

# RCL 2026 VOTER PREPARATION

Post-deliberative recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

## Tax explanation & Warrant Articles

Candidates Night March 3<sup>rd</sup> 7pm at the Library  
[Live Stream & Recording Link](#)

Learn more about [SB-2 Click Here](#) What happens with our Town Deliberative Meeting and the Town Vote

[Go to www.ryecivicleague.org](http://www.ryecivicleague.org) election support to  
access the links in this document

Contact: [civicnews@ryecivicleague.org](mailto:civicnews@ryecivicleague.org)

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- Elected and Appointed Positions Update
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Position (bold is contested race)	Candidate(s) on ballot
1 Town Moderator	Nina Parrott
2 Select Board 3 years	Tim Sanborn, Scott McQuade, Jacob Willson, John Tuttle, Don Cavallaro
1 Select Board 2 years	Howard Kalet,
1 Select Board 1 Year	Frank Drake, Suzanne Barton
1 Town Clerk/Tax Collector	Amy Thibodeau
1 Cemetery Trustee	Roger Philbrook
1 Trustees of the Trust Funds (3 years)	Gary Terhune
2 Budget Committee (3 Years)	Steven Borne, Elsie DiBella
2 Planning Board Members (3 years)	Jay Lord, Steve Carter
2 Zoning Board of Adjustment (3 years)	Shawn Crapo, Gwendolyn Blouin
1 Supervisor of the Check list (6 years)	Kariann Roman
1 Sewer Commission (3 years)	David Kholhase
2 Library Board of Trustee	Kevin Walsh, Peter Cady, Caitin Delaney, Elizabeth Fairchild
1 School Board ( 1 Years)	Matt Curtin
2 School Board (3 years)	Claire Spollen, Michelle Wheeler

## 2025 Tax Rate Calculation from March 2025 Election Set in December 2025

Local tax rate directly based on total budget, which includes **warrants articles** voted on independently from operating budget in March 2024

Town Tax Rate	<u>Local</u>
2025 Total Appropriations	\$16,702,551
Net Revenues	(\$6,672,170)
2025 Surplus committed	(\$1,290,000)
Amount to buy down taxes	(1,500,000)
War Service Credits and Actual Overlay (tax not collected)	\$147,000
<b>Total Taxes</b>	<b>\$7,391,737</b>

	<u>Local</u>
Operating Budget	\$13,309,022
Warrant Articles	\$1,589,392
Sewer Budget	\$507,137
2025 New Appropriations	\$15,405,551
Add in Surplus Spending	\$1,290,000

**Unassigned Fund balance** (\$1,500,000) was used to reduce the overall tax increase for Rye Residents  
**2025 Revenue Increase** (\$6,672,170 - \$4,499,108) = \$2,222,260 or 50%  
 \$500K increase was from the building department.

DRA now requires the Town to show all money that will be spent, regardless of where it comes from. So that is why the Sewer is included and money that comes over from the un-assigned account balance.

# Un-Assigned Fund Balance

Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the government's general fund and includes all spendable amounts not contained in the other classifications, i.e. everything left over once the total amount has the following subtracted: non-spendable, restricted, committed, and assigned funds. [NHMA explanation](#).

5% to 15% of regular general fund operating revenues, or  
8% to 17% of regular general fund operating expenditures determined by GFOA/DRA recommendations

DrummondWoodsum explanation: [Click Here](#) Other town Fund Balance Policy: [Click Here](#)

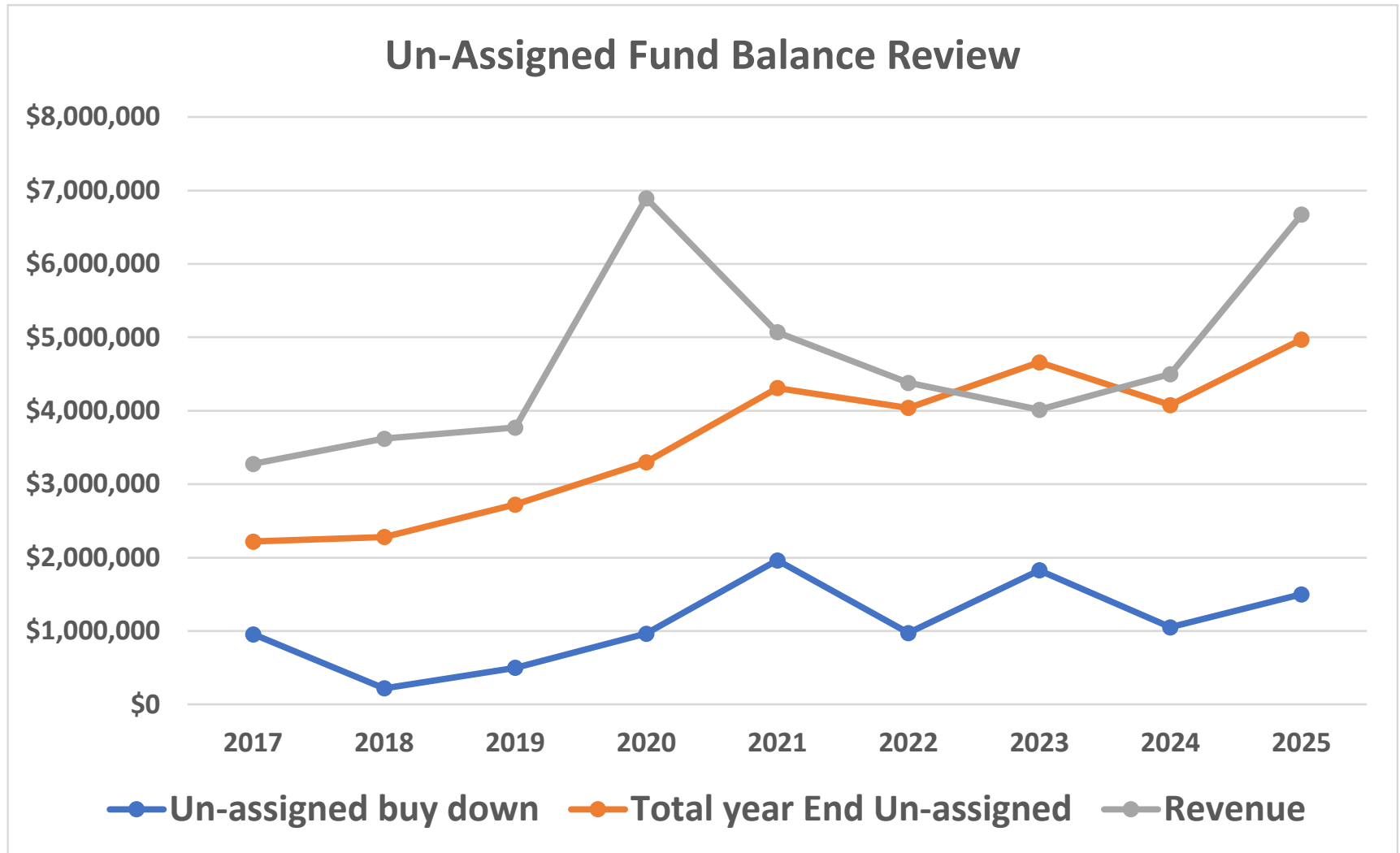
	Un-assigned Balance	Applied to Taxes	Remaining	Operating Budget	Increase over Previous Year	% of Operating Budget
Nov-21	\$4,308,230	\$1,962,272	\$2,345,958	\$10,754,665		
Nov-22	\$4,038,430	\$973,326	\$3,065,104	\$11,151,534	\$1,692,472	15%
Nov-23	\$4,624,061	\$1,827,336	\$2,796,725	\$12,453,910	\$1,558,957	13%
24-Nov	\$3,831,849	\$1,050,500	\$2,781,349	\$13,457,939	\$1,035,124	8%

$$\$3,831,849 - \$2,796,725 = \$1,035,124$$

So, between November 23 and November 24, \$1,035,124 was added to the Un-assigned fund balance.

# Un-Assigned Fund Balance

Regardless of revenue changes from fees (building, cars, other non-tax revenue changes) there is always around \$1M extra money to buy down taxes



# 2025 Tax Rate: Overview \$8.37

Municipal Tax Rate Calculation				
		<u>Tax Effort</u>	<u>Valuation</u>	<u>Municipal Tax Rate</u>
Municipal (Town)		\$7,391,737	\$3,306,775,900	\$2.24
County		\$2,606,852	\$3,288,099,600	\$0.79
Schools	Local	\$12,180,325	\$3,288,099,600	\$3.68
	State	\$5,474,271	\$3,291,999,300*	\$1.66
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$27,653,185</b>		<b>\$8.37</b>

Village Tax Rate Calculation				
	<u>Tax Effort</u>	<u>Valuation</u>	<u>Village Tax Rate</u>	<u>Total Tax Rate</u>
Jenness Beach	\$121,590	\$715,233,400	\$0.17	\$8.54
Rye Beach District	\$143,163	\$386,927,700	\$0.37	\$8.74
Rye Water District	\$1,156,914	\$2,103,480,200	\$0.55	\$8.92
*valuation without utilities				

# 2025 Municipal Tax Rate = Total Taxes/Total Assessment

↑ modest **0.57 % Increase in total town property value: Now \$3,306,775,900 up from \$3,288,099,600 the prior year )**

↓ **-3.3% Decrease in tax rate: Now \$8.37 down from \$8.66 prior year**

	2024	2025	% change
Town	\$2.65	\$2.24	-15.5%
County	\$0.86	\$0.79	-8.1%
School	\$5.15	\$5.34	3.7%
Total	\$8.66	\$8.37	-3.3%

	2024	2025	% change
Rye Beach	\$0.24	\$0.37	54.2%
Jenness	\$0.14	\$0.17	21.4%
Rye Water	\$0.56	\$0.55	-1.8%

Individual's Annual Tax Bill = Assessed property value/1000 x \$8.37 +

{ \$0.17 (Jenness)  
\$0.37 (Rye Beach)  
\$0.55 (Rye Water) }

Example Assessed property value \$600,000 and you live in Rye Water District, Your tax bill is:  
 $\$600,000/1000 \times \{\$8.37 + \$0.55\} = \$600 \times \$8.92 = \$5,352$  per year (paid in 2 installments) equal would be \$2,676

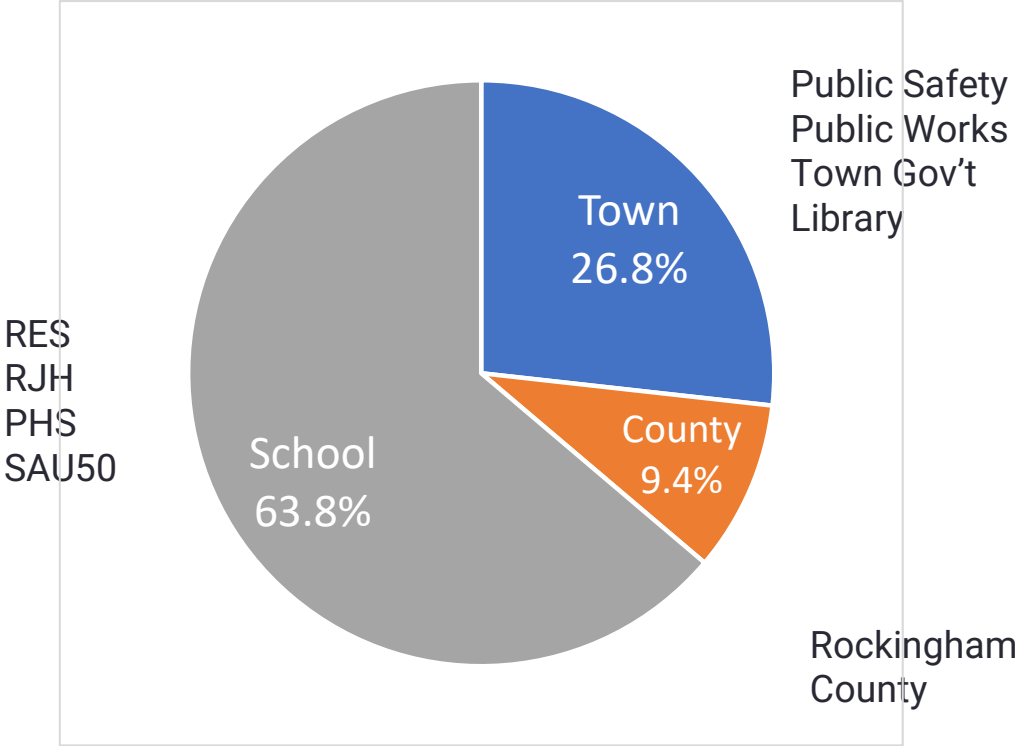
## Extra big drop in December?

1<sup>st</sup> installment based on **2024 tax rate**; in this case  $(\$600 \times (\$8.66 + \$0.56))/2 = \$2,766$

So you over in June based on the lower tax rate.  $\$2,767 - \$2,676 = \$91$ , this gets subtracted from the now lower rate.

2<sup>nd</sup> installment would be \$2,676, so while lower than last year, it will be more than December.

# 2025 Municipal Tax Rate \$8.37: Breakdown by Percentages



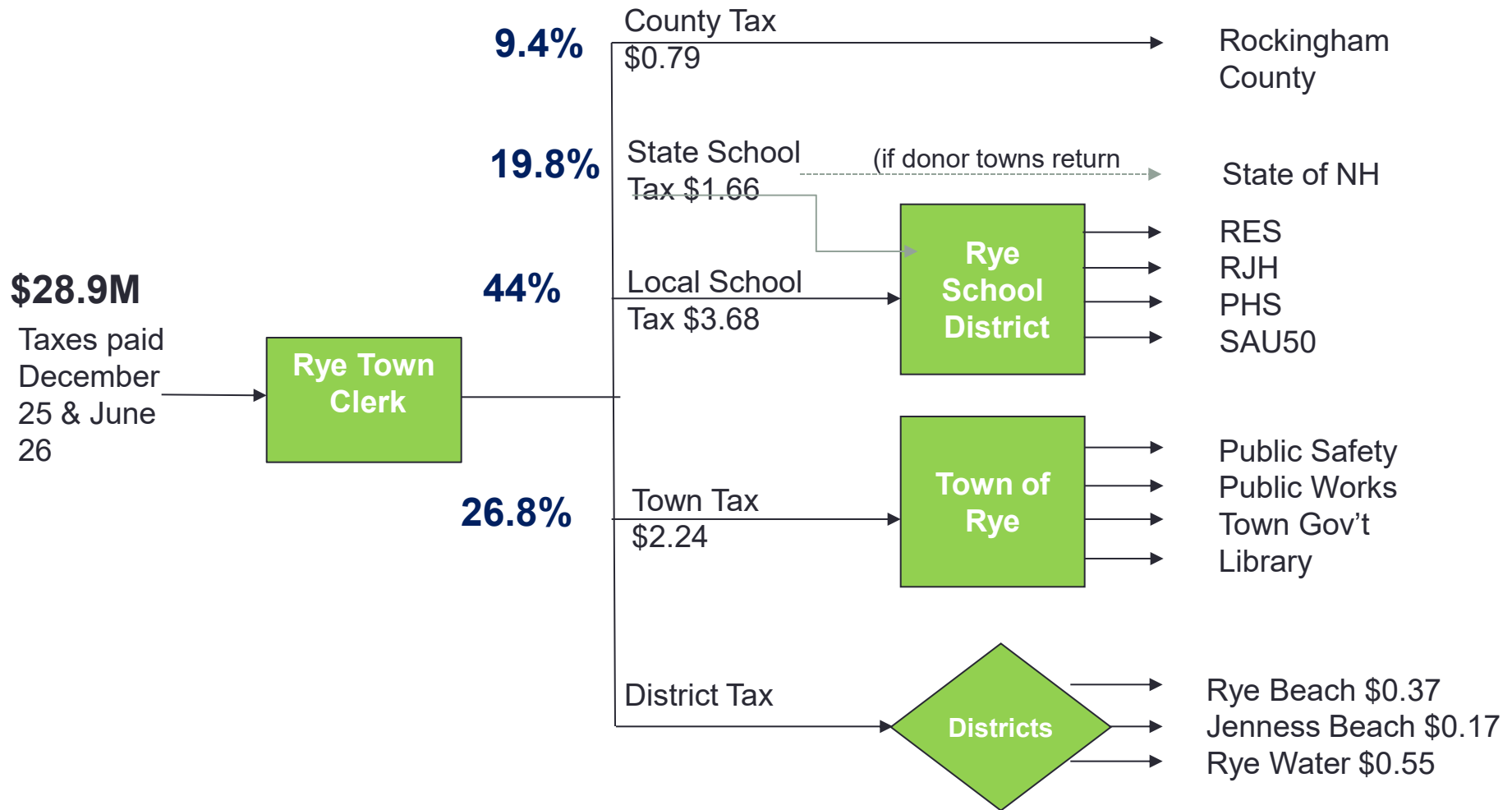
**District Tax is in addition** to municipal tax and dependent on where you live.

District Tax Rate	
● Jenness Beach	\$0.17
● Rye Beach	\$0.37
● Rye Water	\$0.55

## What is happening with your money?

- 26.8% goes to the town
- 63.8% goes to the schools
- 9.4% goes to Rockingham County

# How the Money Moves (rates set in the Fall) \$8.37 for **2025**



**Note:** Rye Water District and Sewer Department also get money from usage fees that is outside of Tax collection. This is another \$2.2M of Services for Rye.

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## Links to Warrant Article Information

Article 1	Elections <a href="#">Warrant</a>
Article 2	School
Article 3 Amdmt 1	<a href="#">1 Parking Space</a>
Article 3 Amdmt 2	<a href="#">Parking Definition</a>
Article 3 Amdmt 3	<a href="#">ADU by right</a>
Article 3 Amdmt 4	<a href="#">ADU definition</a>
Article 3 Amdmt 5	<a href="#">Historic District changes</a>
Article 3 Amdmt 6	<a href="#">Structure in General Res</a>
Article 3 Amdmt 7	<a href="#">structures in Single Res</a>
Article 3 Amdmt 8	<a href="#">Condo conversion</a>
Article 3 Amdmt 9	<a href="#">Driveway access</a>
Article 3 Amdmt10	<a href="#">Off street parking</a>
Article 3 Amdmt11	<a href="#">Signs</a>
Article 3 Amdmt 12	<a href="#">Effluent systems</a>
Article 3 Amdmt13	<a href="#">Multifamily</a>
Article 4	Bond \$1.4M Fuel Station
Article 5	Sewer Budget \$547,222
Article 6	Town Budget \$13,972,328
Article 7	\$35K Municipal Bldgs
Article 8	\$25K MS4 Fund
Article 9	\$10K Conservation Bldg
Article 10	\$15K Revaluation
Article 11	\$15K Contingency Fund
Article 12	Discontinue HVAC Fund
Article 13	\$10K Emergency Mngt

Article 14	\$10K Landfill Monitoring
Article 15	Discontinue Salt Shet
Article 16	Sewer Grant
Article 17	\$5K Recreation Bldg
Article 18	\$10K Town Bldg renovation
Article 19	\$41,908 Police CBA
Article 20	Police CBA meeting
Article 21	\$250K DWP Heavy Equip..
Article 22	\$64K Fire Chief Car
Article 23	\$50K Library Bldg
Article 24	RCC/Cemetery Land
Article 25	Goss Farm Mngmt Lease
Article 26	Elect Conservation Comm.
Article 27	Energy Revolving Fund
Article 28	C-Pacer loans
Article 29	Trustee of Trust Fund fees
Article 30	Earlier Golf Course Noise
Article 31	Sell old equipment
Article 32	Stop State down shifting
Article 33	Freedom account reporting
Article 34	October History Month
Article 35	Radar Speed signs
Article 36	Heritage Preservation Fund
Article 37:	Flexible Trick or Treat
School 1	\$19,206,618
School 2:	\$100K RFP Bldg Study
School 3	\$30K Technology Fund

## **Rye Zoning Ordinances**

[RZO 2026-01](#) [RSA 674:16 VI](#) changes the parking spaces from 1.5 down to 1. So this moves Rye in compliance with changed law.

*VII. In its exercise of the powers granted under this subdivision, the local legislative body of a city, town, or county in which there are located unincorporated towns or unorganized places may regulate accessory parking for vehicles, but shall not require more than one residential parking space per unit.*

[RZO 2026-02](#) Definition of a parking space.

**[RZO 2026-03:](#)** ADU are now allowed by right. Changes made to [190-5.6](#). [HB 577](#) changes to [RSA 674:71](#) [See all three sections](#) Rye is choosing to allow Condo conversion and to require the property owner to dwell in on of the units

[RZO 2026-04](#) Definition of ADU see above

[RZO 2026-07](#) Set back changes to 200 sq ft or less. Side Setbacks.

## **Rye Zoning Ordinances**

Amendment 5: [2026-5](#) Historic District Changes

Amendment 6: Structure Definitions: [2026-06](#)

Amendment 7: Accessory Structures set backs in Single Residents 2026-0

Amendment 8: Condo Conversion [2026-08](#)

Amendment 9: Use of Districts [2026-09](#)

Amendment 10: Off Street Parking [2026-10](#)

Amendment 11: Signs [2026-11](#)

Amendment 12: [Effluent Systems 2026-12](#)

Amendment 13: Multifamily per State change [2026-13](#)

**RESERVE FUNDS WHERE WE ARE NOT CONTRIBUTING IN 2026****Town Accumulated Leave Fund: 103520003**

Current Balance: **\$301,893**

Estimated liability: ???

Fund should have 50% of the liability, 2022 had \$100K added.  
Unclear what changed to make the number say we needed this much more.

**Records Restoration Fund 1035200007**

Current Balance: **\$12,760** earned \$500 in Interest in 2025

**Sewer Replacement Fund 103520008**

Current Balance: **\$62,970** earned \$2,625 in Interest in 2025

**Library Accumulated Leave Fund: 103520042**

Current Balance: **\$24,091**

Estimated Liability: Library has changed employment policies, so this no longer required. Balance is for grandfathered accumulated time for current employees.

## **Article 6: \$13,972,328 Town Budget**

See Full Presentation on Town Budget. [Click Here](#) [Budget table](#) (Green Sheet) from the Town [Town MS-737](#)

If the budget fails, the town uses the Default budget that is based on last year and mandatory increases. The Town has been operating on the 2025 budget limits since January 1<sup>st</sup>. \$13,268,408 is the 2025 Default Budget

Voters can make changes to the budget (no more than 10%). [Budget Committee Worksheet](#) to identify the account number and include that in the amendment to change a budget line time.

Includes: \$135,000 of Capital Outlays (see budget presentation) [Click Here](#) - -note Budget Committee moved the \$30K for Planning back to Opex

If all Warrants pass: An additional **\$487,394** will need to be raised (see budget presentation)  
Note: un-assigned account balance contributions and bonds are not included.

**Article 5: Rye Sewer Budget \$547,137**

This does not impact the tax rate at all, since the spending all comes from Rye Sewer customer user fees. The NH DRA requires the Town to approve all monies that will be spent each year.

The entirety of the Town votes for the Sewer Commissioners, spending, warrant articles and grants.

[Click Here](#) to see the recently completed Rye Sewer Asset summary presentation. These assets are owned by all of the town, not just the people who are serviced by Rye Sewer.

[Click Here](#) to see Sewer Department Budget Information

Yes: Approves the budget.

No: Would force Sewer to run off the Default budget

**Article 16: NH DES Clean Water Revolving Fund Grant Sewer Financial Assessment**

Sewer infrastructure is thirty years old. Last year the Sewer Department completed the Asset evaluation. [Click Here.](#)

The next step is the Financial Assessment. This \$45K cost will be completely covered by the grant. Rye Sewer is required to pay \$450 interest on this money. The interest will be paid out of the Sewer General fund. So not tax dollars, but from Sewer User Fees. DRA wording should not be changed at the Deliberative Session.

[Click Here](#) for information from the Sewer Department

**Yes:** Allows use of the grant to complete this work

**No:** Will forfeit the grant funding and will not be able to complete this project

**The incorrect wording was used for the Article. It was replaced with the correct wording at the Deliberative Meeting. [Click Here](#)**

**Article 22: New Fire Chief Vehicle \$64K**


This removes \$64K from 103520041 Fire & Ambulance Fund  
 Showing a balance of \$240,867

This will have no impact on the Tax rate as it is spending form cash on hand.

**Yes:** New Chief will start with a new vehicle

**No:** There will not be two functioning command cars for the Deputy Fire Chief and Assistant Fire Chief.


**Corrected the warrant because it reference the wrong fund. This money is coming from Fund 14 that comes from the Grove Rd. Cell Tower**

 Town of Rye, New Hampshire  
 2026-2031 CIP PROJECT REQUEST

Project Title: Car-1 Replacement

Department: Fire Project Priority: 1  
 Contact: Mark Cotreau Est. Total Cost: \$64,000  
 Phone: 603-964-6411 Est. Useful Years: 10 years  
 e-mail: MCotreau@Town.Rye.NH.US

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION & RATIONALE**  
 This is a scheduled replacement of Car-1. This is the Fire Chief's vehicle utilized as the fire departments mobile command center and is equipped with a slide out unit. This purchase is part of the departments long-term capital plan. The current Car 1 will be passed down to the Deputy Chief as Car 2. The Deputy Chiefs response vehicle is out of service due to a number of catastrophic mechanical failures.



Capital Cost:	FY26	FY27	FY28	FY29	FY30	FY31	Total	Proposed Funding Source
Planning/Design/Egging								<input type="checkbox"/> General Fund (tax rate)
Land/Site Improvement								<input type="checkbox"/> User Fees
Construction								<input type="checkbox"/> Fund 14 Cell Tower Fund
Equipment Cost	\$64,000						\$64,000	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Impact Fee Account
Other Cost								<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Grants, Special Ass't)
<b>Total of Capital Costs</b>								
<b>Operating Budget Impact:</b>								

[Click Here](#) for a CIP page the Chief created for this.

What do we already own:

- 1) Ambulance 1 2008 Chevrolet C-4500 w/ Advanced Life Support (NEW Ambulance)
- 2) Ambulance 2 2017 Ford F550 4-wheel drive w/ Advanced Life Support
- 3) Engine 3 2003 Emergency 1 Typhoon (**Replacement on the 2025 Ballot**)
- 4) Engine 1 1994 KME Navstar Pumper (**Replacement paid for but not yet received**)
- 5) New Pumper/Ladder
- 6) Utility 1 2006 4X4 Chevrolet Pick-up
- 7) Air 1 – Breathing Air Unit – One of three units in the 42-town district
- 8) 1931 Ford Antique engine

[Click Here](#) to see this table

January 2026 Reserve Fund Balance

(\$240,867 - \$64K)= \$176,867 add \$Fund 14 2026 funds for Equipment

Table produced by Steven Borne for the Select Board October 10, 2018

Category	Rye	N. Hampton	Greenland	New Castle	4 Town Total	Portsmouth II	Hookset	Windham	Exeter	Milford
Polulation	5,440	4,456	4,035	979	14,910		14,175	14,562	15,082	15,449
Ambulance (Rescue)	2	1	1	1	5	1	3	2	2	1
Engine - Pumper	2	2	2	2	8		4	2	4	3
Ladder	1	1			2	2	1	1	1	1
Pumper/Tanker		2	1		3		1	2		
Command Vehicle	1	2	1		4			3	3	2
Utility Vehicle	1	1	1		3	2	1	1	2	
Forestry Unit		1		1	2	1	2	1		1
Air Unit	1				1		1			
Marine - Boat				1	1		1	1		
Hose Truck				1	1					
John Deere Gator							1			
Resue or Maintenance Truck								1	1	
HazMat Truck						1				

Fire Chief Capital Improvements Narrative: [Click Here](#) (from 2025)

This year's submission has the following notable highlights:

- 2025: Engine 3 Replacement (\$789,000)
- 2026: A1 Cardiac Monitor Replacement (\$80,000)
- 2027: Command Vehicle replacement (\$95,000)
- 2028: A1 Lucas CPR Device (\$35,000)  
Utility Pickup Truck replacement (\$85,000)
- 2029: Jet Ski/Seadoo Replacement (\$32,000)  
Ambulance Remount/Reconditioning (\$400,000)
- 2030: No expenditure.

Chief focused on the increase in staffing not equipment this year)

NO update on what is in FUND 14 from the Town

Grove Rd. Cell Tower Fund (14): \$263,664????

Conservation Commission said the Grove Rd. Cell Tower Revenue should go towards something all of the town can benefit from.

Port Way Cell tower revenue goes to the General Fund.

**Article 36: \$25K Heritage Preservation Fund**

Creates a new fund with this \$25K

Lawyer made it say “Non-Capital” so that it could be spent on repairs or other non-capital things.

Overview of this fund: [Click Here](#)

Heritage plans to raise private funds and continue to leverage grants (Grants can't go in this fund).

**Yes:** Creates a new fund with an initial \$25K from taxes

**No:** Simply would not create the fund this year.

# DPW Vehicle & Equipment Inventory

DPW has not been able to update for 2026

## Estimated Replacement cost for all vehicles \$2,751,000

Designation	Status	Category	Model Year	Manufacturer	Model	Description	Purchase Year	Purchase Price	Replacement Cost	Service Life	Replacement Year	Plate	VIN
107	ACTIVE	Vehicle	2009	International	7400	Six Wheel Dump	2009	\$70,664	\$250,000	15	2024	G00554	1HTWDAAR89J108247
114	ACTIVE	Vehicle	2012	Ford	F450	One Ton Rack	2012	\$63,748	\$90,000	10	2023	G23506	1FDUF4HT4CEC31315
115	ACTIVE	Vehicle	2015	International	7400SFa4	Six Wheel Dump	2014	\$148,009	\$300,000	14	2028	G24343	1HTWDAARXFH638108
116	ACTIVE	Vehicle	2015	Ford	F450	One Ton Dump	2014	\$65,569	\$70,000	10	2025	G24147	1FDUFH4T2FEA70645
117	ACTIVE	Vehicle	2016	Ford	F350	3/4 Ton Pick Up	2015	\$62,883	\$90,000	10	2026	G25346	1FTRF3BTOGEOA38811
118	ACTIVE	Vehicle	2017	International	7400SFa4	Six Wheel Dump	2016	\$174,000	\$310,000	15	2031	G25588	3HAWDST7HL758402
119	ACTIVE	Vehicle	2018	International	7400SFa4	Six Wheel Dump	2017	\$171,000	\$320,000	15	2033	G00556	3HWDSTRXJL424063
120	ACTIVE	Vehicle	2020	Ford	F450	One Ton Dump	2020	\$69,260	\$90,000	10	2030	G28337	1FDUF4HN1LDA11203
121	ACTIVE	Vehicle	2023	Ford	F450	One Ton Dump	2023	\$104,925	\$110,000	10	2032	G30078	1FDUF4HNXPDAO7785
206	ACTIVE	Equipment	1989	Woodchuck	W/C-17	Chipper	1989	\$14,500	\$30,000	30	2025	G22264	1W9CE8919GS4D7906
207	ACTIVE	Equipment	2011	John Deere	310SJ	Backhoe	2011	\$113,230	\$180,000	10	2026	G18291	1T030SJJBD204423
208	ACTIVE	Equipment	2014	Volvo	L60G	Wheel Loader	2014	\$177,839	\$250,000	25	2044	G24341	VCEOL60GJ0S611239
209	ACTIVE	Equipment	2018	John Deere	5075M	Mower/Tractor	2018	\$40,000	\$70,000	15	2033	None	ILV5075MVJJ401518
210	ACTIVE	Equipment	2018	John Deere	316GR	Skid Steer	2018	\$40,000	\$60,000	15	2033	None	IT0316GKCGJ295443
211	ACTIVE	Equipment	2021	John Deere	310 SL HL	Backhoe	2021	\$158,992	\$225,000	10	2036	G28982	1T0310HLHNF420443
212	ACTIVE	Equipment	2022	Volvo	L60H	Wheel Loader	2022	\$200,000	\$250,000	25	2047		
NA	ACTIVE	Equipment	2002	Barber	Surf Rake	D264	2002	\$45,000.00	\$56,000.00	OWNED BY STATE		6840	600HD
								TOTAL REPLACE COST	\$2,751,000				
								AVERAGE SERVICE LIFE	15				
								MIN YEARLY CONTRIBUTION	\$183,400				

DPW analysis showing the impact of maintenance in the last 5 years of a vehicle life.

<u>EQUIPMENT</u>	<u>EQUIPMENT</u>	<u>REPLACEMENT</u>	<u>LIFE OF VEHICLE</u>	<u>LAST FIVE YEARS</u>
<u>DESIGNATION</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	<u>REPAIR COST</u>	<u>REPAIR COST</u>
Trk #115	2014 Inter. Dump	2026	\$54,188.04	\$45,979.32
Trk #116	2015 Ford 1 Ton	2026	\$34,732.60	\$25,315.91
Trk #117	2016 Ford Utility	2025	\$24,341.57	\$18,588.39
Trk #118	2017 Inter. Dump	2027	\$34,838.31	\$28,703.28
Trk #119	2018 Inter. Dump	2028	\$32,681.30	\$27,189.33
Trk #120	2020 Ford 1 Ton	2027	\$10,112.76	\$9,500.66
Trk #121	2023 Ford 1 Ton	2030	\$1,445.55	\$1,445.55
Trk #122	2024 Kenworth Dump	2035	\$5,017.48	\$5,017.48
Trk #123	2025 Ford F350	2027	\$1,340.40	\$1,340.40
			<b>\$198,698.01</b>	<b>\$163,080.32</b>

DPW has not been able to update for 2026

## Public Works Equipment and Vehicles

### RESERVE FUNDS

Action Year	Start Principal	Withdrawal	Mid Year	Deposit	Year End
2020	\$230,091.89	(\$70,000.00)	\$160,091.89	\$100,000.00	\$268,918.74
2021	\$268,918.74	(\$200,000.00)	\$68,918.74	\$100,000.00	\$168,969.33
2022	\$168,969.33	(\$195,935.00)	(\$26,965.67)	\$100,000.00	\$74,306.89
2023	\$74,306.89	(\$104,925.00)	(\$30,618.11)	\$200,000.00	\$169,381.89
2024	\$169,381.89	(\$250,000.00)	(\$80,618.11)	\$200,000.00	\$119,381.89
2025	\$119,381.89	(\$126,000.00)	(\$6,618.11)	\$200,000.00	\$193,381.89
2026	\$193,381.89	(\$104,737.50)	\$88,644.39	\$200,000.00	\$288,644.39
2027	\$288,644.39	(\$86,821.88)	\$201,822.51	\$200,000.00	\$401,822.51
2028	\$401,822.51	(\$303,876.56)	\$97,945.95	\$200,000.00	\$297,945.95
2029	\$297,945.95		\$297,945.95		\$297,945.95

From the DPW Director: \$250,000 annually into the capital reserve does not start to develop a cushion only carries us through and covers the replacement costs with inflation built in at 5%. In 2031 we start to develop a cushion Due to lower cost replacement vehicles.

**Article 21 DPW Highway Equipment Capital Reserves (\$250K)****DPW:**

Shift in strategy. Not holding on to vehicles to the end of life as there is no re-sale value.

Replacing sooner may help reduce the overall costs to the town. DPW presented that about 1/3 of Vehicle maintenance costs are in the last 5 years of life.

[Click Here](#) for Department Narrative from the Budget Books.

Rolling replacement rotates out the oldest equipment as maintenance costs and inconveniences increase; and smooths taxes with contributions each tax year to this capital equipment reserve. Total estimated to be \$2,751,000 for all the equipment.

DPW staff plans on purchasing one vehicle a year, each purchase consumes a fair amount of DPW time and effort, so multiple purchases in a year should be avoided

Current Fund Balance of Public Works Equipment fund: Completely unknown. The Town numbers don't match the Director tracking.

**Yes:** Add \$250K to the reserve fund to support the rolling replacement plan. Keep tax rate steady despite periodic large ticket items purchased

**No:** Leave the reserve fund balance as is with no additional funds this year.

Rye is sitting on around \$800,000 of reserve Fund for buildings.

- about \$400K in Municipal Buildings
- about \$400K combined in School and Rye Water District

Departments have OpEx in the budget and are asking to increase the reserves

Between the Town and the Trustees of the Trust Fund – break down in communication since the past Finance Director left Rye and replaced by MRI

Art.	#	Description	EOY	OpEx	Warrant
23	103520031	Library Maintenance	0	\$12.5K	\$50K
7	103520033	Municipal Buildings	\$239,000	\$56.7K	\$35K
18	103520043	Construction & Renovation	\$116,000	0	\$10K
9	103520045	Conservation	\$31,183	\$10K	\$10K
17	103520015	Recreation	\$49,200	\$13K	\$5K
		School Maintenance	\$211,000		
		Water Buildings	\$195,000		

**Article 7: \$35,000 for Municipal Buildings Maintenance Fund**

Current Balance: **Report says \$239,241** Finance Director says is around \$190K after reconciliation

NOTE: In 2025 spending where the money should have first been removed from Reserve funds came from the General Fund, so why is there so much available funds to be used.

**Funds should and can be used for: ????? No idea**

**Target balance for this fund: ????? Has not been discussed in Public Meetings**

**Yes:** Add \$35K to the maintenance fund

**No:** Leave the fund balance as is with no additional funds this year

**Article 23: \$50,000 for Library Maintenance Fund**

Current Balance: **Report says \$: maybe zero** Finance Director says is around \$190K after reconciliation

**Funds should and can be used for: ????? No idea**

**Target balance for this fund: ????? Has not been discussed in Public Meetings**

**Yes:** Add \$50K to the maintenance fund

**No:** Leave the fund balance as is with no additional funds this year

**Article 18: Municipal Building Construction & Renovation \$10,000**

Fund 103520043 has \$116,015 for construction and renovation of town buildings.

Money was to be used for the second floor of the Town Hall Annex work.

What is the target balance for this fund? Why is an additional \$10K needed?

**Yes:** Add \$10K to this fund

**No:** Leave the fund balance as is with no additional funds this year

The Budget Committee did **NOT** recommend this article, so this wording was changed.

**Article 17 Recreation Building and Property Maintenance Reserve Fund \$5K**

2022 name was expanded to include Property Maintenance

2023 Master Site Plan: [Click Here](#)

2011 Department Master Plan: [Click Here](#)

**Current Balance is: \$49,229**

**Target Balance should be: ??????**

**Yes:** Add \$5K to the building maintenance fund

**No:** Leave the fund balance as is with no additional funds this year

**Article 9 Conservation Maintenance Expendable Trust \$10,000**

**Current Balance in the fund is: \$31,182 Target Balance should be: ??????**

**Yes:** Add to this fund that was created in 2021 for maintain Goss Farm and conservation land.

**No:** Do not make an annual contribution to this fund, leaving the current balance as is.

**Article 12: HVAC**

Just closes out this fund that is no longer needed.

**Article 15: Salt Shed Reserve Fund**

Just closes out this fund that is no longer needed.

**Article 10: Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund \$15,000 1003520044**

Fund was established in 2020 to fund revaluation. State law requires property revaluation at a minimum every five years.

Total cost was estimated to be \$75,000. Even though we outsource Assessment to MRI, Select Board said this may now cost \$100K

Balance is: \$65,050

**Yes:** Add \$15k to the fund Reduced the 5<sup>th</sup> year cost of funding the re-evaluation.

**No:** Leave the fund balance as is with no additional funds this year

**Article 11: \$15,000 Continue with the Contingency for un-expected expenses**

Forth year Rye has used this [RSA 31:98-a](#) provision that allows Rye to shift \$15,000 from the un-assigned account balance to be used for contingencies. Any un-used funds, like all surpluses fall to the un-assigned account balance at the end of the fiscal year.

This has no current year tax impact.

**Yes:** Make it easier for the Select Board to react and spend to address emergencies

**No:** Would require funds to come from other planned accounts. Would enable more funds to be used to pay down annual taxes.

**Article 13: \$10K for Emergency Management**

Account 103520050 may have \$73,055 in it now.

4290-17 2026 Budget of: \$18,083

There will be \$90K available. Do we need \$100K? What is the target???

**Yes:** Adds \$10K to this fund

**No:** Keeps the fund where it is today

The Budget Committee did **NOT** recommend this article, so this wording was changed.

## Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4)

MS4 is a publicly-owned storm drain, pipe, ditch, or other means of collecting and transporting rain water (i.e. stormwater) from a town to an outfall that deposits the water into a stream or river.

MS4 Sate website: [Click Here](#)

Seacoast Stormwater Coalition: [Click Here](#)

Rye Resources: [Click Here](#)

Impaired map Rye [Click Here](#)

Multi-levels that must be met. Adds costs – need to sweep streets twice a year.

Table 2 shows the priority list of the 8 municipal, non-conservation parcels with their NH GIS ID and street address.

*Table 2: Priority municipal, non-conservation parcels ranked by descending IC with NH GIS ID and street address.\*\*\**

Treatment Priority	IC (ac)	NH GIS ID	Street Address
1	2.57	08187-011-134-000	309 Grove Road
2	1.28	08187-012-055-000	20 Central Road
3	1.15	08187-016-007-000	555 Washington Road
4	0.69	08187-012-043-000	575 Washington Road
5	0.51	08187-012-054-000	10 Central Road
6	0.48	08187-012-053-000	0 Washington Road
7	0.14	08187-012-038-000	37 Central Road
8	0.13	08187-012-042-000	581 Washington Road

190-5.7 Stormwater Management Plan in LDR

44 Culverts

850 Catch Basins

22 Outfalls that drain to wetlands

43 Miles of Road



**Article 8: Fund for MS4 and Spill Prevention \$25K**

SPCCP = Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure Plans

SWPPP = Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan

MS4 = Municipal Separate Sewer Stormwater System

Establishes a fund for unanticipated costs during the year.

Current balance is \$51,206, brings it to \$75K. WHAT SHOULD THE TARGET BE?

There is a \$40K Capital Outlay for this also. Funds also in OpEX

**Yes:** Agree with having a reserve for major unplanned and required actions

**No:** Find or reallocate funds for current budgets

NOTE: Increasing State reporting requirements require ever more resources from the DPW director.

**Article 14: Now called the *Dump & Landfill Capital Reserve \$10K***

Current Balance is: \$26,310

Annual Cost estimates are: Not disclosed WHAT SHOULD THE BALANCE BE???

While there is an operational budget line time, the June 2024 [NH DES reported](#) that additional testing was required for the Breakfast Hill Landfill. The report does indicate additional 2025 testing

Fund covers the cost of the monitoring and testing of the samples for PFOA.

**Yes:** Add \$10K to the fund to maintain the testing and monitoring

**No:** Leave the fund balance as is with no additional funds this year

2024 Landfill Monitoring had \$20K, actuals provided to Budget committee show \$11,514

2025 Budget of \$20K. Actual \$15,377

2026 Budget of \$20K

**Article 19: Police CBA**

3 year Police Union Collective Bargaining Agreement. Says estimated as changes in staff could impact the future year impact.

The first year \$41,908 will be added to the 2026 Operating budget. The following years will be in the budgeted OpEx

Year	Estimated Increase
2026	\$41,908
2027	\$33,383
2028	\$29,640

**Yes:** Police will get the contracted pay increases

**No:** Goes to the next Article

**Article 20: \$Police CBA special meeting**

Relieves Select Board of having a meeting to have a meeting. They can go directly to new negotiations.

**Article S: Town Employee CBA**

3 year Police Union Collective Bargaining Agreement. Estimated as changing in staff could impact the amounts in future years.

The first year \$39,986 will be added to the 2026 Operating budget. The following years will be in the budged OpEx

Year	Estimated Increase
2026	\$39,986
2027	\$39,075
2028	\$25,866

Pulled rom the Warrant

Select Board and Budget Committee both voted on this.

No explanation yet or what this means for Town Employees

**Yes:** Police will get the contracted pay increases

**No:** Goes to the next Article

**Article S: Town Employee CBA special meeting**

Relieves Select Board of having a meeting to have a meeting. They can go directly to new negotiations.

## **Article 35: Town Center Radar Speed Signs**

Petitioned warrant article by residents Washington Rd. and others who feel something more needs to be done to slow down traffic in the Town Center.

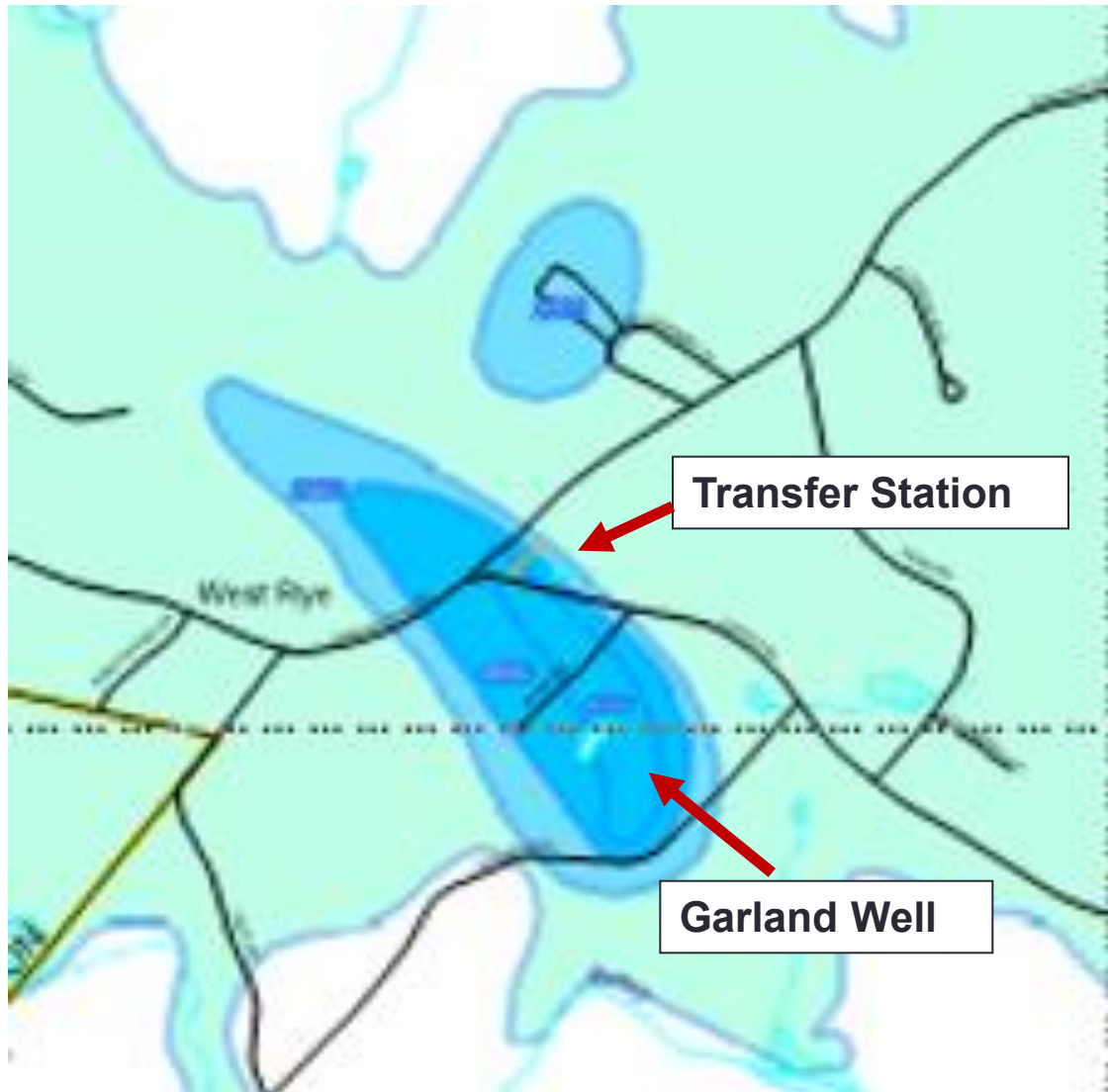
Note: The TAP grant narrowing of the road is intended to slow traffic down.

**Yes:** Will allocate the funds.

**No:** Would technically prohibit the town for spending on this for one year.

**Was changed to \$9600 as the Police Chief found a way to acquire three signs at this price. Wording was also simplified**

The darker the blue, the higher the transmissivity.  
Transfer Station is 1,610 ft. uphill from the Garland Well



**See the 2023 Water in Rye presentation to see more information about our Hydrology.**

[Click Here](#)

DPW washed the “blue safe paths paint” near the Salt shed and the paint leaked from the trucks and ran down towards the aquifer. (August 21, 2018 photo)



**Article 4: \$1.4M Bond for Fueling Station at the Transfer Station**

The Transfer Station is uphill from RWD major well on Garland Rd. Much is in the Aquifer Protection zone.

Control system failed and was replaced last year.

There is \$25K in capital outlay for the current system.

This authorizes the ability borrow this amount to install a new Town fueling station. As it calls out the location it would limit the installation to this specificized location.

If approved, it will not impact 2026 taxes as payments (debt and interest) will not be until the following year of Bonding.

**Yes:** Enables the Town to acquire funding at a time in the future for this project.

**No:** Would prevent the town from bonding and installing a Fuel Station in 2026

**MADE to Study with an amount of \$75K**

**Article 24:** On going issue of the Deed recording mistake from years ago.

**Important facts about adding these parcels to the Town Forest:**

- They were purchased by the town with Open Space bond funds.
- They were purchased with the intention to be added to the Town Forest.
- As part of the Town Forest, they will be overseen and monitored by the Rockingham County Conservation Commission (RCCD), the easement holder on the Town Forest, at no additional cost to the town.
- As part of the Town Forest, they will be managed in accordance with the Town Forest Management Plan, which is updated every ten years.
- They are contiguous with the Town Forest since lot 204-1 adjoins an abutting parcel with a conservation easement on it granting public access.

[Click Here](#) to see larger map.

**Yes:** Actions as described will go through

**No:** Would have to come back to the voters to ratify at some point



**Article 25: Allows the RCC to grant leases greater than 1 year to Goss Farm tenant farmers**

In its management role of the Goss Farm, the RCC would like to be able to grant longer-term leases to tenant farmers to encourage more stable and committed farming on the leased portions of the farm. Municipal law only allows multi-year leases of town property by vote of the residents. This does not affect the Community Garden plots.

[See issued RFP](#)

**Yes:** Allows Conservation Commission to sign greater than one-year leases to farmers on Goss Farm to attract committed tenant farmers.

**No:** The Conservation Commission would not be able to sign a lease greater than one-year leases on the Goss Farm property

**Amended to assure that community gardens will remain as is.**

**Note: If you watch the recorded video, this article was not correctly explained**

**Article 26: Make Conservation Commission Elected.**

2025 warrant article was changed “To Study”. The Select Board out sourced the “Study” to Conservation Commission member Hugh Lee. [Click Here](#)

See the 2025 Select Board discussion on January 13<sup>th</sup> SB Meeting. [See video](#) at 1:36 where Select Board says this comes from resident Hugh Lee.

[HB 1302](#) that recently changed [RSA 36:A:3](#)

**Yes:** Conservation Commission will be phased in to be elected positions

**No:** Select Board will continue to appoint members.

Note: Select Board replacement of Scott McQuade who is now as a Select Board was made for the full three (3) year term, not until March 2026.

**Efforts to make this a study - failed**

**Article 27: New Fund to be used for Energy Saving activities**

Money will NOT come from taxes. Town solar panels help the town reduce the cost of electricity. The renewable energy credits create hard cash. This warrant article will have that money go to this fund.

The Energy Commission could then recommend projects that the Select Board would first approve.

**[Proposed SB 590](#)** enabled under **[RSA 53-E:6](#)**

**[Click Here](#)** for what the Energy Commission presented/explained to the Select Board

**Yes:** Establish this fund

**No:** Cash credits would go to the general fund

**Article 28: Enable C-PACER projects to be attached to properties**

For Commercial property only. Owner can borrow money, like a 2<sup>nd</sup> Mortgage to enhance the property with energy savings. However, when the property is sold, the “loan” is not closed out, but that obligation moves with the property to the new owner.

The Town needs to agree so that this information gets attached to the Deed and property card.

[Click Here](#) for what the Energy Commission presented/explained to the Select Board

**Yes:** Makes this borrowing available for owners of commercial properties

**No:** Could not be started this year in Rye

**Article 29: Enables Trustees of the Trust Fund to hand off investments****RSA 35:9a**

For over 25 years the Trustees of the Trust Funds have personally managed the investments to maximize returns. This would change Rye to have the money invested in standardized funds and cost Rye management fees.

Historically the Finance Direct was managing the reporting of the Trust Fund balances and allocating the interest across them. The Select Board has shifted this to the Trustees how are using some of the Interest to fund a bookkeeper.

There is around **\$10M** under management.

**Yes:** Allows interest to fund trade management services

**No:** Would continue with the Trustees doing all of that work

**Article 30: Allows Wentworth By The Sea and Abenaqui earlier maintenance**

Allows the golf courses to use equipment early in the morning. Currently they can't begin cutting and other work until 7am.

See [Ordinance #30](#)

**Yes:** Allows these businesses to begin maintenance earlier

**No:** Would keep the ordinance as is

Efforts to put a fixed time failed

**Article 32: Voice of the People Fair Funding**

This is a Voice of the People Vote and part of a State wide push to get the NH Legislature to stop down shifting costs to Towns and Cities

Would require the Select Board to write and send this letter.

**Yes:** Select Board would need to write this letter

**No:** Select Board could not communicate this message to the State

**Article 33: Voice of the People for Freedom Account Schools**

Freedom Account money goes to a private group who collects a fee before it passes the money out to these schools operating in NH.

These schools are also not subjected to the same performance accountability as Public Schools.

So State funded schools don't have report like Rye does with the schools we fund.

**Yes:** Select Board would need to write this letter

**No:** Select Board could not communicate this message to the State

**Article 34: Rye History Month**

Intent is to build momentum and community engage around the history of Rye.

The Rye 400 received much positive feed back about the activities that got residents out and engaging with each other.

**Yes:** Would make October Rye History Month

**No:** October could not be Rye History month

**Article 37: Flexible Trick or Treat”**

Like last year, the date may have had to be moved. This allows the Select Board to adjust based on weather.

**Yes:** Would officially allow weather related changes.

**No:** Night would stay as October 30<sup>th</sup> period

**Article 31:** Allows the Selectmen to sell Surplus Equipment

Note: Allows for public auction or sealed bid. Potential for surplus to be acquired at less than market value.

**Yes:** Permit the Town to sell surplus equipment through auction and receive revenue without needing to wait for Town Meeting approval.

**No:** Keep the current process

**School Article 1: Operating Budget of \$19,206,618**

Warrant: [Click Here](#)

The wording at the top is by RSA [189:751 \(a\)](#).

From the SAU Finance Director

<a href="#">Full Work Book</a>	<a href="#">Budget Detail</a>	<a href="#">Summary Memo</a>	<a href="#">Overview</a>	<a href="#">Summary Comparison</a>
<a href="#">RES, RJH, PHS</a>	<a href="#">PHS Tuition</a>	<a href="#">Benefits</a>	<a href="#">Cost per Student</a>	<a href="#">Staffing &amp; Data</a>

**Yes:** Approves the proposed budget

**No:** Rejects the proposed budget and requires School Board and administration to use the Default Budget of \$18,929,009

## **School Article 2: RFP to look at School Options \$100K**

School Board would create an RFP and if issued, it would be about 18 months until a report is available. [Warrant](#)

Should look at options and how each option would adjust to fewer or more students than the current projections.

School Report provided to Select Board: [Click Here](#)

**Yes:** School Board will create an RFP, but is not obligated to award

**No:** Could not spend money on contractors to support addressing this question

### School Article 4: Technology Expendable Trust

This \$30K contribution is only made if there are sufficient funds in the un-assigned account balance at the end of the school fiscal year.

Technology is core to administration and delivering education. A significant technical problem could have a large impact on education and communication.

Warrant

**Yes:** Will allow the School Board to replenish this account with **up to \$30K**

**No:** No contributions will be made

	Amount	Deposits	Withdrawals	Ending Balance	Target Balance	Amount needed
	Beg Balance					
<b>School Expendable Trusts</b>						
Tuition Expendable Trust Fund	\$147,793.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$147,793.50	\$160,000.00	\$12,206.50
School Property Maintenance Expendable TF	\$206,845.22	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$206,845.22	\$400,000.00	\$193,154.78
Special Education Expendable Trust Fund	\$229,424.90	\$75,000.00	\$0.00	\$304,424.90	\$350,000.00	\$45,575.10
Wedgewood Farms Expendable Trust Fund	\$72,896.10	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$72,896.10		
Technology Expendable Trust Fund	\$19,250.95	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$19,250.95	\$50,000.00	\$30,749.05
<b>Total School Expendable Trust Funds</b>	<b>\$676,210.67</b>	<b>\$75,000.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$751,210.67</b>	<b>\$960,000.00</b>	<b>\$281,685.43</b>

## This Presentation

Was created by the Rye Civic League to help taxpayers be prepared for the deliberative town meeting

The Rye Civic League publishes the monthly Rye Civic News. You can add yourself to the Rye Civic News at [www.ryecivicleague.org](http://www.ryecivicleague.org)