

**TOWN OF RYE –SELECT BOARD**  
**Monday, November 23, 2020**  
**6:30 p.m. – via Zoom**

*Present: Chair Phil Winslow, Selectman Bill Epperson and Selectwoman Mae Bradshaw*

*Others Present: Town Administrator Becky Bergeron*

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

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

**Reading of Attestation:**

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: 745896 or by clicking on the following website address: [www.zoom.com](http://www.zoom.com) ID #878-8222-0290.

- a) 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 Town of Rye website [town.rye.nh.us](http://town.rye.nh.us)
- b) Providing a mechanism for the public to alert the public body during the meeting if there are problems with access. If anyone has a problem, call 603-964-5523 or e-mail at [Bbergeron@town.rye.nh.us](mailto:Bbergeron@town.rye.nh.us).
- c) Adjourning the meeting if the public is unable to access the meeting.  
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
- Mae Bradshaw

*Note: The Selectmen stated where they were at home and stated that their spouses were there in the home during the meeting.*

**II. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A.** The Town Offices and Transfer Station will be closed Thursday, November 26<sup>th</sup> and Friday, November 27<sup>th</sup> for the Thanksgiving holiday.

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

- **Steven Borne of 431 Wallis Road:** The Tax Rate information has been posted, but he can not find the document to link to it on the website. Also, he requested that the Select Board discuss the 2020 Parsons Creek report from DES. The volume of pollution is shocking. He asked if there has been any protocol set for the Deliberative Session and how it will be handled. He stated that the Civic News will be going out this weekend and he will be submitting pictures of the King Tide, if anyone has photos they would like to submit.

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

- A. Select Board Meeting Schedule 2021**
- B. Holiday Schedule 2021 – Policy Directive**
- C. Email rec'd from Matt Marra re: his resignation from the Energy Committee**
- D. Resignation of Jessica Doucette from the Rye Police Department effective December 4, 2020**

Chair Winslow requested that Consent Agenda Items B, C, & D be pulled off for discussion.

**Motion by Phil Winslow to approve Consent Agenda Item A as presented. Seconded by Mae Bradshaw.**

**Roll Call Vote: Mae Bradshaw - Aye; Bill Epperson - Aye; Phil Winslow – Aye**  
**Motion Passed**

Chair Winslow asked Town Administrator Bergeron to look at the employee's paid holiday policy to verify how many paid holidays the employees will get this year and next year.

Chair Winslow asked that a letter be sent to Matt Marra thanking him for his years of services to the Energy Committee.

Chair Winslow asked that a letter be sent to Jessica Doucette thanking her for her years of service to the Rye Police Department.

**Motion by Phil Winslow B, C, and D as presented. Seconded by Mae Bradshaw.**

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

**Motion Passed**

## **V. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **A. Rye Town Center Committee**

Chair Winslow recommended putting off rechartering the Rye Town Center Committee until the Board has a better understanding of the disposition of the Trolley Barn, the Parsonage and the TD Bank building and the land behind the bank. He feels that it will be appropriate to charter it at that time.

The Select Board agreed.

Chair Winslow asked that this be placed on the next Select Board meeting agenda.

### **B. Heritage Commission request for location of gazebo**

The request from **Phil Walsh, chair of the Heritage Commission**, included a proposal to place the gazebo in front of the Town Hall on the cemetery side of the stone wall.

The Board discussed the placement and agreed that the appropriate place would be behind the Town Hall on the hill near the trees and where the picnic table is located now. It could be used for a lunch area for the Town Hall employees during the summer. There was discussion regarding the maintenance and upkeep of the structure. The Board suggested that this would be the responsibility of the Heritage Commission. The Select Board would reserve the right to move the structure if needed.

Phil Walsh, chair of the Heritage Commission, stated that he is in favor of the placement of the gazebo as recommended by the Select Board and he felt that the rest of the Commission would also be in agreement. He also reported that the Heritage Commission is ready, willing and able to assume all the responsibility for the maintenance and upkeep of the gazebo. He pointed out that as part of their charter, it is their responsibility to take on and preserve historic structures. This would fall under that category. He stated that he foresees a fundraising campaign, after the first of the year, to raise the necessary funds to take care of the structure.

**Alex Herlihy, member of the Rye Heritage Commission**, concurred with Mr. Walsh on the funding and maintenance of the structure. He questioned the feasibility of being able to get the structure in the place that is being discussed.

It was agreed that Selectwoman Bradshaw and Alex Herlihy would meet at the Town Hall to stake off the area where the gazebo will be placed.

**Motion by Mae Bradshaw to authorize the Heritage Commission to take ownership of the gazebo. The Heritage Commission will take the responsibility of all the maintenance and upkeep of the structure. The Heritage Commission will be responsible for moving the gazebo to the site behind the Town Hall to where the picnic table currently sits. The Heritage Commission is willing and able to hold a fundraiser to raise the funds to put it in good condition and to maintain it. The Select Board reserves the right to be able to move the structure at any time in the future if necessary. Seconded by Bill Epperson.**

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

**Motion Passed**

#### **C. Chief Walsh: Request approval of the Training Coordinator Job Description**

**Police Chief Kevin Walsh** presented the Select Board with the proposed training coordinator's job description, along with information that is coming out of the Governor's office regarding their review on law enforcement. The training coordinator's main focus will be to document the types of training the department is doing, improve lesson plans and compare the training to best practices, usually to the CALEA standards or to another standard that Police Standards and Training has set up. Officer Heather Cote will be assigned this position. Her educational background fills a lot of the requirements for the position. The cost of this position is already in the current budget.

Selectwoman Bradshaw referred to examples of essential duties. She recommended that it be expanded to specifically refer to the Executive Order and include "Diversity, Community Engagement and Policing and SRO Training".

Chief Walsh agreed, he pointed out that 'Ethics and Diversity Training' is a mandatory annual training. He also reported that all the officers have completed the online 'Police One' training.

**Motion by Mae Bradshaw to approve the Training Coordinator Job Description as amended. Seconded by Bill Epperson.**

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

**Motion Passed**

#### **D. Trolley Barn Appraisal**

**Town Administrator Becky Bergeron** reported that the appraisal came in from Bergeron Appraisal. The net appraisal is for the land value only, as the building has no value and is recommended for demolition. The land value is \$236,000., less the demolish cost, leaving a net value of \$190,000.

When asked if the Town's Public Works Department could do the demolition, Director McCarthy stated that they are really not equipped to do that type of work. They could possibly do the demolition; however, there is the problem of the disposal. He added that he felt the cost was reasonable as quoted.

Chair Winslow suggested that the Board should decide if they want to get an opinion of value from a realtor and if they want to have an open listing or list the property with one realtor. He stressed the need to get the best possible price for the property. The Board will not be taking any action on this parcel until they actually take title to the TD Bank property. The contract with Mr. Philbrick expires on February 28, 2021, so they would be looking to put this property on the market in March of 2021.

After further discussion, the Board agreed to notify the local realtors and to ask for an opinion of value and what their marketing plan would be. The Board will put off any discussion with their two prospective buyers until they can get something more definitive from the realtors.

#### **E. Dennis McCarthy, Public Works Director – Roll-off Container Bid Results**

**Public Works Director Dennis McCarthy** presented the Board with a memo showing the three bids received for the roll-off paper container. The low bid was \$9,400 to a high bid of \$9,632. Director McCarthy recommended accepting the high bid of \$9,632 from Richco Products Inc. This container meets all the specs. It is the container that they have used in the past and it has a better cover on it. He feels that is it a better product.

**Motion by Mae Bradshaw to approve the bid for the roll-off container from Richco Products in the amount of \$9,632. Seconded by Bill Epperson.**

**Roll Call Vote: Mae Bradshaw - Aye; Bill Epperson - Aye; Phil Winslow – Aye**  
**Motion Passed**

#### **F. Municipal Sidewalk Agreement**

Public Works Director McCarthy explained that this year the Rye Beach Precinct had planned on replacing some sidewalks that are in the DOT right-of-way. There has been discussion regarding who has ownership of these sidewalks for years. In order to get the work done, Rye Beach Precinct said they would take over maintaining them. The New Hampshire DOT does not want them to maintain the sidewalks without an agreement for maintenance. They would also not sign an agreement with the Precinct because it is a subdivision of the Town. They want the agreement with the Town. The issue in the past was that the DOT wanted the Town to maintain the sidewalks in the winter for snow and ice removal, which the Town refuses to do. All sidewalks in town are designated as seasonal and are not maintained in the winter months. This has since gone to the Town Attorney and this is language that he has worked out with DOT.

Selectwoman Bradshaw expressed concern that Rye Beach Precinct was legislatively separated from the Town and that the Town has no jurisdiction over the Precinct. She felt that signing this agreement was beyond the Board's jurisdiction.

Mr. McCarthy explained that the funding is coming in from FEMA. The funding will be coming in the name of the Rye Beach Precinct sometime next year, so there is time to refer this back to the Town Attorney for further clarification.

## **VI. CORRESPONDENCE**

- A. Email rec'd from Mike Garrepy** asking that new roadway "Goss Farm Lane" be placed on the 2021 Town Warrant to be accepted as a Town road and a Warrant Article giving the Select Board authority to accept roadways as town roads.

Chair Winslow explained that in the past, acceptance of town roads has been by town vote, so this would be a change in process.

Mr. Mike Garrepy explained that he has met with Planning Administrator Reed and Public Works Director McCarthy to talk about the process that currently exists. He pointed out that the process can sometimes be frustrating to the developers and to public works, due to timing issues. He pointed out that there were two things that were decided at the meeting and they prepared two articles. One is to have Goss Farm Lane accepted as a Town Road. After the article is approved by Town vote, they will top coat the lane in the spring or summer of 2021. Once Public Works, the Planning Board and the town's engineer have recommended approval of the acceptance, the Select Board would hold a meeting to accept the road. The second article is to change the process for future acceptance of town roads.

Public Works McCarthy pointed out that the problem is that they were out there in October discussing the acceptance of a road that is not going to be ready for acceptance until potentially late next year. The reason that they are discussing it is because they are trying to meet a deadline in order to bring it before the town meeting; otherwise, wait another year. The legislation changed in 1993 to allow the town meeting to vote to authorize the selectmen to accept the roads, after a public hearing is held. He felt that it would be timelier to change the process than to place additional articles on the warrant every year. He feels this is just a housekeeping article that will allow the Town to deal with acceptance when acceptance is ready, not trying to anticipate when the acceptance might be ready. With the Selectmen having the authority to accept the road in the future, there will be more flexibility. Also, the Select Board would be able to establish the criteria for the acceptances.

After further discussion, the Board agreed to forward both articles on to Attorney Donovan. They agreed that they would like the criteria for road acceptance outlined in the article. Mr. McCarthy agreed to advise them on what that criteria should look like.

- B. Letter rec'd from Myles Leatherman** requesting consideration of a leash free dog area in Rye.

Myles Leatherman, 55 Birchwood Drive and a sophomore at Portsmouth High School, spoke to the Board about how having a leash free dog area in Rye would help kids his age get out and meet others with the same interest in a safe responsible way. Myles is the owner of two dogs.

Selectman Epperson reminded Myles that there has been a lot of controversy regarding dogs and the leash laws in Rye. Selectman Epperson recommended that the Board look at Mr. Leatherman's request and analysis it and try to come up with a response to his request. He added that Mr. Leatherman's letter has a lot of provocative ideas and he feels the Select Board should take it seriously.

Chair Winslow recommended that Myles contact the Conservation Commission and Chief Walsh to get feedback from them.

Chief Walsh reported that the Animal Control officer and the Department have been dealing with a lot of challenges in regards to this subject. This year they were at eight dog bites, (dog on dog and dog biting a human); both at the beaches and at the Town Forest. He pointed out that he had to increase the department's budget last year to take care of the regulations as they are currently. The Department just does not have enough staff to cover any expansion in this capacity.

Recreation Director Lee Arthur stated that she will be getting back to Myles regarding the letter that he wrote to the Recreation Commission as soon as they meet in December.

## **VII. OLD BUSINESS**

Town Administrator Bergeron reported that the Board has received a contract from Danley Demo for the demolition of the Parsonage. The Board would have to vote to approve the contract.

Chair Winslow read the motion as follows:

**To approve the November 5, 2020 proposal by Danley Demolition for the demolition of the Parsonage buildings in the amount of \$32,000 and to authorize the Town Administrator to sign it, provided that the court has not issued an injunction against the demolition; and further, provided that the demolition takes place no later than November 27<sup>th</sup>; and further, if the court has not enjoined demolition and they have not commenced the demolition on or before November 27<sup>th</sup>, to authorize the town Administrator to sign a demolition agreement with either Danley or other qualified demolition contractor and an amount not to exceed \$32,000., whichever contractor can complete the demolition sooner will be selected. Moved by Bill Epperson. Seconded by Mae Bradshaw.**

**Roll Call Vote: Mae Bradshaw - Aye; Bill Epperson - Aye; Phil Winslow – Aye  
Motion Passed**

**The Motion was amended to include that Mr. Dan Philbrick will be managing and paying for the demolition. Moved by Bill Epperson Seconded by Mae Bradshaw.**

**Roll Call Vote: Mae Bradshaw - Aye; Bill Epperson - Aye; Phil Winslow – Aye.  
Motion Passed**

## **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

*None*

## **IX. 2021 BUDGET WORK SESSION**

### **A. Fire Chief's Strategic Plan**

Chief Cotreau presented the Board with the newly completed draft 'Rye Fire Rescue Staffing Needs and Strategic Plan'. He addressed the Board by giving a brief background. He explained that three years ago during his 120-day transition plan, he did an assessment of the apparatus, equipment, and the operations of the Department. He found the Department had some apparatus needs and equipment needs. There were also some questions regarding why the department call numbers had dropped off in prior years. He took care of the apparatus and the equipment and they developed a 20-year plan. The third part of the assessment is to look at the staffing, which was started about a year ago. He pointed out that this document is a draft and will need public input. The Department will be holding two public forums. The document will remain a draft until it has been vetted through the appropriate committees and the public forums are done.

Chief Cotreau outlined the plan as follows:

There were five questions:

1. Does Rye Fire Rescue have adequate resources to provide effective, responsive, high-quality fire and EMS delivery to all residents and customers within the town of Rye?
2. What are the benefits and liabilities contained within our current fire and EMS service delivery model?
3. What are the benefits and liabilities contained in our current call force? What can be done to increase recruitment and retention of our call members?
4. What is the current status of our ALS system relative to providing top-notch ALS delivery now and in the future?
5. Is our current fire and EMS service delivery model adequate? If not, what should our fire and EMS service delivery model look like?

Chief Cotreau went on to explain the methodology and research that went into the development of this document.

There were sixteen identified communities used as compatibles' as follows: Rye; North Hampton; Exeter; Hampton; Portsmouth; Greenland; Manchester by The Sea, MA; Wolfeboro; Eastham, MA; Marion, MA; Wellfleet, MA; Ogunquit, ME; Moultonborough, NH; Gilford, NH; New Castle; Newington.

The close comparable from a fire perspective would be Manchester by the Sea.

The demographics of Rye shows that 28.70% of the population is over 65 years old, and 19.10% of those over 65 years old live alone. Elderly people that live alone is a huge driver for EMS services.



Rye's Strengths are:

- Rye has good community support
- Rye has Paramedic level EMS provider on each shift
- Rye has a robust mutual aid system
  - Access to the districts SWAT Team, Hazmat Team and regional air supply trailers and command truck

**Question 1:** Does Rye Fire Rescue have adequate resources to provide effective, responsive, high-quality fire and EMS delivery to all residents and customers within the town of Rye?

Strengths:

- Apparatus and equipment are in good shape.
- Staff members are talented, community-oriented members
- Overall satisfaction in patient survey

Service Gaps:

- Does not have the ability to fully handle all tasks required of a first response agency.
- Cannot maintain quick initial response to overlapping calls.

**Question 2:** What are the benefits and liabilities contained within our current fire and EMS service delivery model?

Benefits:

- Consistently outperforms the national benchmark of participating agencies.
- Dedicated membership
- Paramedic level EMS on each shift
  - Providing community with rapid response
- Robust mutual aid system

### **Basic Medical Emergencies**

Service Gaps:

- Current Response - two members
  - No additional clinical help at the scene
  - Other site navigation challenges
  - Off duty or call members are required to staff the second ambulance
  - Operation Readiness suffers.
    - 11% Overlapping emergency calls

### **Critical ALS Level Medical Emergencies**

Service Gaps:

- Current Response - two members
- Often requires additional attendant in the ambulance with the patient
  - Required to wait at scene for off-duty member to arrive for help with procedures such as:
    - Providing medications
    - Managing patient airways
    - IV access issues

## **Motor Vehicle Accidents**

### Service Gaps:

- Current Response - two members
- Nobody available to start initial patient treatment on second or third patient
- Delays use of extrication tools
  - Jaws of Life and air bags
- Delays vehicle fire precautions
  - Disconnecting batteries
  - Hose line placement
  - Fuel Spill

## **Fire Alarms/Fire Responses**

### Service Gaps:

- Current Response - two members
- The minimum national standard for a fire truck is three members.
- Water supply is interrupted while the two firefighters are in the building
  - Requirement that two firefighters enter the building
  - Creates a life-threatening event for firefighters
- Mutual aid departments do not call for Rye's trucks due to Rye's current staffing level
  - Huge safety Issue
- Liability issue for firefighters, residents and the Town

## **Jet Ski/Water Rescue Operations**

### Service Gaps:

- Lack of individuals to initiate the initial land base coordination
  - Coordinate with Coast Guard, Marine Patrol and rescue boats from other surrounding departments
  - Coordinate with land based mutual aid
    - Ambulances, ocean rescue swimmers, etc.
  - Coordinate search of shore for victim
  - Safe link to Jet Ski Crew
    - Provide additional resources

## **Ambulance vs Engine Availability**

- On duty firefighters are required to return to the station in order to respond to a call with the appropriate apparatus creating a huge delay in response
- Excessive wear and tear on the apparatus

**Question 3:** What are the benefits and liabilities contained in our current call force? What can be done to increase recruitment and retention of our call members?

- Recruitment and retention of call force members is a well-documented national problem.
- Recruitment and retention will continue to be an issue for Rye in the future.

- The number of call firefighters coming back on recall for an emergency is not predictable.
- The qualifications of call members vary.
- Do not have adequate organizational support
  - Policies, procedures and training
- Call force members are being trained by Rye only to leave active service
  - Expenses include; training, baseline medical exams, firefighting certification and EMT licensing.
  - Reasons for leaving; to work per-diem shifts in neighboring communities.

**Question 4:** What is the current status of our ALS system relative to providing top-notch ALS delivery now and in the future?

- Rye Fire Rescue clearly delivers high quality advanced life support, but the system is at risk.

Benefits include:

- The ability to place highly trained EMTA's as well as paramedics on the scene of most medical emergencies
- Members are community oriented
- Members are regarded by patients as compassionate and capable.

Service Risks:

- Paramedics are hard to recruit in the area and nationally
- Important to maintain an optimum level of 6 paramedic level providers in order to maintain one per shift even after a retirement or resignation
- Rye currently has 4 paramedical level members, one for each shift

Service Gap:

- Critical procedures often take longer due to two-person staffing
- There is often no member left in town to respond to a second medical emergency

**Question 5:** Is our current fire and EMS service delivery model adequate? If not, what should our fire and EMS service delivery model look like?

Findings:

- The response model needs to change.
- The INITIAL response to most emergencies is inadequate.
- Critical medical and rescue responses need a minimum of 3 qualified members.
- Rye's future model should ensure a three-member shift
- Rye's future model should provide adequate administrative capacity to provide the needed operational, training and organization support.
  - Customer driven change that will enhance the long-term survivability, treatment and overall delivery of patient care.

Rye's future model:

- One Station
- Operational staffing of 3 members per shift (additional member could be full-time or per-diem)
- Administrative staffing of 1 Fire Chief and 1 Deputy Fire Chief
- Call force of maximum 15 authorized positions

Recommendations:

The goal is to raise the staffing level of the department to a minimum of three members per shift. This will have a major positive impact on the departments documented operational weaknesses and service gaps.

Making positive practical changes that can be reasonably made to better the call force should be pursued. The challenge is the documented lack of administrative capacity in the department.

1. Per-diem coverage
2. Rank structure within the call force
3. Update call force policies and procedures
4. Training

Maintain Paramedic Coverage.

1. Maintain a roster of 6 paramedic level providers
2. Ensure one paramedic per shift

Fill the long-vacant (1992) Deputy Fire Chief position. This position should not be filled until each shift is staffed at the three-member level.

The proposed plan is a five-year plan. The first six months of a per-diem is in the 2021 budget.

**B. Capital Outlay**

- |                              |                                                                                                                                                                               |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1. Town Hall:</b>         | Security system<br>Shelving unit for Town Clerk's office                                                                                                                      |
| <b>2. Computers:</b>         | Replacement of 5 units (per replacement schedule)<br>Replacement of 3 fire walls<br>Install system in courtroom for Zoom meetings<br>Inter-ware Software Program (Fund Works) |
| <b>3. Police Department:</b> | Camera system and building access control system<br>Six Hour Rifles upgrade                                                                                                   |
| <b>4. Public Works:</b>      | Drainage Analysis:<br>South and Sea Road - \$50,000 to \$60,000                                                                                                               |

East Atlantic, East Jenness and Kenphill Ave - \$30,000  
Assistance on the MS4 program (Town Storm Water System - Permit with the DPA) - \$30,000

- 5. Conservation:** Natural Resource Inventory - \$13,790. FB Environmental: To bring Conservation into compliance with the RSA

**Motion by to Mae Bradshaw to approve the 2021 Capital Outlay Budget in the amount of \$271,751. Seconded by Bill Epperson.**

**Roll Call Vote: Mae Bradshaw - Aye; Bill Epperson - Aye; Phil Winslow – Aye.**

**Motion Passed**

**Capital Outlay Recreation:**

Recreation Area Buildings Assessment – The goal is to install commercial grade restrooms at the recreation facilities.

**Motion by to Phil Winslow to approve the Capital Outlay Budget for Recreation in the amount of \$10,000. Seconded by Mae Bradshaw.**

**Roll Call Vote: Mae Bradshaw - Aye; Bill Epperson - Aye; Phil Winslow – Aye.**

**Motion Passed**

**C. Departmental Budgets**

- 1. Legal:** Addition of \$10,000 to the Coalition to hire a lobbyist

**Motion by to Phil Winslow to approve the Legal Budget in the amount of \$168,320.**

**Seconded by Bill Epperson.**

**Roll Call Vote: Mae Bradshaw - Aye; Bill Epperson - Aye; Phil Winslow – Aye.**

**Motion Passed**

- 2. Insurance:** The Board asked for clarification on the reason for the increase.

Town Administrator Bergeron explained that there is an increase of 5% due to the cost of reinsurance; the floods, wild fires and police liability.

**Motion by to Mae Bradshaw to approve the Insurance Budget in the amount of \$162,814.**

**Seconded by Phil Winslow.**

**Roll Call Vote: Mae Bradshaw - Aye; Bill Epperson - Aye; Phil Winslow – Aye.**

**Motion Passed**

- 3. Historic District:** An increase of \$2,000 which is the 40% match for the 2021 grant proposal. The grant will provide a training session for the Historic District and Heritage Commissions, the Select Board and other interested parties, in communicating goals to the community about expanding the Historic District and overlaying the Town for identification of outlining historical homes.

**Motion by to Mae Bradshaw to approve the Historic District Budget in the amount of \$3,310. Seconded by Phil Winslow.**

**Roll Call Vote: Mae Bradshaw - Aye; Bill Epperson - Aye; Phil Winslow – Aye.**

**Motion Passed**

- 4. Conservation:** The Board has requested that Conservation separate the consulting fees from the legal fees.

Legal Fees: \$23,000 Consulting Fees: \$ 2,000

**Motion by to Mae Bradshaw to approve the Conservation Budget in the amount of \$90,850. Seconded by Bill Epperson.**

**Roll Call Vote: Mae Bradshaw - Aye; Bill Epperson - Aye; Phil Winslow – Aye.**

**Motion Passed**

## **X. OTHER BUSINESS**

*NONE*

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion by Bill Epperson to Adjourn at 9:48 p.m. Seconded by Mae Bradshaw.**

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

**Motion passed**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Dyana F. Ledger

11-23-20 Consent Item A



**2021**  
**TOWN OF RYE**  
**SELECT BOARD**  
**SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS**

Unless otherwise noted, Selectmen's Meetings are held:  
**The 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m.**  
**In the Town Hall Courtroom, 10 Central Road**

January 11  
January 25  
February 8  
February 22  
March 8  
March 22  
April 12  
April 26  
May 10  
May 24  
June 14  
June 28  
July 12  
July 26  
August 9  
August 23  
September 13  
September 27  
October 12 - Tuesday (Monday, October 11, 2021 is Columbus Day. Town offices are closed.)  
October 25  
November 8  
November 22  
December 13  
December 27

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***Meetings are subject to change.***

*Agendas are posted at Town Hall, the Rye Library and on the Town website: [www.town.rye.nh.us](http://www.town.rye.nh.us)*

*Requests to be placed on a meeting agenda are accepted until noon on Thursday prior to the Monday meeting.*

*Please call the Selectmen's Office; (603)964-5523 or email [jireland2@ryenh.us](mailto:jireland2@ryenh.us)*

11-23-20 Consent Item B

## 2021 Holiday Schedule

### POLICY DIRECTIVE

Effective immediately, the Town of Rye will observe the following holidays in 2021:

New Year's Day 2021	Friday	January 1, 2021
Martin Luther King Civil Rights Day	Monday	January 18, 2021
Presidents Day	Monday	February 15, 2021
Memorial Day	Monday	May 31, 2021
*Independence Day	Monday	July 5, 2021
Labor Day	Monday	September 6, 2021
Columbus Day	Monday	October 11, 2021
Veteran's Day	Thursday	November 11, 2021
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday	November 25, 2021
**Day after Thanksgiving	Friday	November 26, 2021
***Christmas Day	Friday	December 24, 2021
****New Year's Day 2022	Friday	December 31, 2021

The Town Hall, Highway Department and Recycling Center will be closed each holiday.

- \* Independence Day falls on Sunday, July 4, 2021. The holiday will be on Monday, July 5, 2021
- \*\* The Fire and Police Departments do not get the day after Thanksgiving, Friday, November 26, 2021.
- \*\*\* Christmas Day falls on Saturday, December 25, 2021. The holiday will be on Friday, December 24, 2021.
- \*\*\*\* New Year's Day falls on Saturday, January 1, 2022. The holiday will be on Friday, December 31, 2021. This means that employees will receive an extra holiday in 2021 and one less holiday in 2022.

The Fire and Police Associations observe ten (10) holidays per year.

Those employees covered by Collective Bargaining Agreements will observe only those holidays specified in such Agreements.

### RYE SELECT BOARD

Philip D. Winslow, Chairman  
William Epperson, Selectman  
Mae Bradshaw, Selectwoman



11-23-20 Disc Item B

**Janice Ireland**

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**From:** Phil Walsh <walshrye@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 20, 2020 3:47 PM  
**To:** Janice Ireland  
**Cc:** alexherlihy@comcast.net  
**Subject:** For BOS  
**Attachments:** IMG\_1681.JPG; ATT00001.txt

Hi Janice —

Apologies for the delay — joys of technology again. I've included a summary and photo on the gazebo for the select board in advance of Monday's meeting.

Thank you,  
Phil

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Summary

Gazebo History

In early historic postcard photos, there was a gazebo on the rocks on the ocean side of the boulevard in front of the Ocean Wave Hotel which was built 1879. (site of Philbricks by the Sea today and former Crown Colony cottages before that.) At some point the gazebo was moved to the back of the hotel where there were cottages and a recreation and dance hall. In its original form the gazebo was larger and more elaborate. In 1960 the hotel burned and sometime after that the gazebo was taken north on the boulevard to Pebble Beach motel just before Polluck Dr. near the fresh water pond. It was during this time period that the gazebo must have been modified and restored to its present form by owner Steve McCann who owned the motel. Today it measures 10' x 10' and is about 15' high to the top of the pinnacle on the roof. The current owner of the motel and the gazebo is Doug Palardy who is donating the gazebo to the Rye Heritage Commission whose job it is to receive and maintain historic structures.

— Phil  
Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:



11-13-20 Corvus B

Dear Bill Epperson,

My name is Myles Leatherman. I moved to Rye a couple of years ago. As part of a school assignment and as a genuine passion I am writing to advocate for our community by asking you to consider a leash free dog area in Rye. Even before COVID, communities and neighbors have been isolated. In a survey of PHS students from Rye, two thirds of people felt they met people less often than they would like, and people who felt they frequently met people meet people through school and social media. With 79% of individuals having at least one dog in their household, it is an underutilized way to get out and meet people. According to the National Parks and Recreation Society, upwards of 95% of individuals felt that dog parks directly broadened the communities that had them. Creating a place where residents can bring their dogs, would create an environment where they could socialize, meet new people (or dogs), and form a stronger community in our town.

Designating a space where people and dogs could safely socialize would help to positively affect the people of Rye and their pets. Studies have shown that frequently walking and getting outside can improve health and mental state. A dog park would condense the places that dogs use, meaning that risks of owners not picking up dog poop are minimized. It is also proven that parks requiring waste removal that also provide waste bags see upwards of a 80% reduction in dog fouling (failure to remove waste).

While we already experience many of the positive aspects of having a leash free area in Rye, such as healthy habits like walking or bonding with our pets in the Recreation areas or on the beach when it is available, there are limited ways to expand our community. According to findings by the US National Library of Medicine and national institute of Health, available evidence suggests that off-leash dog parks can benefit physical and social health, as well as community connectedness. With only 5,500 residents, Rye is a small town but doesn't have that many ways for new residents to get involved in the community and meet new people.

A valid concern you may have is how does all of this get organized. There are multiple possibilities. One solution is that trash and waste bags are provided and handled by a group of volunteers. Another solution is that a new subcommittee of the department of recreation could be created. Its job would be to manage and maintain the responsibilities of the park. I think the best solution is a mix of both options.

You may say "There is already a space to bring your dog to play, the beach." The beach works very well for this task but is limited because dogs are only allowed on the beach during specific times of day over the course of the year. What I am asking for is a designated place where dogs can be off leash and playing with other dogs no matter the time of year.

I would love to take part of the responsibility of the park. I have two dogs and would love to take advantage of a place to bring them all year round. I miss the days in the summer when I can bring them to the beach when I am free, because the times just don't line up. I could help to organize volunteers. I also have more ideas of how this could best be maintained and what infrastructure might be necessary such as dog waste bags, a trash can and perhaps a small seating area. One possible place, and the one that I think is the most ideal, is Bass beach. It's isolation from other beaches means that it has clear boundaries. It is also one of the few gravel beaches in the area, but because of this, even in the summer months when the beaches are crowded it doesn't get very much traffic. Another place could be Parson's field, although it doesn't have the same benefits as the beach.

If you have any questions, feel free to email me or write back at [mleatherman2023@sau52.org](mailto:mleatherman2023@sau52.org)