](#) Jan 2 - 5:30pm
[Energy Committee](#) Jan 7 - 3:30pm
[Planning Board](#) Jan 7 - 6:00pm
[Select Board & CIP Committee Joint Meeting](#)
Jan 8 - 9:00am
[Historic District Commission](#) Jan 8 - 5:30pm
[Board of Adjustment](#) Jan 8 - 7:00pm
[Conservation Commission](#) Jan 9 - 6:30pm
[Budget Committee](#) Jan 9 - 6:30pm
[Select Board](#) Jan 13 - 6:30pm
[Rye Water District](#) Jan 15 - 8:30am
[Budget Committee](#) Jan 15 - 6:30pm

[Budget Committee](#) Jan 16 - 6:30pm
[MLK Civil Rights Day - Town Offices Closed](#) Jan
20 - 8:00am
[Mosquito Control Commission](#) Jan 21 - 5:00pm
[Planning Board](#) Jan 21 - 6:00pm
[Recycling Education Committee](#) Jan 21 -
6:30pm
[Select Board](#) Jan 27 - 6:30pm
[Rye Water District](#) Jan 28 - 8:30am
[Budget Committee](#) Jan 29 - 6:30pm
[Deliberative Session](#) Feb 1 - 9:00am

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): None for 2024

Select Board has a posted meeting January 8th at 9am [Agenda](#)
[Click Here](#) to see past CIP Related Warrant Articles.

- 1) The CIP met once in this year and did not have any subsequent meetings.
- 2) CIP update from last year: 2024-2029 Capital Improvement Plan ([Click Here](#))

Budget Committee Meetings: December 4th, 5th and 12th

See the 2025 Budget Schedule: [Click Here](#)

Department Summary consolidation: [Click Here](#) (note these were created before changes during the meeting). [Workshop meeting minutes](#).

Draft meeting Minutes: Dec. 4th, [Dec. 5th](#), Dec. 12th

Video Recording: [Dec. 4th](#), [Dec. 5th](#), [Dec. 12th](#)

December 4th: School Budget

- 1) Public comment focused on PHS no longer offering AP classes.
- 2) School Board explained the reductions and cuts that keep the annual increase under 4%. 2025 Budget stands at \$18,248,119. See [SAU 50 Admin Summary](#). [Pie Chart view](#). All summary pages are below.
- 3) Member Coutu presented a [packet](#), but focused his comments around this [Graph](#). Point is the rising cost of total school funding and dropping enrollment.
- 4) Member Borne shared the [Greenland comparison](#) information along with enrollment. He also stated that evaluating consolidating to one school needs to be a town wide discussion, not solely a school board activity.
- 5) A motion for the School Board to review the budget again failed. So, the Budget Committee agreed to submit a letter informing the School Board what it is looking for.

December 5th Budget Meeting:

- 1) Resident Joe Cummins provided [State Information](#) on High Schools who offer AP classes as he is requesting the Town take action to enable AP High School options.
- 2) After a lengthy discussion the Budget Committee approved the Town Clerk budget that moves the Assistant Clerk/Tax Collector to Full Time. While the funds will be budgeted, the Select Board determines if the role will change to Full Time or not.
- 3) As no Warrant Articles were provided, nothing could be discussed. Conservation and others attended the meeting as warrants were on the agenda.

December 12th Meeting:

- 1) Continued Public Comment on the lack of AP classes at PHS. Also, former Select Board member King wanted to make sure the Budget Committee is clear on Bonding longer term assets as the Select Board discussed at the December 9th meeting.
- 2) Increased from \$100K the Fire/Ambulance Reserve fund to the \$150K requested by the Fire Chief.
- 3) Increased from \$225K the DPW Highway equipment back to the \$250K requested by the DWP director.
- 4) All other Warrants were approved with the corrected amounts.
- 5) It was agreed that the Chair would complete the letter to the School Board.
- 6) Member Borne discussed the assessment numbers used for the SAU apportioning and was instructed to provide his full list of unasked questions and comments to the School Board. Member Borne was planning to have the committee discuss at the December 4th meeting, but the meeting was adjourned. Note: SAU-50 Finance Director Penny followed up showing that the DRA has an equalization rate for Rye at over \$4.8B. [Click Here](#)
- 7) The Subcommittee presented drafts of how the Town Budget could be presented at the January 16th Public Hearing. The goal is to have this information available for the public to review a week or more before the meeting. The plan for the January 15th School Budget is to use the well structured information from the SAU 50 Finance Director.
- 8) Discussion of the NH Homes To [Classroom report](#) published this Fall. Based on those guidelines, the 290 housing units over the past 20 years could have added around 70 students, however school enrollment is down around 200 over 20 years. Based on the Build Out Analysis, best case in Rye would be just over 500 additional housing units with current zoning.

Budget Narratives from Departments & School

Police Department: [Migration Software](#), [Animal Control Officer](#), [Parking Enforcement](#) Summary, [Ticket Chart](#), [Parking Narrative](#), [Outside Detail](#), [Cruisers](#), [Police Department Narrative](#), [Budget Request report](#), [Emergency Management Request](#), [Emergency Management Narrative](#)

Fire Department: [Budget Submission](#), [Staffing Narrative](#), [Update to Staffing Needs Assessment](#), [Ambulance](#), [Lifeguard Narrative](#)

Safety Building: [Narrative](#)

Public Works: [Department Narrative](#), [Personnel](#), [DPW Narrative](#),

Sewer

Building Department: [Narrative Master Plan Implementation support](#)

Commissions and Committees: [Recreation](#), [Library](#), [Beach Committee](#), [Energy](#), [Solar Panel ROI](#), [Heritage](#), [Conservation](#), [Regional Association detail](#)

School: [Summary](#), [By Activity](#), [By School](#), [per Student](#), [SAU50](#)

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 23rd

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting notes: None

- 1) Accepted the \$227K of FEMA and NH Department of Safety for January 24 storm costs. Insurance is covering some of the equipment repairs.
- 2) Dr. Gail Snow has been re-appointed as Town Health Officer for an additional three years. Chief Cotreau and Deputy Police Chief Wonderly are the Deputy Health Officers.
- 3) Energy Committee charge continued to be discussed and is approaching approval.
- 4) Working towards a generic form from the DPW director for firms who want to Adopt a Public spot in exchange for the advertising. Looking to have consistency across signs.
- 5) Prolonged discussion around funding of the existing Fire & Ambulance equipment. As the last Ladder truck payment (5 year installment commitment) is this year, Chief Coutreu is recommending a similar approach for the \$789K mini-pumper floor model (\$200K less than list with immediate availability). \$389K would come from existing reserves and then a five year (\$100K) installment plan. Select Board had details prior to meeting. [Fire Department Narrative](#). [Capital Plan Information](#).
- 6) Annual Grove Rd. Dump and Breakfast Hill Landfill testing was moved to operational costs, but Select Board warrant will add \$10K to the Landfill & Dump testing funds for possible State testing requirements.
- 7) Select Board is looking to pay \$85K for the Breakfast Hill Landfill site. Note: Additional information on this action is not on the website or provided for the public.
- 8) Select Board is looking to reverse petitioned warrant articles that requires public comment and the option (through 50 petitions) of public approval for buying and selling property as a warrant article. See history of [past petitioned warrant articles](#).

Select Board Non Public Meetings

December 23rd: Hiring and Reputation

December 9th: Personnel

Select Board Meeting December 9th

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting Minutes: Not available

- 1) Chief Walsh continues to request Rye residents discuss speeding in Rye, especially with teen drivers.
- 2) Dr. Rosalie Lopresto is involved as a Citizen Scientist in research being conducted by UNH Dr. Paula Mouser testing PFAS in sea foams in Great Bay and Berry Brook in Rye. \$6000 in testing is being funded through N.H. Sea Grants. The Town received a quote from FB Environmental last Spring of \$2000 to perform one foam sample in Berry Brook that the town chose not to act on.
- 3) Former Select Board King questioned that if the Select Board had re-instituted a Dog Committee and had a meeting, it was not posted nor was the public informed. This was mentioned in the Beach Committee minutes.
- 4) Personnel Policy was tabled.
- 5) DPW accepted NH DES \$2500 Grant for Waste Oil. Note, used oil is collected and burned for heat at the Transfer station (collection room is between the Food Compost and the Metal collection bin.
- 6) Jane Ireland has stepped down as the Deputy Treasurer. Town Treasurer Susan Philbrook can

appoint a new Deputy Treasurer.

7) Discussion of Warrant Articles - [Click Here](#) for verbiage sent to Budget Committee

a) \$250K for DPW equipment was reduced to \$225K. DPW Director explained that most of the maintenance on older trucks is in the last five years, so the new plan is to trade in the vehicles to avoid maintenance and use resale value to lower purchasing price.

b) \$100K for Fire/Ambulance Equipment and Vehicles, down from requested \$150K

c) 10K for Emergency Management Reserve, currently \$60K in fund

d) \$15K Revaluation Fund. Note Rye's [equalized assessed value](#) from DRA is now \$4.8B, this is twice the \$2.4B prior to the last revaluation, which may trigger an earlier revaluation.

e) \$15K Contingency from the unassigned account balance (no tax impact)

f) \$10K Recreation Maintenance Buildings and Property, \$47K in fund

g) \$60K for Library HVAC. \$115K in Fund, Library will contribute an additional \$60K from other trust fund income.

h) \$35K for Municipal Building fund, balance is over \$195K. Editors Note: 2025 Municipal Building maintenance line items add up to over \$100K.

i) \$20K for Conservation Building Maintenance Fund. 0\$ as funds were used, over \$30K is needed for the next project.

k) \$100K for Sewer, but there is a grant for this amount. Rye Sewer will only need to contribute \$1K for an interest payment.

l) Police Motorcycle is requested by the staff. \$15.6K for transferable equipment and \$5k per year lease payment. Vehicle will be exchanged after three years.

8) Encumbrances were approved. These require an existing contract for 2024 spending that will move to 2025.



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

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

School Board Meeting: December 18th

Meeting Packet that is posted before the meeting: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting Minutes: Not posted

SAU Sensation newsletter: [Click Here](#)

Superintendents' Report: [December 2024](#)

NEW: Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment Report December: [Click Here](#)

New: SAU 50 Dashboard December 24: [Click Here](#) Note this is still a work in progress.

RES and RJH Principals updates: [Click Here](#)

Financial Report December Update: [Click Here](#)

Updated SAU Strategic Plan. [Click Here](#)

October Facilities Report: [Click Here](#)

October SAU Technology Report: [Click Here](#)

2024-2025 Board Meeting Dates: [Click Here](#)

1) New Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment Report [Click Here](#)

2) The SAU 50 Dashboard was discussed at length as the Board is still learning how to use this and it is a work in process. [Click Here](#)

3) Discussion with Budget Chair Marion about the Budget Committee response and the Select Board approach.

4) Discussion about more insights from PHS on feedback from not having AP courses.

SAU 50 School Board Meeting: November 6th

Next SAU Joint meeting is March 26th Greenland 6:30pm

Next AREA meeting is March 4th 4pm at PHS

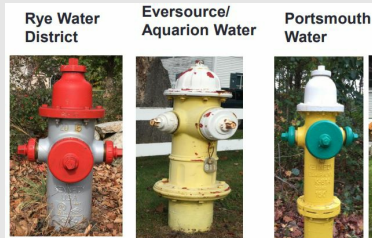
No minutes can be found [Agenda](#)

Updated SAU Strategic Plan. [Click Here](#)

1) Area agreement folder. [Click Here](#)

2) PHS 2024/2025 updates [Click Here](#)

3) What are the Secondary Advisory Area meetings? [Click Here](#) There was a meeting on October 21st to discuss the Area agreement. Next Area meeting will be December 3rd, 5pm at PHS



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](#) 2023 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: December 4th

Draft Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

1) Brown property pumping rates and water quality samples look promising, but this is just the first round of sampling. Next steps are updates to the Conservation Commission and Select Board. Information will be sent to DES.

2) Service Line Inventory is in process with communication to residents. A few residents have received the free water testing.

3) Wright-Pierce on a SRF loan for the cost of investigating the remaining lines. This will have a 71% forgiveness and will be on the March ballot. Note Annual Meeting date set for March 29th.

4) Central Treatment Water Plant RFPs are due January 17th. Interviews will be in February.

5) Administrator Goetz met with Town Administrator Scruton to discuss future developer requests for water services.

6) There will be more work required on the rate study to include the Central Treatment Plant.

Sewer Commission: December 13th

No video as the meetings are at the RBVD building

Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

1) 731 Central Road (Abenaqui Country Club): The sewer plans dated December 4, 2024, from Altus Engineering and sewer reconnection for 731 Central Road were approved, if the basic hook-up conditions are met and pending review and acceptance of the upsizing of the grease trap to 1500 gallons by Underwood Engineers. Much of the concern is around the grease trap and not repeating past problems.

2) Approved the sewer plans for 14 Locke Road. Home is being demolished and replaced.

3) Jenness Ave is a vacation lot, but has an existing stub, so it is not included in the moratorium on new builds.

3) 21 Vin Mar Court: Hook-up fee will be based on 50 ft of frontage

4) Church Rd. Pump Station generator replacement is almost complete. Jenness Beach Station heater failed and is being replaced.

6) Sewer charges and fees effective Jan 1- Mar 31, 2025 approved are:

Hook-up Fee:

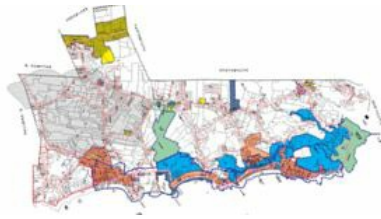
A. Front Footage Charge \$295.24/per foot

B. 50 Foot front (minimum charge) \$14,762.00

100 Foot Front \$29,524.00

170 Foot Front (maximum charge) \$50,190.80

O.M.R. (Operating & Maintenance) Charge Per Cubic feet of H2O Consumption \$0.135



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:

Long Range Planning Committee: No November meeting

Draft Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

1) NHHOP Phase III grant has been submitted.

2) NH HOP Phase II final draft to be presented to Planning Board on January 21st.

Rye 2035 Rye Future Website: [Click Here](#)

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

Build Out Analysis: [Click Here](#) Shows where homes could fit, but without an analysis of Rye's supporting infrastructure.

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

Master Plan Steering Committee: December 10th

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting Minutes: Non available [Agenda](#)

April 2024 Listening Session (320 responses): [Summary Report](#)

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

Proposed Timeline: [Click Here](#)

NOTE: The Master Plan Steering Committee has sunset as this was the last meeting.

1) Reviewed and commented to [finalize the Draft](#) to be shared with the full Planning Board. Draft from December 24, 2024. Next planning board meeting is January 7th

Draft Build Out Analysis with Alternative Scenario. [Click Here](#)

- [Land Use Definitions](#) - Map - [Click Here](#)

2) Past warrant articles relevant to the Master Plan update. [Click Here](#)

3) From RCL 2017 - New Housing units data pulled from Town Reports. [Click Here](#)

Other Information:

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](#)

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

Technical Review Committee (TRC) Meeting:

1) Rockingham Planning Commission will be drafting updated TRC procedures for Rye.

Rules and Regulations:

[Land Use and Zoning changes Public Hearing](#) January 7th 6:30pm Town Hall (January 21st possibly also)

RZO [2025-04 Solar Energy](#), RZO [2025-06 Fences and walls](#), RZO [2025-10 Accessory Building and structures](#), RZO [2025-12 Parking Calculations](#), RZO [2025-13 Effluent test pits](#), Building Code [2025-01 removes from building code to Zoning and Land Use](#). LDR 2025-02 Outdoor Lighting

Discussed at the December 17th Planning Board meeting

[RZO 2025-06](#) Amend 190-5.10 Fences and walls - minor changes discussed 12-17

[RZO 2025-07](#) Amend Definition of Structure

[RZO 2025-09](#) Addition of use districts - Revised at 12-17

RZO 2025-11 Amend 190-6.1 Nonconforming lots **Not Posted**

LDR 2025-01 - Amend Retaining Wall **Not Posted**

Planning Board Meeting November 19th

Approved [LDR 2024-02 Article IV](#)

Approved [LDR 2024-03 202-7.3](#) Inspection of Construction

Approved at October 15h Planning Board for Public Hearing

[LDR Amendment 2024-01](#) Change semi-rural to semi-rural/rural

[RZO Amendment 2025-01](#) Amends Section 190-2.10(6) change type reference

[RZO Amendment 2025-02](#) moves semi-rural to semi-rural/rural

[RZO Amendment 2025-03](#) Amends Appendix G, Section 5-E (M) per House Bill 296

Planning Board Meeting: December 17th

Draft Meeting minutes: Not available

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

- 1) See above section for Rules and Regs changes and votes.
- 2) 14 Sagamore Rd "Brits Bits". Changes discussed and plan is to have final approval at 1-7-25 meeting if the work can be completed.
- 3) 11 Straws Point Rd. Lot line adjustment approved. [Draft NOD](#) (Case #13-2024)), [Adjacent lots \(2 diagrams\)](#), [New Plans](#).
- 4) 49 Jenness Ave building a new home on vacant lot. Driveway waiver approved [Draft NOD Case #14-2024 Diagram](#)
- 5) 575 Central Rd. Lot subdivision approved. [Draft NOD #15-2024 Lot Diagram](#)
- 6) 32 Cable Rd to convert 6 apartment's to 6 condominium units was postponed, but quite a bit of information was provided by one of the abutters.
- 7) Proposed Zoning ordinances reviewed with minor changes prior to the [Public Hearing on January 7th](#).

Planning Board Agenda January 7th (January 21st is not posted yet)

[Agenda](#)

- 1) See above Ordinance changes
- 2) 14 Sagamore Rd. Major Development

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](#)

Zoning Board of Adjustment Meeting Minutes: December 4th

Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

- 1) 10 Hunters Run Unanimously granted a special exception and variance for a shed [Case #28-2024](#)
- 2) 18 Tower Ave. Unanimously granted variance for a fence 6' 6" [NOD Case #49-2024](#)
- 3) 30 Straws Point Rd. granted variances for two dwellings on one lot, surface alterations, tree cutting and construction in the 100' wetland buffer. The recommendations from the Rye Conservation Commission and the Building Inspector letter are conditions of approval, but are not attached. [NOD Case #50-2-24](#)

Zoning Board of Adjustment Agenda: January 8th

Agenda: [Click Here](#)

- 1) 32 Cable Rd. Special Exception for the six condo units. Received other variances the previous meeting
- 2) 1182 Ocean Blvd. Generator
- 3) 1085 Ocean Blvd. many variances for a new home, garage and driveway in the set backs and wetland buffers.
- 4) 249 Wallis Rd. Expansion of house and driveway
- 5) 100 Brackett Rd. Requesting a year extension on variances.



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 9th, 10th and 30th

Draft Meeting Minutes: [Dec 9](#), [Dec 10](#), Dec 30 not available

Video Recording: [Dec 9](#), [Dec 10](#)

Dec 9th

- 1) Approved motion to request town to add \$60,000 to HVAC Reserve Fund in a Warrant Article

Dec 10th

- 2) 311 survey responses were received. Data report on survey responses being put together.
- 3) Discussion about not having up to date information on trust fund amounts. LBOT will develop a Memorandum of Understanding for Trustee of the Trust Funds Secretary and new Financial Director regarding schedule for updates.

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](#)

From the April 15th NHDOT links for Seawall work

[NH DOT Presentation:](#)

[North Map,](#)

[Central Map](#)

[South Map](#)

[Narrative](#)

[Postcard](#)



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) December 3rd and 12th

Dec 3rd Meeting: Draft Minutes [CLICK HERE](#) and Video Streaming [CLICK HERE](#)

Dec 12th Meeting: Agenda [CLICK HERE](#) and Video Streaming [CLICK HERE](#)

Dec 12th Draft Meeting Minutes (not available as of Dec.30, notes based on video stream)

Dec 16th Site Walk Minutes [CLICK HERE](#)

RCL Meeting Notes: [Click Here](#)

Highlights

1) West Road Brown Farm Conservation drinking water test well results were promising. The Water District will proceed with state permits for a more extensive test well drilling to determine quality and quantity

2) The Commission approved the Rye Driftwood Garden Club proposal to have their plant sale at the Goss Farm in May 2025 on Mother's Day weekend. The Commission determined that the proposal meets the agricultural requirements of the easement.

December 12th Meeting

See Dec 16 [Site Walk Minutes](#) for details of 249 Wallis Road and 1085 Old Beach Road

3) 249 Wallis Road ([Town GIS map location](#)) [See RCL Notes](#)

A proposed 967 square foot addition with ADU and 128 square foot connector to the existing house, driveway and bio retention area, all in the 75 or 100 foot buffer to a large emergent wetland with 2 vernal pools is proposed with removal of 25 large trees.

3) 1085 Old Ocean Blvd ([Town GIS map location](#)) [See RCL Notes](#)

Demolition and rebuild of a non-code compliant home in the 75 and 100 foot wetland buffer as well as in AO(3) flood zone to raise it higher on almost the same footprint as before. There will be a permeable paver patio and driveway and rain garden.



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 2nd

Draft Meeting Minutes: not available

Agenda: [Click Here](#)

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

Upcoming Recreation Program trips:

January Senior Luncheon: Thursday, January 9th noon to 2pm. [More Information](#)

February Senior Luncheon: Thursday, February 13th noon to 2pm [More Information](#)

Canasha Card Group? Thursdays January 7, 14 and 28. Wednesday January 22nd. [More Information](#)

Adult Yoga & Meditation: [Click Here](#)

Adult Chair Yoga: [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](#)

Rye Advocates Homepage: [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 2nd

Recorded Video: Not available

Draft Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

1) Annual appeal mailers, which will highlight renovation of the shutters for Town Hall have been printed and were expected to have been mailed in early December.

2) Town Hall shutter project update: shutters have been removed and work is expected to be completed in the Spring

3) The Louise Tallman Historic Preservation award was presented to Patty Weathersby

Demolition Review Committee: December 4th (Site Walk) and 6th

Draft Minutes: not available

Recorded Video: Nov 21st [Click Here](#)

Dec 4th Site walk: 11 Straws Point

Dec 6th Agenda: [Click Here](#)

Historic District Commission Meeting: December 3rd

Draft Minutes: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

1) Public hearing on the property project by Jay Longtin for property at 550 Washington Rd. The home is a circa 1991 single story house set off Washington Rd. Commission approved that the application was complete and without objection.

Rye Town Center Committee Meeting: December 4th

Draft Minutes: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

1) DPW director and Beta Engineering are looking into the possibility of setting up a temporary lane for the Lang Road intersection for a mock trial as temporary setups can give the public a better understanding of what is being proposed.



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: No December Meeting

No Meeting

Rye Recycling Education Committee: No December Meeting

No Meeting

Telecommunication Infrastructure Committee: No Meeting

No recent meetings



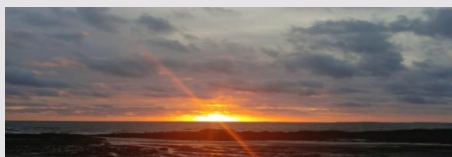
Mosquito

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

Mosquito Commission Meeting: December 17th

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft minutes: Not available



Beach Committee

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

Beach Committee Meeting: December 2nd

Draft Minutes: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

1) Beach Committee will continue to fund Sawyers testing for the shoulder season. At Feb meeting,

committee will further discuss shoulder season testing at Pirates Cove (Wallis Rd. Extension) and other areas.

- 2) ADA compliant porta potty: Beach Committee will get on Select Board's agenda for Feb to discuss this.
- 3) Regarding dog hours on beach on Saturdays, original committee was meeting in December for further discussion

Trustee of the Trust Funds Meeting: December 4th

Draft Minutes: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

- 1) Trustee's Town Finance Administrator moved to North Carolina; will discuss with Town Manager means to retain the Administrator as a remote employee
- 2) Reviewed and discussed Trust Fund accounts and holding; up 29.4% year to date vs. 19% for the benchmark.

Municipal Records Committee : July 23rd

Draft Minutes:

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Community Engagement Committee : December 18th

Agenda: [Click Here](#)

Draft Minutes: Not Available

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Town Hall Restoration Advisory Committee: December 2nd

Draft Minutes: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: not available

- 1) Discussed existing building plans and schematic plans from 2019
- 2) Discussed details of needs going forward for 1st and 2nd floors.
- 3) Toured Town Hall

Land Use Information Guide Advisory Committee Dec. 10th

Agenda: [Click Here](#)

Draft Minutes: not available

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

- 1) Agreed that the draft tri-fold from member Pflau needs to be reviewed. Comments due before the holidays.
- 2) Town Administrator was not responsive about request to initiate utilizing the Permitting Process Software offered by our Website provider. The Committee has seen two demonstrations and is supportive of moving to modern tools.
- 3) A draft infographic has been generated and additional feedback and comments are needed.

Coastal Infrastructure Review Committee: December 19th

Agenda: Not sure where this would be

Draft Minutes: not available

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](#)

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.

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

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