

**TOWN OF RYE – BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**Monday, August 24, 2020**  
**5:30 p.m. – Rye Town Hall**

*Present: Chair Phil Winslow and Selectman Bill Epperson*

*Others Present: Town Administrator Becky Bergeron,*

**5:30 p.m.**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Winslow called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**II. NON-PUBLIC SESSION (1) per RSA 91-A:3, II (c) Reputation  
(2) per RSA 91-A:3, II (a) Personnel**

**At 5:30 p.m., Phil Winslow made a motion to go into Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A:3 II (c) Reputation. Seconded by Bill Epperson. Roll Call: Winslow – Yes, Epperson – Yes.**

**At 5:46 p.m., Phil Winslow made a motion to come out of Non-Public Session. Seconded by Bill Epperson. Roll Call: Winslow – Yes, Epperson – Yes**

**At 5:47 p.m., Phil Winslow made a motion to go into Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A:3 II (a) Personnel. Seconded by Bill Epperson. Roll Call: Winslow – Yes, Epperson – Yes.**

**At 6:08 p.m., Phil Winslow made a motion to come out of Non-Public Session. Seconded by Bill Epperson. Roll Call: Winslow – Yes, Epperson – Yes**

**6:30 p.m. RECONVENE PUBLIC MEETING**

**III. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**Reading of Attestation**

Chair Winslow called the meeting to order 6:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Statement by Phil Winslow:

As Chair of the Rye Board of Selectmen, I find that due to the State of Emergency declared by the Governor as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and in accordance with the Governor's

Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, this public body is authorized to meet electronically.

Please note that there is no physical location to observe and listen contemporaneously to this meeting, which was authorized pursuant to the Governor's Emergency Order. However, in accordance with the Emergency Order, I am confirming that we are providing public access to the meeting by telephone, with additional access possibilities by video and other electronic means. We are utilizing Zoom for this electronic meeting. All members of the board have the ability to communicate contemporaneously during this meeting through this platform, and the public has access to contemporaneously listen and, if necessary, participate in this meeting through dialing the following phone number: 646-558-8656 and Password:403687 or by clicking on the following website address: [www.zoom.com](http://www.zoom.com) ID #833-1632-0365.

Public notice has been provided to the public for the necessary information for accessing the meeting, including how to access the meeting using Zoom telephonically. Instructions have also been provided on the website of the board at: [town.rye.nh.us](http://town.rye.nh.us) go to the Board of Selectmen page and click on the agenda for this meeting.

If anyone has a problem accessing the meeting please email the Town Administrator at: [BBergeron@town.rye.nh.us](mailto:BBergeron@town.rye.nh.us)

In the event the public is unable to access the meeting, the meeting will be adjourned and rescheduled. Please note that all votes that are taken during this meeting shall be done by roll call vote.

Roll call attendance of Select Board:

- Phil Winslow
- Bill Epperson

*Note: The Selectmen stated where they were located and confirmed that they were the only ones in the room for the meeting.*

#### **IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Town Administrator Bergeron announced that Executive Assistant Kate Drago will be leaving her position with the Town effective September 4<sup>th</sup>. She wished Kate well in her new endeavors. She will really be missed.

The Board agreed that Ms. Drago did a great job and will be missed.

Chair Winslow stated that the Board received a letter regarding Police Officer Mark Webster and his vigilance in the protection of private property. He asked Chief Walsh to describe what happened.

Chief Walsh explained that Officer Webster observed some individuals at a home that he knew were not the owners. Upon checking, it turned out that the individuals were relatives of the home owner in this case. Chief Walsh added that this was a very important letter because it shows what the officers do daily. They are aware of the neighborhoods, the surroundings, who the citizens are and what cars they drive. If there are people in the area around homes who have not been observed there before, the officer will stop and ask questions.

Chair Winslow sent a thank you to Officer Webster and the whole police force for their knowledge and focus on the community.

**V. PUBLIC COMMENT** – (at the beginning of the meeting, for any comment by any Rye resident on any topic. Requested time limit, up to 5 minutes each person.)

**Steven Borne, 431 Wallis Road**, requested that the Board share with the public who has submitted their names to join the select board and the process that is being used to appoint the individual. With Wallis Road extension having been closed due to bacteria, what has the Board done in order to inform everyone that lives along there? He was informed by some of the neighbors in the area that they had no idea that the beach was closed because of bacteria. He believes that there were going to be more tests done today or tomorrow. Hopefully, it will open again soon. Mr. Borne asked the Board to “come to their senses” and listen to what Town Moderator Eaton has asked the Board to do with not holding a special town meeting this fall and pushing it off until March. Mr. Borne stated that in the video from the meeting of the 17<sup>th</sup>, Chairman Winslow says how much he wants this to happen. Moderator Eaton really implores that more people not be put at risk. Also, the town employees are swamped with everything they are doing with the September 8<sup>th</sup> primary and November 3<sup>rd</sup> election.

Selectman Epperson told Mr. Borne that the town hall employees are getting caught up. He also stated that he takes offense to Mr. Borne assuming that the Board is putting people at danger, putting people at risk and saying “come to our senses”. He added that Mr. Borne is pretty good at pointing out all the problems, but he doesn’t see a lot of solutions.

Mr. Borne agreed to put some solutions in writing.

**VI. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS** – (To be discussed at the meeting only if pulled off the consent agenda by one of the three Selectmen.)

- A)** Accept and Expend CARES ACT Grant proceeds of up to \$17,297.72 pursuant to RSA 21P:43
- B)** Authorize the Town Administrator to File a Three Lot Minor Subdivision Application of Tax Map 12/Lot 43 (the Parsonage Property)

Town Administrator Bergeron explained that both agenda items A and B need to be taken off the consent agenda for votes. Also, there needs to be an additional motion and vote for the Board to authorize the Town Administrator to sign the CARES ACT Grant application and subsequent reimbursement requests.

**Motion by Phil Winslow to authorize Town Administrator Becky Bergeron to sign the CARES Act application (Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security) and any subsequent request for payment reimbursement. Also, to accept and expend CARES ACT Grant proceeds of up to \$17,297.72 pursuant to RSA 21 P:43. Seconded by Bill Epperson. Roll Call Vote: Phil Winslow – Aye; Bill Epperson – Aye  
Motion passed**

## **I. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **A) Selection of Replacement Board of Selectmen member**

Chair Winslow reported that Keriann Roman told the select board at their meeting of August 10<sup>th</sup> that she was resigning from her position on the Board. Chair Winslow extended a thank you to Mrs. Roman for her two and a half years that she served the Town as Selectman. He noted that she took the lead on many issues, including the town forest dog issue, beach parking and the TD Bank/Parsonage exchange, just to name a few. The Board wishes her success in her legal career, and the enjoyment of her young family and her new puppy that she just acquired. Chair Winslow added that they are going to miss her dearly.

Per RSA 669:63, the remaining Selectmen shall appoint a replacement for the remainder of the term of the vacating selectman. In this case it is six and a half months. Upon Mrs. Roman's announcement at the last meeting, the position was placed on the Rye website and the Town's Facebook page. Anyone that had interest in pursuing the remaining portion of Mrs. Roman's term was encouraged to contact the Board regarding their interest and qualifications.

Chair Winslow reported that the Board received five applicants that reached out to fill the remaining six months of Mrs. Roman's term. He added that the Town is really blessed to have so many well qualified candidates. Included in the candidates were people with backgrounds such as multinational CEO, military leader, airline pilot, a civil leader, business leader and an attorney/activist.

After review of all the data that was submitted, and given that the term was for only six months, the Board was looking for someone that was already current with the major issues that they are facing short-term. There are primarily five issues:

1. The Parsonage and TD Bank exchange.
2. The TAP Grant - funding the bike lanes, sidewalks and cross walks in the town center.
3. Managing the cash flow and the Finances of the Town, given the impact that the pandemic has had on local, state and federal funding for the year.
4. The sale of the trolley barn and finding suitable storage for the senior van.

5. The plan to bring the town hall up to ADA compliance and providing safe and efficient workspace for the town employees.

Based upon these five issues and looking at the applicants, the Board is recommending Mae Bradshaw to serve the remaining term as Selectman.

- Mae is the Chair of the Historic District Commission and is totally up to date on the plans to bring the Parsonage/TD Bank exchange to fruition.
- Mae is on the Town Center Committee, which is driving the TAP Grant and the work on the town center.
- Mae is the chair of the CIP Committee which works on developing a six-year rolling capital expenditure plan for the Town.
- Mae is on the Budget Committee and is fully up to date on the financial status of the Town and GAP funding issues.

**Motion by Bill Epperson to appoint Mae Bradshaw to fulfill the remaining term of Keriann Roman, until the March election. Seconded by Phil Winslow.**

**Roll Call Vote: Bill Epperson – Aye; Phil Winslow – Aye**

**Motion Passed.**

Selectman Epperson noted that appointing Ms. Bradshaw is a significant advantage to the Board. He would like to also acknowledge the fact that the individuals that sent in letters of interest were all more than qualified to have been appointed to the position. However, due to the reasons that Chair Winslow had already stated, Ms. Bradshaw is the right candidate for the job.

Chair Winslow thanked everyone that volunteered for the position. He noted that if they consider running for the position in March, it will be a three-year commitment.

Selectman Epperson stated that another fact that is valued in Ms. Bradshaw's expertise that she will bring to the Board is that she is a practicing attorney, as was Mrs. Roman.

## **B) PUBLIC HEARING – FACE COVERINGS AT THE POLLS**

The purpose of the hearing is to hear public comment on establishing a Temporary Selectmen's Ordinance to require face coverings while inside polling locations.

Chair Winslow stated it is the intent for the Board to vote this into effect in support of Moderator Bob Eaton, in his requirements that all people at the polls must wear face coverings. Mr. Eaton has intentions of running outside points of contact for those that can't or wouldn't wear masks, so they can vote outside.

Chair Winslow opened the Public Hearing at 6:48 p.m.

**Dr. Burt Dibble, Harbor Road**, pointed out that there is significant State guidance as to how this should be done and Mr. Eaton's recommendations are pretty much in-line with that. So, he is inclined to indorse Mr. Eaton's position on this basis.

Hearing no other comments from the Public, Chair Winslow closed the Public Hearing at 6:50 p.m.

**Motion by Phil Winslow to establish a temporary selectmen's ordinance to require face coverings while inside the polling locations for the remaining period of 2020. Seconded by Bill Epperson.**

**Roll Call Vote: Bill Epperson – Aye; Phil Winslow – Aye**

**Motion Passed.**

### **C) TAP Grant Discussion**

**Karen Stewart, Chair of the Town Center Committee**, updated the Board of Selectmen regarding the TAP Grant and the ongoing work of the Town Center Committee.

There have been monthly conversations with the NH Department of Transportation regarding the status of the TAP program. The TAP grant program has been on hold due to the pandemic. It is an annually re-authorized fund that is set to expire on September 30, 2020. So, the committee is running low on time as to whether or not they will be able to apply for this funding cycle for the traffic calming measures that the Town has approved.

The committee also recognizes the fact that it is set to sunset on September 30, 2020. The committee met about a month and a half ago to talk about the committee member's feelings on continuing. There was agreement that given the opportunity, the committee would like to continue. They would like to apply to the DOT for the TAP Grant and to continue the good work that they started and that the Town endorsed. They also agreed that they would like to continue as a committee to pursue the objectives of the charge from last year to help the Town develop a comprehensive plan for the Town Center. Therefore, they are asking the Board for their approval to continue the committee starting October 1<sup>st</sup>. They agree that the charge should remain roughly the same, which is to consider all town owned properties in the town center in order to make a recommendation to the Board about what changes could be made and what that might look like in the future. They would like a little more flexibility in the charge and therefore, would like to remove the need for a warrant article. They would be open to it, but not work on it if there is no reason to pursue it in the next election. There was also some interest with some members of the committee to seek partnership with the select board so that they are not working in parallel tracks, as they felt they were last year because of circumstances changing. The plan is to meet monthly. They need to know the status of the TD Bank and Parsonage because they need to have clarity around who owns the buildings that they are going to be considering, as they move forward.

Chair Winslow responded that the select board would also like to have that clarity, but still hasn't gotten it; however, that should happen soon. He added that with the change on the Board

of Selectmen, they will be looking at the Selectmen's position on each of the committees. They may be changing some of the Selectmen, but there will be a Selectman on the committee.

Ms. Stewart reported that Nina Parrott has stepped down. She asked if now that Mae is on the select board if they should be seeking one or two new members.

Chair Winslow stated that having two selectmen on the committee would make it a selectmen's meeting. He recommended only having one selectman so that they can run their own meeting; therefore, they would need to seek two new members. He explained that they have not discussed who will be on each committee yet, but he asked Ms. Stewart to copy Administrator Bergeron with any of the changes to the charge so that it can be updated.

Chair Winslow thanked Ms. Stewart for taking the leadership of the committee and asked Administrator Bergeron to have a letter of thank you sent to Nina Parrot for her service.

#### **D) NHMA Legislative Policy Update – Tabled until Next Selectmen's meeting**

#### **E) Accounting Policies and Procedures Update**

Administrator Bergeron explained that as part of the annual audit procedure Plodzick had made some recommendations and the changes are consistent to those recommendations. In addition, it was time to update the deposit procedure because they no longer take the money to the bank. They have a secured armored service that does that for the Town. They also updated the returned check procedure and the stale dated check policy. Some of the changes are as follows:

- A dual process of journal entries being initiated by Finance and approved by the Town Administrator
- The Town Administrator reviewing all reconciliations
- The deposit procedure
- Finance Administrator is keeping a procedure on all petty cash
- Twenty-five dollar return check fee – a limit on the number of return checks from a customer
- A return check that is not made good is now turned over to the Rye Police Department
- The process for a return check on a motor vehicle registration
- Purchase Order policy – limit was change to \$500

**Motion by Phil Winslow to adopt the Accounting Policies and Procedures as amended.**

**Seconded by Bill Epperson.**

**Roll Call Vote: Bill Epperson – Aye; Phil Winslow – Aye**

**Motion Passed.**

Chair Winslow noted that there was a more in-depth motion that should have been made on the temporary selectmen's ordinance to require face coverings at the elections.

He read as follows:

**The Rye Board of Selectmen acting in behalf of the Town of Rye require that all persons entering the polling place of Rye Elementary School, 461 Sagamore Road, Rye, NH 03870, be wearing face coverings, made of cloth fabric or other soft materials, at all times. The only exceptions are as follows; children under the age of two, persons who experience difficulty breathing, persons that are incapacitated and that are otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance. Face coverings must cover the nose and mouth of the wearer. Any person attempting to enter the building without a face covering, one will be provided for them. In the event that a person is unable or unwilling to wear a face covering, an outdoor alternative polling place will be provided on the grounds of the Rye Elementary School. This emergency order will expire on December 31, 2020.**

**Motion by Bill Epperson to adopt the temporary order as read. Seconded by Phil Winslow. Roll Call Vote: Bill Epperson – Aye; Phil Winslow – Aye Motion Passed.**

## **II. CORRESPONDENCE**

### **A) Letter rec'd from David Lizotte re: Signage of No Parking Areas**

Chair Winslow thanked Mr. Lizotte for his \$50 contributions for additional signs.

### **B) Letter rec'd from Larry Knowlton & Bob Bear re: South Road Flooding**

Chair Winslow asked Mr. McCarthy to look into the issue and to get back to the Board.

Mr. McCarthy stated that he is aware of the situation, but he will review the letter and get back to the Board with a response and some recommendations.

## **III. NEW BUSINESS**

- Fire Chief Cotreau noted that Portsmouth Hospital has reached out to the area's surrounding towns asking for older ambulance stretchers that they could use in their sim lab. A sim lab is a place where emergency medical events can be simulated for training purpose. Some of the Town of Rye's first responders have gone through sim lab training. The medical Director at the hospital is starting a biannual session. Rye has a manual stretcher that does not fit either one of the ambulances. It is greater than sixteen years old and has no market value. The stretcher donation will benefit the Town and the department by helping with the training. The stretcher is currently being stored in the EMS room.



Administrator Bergeron expressed concern about town liability for the donation.

Chief Cotreau stated that he would seek a hold harmless agreement from the hospital.

The Board agreed to the donation.

**Motion by Bill Epperson to donate the ambulance stretcher to Portsmouth Regional Hospital Sim Lab. Seconded by Phil Winslow.**

**Roll Call Vote: Bill Epperson – Aye; Phil Winslow – Aye**

**Motion Passed.**

- The Chief explained that the Town got a grant to replace its breathing apparatus. The old apparatus was near the end of its life cycle. None of the equipment has any market value. The Chief called the vendor for the market value and was told they give no trade-ins and that there was no market value. If they do take back the equipment, they donate it to the Global Gear Initiative, which is a 503C entity that takes all kinds of Fire equipment and sends it to countries in need. He is asking the Board to be able to donate the equipment to that organization. There is a hold harmless agreement that would be given to the Town that would be executed prior to the donation. Also, in that agreement is assurance that Global Gear is not taking the equipment in order to sell it.

The Board agreed to the donation.

**Motion by Bill Epperson to donate the SCBA equipment and obsolete turn-out gear to the Global Gear Initiative. Seconded by Phil Winslow.**

**Roll Call Vote: Bill Epperson – Aye; Phil Winslow – Aye**

**Motion Passed.**

#### **IV. OLD BUSINESS**

##### **A) Dennis – Road Scan**

Public Works Director Dennis McCarthy reminded the Board that at the beginning of the year there were a number of cost items that were approved that were tabled by the Board of Selectmen due to the cash flow concerns. He pointed out that they are running out of time to get these items underway. In particular, he is concerned about the Street Scan Program. This analyzes the condition of the pavement, gives an assessment of the town roads and what roads need to be paved. The original proposal was in the low \$20,000 range. He would like to go back to the company to get a new quote and get it done this year.

Administrator Bergeron pointed out that the cash flow issues that they were concern about seem to be non-issues to date. She added that there has been no reduction in municipal aid, first issue property taxes are rolling in, and motor vehicle registrations are comparable to last year at this time. She also pointed out that they have also committed to not doing \$100,000 of paving this year. As such, she feels confident that it would be safe to move ahead with this project.

**Motion by Phil Winslow to authorize the Public Works Director to spend up to \$30,000 for the road scan project. Seconded by Bill Epperson.**

**Roll Call Vote: Bill Epperson – Aye; Phil Winslow – Aye**

**Motion Passed.**

Director McCarthy also spoke to the Board regarding the re-opening of the container services at the transfer center. He reported that they were trying to get it up and running; however, they lost two people, one to COVID and one going back to college. Also, he has one individual that has not come back from an injury, so they have not been able to do the opening. They have looked at two different scenarios; one is to resume the service without having the residents pay, which will affect the revenue that comes into the Town. The second idea is to have the people pay at the Town Clerk's Office. The Clerk's office is already set up to accept payments and are already set up for COVID protection. The clerk's office felt that they would be able to do it once they get beyond the election. The office will have a list of the prices for disposal items. The resident will tell the clerk what they have for disposal and the clerk will check off the items, collect the fees and sign off on the receipt. The resident would then take the items and the receipt to the transfer center for disposal. The attendant at the center will check off the items from the receipt.

Director McCarthy added that there will be a learning curve, but they will start getting the word out and put the information out on the website.

Chair Winslow recommended that the transfer station attendants hand out a flyer for one or two weeks in advance.

Director McCarthy agreed.

Selectman Epperson expressed his concern that there will be individuals showing up at the transfer station on Saturday afternoon with a truckload and the Town Hall will be closed. He asked how Mr. McCarthy would handle this situation without there being a big problem.

Mr. McCarthy said that he felt that they will deal with it on a case by case basis. He added that a lot of people have been calling because they want them to re-open. They will get the information out to these people and if they do a good enough job letting the people know it should go smoothly. If there is an issue where the person doesn't have a receipt, the attendant could get their information, let them dump and they could pay after. This would be a one-time solution. This would not be the policy, but it would be an exception.

Chair Winslow suggested doing this for the first two weeks.

Director McCarthy explained that he will be meeting with the town clerk this week to get an idea of their timing to start this. He added that they probably could start handing out the flyer sometime within the next week. The re-opening would be sometime around the second to third week of September.

The Board agreed that Mr. McCarthy should move forward.

## **V. OTHER BUSINESS**

Chief Walsh asked the Board for permission to go out to bid for the portable digital speed sign. The number one complaint that the Rye police receives are related to driving behavior issues. He added that the command staff has come up with a speed management plan, which includes education and enforcement. Part of the education component is the digital speed sign. The speed sign is an important part of awareness. Chief Walsh pointed out that with the traffic counter that the department is currently using the data has shown that in a thirty mph zone the average vehicle speed is between 35 to 40 mph. The goal is to get that speed down to the exact speed limit. With the sign as a reminder, it will help to make drivers become more aware of their habits. The plan is to move the sign around town, so that it does not become part of the environment.

Chair Winslow asked about maintenance costs.

Chief Walsh explained that the battery life is about three years and that would be the most expensive part. However, he is also looking into getting one with the solar energy pack and the traffic counter.

Chief Walsh also talked to the Board about replacing one of the tasers. He explained that the department has a taser management plan. The purpose of that is that at the beginning of each shift the officers are getting their tasers from the security locker. At that time, they practice holstering and unholstering and check to make sure that the battery is good, as well as developing muscle memory. The other reason for the taser management plan is that other agencies have found that if they have a taser per officer, and there is a force of twelve to fifteen officers, they are replacing all the tasers at once. He pointed out that Rye does not have tasers for each officer. Having five tasers with fifteen officers and rotating them out is more cost effective. The only disadvantage would be if there were a major event where all the officers were out at the same time, not all the officers would be carrying a taser.

The Board agreed to the purchase.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion by Bill Epperson to Adjourn at 7:36 p.m. Seconded by Phil Winslow. Roll Call Vote:  
Phil Winslow – Aye; Bill Epperson – Aye  
Motion passed**

Respectfully Submitted  
Dyana F. Ledger

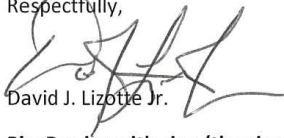
8-24-20 Corres Item A

August 11, 2020

Dear Chief Walsh,

On Saturday evening, August 8, 2020, my wife and I drove to Rye from Massachusetts to join her brother and his family for dinner and a night walk on the beach. We stopped at Ray's Seafood for takeout. We parked across the road because there were few spots if any available in their parking lot. We were in the restaurant for no more than 10 minutes. When we return to our vehicle we noticed a \$50 parking ticket on the front window. We looked around and saw no signs indicating a no parking zone as indicated on the ticket. Then we saw a broken traffic barrier 30 yards from where our car was parked with a paper sign reading NO PARKING (picture below). We were dumbfounded. The barrier and the sign had no indication that it was a zone. My wife said "now that is confusing.....would not that sign indicate no parking at the point of the barrier like closing a small stretch of road for a town parade?" The whole stretch of road on Ocean Boulevard -- I estimate more than a half mile -- had only two of these barriers with identical signs. I understand now that the Town of Rye is restricting parking on the beach roads to reduce crowds in public places to reduce the spread of the Covid Virus. This is a good idea of which I completely support. Yet, your signage is awful and the fee is unfair. I would certainly expect a more professional approach towards the safety of the public citizens. Please use this \$50 check for partial purchase of signs indicating "Temporary Closure of Beach / No Parking this side of Ocean Boulevard / Per Order of Town of Rye." As a town meeting member in my town, I would expect this from our public safety officials. I would assume your tax paying citizens would expect the same from you.

Respectfully,

  
David J. Lizotte Jr.

**Pic: Barrier with sign (the sign is circled)**



CC:

Mr. Philip D. Winslow, Selectmen

Ms. Keriann Roman, Selectman

Mr. Bill Epperson, Selectman

Ms. Katelyn Drago, Selectmen's Assistant

Ms. Beck Bergeron, Town Administrator

8-24-20 Corres. Item B

August 14, 2020

To the Rye Town Board of Selectmen

Sirs,

For several years the residents of South Road in Rye, between Central Road and State Rte 1A, have experienced intermittent flooding during and after both rainstorms and spring snow melt. In some instances this has led to basement flooding with water damage, and under these conditions in winter ice ponds can form.

This situation has long been recognized. The original sewer system constructed in the 1880's also acted as a storm sewer directing runoff into the ocean. When the new town sewer was constructed around 1990, it was acknowledged that paving the St Theresa parking lot contributed to the flooding problem. At that time, the Town assured residents that the Rye DPW would continue to maintain the old system as a storm drain. But this commitment has been difficult to honor. The system has been long obsolete, with broken clay pipes and frequently clogged outflow ports at the ocean.

Everyone has recognized that something needs to be done. Recent technological developments perhaps offer more efficient ways in which the old system could be upgraded. In the opinion of Dennis McCarthy, the topography allows for the system to be graded allowing for gravity drainage without the need for pumping. The fact that any excavation would be done along the axis of the previous system could simplify the digging. At the same time, the regulatory standards for construction of such a system have become more demanding. How can an upgrade be accomplished?

The below signed residents of the neighborhood respectfully request that the Board of Selectmen commission a preliminary engineering study to determine the most logical way forward. Such a study could outline the best way to meet the regulatory requirements and create a permanent solution to these problems.

Sincerely,



Larry Knowlton. 70, 71, 74 South Road. [Larry.knowlton@comcast.net](mailto:Larry.knowlton@comcast.net)



Bob Bear. 91 South Rd. [The4bearsnh@comcast.net](mailto:The4bearsnh@comcast.net)

The following additional South Road property owners approve of the above letter to the Rye Selectmen, on the basis of results from a mailed questionnaire. Due to the circumstances of Covid 19, written signatures were waived.

Aaron Coleman.	840 Central Road
Richard Stoddard.	860 Central Road
Mark McCue.	103 South Road
Robert Gemmett.	100 South Road
Vincent Widders.	90. South Road
Terry Conklin.	82. South Road
Anne Hodsdon.	99. South Road
Ed Gallagher.	80 South Road
William Marella.	63 South Road
John Clifford.	51 South Road
Doug Widders.	50. South Road
Scott Meade.	41. South Road
David Rosania.	40. South Road
Joan O'Neil.	15. South Road
Frank Drake.	Drake House Ocean Boulevard