

# **TOWN OF RYE - SELECT BOARD**

**Monday, August 09, 2021**

**6:30 p.m.**

**Rye Town Hall**

*Present: Chair Bill Epperson, Vice-Chair Phil Winslow, Selectman Tom King*

*Others Present: Town Administrator Becky Bergeron*

## **I. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

## **II. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chair Epperson made the following announcements:

1. The Long-Range Planning Committee has sent out their municipal survey to all the department heads, boards and committees. They would like to have the responses back to them by September 17<sup>th</sup>.
2. The cell tower application for 120 Brackett Road has been withdrawn.
3. Later in the meeting, Chief Cotreau will be talking about a Rye Vaccination Clinic

## **III. 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.)

- **Alex Herlihy, 55 Lang Road**, read a statement regarding the process and outcome of the property exchange. He stated that he was disappointed that at the last meeting there were comments made about Mae Bradshaw. He appreciated Steven Borne speaking up and setting the record straight. Mr. Herlihy has worked with Ms. Bradshaw for a decade on the Heritage Commission and is very familiar with the skills she brings to town government boards. He pointed out that the Town needs veterans like Ms. Bradshaw on the boards as well as new blood.

Mr. Herlihy stated that he would like to publicly thank the family who gave the very generous bequest to the library and thank the Rye Conservation Commission for the role they played. Both clearly lead to the resolution of the property exchange.

Mr. Herlihy suggested that it is now time to put all the hard feelings behind and to work together on the Town Center and all the challenges that face Rye.

- **Robert Wylde, 29 Oak Street**, volunteered to help at the vaccination clinic.

- **Jeff Ross, 333 West Road and Library Trustee**, updated the Board on the progress for the Parsonage parcel.
  - The landscaping that was contracted with Penguin Landscaping of Rye was completed. The lot was graded and the loam was hydroseeded.
  - The tree work is complete for now. It is possible that some of the arborvitae will be removed and there are plans to transplant the lilacs on the corner of the walkway nearest the library.
  - The telephone poles at each end of the parcel are to be removed.
  - The Trustees have met three times with members of the public about a long-term plan for the parcel.
  - They have set up an advisory committee to help see the project through to completion. There are 15 members: some are from other town boards; some are former library trustees and others are people from the general public who wish to become more involved with town affairs.
  - Their next meeting will be on September 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Mr. Ross outlined the committee's work to date:
  - It should be developed as a "Library Commons".
    - a. To provide the Town with a space to gather with a dynamic outdoor space contributing to the Rye Library's role as a community center and reflexing the idea of a traditional New England commons.
    - b. Its design should be "simple, sustainable and iconic" and make use of materials and plates native to New Hampshire, and if possible, to Rye.
    - c. It should connect to the Historical Society Museum and contribute to Rye Public Library's role as an information center.
    - d. It should be a place to go to learn about the Town's history, its beaches, its conservation areas, etc.
  - The plan should include three different types of programing.
    - a. Passive
    - b. Play
    - c. Performance
      - This would include putting furnishings on the property and perhaps some permanent features to accommodate each of these.
      - This should be done with the future physical expansion of the library itself in mind.
  - The only negative coming from the committee is the acknowledgement of the traffic and noise along Washington Road.
    - a. The traffic is in need of calming.

The good news from the Library Trustees is that the progress made so far in the planning of the Library Common directly addresses the goals of the Rye Public Library's Strategic Plan; among them to make Rye Public Library:

- b. Even more of a community center for Rye.
- c. An even better clearing house for information to the community

- d. An opportunity to expand evening programming; especially programming dedicated to music, dance and art.
- e. To more effectively and more frequently engage the public and boards and commissions in town in the planning the future of the library and the center where it is located.

Next Steps:

- 1. Prior to the September 15<sup>th</sup> meeting, the trustees will be engaging their architect, giving him feedback from the committee's deliberations. The intent is for the architect to bring his ideas back to the committee at the September 15<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**IV. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS** – (to be discussed at the meeting only if pulled off the consent agenda by one of the members of the Select Board)

- A.** Letter rec'd from Bob McGrath re: His resignation as Animal Control Officer.
- B.** Event Permit Application – Annie's Angels Memorial Fund, Inc. – Save a Vet Motorcycle Rally, Saturday, 9/18/21, 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. to benefit Chris Pets for Vets
- C.** Event Permit Application – Granite State bicycle safety & education.
- D.** Email from Lydia Tilsley thanking the Select Board for having DPW implement the narrowing of the travel lanes in the center of town dashing out where the new white lines will be.
- E.** Fundraiser request – NicaLove requests permission to hold a bake sale at the Recycling Center on Saturday, 8/28/21 from 8:30 – 12:30 p.m. to benefit NicaLove, an animal welfare organization.
- F.** Email rec'd from the Town Center Committee re: Town Hall Annex Construction
- G.** Letters rec'd from Robert Wylde re: His opinion on the Conservation Commission and on a location for a cell tower.

The following Consent Agenda items were pulled for discussion: B, C, E, F, and G.

**Motion by Bill Epperson to accept Consent Agenda Items A, D and G, as presented.  
Seconded By Tom King. All in Favor. Motion passed.**

Chair Epperson thanked Bob McGrath for his service as animal control officer and accepted his resignation with regret.

- Event Permit Application – Annie’s Angels Memorial Fund, Inc. – Save a Vet Motorcycle Rally, Saturday, 9/18/21, 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. to benefit Chris Pets for Vets

Chief Walsh spoke about this application. He noted that he has worked with Annie’s Angels several times on the road races and they are great to work with. They always follow through on the expectations. This organization and the purpose of this rally is important to the community. He will personally be guiding the duty officers who will be managing the event and will take responsibility if there are any complaints. Chief Walsh does not anticipate any problems with this event. Chief Walsh plans to contact the Police Chiefs of the other communities involved (Hampton, North Hampton and Stratham) to talk about his expectations and concerns.

- The route will separate the participants naturally by stop signs, yield signs and traffic lights, so the participants are not all bunched together.
- There is a traffic light at Route One and Wallis Road. There are several crosswalks along Ocean Blvd and a yield sign going into the round-a-bout.
- There will be a lead car.

Selectman Winslow asked if the route could be changed to cut off at Lang Road to go out to Route One, instead of continuing on Washington Road to Route One.

Chief Walsh stated he would go back to the event planner to make this a requirement.

Selectman King pointed out that this event is scheduled that same day as Goss Farm Day. He asked if Chief Walsh has considered any conflicts between the two, as with officers on duty and with the fire department.

Chief Walsh assured the Board he has considered this and noted that there will be extra people on duty that day.

**Motion by Phil Winslow to accept the Event Permit Application – Annie’s Angels Memorial Fund, Inc. – Save a Vet Motorcycle Rally, Saturday, 9/18/21, 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., with the restriction that the route be changed to take a right onto Lang Road from Washington Road. Seconded by Bill Epperson. All in favor. Motion passed.**

- Event Permit Application – Granite State bicycle safety & education.

Chief Walsh reported that all the insurance information has been approved by Primex.

Selectman King expressed concerns regarding the number of cyclists in this event and the second pass-thru of Rye moving down Sagamore Rd, then Central, South and West. His concerns are also with the congestion on Washington Road going past the recycling center.

Chief Walsh assured the Board that he will be monitoring the event closely.

**Motion by Tom King to accept the Event Permit Application for Granite State bicycle safety & education, as presented. Seconded by Bill Epperson. All in favor. Motion passed.**

- E. Fundraiser request – NicaLove requests permission to hold a bake sale at the Recycling Center on Saturday, 8/28/21 from 8:30 – 12:30 p.m. to benefit NicaLove, an animal welfare organization

Chair Epperson noted that NicaLove is a dog rescue in Nicaragua.

**Motion by Phil Winslow to approve Consent Agenda Item E as presented. Seconded by Bill Epperson. All in Favor. Motion Passed.**

- F. Email rec'd from the Town Center Committee re: Town Hall Annex Construction

Chair Epperson suggested that they move this item to Discussion Item G.

## **V. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **A. Chief Cotreau – ISO Fire Insurance Rating**

Chair Epperson noted that the Town of Rye's residential insurance rates are tied to the Town's ability to create a robust response to a fire.

Chief Cotreau explained that ISO (Insurance Services Organization) rates fire protection in municipalities. ISO comes into the town every three years to do a revaluation. Things they look at are:

- The Town's water system
- The Fire Department
  - a. Training
  - b. Resources
  - c. Staffing
  - d. Standard Cover
    - How things are done
    - What is brought to a call
    - Response times

ISO gives the towns a rating of between 1 (absolute Best) and 10 (within five miles of any house there is no fire protection/rural areas).

Rye has a split rating because it is 95% hydrant protected and 5% non-hydrant. Rye's rating was 5/5X when he first came to Rye. Most communities are between the 4 to 6 rating. Rye is now at 4/4X, which is an improvement. The things that contributed to this improvement were:

- Improved and increased training
- The auto-wave that monitors response times to incidents
- The new pumper/ladder

Insurance companies use these ratings to set their rates for residential and business insurance premiums in the communities.

#### **B. Chief Cotreau – Rye Vaccination Clinic**

Chief Cotreau explained that this is a State program. The State vaccine van will be at the Rye Fire Department on Tuesday, September 21<sup>st</sup>. from 2-7 p.m. The town needs to get the word out to the residents and to the surrounding communities. It will be open to any New Hampshire State resident. This is not a walk-in clinic. The State will be doing the registrations. The program is funded through the end of September. All three vaccines will be available. If the program is funded beyond the end of September; the van will be scheduled to return to Rye for the second shots. If the program is not funded, the State will help the patients schedule their second shots with local pharmacies.

Doctor Snow noted that with the new variant spreading, it is important for town officials to be proactive and to stay ahead of and vigilant to what may transpire, in order to protect the town employees and town residents. She suggested that they may have to go back to requiring masks and reinstating other protocols.

She stated that right now the CDC is not clear on what to do and that town officials need to be aware that things are going to change and there will be resistance to it.

**Motion by Tom King to approve the vaccination clinic on September 21<sup>st</sup> from 2 to 7 p.m. Seconded by Phil Winslow. All in Favor. Motion Passed.**

Selectman Winslow asked Administrator Bergeron to have eight signs made up to advertise the clinic.

#### **C. 2018 Carriage House Agreement**

Chief Walsh explained that the former restaurant owner would rent parking spaces to beach goers in the mornings until 4 p.m. The problem was that the parking would go beyond the property boundaries and encroach out into the travel lanes. The new owner of the restaurant approached him and wants to do the space rentals as well. Chief Walsh stated that he is not in favor of it. He pointed out that the area is a “hot spot” for the congestion of pedestrians and vehicle traffic.

Administrator Bergeron explained that this issue has gone to the Planning Board. Attorney Donovan recommended that the building inspector or the Select Board amend the agreement just to encompass the rest of the 2021 beach season. If the new property owner wants to continue, he will have to go back to the Planning Board in 2022 to get approval and potentially a variance from the ZBA.

**Motion by Bill Epperson to accept the amendment for rental of parking spaces only during non-business hours until October 11, 2021, with the condition that appropriate signage is placed directing pedestrians as outlined by the Police Chief. Seconded by Phil Winslow. All in favor. Motion passed.**

**D. Legal Services RFP**

Chair Epperson announced that Attorney Michael Donovan is retiring. He has been the Town's attorney since 1993 and with the Rye Planning Board since 1984. He has practiced in municipal law, planning and zoning since 1986. He also has a background in traffic and engineering. He was also the community development direct for the City of Berlin from 1978-1983 and the Mayor of Concord from 2001-2007.

Chair Epperson stated that the Town will not be able to replace him with one person. The Board has had a discussion regarding what they need to do, who they want to hire and what abilities they need, in order to fit the Town's needs. They realize that they need someone for planning and zoning, litigation, and human resources, etc. They have narrowed it down to about eight to ten firms in New Hampshire.

**Motion by Bill Epperson to approve the RFP as written and to have it sent out to the proper legal firms. Seconded by Phil Winslow. All in Favor. Motion passed.**

**E. Open Position in the Town Clerk's Office**

Administrator Bergeron explained that the town clerk and her deputy have asked to fill the position with two individuals at 20 hours per week, instead of one individual at 32 hours per week. The hours of each will not overlap the other.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector Donna DeCotis presented the Board with the job description. She pointed out that the proposal will provide better coverage for the office and better service to the public. The position will handle all the clerk work; which is all the vehicle registrations, dog tags and beach stickers. It will also handle all the filing and a lot of other duties, as needed. The individuals will have to be certified by the State to do motor vehicles.

**Motion by Tom King to approve two twenty-hour positions in the Town Clerk's Office. Seconded by Bill Epperson. All in Favor. Motion Passed.**

**F. Beach Parking Permits**

Chief Walsh addressed the Board regarding the number of beach permits that are being issued. He gave an example of one house in Rye that is owned by six people and they also rent it out. There are eight beach permits issued to that address. The issue is compounding itself. Another example is that one member of the family will go to the beach with their vehicle and park, then stand in a second space waiting for another member of the family from the same house to arrive in a separate car. Other issues are that renters will move out of town, but still try to register their

car in Rye (on-line) to get a beach permit and cars are sold to out-of-towners with the beach stickers still attached. Chief Walsh stated that he was instrumental in making the rule that mopeds had to have a beach parking permit in order to park at the beach, because people from surrounding communities would drive their mopeds to Rye to go to the beach (using a parking space or line up at the entrances at the beach). He feels that the system should be fair to the taxpayers of town. He feels that there should only be two permits issued to each residence and the property owners can decide which cars to put them on. He added that the town should not be in the business of making money on beach parking. The number one goal is to provide a service to the residents.

Chair Epperson agreed with Chief Walsh that something must be done about the abuse of the use of the permits. He recommended that they set up an ad hoc committee to come up with a plan that makes sense and report to the Select Board. He asked that Chief Walsh and Amy Thibodeau be involved in it.

Selectman King pointed out that there will be internal challenges with enforcement because currently the system is not set up in order to cross reference how many permits are issued to a single residence. There is also the matter of trusts. There are a lot of properties in town held in trust with several legitimate owners.

**Motion by Phil Winslow to create a committee of Deputy Town Clerk Thibodeau, Chief Walsh and Selectman Epperson to come up with a procedure for the 2022 issuance of beach permits with recommendations back to the Select Board by September 27th. Seconded by Tom King. All in favor. Motion passed.**

#### **G. Update of the Town Hall Annex**

Administrator Bergeron presented the most complete working drawings as prepared by Charles Hoyt. She outlined the following:

- The demolition plan is at the building inspector's office.
  - a. Before the demolition permit can be issued for the interior, they must get the results back from the asbestos and lead testing. This will take three to five days.
- The electrician has pulled the permit for his work.
- The carpeting has been removed.
- As soon as the demolition permit is issued, they will get on the HDC agenda for their approval of the doors and windows.

Chair Epperson recommended that there be a joint Select Board, HDC and Town Center Committee, along with Conversation, to go over all the information and plans.

Administrator Bergeron asked for the Board's approval of the plans as presented. She explained that they are the most complete working drawings that will be the basis for the architectural schematic drawings, which will be used in the specs to put out the RFP. She added that she



would work with the chair of the HDC, Kaitlyn Coffey, to set up a joint meeting. At that meeting, everyone can look at the plans and get the same updates that the Board is getting. They will also get an understanding of phase one, two and three; with phase two and three as just options, which would have to go back to the voters.

**Motion by Phil Winslow to approve the working drawings of phase one of the remodel of the Town Hall Annex. Seconded by Tom King. All in Favor. Motion passed.**

**H.** Date for Deliberative Session: Earliest date, Saturday, February 5 – Last day, Saturday, February 12.

*Selectmen, please vote on the date and snow date.*

**Motion by Bill Epperson to set the Deliberative Session for Saturday, February 5, 2022 with the snow date of February 12<sup>th</sup>. Seconded by Phil Winslow. All in Favor. Motion passed.**

## **VI. CORRESPONDENCE**

- A.** Letter rec'd from Robert Wylde re: A letter he wrote in April about the dredging and believes he was practicing civil engineering in submitting it and is requesting to be paid accordingly for doing so. He wants to organize a benefit show with the funds to help local shelters.

Mr. Wylde advised the Board to eliminate the second breakwater. He explained that the tide brings the salt and sand into the harbor and the second breakwater holds it in. If they get rid of the second breakwater, they will never have to dredge the harbor again.

Chair Epperson recommended that the Town leave this issue up the Core of Army Engineers.

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

Selectman King suggested that the Board start making some positive strides toward planning for an event for the town's 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. It will be coming up in four years and has a potential to be a fairly large and expensive event or series of events. He reported that he has been in touch with Janet Davis, member of the Historical Society, and she has reported that they have already started putting together ideas. He proposed that the Board get a couple of people to volunteer to start pulling together a visioning session of what the event should look like.

Selectman Winslow suggested that one member of the Select Board be part of the process.

Selectman King suggested that they might want to consider a warrant article for next year to start funding the event. He pointed out that there could be a lot of private fundraising as well. The Historical Society has already received a \$10,000 grant that is designated for the event.

Chair Epperson asked Selectman King to contact Ms. Davis and to extend the Board's support. He asked that she put together a committee.

Selectman Winslow recommended that Lee Arthur be included.

Selectman King stated that eventually they will need to include all the department heads. He will talk to Ms. Arthur and Ms. Davis and get back to the Board in two weeks.

Deputy Town Clerk Thibodeau recommended reaching out to Gail and Scott Brown. They had expressed interest in being a part of the event planning.

Chair Epperson recommended reaching out to Shannon Farley, media director of MIT. She had said that she could help out. Town Administrator Bergeron has Ms. Farley's contact information.

## **VIII. OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. Ocean Blvd. Sidewalks in the Rye Beach Precinct**

Chair Epperson stated that the State Department of Transportation will not make an agreement with a Precinct. The agreement with the DOT is that they are willing to repair the seawall as long as someone agrees to accept the responsibility of maintaining the sidewalk. The Town would have a separate agreement with the Precinct.

Administrator Bergeron explained that the Town can enter into an agreement with DOT to repair the seawall. The sidewalk repairs will be covered with FEMA money that has already been received by the Precinct. The Town can opt to do nothing, the seawall wouldn't be repaired and the Precinct will have to return the FEMA money. She has reached out to Attorney Donovan in order to develop language for a sub-agreement between the Town and Precinct to transfer the liability. When the town signs the agreement with DOT, it binds the Town and future Boards to the maintenance of the sidewalk.

Chief Walsh stated that is critical infrastructure for storm protection in order to prevent washout on Ocean Blvd. It would be in the best interest of the Town to get the repairs done as soon as possible.

Selectman Winslow noted that the repairs must be done by the end of the year or they will lose the FEMA money.

**Motion by Phil Winslow to enter into the Municipal Sidewalk Agreement with the State of New Hampshire DOT contingent upon Section A language being struck including; "winter maintenance, snow and ice removal" subject to the Town's ability to enter into a sub-agreement with the Precinct for maintenance and repairs of the sidewalks. Seconded by Bill Epperson. All in Favor. Motion passed.**

## IX. OTHER BUSINESS

### A. Meeting Minutes

#### 1. Meeting, Monday, July 26, 2021, 6:30 p.m., Rye Town Hall

The following was noted:

- Page 5; Old Business reads: The annual budget for a per diem is \$52,000 and the department has budgeted ~~\$26,00~~ or half for this year.
- It should read: The annual budget for a per diem is \$52,000 and the department has budgeted \$26,000 or half for this year.
- Page 1; Public Comment reads: Kathy Watson of 616 Central Road.
- It should read: Cathy Hodson of 616 Central Road
- Page 1; Steven Borne reads: He also spoke about Wallis Sands Ext. being closed, same as last year, in August.
- It should read: He also spoke about the beach at Wallis Sands being closed, same as last year, in August.
- Page 3; Representatives to Boards, Commissions, Committees reads: Rockingham Planning ~~Board~~
- It should read: Rockingham Planning Commission
- Page 3; last paragraph reads: They asked that the chairs and department heads are directed to ~~perform~~ the survey by scheduling a meeting with their groups to talk about the question on the survey and then to have each group submit their response to the survey.
- It should read: They asked that the chairs and department heads are directed to perform the survey by scheduling a meeting with their groups to talk about the question on the survey and then to have each group submit their response to the survey.
- Page 4; Discussion of NH RSA 79: d – Discretionary Preservation Easements reads: Selectman Winslow stated that he talked with the assessment department and the barns in Rye average between \$10,000 to \$50,000.
- It should read: Selectman Winslow stated that he talked with the assessment department and the barns in Rye average valuation is between \$10,000 to \$50,000.
- Page 4; Discussion of NH RSA 79: d – Discretionary Preservation Easements reads: He did the math and if there were 40 barns in Rye, worth \$40,000 that qualified with the preservation improvements; it would be \$1.6 million and the taxes would be \$16,352; at 50% it would be \$8,176 ~~lose~~ to taxation.
- It should read: He did the math and if there were 40 barns in Rye, worth \$40,000 that qualified with the preservation improvements; it would be \$1.6 million and the taxes would be \$16,352; at 50% it would be \$8,176 loss to taxation.
- Page 6; Corrections; Meeting, Monday, July 12, 2021; reads: Administrator Bergeron stated that she has not gotten a ~~resent~~ update, however she knows that the building permit has been issued yet.
- It should read: Administrator Bergeron stated that she has not gotten a recent update, however she knows that the building permit has been issued yet.

**Motion by Phil Winslow to approve the meeting minutes of Monday, July 26, 2021 as amended. Seconded by Tom King. All in favor. Motion passed.**

2. Meeting, Monday, June 28, 2021, 6:30 p.m., Rye Jr. High School Cafeteria

**Motion by Phil Winslow to approve the meeting minutes of Monday, June 28, 2021 as presented. Seconded by Bill Epperson. Vote: Phil Winslow – Aye; Bill Epperson – Aye; Tom King - Abstained. Motion passed.**

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion by Phil Winslow to Adjourn the Select Board meeting at 7:47 p.m. Seconded by Bill Epperson. All in Favor. Motion Passed.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Dyana F. Ledger

to The Board of Selectmen,<sup>8-9-21 Correo. A</sup>  
And the Budget Committee;

Robert Wylde  
P.O. Box 21  
Rye, N.H. 03870  
July 27, 2021

~~Mr~~  
Gentlemen,

I am sure that you all remember the  
Paper I submitted a month or two  
ago concerning the two breakwaters at  
Rye harbor. Namely the mud and silk come  
in with the tide and are trapped by the  
second Break water in from the ocean.

A friend of mine told me that in sub-  
mitting this Paper I was practicing  
Civil Engineering so I think that I  
should be paid accordingly.

The money is not for me. I want to  
organize and perform a Benefit Show  
the Benefit the two Local pregnancy  
Shelters. Namely Option for Women  
in Dover and the Emergency Shelter in  
Greenland.

What in envision is and evening of  
comedy, both Christian and secular ~~son~~  
music and having both Christian and  
secular ~~musicians~~ musicians perform.

Part of my plan is to ~~to~~ arrange  
for the performers ~~to stay at~~ That  
need a place to stay the night  
of the show to stay at the Hotel  
across Hammer Street from the  
back of the parking garage and  
have ~~breakfast~~ Breakfast at the  
hotel's cost plus tax and TIP.  
I am thinking of a target date of  
the last weekend in August  
Thank-you for considering this  
proposal

Respectfully  
submitted,  
~~Robert Ayala~~

**Janice Ireland**

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**From:** Karen Stewart <stewartkl@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 4, 2021 10:30 PM  
**To:** Janice Ireland  
**Subject:** Rye Town Center Committee: please share with BOS

Hi Janice,

The Rye Town Center Committee met this evening. When the topic of touring the TD Bank building was discussed, Tom King, our new select board representative, shared that demolition has begun on the building. When asked about the work, Tom shared that there will be exterior work done that is visible from the street. He said that the HDC was notified today of this work. Though he is in possession of some schematics, Tom was not aware of blueprints for the work that is planned, despite the speed with which it appears that work is moving forward. This was a point of concern for our members.

Noting that the purview of this committee includes

- planning for town buildings,
- planning for providing ADA compliant work spaces for town employees,
- planning for adequate meeting and community activity spaces, and
- considering the economic impact on the Rye tax payers,

the committee unanimously voted to submit the following recommendation to the Select Board. (Tom King abstained from the vote.)

Will you please share this with the Select Board members at your earliest convenience?

Thank you, Janice.

Karen

**To: Rye Select Board members**

**The Rye Town Center Committee recommends that the Select Board stop all demolition on the TD Bank building until such time that they have a complete set of architectural plans to work from which is normal construction procedure. We further recommend that the BOS follow all town procedures and guidance of the Historic District Commission.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Karen Stewart**

**John Mitchell**

**Kaitlyn Coffey**

**Victor Azzi**

**Funi Burdick**

**John Loftus**

**Lydia Tilsley**

8-9-21 Disc. Item A



1000 Bishops Gate Blvd. Ste 300  
Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054-5404

t1.800.444.4554 Opt.2  
f1.800.777.3929

June 28, 2021

Ms. Rebecca Bergeron, Administrator  
Rye  
Rye Town Offices  
10 Central Rd  
Rye, New Hampshire, 03870

RE: Rye, Rockingham County, New Hampshire  
Public Protection Classification: 04/4X  
Effective Date: October 01, 2021

Dear Ms. Rebecca Bergeron,

We wish to thank you and Chief Mark Cotreau for your cooperation during our recent Public Protection Classification (PPC) survey. ISO has completed its analysis of the structural fire suppression delivery system provided in your community. The resulting classification is indicated above.

If you would like to know more about your community's PPC classification, or if you would like to learn about the potential effect of proposed changes to your fire suppression delivery system, please call us at the phone number listed below.

ISO's Public Protection Classification Program (PPC) plays an important role in the underwriting process at insurance companies. In fact, most U.S. insurers – including the largest ones – use PPC information as part of their decision-making when deciding what business to write, coverage's to offer or prices to charge for personal or commercial property insurance.

Each insurance company independently determines the premiums it charges its policyholders. The way an insurer uses ISO's information on public fire protection may depend on several things – the company's fire-loss experience, ratemaking methodology, underwriting guidelines, and its marketing strategy.

Through ongoing research and loss experience analysis, we identified additional differentiation in fire loss experience within our PPC program, which resulted in the revised classifications. We based the differing fire loss experience on the fire suppression capabilities of each community. The new classifications will improve the predictive value for insurers while benefiting both commercial and residential property owners. We've published the new classifications as "X" and "Y" – formerly the "9" and "8B" portion of the split classification, respectively. For example:

- A community currently graded as a split 6/9 classification will now be a split 6/6X classification; with the "6X" denoting what was formerly classified as "9."
- Similarly, a community currently graded as a split 6/8B classification will now be a split 6/6Y classification, the "6Y" denoting what was formerly classified as "8B."



- Communities graded with single "9" or "8B" classifications will remain intact.
- Properties over 5 road miles from a recognized fire station would receive a class 10.

PPC is important to communities and fire departments as well. Communities whose PPC improves may get lower insurance prices. PPC also provides fire departments with a valuable benchmark, and is used by many departments as a valuable tool when planning, budgeting and justifying fire protection improvements.

ISO appreciates the high level of cooperation extended by local officials during the entire PPC survey process. The community protection baseline information gathered by ISO is an essential foundation upon which determination of the relative level of fire protection is made using the Fire Suppression Rating Schedule.

The classification is a direct result of the information gathered, and is dependent on the resource levels devoted to fire protection in existence at the time of survey. Material changes in those resources that occur after the survey is completed may affect the classification. Although ISO maintains a pro-active process to keep baseline information as current as possible, in the event of changes please call us at 1-800-444-4554, option 2 to expedite the update activity.

ISO is the leading supplier of data and analytics for the property/casualty insurance industry. Most insurers use PPC classifications for underwriting and calculating premiums for residential, commercial and industrial properties. The PPC program is not intended to analyze all aspects of a comprehensive structural fire suppression delivery system program. It is not for purposes of determining compliance with any state or local law, nor is it for making loss prevention or life safety recommendations.

If you have any questions about your classification, please let us know.

Sincerely,

*Alex Shubert*

Alex Shubert  
Manager -National Processing Center

cc: Mr. Mark Doyle, Director, New Hampshire Bureau of Emergency Communications  
Lieutenant Kevin Walsh, Director, Rockingham County Sheriffs Office  
Mr. Carl McMorran, Water Supervisor, Aquarion Water Co.  
Mr. Brien Goetz, Water Supervisor, Portsmouth Water Dept  
Mr. Arik Jones, Superintendent, Rye Water District  
Chief Mark Cotreau, Chief, Rye Fire Department