



**ABSENTEE
OFFICIAL BALLOT
ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION
RYE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
MARCH 12, 2019**

SAMPLE BALLOT 2019

BALLOT 3 OF 6

Rosario
TOWN CLERK

ARTICLES CONTINUED

ARTICLE 6 CONTINUED

To authorize the Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes, for a twenty-nine or thirty year term only, to determine the rate of interest thereon, and to take such actions as may be necessary to effect issuance, negotiation, sale and delivery of such bonds or notes as shall be in the best interest of the Town of Rye, and further, to apply for and accept and expend Federal and State Grants and any private donations toward this purpose.

YES
NO

(60% vote required) This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget.

**This article is not recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)
This article is not recommended by the Budget Committee. (6-3)**

ARTICLE 07. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of seven hundred thousand dollars (\$700,000) to replace the existing salt shed with a larger more efficient salt storage facility to allow all salt operations to be under cover, and authorize the withdrawal of ninety thousand dollars (\$90,000) from the Salt/Shed Storage Building Capital Reserve Fund created in 2005 for this purpose, and authorize the borrowing of up to six hundred ten thousand dollars (\$610,000) through the issuance of not more than six hundred ten thousand dollars (\$610,000) of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (N.H. RSA Chapter 33 as amended) and to authorize the Selectmen to issue, negotiate, sell and deliver such bonds or notes, to determine the rate of interest thereon and the maturity and other terms thereof, and to take such actions or to pass any vote relative thereto as may be necessary to effect the issuance, negotiation, sale and delivery of such bonds or notes as shall be in the best interest of the Town of Rye, and further, to apply for, obtain, accept and expend Federal and State Grants or other aid and any private donations that may be available towards this purpose and to comply with all laws applicable to said project. (3/5 ballot vote required.)

YES
NO

**This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)
This article is recommended by the Budget Committee. (9-1)**

ARTICLE 08. To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen, as the governing body, to enter into a long-term lease/purchase agreement in the amount of nine hundred, ninety two thousand dollars (\$992,000) payable over a term of five (5) years for a new pumper/ladder truck for the Fire Department with the first payment due in 2020 and to raise and appropriate the sum of four hundred ninety two thousand (\$492,000) for the down payment on the lease/purchase due in 2019 with one hundred twenty three thousand (\$123,000) to come from the Ambulance and Fire Vehicle Special Revenue Fund and to authorize the withdrawal of three hundred sixty nine thousand (\$369,000) from the Fire and Ambulance Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund. This article is in addition to the operating budget. (3/5 vote required)

YES
NO

NOTE: The Board of Selectmen will negotiate the interest rate on the lease/purchase as shall be in the best interest of the Town.

**This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)
This article is recommended by the Budget Committee. (10-1)**

ARTICLE 09. Shall the Town raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein totaling nine million seven hundred eighteen thousand one hundred forty-six dollars (\$9,718,146)? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be nine million one hundred fifty-two thousand ninety-one dollars (\$9,152,091) which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. (Majority vote required.)

YES
NO

NOTE: This operating budget warrant article does not include appropriations in any other warrant articles.

**This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)
This article is recommended by the Budget Committee. (10-1)**

ARTICLE 10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) for the reconstruction and paving of Shoals View Drive, a town-maintained road, between Parsons Road and Ocean Boulevard, and accept and expend Federal and State Grants or other aid and any private donations that may be available towards this purpose and to comply with all laws applicable to said project. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget. (Majority vote required)

YES
NO

**This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)
This article is recommended by the Budget Committee. (8-2)**

TURN BALLOT OVER AND CONTINUE VOTING

ARTICLES CONTINUED

ARTICLE 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) to be added to the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund created in 1994. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget. (Majority vote required.) YES NO

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)
This article is recommended by the Budget Committee. (10-0)

ARTICLE 12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) to be added to the Fire and Ambulance Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund the purpose of which was amended by Article 15 of the 2018 Town Meeting. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget. (Majority vote required.) YES NO

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)
This article is recommended by the Budget Committee. (9-1)

ARTICLE 13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) to be placed in the expendable general trust fund known as the Town Employees' Accumulated Leave Fund, established pursuant to RSA 31:19-a by Article 14 of the 1990 Rye Town Meeting for the purpose of funding Town Employees' accumulated leave accounts. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget. (Majority vote required.) YES NO

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)
This article is recommended by the Budget Committee. (10-0)

ARTICLE 14. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000) to be added to The Municipal Buildings Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund established by Article 11 at the 2007 Town Meeting under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a, for the purpose of major repairs to municipal buildings. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget. (Majority vote required.) YES NO

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)
This article is recommended by the Budget Committee. (10-0)

ARTICLE 15. To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Ambulance Capital Reserve Fund established by Article 13 of the 1995 Town Meeting. Said funds with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal are to be transferred to the town's general fund. (Majority vote required.) YES NO

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0).

ARTICLE 16. If Article 15 is adopted, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of eleven thousand seven hundred fourteen dollars (\$11,714), the sum of which to come from unassigned fund balance, to the Fire and Ambulance Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund, which was re-established under a change of purpose by Article 15 of the 2018 Town Meeting. Note: This is the amount transferred to the General Fund by Article 15, so there is no net impact on the tax rate if Articles 15 and 16 are adopted. (Majority vote required.) YES NO

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0).
This article is recommended by the Budget Committee (11-0).

ARTICLE 17. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) to be added to the Library Employees' Accumulated Leave Fund established by Article 22 at the 2018 Town Meeting under the provisions of RSA 31:91-a, for the purpose of funding Library Employees' accumulated leave. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget. (Majority vote required.) YES NO

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)
This article is recommended by the Budget Committee. (10-0)

ARTICLE 18. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to be added to the Rye Public Library Building Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund established by Article 14 at the 2005 Town Meeting under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a, as a maintenance fund for the Rye Public Library building. This appropriation is in addition to the Library's operating budget. (Majority vote required.) YES NO

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)
This article is recommended by the Budget Committee. (10-0)

GO TO NEXT BALLOT AND CONTINUE VOTING



**ABSENTEE
OFFICIAL BALLOT
ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION
RYE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
MARCH 12, 2019**

PAGE 4 OF 6
Ronald M. Peck
TOWN CLERK

ARTICLES CONTINUED

ARTICLE 19. To see if the Town will vote to accept as town roads, Autumn Lane and Signature Drive in the Stoneleigh Preserve Subdivision as shown on a plan entitled "Subdivision Plan of Stoneleigh Preserve (Rye Tax Map 4, Lots 25, 27, 21 & 32) for WNRV, LLC South Road, Rye New Hampshire", recorded in the Rockingham County Registry of Deeds as Plan No. D-40857. This acceptance is conditioned upon the final approval of the Public Works Director, the Board of Selectmen and the Planning Board. The Planning Board has approved the subdivision creating Autumn Lane and Signature Drive as identified on the above-referenced plan. (Majority vote required.)

YES
NO

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)

ARTICLE 20. Shall the town vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 36-A:4-a, I. (a) to authorize the Conservation Commission to expend funds to purchase interests in land outside the boundaries of our municipality, subject to the approval of the local governing body?

YES
NO

This article is recommended by the Conservation Commission.

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)

ARTICLE 21. To see if the Town will vote pursuant to RSA 41:11-a to ratify a lease agreement negotiated by the Board of Selectmen between the Town and Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless for lease of an area of 10,000 square feet of town owned land Tax Map 23/Parcel 1 for use as a cell tower site and compound. The town owned parcel is ±14 acres in size.

YES
NO

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)

ARTICLE 22. To see if the Town will vote to retain, pursuant to RSA 80:80 V, the ±14 acres Tax Map 23/Parcel 1, which was acquired by the Town of Rye by tax deed in 2011, for the purposes of lease of a 10,000 square feet cell tower site to Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless and for open space preservation and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey the parcel to the Conservation Commission for open space preservation subject to the cell tower lease.

YES
NO

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0).

ARTICLE 23. To see if the Town will vote pursuant to RSA 674:40, to approve the Board of Selectmen's layout as a town road of a ± 75 feet long by 25 feet wide section of Starboard Way (which is currently a private way). This section of Starboard Way runs northerly from Parsons Road and includes the easterly half of the present 50 feet wide private right-of-way. The layout is necessary to allow legal access to town owned land Tax Map 23/Parcel 1 on which a cell tower site is proposed. (Majority vote required).

YES
NO

The Planning Board has approved this article.

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0).

ARTICLE 24: If Article 23 above is approved, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of up to four thousand dollars (\$4000) for payment of any damages sustained by all owners of land taken for such road as required by RSA 231:15 which may be assessed as a result of the road layout approved by Article 23. This article is in addition to the operating budget. (Majority vote required).

YES
NO

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0).
This article is recommended by the Budget Committee (11-0).

ARTICLE 25: To see if the Town will vote in favor of the expansion of the City of Portsmouth sewer system (at no cost to the Town of Rye and pursuant to an Intermunicipal agreement to be negotiated between the Rye Sewer Commission and the City of Portsmouth) in order to provide public sewer service by the City of Portsmouth from the Rye/Portsmouth boundary on Route 1 ending at the Route 1/Washington Road Intersection.

YES
NO

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0).

TURN BALLOT OVER AND CONTINUE VOTING

ARTICLES CONTINUED

ARTICLE 26. To see if the Town will vote to amend Section 11 of the Beach Ordinance as follows: (Note: New language emboldened and italicized.)

Section 11. Dogs are not permitted on Town Beaches before 7:00 p.m. or after 9:00 a.m. from the Saturday before Memorial Day to the first Saturday after Labor Day. The only exception will be the area between Wallis Sands State Park and Odiorne State Park, where dogs and people are allowed between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 12 midnight.

During this part of the year:

- 1. All dogs shall be otherwise under the control of its owner or other custodian.
- 2. The owner or custodian of any dog that defecates on Town of Rye beaches shall immediately remove such defecation from public property and dispose of it on their own property or otherwise properly dispose of same.
- 3. ***Dogs are not permitted on Town beaches on Saturdays from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. from the Saturday before Memorial Day to the Saturday after Labor Day. The only exception will be the area between Wallis Sands State Park and Odiorne State Park. This Subsection 3 shall expire on the first Sunday after Labor Day 2019.***

YES
NO

This article is recommended by the Dogs At Large Committee.

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)

ARTICLE 27. Shall the Town adopt the following ordinance regulating dogs in the town forest, on town beaches and town property and in other public places? (Majority vote required).

TOWN OF RYE ORDINANCE NO. _____
CONTROL OF DOGS IN TOWN FOREST, ON TOWN BEACHES AND
TOWN PROPERTY AND IN OTHER PUBLIC PLACES

- 1. **Applicability.** This ordinance applies to the Town Forest, Town Beaches, Town Property and other public places.
- 2. **Authority.** This ordinance is enacted pursuant to (1) RSA 41:11-a: Board of Selectmen's authority to manage town property; and (2) RSA 31:39, I (b): Authority of towns to make bylaws for the prevention of going at large of horses and other domestic animals in any public place in the town.
- 3. **Dog Control.** It shall be unlawful for any dog to run at large in the Town Forest, on Town Beaches, on Town Property or in other public places, if the dog is not under control as defined below. Any dog not under control needs to be immediately leashed.
- 4. **Definitions.**
 - a. **"Run at Large"** means the dog is off the premises of the owner or responsible party and is not under the voice control and sight control of any persons responsible for the dog.
 - b. **"Voice control"** of the dog means a dog returning within 3 calls to and remaining by the side of the responsible party, in response to the responsible party's command for the dog to return.
 - c. **"Sight Control"** of the dog means the dog always being within the sight of the responsible party.
 - d. **"Responsible Party"** means any person or persons accompanying a dog, whether or not said person(s) is the owner of the dog.
- 5. **Other Unlawful Acts.** It also shall be unlawful.
 - a. For a dog to jump on an unwelcoming party.
 - b. For a dog to show aggression to another dog and not be under voice control of the responsible party.
 - c. For a responsible party to refuse to call their dog through voice control when requested to by an authorized Town of Rye official.
- 6. **Enforcement.**
 - a. The animal control officer or any police officer shall have the authority to enforce this ordinance. The Board of Selectmen may empower the animal control officer to serve notice of forfeiture (citation) relating to animal control and may also empower the animal control officer to investigate all reports of violations involving animals in violation of this ordinance.
 - b. Any duly authorized officer may issue, in the name of the owner or custodian of such dog, a notice of violation for a nuisance dog pursuant to RSA 466:31, II (a).
 - c. A person found guilty of violating this ordinance shall be subject to a fine of not more than \$100 for each dog found to be in violation, not to exceed \$1000.
- 7. **Severability.** Should any section or provision of this regulation be held to be invalid or unconstitutional such holding shall not affect, impair or invalidate any other section or provision of this regulation, and to such end all sections and provisions of this regulation are declared to be severable.
- 8. **Conflicts.** To the extent this ordinance may conflict with the Town Forest Leash Ordinance, the Town Forest Leash Ordinance shall govern. To the extent this ordinance may conflict with Section 11, Part 1 of the Beach Ordinance this ordinance shall govern.
- 9. **Effective Date:** This ordinance shall be effective upon publication by the town clerk.

YES
NO

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)

GO TO NEXT BALLOT AND CONTINUE VOTING



ABSENTEE
OFFICIAL BALLOT
ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION
RYE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
MARCH 12, 2019

SAMPLE BALLOT 2019
5 OF 6
Ronna M. New
TOWN CLERK

ARTICLES CONTINUED

ARTICLE 28. To see if Town will vote to adopt a Voice and Sight Control Tag Program at the Town of Rye Forest and abutting Town property, Parsons Field Conservation land, and to enact a leash law in and around the Town Forest for all dogs. The Voice and Sight Control Tag Program allows dogs to be off leash at Town Forest and abutting Town land, if the dog (s) display a participating tag and the dog (s) are under "Voice and Sight Control" of the dog (s) guardian at all times. The participating Voice and Sight Control tag signifies the dog's (s) guardian has registered in the program, has been given guidelines of program, watched the online video of what it means to control a dog (s), and the dog (s) meets vaccination requirements. The money from fees will pay for the expenses of the Voice and Sight Control Tag Program. Voice and Sight Control Tag Program expires every December 31st of each year. Voice and Sight Tag Program privileges must be renewed annually.

A guardian who participates in the Voice and Sight Control Tag Program may still be issued a violation of the rules including but not limited to the following infractions:

- The dog guardian is walking more than three dogs
- The dog guardian is not carrying a leash for each dog and dog waste bag (s)
- The dog guardian fails to display a voice and sight tag on dog
- The dog guardian has a dog under voice and sight control and is not registered in the Voice and Sight Tag Control Program
- The dog is not within the guardian's sight and under voice control at all times
- The dog does not come to and stay with guardian immediately after (3) requests by guardian
- The dog jumps on, charges, chases or otherwise displays aggression toward any person, or behaves in a way that any reasonable person may find harassing or disturbing
- The dog charges, chases or otherwise displays aggression toward any dog or person
- The dog chases, harasses or disturbs wildlife or livestock
- The dog is on private property without permission of the landowner
- The dog guardian does not carry dog waste bags and does not immediately pick up their dog's waste, carry it with them (does not leave it to be pick up at later time) and dispose waste in waste can (at home)

Dog is automatically defined as out of control and in violation of this Ordinance if dog (1.) is on private property without permission, (2.) jumps or knocks down an unwelcoming person, (3.) fights with or shows aggression to another dog(s), (4.) A responsible party refuses to attempt to call their dog (s) when requested by an authorized Rye official is automatically in violation of this Ordinance.

Penalties

Offenses related to not meeting the requirements of the Voice and Sight Tag Program, off-leash or voice and sight control violations, and dog at large circumstances are subject to a maximum penalty first violation of up to \$100.00 and/or loss of one year of Voice and Sight Tag Program privileges for the dog and its guardian. For a second violation, the maximum penalty is a fine of up to \$200.00 and/or loss of one year of Voice and Sight Tag program privileges for the dog and its guardian. A third violation will result in a fine of up to \$300.00 and/or a permanent loss of Voice and Sight Tag Program privileges for the dog and its guardian. Additional fines may be applied \$50.00 up to \$1,000.00 for dog waste violations.

To the extent the Voice and Sight Control Programs conflicts with the Ordinance on Control of Dogs in Town Forest, on Town Beaches and Town Property and in Other Public Places, (Article 27 if enacted), the Voice and Sight Control Tag Program shall govern.

YES
NO

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)

TURN BALLOT OVER AND CONTINUE VOTING

ARTICLES CONTINUED

ARTICLE 29. (By Petition) To see if the Town will vote to amend Ordinance #3 Skateboard, Roller Skate, Bicycle, Pedestrian Regulations as follows (changes illustrated in bold/italic/underlined font):

SKATEBOARD, ~~ROLLER SKATE~~ ROLLERBLADING/IN-LINE SKATING BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN REGULATIONS

1. Skateboards ~~and Roller Skates~~. The use of skateboards ~~and roller skates~~ on all public highways, sidewalks and commons within the Town of Rye is prohibited, provided however, that the Chief of Police with advice and consent of the Selectmen, may designate certain streets, roads and ways upon which the use of skateboards ~~and roller skates~~ may be permitted.

2. Bicycles. Any person propelling a bicycle on any public highway shall ride single file and shall ride as near to the right side of the road as practical.

3. Pedestrians. Any person running, jogging or walking on the traveled way of any public two-way highway, shall run, jog or walk single file and shall do so as near to the left side of the roadway as practical.

4. Rollerblading/in-line skating. Any person rollerblading/in-line skating, on the traveled way of any public two-way highway, shall do so single file and as near to the left side of the roadway as practical.

5. Violation of this regulation shall subject the person convicted to the maximum penalty provided for violation of Town Ordinance provided that person be over the age of seventeen (17) years. For the first violation of this regulation by any child seventeen (17) years of age or under, the parents or guardian of such child shall be notified. Upon any subsequent violation, the parents or guardians of such child shall be guilty of a violation as defined by the New Hampshire Revised Statutes Annotated.

YES
NO

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)

ARTICLE 30. (By Petition) To see if the Town will vote to establish a committee in accordance with the 2006 Master Plan vision. Such committee, under the guidance of a telecommunications consultant, will be charged with developing a plan to investigate and identify types of telecommunications infrastructure which will eliminate basic text and voice cellular dead spots throughout the Town of Rye. The plan will identify and rank potential locations for such infrastructure, listing pros and cons and identifying specific town actions that will ease the burden for infrastructure approvals, deployment and maintenance.

YES
NO

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)

ARTICLE 31. (By Petition) To see if the Town will vote to require the selectmen to develop a plan to renovate the Town Hall to better accommodate the staff office needs, to make the Town Hall ADA compliant, and to keep the Town Hall located on its historic site, in the center of Rye.

YES
NO

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)

ARTICLE 32. (By Petition) Establishment of Clean Fill/soil standards within the Town of Rye, which are protective of human health.

To see if the Town will request the Rye Planning Board to study the use of fill to facilitate construction of new buildings (commercial or residential) or otherwise used in the Town of Rye and draft a Clean Fill/Soil standard which is protective of human health. The Planning Board will recognize the many issues of cost, testing parameters, enforcement, etc. in their study and if appropriate will bring it for possible implementation in 2020.

YES
NO

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)

ARTICLE 33. (By Petition) Shall the Town of Rye increase parking fines in Resident Only Permit Parking areas, from \$50.00 to \$100.00? To increase fines in all NO PARKING areas from \$30.00 to \$50.00. This warrant article is recommended by the Rye Beach Committee.

YES
NO

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)

ARTICLE 34. (By Petition) Shall the Town of Rye make the Rye Beach Committee a selectmen's committee in 2019 to continue to provide advice on town beaches working with municipal town departments to include: Police, Fire and DPW as well as the select board to vet all issues regarding Rye beaches? To recommend best beach practices for safety, conservation per the Rye Master Plan, environmental soundness in compliance with NH DES, State and Federal impact law and recommendations by these agencies. The Selectmen shall develop a plan to make the Committee a standing committee commencing in 2020. The Beach Committee is due to sunset March 31, 2019. This warrant article is recommended by the Rye Beach Committee.

YES
NO

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)

GO TO NEXT BALLOT AND CONTINUE VOTING



**ABSENTEE
OFFICIAL BALLOT
ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION
RYE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
MARCH 12, 2019**

BALLOT 6 OF 6

SAMPLE BALLOT 2019

Noted
TOWN CL.

ARTICLES CONTINUED

ARTICLE 35. (By Petition) In order to comply with New Hampshire Department of Environmental Service regulations, uphold sound beach management and environmental practices, preserve the adjoining Eel Pond wetlands, and maintain the natural aesthetic beauty of the Sawyers Beach conservation land, shall the Town prohibit the placement of portable toilets (Porta Potties) at Sawyers Beach? Nothing herein shall affect the existing portable toilets at Cable Rd. Extension or Wallis Rd. Extension. This article is recommended by the Beach Committee.

YES
NO

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (2-0)

ARTICLE 36. (By Petition) Shall the Town of Rye investigate, through the State of New Hampshire Department of Transportation, ways of legally restricting parking of large campers and Recreational Vehicles along portions of Route 1A in Rye, the parking of which currently pose safety issues along this corridor? This article is recommended by the Rye Beach Committee.

YES
NO

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)

ARTICLE 37. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to sell to the highest bidder at public auction, or sealed bid, such surplus Town equipment as is not traded in on new equipment in 2019.

YES
NO

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)

YOU HAVE NOW COMPLETED VOTING THIS BALLOT

TOWN OF RYE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

2019
MINUTES OF THE
DELIBERATIVE SESSION

2019 BUDGET

2017
AUDITOR'S REPORT
AND STATUS OF THE 2018 AUDIT

**REPORT OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
FOR THE TOWN OF RYE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

February 2, 2019

DELIBERATIVE SESSION

At 9:00 a.m. on the 2nd day of February 2019, at the Junior High School gymnasium, Moderator Eaton called the meeting to order and led those in attendance in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. He thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. Moderator Eaton continued the tradition of reading the names of our friends and neighbors who passed away during 2018. A moment of silence was observed in their memory.

Moderator Eaton then introduced the Town officials on the stage: Town Clerk/Tax Collector Donna DeCotis, Town Counsel Michael Donovan, Chair of the Selectboard Priscilla Jenness, Vice Chair of the Selectboard Phil Winslow, Selectperson Keriann Roman, Town Administrator Michael Magnant, and Finance Director/Assistant Town Administrator Becky Bergeron.

Selectperson Winslow then offered a tribute to Selectperson Jenness, who is stepping down from the Board after 18 years of service. Mr. Winslow thanked Mrs. Jenness for her dedication and all of her hard work on behalf of the Town of Rye. She first ran for Selectman in 2001 with a commitment to “look at all points of view and then to apply common sense.” She delivered on that commitment every day as she has constantly encouraged alternative points of view and makes her decisions based on what she believes to be best for Rye. In 2001 her campaign mantra was “we are in danger of losing the character of this town that brought many of us here or caused some of us never to leave – preservation of our heritage and our unique coastal environment should be a common bond and a mutual effort.” Priscilla has protected that heritage and character so that we still have it today. She has been a guiding light and rock steady in her efforts, having given thousands of hours of her time. Mr. Winslow asked the audience to join him in thanking Priscilla for her many years of commitment, hard work, dedication and direction that has helped make Rye the Town what we all call home. The audience responded with a standing ovation.

Moderator Eaton then introduced the candidates who are running for Town and School District offices. He invited those in attendance to a Candidates’ Night on Monday, March 4th, at 7:00 p.m., at the Rye Public Library. He advised that the Town and School election will be held on Tuesday, March 12th from 8:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. at the Rye Elementary School. In addition, he encouraged attendance at the School District Deliberative Session on Tuesday, February 5th at 6:30 p.m. at the Junior High School.

Moderator Eaton then read his rules for the meeting:

1. Meeting Purpose. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss and debate the articles on the Town warrant. However, because Rye has adopted the SB2 Deliberative Session form of government, this meeting may not exclude articles from the ballot. Up or down voting on an article only occurs at the March election. Nonetheless, you may amend most articles to change how they appear on the ballot.

2. Moderator's Rules. By State law, the Moderator sets the rules and procedures of the meeting. I won't follow Roberts' Rules of Order or any other complicated rules of parliamentary procedure. Instead, we will follow my rules. I may not run a perfect meeting, but I will do my best to run a fair meeting. Ultimately though, this is your meeting. By majority vote, you can change my rules, or overrule any decision I make.

3. Procedure. I will read each article in the order that it appears on the warrant, unless somebody moves to take an article out of order. After reading an article, I will ask for a motion to move it to the floor for debate. Like all motions, it must be seconded. I will then recognize the article's sponsor. After that, everyone here is invited to speak. If you want to speak to an article, come line up behind the microphone. When it's your turn, introduce yourself by name and street address. I will recognize everybody who wants to speak to an article before I permit someone to speak twice. Please address all comments to me, not to other people here.

In the past, I have not set a time limit for speaking, but have asked you to use your common sense. I realize that what constitutes a reasonable amount of time may differ depending on the complexity of the subject matter, so I still am not setting a hard and fast time limit. However, I ask you to try to say what you need to say in 5 minutes, or less. If I ask you to wrap it up, that means I'm giving you one minute to finish, after which I will ask you, politely, to sit down.

I also remind you that we are here in the spirit of fair debate. I realize that people may feel passionate about some of the articles on the warrant today. However, I urge you not to let your passion get the better of you – I expect everybody to be civil and courteous, not to raise their voices, and to avoid bitterness, and I will not permit personal attacks against people or their motives. When there is no more discussion on an article, I will order it to be placed on the ballot, either as written or as amended.

4. Amendments. Any registered voter can move to amend an article. All amendments must be in writing, even if they are very simple – that way there won't be any confusion when the minutes are being prepared. I will read the amendment, and then open the floor for discussion. When you are ready to vote, I will restate the amendment. There are 5 limits to amendments. 1st, articles whose words are prescribed by law may not be amended. 2nd, to avoid confusion, I will not permit amendments to amendments before the original amendment is voted on. 3rd, an amendment may not add a new subject. 4th, you cannot increase the budget, including warrant articles, by more than 10%. Finally, amendments cannot eliminate an article's subject matter. This means that you cannot amend an article to delete all but a few words of the text. Election day voters must be able to determine what the article is about. However, you can amend an article to change its intent or purpose. Also, changing the dollar amount of an appropriation does not eliminate its subject matter.

5. Voting. If you haven't already done it, check in at the clerk's table, get a pink voting card, and sign it. To vote, I will ask you to raise your card. I will only vote if my vote will break or create a tie. We will vote by secret ballot if, before voting on an article, 5 voters present sign a written request for a secret ballot.

6. Recounts / Questioning a Vote. A recount will be taken of non-secret ballot votes if 7 voters, either orally or in writing, make such a request. Such recounts will be conducted by secret ballot. The recount of a secret ballot will be taken on the request of 5 voters.

7. Reconsideration. Any voter can move to reconsider a vote. You do not need to have been in the majority to make such a motion. However, I will not permit multiple motions to reconsider.

8. Restricting Reconsideration. You may also move to restrict reconsideration of an article. Such a motion may be made after I order an article to be placed on the ballot. It is not debatable. If the motion carries, this meeting may not reconsider that article later.

9. Calling the Question. This is the same as moving to end debate. This motion is not debatable. It requires a two-thirds majority to pass. If the question is called, I will let the person who is speaking finish before I call for a vote. It will be up to you to decide whether there is to be further discussion on the article.

10. Non-Voters Who Wish to Speak. Sometimes a person who is not a registered Rye voter may wish to speak. I will ask if there is any objection. If nobody objects, I will permit that person to speak. If there is an objection, I will call for a vote. The will of the majority will prevail. However, I will allow Town department heads who do not live in Rye to speak to issues relating to their departments.

11. Your Meeting. I remind you that this is your meeting. You may appeal any ruling I make, and I will entertain any motion that is made.

Moderator Eaton then began with the Warrant. He noted that Articles 1 and 2 simply invite voters to the election on March 12th – there is nothing to discuss or debate. Article 3 relates to one amendment to the Rye Zoning Ordinance proposed by the Selectboard. Article 4 relates to seven amendments to the zoning ordinance recommended by the Planning Board. Article 5 relates to one amendment to the Rye Floodplain Ordinance recommended by the Planning Board. He noted that, traditionally, such articles are not discussed at the Deliberative Session because they cannot be amended. He asked if anyone wanted to make a motion to discuss anything in Articles 3, 4 or 5. There being no such motion, **Moderator Eaton ordered Articles 3, 4 and 5 to appear on the ballot as written.**

Moderator Eaton read Article 6.

ARTICLE 06. (By Petition) Passage of this article shall override the 10% limitation imposed on this appropriation if not recommended by the Budget Committee. To see if the Town of Rye will vote to authorize the Rye Selectmen to raise and appropriate the sum of three million five hundred thousand dollars (\$3,500,000) gross budget for the purpose of building a new Town Hall Structure on its current site, along with equipment and furnishings, with some changes to foundation location, and to raze the old Town Hall building.

To construct, pursuant to the design for a new Town Hall, as developed by Rye resident John Loftus, and licensed New Hampshire Architect Robert A. Schaefer, AIA, LEED BD+C from the firm of R.A.SCHAEFER & D. M.WHITE ARCHITECTS.

To authorize The Rye Selectmen, to go forward with the completion of “contract documents”, including required and necessary engineering, by licensed New Hampshire Architect Robert A. Schaefer, AIA, LEED BD+C from the firm of R.A.SCHAEFER & D.,M. WHITE ARCHITECTS, and with further project design input by Rye resident John Loftus. The “contract documents” will take into account all applicable codes and ADA requirements. (Please note: Mr. Loftus has not been offered, has not asked for, and will NOT accept any remuneration for any of his design work.)

To authorize The Rye Selectmen, to seek competitive bidding for the physical construction of a new Town Hall, as per the prepared contract documents, and to choose the best bid.

To authorize the borrowing of up to three million five hundred thousand dollars (\$3,500,000) through the issuance of not more than three million five hundred thousand dollars (\$3,500,000) of bonds or notes, for a 30 year term only, in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (N.H. RSA Chapter 33 as amended).

To authorize the Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes, for a thirty year term only, to determine the rate of interest thereon, and to take such actions as may be necessary to effect issuance, negotiation, sale and delivery of such bonds or notes as shall be in the best interest of the Town of Rye, and further, to apply for and accept and expend Federal and State Grants and any private donations toward this purpose.

(60% vote required) This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget.

This article is not recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)
This article is not recommended by the Budget Committee. (6-4)

Article 6 was moved to the floor by Dr. Burt Dibble and seconded by Jeff Quinn.

John Loftus moved to discuss Article 31 immediately after Article 6 since they are relate to one another. The motion was seconded by Mr. Winslow. There being no further discussion, Moderator Eaton called for a vote on the motion. The motion passed.

Mr. Loftus moved to amend Article 6 to change the second sentence in the first paragraph to read as follows: "To see if the Town of Rye will vote to authorize the Rye Selectmen to raise and appropriate the sum of three million five hundred thousand dollars (\$3,500,000) gross budget for the purpose of building a new Town Hall Structure on its current site, along with equipment and furnishings, including the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto with some changes to foundation location, and to raze the old Town Hall building." Mike Coutu seconded the motion. Mr. Loftus stated that the purpose of this motion was to make clear that the fee of bond counsel, between \$5,000 and \$7,000, was included in the \$3,500,000. There being no further discussion, Moderator Eaton called for a vote. The motion to amend passed.

Mr. Loftus moved to amend the article again to change the term of the bond in paragraphs 5 and 6 from 30 years to 29 or 30 years, to make those paragraphs read as follows:

"To authorize the borrowing of up to three million five hundred thousand dollars (\$3,500,000) through the issuance of not more than three million five hundred thousand dollars (\$3,500,000) of bonds or notes, for a 29 or 30 year term only, in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (N.H. RSA Chapter 33 as amended)."

"To authorize the Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes, for twenty-nine or thirty year term only, to determine the rate of interest thereon, and to take such actions as may be necessary to effect issuance, negotiation, sale and delivery of such bonds or notes as shall be in the best interest of the Town of Rye, and further, to apply for and accept and expend Federal and State Grants and any private donations toward this purpose."

There being no further discussion, Moderator Eaton called for a vote on the motion to amend. **The motion passed.**

Mr. Loftus then spoke to the article, as amended. He felt, as others do, that a new building should be placed on the same historic site. He would like a functioning town hall that is energy efficient, fulfills space needs, has lower operating and heating costs, has light-filled offices, and is code compliant. He

directed interested parties to his group's website and said that information sessions would be forthcoming.

Mae Bradshaw moved to amend Article 6 by striking out all of the third paragraph of the article, and by changing the existing fourth paragraph to read as follows: "To authorize the Rye Selectmen, to seek competitive bidding for architecture and engineering and the physical construction of a new Town Hall, as per the prepared contract documents, and to choose the best bid." She said the purpose of her amendments was to empower the Selectboard to hire its own people for engineering, architecture, and construction. Mr. Marion seconded the motion. She said tearing down Town Hall would be a burden on our residents, and noted that Town Hall is listed in the State Register as one of seven historic properties in the State that should be saved. Money is available from grants, the private sector, and from the Heritage Commission.

Under Ms. Bradshaw's amendment, Mr. Loftus's chosen architect would not be designated for the job. Mr. Loftus said that Schaefer & White Architects has designed numerous buildings in New England and been published in numerous articles.

Mr. Marion spoke in favor of Ms. Bradshaw's amendment and then called the question. The motion was seconded. Moderator Eaton reread the motion to amend and then called for a vote. **The motion to end debate passed.** Moderator Eaton called for a vote on Ms. Bradshaw's motion to amend. **The motion passed.**

James Champy, a Rye property owner for over 30 years, but not a registered voter, was allowed to speak. He favors restoring Town Hall, and feels a community should preserve its history and heritage, and children should be able to learn from the past and not be burdened with debt for 30 years. Elizabeth Sanborn, a volunteer for the Portsmouth Historic Society, supports saving Town Hall. Bob McKean said that new tax laws would make it harder to deduct the increased property taxes caused by building a new town hall. Paul Goldman spoke in favor of a new town hall so employees would have an efficient and safe work space that better serves the community, and is environmentally safe and efficient. He said nobody seemed to care about giving employees a work space in which to do their jobs more effectively.

Peter Crawford proposed an amendment that would disclose the impact the interest rate would have on the total payout on the bond. The motion was **seconded by Ms. Bradshaw.** Moderator Eaton said the **amendment would add a new sentence at the end of the 5th paragraph of the original article (4th as amended earlier): "At the estimated 4.5% interest rate, the interest payments will be a least an additional \$2.4 million assuming a 30-year term, for a total cost of \$5.9 million."** Diane Bitter asked how we can accept Mr. Crawford's figures without having more investigation. Moderator Eaton said it is up to the voters. Shawn Crapo spoke against the amendment, feeling that the DRA would not allow it.

Jane Ireland called the question. The motion was seconded. Moderator Eaton reread the motion to amend. **The motion to end debate passed.** Moderator Eaton called for a vote on the motion to amend. Mr. Marion asked Attorney Donovan whether the DRA would allow the amendment.

Attorney Donovan said it is hard to say what the DRA would do. Moderator Eaton called for a vote on Mr. Crawford's amendment. **The motion to amend passed.**

Jane Ireland moved the question. Jane Holway seconded the motion. The motion passed. Moderator Eaton ordered Article 6 to appear on the ballot as amended. Ms. Bradshaw moved to restrict consideration on Article 6. Kevin Brandon seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Shawn Crapo moved to change the Moderator's rules to permit people to speak who are seeking the floor when the question is called. The motion was seconded by Dr. Brian Klinger. Moderator Eaton explained the reason for the rule to keep the meeting from dragging on. **Mike Schwartz called the question. Mr. Brandon seconded the motion. The motion to change the Moderator's rules failed.**

Moderator Eaton read Article 31.

ARTICLE 31. (By Petition) To see if the Town of Rye will vote to limit the Rye Selectmen from expending any further money on the existing town hall as delineated below.

To date, over approximately the last five years, the town taxpayers have funded well over \$400,000 while seeking a solution for renovation of the Town Hall, with little to show for the expenditures.

Therefore, no further expenditures on the current Town Hall Building shall be made, *excluding emergency repairs*, until such time as the Town has voted, and passed, a "Warrant Article" to *either*: **1.** Build a New Town Hall on the existing site, **OR, 2.** Renovate the existing building adding the required square footage to house current, and projected additional, employees. In *either* case, the project must comply with all current existing codes (Building, Electrical, Plumbing, Energy, Fire & Life Safety), ADA requirements, and provide a working environment free from health hazards.

The intent of this article is to stop wastage, and also to keep the Town Hall located on its current Historic Site, in the center of Rye, without further bifurcation of Town Hall employees. This will allow our town workforce to work together, in the most efficient manner, for the best benefit of town residents!

This article is not recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)

Julie Tucker moved the article to the floor. Ms. Bitter seconded the motion.

Mr. Loftus said the intent of this article is to stop wasting money on Town Hall while the Town decides whether to renovate the building in a proper way or build a new building. The Town needs to decide what space is needed to accommodate its employees, a decision that does not split up employees into different buildings. Mr. Winslow said this article would prevent the Selectboard from doing any work to improve the building. He moved to amend the article by replacing with the following language: **"To see if the Town will vote to require the selectmen to develop a plan to renovate the Town Hall to better accommodate the staff office needs, to make the Town Hall ADA compliant, and to keep the Town Hall located on its Historic site, in the center of Rye."** Ms. Bradshaw seconded the motion.

Mr. Crapo felt that a study was already done and people are being misled. He supports the previous article to tear down Town Hall and construct a new building. Selectperson Roman said that \$10,000 has been put into the Operating Budget to hire an architect to tell the Town how the inside of the building can be reconfigured for office space. The Heritage Commission is going to donate money to offset some of that expense. There is a plan in place, one that would also address ADA issues. That is the plan unless the Selectboard is told differently by the voters.

Bev Giblin, Chair of the Heritage Commission, said the Commission has been raising funds to do renovations on Town Hall, along with Grants, and public and private contributions. Ms. Tucker said that the point of this article is to prevent the Town doing piecemeal work on the building over the next 10 years thereby costing the taxpayers more money. Mr. McKean, Mr. Crawford, Alex Herlihy, Dr. Dibble, Mr. Marion, and Ms. Sanborn spoke in favor of the motion.

Ms. Bradshaw called the question, seconded by Ms. Ireland. The motion passed. Moderator Eaton called for a vote on Mr. Winslow's motion to amend. The motion passed.

Mr. Crapo moved to amend the article by placing the following phrase at its end: “, and place related warrant articles on next year's warrant”. Mr. Drake seconded the motion. Ms. Bradshaw explained that the process of getting government money for renovation takes more than one year at a time for each project. The government is very particular about giving out money and you do not want the taxpayers to pay on restoring properties in the meantime. She said the Selectboard will provide leadership. Attorney Donovan said that State law assigns the Selectboard with the authority to compose the Town Warrant. The only other way is for voters to petition. He did not think a town meeting could require something to be put on a subsequent year's warrant.

Mr. Brandon called the question, seconded by Dr. Dibble. Moderator Eaton restated the motion and called for a vote. The motion passed. Moderator Eaton called for a vote on the motion to amend. The motion failed.

Mr. Drake said he did not know there was a renovation plan. Ms. Roman said it was discussed at Selectboard meetings, but nobody has been hired. There is money for hiring in the proposed Operating Budget that is being sent to voters. Joe Tucker said there are two separate issues for residents to decide, whether to build a new town hall or renovate the old one. However, as a builder, he felt that a piecemeal approach to the building would not address many of its problems.

Mr. Marion called the question. The motion was seconded. The motion passed. Moderator Eaton ordered Article 31 to appear on the ballot as amended. Ms. Bradshaw moved to restrict reconsideration. Rep. Jaci Grote seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Moderator Eaton read Article 7:

ARTICLE 07. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of seven hundred thousand dollars (\$700,000) to replace the existing salt shed with a larger more efficient salt storage facility to allow all salt operations to be under cover, and authorize the withdrawal of ninety thousand dollars (\$90,000) from the Salt/Shed Storage Building Capital Reserve Fund created in 2005 for this

purpose, and authorize the borrowing of up to six hundred ten thousand dollars (\$610,000) through the issuance of not more than six hundred ten thousand dollars (\$610,000) of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (N.H. RSA Chapter 33 as amended) and to authorize the Selectmen to issue, negotiate, sell and deliver such bonds or notes, to determine the rate of interest thereon and the maturity and other terms thereof, and to take such actions or to pass any vote relative thereto as may be necessary to effect the issuance, negotiation, sale and delivery of such bonds or notes as shall be in the best interest of the Town of Rye, and further, to apply for, obtain, accept and expend Federal and State Grants or other aid and any private donations that may be available towards this purpose and to comply with all laws applicable to said project. (3/5 ballot vote required.)

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)

This article is recommended by the Budget Committee. (9-1)

Selectperson Jenness moved the article to the floor, seconded by Ms. Bradshaw.

Mrs. Jenness said this article would have no effect on the tax rate in 2019. During the 10-year length of the bond, the effect on the tax rate would only be 4 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value. Mrs. Jenness then asked Public Works Director Dennis McCarthy to speak to the article.

Mr. McCarthy said the purpose of the article was to move all salt operations undercover. A shed would help prevent spillage and potential contamination of our groundwater. The shed would be like a concrete wall – half the cost would be to prepare the land.

Mr. Crawford opposed the article. He felt the site is too expensive to build on because it has to be cut back into the hill. He also noted that this proposal was voted down last year and that something should be done differently. He suggested finding a better location. Mr. McCarthy asked where would you want a salt shed. A property close to the water might cost \$700,000. The site at the transfer station already exists and there are not a lot of other options, given that land in Rye comes at a premium. Mr. McKean said we should look at alternatives, including benefits of not having the salt covered. He said it would work at lower temperatures.

Arthur Ditto, a Water District Commissioner, said the Department of Environmental Services recommends that all salt be undercover. He said we should move forward with the article as currently written. In response to a question by Michelle Tyminski, Dennis McCarthy said the salt storage facility will be used to store salt, not for parking vehicles.

Mr. Crapo called the question, seconded by Mr. Quinn. The motion passed. Moderator Eaton ordered Article 7 to appear on the ballot as written.

Moderator Eaton read Article 8:

ARTICLE 08. To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen, as the governing body, to enter into a long-term lease/purchase agreement in the amount of nine hundred, ninety two thousand dollars (\$992,000) payable over a term of five (5) years for a new pumper/ladder truck for the Fire Department with the first payment due in 2020 and to raise and appropriate the sum of four hundred ninety two thousand (\$492,000) for the down payment on the lease/purchase due in 2019 with one hundred twenty three thousand (\$123,000) to come from the Ambulance and Fire Vehicle Special

Revenue Fund and to authorize the withdrawal of three hundred sixty nine thousand (\$369,000) from the Fire and Ambulance Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund. This article is in addition to the operating budget. (3/5 vote required)

NOTE: The Board of Selectmen will negotiate the interest rate on the lease/purchase as shall be in the best interest of the Town.

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)
This article is recommended by the Budget Committee. (10-1)

Article 8 was moved to the floor by Selectperson Winslow, seconded by Ms. Bradshaw.

Chief Cotreau spoke about the need for a new pumper/ladder truck. At no charge to the Town, an independent company rated our fleet truck conditions on a scale of 1 to 10 with 10 being the best. We got a 3 on our pumper/ladder, and it was recommended to not spend any more money on the truck; it should be replaced. A pumper/ladder is the first truck to arrive at a fire. Our truck is 30 years old and replacement parts are hard to get. The truck is out of service and repair costs could run as high as \$25,000. A new truck will last 25 years, and ensure that Rye residents have the lifesaving equipment they deserve in a fire emergency.

Joanne Hardin asked why this was a separate warrant article and not part of the operating budget. Chief Cotreau said a large investment has always been done by warrant article. Attorney Donovan said bond requests must be in a warrant article.

Ms. Grote said there are a lot of numbers in this article and that while the total cost is \$992,000, the Town has \$492,000 as a down payment so we are only leasing \$500,000 for the truck. Ms. Bradshaw thought the article was unclear and **moved to amend the article by adding the following phrase at the end of the first sentence: “and to raise and appropriate the sum of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) through 5 year lease payments of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) each. Ms. Grote seconded the motion.**

Attorney Donovan said he had extensive talks with the DRA about the wording of various spending articles, including this one, and it found the current language acceptable. He recommended that the wording not be changed. If DRA has a problem with the amendment, the article could be disallowed. **Ms. Bradshaw withdrew her amendment. Ms. Grote withdrew her second.**

Dr. Klinger asked if the new pumper/ladder would require any structural modifications to the safety building. Chief Cotreau said no.

Mr. Borne moved to amend Article 8 by replacing the following words at the start of the article – “To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen, as the governing body, to enter into” – with these words: “Once the Fire Chief presents a long-term apparatus ownership and acquisition plan, developed jointly with the Towns of North Hampton, Greenland and New Castle and the City of Portsmouth Fire Station II (located on Rt. 1 near Lang Rd.) and the plan is accepted by the Selectboard shall the Selectboard be pre-authorized to approve the

acquisition of a Pumper/Ladder truck? The Board of Selectmen, as the governing body, can enter into". Mr. Borne said the amendment pre-approves the Chief to buy the pumper/ladder truck.

Attorney Donovan advised against the amendment for the same reasons he gave on the earlier amendment about possible disallowance by the DRA. He said it took our Finance Director a lot of work to get DRA to accept the current wording; if the wording is changed it might face a problem with the DRA.

Chief Cotreau explained that Mr. Borne was talking about "standard of cover," which is based on balancing the needs and risk assessment of the community. He said area towns help each other during fires, and we get help in Rye when we need it. For example, if we are called to a fire our off-duty personnel come in to cover the station. That is why we need 3 trucks; one for the fire and the other two to be staffed by incoming personnel to keep the Town covered.

Mr. Crawford seconded the motion. Mr. Borne said he was confused by Attorney Donovan's advice because all the wording of his amendment goes at the beginning of the article. He does not see how that would concern DRA. Ms. Roman agreed with Attorney Donovan. She said this is not happening just in Rye. This year more than in any other DRA is taking an active role in the language of warrant articles. We have no recourse with DRA and if it disallows an article there is nothing we can do about it.

Alan Gould called the question, seconded by Ms. Holway. The motion passed. Moderator Eaton called for a vote on the motion to amend. The motion failed.

In response to a question by Gary Terhune, Chief Cotreau said it is hard to find a used pumper/ladder truck. Mr. Schwartz asked if we could get around the fear of DRA rejection by prefacing a motion with the words "if approved by DRA." Attorney Donovan said we would not want to do that.

Mr. Crawford described his concerns with the Fire Department capital reserve plan, which seeks to replace several vehicles by 2023. He voted not to recommend this article on the Budget Committee. He said we have \$463,000 in the Fire and Ambulance reserve and \$218,000 in the Ambulance and Fire reserve. He thinks that some of that money is being saved for future purposes which he did not think should be done. He **moved to amend the dollar amounts in the article**, which he did not think would run afoul of the DRA. **Moderator Eaton explained that the motion to amend would raise the appropriation from \$492,000 to \$680,000 for the downpayment, with \$218,000 coming from the Ambulance & Fire Vehicle Special Revenue Fund instead of \$123,000, and \$462,000 coming from the Fire & Ambulance Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund instead of \$369,000. Victor Azzi seconded the motion.** Attorney Donovan confirmed that changing only dollar amounts would not run afoul of DRA.

Ms. Bradshaw said that the CIP Committee met with Chief Cotreau many times during the year regarding his safety plans for the Town, and for these proposed acquisitions. The CIP was impressed. Mr. Loftus spoke in favor of Chief Cotreau because it is wrong and unsafe not to give firefighters the proper equipment.

Ms. Ireland moved the question, seconded by Ms. Holway. The motion passed. Moderator Eaton called for a vote on Mr. Crawford's motion to change the dollar amounts. **The motion failed.** **Mr. Crapo called the question, seconded by Mr. Drake. The motion passed.** Moderator Eaton ordered Article 8 appear on the ballot as written.

Moderator Eaton read Article 9.

ARTICLE 09. Shall the Town raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein totaling nine million seven hundred eighteen thousand one hundred forty-six dollars (\$9,718,146)? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be nine million one hundred fifty-two thousand ninety-one dollars (\$9,152,091) which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. (Majority vote required.)

NOTE: This operating budget warrant article does not include appropriations in any other warrant articles.

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)
This article is recommended by the Budget Committee. (10-1)

Selectperson Winslow moved the article to the floor, seconded by Selectperson Roman.

Mr. Winslow said the \$524,933 increase in the budget is made up of six items: a 3.4% increase in the cost of living, a 13.6% health insurance increase, a retirement cost increase of \$36,000, a rise in debt service of \$76,000 primarily because of the Red Mill Lane culvert that was approved last year, a catch up on street paving for Public Works, and a custodian costing \$36,000. This makes up 91% of the increase. He said the Selectboard's challenge is to deliver a high level of service to residents while keeping a level tax rate consistent with inflation. Rye has the 6th lowest tax rate of the 227 towns and cities in New Hampshire. He asked voters to approve the article as written.

Mr. Marion asked for a point of order and then moved to restrict reconsideration of all previous articles that had not already been restricted. Nina Parrott seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Mr. Crawford said the requested increase in the budget of over \$500,000 – 5.8% - is the largest in 10 years. It comes with increases in the Water District and School District budgets. He drew particular attention to an appropriation in the budget for a new custodian, which he described as more of a jack of all trades. He felt the position was unnecessary and too expensive, noting that it only passed the Budget Committee by a vote of 6 to 4. **Mr. Crawford then moved to amend Article 9 to reduce the budget by \$36,000, the cost of the custodian. Mr. Azzi seconded the motion. Moderator Eaton explained that if the amendment passed it would decrease the operating budget from \$9,718,146 to \$9,682,146.**

Mr. McCarthy said we need this position filled, regardless of what title it is given, for someone to dedicate their time to public properties in Rye. People do not want to work for part-time wages with no benefits.

Hearing no further discussion on the amendment, Moderator Eaton restated the amendment and called for a vote. The motion to amend failed. Mr. Crapo called the question, seconded by Mr. Marion. The Motion passed. Moderator Eaton ordered Article 9 to appear on the ballot as written.

Moderator Eaton read Article 10.

ARTICLE 10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) for the reconstruction and paving of Shoals View Drive, a town-maintained road, between Parsons Road and Ocean Boulevard, and accept and expend Federal and State Grants or other aid and any private donations that may be available towards this purpose and to comply with all laws applicable to said project. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget. (Majority vote required)

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)

This article is recommended by the Budget Committee. (8-2)

Selectperson Jenness moved the article to the floor. Selectperson Roman seconded the motion.

Mrs. Jenness said that Article 10, which was defeated last year, is being brought again because the residents of Shoals View Drive are still living in a dust cloud. If approved, the tax impact of the article would be 9 cents per \$1,000 in valuation, for one year only.

Dennis McCarthy said this article does not seek a bond issue. It would pass if it gets a majority vote. This article seeks to correct a right-of-way issue between Parsons Road and Ocean Boulevard. There was a problem when the road was constructed around ledge and onto private property. Passage of this article would get the road off private property.

Joanne Hardin, a resident of Shoals View Drive, moved to amend Article 10 by adding the following sentence to the end of the article before the parenthetical regarding a majority vote: "If passed, include west side of Shoals View Drive (west of Parsons Road) with paving and servicing, including snow plowing." Ms. Hardin said she has used her own funds to fill potholes and smooth gravel. **Mr. Borne seconded the motion.** Moderator Eaton declared that the motion was out of order because it contained a new subject not noticed in the warrant – it asked for paving of a different portion of Shoals View Drive than noticed in the warrant.

Mr. Crapo called the question, seconded by Rebecca Franz. The motion passed. Moderator Eaton ordered Article 10 to appear on the ballot as written. Mr. Crapo moved to restrict reconsideration of Article 10, seconded by Mr. Drake. The motion passed.

Moderator Eaton read Article 11.

ARTICLE 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) to be added to the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund created in 1994. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget. (Majority vote required.)

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)
This article is recommended by the Budget Committee. (10-0)

Article 11 was moved to the floor by Dr. Dibble, seconded by Selectperson Roman.

Mr. McCarthy said this is a housekeeping article to set aside money to purchase highway vehicles and equipment. The money goes into the Capital Reserve Fund.

Hearing no further discussion, Moderator Eaton ordered Article 11 to appear on the ballot as written. Mr. Marion moved to restrict reconsideration of Article 11 and of all previous articles not yet restricted. Ms. Bradshaw seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Moderator read Article 12.

ARTICLE 12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) to be added to the Fire and Ambulance Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund the purpose of which was amended by Article 15 of the 2018 Town Meeting. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget. (Majority vote required).

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)
This article is recommended by the Budget Committee. (9-1)

Selectperson Roman moved Article 12 to the floor. Donna DeCotis seconded the motion.

Chief Cotreau said the purpose of this article is to set aside funds for future capital expenditures.

Hearing no further discussion, Moderator Eaton ordered Article 12 to appear on the ballot as written. Mr. Marion moved to restrict reconsideration of Article 12. The motion was seconded by Ms. Ireland. The motion passed.

Moderator Eaton read Article 13.

ARTICLE 13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) to be placed in the expendable general trust fund known as the Town Employees' Accumulated Leave Fund, established pursuant to RSA 31:19-a by Article 14 of the 1990 Rye Town Meeting for the purpose of funding Town Employees' accumulated leave accounts. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget. (Majority vote required.)

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)
This article is recommended by the Budget Committee. (10-0)

Selectperson Jenness moved Article 13 to the floor. Selectperson Roman seconded the motion.

Mrs. Jenness said that the town liability for accumulated leave is \$548,000, but there is only \$171,000 in the account. Even if this \$50,000 is approved, we will still be \$50,000 short of the State's recommendation that towns fund 50% of their liability.

Hearing no further discussion, Moderator Eaton ordered Article 13 to appear on the ballot as written.

Moderator Eaton read Article 14.

ARTICLE 14. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000) to be added to The Municipal Buildings Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund established by Article 11 at the 2007 Town Meeting under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a, for the purpose of major repairs to municipal buildings. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget. (Majority vote required.)

**This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)
This article is recommended by the Budget Committee. (10-0)**

Selectperson Winslow moved Article 14 to the floor. Selectperson Roman seconded the motion.

Mr. Winslow said that in previous years \$25,000 was put in this account, but because of potential repairs to the Parsonage, a \$10,000 increase is being sought.

Hearing no further discussion, Moderator Eaton ordered Article 14 to appear on the ballot as written. Mr. Crapo moved to restrict reconsideration on Articles 13 and 14. Mr. Marion seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Moderator Eaton read Article 15.

ARTICLE 15. To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Ambulance Capital Reserve Fund established by Article 13 of the 1995 Town Meeting. Said funds with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal are to be transferred to the town's general fund. (Majority vote required).

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0).

Selectperson Winslow moved Article 15 to the floor. Selectperson Roman seconded the motion.

Mr. Winslow stated said this is a housekeeping article to move the \$11,714 in the Ambulance Capital Reserve Fund to the town's general fund. Article 16 will move it to the Fire & Ambulance Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund.

Hearing no further discussion, Moderator Eaton ordered Article 15 to appear on the ballot as written.

Moderator Eaton read Article 16.

ARTICLE 16. If Article 15 is adopted, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of eleven thousand seven hundred fourteen dollars (\$11,714), the sum of which to come from unassigned fund balance, to the Fire and Ambulance Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund, which was re-established under a change of purpose by Article 15 of the 2018 Town Meeting. Note: This is the amount transferred to the General Fund by Article 15, so there is no net impact on the tax rate if Articles 15 and 16 are adopted. (Majority vote required).

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0).
This article is recommended by the Budget Committee (11-0).

Selectperson Roman moved Article 16 to the floor, seconded by Selectperson Jenness.

Ms. Roman confirmed that this follows up on what Mr. Winslow said about Article 15. The Ambulance Capital Reserve Fund is being closed out and the money in it is being moved to the Fire & Ambulance Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund, by way of the general fund.

Hearing no further discussion, Moderator Eaton ordered Article 16 to appear on the ballot as written.

Moderator Eaton read Article 17.

ARTICLE 17. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) to be added to the Library Employees' Accumulated Leave Fund established by Article 22 at the 2018 Town Meeting under the provisions of RSA 31:91-a, for the purpose of funding Library Employees' accumulated leave. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget. (Majority vote required.)

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)
This article is recommended by the Budget Committee. (10-0)

Selectperson Jenness moved Article 17 to the floor, seconded by Selectperson Winslow.

Library Trustee Karen Oliver said this appropriation would get the Library to the recommended amount to be set aside for the Accumulated Leave Fund.

There being no further discussion, Moderator Eaton ordered Article 17 to appear on the ballot as written.

Moderator Eaton read Article 18.

ARTICLE 18. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to be added to the Rye Public Library Building Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund established by Article 14 at the 2005 Town Meeting under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a, as a maintenance fund for the Rye Public Library building. This appropriation is in addition to the Library's operating budget. (Majority vote required.)

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)

This article is recommended by the Budget Committee. (10-0)

Selectperson Jenness moved Article 18 to the floor, seconded by Selectperson Winslow.

Ms. Oliver said that the requested appropriation would go into the fund for unexpected maintenance problems at the library.

Hearing no further discussion, Moderator Eaton ordered Article 18 to appear on the ballot as written. Mr. Crapo moved to restrict reconsideration of all previously unrestricted articles. Ms. Bradshaw seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Moderator Eaton read Article 19.

ARTICLE 19. To see if the Town will vote to accept as town roads, Autumn Lane and Signature Drive in the Stoneleigh Preserve Subdivision as shown on a plan entitled "Subdivision Plan of Stoneleigh Preserve (Rye Tax Map 4, Lots 25, 27, 21 & 32) for WNRV, LLC South Road, Rye New Hampshire", recorded in the Rockingham County Registry of Deeds as Plan No. D-40857. This acceptance is conditioned upon the final approval of the Public Works Director, the Board of Selectmen and the Planning Board. The Planning Board has approved the subdivision creating Autumn Lane and Signature Drive as identified on the above-referenced plan. (Majority vote required.)

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)

Selectperson Winslow moved Article 19 to the floor, seconded by Selectperson Roman.

Mr. Winslow said this article relates to a development on South Road that has been in the works for about four years. It was originally before the Planning Board for 24 lots and was finally approved after a lawsuit for 14 lots. The developer complied with town regulations for putting in roads. Once approved by voters then it goes to the Planning Board, the Public Works Director and the Selectman for approval.

Mr. Drake moved to amend Article 19 by changing Signature Drive to Boulder Drive. Mr. Borne seconded the motion.

Mr. Winslow asked Mr. McCarthy to speak to the procedure for changing the names of town roads. Mr. McCarthy said this in a non-delegable function of the Selectboard. Citizens can petition the Selectboard to change a road name. Building Inspector Peter Rowell said you have to go through a procedure with 911 and they have the final say. **Moderator Eaton ruled that the motion to change the street name was out of order.**

Mr. Crapo asked about the timing of this article and whether it was premature. Attorney Donovan said this is standard language that has been used for the last 10 or 15 years. There are conditions subsequent to the passage of this article before the roads can become town roads. There must be final approval by the Public Works Director, the Selectboard and the Planning Board, and that could only happen after the roads are completely built and paved. Those conditions subsequent are contained in the next-to-last sentence of the article.

Mr. Borne said that the settlement of the lawsuit with the developer was never disclosed to the public. Attorney Donovan said that of the \$400,000 settlement, \$300,000 went to the acquisition of open space by the Conservation Commission. Only \$100,000 in settlement funds did not involve open space acquisition.

Ms. Franz stated that the street signs are already up and asked if they should be taken down if the roads were not approved. Attorney Donovan said the street names would still be there but roads would remain private and maintained by the developer.

Hearing no further discussion, Moderator Eaton ordered Article 19 to appear on the ballot as written.

Moderator Eaton read Article 20.

ARTICLE 20. Shall the town vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 36-A:4-a, I. (a) to authorize the Conservation Commission to expend funds to purchase interests in land outside the boundaries of our municipality, subject to the approval of the local governing body?

This article is recommended by the Conservation Commission.

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)

Selectperson Jenness moved Article 20 to the floor, seconded by Selectperson Roman.

Sally King said this article was put together to be able to acquire a 78-acre property off South Road, 17 acres of which are in North Hampton. The purchase is for the entire parcel. Moderator Eaton stated that this article cannot be amended because its language is required by statute. Attorney Donovan said the statutory language also includes rescission provisions, so you can't sunset it.

Mr. Crawford said he supports this acquisition. However, once the acquisition is complete or falls apart, he wanted to know whether the Conservation would sponsor an article to rescind its authority. Ms. King said the Conservation Commission would have to decide. She also noted that there is a process that must be followed to purchase land, and the Selectboard has to approve the purchase at a public hearing.

In response to a question by Mr. Drake, Attorney Donovan said that other parts of the conservation commission statute require that if a commission is spending money from a conservation fund to buy land, final approval of the purchase must be approved by the governing body; so the Commission must get Selectboard approval to buy land outside Rye.

Mr. Borne wanted asked if every purchase made through the Conservation Commission has to go to the voters before you spend money. Attorney Donovan said no, it has to go to the Selectboard. He said if the money is coming from the Conservation Fund it just has to be approved by the Selectboard. In the past there have been warrant articles specifically for certain purchases. All money in the Conservation Fund has already been appropriated. There are two ways to acquire property: one

is to get Town Meeting approval; the other is to use Conservation Fund money that has already been appropriated and only needs Selectboard approval.

There being no further discussion, Moderator Eaton ordered Article 20 to appear on the ballot as written.

Moderator Eaton read Article 21.

ARTICLE 21. To see if the Town will vote pursuant to RSA 41:11-a to ratify a lease agreement negotiated by the Board of Selectmen between the Town and Celco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless for lease of an area of 10,000 square feet of town owned land Tax Map 23/Parcel 1 for use as a cell tower site and compound. The town owned parcel is ±14 acres in size.

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0).

Selectperson Roman moved Article 21 to the floor, seconded by Selectperson Winslow.

Ms. Roman said this is one of four articles regarding a proposed Verizon cell tower. Verizon has alleged that there is a coverage gap in the north part of town. Once that coverage gap was claimed a chain of events was set off that puts some constraints on the Town to work with Verizon. Verizon applied to both the Zoning Board and the Planning Board to put a cell tower on Brackett Road. There were concerns that the site was too close to the road. The Selectboard entered into negotiations with Verizon to try to identify an alternative and more palatable site, and to try to take advantage of Town-owned land in the area. This article is the first step resulting from those negotiations. If approved by the voters, the Town will lease land at 0 Port Way (off Parsons Road) to Verizon to build a cell tower. The Selectboard has already signed the lease, but it will not be effective unless the voters approve it. The lease is for 5 years, but allows for 4 automatic renewals of 5 years each, for a total of 25 years. The annual rent of \$24,000 would go into the general fund, unless a special fund is created. The rent goes up 2% each year. Rye would get 25% of the fee charged by Verizon to allow other carriers to place their equipment on the tower. The tower will also have space for public safety equipment if the need arises.

Mr. Borne asked if there would be enough co-locaters using the tower for Rye to get as much revenue as it gets from the Grove Road tower. He also asked if we had talked to the owners of 120 Brackett Road about backing out of their deal with Verizon, even if we had to pay for it. Attorney Donovan said that if we did that the Town would be sued by Verizon for tortious interference with contractual relations, and that it is a bad idea.

Joe Tucker favors the lease, but asked what would happen with the tower if Verizon doesn't renew the lease. Ms. Roman said that Verizon will be required to post a bond to cover the cost of removing the tower if the Town wants it gone.

Mr. Crawford spoke in favor of the lease and thanked Attorney Donovan and Selectperson Roman for their hard work. Ms. Roman said that the lease is posted on the Town website.

There being no further discussion, Moderator Eaton ordered Article 22 to appear on the ballot as written.

Moderator Eaton read Article 22.

ARTICLE 22. To see if the Town will vote to retain, pursuant to RSA 80:80 V, the ±14 acres Tax Map 23/Parcel 1, which was acquired by the Town of Rye by tax deed in 2011, for the purposes of lease of a 10,000 square feet cell tower site to Celco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless and for open space preservation and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey the parcel to the Conservation Commission for open space preservation subject to the cell tower lease.

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0).

Selectperson Roman moved Article 22 to the floor, seconded by Selectperson Winslow.

Ms. Roman moved to amend Article 22 to correct the year of the tax deed from 1995 to 2011. Mr. Winslow seconded the motion. Hearing no further discussion, Moderator Eaton called for a vote. The motion passed.

Jeff Knapp said he wanted the leased land to be put into conservation when the lease ends, and moved to amend Article 22 by inserting the following sentence at the end of the article: "When the lease agreement between Verizon and Rye, or when the negotiation for this site, ends, the 10,000 square foot plot of town land on 0 Port Way is conveyed to the Conservation Commission for open space preservation." Ralph Hickson seconded the motion.

After thinking out loud about the issue briefly, Attorney Donovan opined that the entire 14-acre parcel was being deeded to the Conservation Commission, subject to the easement. Once there is no longer a cell tower, the easement expires, and the Conservation Commission owns the land without restriction. In sum, he didn't think Mr. Knapp needed the amendment to accomplish his purpose. **Mr. Knapp withdrew his motion. Mr. Hickson withdrew his second.**

In response to a question by Mr. Crapo, Attorney Donovan said the Town owns the subject land by tax deed. State law says that property acquired by tax deed should be sold to the highest bidder. The statute also requires the Town to vote to retain such property. If Article 22 fails the Selectboard will have to decide what to do about the land.

Ms. Oliver asked if the lease could be extended beyond the 25 years contemplated. Attorney Donovan said the Selectboard only has the authority to renew a lease for one year. Anything more than that must be decided by the voters.

Hearing no further discussion, **Moderator Eaton ordered Article 22 to appear on the ballot as amended.**

Moderator Eaton read Article 23.

ARTICLE 23. To see if the Town will vote pursuant to RSA 674:40, to approve the Board of Selectmen's layout as a town road of a ± 75 feet long by 25 feet wide section of Starboard Way (which is currently a private way). This section of Starboard Way runs northerly from Parsons Road and includes the easterly half of the present 50 feet wide private right-of-way. The layout is necessary to allow legal access to town owned land Tax Map 23/Parcel 1 on which a cell tower site is proposed. (Majority vote required).

The Planning Board has approved this article.

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0).

Selectperson Roman moved Article 23 to the floor, seconded by Selectperson Winslow.

Ms. Roman explained that in order to access this tower you would have to go through Port Way and Starboard Way, which are private roads. Easements would be needed from the owners of those sections of road, or the Town would have to do a layout. The Selectboard is negotiating with those owners to allow access to the Town's landlocked property. This article serves as a backup in case those talks don't work out and another way for Verizon to access the Town land needs to be found. This article would permit a layout over one half of Starboard Way.

Hearing no further discussion, Moderator Eaton ordered Article 23 to appear on the ballot as written.

Moderator Eaton read Article 24.

ARTICLE 24. If Article 23 above is approved, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of up to four thousand dollars (\$4000) for payment of any damages sustained by all owners of land taken for such road as required by RSA 231:15 which may be assessed as a result of the road layout approved by Article 23. This article is in addition to the operating budget. (Majority vote required).

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0).
This article is recommended by the Budget Committee (11-0).

Dr. Dibble moved to restrict reconsideration of Article 23 and all previously unrestricted articles. Mr. Marion seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Selectperson Roman moved Article 24 to the floor, seconded by Selectperson Jenness.

Ms. Roman explained that this is the second part of the layout article. If there is a layout over private land, State law says there is a taking and the Town must compensate the owners whose land is being taken. \$4,000 is an estimate of what will be needed to compensate landowners if a layout is necessary.

Hearing no further discussion, Moderator Eaton ordered Article 24 to appear on the ballot as written.

John McNair moved to discuss Article 30 next. Diane Mason seconded the motion. Moderator Eaton explained that Article 30 is by petition to establish a committee according to the master plan to investigate telecommunications issues. Mr. McNair would like to discuss that article next because it relates to the same subject as the previous four articles. Hearing no further discussion on the motion, Moderator Eaton called for a vote. **The motion passed.**

Moderator Eaton read Article 30.

ARTICLE 30. (By Petition) To see if the Town will vote to establish a committee in accordance with the 2006 Master Plan vision. Such committee, under the guidance of a telecommunications consultant, will be charged with developing a plan to investigate and identify types of telecommunications infrastructure which will eliminate basic text and voice cellular dead spots throughout the Town of Rye. The plan will identify and rank potential locations for such infrastructure, listing pros and cons and identifying specific town actions that will ease the burden for infrastructure approvals, deployment and maintenance. After a public hearing and acceptance of this plan by the Select and Planning Boards, the town can then move forward and enter into agreements for infrastructure deployment beyond the current Grove Road cell tower.

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)

Michelle Tyminski moved Article 30 to the floor, seconded by Mr. Borne.

Ms. Tyminski said this article is necessary because the federal government is giving telecommunication companies the upper hand. The Selectboard is working hard to protect property but it is being backed into a corner by Verizon. The Town needs a committee to create a comprehensive telecommunications plan that supports and empowers our boards to do a job that we elected them to do. This petition is the first step in that direction.

Mr. McNair moved to amend Article 30 to delete the last sentence. Mr. Winslow seconded the motion. Mr. McNair said the last sentence would negate the lease with Verizon. Speaking for the Selectboard, Ms. Roman favored the amendment because the last sentence might invalidate the negotiations with Verizon on the Port Way site. Mr. Crawford supported the amendment.

Mr. Borne spoke against the amendment because planning has been going on for years without an implementation plan. If the amendment passes, the other cell articles will go forward and Verizon will get its tower. We will lose our leverage to get Verizon to deal with the numerous other cellular issues in Rye, including many other coverage gaps. If the amendment is defeated, we can come up with an implementation plan while we still have leverage over Verizon to carry it out.

Mr. Winslow moved the question. Ms. Ireland seconded the motion. Moderator Eaton reread the motion and called for a vote. The motion passed. Moderator Eaton called for a vote on the motion. The motion passed.

Mr. Crapo called the question. Mr. Marion seconded the motion. Moderator Eaton allowed Bill Epperson to speak. He said Verizon is very aggressive and we need to put a muzzle on it on where to place the cell tower. He is in favor of a committee. **Moderator Eaton called for a vote on the**

motion to end debate. The motion passed. Moderator Eaton ordered Article 30 to appear on the ballot as amended. Ms. Roman moved to restrict reconsideration on Article 30 and all previous articles not restricted. Mr. Marion seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Moderator Eaton read Article 25.

ARTICLE 25. To see if the Town will vote in favor of the expansion of the City of Portsmouth sewer system (at no cost to the Town of Rye and pursuant to an intermunicipal agreement to be negotiated between the Rye Sewer Commission and the City of Portsmouth) in order to provide public sewer service by the City of Portsmouth from the Rye/Portsmouth boundary on Route 1 ending at the Route 1/Washington Road intersection.

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0).

Selectperson Jenness moved Article 25 to the floor, seconded by Selectperson Winslow.

Sewer Department Administrator Lee Arthur said there are two large developments on Route 1, one at the end of Washington Road and the other at the Airfield. The costs associated with extending the Portsmouth sewer system further south on Route 1 will be borne by the developers. There will be no cost to Rye. Mr. Epperson said that if we care about the water supply, our schools, and the environment, and look at what is happening in Rye, we would support this amendment.

Hearing no further discussion, **Moderator Eaton ordered Article 25 to appear on the ballot as written.**

Mr. Winslow moved to discuss Article 27 next as it made sense that it be the first dog-related article to be debated. **Ms. Roman seconded the motion.** Hearing no further discussion, Moderator Eaton called for a vote on the motion. **The motion passed.**

Moderator Eaton summarized Article 27 and then, given its length, solicited a motion to waive reading the entire article. Mr. Crapo so moved. Mr. Marion seconded the motion. The motion passed.

ARTICLE 27. Shall the Town adopt the following ordinance regulating dogs in the town forest, on town beaches and town property and in other public places? (Majority vote required).

TOWN OF RYE ORDINANCE NO. ____

**CONTROL OF DOGS IN TOWN FOREST, ON TOWN BEACHES AND
TOWN PROPERTY AND IN OTHER PUBLIC PLACES**

1. Applicability. This ordinance applies to the Town Forest, Town Beaches, Town Property and other public places.
2. Authority. This ordinance is enacted pursuant to (1) RSA 41:11-a: Board of Selectmen's authority to manage town property; and (2) RSA 31:39, I (b): Authority of towns to make bylaws for the prevention of going at large of horses and other domestic animals in any public place in the town.

3. Dog Control. It shall be unlawful for any dog to run at large in the Town Forest, on Town Beaches, on Town Property or in other public places.
4. Definitions.
 - a. "Run at Large" means the dog is off the premises of the owner or responsible party and is not under the voice control and sight control of any persons responsible for the dog.
 - b. "Voice control" of the dog means a dog returning within 3 calls to and remaining by the side of the responsible party, in response to the responsible party's command for the dog to return.
 - c. "Sight Control" of the dog means the dog always being within the sight of the responsible party.
 - d. "Responsible Party" means any person or persons accompanying a dog, whether or not said person(s) is the owner of the dog.
5. Other Unlawful Acts. It also shall be unlawful.
 - a. For a dog to jump on an unwelcoming party.
 - b. For a dog to show aggression to another dog and not be under voice control of the responsible party.
 - c. For a responsible party to refuse to call their dog through voice control when requested to by an authorized Town of Rye official.
6. Enforcement.
 - a. The animal control officer or any police officer shall have the authority to enforce this ordinance. The Board of Selectmen may empower the animal control officer to serve notice of forfeiture (citation) relating to animal control and may also empower the animal control officer to investigate all reports of violations involving animals in violation of this ordinance.
 - b. Any duly authorized officer may seize, impound, or restrain any dog in violation of this section and deliver such dog to a person or shelter authorized to board dogs. Such dogs shall be handled as strays or abandoned dogs pursuant to applicable laws.
 - c. In addition to impounding a dog found in violation of this ordinance, any duly authorized officer may issue, in the name of the owner or custodian of such dog, a notice of violation for a nuisance dog pursuant to RSA 466:31, II (a).
 - d. A person found guilty of violating this ordinance shall be subject to a fine of not more than \$100 for each dog found to be in violation, not to exceed \$1000.
7. Severability. Should any section or provision of this regulation be held to be invalid or unconstitutional such holding shall not affect, impair or invalidate any other section or provision of this regulation, and to such end all sections and provisions of this regulation are declared to be severable.
8. Conflicts. To the extent this ordinance may conflict with the Town Forest Leash Ordinance, the Town Forest Leash Ordinance shall govern. To the extent this ordinance may conflict with Section 11, Part 1 of the Beach Ordinance this ordinance shall govern.
9. Effective Date: This ordinance shall be effective upon publication by the town clerk.

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)

Mr. Winslow said that last year the Town voted that all dogs on Town property must be either under control of the walker or leashed. One concern we face is the meaning of "dogs under control." The Dog Committee spent at least 700 hours looking at this issue. The Committee was to report back to the Selectman on how current conditions affect public safety and the public enjoyment of Town-owned recreation areas and beaches, and to assess the safety impact of allowing dogs in such areas without leashes. The Committee was also tasked with proposing any needed procedures, regulations, policies or requirements for regulating these activities.

Mark Epply moved to amend Section 3 of Article 27 to add the following language at the end of the section: “if the dog is not under control as defined below. Any dog not under control needs to be immediately leashed.” Ms. Bradshaw seconded the motion. This amendment allows a chance to get the dog under control before enforcement action starts. Mr. Winslow said this, in essence, was what last year’s article did. Mr. Epply wasn’t sure that is true, but even if it is, he saw no harm in going forward with the proposed amendment. Mr. Crawford felt Mr. Epply was concerned about the possibility of a dog being impounded.

Hearing no further discussion, Moderator Eaton repeated Mr. Epply’s motion to amend and called for a vote. **The motion passed.**

Thomas King moved to amend Section 6a of Article 27 to change the language in the first sentence from “serve notice of forfeiture (citation) to “serve a citation”. Chief Walsh said a notice of forfeiture is given when dogs are unlicensed and to make sure all dogs have their rabies vaccination. This is just an enforcement tool. **Mr. King withdrew his motion.**

Mr. Epply moved to amend Article 27 by entirely striking Section 6b and striking the first phrase in Section 6c so that Section would start: “Any duly authorized officer may issue . . .” Ms. Grote seconded the motion.

Chief Walsh said the purpose of Section 6b is to emphasize what the police department already does. When the police find a dog that does not have any identification, the Department uses all its resources to locate the owner. Dogs are held at the SPCA, which properly cares for the dogs and has a procedure for storing them until the owner is found.

Mr. Drake asked if Section 6 just applies to licensing dogs or does it apply to all violations listed in the ordinance. Chief Walsh said it was the latter. Mr. Drake said he did not support the proposed amendment if it is on the dog tag issue. Ms. Roman said the amendment would prevent the police from properly dealing with a dog whose owner cannot be found. She suggested a friendly amendment to Mr. Epply’s motion – to retain Section 6b, but add the following language at the start of the first sentence: **“When the owner cannot be located,”**. **Mr. Epply did not accept the friendly amendment.**

Chief Walsh said police officers always try to do the right thing. If they see an unleashed dog, they issue either a warning or a ticket. An impound takes place when there is no proof of rabies vaccination or the owner can’t be found. It is quicker and more efficient to find the owner. These are the steps that will be taken when the owner can’t be found. Ms. Oliver said Chief Walsh made sense but she said that is not what the proposed ordinance states – if your dog is out of control, it can be taken away. She is for the process described by the Chief, but not for what the ordinance states.

Ms. Bradshaw spoke in support of Ms. Roman’s friendly amendment that Mr. Epply rejected. As a board member of the SPCA, she thinks the rest of the section is important because dogs can sit at the SPCA for up to two years waiting for their owners to be found.

Ms. Ireland called the question. Ms. Holway seconded the motion. Moderator Eaton reread Mr. Epply's motion to amend and then called for a vote on the motion to end debate. **The motion passed. Moderator Eaton then called for a vote on the motion to amend. He declared that the motion passed by a vote of 39 to 33.**

Mr. King said this article is a mess. There are already two articles about dogs on the books. This article seeks a new ordinance, and Article 28 would add another dog ordinance. Some of the language that has been amended out of this article already exists in another ordinance. No matter how you feel on the issue, the various ordinances relating to dogs should be integrated and consistent. He moved to amend Article 27 by striking the first sentence and replacing it with the following language: "Shall the Town form a new committee to study the proposed Articles 27 and 28 (if approved) along with current Rye Town ordinance numbers 1 and 7 to integrate these into one or more clear, concise and coherent ordinances for deliberation at the next deliberative session?" Ms. Bradshaw seconded the motion.

Richie White, Chair of the Dogs-at-Large Committee, said the Committee held 11 public meetings. The Committee consisted of residents both for and against a leash law, property owners near the Town Forest and the beach, the Conservation Commission, the Selectboard, and the Police. The Committee took public input in every form; it worked hard. This article represents a compromise. There is a problem with dogs being out of control; he opined that Rye is the dog park of the Seacoast. Something must be done. He recommended letting Article 27 go ahead in its present form and letting the voters decide. Susan Shepcaro, another member of the Dog Committee, said this article is not the same as the one that was drafted by the Committee – it has been changed. Mr. Drake opined that the voters should decide on the article and it can always be polished up later. Mr. Crawford agreed with Mr. Drake.

Cathy Hodson called the question. Mr. Tucker seconded the motion. Moderator Eaton reread the motion to amend and then called for a vote on the motion to end debate. **The motion passed. Moderator Eaton called for a vote on Mr. King's motion to amend. The motion failed.**

Mr. Drake moved to reconsider Mr. Epply's amendment to Section 6. Rebecca Franz seconded the motion. Mr. Drake said the Dog Committee tried to straighten out the dog situation in Rye. Each year residents do hard work on this issue. He asked the meeting to reverse itself on Mr. Epply's amendment and let the voters decide. If that motion passes, Ms. Grote said she would make another motion to reconsider. Moderator Eaton said he would rule such a motion out of order because his rules do not permit multiple motions to reconsider. Ms. Grote said it was not fair to reconsider. Mr. Epply spoke in favor of his earlier amendment.

Mr. Tucker called the question. Ms. Parrott seconded the motion. The motion passed. Moderator Eaton called for a vote on the motion to reconsider. The motion failed. Mr. Marion moved to restrict reconsideration of the Epply amendment. Ms. Bradshaw seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Ms. Ireland called the question. Ms. Holway seconded the motion. The motion passed. Moderator Eaton ordered Article 27 to appear on the ballot as amended. Ms. Roman moved to restrict reconsideration of Article 27. Mr. Marion seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Moderator Eaton summarized Article 26. **Mr. Marion moved to waive reading the entire article. Dr. Dibble seconded the motion.** Hearing no further discussion, Moderator Eaton called for a vote. **The motion passed.**

ARTICLE 26. To see if the Town will vote to amend Section 11 of the Beach Ordinance as follows: (Note: New language emboldened and italicized.)

Section 11. Dogs are not permitted on Town Beaches before 7:00 p.m. or after 9:00 a.m. from the Saturday before Memorial Day to the first Saturday after Labor Day. The only exception will be the area between Wallis Sands State Park and Odiorne State Park, where dogs and people are allowed between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 12 midnight.

During this part of the year:

1. All dogs shall be otherwise under the control of its owner or other custodian.
2. The owner or custodian of any dog that defecates on Town of Rye beaches shall immediately remove such defecation from public property and dispose of it on their own property or otherwise properly dispose of same.
3. ***On Saturdays from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. all dogs on town beaches shall be restrained by a leash no longer than 6 feet in length, to include a retractable leash. The only exception will be the area between Wallis Sands State Park and Odiorne State Park. This Subsection 3 shall expire on the first Sunday after Labor Day 2019.***

This article is recommended by the Dogs At Large Committee.

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)

Selectperson Winslow moved Article 26 to the floor, seconded by Selectperson Jenness.

Mr. White of the Dogs-at-Large Committee spoke in favor of requiring dogs to be leashed on the beach one night a week. Many taxpayers do not want to use the beach when dogs are running free.

Mr. Epply would rather see dogs banned from the beach from 7 to 9 p.m. than requiring them to be leashed during those hours. He thinks that would be the beginning of a broader leash law. He **moved to amend Subsection 3 of Article 26 by changing the first sentence to read as follows: "Dogs are not permitted on Town beaches on Saturday from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. from the Saturday before Memorial Day to the Saturday after Labor Day."** Ms. King seconded the motion. Judy Santarelli and Shawn Joyce spoke against the amendment. Mr. King and Mr. Drake spoke in support of the amendment.

Mr. Tucker called the question. Ms. Shepcaro seconded the motion. Moderator Eaton reread the proposed motion to amend and called for a vote. **The motion to end debate passed. Moderator**

Eaton called for a vote on the motion to amend. The motion passed. Hearing no further discussion, Moderator Eaton ordered Article 26 to appear on the ballot as amended. Ms. Roman moved to restrict reconsideration of Article 26. Mr. Winslow seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Moderator Eaton summarized Article 28 and invited a motion to waive reading the entire article. So moved by Mr. Crapo. Mr. Marion seconded the motion. The motion passed.

ARTICLE 28. To see if Town will vote to adopt a Voice and Sight Control Tag Program at the Town of Rye Forest and abutting Town property, Parsons Field Conservation land, and to enact a leash law in and around the Town Forest for all dogs. The Voice and Sight Control Tag Program allows dogs to be off leash at Town Forest and abutting Town land, if the dog (s) display a participating tag and the dog (s) are under "Voice and Sight Control" of the dog (s) guardian at all times. The participating Voice and Sight Control tag signifies the dog's (s') guardian has registered in the program, has been given guidelines of program, watched the online video of what it means to control a dog (s), and the dog (s) meets vaccination requirements. The money from fees will pay for the expenses of the Voice and Sight Control Tag Program. Voice and Sight Control Tag Program expires every December 31st of each year. Voice and Sight Tag Program privileges must be renewed annually.

A guardian who participates in the Voice and Sight Control Tag Program may still be issued a violation of the rules including but not limited to the following infractions:

- The dog guardian is walking more than three dogs
- The dog guardian is not carrying a leash for each dog and dog waste bag (s)
- The dog guardian fails to display a voice and sight tag on dog
- The dog guardian has a dog under voice and sight control and is not registered in the Voice and Sight Tag Control Program
- The dog is not within the guardian's sight and under voice control at all times
- The dog does not come to and stay with guardian immediately after (3) requests by guardian
- The dog jumps on, charges, chases or otherwise displays aggression toward any person, or behaves in a way that any reasonable person may find harassing or disturbing
- The dog charges, chases or otherwise displays aggression toward any dog or person
- The dog chases, harasses or disturbs wildlife or livestock
- The dog is on private property without permission of the landowner
- The dog guardian does not carry dog waste bags and does not immediately pick up their dog's waste, carry it with them (does not leave it to be pick up at later time) and dispose waste in waste can (at home)

Dog is automatically defined as out of control and in violation of this Ordinance if dog (1.) is on private property without permission, (2.) jumps or knocks down an unwelcoming person, (3.) fights with or shows aggression to another dog(s), (4.) A responsible party refuses to attempt to call their dog (s) when requested by an authorized Rye official is automatically in violation of this Ordinance.

Penalties

Offenses related to not meeting the requirements of the Voice and Sight Tag Program, off-leash or voice and sight control violations, and dog at large circumstances are subject to a maximum penalty first violation of up to \$100.00 and/or loss of one year of Voice and Sight Tag Program privileges for the dog and its guardian. For a second violation, the maximum penalty is a fine of up to \$200.00 and/or loss of one year of Voice and Sight Tag program privileges for the dog and its guardian. A third violation will result in a fine of up to \$300.00 and/or a permanent loss of Voice and Sight Tag Program privileges for the dog and its guardian. Additional fines may be applied \$50.00 up to \$1,000.00 for dog waste violations.

To the extent the Voice and Sight Control Programs conflicts with the Ordinance on Control of Dogs in Town Forest, on Town Beaches and Town Property and in Other Public Places, (Article 27 if enacted), the Voice and Sight Control Tag Program shall govern.

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)

Selectperson Winslow moved Article 28 to the floor. Selectperson Jenness seconded the motion.

Chief Walsh showed a video on the Voice and Sight Tag Control Program in Boulder, Colorado. The Chief spoke about the concerns of Rye residents about dogs in the Town Forest or on the beaches jumping on them or on other dogs. The Dog Committee thinks this Program would work in Rye. The Committee wants to put the Program into effect at the designated location to test it out, and learn what we need to go through to make it work. Under the program, dogs need to be walking under your control and not ahead of or behind you.

Mr. White said the Committee chose the Town Forest as a test site because there is a lot of wildlife there and there have been problems between abutters and dogs. To solve these problems, we need education and enforcement. Because the Town Forest is spread out it is difficult to enforce dog ordinances. This program would educate participants about how to control their dogs in the forest. They will be shown a video and agree in writing to abide by the rules. If a dog with a Program tag is not under control, the tag is taken away. The Program will allow dogs to run free, but under control.

Mr. Marion lived in Boulder and is a fan of the program, but he asked, since the Program has expenses why it wasn't brought before the Budget Committee of which he is a member. He asked how high the fees would need to be to cover the expenses. Although he likes the Program, he thought it should be vetted by the Budget Committee so we know how much it is going to cost before we vote on it. Chief Walsh said the Animal Control Officer is in the budget that the Budget Committee approved and that the Program's expenses should be covered by the fees that are charged. Ms. Grote asked if the Program was a line item in the Police Department's budget, or whether it was discussed with the Budget Committee. Chief Walsh said the Animal Control hours were increased in the budget due to activity on the beaches, in the Town Forest, and around town, and that he hoped that officer would be able to work with the Program. It did not come up with the Budget Committee because he did not know what it would look like after the Deliberative Session or whether it would be passed by the voters.

David Tilton is an abutter to the Town Forest and said he is the guy who puts up the signs to keep dogs and people off his property. He bought the property to enjoy the wildlife, not for dogs to chase the wildlife and for people to chase their dogs. A leash law would take care of this matter. He hopes the Town will give the police department the authority to control the situation.

Sam Winebaum is in favor of the Program to help educate people who often don't know what's going on around them until it's too late. He also thought dogs should be leashed for the first 150 feet from the trailhead.

Mr. King thought the penalties under the Program were too severe. He moved to amend the article by striking the entire first paragraph in the “Penalties” section and replacing it with the following language: “Offenses related to not meeting the requirements of the Voice and Sight Tag Program, off-leash or voice and sight control violations, and dog at large circumstances are subject to a citation.” Ms. Oliver seconded the motion.

Mr. White said the penalty would not take away the right of a person to walk their dog in the Town Forest. However, if a dog jumped on somebody and knocked them down or got in a fight with another dog, they would lose the right to let their dog run free. In answer to a question by Mr. Drake, Attorney Donovan said the penalty section only applies to the Program. Mr. King asked what defines a citation. Attorney Donovan said a citation is a violation under State law. Where a municipal ordinance doesn’t set a fine amount, a maximum of \$50 could be assessed. Mr. Tucker said the Dog Committee did an outstanding job.

Mr. Drake suggested a friendly amendment to Mr. King’s motion that would restructure the penalty section. Mr. King declined the friendly amendment. **Mr. King then moved to amend his motion by replacing the word “citation” with the words “to a maximum of up to \$100.00 penalty.”** Mr. King debated why he thought the program was not voluntary. Ms. Oliver assented to Mr. King’s change.

Mr. Joyce has issues with dogs running after the deer on his property, and has photographic evidence of people walking past posted signs onto his property looking for their dogs. If you can’t control your dog, your dog should be on a leash.

Ms. Grote said that if we are trying to punish people that don’t live in Rye who bring their dogs here this is not the way to do it. The Program punishes Rye residents too.

Mr. Winslow called the question on Mr. King’s motion. The motion was seconded. Moderator Eaton reread the motion and called for a vote. The motion to end debate passed. Moderator Eaton then called for a vote on the motion to amend. The motion failed.

Mr. Crapo called the question on further discussion of Article 28. Mr. Tucker seconded the motion. The motion passed. Moderator Eaton ordered Article 28 to appear on the ballot as written. Ms. Roman moved to restrict reconsideration of Article 28. Mr. Winslow seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Moderator Eaton summarized Article 29 and asked for a motion to waive reading the entire article. So moved by Ms. Bradshaw. Mr. Tucker seconded the motion. The motion passed.

ARTICLE 29. (By Petition) To see if the Town will vote to amend Ordinance #3 Skateboard, Roller Skate, Bicycle, Pedestrian Regulations as follows (changes illustrated in *bold/italic/underlined font*):

SKATEBOARD, *ROLLER SKATE ROLLERBLADING/IN-LINE SKATING* BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN REGULATIONS

1. Skateboards ~~and Roller Skates~~. The use of skateboards ~~and roller skates~~ on all public highways, sidewalks and commons within the Town of Rye is prohibited, provided however, that the Chief of Police with advice and consent of the Selectmen, may designate certain streets, roads and ways upon which the use of skateboards ~~and roller skates~~ may be permitted.

2. Bicycles. Any person propelling a bicycle on any public highway shall ride single file and shall ride as near to the right side of the road as practical.

3. Pedestrians. Any person running, jogging or walking on the traveled way of any public two-way highway, shall run, jog or walk single file and shall do so as near to the left side of the roadway as practical.

4. Rollerblading/in-line skating. Any person rollerblading/in-line skating, on the traveled way of any public two-way highway, shall do so single file and as near to the left side of the roadway as practical.

5. Violation of this regulation shall subject the person convicted to the maximum penalty provided for violation of Town Ordinance provided that person be over the age of seventeen (17) years. For the first violation of this regulation by any child seventeen (17) years of age or under, the parents or guardian of such child shall be notified. Upon any subsequent violation, the parents or guardians of such child shall be guilty of a violation as defined by the New Hampshire Revised Statutes Annotated.

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)

Katie Sherman moved Article 29 to the floor. Ms. Bitter seconded the motion.

Ms. Parrott said rollerblading is a great form of exercise.

There being no further discussion, **Moderator Eaton ordered Article 29 to appear on the ballot as written.**

Moderator Eaton read Article 32.

ARTICLE 32. (By Petition) Establishment of Clean Fill/soil standards within the Town of Rye, which are protective of human health.

These standards would apply to commercial and residential development projects, which require fill to facilitate construction of a new building (residential and commercial), from outside of property boundaries.

Use of fill to facilitate construction of a new building (commercial or residential) and imported would be free of: chemical oils, fuel, heavy metals, volatile organic chemicals (VOC's), polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB's), perfluorinated chemicals (PFC's) 1, 4 Dioxane and any constituent that would designate the soil as a hazardous waste or cause the soil to come under regulation requiring special handling.

This article is not recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)

Mr. Tucker moved Article 32 to the floor. Selectperson Winslow seconded the motion.

Janet Stevens, who served on the Cancer Cluster Investigation Commission, spoke about contaminated fill and soil. She said there are no standards in New Hampshire for the contents of fill and soil. 70 million tons of fly ash has been distributed around the country to use in fill. Because fly ash is a byproduct of coal, which is full of heavy metals and toxins, it can be dangerous and harmful to people.

Mr. Tucker, a local builder, questioned how such standards could be monitored. Where would the testing occur? Would the tested fill come with a certificate?

Mr. Winslow opined that the article is well-intentioned and thanked Janet Stevens for submitting it. However, as written, the article doesn't address many issues, some of which Mr. Tucker talked about. The Selectboard has submitted a written request to the Planning Board to look at this proposal and determine if it is actionable and what type of changes might be made to make it viable. Consideration should include enforcement and cost. **Mr. Winslow then moved to amend Article 32 to strike the second two paragraphs and replace them with the following language: "To see if the Town will request the Rye Planning Board study the use of fill to facilitate construction of new buildings (commercial or residential) or otherwise used in the Town of Rye and draft a Clean Fill/Soil standard which is protective of human health. The Planning Board will recognize the many issues of cost, testing parameters, enforcement, etc. in their study and if appropriate will bring it for possible implementation in 2020." Ms. Roman seconded the motion.**

Ms. Stevens said there are different testing parameters around the country. Attention is paid to where the fill is coming from. Some states sample every 5,000 cubic yards. California is more stringent and samples every 250 cubic yards. The builder usually bears the cost of testing.

Ms. Roman said she supports the motion to amend because the article would amend the Town Building Code and so must first go to the Planning Board for it to be legal. If the article is sent to the Planning Board and it uses some of the research Ms. Stevens has done, it could be adopted legally with or without the Planning Board's recommendation.

Mr. Crapo supported the amendment because, as a landscaper, he knows that no soil is 100% free of contaminants. Mr. Epperson supported the proposed amendment, and thinks the issue is worthy of taking a look at, but he warned against an ordinance being too restrictive. He recommended that the Planning Board turn the issue over to the Rules and Regulations Committee and that it form a subcommittee. Ms. Stevens might want to be a part of that committee.

Mr. Drake called the question. Mr. Crapo seconded the motion. Moderator reread the motion to amend Article 32 and called for a vote on the motion to end debate. **The motion passed. Moderator Eaton called for a vote on the motion to amend. The motion passed.**

Hearing no further discussion on Article 32, Moderator Eaton ordered Article 32 to appear on the ballot as amended. Ms. Roman moved to restrict reconsideration of Article 32 and any past unrestricted articles. Mr. Winslow seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Moderator Eaton read Article 33.

ARTICLE 33. (By Petition) Shall the Town of Rye increase parking fines in Resident Only Permit Parking areas, from \$50.00 to \$200.00 to include tow zone and fine/tow signage at all Resident only parking areas? To increase fines in all NO PARKING areas from \$30.00 to \$75.00 to include signage for towing zone.

This warrant article is recommended by the Rye Beach Committee.

This article is not recommended by the Selectmen (2-1)

Selectperson Winslow moved Article 33 to the floor. Ms. Sherman seconded the motion.

Keper Connell said this article was composed by the Rye Beach Committee to increase parking fines at the beach, primarily to deter some of the summertime traffic.

Mr. Winslow said the Selectboard is reviewing all fines and fees in Rye, and studying and making comparisons with other towns. Following a review with Chief Walsh and a discussion by the Selectboard, a new fine schedule was agreed to that will be further reviewed in a public meeting. Chief Walsh said the Police Department has surveyed parking fines charged by other communities in the area. Rye is in the medium to low range. He has recommended to the Selectboard that fines be raised into the medium to high range. If the fines are too high more people will contest them and the judge could reduce the fine. Tickets need to be reasonable so we can cover our costs, and to hurt violators in the wallet, but our goal is to change behavior, not to hurt people. In response to a question by Mr. Marion, Chief Walsh said the medium to high range is about \$100 for resident-only parking areas, and \$35 to \$40 for most other areas.

Mr. Winslow moved to amend Article 33 to say in its entirety as follows: "Shall the Town of Rye increase parking fines in Resident Only Permit Parking areas, from \$50.00 to \$100.00? To increase fines in all NO PARKING areas from \$30.00 to \$40.00." Mr. Marion seconded the motion. Mr. Crawford recommended a friendly amendment to raise the fines in NO PARKING areas to \$50. Mr. Winslow conferred with the other members of the Selectboard. All three accepted the friendly amendment, although Ms. Roman said she preferred the \$75 recommended by the Beach Committee.

Mr. Connell asked the Selectboard if it would accept as a **friendly amendment** the restoration of the language that signs be posted marking the parking areas as a tow zone. Chief Walsh said you can't just put up signs declaring an area to be a tow zone. State law permits tow zones for parking that obstructs the travel lane and creates a hazard to people or other vehicles. We will be refunding towing fees if we don't follow the law. Based on Chief Walsh's advice, **Mr. Winslow declined the friendly amendment.**

Brad Fulkerson of the Beach Committee said a Rye resident has put up signs in front of her property saying that cars may be towed and that has been an effective deterrent. The police don't necessarily have to enforce a towing zone, or it could selectively enforce the tow zone on busy summer beach days. That would get word around not to violate parking restrictions.

Ms. Roman said she was in favor of the friendly amendment regarding towing zones because, if adopted by the voters, it would send a message to the Selectboard that it should adopt tow zones at the beach. Mr. Winslow asked, if the amendment to add tow zone signage does not pass, whether the Selectboard could still take up the issue. Ms. Roman replied in the affirmative.

Lori Carbajal of the Beach Committee said the purpose of creating a tow zone in the permit-only parking area was to try to create parking spaces for residents on busy summer days. Fines are not a deterrent because people are willing to pay the fine to park there. Mr. Drake noted that part of the problem was that Rye issued 2,700 beach stickers last year for only 132 spaces. Mr. Winslow opined that the fines proposed in the amendment are appropriate, and that the Selectboard can take up the towing issue, in consultation with the Beach Committee, during the coming year.

Mr. Drake called the question on Mr. Winslow's amendment. Howard Kalet seconded the motion. Moderator Eaton reread the amendment and called for a vote on the motion to end debate. The motion passed. Moderator Eaton called for a vote on the motion to amend. The motion passed. Mr. Drake called the question on the article. Ms. Parrott seconded the motion. The motion passed. Moderator Eaton ordered Article 33 to appear on the ballot as amended. Mr. Drake moved to restrict reconsideration of Article 33. Mr. Crapo seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Moderator Eaton read Article 34.

ARTICLE 34. (By Petition) Shall the Town of Rye make the Rye Beach Committee a standing committee to continue to manage town beaches working with municipal town departments to include: Police, Fire and DPW as well as the select board to vet all issues regarding Rye beaches? To implement best beach practices for safety, conservation per the Rye Master Plan, environmental soundness in compliance with NH DES, State and Federal impact law and recommendations by these agencies. The Beach Committee is due to sunset March 31, 2019. This warrant article is recommended by the Rye Beach Committee.

This article is not recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)

Ms. Sherman moved Article 34 to the floor. Ms. King seconded the motion.

Mr. Fulkerson spoke in favor of making the Beach Committee a permanent town committee. The committee deals with many beach issues, including parking, conservation, access, legal research on controversial topics, and safety. The Committee meets throughout the year, gathers input from residents, and makes recommendations to the Selectboard and the Police Chief.

Mr. Winslow said the article as written would give the Beach Committee the right to manage our beaches and implement regulations, which are the responsibility of the Selectboard. The Fire Department recruits, trains and manages our lifeguards. The Police Department maintains order on the beaches. This article would delegate management of the police and fire departments to the Committee. The Beach Committee was tasked with making change recommendations to the Selectboard. The Selectboard intends to make the Beach Committee a standing committee in 2020.

Mr. Winslow moved to amend Article 34 to state as follows: "Shall the Town of Rye make the Rye Beach Committee a selectmen's committee to continue to provide advice on town beaches working with municipal town departments to include: Police, Fire and DPW as well as the select board to vet all issues regarding Rye beaches? To recommend best beach practices for safety, conservation per the Rye Master Plan, environmental soundness in compliance with NH DES, State and Federal impact law and recommendations by these agencies. The Beach Committee is due to sunset March 31, 2019." Mrs. Jenness seconded the motion.

Mr. Connell noted how hard the Committee works on beach issues. One reason for this article is to help establish better dialogue with the Selectboard.

Mr. Crawford asked why the word standing got was not included in the amendment. Without that word, the Committee needs to be reappointed every year. Ms. Roman agreed that it should be a standing committee. Mr. Winslow said he would consider that if the Selectboard has the right to establish the rules. Ms. Roman said that by law the Selectboard sets the boundaries of standing committees.

Mr. Drake suggested a friendly amendment begin the article with the words: **"Shall the Town of Rye make the Rye Beach Committee a selectmen's committee for the calendar year 2019", and then continue with Mr. Winslow's preferred language starting with the words "to continue to provide advice"**.

Moderator Eaton refocused the discussion on whether the Selectboard would accept a standing committee. Mr. Winslow suggested that he would be willing to make the Committee a Selectboard's committee in 2019 and a standing committee in 2020. He wants a year to get comfortable with the recommendations the Committee is making.

Mrs. Jenness noted that the Committee was created as an ad hoc committee for one year and renewed on a yearly basis. A charge was given to the Committee and it reported back. Over time, the charge has been changed to address new issues. It is still an ad hoc committee and that is why the article states that it is due to sunset on March 31, 2019.

Mr. Winslow rephrased the beginning of his proposed amendment to state as follows: "Shall the Town of Rye make the Rye Beach Committee a selectmen's committee in the year 2019 and a standing committee in the year 2020 to continue to provide advice" Mrs. Jenness accepted the proposed change. Ms. King agreed that the Committee should be a standing committee. The Conservation Commission gets valuable input from the Beach Committee. Mr. Crawford proposed a friendly amendment to strike the words "and a standing committee in 2020", and add the following sentence at the end of the paragraph: "The Selectmen shall develop a plan to make the Committee a standing committee commencing in 2020." Mr. Winslow accepted the friendly amendment.

Moderator Eaton reread the motion to amend as it is currently constituted: **"Shall the Town of Rye make the Rye Beach Committee a selectmen's committee in 2019 to continue to provide advice on town beaches working with municipal town departments to include: Police, Fire and DPW**

as well as the select board to vet all issues regarding Rye beaches? To recommend best beach practices for safety, conservation per the Rye Master Plan, environmental soundness in compliance with NH DES, State and Federal impact law and recommendations by these agencies. The Selectmen shall develop a plan to make the Committee a standing committee commencing in 2020.” Mrs. Jenness agreed with the current language of the motion.

Mr. Marion called the question. Ms. Parrot seconded the motion. The motion passed. Moderator Eaton called for a vote on the motion to amend. The motion passed. Hearing no further discussion, Moderator Eaton ordered Article 34 to appear on the ballot as amended. Mr. Crapo moved to restrict reconsideration of Article 34. Ms. Carbajal seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Moderator Eaton read Article 35.

ARTICLE 35. (By Petition) In order to comply with New Hampshire Department of Environmental Service regulations, uphold sound beach management and environmental practices, preserve the adjoining Eel Pond wetlands, and maintain the natural aesthetic beauty of the Sawyers Beach conservation land, shall the Town prohibit the placement of portable toilets (Porta Potties) at Sawyers Beach? Nothing herein shall affect the existing portable toilets at Cable Rd. Extension or Wallis Rd. Extension. This article is recommended by the Beach Committee.

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (2-0)

Ms. Sherman moved Article 35 to the floor. Ms. Parrott seconded the motion.

Mr. Connell said that in either 1972 or 1974 the Sawyer family sold this portion of the beach to the Town. There is a restriction on the property that prohibits any buildings or temporary structures on the beach. An abutter has put a portable toilet up there in violation of both the restriction and environmental regulations, and it elevates convenience over conservation. This article would prohibit placing a portable toilet at Sawyers Beach. **Mr. Marion called the question. Ms. Bradshaw seconded the motion. The motion passed. Moderator Eaton ordered Article 35 to appear on the ballot as written.**

Moderator Eaton read Article 36.

ARTICLE 36. (By Petition) Shall the Town of Rye, with the assistance of the State of New Hampshire prohibit the parking of campers and RV’s along Route 1A/Ocean Blvd., Fine of \$100.00 and/or tow? Signage to be posted along Route 1A “NO RV NO CAMPER PARKING – FINE \$100”. This Warrant Article is being proposed due to the hazardous conditions large vehicles pose to pedestrians and bicyclists. This article is recommended by the Rye Beach Committee.

This article is not recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)

Ms. Sherman moved Article 36 to the floor. Ms. Carbajal seconded the motion.

Ms. Carbajal said that campers and RVs being parked along Route 1A are creating hazardous conditions. The Beach Committee has been approached by both residents and visitors on this issue.

Banning these vehicles will improve safety for residents. One RV takes up the space of two passenger vehicles. They overnight in the Walmart parking lot at no cost and then park on Route 1A for up to 14 hours a day. They could park behind The Dunes or at Wallis Sands State Park for \$20 a day. They do not patronize Rye businesses, add nothing to Rye's economy, and leave behind their trash.

Mr. Borne said he has no problem with RVs. A friend at the Canadian consulate told him that if this article passes, Canada will ban parking there by New Hampshire drivers.

Mr. Winslow said the Selectboard agrees that large RVs pose a safety problem on portions of Ocean Boulevard. However, Ocean Boulevard is a State road and the Town has no authority to make parking regulations on the road. He proposed to amend Article 36 to read as follows: **"Shall the Town of Rye investigate, through the State of NH Department of Transportation, ways of legally restricting parking of large campers and Recreational Vehicles along portions of Route 1A in Rye, the parking of which currently pose safety issues along this corridor?"** Mr. Marion seconded the motion. Mr. Connell said the Beach Committee would like to be involved. Mr. Winslow said the Board intended to approach our new State Senator, Tom Sherman, and have him connect us with an appropriate person at DOT. More people could be involved later.

Mr. Marion called the question. The motion was seconded. The motion to end debate passed. Moderator Eaton called for a vote on Mr. Winslow's motion to amend. The motion passed. Hearing no further discussion, Moderator Eaton ordered Article 36 to appear on the ballot as amended.

Moderator Eaton read Article 37.

ARTICLE 37. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to sell to the highest bidder at public auction, or sealed bid, such surplus Town equipment as is not traded in on new equipment in 2019.

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)

Ms. Roman moved to restrict reconsideration of Article 36 and any previously unrestricted articles. Mr. Winslow seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Selectperson Roman moved Article 37 to the floor. Selectperson Jenness seconded the motion.

Ms. Roman said this article speaks for itself. It gives the Selectboard the authority to sell surplus Town equipment. Hearing no further discussion, **Moderator Eaton ordered Article 37 to appear on the ballot as written.**

Moderator Eaton read Article 38.

ARTICLE 38. To transact any other business which may legally come before this meeting.

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)

Moderator Eaton moved that it is the sense of the Town of Rye that the New England Patriots should crush the Los Angeles Rams in tomorrow's Super Bowl and that Tom Brady is the GOAT. The motion passed by loud acclaim.

Moderator Eaton adjourned the meeting to the election on March 12th at 4:45 p.m.

156 registered voters checked in to the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna DeCotis
Town Clerk/Tax Collector



2019
MS-737

Proposed Budget
Rye

For the period beginning January 1, 2019 and ending December 31, 2019

Form Due Date: 20 Days after the Annual Meeting

This form was posted with the warrant on: 4/28/2019

BUDGET COMMITTEE CERTIFICATION

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined the information contained in this form and to the best of my belief it is true, correct and complete.

Name	Position	Signature
Peter A. Grawford	Clerk, Budget Committee	<i>Peter A. Grawford</i>
Peggy Balboni	member	<i>Peggy Balboni</i>
Kevin BRANDON	Member	<i>Kevin Brandon</i>
Shawn Crapo	Member	<i>Shawn Crapo</i>
Mae C. Bradshaw	Member	<i>Mae C. Bradshaw</i>
Robert R. Crapo	Member	<i>Robert R. Crapo</i>
JACQUELINE GROTE	member	<i>Jacqueline Grote</i>
John D. Gilmartin	Selections Rep.	<i>John D. Gilmartin</i>
Scott E. Marlow	School Board	<i>Scott E. Marlow</i>

This form must be signed, scanned, and uploaded to the Municipal Tax Rate Setting Portal:
<https://www.proptax.org/>

For assistance please contact:
NH DRA Municipal and Property Division
(603) 230-5090
<http://www.revenue.nh.gov/mun-prop/>



New Hampshire
Department of
Revenue Administration

2019
MS-737

Appropriations

Account	Purpose	Article	Actual Expenditures for period ending 12/31/2018	Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2018	Selectments for Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2019 (Recommended)	Selectments for Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2019 (Not Recommended)	Budget Committee's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2019 (Recommended)	Budget Committee's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2019 (Not Recommended)
General Government								
0000-0000	Collective Bargaining		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4130-4139	Executive	09	\$220,564	\$229,170	\$236,562	\$0	\$236,562	\$0
4140-4149	Election, Registration, and Vital Statistics	09	\$20,938	\$30,695	\$20,995	\$0	\$20,995	\$0
4150-4151	Financial Administration	09	\$569,924	\$583,690	\$593,808	\$0	\$593,808	\$0
4152	Revaluation of Property		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4153	Legal Expense	09	\$242,132	\$108,000	\$130,000	\$0	\$130,000	\$0
4155-4159	Personnel Administration		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4191-4193	Planning and Zoning	09	\$155,120	\$162,223	\$165,925	\$0	\$165,925	\$0
4194	General Government Buildings	09	\$142,239	\$171,454	\$205,361	\$0	\$205,361	\$0
4195	Cemeteries	09	\$0	\$115,006	\$120,258	\$0	\$120,258	\$0
4196	Insurance	09	\$162,027	\$165,027	\$157,721	\$0	\$157,721	\$0
4197	Advertising and Regional Association	09	\$56,371	\$56,371	\$56,371	\$0	\$56,371	\$0
4199	Other General Government	09	\$73,509	\$71,700	\$102,100	\$0	\$102,100	\$0
	General Government Subtotal		\$1,642,824	\$1,693,336	\$1,789,101	\$0	\$1,789,101	\$0
Public Safety								
4210-4214	Police	09	\$1,272,453	\$1,410,332	\$1,472,956	\$0	\$1,472,956	\$0
4215-4219	Ambulance	09	\$111,887	\$125,865	\$131,672	\$0	\$131,672	\$0
4220-4229	Fire	09	\$1,416,065	\$1,427,544	\$1,513,399	\$0	\$1,513,399	\$0
4240-4249	Building Inspection	09	\$219,584	\$253,080	\$234,721	\$0	\$234,721	\$0
4290-4298	Emergency Management	09	\$15,266	\$11,500	\$11,500	\$0	\$11,500	\$0
4299	Other (Including Communications)		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Public Safety Subtotal		\$3,035,255	\$3,228,321	\$3,364,248	\$0	\$3,364,248	\$0
Airport/Aviation Center								
4301-4309	Airport Operations		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Airport/Aviation Center Subtotal		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Highways and Streets								
4311	Administration		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0



New Hampshire
Department of
Revenue Administration

2019
MS-737

		Appropriations						
4312	Highways and Streets	09	\$1,123,336	\$1,222,277	\$1,316,183	\$0	\$1,316,183	\$0
4313	Bridges		\$75,000	\$75,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4316	Street Lighting	09	\$6,379	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000	\$0
4319	Other		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Highways and Streets Subtotal		\$1,204,715	\$1,307,277	\$1,326,183	\$0	\$1,326,183	\$0
	Sanitation							
4321	Administration		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4323	Solid Waste Collection	09	\$267,684	\$230,248	\$251,782	\$0	\$251,782	\$0
4324	Solid Waste Disposal	09	\$195,348	\$185,000	\$208,327	\$0	\$208,327	\$0
4325	Solid Waste Cleanup		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4326-4328	Sewage Collection and Disposal		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4329	Other Sanitation		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Sanitation Subtotal		\$463,032	\$415,248	\$460,109	\$0	\$460,109	\$0

	Water Distribution and Treatment							
4331	Administration		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4332	Water Services		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4335-4339	Water Treatment, Conservation and Other		\$0	\$30,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Water Distribution and Treatment Subtotal		\$0	\$30,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

	Electric							
4351-4352	Administration and Generation		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4353	Purchase Costs		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4354	Electric Equipment Maintenance		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4359	Other Electric Costs		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Electric Subtotal		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

	Health							
4411	Administration	09	\$5,418	\$5,485	\$5,485	\$0	\$5,485	\$0
4414	Pest Control	09	\$100,015	\$101,809	\$116,185	\$0	\$116,185	\$0
4415-4419	Health Agencies, Hospitals, and Other		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Health Subtotal		\$105,433	\$107,294	\$121,670	\$0	\$121,670	\$0

	Welfare							
4441-4442	Administration and Direct Assistance	09	\$24,680	\$40,000	\$46,600	\$0	\$46,600	\$0
4444	Intergovernmental Welfare Payments		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0



New Hampshire
 Department of
 Revenue Administration

2019
MS-737

		Appropriations			
		\$	\$	\$	\$
4445-4449	Vendor Payments and Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Welfare Subtotal	\$24,690	\$40,000	\$46,600	\$0
Culture and Recreation					
4520-4529	Parks and Recreation	\$359,086	\$382,481	\$417,569	\$0
4560-4559	Library	\$647,678	\$655,289	\$694,986	\$0
4583	Patriotic Purposes	\$9,737	\$10,700	\$10,700	\$0
4589	Other Culture and Recreation	\$3,431	\$5,100	\$5,660	\$0
	Culture and Recreation Subtotal	\$1,019,932	\$1,053,570	\$1,128,915	\$0
Conservation and Development					
4611-4612	Administration and Purchasing of Natural Resources	\$42,662	\$90,000	\$90,400	\$0
4619	Other Conservation	\$176	\$600	\$0	\$0
4631-4632	Redevelopment and Housing	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4651-4659	Economic Development	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Conservation and Development Subtotal	\$42,838	\$90,600	\$90,400	\$0
Debt Service					
4711	Long Term Bonds and Notes - Principal	\$305,000	\$305,000	\$364,000	\$0
4721	Long Term Bonds and Notes - Interest	\$62,196	\$62,496	\$78,896	\$0
4723	Tax Anticipation Notes - Interest	\$0	\$100	\$2	\$0
4790-4799	Other Debt Service	\$0	\$100	\$0	\$0
	Debt Service Subtotal	\$367,196	\$367,696	\$442,898	\$0
Capital Outlay					
4901	Land	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4902	Machinery, Vehicles, and Equipment	\$132,576	\$257,000	\$228,191	\$0
4903	Buildings	\$0	\$150,000	\$0	\$0
4909	Improvements Other than Buildings	\$293,116	\$327,000	\$0	\$0
	Capital Outlay Subtotal	\$425,692	\$734,000	\$228,191	\$0
Operating Transfers Out					
4912	To Special Revenue Fund	\$362,412	\$450,976	\$431,240	\$0
4913	To Capital Projects Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914A	To Proprietary Fund - Airport	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914E	To Proprietary Fund - Electric	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914O	To Proprietary Fund - Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0



New Hampshire
 Department of
 Revenue Administration

2019
MS-737

Appropriations

4914S	To Proprietary Fund - Sewer	09	\$211,212	\$258,255	\$288,591	\$0	\$288,591	\$0
4914W	To Proprietary Fund - Water		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund		\$200,000	\$200,000				
4916	To Expendable Trust Funds		\$90,000	\$90,000				
4918	To Non-Expendable Trust Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4919	To Fiduciary Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Operating Transfers Out Subtotal		\$863,624	\$999,231	\$719,831	\$0	\$719,831	\$0
	Total Operating Budget Appropriations		\$9,170,541	\$10,066,573	\$9,718,146	\$0	\$9,718,146	\$0



Special Warrant Articles

Account	Purpose	Article	Selectmen's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2019 (Recommended)	Selectmen's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2019 (Not Recommended)	Budget Committee's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2019 (Recommended)	Budget Committee's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2019 (Not Recommended)
4902	Machinery, Vehicles, and Equipment	8	\$492,000	\$0	\$492,000	\$0
4903	Buildings	07	\$700,000	\$0	\$700,000	\$0
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund	11	\$100,000	\$0	\$100,000	\$0
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund	12	\$100,000	\$0	\$100,000	\$0
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund	16	\$11,714	\$0	\$11,714	\$0
4916	To Expendable Trusts/Fiduciary Funds	13	\$50,000	\$0	\$50,000	\$0
4916	To Expendable Trusts/Fiduciary Funds	14	\$35,000	\$0	\$35,000	\$0
4916	To Expendable Trusts/Fiduciary Funds	17	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000	\$0
4916	To Expendable Trusts/Fiduciary Funds	18	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	\$0
Total Proposed Special Articles			\$1,503,714	\$3,500,000	\$1,503,714	\$3,500,000



2019
MS-737

Individual Warrant Articles

Account	Purpose	Article	Selectmen's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2019 (Recommended)	Selectmen's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2019 (Not Recommended)	Budget Committee's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2019 (Recommended)	Budget Committee's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2019 (Not Recommended)
4312	Highways and Streets	24	\$4,000	\$0	\$4,000	\$0
			<i>Purpose: vote to raise and appropriate the sum of up to fou</i>			
4312	Highways and Streets	10	\$200,000	\$0	\$200,000	\$0
			<i>Purpose: To raise and appropriate the sum of two hundred th</i>			
Total Proposed Individual Articles			\$204,000	\$0	\$204,000	\$0



New Hampshire
Department of
Revenue Administration

2019
MS-737

Revenues

Account	Source	Article	Actual Revenues for period ending 12/31/2018	Selectmen's Estimated Revenues for period ending 12/31/2019	Budget Committee's Estimated Revenues for period ending 12/31/2019
Taxes					
3120	Land Use Change Tax - General Fund		\$40,000	\$0	\$0
3180	Resident Tax		\$0	\$0	\$0
3185	Yield Tax		\$0	\$0	\$0
3186	Payment in Lieu of Taxes	09	\$52,454	\$25,000	\$25,000
3187	Excavation Tax		\$0	\$0	\$0
3189	Other Taxes		\$0	\$0	\$0
3190	Interest and Penalties on Delinquent Taxes	09	\$56,968	\$51,000	\$51,000
9991	Inventory Penalties		\$0	\$0	\$0
	Taxes Subtotal		\$149,422	\$76,000	\$76,000
Licenses, Permits, and Fees					
3210	Business Licenses and Permits	09	\$975	\$500	\$500
3220	Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	09	\$1,619,072	\$1,534,100	\$1,534,100
3230	Building Permits	09	\$205,817	\$175,000	\$175,000
3290	Other Licenses, Permits, and Fees	09	\$45,807	\$44,225	\$44,225
3311-3319	From Federal Government		\$6,464	\$0	\$0
	Licenses, Permits, and Fees Subtotal		\$1,878,135	\$1,753,825	\$1,753,825
State Sources					
3351	Shared Revenues		\$0	\$0	\$0
3352	Meals and Rooms Tax Distribution	09	\$279,464	\$280,000	\$280,000
3353	Highway Block Grant	09	\$138,512	\$138,000	\$138,000
3354	Water Pollution Grant		\$5,000	\$0	\$0
3355	Housing and Community Development		\$0	\$0	\$0
3356	State and Federal Forest Land Reimbursement		\$0	\$0	\$0
3357	Flood Control Reimbursement		\$0	\$0	\$0
3359	Other (Including Railroad Tax)		\$23,795	\$0	\$0
3379	From Other Governments		\$0	\$0	\$0
	State Sources Subtotal		\$446,771	\$418,000	\$418,000
Charges for Services					
3401-3406	Income from Departments	09	\$298,050	\$233,250	\$233,250
3409	Other Charges		\$0	\$0	\$0



New Hampshire
Department of
Revenue Administration

2019
MS-737

		Revenues	
		Charges for Services Subtotal	\$299,080
			\$233,250
			\$233,250
Miscellaneous Revenues			
3501	Sale of Municipal Property	\$0	\$0
3502	Interest on Investments	\$52,017	\$40,000
3503-3509	Other	\$66,936	\$11,750
			\$51,750
		Miscellaneous Revenues Subtotal	\$118,953
Interfund Operating Transfers In			
3912	From Special Revenue Funds	\$0	\$123,000
3913	From Capital Projects Funds	\$0	\$0
3914A	From Enterprise Funds; Airport (Offset)	\$0	\$0
3914E	From Enterprise Funds; Electric (Offset)	\$0	\$0
3914O	From Enterprise Funds; Other (Offset)	\$389,527	\$383,088
3914S	From Enterprise Funds; Sewer (Offset)	\$276,367	\$275,000
3914W	From Enterprise Funds; Water (Offset)	\$0	\$0
3915	From Capital Reserve Funds	\$0	\$504,000
3916	From Trust and Fiduciary Funds	\$0	\$0
3917	From Conservation Funds	\$0	\$0
		Interfund Operating Transfers In Subtotal	\$1,285,088
Other Financing Sources			
3934	Proceeds from Long Term Bonds and Notes	\$250,000	\$610,000
9998	Amount Voted from Fund Balance	\$0	\$11,714
9999	Fund Balance to Reduce Taxes	\$220,000	\$0
		Other Financing Sources Subtotal	\$621,714
		Total Estimated Revenues and Credits	\$4,439,627



Budget Summary

Item	Period ending 12/31/2018	Selectmen's Period ending 12/31/2019 (Recommended)	Budget Committee's Period ending 12/31/2019 (Recommended)
Operating Budget Appropriations	\$9,186,273	\$9,718,146	\$9,718,146
Special Warrant Articles	\$615,300	\$1,503,714	\$1,503,714
Individual Warrant Articles	\$265,000	\$204,000	\$204,000
Total Appropriations	\$10,066,573	\$11,425,860	\$11,425,860
Less Amount of Estimated Revenues & Credits	\$4,028,255	\$4,439,627	\$4,439,627
Estimated Amount of Taxes to be Raised	\$6,038,318	\$6,986,233	\$6,986,233



Supplemental Schedule

1. Total Recommended by Budget Committee	\$11,425,860
Less Exclusions:	
2. Principal: Long-Term Bonds & Notes	\$0
3. Interest: Long-Term Bonds & Notes	\$0
4. Capital outlays funded from Long-Term Bonds & Notes	\$0
5. Mandatory Assessments	\$0
6. Total Exclusions (Sum of Lines 2 through 5 above)	\$0
7. Amount Recommended, Less Exclusions (Line 1 less Line 6)	\$11,425,860
8. 10% of Amount Recommended, Less Exclusions (Line 7 x 10%)	\$1,142,586
Collective Bargaining Cost Items:	
9. Recommended Cost Items (Prior to Meeting)	\$0
10. Voted Cost Items (Voted at Meeting)	\$0
11. Amount voted over recommended amount (Difference of Lines 9 and 10)	\$0
12. Bond Override (RSA 32:18-a), Amount Voted	\$0
Maximum Allowable Appropriations Voted at Meeting:	
(Line 1 + Line 8 + Line 11 + Line 12)	\$12,568,446



PLODZIK & SANDERSON

Professional Association/Accountants & Auditors

193 North Main Street • Concord • New Hampshire • 03301-5063 • 603-225-6996 • FAX 603-224-1380

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of the Select Board
Town of Rye
Rye, New Hampshire

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Rye as of and for the year ended December 31, 2017, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Opinions

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Rye, as of December 31, 2017, and the respective changes in financial position and, the respective budgetary comparison for the general fund for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information – Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Management's Discussion and Analysis, Schedule of Funding Progress for Other Postemployment Benefit Plan, Schedule of Town's Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability, and Schedule of Town Contributions be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America,

*Town of Rye
Independent Auditor's Report*

which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Other Information – Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Town of Rye's basic financial statements. The combining and individual fund financial schedules are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The combining and individual fund schedules are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the combining and individual fund schedules are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

August 10, 2018

*Blodzik & Sanderson
Professional Association*

Town of Rye, NH
Management Discussion and Analysis
2017

As management of the Town of Rye, NH, we offer readers of the Town of Rye, NH financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Town of Rye, NH for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017.

Overview of Financial Statements

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the Town of Rye's basic financial statements. The Town of Rye's basic financial statements comprise four components: 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements, and 3) notes to the financial statements, and (4) required supplementary information. This report also contains other supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements themselves.

Government-wide financial statements. The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the Town of Rye's finances, in a manner similar to a private-sector business.

The *statement of net position* presents information on all of the Town of Rye's assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities and deferred inflows of resources, with the difference between reported as *net position*. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the Town of Rye, NH is improving or deteriorating.

The *statement of activities* presents information showing how the Town of Rye, NH's net position changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, *regardless of the timing of related cash flows*. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods (e.g., uncollected taxes and earned but unused vacation leave).

The government-wide financial statements of the Town of Rye, NH include general government, public safety, roadways, cemetery, library, trust and capital reserve funds, grants, conservation, sanitation, culture and recreation.

Fund financial statements- A *fund* is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. For example, Sewer department activity, which is paid from sewer user fees, is reported separately from Cemetery activity, which is paid from perpetual care trust funds. The Town of Rye, NH, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. All of the funds of the Town of Rye, NH can be divided into two categories: governmental or fiduciary funds.

Governmental Funds. *Governmental funds* are used to report on the general operations of the town. They are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as *governmental activities* in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-

wide financial statements. Fund financial statements focus only on *near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources this year*, as well as on balances of *spendable resources* available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating a government's current financing requirements.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for *governmental funds* with similar information presented for *governmental activities* in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the government's near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between *governmental funds and governmental activities*.

The governmental funds can be found on pages 12-15 of this report.

The Town of Rye, NH adopts an annual appropriated budget for its general fund as well as several non-major funds. A budgetary comparison statement has been provided for the major general fund to demonstrate compliance with this budget, which can be found on page 10 of this report.

Fiduciary Funds. *Fiduciary funds* are used to account for resources held for the benefit of parties outside the government, such as developer's performance bonds, capital reserve and expendable trust funds belonging to other governments, and trust funds for which the income is used for purposes that are not normally funded by the Town. Fiduciary funds are *not* reflected in the government-wide financial statement because these funds are not available to support the Town of Rye's own programs. The accounting used for the fiduciary funds is much like that used for businesses.

The fiduciary funds can be found on pages 17-18 of this report.

Notes to the financial statements. The notes provide additional information that is necessary to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements. The notes to the financial statements can be found on pages 19-38.

Required Supplementary Information – In addition to this Management's Discussion and Analysis the basic financial statements and accompanying notes are followed by a section of required supplementary information. This section includes Funding Progress for Other Postemployment Benefit Plans and information about the New Hampshire Retirement System as required under GASB 68.

Other information. In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, and required supplementary information this report also presents certain supplementary information concerning the combining and individual schedules, which can be found on pages 43-48 of this report.

Government-wide Financial Analysis

As noted earlier, net position may, over time serve as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. In the case of the Town of Rye, NH, assets and deferred outflows of resources exceeded liabilities and deferred inflows of resources by \$36,233,753 at the close of the most recent fiscal year.

By far the largest portion of the Town of Rye's net position \$36,233,753 reflects its net investment in capital assets (e.g., land, buildings, vehicles, etc.) in the amount of \$33,317,297. The Town of Rye, NH uses these capital assets to provide services to citizens; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending. Although the Town of Rye's net investment in its capital assets is reported net of related debt, it should be noted that the resources needed to repay this debt must be provided from other sources, since the capital assets themselves cannot be used to liquidate these liabilities.

Town of Rye, New Hampshire

Governmental Activities Statement of Net Position

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	Change
Assets and deferred outflow of resources:			
Current & other assets	15,885,916	18,374,191	2,488,275
Capital assets	35,116,121	34,829,392	(286,729)
Total Assets	<u>51,002,037</u>	<u>53,203,583</u>	2,201,546
Deferred Outflows of Resources	1,666,057	981,881	(684,176)
Total assets and deferred outflows of resources	<u>52,668,094</u>	<u>54,185,464</u>	1,517,370
Liabilities and deferred inflows of resources:			
Current liabilities	6,038,622	7,061,103	1,022,481
Noncurrent liabilities	9,840,851	8,925,619	(915,232)
Total Liabilities	<u>15,879,473</u>	<u>15,986,722</u>	107,249
Deferred inflows of resources	368,047	1,964,989	1,596,942
Total liabilities and deferred inflows of resources	<u>16,247,520</u>	<u>17,951,711</u>	1,704,191
Net Position:			
Net investment in capital assets	33,131,241	33,317,297	186,056
Restricted	4,203,559	4,478,354	274,795
Unrestricted	(914,226)	(1,539,049)	(624,823)
Total net position	<u>36,420,574</u>	<u>36,233,753</u>	(186,821)

At the end of the current fiscal year, the Town of Rye, NH is able to report positive balances in net position, for the government as a whole. The same situation held true for the prior fiscal year position.

Town of Rye, NH Changes in Fund Balances

Governmental Activities

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>DIFFERENCE</u>
Revenues:			
Program revenues:			
Charges for services	1,053,937	921,534	(132,403)
Operating grants and contributions	429,102	239,380	(189,722)
General revenues:			
Taxes	5,502,734	5,966,562	463,828
Licenses and permits	1,772,444	1,799,673	27,229
Unrestricted grants	301,885	301,315	(570)
Unrestricted Investment Income	174,638	179,513	4,875
Miscellaneous	447,343	451,791	4,448
Total revenues	9,682,083	9,859,768	177,685
Expenses:			
General Government	1,834,491	1,859,418	24,927
Public Safety	3,185,191	3,799,613	614,422
Highways and Streets	2,063,777	2,098,140	34,363
Sanitation	635,540	664,869	29,329
Health	80,129	94,842	14,713
Welfare	27,539	26,188	(1,351)
Culture & Recreation	1,315,447	1,264,025	(51,422)
Conservation	35,353	(225,693)	(261,046)
Interest on long-term debt	61,333	45,187	(16,146)
Capital Outlay	197,644		(197,644)
Total expenses	9,436,444	9,626,589	190,145
Change in net position	245,639	233,179	(12,460)
Beginning net position	36,174,935	*36,000,574	(174,361)
Ending net position	*36,420,574	36,233,753	(186,821)

*Prior Period Adjustment: NH DES modifications in landfill liability post closure care regulations

General fund budgetary highlights

General Fund revenues received during 2017 increased by \$452,332 from 2016. The actual budgetary revenues were more than the budget for estimated revenues by \$477,743. This is largely due to Motor Vehicle registration fees, which were \$242,334 more than budgeted. Building Permits were \$14,848 over the amount projected. General income from department services was \$46,214 over projected.

There were no catastrophic events during 2017 that had a significant impact on total expenditures. However Fire, Police, Public Works and Transfer Station operations were affected by the following services and conditions:

- Public Works department responded to an average number of weather events during the 2017 season. The department recorded a total of 20 weather events: 17 were snow events and 3 were ice only. The snow events averaged approximately 4 inches of accumulation per event. The total snowfall accumulation was above average at 86 inches for the year, 40% over the average 60 inches normally experienced. During this time, 1,700 tons of salt at a cost of \$96,000, was deployed on the roadways to maintain safe road conditions.
- The Transfer/Recycling Station processed 1,116 tons of household rubbish, 36.0 tons of kitchen waste, 219 tons of wood, 413 tons of Demo/Debris, 206 tons of mixed paper, 48 tons of cardboard, 60 tons of newsprint, 113 tons of scrap metal, 194 tons of glass, 12 tons of aluminum cans, 25 tons of plastic containers, 9 tons of miscellaneous electronics, 275 gallons of waste oil, and 165 tires. This recycling process represents a cost avoidance of approximately \$37,800 in tipping fees and a recycling rate of approximately 35%. In addition, the facility realized \$88,818 in revenue from transfer station receipts and sales of recyclables, an increase of thirty percent (30%) over last year.
- Police department experienced another busy year, contributing to an extremely labor intensive season.

The 2017 Police Department activities include:

- 9,034 Calls for Service
- 1,630 Motor Vehicle Stops
- 463 Animal Control Events
- 329 Arrests
- 300 Alarm Activations
- 372 Medical Aid Calls
- 50 Thefts
- 29 Juvenile Dealings
- 135 Accidents investigations

The department realized revenue as follows:

* Parking Fines	\$ 50,570
* Court Fines	14,618
* Outside Details	105,872

- The six month selection process culminated on September 11, 2017 when Mark Cotreau was sworn in as Rye's Fire Chief. Chief Cotreau is the retiring Chief of Concord, MA Fire Department where he was employed for the past 34 years. He brings a wealth of experience to the town in the disciplines of firefighting, fire prevention and emergency management.

The department took delivery of the new 2017 ambulance in June.

Portsmouth Regional Hospital recognized Rye Fire Rescue as the 2017 Emergency Medicine EMS Agency of the year.

The Fire Department activities of 905 calls for emergency assistance included:

- 530 Medical Aid Calls
- 17 Structure Fires
- 2 Vehicle Fires
- 3 Brush Fires
- 11 Other Fires
- 61 Mutual Aid Calls

In addition the department conducted 101 Fire Prevention Inspections.

The Town realized a savings of \$639,563 in actual expenditures over the 2017 budgeted appropriation.

The total Town's property assessed valuation increased by \$249,921,300. This increase in valuation is due to the town wide assessment update done in 2017. The total property tax commitment increased by \$1,392,737 from the prior year. At the 2017 Tax Rate setting the Board of Selectmen chose to use \$955,000 of the Town's beginning general fund balance to bring the tax rate to \$10.11.

The Town's share of the Net Pension Liability as of 12/31/17 is \$6,716,823. This figure was obtained from the New Hampshire Retirement System audited schedules of 6/30/16. The Town paid NHRS \$273,116 from 07/01/2016 through 12/31/2016 in Deferred Outflow. The Town's change in percentage of overall NHRS liability is calculated each year by NHRS actuaries. The Town's percentage of overall liability can change each year based on the number of eligible employees relative to all members of NHRS. This represents a Deferred Inflow in the amount of \$431,802.

Capital Asset and Debt Administration

Capital Assets - The Town of Rye's investment in capital assets includes land and improvements, buildings, rolling stock, sewer mains, equipment, and roadways with a value in excess of \$15,000 and a useful life of over 5 years.

Assets are depreciated on a straight-line basis, with the original cost divided evenly by the useful life of the asset.

Major capital asset events during the current fiscal year included the following:

- Acquisitions:
 - 2017 Ford Explorer
 - 2017 Ford F550 Life Line Ambulance
 - 2018 International 7400 C&C
 - Red Mill Lane Box Culvert One
- Disposals:
 - 2006 Ford Crown Victoria
 - 2009 Ford Crown Victoria
 - 2003 International 7400 Truck
 - 2006 Ford F250 Pick up

EXHIBIT C-1
TOWN OF RYE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Governmental Funds
Balance Sheet
December 31, 2017

	General	Permanent	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
ASSETS				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 9,744,386	\$ 93,141	\$ 1,946,963	\$ 11,784,490
Investments	1,274,052	4,034,651	50,112	5,358,815
Accounts receivable (net)	68,828	-	92,812	161,640
Taxes receivable	1,049,166	-	-	1,049,166
Intergovernmental receivable	24,095	-	-	24,095
Interfund receivable	96,769	-	25,225	121,994
Voluntary tax liens	225,398	-	-	225,398
Voluntary tax liens reserved until collected	(225,398)	-	-	(225,398)
Inventory	3,058	-	-	3,058
Prepaid items	11,407	-	2,755	14,162
Total assets	\$ 12,271,761	\$ 4,127,792	\$ 2,117,867	\$ 18,517,420
LIABILITIES				
Accounts payable	\$ 299,420	\$ -	\$ 12,424	\$ 311,844
Accrued salaries and benefits	71,565	-	1,250	72,815
Intergovernmental payable	6,193,834	-	-	6,193,834
Interfund payable	25,225	73,705	23,064	121,994
Unearned revenue	-	-	62,310	62,310
Total liabilities	6,590,044	73,705	99,048	6,762,797
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES				
Unavailable revenue - Property taxes	138,539	-	-	138,539
Unavailable revenue - Prepayment of property taxes	1,533,187	-	-	1,533,187
Total deferred inflows of resources	1,671,746	-	-	1,671,746
FUND BALANCES				
Nonspendable	14,465	4,046,846	2,755	4,064,066
Restricted	495,612	7,241	12,922	515,775
Committed	1,003,889	-	2,020,622	3,024,511
Assigned	333,310	-	-	333,310
Unassigned	2,162,695	-	(17,480)	2,145,215
Total fund balances	4,009,971	4,054,087	2,018,819	10,082,877
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and fund balances	\$ 12,271,761	\$ 4,127,792	\$ 2,117,867	\$ 18,517,420

The notes to the basic financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

EXHIBIT C-2
TOWN OF RYE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Reconciliation of the Balance Sheet of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Net Position
December 31, 2017

Total fund balances of governmental funds (Exhibit C-1)		\$ 10,082,877
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Net Position are different because:		
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources, therefore, are not reported in the funds.		
Cost	\$ 60,165,405	
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>(25,336,013)</u>	34,829,392
Certain items are not current financial resources in the governmental funds, but instead are reported in the Statement of Net Position.		
Deferred outflows of resources related to pensions	\$ 981,881	
Deferred inflows of resources related to pensions	<u>(431,802)</u>	550,079
Interfund receivables and payables between governmental funds are eliminated on the Statement of Net Position.		
Receivables	\$ (121,994)	
Payables	<u>121,994</u>	-
Property tax revenues that are reported on the accrual basis of accounting and are not deferred until collection on the Statement of Net Position.		
		138,559
Recognize the allowance for doubtful property tax receivables under the accrual basis of accounting.		
		(21,235)
Interest on long-term debt is not accrued in governmental funds.		
Accrued interest payable		(21,591)
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period, therefore, are not reported in the funds.		
Bonds	\$ 1,360,000	
Unamortized bond premium	152,095	
Compensated absences	536,363	
Other postemployment benefits	109,047	
Accrued landfill postclosure care costs	450,000	
Net pension liability	<u>6,716,823</u>	(9,324,328)
Net position of governmental activities (Exhibit A)		<u>\$ 36,233,753</u>

The notes to the basic financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

*EXHIBIT C-3
TOWN OF RYE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Governmental Funds
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances
For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2017*

	General	Permanent	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES				
Taxes	\$ 5,953,510	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,953,510
Licenses and permits	1,799,673	-	-	1,799,673
Intergovernmental	440,610	-	64,961	505,571
Charges for services	290,459	-	631,075	921,534
Miscellaneous	209,750	381,227	75,451	666,428
Total revenues	<u>8,694,002</u>	<u>381,227</u>	<u>771,487</u>	<u>9,846,716</u>
EXPENDITURES				
Current:				
General government	1,548,575	166,283	-	1,714,858
Public safety	2,992,967	-	109,832	3,102,799
Highways and streets	1,259,726	-	-	1,259,726
Sanitation	423,844	-	199,076	622,920
Health	94,842	-	-	94,842
Welfare	26,188	-	-	26,188
Culture and recreation	1,014,287	-	192,180	1,206,467
Conservation	20,832	-	-	20,832
Debt service:				
Principal	443,290	-	-	443,290
Interest	80,001	-	-	80,001
Capital outlay	577,064	-	384,780	961,844
Total expenditures	<u>8,481,616</u>	<u>166,283</u>	<u>885,868</u>	<u>9,533,767</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	<u>212,386</u>	<u>214,944</u>	<u>(114,381)</u>	<u>312,949</u>
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Transfers in	-	21,000	30,000	51,000
Transfers out	(51,000)	-	-	(51,000)
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>(51,000)</u>	<u>21,000</u>	<u>30,000</u>	<u>-</u>
Net change in fund balances	161,386	235,944	(84,381)	312,949
Fund balances, beginning	3,848,585	3,818,143	2,103,200	9,769,928
Fund balances, ending	<u>\$ 4,009,971</u>	<u>\$ 4,054,087</u>	<u>\$ 2,018,819</u>	<u>\$ 10,082,877</u>

The notes to the basic financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

SCHEDULE 1
TOWN OF RYE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Major General Fund
Schedule of Estimated and Actual Revenues (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis)
For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2017

	Estimated	Actual	Variance Positive (Negative)
Taxes:			
Property	\$ 5,826,776	\$ 5,899,815	\$ 73,039
Yield	1,600	1,596	(4)
Payment in lieu of taxes	18,573	-	(18,573)
Interest and penalties on taxes	64,000	65,151	1,151
Total from taxes	<u>5,910,949</u>	<u>5,966,562</u>	<u>55,613</u>
Licenses, permits, and fees:			
Business licenses, permits, and fees	1,000	840	(160)
Motor vehicle permit fees	1,300,000	1,542,334	242,334
Building permits	200,000	214,848	14,848
Other	40,000	41,651	1,651
Total from licenses, permits, and fees	<u>1,541,000</u>	<u>1,799,673</u>	<u>258,673</u>
Intergovernmental:			
State:			
Meals and rooms distribution	280,366	280,366	-
Highway block grant	136,072	136,070	(2)
Other	-	19,674	19,674
Federal:			
Other	4,250	4,500	250
Total from intergovernmental	<u>420,688</u>	<u>440,610</u>	<u>19,922</u>
Charges for services:			
Income from departments	244,245	290,459	46,214
Miscellaneous:			
Sale of municipal property	1,000	3,501	2,501
Interest on investments	9,000	11,038	2,038
Fines and forfeits	15,100	16,512	1,412
Insurance dividends and reimbursements	20,500	26,106	5,606
Other	7,050	92,814	85,764
Total from miscellaneous	<u>52,650</u>	<u>149,971</u>	<u>97,321</u>
Other financing sources:			
Transfers in	195,000	178,885	(16,115)
Total revenues and other financing sources	8,364,532	<u>\$ 8,826,160</u>	<u>\$ 461,628</u>
Unassigned fund balance used to reduce tax rate	955,000		
Total revenues, other financing sources, and use of fund balance	<u>\$ 9,319,532</u>		

SCHEDULE 2
TOWN OF RYE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Major General Fund
Schedule of Appropriations, Expenditures, and Encumbrances (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis)
For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2017

	Encumbered from Prior Year	Appropriations	Expenditures	Encumbered to Subsequent Year	Variance Positive (Negative)
Current:					
General government:					
Executive	\$ -	\$ 230,642	\$ 233,917	\$ -	\$ (3,275)
Election and registration	-	19,225	16,686	-	2,539
Financial administration	-	584,829	566,912	-	17,917
Legal	9,600	100,000	123,180	-	(13,580)
Planning and zoning	-	159,336	157,891	-	1,445
General government buildings	4,324	135,368	124,187	8,770	6,735
Insurance, not otherwise allocated	-	194,663	166,608	-	28,055
Advertising and regional associations	-	54,871	54,871	-	-
Other	-	71,000	71,069	-	(69)
Total general government	13,924	1,549,934	1,515,321	8,770	39,767
Public safety:					
Police	-	1,427,276	1,343,782	-	83,494
Ambulance	-	129,095	107,693	-	21,402
Fire	2,204	1,403,651	1,342,158	16,740	46,957
Building inspection	-	231,024	188,674	-	42,350
Emergency management	-	7,500	10,660	-	(3,160)
Total public safety	2,204	3,198,546	2,992,967	16,740	191,043
Highways and streets:					
Highways and streets	24,162	1,379,226	1,235,515	15,305	152,568
Street lighting	-	5,500	4,735	-	765
Total highways and streets	24,162	1,384,726	1,240,250	15,305	153,333
Sanitation:					
Solid waste collection	4,660	235,914	246,600	26,280	(32,306)
Solid waste disposal	-	192,950	169,682	-	23,268
Total sanitation	4,660	428,864	416,282	26,280	(9,038)
Health:					
Administration	-	5,485	5,418	-	67
Pest control	-	100,614	89,424	-	11,190
Total health	-	106,099	94,842	-	11,257
Welfare:					
Administration	-	2,000	1,050	-	950
Direct assistance	-	500	-	-	500
Vendor payments	-	43,000	24,388	-	18,612
Other	-	500	750	-	(250)
Total welfare	-	46,000	26,188	-	19,812
Culture and recreation:					
Parks and recreation	-	357,810	327,606	7,603	22,601
Library	-	673,573	484,374	-	189,199
Patriotic purposes	-	10,700	10,268	-	432
Other	-	4,800	3,550	-	1,250
Total culture and recreation	-	1,046,883	825,798	7,603	213,482
Conservation	-	90,600	20,832	28,500	41,268

(Continued)

SCHEDULE 2 (Continued)
TOWN OF RYE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Major General Fund
Schedule of Appropriations, Expenditures, and Encumbrances (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis)
For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2017

	Encumbered from Prior Year	Appropriations	Expenditures	Encumbered to Subsequent Year	Variance Positive (Negative)
Debt service:					
Principal of long-term debt	-	443,290	443,290	-	-
Interest on long-term debt	-	80,005	80,001	-	4
Interest on tax anticipation notes	-	1,000	-	-	1,000
Total debt service	-	524,295	523,291	-	1,004
Capital outlay	148,246	582,500	577,064	80,112	73,570
Other financing uses:					
Transfers out	-	361,085	457,020	-	(95,935)
Total appropriations, expenditures, other financing uses, and encumbrances	<u>\$ 193,196</u>	<u>\$ 9,319,532</u>	<u>\$ 8,689,855</u>	<u>\$ 183,310</u>	<u>\$ 639,563</u>

SCHEDULE 3
TOWN OF RYE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Major General Fund
Schedule of Changes in Unassigned Fund Balance (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis)
For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2017

Unassigned fund balance, beginning		\$ 2,218,042
<i>Changes:</i>		
Unassigned fund balance used to reduce 2017 tax rate		(955,000)
<i>2017 Budget summary:</i>		
Revenue surplus (Schedule 1)	\$ 461,628	
Unexpended balance of appropriations (Schedule 2)	<u>639,563</u>	
2017 Budget surplus		1,101,191
Decrease in nonspendable fund balance		9,090
Decrease in restricted fund balance		6,696
Increase in assigned fund balance		<u>(100,000)</u>
Unassigned fund balance, ending		2,280,019
 <i>Reconciliation of Non-GAAP Basis to GAAP Basis</i>		
To comply with generally accepted accounting principles by deferring property taxes not collected with 60 days of December 31, 2017		(138,559)
Elimination of the allowance for doubtful accounts as part of the 60-day calculation		<u>21,235</u>
Unassigned fund balance, ending GAAP basis (Exhibit C-1)		<u><u>\$ 2,162,695</u></u>

SCHEDULE 4
TOWN OF RYE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Nonmajor Governmental Funds
Combining Balance Sheet
December 31, 2017

	Special Revenue Funds										Total
	Sewer	Grants	Police Outside Detail	Beach Parking Permits	Heritage Commission	Recreation Revolving	Bleach Cleaning	Ambulance	Parsonage	Conservation Commission	
ASSETS											
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 995,475	\$ 62,310	\$ 47,929	\$ 51,288	\$ 12,922	\$ 389,960	\$ -	\$ 167,921	\$ -	\$ 219,158	\$ 1,946,963
Investments	50,112	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50,112
Accounts receivable (net)	87,196	-	1,112	-	-	4,504	-	-	-	-	92,812
Interfund receivable	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25,225	25,225
Prepaid items	693	-	-	1,067	-	995	-	-	-	-	2,755
Total assets	\$ 1,133,476	\$ 62,310	\$ 49,041	\$ 52,355	\$ 12,922	\$ 395,459	\$ -	\$ 167,921	\$ 25,225	\$ 219,158	\$ 2,117,867
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES											
Liabilities:											
Accounts payable	\$ 11,273	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 183	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 968	\$ -	\$ 12,424
Accrued salaries and benefits	456	-	-	-	-	794	-	-	-	-	1,250
Interfund payable	5,584	-	-	-	-	-	17,480	-	-	-	23,064
Deferred revenue	-	62,310	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	62,310
Total liabilities	17,313	62,310	-	-	-	977	17,480	-	968	-	99,048
Fund balances (deficit):											
Nonspendable	693	-	-	1,067	-	995	-	-	-	-	2,755
Restricted	-	-	-	-	12,922	-	-	-	-	-	12,922
Committed (deficit)	1,115,470	-	49,041	51,288	-	393,487	-	167,921	24,257	219,158	2,030,622
Unassigned	-	-	-	-	-	-	(17,480)	-	-	-	(17,480)
Total fund balances (deficit)	1,116,163	-	49,041	52,355	12,922	394,482	(17,480)	167,921	24,257	219,158	2,018,819
Total liabilities and fund balances	\$ 1,133,476	\$ 62,310	\$ 49,041	\$ 52,355	\$ 12,922	\$ 395,459	\$ -	\$ 167,921	\$ 25,225	\$ 219,158	\$ 2,117,867

SCHEDULE 5
TOWN OF RYE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Nonmajor Governmental Funds
Combining Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances
For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2017

	Special Revenue Funds											Total
	Police		Beach		Heritage Commission	Recreation Revolving	Bleach Cleaning	Ambulance	Parsonage	Conservation Commission	Total	
	Outside Detail	Parking Permits	Outside Detail	Parking Permits								
Revenues:												
Intergovernmental	\$ -	\$ 64,961	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 64,961
Charges for services	290,712	-	106,276	30,703	750	174,913	27,721	-	-	-	-	631,075
Miscellaneous	1,322	-	-	-	6,043	1,471	-	52,512	11,772	2,131	-	75,151
Total revenues	292,234	64,961	106,276	30,703	6,793	176,384	27,721	52,512	11,772	2,131	-	771,487
Expenditures:												
Current:												
Public safety	-	8,000	76,121	23,711	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	109,832
Sanitation	199,076	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	199,076
Culture and recreation	-	-	-	-	9,505	157,136	25,539	-	-	-	-	192,180
Capital outlay	-	56,961	44,784	-	-	-	16,425	266,610	-	-	-	384,780
Total expenditures	199,076	64,961	120,905	23,711	9,505	157,136	41,964	266,610	-	-	-	885,868
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	93,158	-	(14,629)	4,992	(2,712)	19,248	(14,243)	(214,098)	11,772	2,131	-	(114,381)
Other financing sources:												
Transfers in	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30,000	-	30,000
Net change in fund balances	93,158	-	(14,629)	4,992	(2,712)	19,248	(14,243)	(214,098)	11,772	32,131	-	(84,381)
Fund balances (deficit), beginning	1,023,005	-	63,670	47,363	15,634	375,234	(3,237)	382,019	12,485	187,027	-	2,103,201
Fund balances (deficit), ending	\$ 1,116,163	\$ -	\$ 49,041	\$ 52,355	\$ 12,922	\$ 394,482	\$ (17,480)	\$ 167,921	\$ 24,257	\$ 219,158	\$ -	\$ 2,018,819



Edward T. Perry, CPA
 James A. Sojka, CPA*
 Sheryl A. Pratt, CPA**
 Michael J. Campo, CPA, MACCY

February 12, 2019

Dawn M. LaLair, CPA**
 Ashley F. Miller, CPA, MSA
 Tyler A. Paine, CPA***
 Kyle G. Gingras, CPA
 Ryan T. Coburns, CPA
 Derek M. Barton, CPA
 Scott T. Eagen, CFE

Members of the Board of Selectmen
 Town of Rye
 10 Central Road
 Rye, NH 03870

To the Members of the Board of Selectmen:

This is to advise you that as of February 12, 2019 the audit of the financial statements for the year ending December 31, 2018 has not started, however, we anticipate completing the Annual Audit in April 2019.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Campo, CPA
 Director

PLODZIK & SANDERSON, P.A.
Certified Public Accountants

93 North Main Street • Concord • New Hampshire • 03301-5063 • 603.225.0996 • www.plodzik.com

ASSESSOR'S REPORT

The firm of Municipal Resources continues to handle the assessing functions for the Town of Rye. The three primary members of the staff working in Town are, Scott Marsh, Ed Tinker and Paul Moreau. Additional staff members may be assisting. It is requested that if any of the appraisers come to your property, you support the Town's efforts to keep assessments equitable and proper by answering their questions and allowing them to inspect and verify the data of your property.

Municipal Resources personnel are available to meet with taxpayers and if an appointment is desired, Joanne Drewniak in the Assessing Office can schedule one for you. She is a great resource should any information be desired.

Over the past year, 470 properties were viewed as a result of building permits, site changes, owner requests or incomplete construction at the time of the last visit. In addition, 26 abatements were processed. The net taxable assessment change as a result of all reviews for the 2018 tax year was roughly \$9,200,000,000. Currently there are around 450 properties to be reviewed due to new building permits being issued or incomplete construction at prior inspection. In addition, MRI staff will be reviewing additional properties as part of a continuing cyclical review process to verify the physical information contained on the current assessing property record cards.

The Department of Revenue Administration's review of sales information is in process and the Town's assessment ratio for the 2018 tax year is expected to be around 88%.

Individual property information, exemptions and veteran tax credit information may be obtained by visiting the assessing office or on-line by following the link on the Town's website www.town.rve.nh.us

Respectfully submitted,

Scott P. Marsh, CNHA
Municipal Resources
Contracted Assessor's Agents

A glimpse into our past: *Rye on the Rocks*, William M. Varrell, Jr., 1962

"The fact that swimming had become quite popular by the 1860s is evident by the size of the beach houses shown in the background of a lithograph made of the Ocean House at that time. Certainly, after a very few years all the hotels and many of the boarding houses had private buildings at the shore in which their guests might change into their beach clothes. It should be remembered that at this time the only exposed skin shown by either sex was the hands and face. It took the beaches to expose the forearm. However, a reliable source relates that a Canadian staying with Mr. John H. Foss at the Pleasant View, broke tradition by dressing in his bathing attire in his room and walking thus clad to the beach only to completely disrobe when he arrived at that part of Foss's Beach which he thought to be deserted. Since many of the hotels at the extreme south of Rye were not located on a sandy beach, a number of them had their beach houses in one general area where the Beach Club is now located. These hotels did not own the land on which their beach houses were located and maintained only squatters privileges."

BEACH COMMITTEE'S REPORT

The Rye Beach Committee consists of Larry Rocha, Lori Carbajal, Keper Connell, Steve Hillman and Brad Fulkerson. During the summer the Committee had four meetings where they discussed various issues and exchanged ideas based on their observations and conversations with residents and other beach goers. Chief Walsh, Chief Cotreau and Selectman Keri Roman attended many of those meetings.

Below is a list of the Committee's thoughts and recommendations:

As the number of visitors to the beaches in Rye increases the issue of parking is a major concern with many of the residents of Rye. The parking issue must be addressed and not put off. The town of Rye must take some serious steps to deter people from parking illegally. The committee received numerous e-mails and many residents expressed their frustration of cars parking "everywhere". **The Committee recommends:**

- **Increasing the parking fines** to \$75 and \$200 for illegally parking in permit parking only.
- **Hire a towing company to tow cars that are parking illegally.** The Town of Rye should use signage saying, "NO PARKING, CARS WILL BE TOWED AT OWNERS EXPENSE". Those signs are very effective.
- There needs to be **NO LOADING/NO UNLOADING** signage at places like Sawyers Beach. The Rye Beach Committee recommends this ordinance should be strictly enforced.
- The Rye Beach Committee discovered that the **HAMPTON BEACH GUIDE** lists Sawyer's Beach as being owned by the Town of Rye and that a special resident sticker is need to park along Rt 1A but "you can find beach access either along wooden planks laid atop the rocks in season, and a path next to the Rye Beach Club. This means that to have access to the beach people would need to park in the Resident Sticker only area and UNLOAD and LOAD. As mentioned above, this is not acceptable.
- **Perkins Road has become "ground zero" for parking issues** due to its proximity to Jenness Beach State The Rye Beach Committee discussed having NO PARKING on Perkins Road but in the end the committee is recommending that parking on Perkins Road be for Rye residents with a Beach Parking Permit and "boxing off" the driveways on Perkins Road. The Rye Beach Committee also recommends that **Old Beach Road and Cable be considered for Rye Residents with a Beach Parking Permit.**
- After four years of documenting car count, the data has been consistent: New Hampshire plates 40%, Quebec plates 35% and Massachusetts plates 20%.
- **The Rye Beach Committee recommends** the Town of Rye and the Board of Selectmen make a formal request for the support of the State for **eliminating RV parking** at the parking lot at Jenness Beach and along Rt. 1A.
- **The Rye Beach Committee recommend not placing a Port-o-Potty at Sawyers Beach** for the following reasons: Environmental Risk, Parking to use facility and Aesthetically Unpleasant.
- Another major concern of the Rye Beach Committee was the planting of **DUNE GRASS** by private homeowners that encroaches on public space beyond their property line. The Committee would **recommend that the Town of Rye be diligent in monitoring any planting of dune grass on our beaches and remove any dune grass that encroaches on public space.**
- Lastly the Rye Beach Committee would like the following be part of their **CHARGE for 2019.** The Rye Beach Committee: have full input regarding all recreational beach permits; should be consulted in unison with the Conservation Committee in aspects and request on all Rye beaches; and be involved with the state RSA to explore and formulate a pay-to-park along Rt. 1A and eliminating oversized vehicles, RVs and campers from parking in the Jenness Beach parking lot and along Rt 1A.

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT'S REPORT

Do you want to add-on to your home? Tear it down and replace it with a new home? Or perhaps simply update your septic system or add a shed to store your bicycle or beach chairs? If your lot or proposed project does not conform to Rye's Zoning Ordinance, you'll be visiting Rye's Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA).

The ZBA hears and decides applications concerning four categories of relief – building code relief, variances, special exceptions and equitable waivers. Although somewhat different, each type generally involves a lot of land with or without a home or business and how it may be used, developed or improved in a manner that differs from the terms of Rye's Zoning Ordinance, Flood Ordinance or Building Code. The ZBA also is the appeals board for decisions of the Building Inspector, Planning Board and Board of Selectmen relating to zoning matters.

The ZBA is a quasi-judicial board of five volunteer members, each of whom is elected for a 3-year term. In 2018, its members were Patricia Weathersby, Shawn Crapo, Burt Dibble, Patrick Driscoll and Tim Durkin. The ZBA also had three alternate members: Charles Hoyt, Gregg Mikolaities, and Robert Patton.

At its meetings, the ZBA listens to all evidence presented. Prior to the meeting, ZBA members visit the subject property and review submitted documents such as the application and letters from neighbors. Abutters and others with standing can share their thoughts both for and against a proposal. After considering all information and reviewing applicable law, the ZBA then either approves, denies, or continues an application. Conditions are often attached to approvals. ZBA decisions may be appealed, first by requesting a rehearing before the ZBA and then to NH Superior Court.

The ZBA receives much appreciated input from the Conservation Commission and the Building Inspector for matters within their jurisdiction.

The ZBA continues to receive a very large number of requests. Over 200 requests for relief contained in 64 applications were filed in 2018. A full list and all files are available at the Planning and Zoning Office. Approximately 90% of the applications requested variances and/or relief from the Building Code. Most requests were granted, usually with conditions, although a fair number were also denied. Four decisions were asked to be reconsidered by the board. Appeals of at least three matters were in the Superior Court in 2018.

Many of the requests for zoning relief before the ZBA stem primarily from our wonderful proximity to the ocean and marshes and from the manner in which our coastal areas were first developed. Many small coastal area lots are unable to support a home with modern amenities and/or updated septic systems without zoning relief. Setbacks, lot coverage and proximity to wetland buffers are frequent issues. The ZBA is also seeing more applications requesting height relief as rising water levels and revised Town of Rye Floodplain Ordinance regulations pertaining to FEMA require living space and building systems to be raised in certain areas, especially near the coast, where lower building heights are required. Complex requests concerning the proposed cellular telephone tower on Brackett Road also required much of the Board's attention.

Anyone interested in the ZBA is invited to attend our meetings on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM. Agendas and minutes are available on the Town of Rye website and are posted at various locations. Meetings are also streamed live through the Town's website. Two positions for alternate members are also open. We welcome your involvement in whatever form.

Respectfully submitted, Patricia Weathersby, Chairman

BUDGET COMMITTEE'S REPORT

The budgeting processes for both the 2019 Rye Town Budget and the 2019-2020 Rye School District are complete. The Rye Precincts Budget Public Hearing and the Rye Town and School Budgets Deliberative Sessions remain to be held. The Rye Board of Selectmen, the Rye School Board, the SAU 50 Administrative Team, Rye Town Departments, Committee Chairs, Commission Chairs, and the Rye Budget Committee participated in the budget presented to Rye residents.

The Town Operating Budget for 2019 is \$9,718,146; that figure represents a 5.79% increase over last year's budget of \$9,186,273. The 2019 general fund reflects an increase of 6.59% due to a significant increase in health insurance costs. Please recall that in 2018 we benefitted from the reverse; a decrease in the cost of health insurance resulted in a budget decrease. Additional 2019 budget increases include the issuance of a conservation bond and a bond for the Red Mill Lane culvert.

The Warrant Articles on the ballot total \$1,700,000 compared to last year's warrant articles totaling \$2,405,100. These figures do not include petition articles. The \$1,700,000 includes a lease for a pumper/ladder for \$500,000*, \$700,000 for a salt shed, paving Shoals View Drive for \$200,000 and \$300,000 in various warrants for reserve funds used for buying equipment, trust funds and building maintenance funds that are seen annually on our ballot.

The School Operating Budget for the 2019-2020 school year is \$14,121,362 an increase of 0.8% over the previous school year. There will be one warrant on this year's ballot for the RESPA contract for \$65,218.

We continued to use the Town and School Budget standard practices for this budgeting cycle of holding the budget increases to a minimum while ensuring that key services and programs are properly funded. The Budget Committee is grateful that all Departments came to the Budget Meetings and Hearing prepared and well informed of the needs for their Departments for this budget cycle. We also express our appreciation to our retired Town Finance Director Cyndi Gillespie, our new Town Finance Director/Assistant Town Administrator Rebecca Bergeron and SAU 50 Business Manager, Amy Ransom, for their commitment in supporting us throughout the budgeting processes; as well as, Janice Ireland for keeping our meeting notices and our Committee on track with meeting dates and minute postings.

The current Budget Committee Members and Representatives are Peggy Balboni - Vice Chair, Peter Crawford - Clerk, Doug Abrams, Mae Bradshaw, Kevin Brandon, Phil Winslow - Selectmen's Representative, Frank Drake, with Shawn Crapo, alternating as Rye Beach Village District Representatives, Randy Crapo - Jenness Beach District Representative, Scott Marion - Rye School Board Representative, and Ralph Hickson - Rye Water District Representative.

*The pumper ladder warrant article raises and appropriates \$992,000 for the pumper/ladder, however, we have \$492,000 in a down payment and will be leasing the pumper ladder for \$500,000. The \$492,000 comes from the Ambulance and Fire Vehicle Special Revenue Fund (\$123,000) and the Fire and Ambulance Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund (369,000).

Respectfully submitted,

Jaci Grote - Chairman, Rye Budget Committee

BUILDING INSPECTOR'S REPORT

The Building Department currently consists of one full-time Building Inspector, one part time inspector, and a part-time Building and Planning Assistant. The office is staffed every day between 8:00 AM and 1:00 PM by the assistant. The office will be staffed by one of the building inspectors for permitting and drop in meetings with contractors and citizens most every day.

Residential construction remains strong but we did see a slowing in commercial construction, there were no major commercial projects in 2018. We again were kept busy with replacement buildings and major remodelling. During the course of a major residential project the department will perform around 6 to 8 inspections and even a small job will require us to visit the site 3 or 4 times.

The Pump-Out and Inspection Regulation dealing with septic systems in the Parsons Creek Watershed kept us busy. This area has tested persistently high for bacteria and has been identified as an impaired watershed by NH DES. This year will wrap up the first 3 year cycle to get all systems inspected. We will now review the results to identify any systems that have not been inspected and any that may need attention. The ordinance requires that septic systems in the watershed be pumped every three years.

The Building Department, primarily deals with the enforcement of the *State Building Code*. We are also charged with the enforcement of the town's Zoning ordinances and assist in the enforcement of Planning Board decisions. The 2014 FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) have yet to be adopted. All rebuilds in the high hazard areas should be elevated to prevent damage during the 1% flood event.

If you are contemplating changes, please call the Building Department to see if you are required to get a permit before work starts. If you have any questions about the State Building Code, local ordinances, permit requirements or any other items that may fall under the administration of the Building Department please contact the office at 964-9800.

CATEGORY	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
CONSTRUCTION VALUE	21,667,671.94	22,998,718.13	26,648,066.57	\$28,635,471.86	\$28,625,564.43
BUILDING PERMIT FEES	215,659.75	225,058.93	274,579.20	\$285,298.83	\$290,646.70
NEW HOMES INCLUDES REBUILDS	12	13	27	36	22
ADDITIONS PERMITTED	22	N/A	N/A	N/A	34
DEMOLITION PERMITS	18	17	25	25	20
EXTERIOR IMPROVEMENTS	77	N/A	N/A	N/A	374
INTERIOR IMPROVEMENTS	216	N/A	N/A	N/A	306
NEW DWELLING UNITS #	6 HOMES	3 HOMES. 3 APTS	20 HOMES. NO APTS	23 Homes & 1 Apartment	19
TOTAL PERMITS ISSUED	976	884	951	994	780

Respectfully Submitted,
Peter E. Rowell, Building Inspector

CONSERVATION COMMISSION'S REPORT

The mission of the Rye Conservation Commission (RCC) is to protect and ensure the proper utilization of Rye's natural resources. The Commission is the Town of Rye's gatekeeper for environmental guardianship and acts as Advisor to other municipal boards concerning environmental issues. The Commission is a community resource for gathering and disseminating information regarding natural resources, as well as for promoting the protection and enhancement of the health of the natural resources found in Rye.

The 2014 passage of the second warrant article for Open Space bond funding continues to provide the opportunity for the RCC to identify and acquire properties for the town that are worthy of protection. Of Rye's abundant natural resources the protection of our water resources is increasingly vital. The necessity of proactively engaging in the urgent conservation of our water resources is made meaningful and critical by the evidence of contaminants found in area waterbodies, such as, Parson's Creek and Berry's Brook. Accordingly, the RCC is engaged in the pending purchase of 79+/- acres of land that is located in a defined wellhead protection area and is within the Bailey Brook Watershed. This area includes features that have been listed as priorities in the Rye Master Plan because they affect water quality. This undeveloped land, protected in perpetuity, will contribute to allowing healthy waterways to recharge aquifers. The RCC has correspondently been collaboratively working with the Rye Water District to locate potential new well sites on conservation properties to ensure the town's future water supply. This property will also be open for public recreation. With the acquisition of this 79 acres parcel the current Open Space bond, to date, will result in the addition of 216 acres added to our town's conservation land holdings.

The majority of the RCC's volunteer hours are dedicated to hearing building and remodeling applications that propose impacts to our wetlands and their buffers. The RCC visits these sites and makes recommendations to mitigate the potential negative consequences that can harm the integrity of these crucial and fragile wetland systems.

This year, the Rye Conservation Commission continued to expand the number of conservation properties with maintained, marked walking trails. The "Trailgate" concept was conceived this year as a way of introducing residents to these properties. In February Marden Woods was the location of the first Trailgate gathering. RCC member/host Jaci Grote offered a short property history followed by a walk of the newly signed trails. A robust turn out of hearty souls braved the winter weather and proved "if you build it they will come". Additional Trailgates were conducted at Seavey Acres in May, and Rand Woodlands in January. These events were met enthusiastically by the participants. Residents and their controlled pets are welcome on these properties. Dog waste bag dispensers have been installed to invite compliance with Rye's litter control ordinance that requires dog waste to be picked up and properly disposed of. Please keep in mind that pet waste is a contributor to water contamination. When enjoying these properties remember to be mindful of the wildlife that inhabit these woodlands and always respect the property rights and privacy of our neighbors who abut conservation lands. Please visit our website for information that lists properties, their locations and allowed uses at http://www.town.rye.nh.us/Pages/RyeNH_BComm/Conservation/index

Our new farmers, Julia Jones and Taylor Weiss signed on to lease the Goss Farm property with the departure of Leslie Stevens who had been our guest farmer for the last 5 years. Julia and Taylor launched Night Farm, a small organic market garden growing specialty vegetables for seacoast chefs and retailers. With the help of local farmer Roger Philbrick, they turned over a long abandoned field where they planted a variety of vegetables. Potatoes flourished in Goss Farm's well-drained soil and generated the bulk of their sales. Julia and Taylor donated over three hundred pounds of produce to food pantries in Merrimack and Rockingham counties through NH Gleans and plan to increase donations by two hundred pounds this year. The RCC, with Taylor's help, enjoyed hosting students from Rye elementary once again this spring. During their visit second grade

students planted new blueberry bushes and learned about bees from local bee keeper Joe Martial. A native pollinator interactive workshop was led by Taylor. Local businesses' the Carriage House and Rye Beach Market were flexible customers who found creative ways to incorporate a wide variety of fresh produce delivered after hours by farmers that also hold professional day jobs. Our new farmers look forward to a great 2019 season and welcome community members to stop by and say hi!

The Commission continues to manage town owned salt marshes in an effort to reduce invasive species. Phragmites management that began in 2011 has resulted in a significant reduction in this persistent invasive plant and has resulted in the improvement of the health and productivity of our salt marshes. The marshes that have benefitted through this program include Fairhill, Marsh Road, Wallis Road Marsh and Awcomin Salt Marsh. The Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) assisted with cost-share dollars in the past, and now it is up to the Commission to continue supporting these conservation practices into the future.

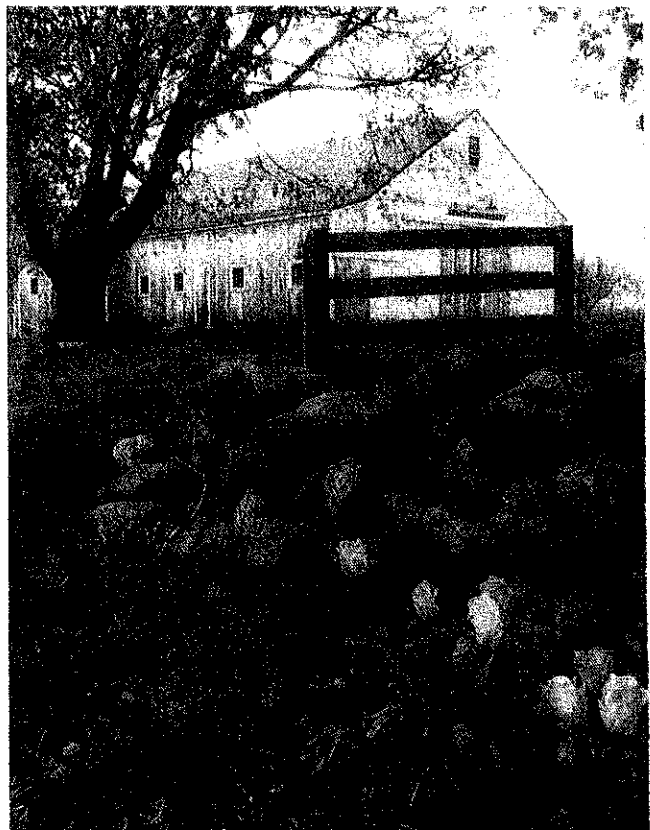
In April 2018 the Rye Select Board appointed a Dogs at Large Committee to study dog issues in Rye. The RCC worked extensively with this committee, Rye Police and the Animal Control Officer to address abutter issues in the Town Forest. At present several areas in the Town Forest require that dogs be leashed. Please comply by leashing in these areas. The leash zones are temporary and in their current form will expire on April 1, 2019, and in their conception were meant to promote pet safety.

Early in January 2019 the RCC received a draft of the updated Forest Management Plan for the Rye Town Forest from our forester Charles Moreno, LPF, Moreno Forestry Associates. Members of the RCC are currently reviewing the draft plan and expect the Forest Management Plan to be finalized this spring.

The Conservation Commission, as always, appreciates the support of our townspeople who recognize that it is a priority and a responsibility to protect our natural resources and the environment that we call home.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally King, Chair
Suzanne McFarland, Vice Chair
Mike Garvan, Clerk
Members, Jeff Gardner, Jaci Grote,
Susan Shepcaro, and Heather Reed
Alternates, Jim Raynes, Lawton Struble

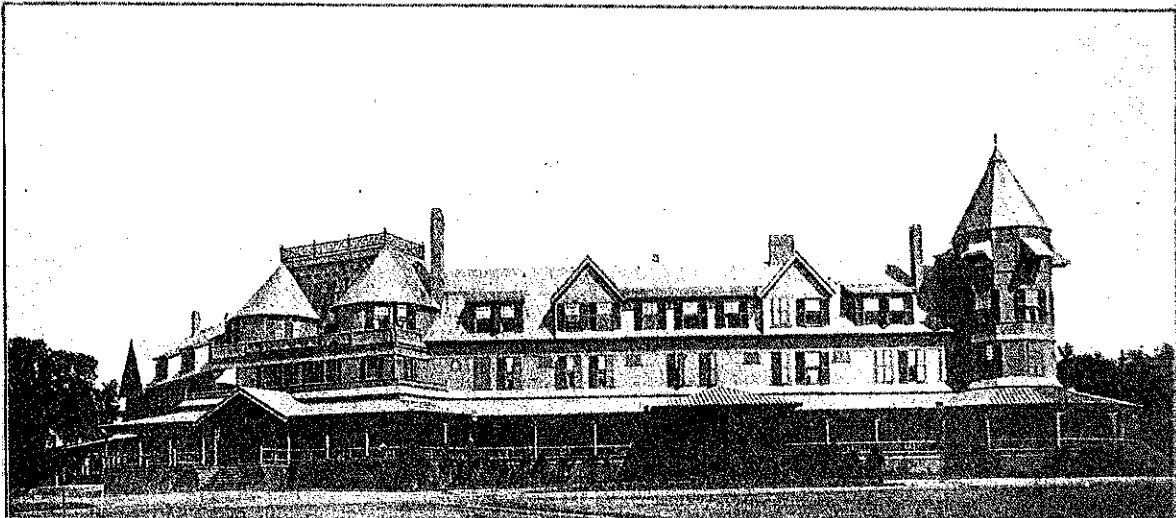


DEMOLITION REVIEW COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

The Demolition Review Committee had several potential demolition applications to consider in 2018. Most buildings or structures were deemed by the Committee to be of no historical significance. However, 361 Central Road is an historic farmhouse and barn with a connecting barn between the house and the main barn. Unfortunately, due to a reorganization of the Committee, a proper review was not able to be conducted and the owners were granted a permit to demolish the connecting barn.

The purpose of the Committee is to review potential demolition applications for buildings or structures that are at least 65 years old. If not successful in convincing the property owner to retain/or incorporate the historic features in to the new construction, the Committee can request the property owner to allow the Committee to document the significant features photographically prior to demolition.

David Choate
Chair



The second Farragut Hotel was lost to demolition in 1975

The first Farragut House was built by John C. Philbrick about 1864 and, during the summer of 1866, Admiral Farragut was a guest there. The building burned on April 18, 1882.

The second Farragut (above) was erected on the same site and opened to the public in 1883 according to Parsons History of Rye, NH. This hotel dominated the landscape at the corner of Central Road and Ocean Boulevard and was the first set of buildings viewed upon entering the Town from the south. The Farragut was the largest of the summer hotels built in Rye. It was closed in 1974 and torn down in 1975.

A third Farragut Hotel was started on the same site. From the outside, it appeared to be complete and ready for opening; but the interior remained unfinished until it was raised more than twenty years later. Today the site is a vast stretch of green lawn most of the year.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Emergency Management coordinates all activities to build, sustain, improve and prepare for responding to and recovering from natural disasters.

In 2018, there were two (2) significant storms. March 2-8th which caused closed roads, damage to seawalls, roadways, walkways and debris. The second storm occurred on election day March 13th. Thank you to Dennis McCarthy, DPW Director and his staff at Rye Highway for keeping roads open and cleared for voters to get to the polls and employees safely home after the polls closed. Both of these storms were declared disasters.

Rye applied for and received funding from FEMA for the March 2nd – 8th disaster to cover employee and equipment costs. Rye also applied for funding to fix the seawalls, roads and sidewalks which is still in progress. There was no damage during the election day storm, therefore Rye did not apply for disaster relief.

This was a drill year. There was a practice drill on February 14, 2018 and a graded exercise on April 4, 2018 for the Seabrook Nuclear Power Plant planning EPZ zone. Homeland Security feedback from FEMA stated that all towns in the EPZ zone received high marks.

The emergency management team has completed the local emergency operation plan and are will be submitting it to the Selectmen for approval.

We urge everyone to have a "family emergency plan". An important part of that plan involves communicating with friends and family before, during and after an emergency.

Respectfully submitted,
Kevin Walsh, Director

A glimpse into our past: *History of Rye, N.H.*, L. B. Parsons

"On Morrill's plan of Rye (1805) the part of Pioneer road from Brackett road to Odiorne's point, and a branch from it to Frost's Point, are designated by two parallel rows of dots, as is also the old road from Pioneer road through the woods and pasture to Newcastle bridge, ---which latter road, by the way, was slighted by selectmen and town meeting when they were bestowing names, although it would have been easy to have chosen an appropriate one; New castle road would be significant, as this now almost forgotten road through the woods, with a gate across it at its junction with Pioneer road, was surely a highway as early as 1693, and probably for years before that date.

As to why these old roads should have been indicated by parallel lines of dots, while others were all shown by continuous double lines, the only explanation we can think of is that they were "subject to gates and bars," which the roads marked by continuous lines were not. In the early days of the province, when roads were laid out there was no thought of fencing them by the town or towns that laid them out, or of compelling settlers through whose lands the roads passed to be at the labor and expense of fencing their premises on both side of the roads. Whenever a road cut the fence of a settler he could put up a gate or set of movable bars, or the town did it for him; the traveler, in his use of the highway, had a full right to open the gate or remove the bars, but he had no right to leave the gate open or the bars down; he was obliged to leave them as he found them, and if he did not do this he was responsible for any damage that might result from the straying of cattle, etc., in consequence. As the number of settlers along the line of a road increased, so would the number of gates and bars, and with the increase of travel between one town and another these obstructions would become more and more of an annoyance, and the main highways of communication would be fenced in and the gates and bars along them removed; and then, gradually, the side roads would be similarly improved, and highways subject to gates would generally be changed from mere public rights of way to open and unobstructed public roads."

ENERGY COMMITTEE'S REPORT

Current Members

Michael Joyce, Howard Kalet, Matt Marra, Carl Nicollino, Tom Pfau, and Danna Truslow are the current members of the Rye Energy Committee.

The major initiatives of the REC in 2018 were support of the regional offshore wind study, community solar, electric vehicles, town building energy audits, and outreach.

Offshore Wind

A regional study to evaluate options for offshore wind power was supported by the REC and the Rye Conservation Commission. Together we also obtained the support of the Selectman and they sent a letter to Governor Sununu to encourage him to add the State of New Hampshire to the states supporting the study. Governor Sununu has now given his support to the effort. The states of Maine and Massachusetts had already joined the study.

Community Solar

The REC has been evaluating municipal properties and buildings for installation of solar panels to provide the preliminary energy supply or supplemental energy supply for a given site. The best locations have an area to place panels facing south or southwest, near a town meter, and have the potential to consume most of the energy that can be generated. A report of the findings and recommendations will be provided to the Selectmen early in 2019.

Electric Vehicles and the VW settlement

We have been tracking the State of New Hampshire Volkswagen Lawsuit Settlement as it contains proposed programs to aid state and local government with vehicle replacement and assistance with electric vehicle (EV) charging stations. Some highlights of the proposed funding are:

- \$9.2 million (50%) will be used for replacing government or public vehicles
- \$4.6 million (15%) will be used for EV supply equipment (charging stations and networks, NOT solar arrays supplying these stations, NOT maintenance of these stations)
- \$6.2 million (20%) will be used for strategic competitive projects (local freight trucks, school buses / public transit, diesel emission reduction act eligible projects)
- \$4.6 million (15%) allocated to administrative costs (expenses, salaries, and fringe benefits)

To learn more about this settlement and process visit <https://tinyurl.com/y8nfwcjm> or email vwsettlement@osi.nh.gov.

Municipal Building Energy Audit updates

The REC reviewed energy audits that were originally completed on town buildings in 2009 and 2011 to see what has been implemented and what additional measures could be taken to save energy and money for the town. The buildings reviewed were the library, the elementary and junior high schools, and the safety building. A significant amount of work has been completed under these audits but additional upgrades are underway or planned. REC has just asked Eversource to complete a lighting audit of these buildings to see what upgrades and changes can be made under their energy saving program.

REC website and outreach programs

We have reviewed updated the REC webpage on the Rye Town website. We also established a new Facebook page – check it out and like the Rye Energy Committee page. We just hosted a fascinating talk with Paul DeGrandis on computing energy demands, where its power is being made and the significant demand it will place on our energy needs in the near future. We plan more conversations on news worthy energy topics this year.

RYE FIRE RESCUE REPORT

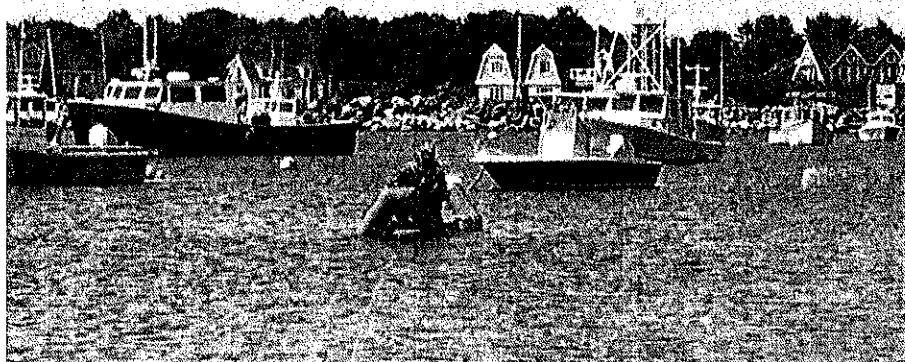
2018 was a busy year for Rye Fire Rescue. The January and March winter storms kept us busy with storm related calls. We responded to multiple mutual aid structure fires in Greenland, Hampton, Newington and Portsmouth to name a few. The tragic natural gas line fires in the Merrimack Valley required mutual aid from fire departments throughout southern NH including Rye. Car 1 and Rye's district air supply trailer responded to North Andover on the first night of the event. We helped to coordinate the apparatus staging area in North Andover. On the second day Rye sent an ambulance to help provide advanced paramedic coverage to the Lawrence area. Although a very unfortunate incident, I am proud our response helped an entire region respond to a multitude of critical incidents while providing our membership valuable experience for the future. Rye Fire Rescue gave mutual aid (responded to another community) 65 times in 2018. We also received mutual aid 39 times in 2018. Having a terrific mutual aid arrangement with surrounding communities is a very important part of providing quality Fire and EMS services to our residents. Rye Fire Rescue is very thankful for the help of our mutual aid partners. We stand ready, at a moment's notice, to assist them in their time of need.

Members of Rye Fire Rescue spent several months this year developing a solid, long-term, sustainable capital plan we can be proud of, that address's our needs while being economically mindful and a good value for the town. I would like to thank our apparatus committee for their dedication, and thoughtful input. We also received a \$1,000 state grant for the purchase of wildland protective gear.

PERSONNEL: Lt. Ron Hordon left the department after more than 23 years of service. Call Force Lt. Moe Ruel left the department in December after 11 years of service! We thank both for their efforts and wish them and their families well in the future! We also welcomed aboard Firefighter Paramedic Mike Rivet and Call Firefighters Tom Osborne and Mark Gagne. Rye is fortunate to have these folks on-board and we look forward to working with them!

TRAINING: Throughout the year Rye Fire Rescue conducts fire, rescue and emergency medical training such as water and ice rescue, pumper operations, ladder operations, equipment familiarization and incident management. Of particular note, in January FF/Paramedic Chris Bohling graduated from a 1-week Ice Rescue certification school in Kennebunk Maine. In March Chris also graduated from a similar 1-week Water Rescue Technician certification program at the same facility. Chris is now certified to conduct state of the art ice and water rescue continuous training to the rest of the membership at Rye Fire Rescue and bring our capability to a new level!

In October Rye Fire Rescue conducted multiple training drills at a local house which was slated for demolition. Opportunities such as this allow us to put smoke into the building (no fires) and practice advancing hose lines, search and rescue, roof ventilation, ladder operations etc. Some of our surrounding communities also participated! The department also participated in several Seabrook and school drills.



Training photograph courtesy of Rye Fire Rescue

Emergency Responses

NFIRS CAREGORY	NUMBER	NFIRS CATEGORY	NUMBER
Fires/Explosives	21	Good Intent Call/Public Service	18
Overpressure/Ruptures	0	Fire and CO Alarms/Other Alarms	118
Emergency Medical/Rescue	468	Weather Related	2
Hazardous Conditions	51	Special/Miscellaneous	1
Service Calls	146		

TOTAL EMERGENCY RESPONSES 829

Mutual Aid Given	65
Mutual Aid Received	39

1-Fires occurred within the following sub-categories

Structure fires:	11
Vehicle fires:	1
Brush fires:	5
Other fires:	3

2-Of the EMS responses, 315 resulted in patient transport to a hospital at the following level of care:

BLS transports:	102 (32%)
ALS transports:	213 (68%)

Included were 15 Motor Vehicle Accidents

Fire Prevention Permits issued by type:

Propane Gas	160	Solid Fuel	3
Oil burner	14	School Inspections	4
Fireworks	4	Annual Inspections	7
Fire Alarm	4	Miscellaneous	3
Blasting	1	Car Seat installs	27

TOTAL PERMITS ISSUED: 227

COMMUNITY: Rye Fire Rescue personnel participated in many community programs such as CPR classes, Seacoast Firefighters Toy Bank (including an annual toy donation to CHAD at Wentworth Douglas Hospital), Holiday Parade, family visits to the fire station; and fire station visits by school groups. In conjunction with the police department, we held an Open House for the public this past fall. This fun event was well attended and created a terrific opportunity for us to interact with the public on all sorts of fire / EMS related topics. We were also very busy installing 27 car seats. Lt Gallant and FF Bohling are certified in properly installing these car seats. Anyone looking for this important service is encouraged to call the fire department.

Rye Fire Rescue acknowledges the support and excellent service provided by the staff of our fellow town departments. We interact regularly and seamlessly with the various departments. The result of these excellent working relationships is superior service to the community. The public can be assured that the firefighters serving Rye are competent, compassionate and caring individuals who come together as a team to deliver excellent service to town residents.

Respectfully Submitted;

Mark R. Cotreau, Fire Chief

FOREST FIRE WARDEN'S REPORT

Your local Forest Fire Warden, Rye Fire Rescue, and the State of New Hampshire Division of Forests & Lands, work together to prevent wildland fires in New Hampshire. Please contact the Rye Fire Rescue to determine if a permit is required before doing ANY outside burning. We will happily assist you!

Fire permits issued:

Brush	126
Cooking	8
Beach Fires	110
Seasonal	124
Total Forestry Permits 2018	368

Many homes in Rye are located in the wildland urban interface, which is the area where homes and flammable wildland fuels intermix. Homeowners should take measures to prevent a wildland fire from spreading to their home. Precautions include keeping your roof and gutters clear of leaves and pine needles, and maintaining adequate green space around your home free of flammable materials. Additional information and homeowner recommendations are available at www.firewise.org.

Please note the following regulations for safe open burning;

Open burning is granted by the State of New Hampshire and the Town of Rye. Open burning may be curtailed at any time due to high winds or various other conditions.

A written permit must be obtained from Rye Fire Rescue for any open burning.

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services prohibits the open burning of household waste.

No burning is allowed between 9:00am and 5:00pm unless it is actively raining or there is significant snow cover at the site of the burn.

Permits are issued only to the landowner or person(s) having written approval from the landowner. The Permittee must be 18 years of age or older.

All open fires must have someone in attendance at all times.

Permits for beach fires are issued to RYE RESIDENTS ONLY.

Beach fires are allowed on the rocky areas of the beach only. No fires are allowed on the sand. Beach fires are allowed between 5:00pm and Midnight. All ash and debris must be properly disposed of once completely extinguished.

State regulations prohibit open fires on state beaches such as Wallis Sands State Park and Jenness Beach.

The NH Department of Environmental Services prohibits the open burning of household waste; this includes personal papers and sensitive documents, whole or shredded.

Please help Rye Fire Rescue and the state Forest Rangers by being fire wise and fire safe!

Respectfully submitted

Mark R. Cotreau
Forest Fire Warden

ONLY YOU CAN PREVENT WILDLAND FIRE

HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT

The year 2018 is in the rear-view mirror and 2019 looks to be a busy and productive year for me as Health Officer. I have continued to inspect a variety of buildings and situations, in the public as well as the private sector; these include schools, foster care and day care buildings, nursing facilities and potential health violations.

In 2018, in part due to increased humidity as well as warmer temperatures, there was an increase in the mosquito population in the area. Records show that 4 animals and 32 batches of mosquitos tested positive for West Nile Virus (WNL) and 6 batches of mosquitos tested positive for Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) in New Hampshire; in Rye 3 batches of mosquitos were positive for WNV and one batch for EEE. Fortunately, there were no human cases of either WNV or EEE in New Hampshire in 2018. As in previous years, spraying was done in high use areas (Junior High School, Elementary School, Parsons Field and the Recreation Area) to control the population of ticks and mosquitos. I recommend that residents take preventative measures such as wearing long sleeves and pants when outside during the warm months. Also, standing water in yard receptacles should be removed and mosquito repellent is suggested.

Most people have heard about Lyme Disease but it should be noted that New Hampshire has one of the highest rates of this disease in the nation. Blacklegged ticks are frequently infected with the *Borrelia burgdorferi* bacterium which cause Lyme Disease. Approximately 50-60% of these ticks are infected with Lyme Disease. Also, ticks in New Hampshire have been shown to carry other tick-borne diseases such as Babesia, Anaplasma, Powassan virus and *Borrelia miyamotoi*. Wearing protective clothing, using the appropriate insect repellent and keeping your grass short wherever possible will help to reduce the chances of contracting tick-borne diseases.

The Commission on the Seacoast Cancer Cluster Investigation continues to meet at intervals. According to data from the June 14, 2018 meeting there have been no further cases of pleuropulmonary blastoma or rhabdomyosarcoma in the five-town area being investigated. Per interim report data from November 1, 2018 it was recommended that further monitoring as well as that an Environmental Health Liaison and other experts in the field be involved in further investigations. The Commission will continue to meet over the next two years prior to publishing definitive conclusions.

Rabies is a disease transmitted through infected animal saliva; it can be fatal to both animals and humans. In 2018 the State of New Hampshire reported that there were no human cases of rabies in 2018. There were 515 animals tested, 30 of which were found to have rabies. The animals tested included bats, gray and red foxes, skunks, racoons, woodchucks, a cat and sheep. There were no specimens submitted from Rye in 2018. Be sure to have your animals vaccinated, even those that remain indoors.

I would like to express my appreciation to the Board of Selectmen, Deputy Health Officer Peter Rowell, Town personnel and the citizens of Rye for their continued support and cooperation. I look forward to a productive 2019.

Gail A. Snow, MD
Health Officer

HERITAGE COMMISSION'S REPORT

The Rye Heritage Commission had another very busy and active year in 2018, with the main focus centering on the Town Hall again this past year. The first quarter of our year was spent working to "Save Town Hall" from being demolished and replaced by a warrant article proposing a newly constructed building to be situated on our existing lot. Once we succeeded in surviving this attempt to destroy our historic building, we began to focus on what needed to be done to renovate the current structure. First and foremost, we felt that painting the exterior of the building was of vital importance. Upon the completion of the Historic Structure Report, the selectmen approved and began work on the project replacing and repairing faulty clapboards and painting the outside of the building. As the fall approached, much of the work was completed, and the remainder of the work on the project will resume in the spring with a second coat of paint and work on the cupola.

We did several fundraising projects this year. Our sale of hats, tote bags and umbrellas were very successful, and these items can still be purchased in the lobby of Town Hall thru the Town clerk's office. We had a wonderful boat cruise aboard the Thomas Leighton in October, with a raffle of donated prizes helping to raise funds for Town Hall. Our annual direct mail appeal was also very successful. We will continue to work on improvements and fundraising projects. Next, we hope to address the foundation of the building, repair and refurbish the windows, and also make the building ADA compliant. We will work together with the Selectmen, other town committees, CLGC and Plan New Hampshire and other preservation groups and organizations to continue to move forward and work to renovate our precious historic building.

A public meeting was held by the Heritage Commission in December and Scott Stevens from Ground Root Preservation gave a presentation on the Town Hall Historic Structure Report, highlighting the facts that there are no structural issues, no mold or rot found in the building and that the building is basically safe and sound, and good for yet another century!

The Heritage Commission also safe guards and works to preserve our historic graveyards, other historic structures and buildings throughout Rye and will be working on a future historic signage project at some point in the near future.

In December, the Heritage Commission presented this year's Tallman Award to Priscilla Jenness, for her contribution as an individual, to the historic preservation of Rye. She has served as a selectman since 2000, has been a member of the Planning board and was a charter member of the Rye Heritage Commission. Priscilla has dedicated so much of her life and time to her home town of Rye and its citizens. She is a lifetime resident and ninth generation descendent of the founding families in 1726. Priscilla exemplifies the ideal of our Heritage Commission and is so very deserving of this year's award!

The Rye Heritage Commission will continue to work hard to identify, preserve and protect the special character, and the historical, cultural and architectural resources of our town.

Current members are: Bev Giblin, Mae Bradshaw, Rich Davis, Alex Herlihy and Peter White. Alternate members are: Gail Hughes, Anne Richter Arnold, Elizabeth Sanborn, Philip Walsh and Frank Hwang.

Respectfully submitted,
Beverly Giblin, Chair

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION'S REPORT

2018 was an exciting year for the Rye Historic District Commission (HDC). As the first historic district in the state of New Hampshire, we applied for and were granted status as a member of the Certified Local Government program managed by the state to provide federal grants to local communities. The program will assist our commission "in identifying, evaluating, protecting, promoting and enhancing the educational economic value of local properties of historic, architectural and archeological significance." The HDC will work in synergy with the Rye Heritage Commission to set and achieve these goals.

"The District" consists of that area of town from the west end of Grange Park to the intersection of Central and Washington Roads. The District also includes the Brackett Road Massacre Site, the historic Cable House and the Isles of Shoals islands which fall within the State of New Hampshire. The specific Isles included are White Island, Star Island, Seavey Island and Lunging Island [also known as Londoners Island].

The HDC has quarterly meetings in January, April, July and October. In addition, we schedule hearings for exterior changes to buildings and landscape in the District. This past year we heard and approved applications for Certificates of Approval [to obtain a Building Permit in the District] for 546 Washington Road for an addition between the house and barn, for 540 Washington for new windows and for 566 Washington for lighting of the Sotheby's sign. We also approved a new doorway on the Gosport building on Star Island.

We completed and filed a grant application for a professional consultant to prepare the inventory to place the Rye Town Hall on the Federal Register of Historic Places and to place the "Second Parsonage" on the New Hampshire Register of Historic Places.

One of our completed projects for the year was the creation of the Historic District Booklet of information about the District. This is a proactive reminder that the overlay district has a process that protects buildings and sites which are meaningful to the community. We celebrated the distribution of the Booklet to owners in the District with a September reception at the Rye Historic Society Museum in an effort to strengthen the partnership between the commission and the neighborhoods we serve.

Our current focus is the preparation of a Design Guidelines Booklet for the District to insure the compliance is not just about regulations but about insuring that everyone is treated equally while the character of the District is maintained as a valuable asset for the entire community.

Our Members are Mae Bradshaw, David Choate, Charlie Hoyt, Daryl Kent, Karen Stewart, James Tegeder and Phil Winslow. Our alternates are Katharine Brown, Kaitlyn Coffey, Tom King, John Loftus and YOU if you have an interest in preservation and design of architecture and landscaping in your community. We thank the Building Department and Janice Ireland for their reliable and able assistance over the year in helping us fulfill our mission.

Respectfully submitted,
Mae Bradshaw, Chairperson

RYE HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S REPORT

Rye Historical Society and Town Museum had a very successful 2018. We began our series of commemorating our history through the geology of the Seacoast, "Rye Rocks", and a look at the Sunken Forest. Our 2018 free public programs and Historic Trolley Tours were once again very well attended.

The RHS board - Anne Arnold, Steve Cash, Janet Davis, Alex Herlihy, Linda Lemelin, Becky Marden, James Tegeder and Ginna MacDonald, under the new presidency of Debbi Toohey, continues to develop programs and exhibits for Rye that share our rich history in an accessible way.

In order to better serve the community, we held our 2nd annual board retreat, facilitated by the NH Center for Nonprofits. It was insightful, inspiring and gives us a leg up for strategic planning this year.

We welcome 2019 with plans for a new exhibit to open in May. The theme is "Farming, Fishing and Fun: How Economics Shaped the Town of Rye". We are busily preparing, researching and building for this endeavor, in hopes of delighting and enhancing our community's appreciation of Rye's rich history through technology advances and audience interaction. Stay tuned, and do come visit our refreshed update, which will open to the public in late May

Keep watch for more information as our programming calendar develops. Currently the 2019 calendar holds:

March 28 - More Than Just Gundalows, about Adam's Point: Family, Destination, and History

April 25 - Did German subs attempt to enter Portsmouth Harbor during World War II?

End of May – Exhibit Opening Reception

May 27 – Rye History trolley tour

July 4 – Independence Day Rye History trolley tour

August TBD – Annual Meeting and speaker

September – Labor Day History trolley tour

September 26 - Photographer and winter caretaker on Star Island - Alexandra De Steiguer

October – Rye Cemetery stories & tour

1623, the upcoming 400-year celebration of Odiorne Point's first European settlement, will be hosting another community planning meeting this winter. We welcome your ideas, interest, volunteerism and commitment as we prepare.

Huge thanks to all who volunteer their time and talents to help bring Rye's history to life at the RHS and Town Museum.

Respectfully submitted by Debbi Toohey, RHS Board President

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

As part of our continued recognition of Tricia Quinn, Associate Library Director who passed away in November of 2016, we dedicated a *little free library* in Tricia's memory on Sunday May 20th 2018 with remarks and remembrances before a large gathering for the occasion. Rye Public Library (RPL) coordinated with the Rye community to design and build this memorial which is mounted on private property to serve Rye beachgoers on Cable Road extension during an annual Memorial Day to Labor Day season. Tricia's Little Free Library (Charter # 73761) went on through the summer to delight beachgoers with give-and-take reading selections for all ages. Those volunteers engaged with keeping offerings fresh and available through the season also enjoyed watching the beneficial effects this simple community feature had on all who participated.

The Rye Public Library's 2018-2023 Strategic Plan report was released in both print and electronic forms in November 2018. Please stop by the Library for a copy or to review hard copies of all our planning minutes, reports and details. You can also find electronic versions on our website. Work on the Plan's goals and objectives progressed throughout 2018 as the executive report was finalized, with further exploration of both potential facilities improvements and funding resources to address any future plans. Well-deserved thanks go to our Strategic Planning Committee, and to all who have participated in our data collection through surveys, focus groups and other events along the three year path to developing this plan.

Sadly, we said goodbye to Kat Paiva shortly after her wedding in October, 2018. Kat joined our crew as Teen Services Librarian in 2017 and moved on from RPL to continue her career in the library world.

Please help me recognize our outstanding Rye Public Library Staff: Jacob Allen, Lisa Breton, Jim Chase, Juliette Doherty, Sherry Evans, Shawna Healy, Lisa Houde, Margaret Hutchins, Brianna Mastro, Brenda Nolette, Gwen Putnam-Bailey, and Pam Woods with a word of welcome on your next visit to RPL. We look forward to bringing you the best in library service again this year.

I have recently tallied 2018 service statistics here at Rye Public Library. Once again, we rank with much larger communities in New Hampshire when compared to statewide performance. As an example, RPL ranked 9th in the State in 2018 (with 228 libraries reporting on most recent stats) for programming attendance per capita! We sincerely thank the people of Rye for making the best use of the outstanding resource that is *your* Rye Public Library. You can find more of our 2018 stats on postings in the Library or on our website.

We once more offer our sincere gratitude to the members of the Rye community whose generous gifts, donations and memorial bequests along with membership in the Friends of the Rye Public Library help support the work of the Library.

Lastly, I'd like to recognize the incredible volunteers who bring us their ideas, and devote their talent and time to the Library. I sincerely thank our Trustees, Friends of the Library, and the many others who work tirelessly to shelve and repair our collection and offer programs to their neighbors in the Rye Community. All of us at RPL wish you well in 2019 and truly appreciate your support and patronage last year. We look forward to serving you in the coming year. Thank you!

Respectfully submitted,
Andrew Richmond, Library Director

RYE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT

Rye Public Library (RPL) continues to pursue our vision to be the cultural hub of Rye by facilitating the free flow of ideas and information for all members of our community, in addition to performing with full hearts all the functions our patrons expect and rely upon as stated in our mission. RPL provides a place and atmosphere that values lifelong learning not just about the past, but about how to navigate the future. RPL offers direction on how to use its technical resources as well as the powerful computers we all seem to hold in our hands - the smartphone. With so many "virtual" opportunities, RPL is still where people come together to attend book groups, meetings, speaker events, music and other performances. The RPL is the Community Center, the Community Living Room, the proverbial "Town Square," where we can continue to expand the opportunities for Civic Engagement. It is here that patrons find not only a book and cultural enrichment, but welcoming friendly faces and a warm atmosphere. Our staff and patrons love our library and it shows!

This year, the Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) issued the 2018-2023 Strategic Plan, an update in a continuing planning process. As last year's Annual Report mentioned, one of the elements addressed by the SPC was consideration of the possibility of a modest expansion of the RPL building to meet residents' needs and expectations as to library services. Based upon the results of a 2016 survey of Rye residents, as well as the recommendation of the Space Needs and Utilization Study conducted by the architectural firm, Lavalley Brensinger Architects in 2017, the SPC recommended pursuing an architectural schematic design of an expansion that would not only meet future goals, but better accommodate the services we currently offer. Continuing in a due-diligence mode, and after publishing and sending to relevant professional organizations a formal Request for Qualifications and Proposal and then interviewing a short list of three architectural firms, the Trustees engaged Warrenstreet Architects to develop a preliminary schematic design to further explore incorporation of the desired facility elements identified in our earlier research. We are excited to invite members of the community to review our Strategic Plan and participate in the process in any way, perhaps as a member of the SPC or by simply offering perspectives on the library services you use or need.

In tandem with exploring whether and what expansion/renovation may be needed, the Trustees have engaged the consulting firm of Clarkson Davis, located in Rye, to perform a feasibility study to determine the potential of a private funding component of any expansion/renovation expenditures.

Annual statistics regarding library activity, particularly adult and youth programming attendance, continue to best those of other libraries of similar size, and those in larger communities as well! We do this by providing community programs like film series for both adults and children, yoga and meditation, musical events, art exhibits and speakers on a wide variety of topics. Our ongoing Rye Neighbors series introduced more of our community's talent and expertise through presentations by local authors, vintners, and quilters.

On behalf of the RPL Board of Trustees, thank you to all of our library patrons, and to those volunteers and library staff whose hard work and dedication make our Library what it is. Please contact one of our Trustees or our Library Director Andrew Richmond (arichmond@ryepubliclibrary.org or 964-8401) to find out how you can get involved with any of our ongoing projects or to volunteer. We welcome your input and look forward to an exciting and productive 2019!

Respectfully Submitted,
Karen W. Oliver
2018 Chair, Rye Public Library Board of Trustees

MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION'S REPORT

The 2018 mosquito season began with extremely dry conditions throughout the state. July and August saw enough rain to bring southern New Hampshire back to the normal range. Increased rainfall continued through September. Warm temperatures and humidity this summer provided mosquitoes near perfect conditions. Mosquito populations rebounded from the below normal levels in previous years.

After three quiet seasons, disease activity is on the rise again. Jamestown Canyon Virus was confirmed in one New Hampshire resident. West Nile Virus (WNV) was the main disease carried by mosquitoes this year. Four WNV animal cases have been identified. New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services issued a public health threat declaration in the southern part of the State for WNV and Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE). Thirty-two WNV positive mosquito batches were discovered in 14 communities. Eastern Equine Encephalitis was found in six batches in four communities. There were no human cases of WNV or EEE in New Hampshire this season.

Adult mosquitoes were monitored at five locations throughout town. Nearly 3,400 were collected in traps, identified to species and select species were sent to the State Lab in Concord where they were tested for disease. Three batches of mosquitoes tested positive for WNV and one batch for EEE from Rye in 2018. Dragon has identified 180 larval mosquito habitats in Rye. Crews checked larval habitats 574 times during the season. There were 335 treatments to eliminate mosquito larvae. In addition, 531 catch basins treatments were made to combat disease carrying mosquitoes. Spraying to control adult mosquitoes and ticks was conducted at high use areas.

The recommended 2019 Mosquito Control plan for Rye includes trapping mosquitoes for disease testing, sampling wetlands for larval mosquito activity, larviciding where mosquito larvae are found, efficacy monitoring, mosquito and tick control at town owned property and emergency spraying when a public health threat exists. Field work aspects of the control program begin in April when mosquito larvae are found in stagnant water such as red maple and cedar swamps, salt marshes, woodland pools and other wetland areas. Trapping and testing adult mosquitoes begins in July. The mosquito control program ends in October when temperatures drop and daylight hours decline.

Homeowners can reduce the number of mosquitoes by checking their property for standing water each week during the season. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends residents empty and scrub, turn over, cover, or throw out items that hold water, such as tires, buckets, planters, toys, pools, birdbaths, flowerpots, or trash containers. Personal protection remains the number one way to avoid mosquito borne illness. Up to date information is available on the CDC website at: <https://www.cdc.gov/westnile/prevention/index.html>.

Residents who do not want their property treated may use our No-Spray Registry online at www.dragonmosquito.com/no-spray-registry or write to Dragon Mosquito Control, P.O. Box 46, Stratham, NH 03885. Be sure to include your name, physical address, phone number, the color of your house and the amount of acreage you own. Anyone who submitted a request in 2018 must contact the office to reaffirm your request. To keep our records current, we need to hear from you each year. Inquiries may be emailed to help@dragonmosquito.com or you may call the office with questions at 734-4144.

Respectfully submitted,
Dragon Mosquito Control

PLANNING BOARD'S REPORT

The following is a recap of some of the more important actions taken by the Planning Board in 2018.

Needless to say, the Seacoast of New Hampshire in general and Rye in particular is experiencing dramatic pressure on both infrastructure and land development. If the past is any indication of the future this trend will continue into 2019 and beyond. It's important to remember that land owners have rights on how and when their land can be developed. These rights are validated by various statutes and some case law. The land use boards and more specifically the Planning Board, have the responsibility to insure that all regulations pertaining to development are adhered to. We are bound generally by our zoning ordinances, land use regulations and Master Plan. Within these three documents our decisions lay, notwithstanding our ability to negotiate a mutually agreeable outcome.

The largest and most continuous development to come before the Board was 421 South Road. The original plan was a 22 lot subdivision on 100 acres of land, which put a number of significant environmental features at risk. They included among others; the White Cedar Forest, a number of vernal pools, the Cedar Run well and wet lands. Through mediation we were able to limit the development to 11 new lots, move the development away from the Forest, preserve the vernal pools and put less pressure on the wet lands.

We all would agree that some parts of Rye are in desperate need of better cell phone coverage. In the not too distant past the Town created a cell tower ordinance to accommodate the wireless industry. Verizon came to the town to place a cell tower at 120 Brackett Rd, which required approvals from the planning board and ZBA. After reviewing the possible issues associated with that proposal it was decided to investigate other areas in town for a more friendly location. The selectmen have negotiated a lease with Verizon to put the cell tower on town land off Port Way. The lease requires town meeting approval. The applications for 120 Brackett Rd. are continued pending the town vote on the Port Way location. The Housing Partnership has approval to build a 40+- development off Air Field Drive which is zoned commercial. Contained within the development will be 8 work force housing units. Based on its location and zoning we believe this is the best and most practical use of the property. Construction will begin when all permits are obtained and conditions of approval met.

During the discussions pertaining to the area surrounding the west end of Washington Road and the ongoing plans for development, it became obvious that the number of septic systems may put unwarranted strain on the environment. Another overarching consideration was further strain on our water supply in light of the Coakly land fill issue. We presented the issue to the Board of Selectmen for a warrant article to extend the Portsmouth sewer line to the end of Washington. This was written and will be on the March ballot. Note this will be a no cost to the town. All expenses will be borne by the developers or owner of the affected properties.

In addition to hearing applications such as the ones above, we have sub committees that report to the entire Board with new regulations. The Rules and Regulation Committee works on proposed zoning amendments all year long in preparation to the March election. The primary driver of the agenda is suggestions from the Zoning Board of Adjustment and the building department.

The Long Range Planning Committee has completed rewriting chapters 4, 6 and 7 of the Master plan with the help of the Rockingham Planning Commission This will continue in 2019.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bill Epperson, Chairman, Rye Planning Board

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

Rye police employees consistently strive to maintain open lines of communication with the people they serve in the Rye community, both residents and visitors. Input received from the public helps to improve police policies, strategies and responses. Without constructive feedback, Rye police would not successfully evolve and adapt to the changing times. It is always a common goal to understand and meet the community's expectations and ensure that the department's priorities match that of the citizens' needs.

The following are some of the police department employees' achievements and connections that they have made with citizens during the 2018 calendar year. In April of 2018, Lieutenant Scott Blaisdell and Officer Mark Lynch were recognized by the Rockingham County Child Advocacy Center for their contribution to ensure the safety, health, and well-being of children in our community. The Director of the Child Advocacy Center stated that the Rye Police investigation was the proper way to investigate without traumatizing the victim and a lesson in teamwork.

Officer Dan Fuglestad and Officer Mark Lynch have been talking with Rye citizens about ID fraud. Both officers met with citizens because of the amount of fraud reports officers have been taking each shift. One of the best preventative measures people can take to avoid falling victim is by communicating with each other and sharing stories of scam attempts.

Officer Brendan McKenney welcomed a citizen from Salem, NH who wanted a tour of the Rye police cruiser. The visitor said the tour was "the best" and Officer McKenney was more than happy to show the visitor how bright all the cruiser lights really are up close.

Cpl. Webster has been reviewing "active shooter" information and education with Rye establishments so that they can be prepared if faced with a situation. Cpl. Webster has been presenting vital information of how one can survive and has reviewed each organization's emergency procedures to ensure employees practice in case of an emergency.

Animal Control Officer Jake Hoag organized training for area animal control officers with the Center for Wild Life. The training reviewed best practices on how to help injured wild life and what resources are available to animal control officers. ACO Hoag closed a gap that he was seeing with citizens calling in injured animals and animal control officers not having the knowledge to help wild life.

Sgt. Blais maintains the social media to get safety concerns out to the citizens.

Police Administrative Assistant Jessica Doucette maintains the prescription drug deactivation bag program. Jessica listened to inquiries about what the best way is to dispose of unused prescription drugs and through research, the Rye Police were able to purchase the Deterra bag system. Through social media and partnering with other town departments, there are currently four locations in town to obtain prescription drug deactivation bags. The goal of the program is to empty every medicine cabinet of prescription drugs that are not needed.

The following are the statistics for 2018:

10118 calls for service	307 arrests	259 alarms
1181 motor vehicle stop	146 accident investigations	686 animal control
66 911 hang up calls	307 medical aid calls	27 domestics
43 juvenile issues	1 burglary report	50 thefts
\$52,090.00 parking fines collected,		\$12,217.00 in court fines collected
\$114,459.00 outside details		

Respectfully submitted,
Kevin Walsh
Chief of Police

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Other than the four consecutive weekly nor'easters in March this year was a fairly typical winter. The total number of events which the department responded to was thirteen which is seven below the average of twenty. The total snowfall accumulation was average at 61.5 inches for the year. The department recorded a total of 13 weather events; 10 were snow events and 3 were ice only. The snow events averaged approximately five inches of accumulation per event. 1,129 tons of salt at a total cost of \$61,500 was deployed on the roadways, to maintain safe road conditions.

The department specified, bid, and purchased a new John Deere Utility Tractor (Equip #209) at a cost of \$45,000, to replace the 2008 Champion Tractor (Equip #205). In addition, the department replaced the old Case Skid Steer (Equip #203) with a new John Deere Skid Steer (Equip #210) at a cost of \$39,876.

The crack sealing program saw the completion of Forrest Green, Frontier, Brackett, Central and Causeway Road. Plus, sections of Washington, Lang, and Wallis Road, were re-treated with crack sealant; at a total cost of \$19,264.

The second of two old box culverts located under Red Mill Lane was replaced at a cost of approximately \$250,000. The replacement was designed and permitted by the engineering firm of Wright-Pierce and constructed by T-Buck Construction of Auburn, ME. Next year, should funding be approved, the permitting and engineering for the replacement of two culverts under Perkins Road is being proposed.

This year's road paving was seriously impacted by the very robust economy and un-favorable fall weather, which pushed paving completion into the month of November. Locke Road, from Central to Recreation, and Cable Road from Central to Pine were shimmed and overlaid with asphalt. In addition, the final section of West Road from Garland Road to the North Hampton town line and the final section of Central Road between Perkins and Cable was also repaved. In all approximately 2,210 tons of bituminous asphalt was applied to the town's roads this year, at a cost of approximately \$180,600.

The department contracted with the construction firm of George Cairns & Sons to perform remedial repairs and paving of the Harbor Road bridge deck. The work was designed and supervised by the engineering firm of Hoyle-Tanner & Associates of Portsmouth, NH. The repairs were completed at a cost of \$123,015 and were made possible by the cooperation of the residents of the far end of Harbor Road, whose access to their homes was seriously impacted during the construction.

The Transfer/Recycling Station processed 1,160 tons of household rubbish, 36.0 tons of kitchen waste, 170 tons of wood, 423 tons of Demo/Debris, 204 tons of mixed paper, 44 tons of cardboard, 44 tons of newsprint, 112 tons of scrap metal, 166 tons of glass, 14 tons of aluminum cans, 26 tons of plastic containers, 23 tons of miscellaneous electronics, 400 gallons of waste oil, and 307 tires. Excluding the wood, tires, demo/debris, electronics, waste oil, and metal the town residents diverted approximately 484 tons of material through the transfer station from disposal in the landfill. This diversion represents a cost avoidance of approximately \$31,460 in tipping fees and a recycling rate of approximately 30%. In addition, the facility realized approximately \$71,492 in revenues from transfer station receipts and sale of recyclables, a decrease of approximately twenty-four percent (24%) over last year.

Nine (9) new driveways permits were issued this year; along with twenty-four (24) paving permits and nine (9) excavation permits. These numbers represent an equal activity level from last year.

I wish to thank the Public Works Staff; the Board of Selectmen, Town Administrator, and Town Hall staff for their assistance and support; the Energy and Recycling Education Committees for their enthusiasm; and all the town residents without whose input and cooperation the department could not function.

Respectfully submitted,
Dennis G. McCarthy
Public Works Director

SOUTHEAST REGIONAL REFUSE DISPOSAL DISTRICT 53B REPORT

Southeast Regional Refuse Disposal District 53B was established in 1998 under RSA Chapter 53-B. The District is authorized to provide four facilities: landfill, septage and waste-to-energy. Each member municipality can participate in one or more of the District's facilities and various cost and expenses are apportioned among the members. Also provided is flexibility in developing solutions to joint solid waste problems.

The District is presently made of six-member towns: Brentwood, Fremont, Kensington, North Hampton, Rye and Sandown.

The District held its annual Household Hazardous Waste Day event on September 29, 2018 in Brentwood.

The event served 335 cars, representing 385 households, and is at our budget \$14,925.00. The Board would like to thank all the volunteers that worked to make the day a success.

The member towns are currently tipping at a rate of \$64.68 per ton for MSW and \$76.86 per ton for Bulky/Demo.

Effective April 1, 2018 the Board of Southeast Regional is as follows:

Chairman	Everett Jordan -Rye, NH
Vice Chairman	Dennis McCarthy – Rye, NH
Treasurer	John Hubbard – North Hampton, NH
Secretary	Alfred Felch – Kensington, NH

A glimpse into our past: *History of Rye, N.H., 1623-1903*, L. B. Parsons

“The perplexities and inconveniences caused by the lack of a well defined boundary between Hampton and Rye were briefly stated in the following petition, which is dated 12 May, 1729, and signed by Richard Goss, John Knowles, and John Garland, Selectmen of Rye:

To his Excellency William Burnet Esq Capt General and Governor in Chief in & over his Majesties Province of New Hamp in New England & to the Hon Council & the Hon House of Representatives in General Assembly now sitting -The Humble Petition of the Parish of Rye in NewCastle, in the Province of New Hamp
Humbly Sheweth

That whereas this Parish was established by a Special Act of General Assembly Apl 30, 1726, and near one half of the freeholders & other Inhabitants of the same being Poled off to s Parish from other towns, a considerable number of which did before belong to Hampton Town, & having no line fixed and settled between s Parish and Hampton, the s Parish are under ill conveniences respecting their Parish affairs, some moving out & leaving the Burden of Taxes heavier on the Remnant left, and some others moving in among us & settling in that part of the Parish that did belong to Hampton, which we are not empowered to Levy Taxes upon, nor to obledge to attend Military exercises, nor to help in Repairing his Majesties Highways in this Parish nor to assist in managing our other Parish affairs; We laboring under these & many other ill conveniences, humbly prayeth Your Excellency the Hon the Council & and the Hon House of Representatives to make choice of a Committee of indifferent Men to fix & settle a Line between us & Hampton Town.”

RECREATION COMMISSION'S REPORT

The Rye Recreation Commission believes that recreation provides many health and social benefits and can improve the quality of life for our residents. The role of Rye Recreation is to ensure that a broad range of recreation opportunities is available and accessible for residents of all ages and programming meets the needs of the community to the best of our ability given the limited space and resources available to the department. We believe that our recreation programming is one of the factors that make Rye such a desirable community to live in.

The Recreation Commission continues to make improvements to the Recreation Area. The installation of a new guard rail and fence adjacent to the Flash Jenness Memorial Baseball Field was completed. We are also working on an Existing Conditions Survey of the Recreation Area. These initiatives were not funded by general taxation. Last year the voters approved a warrant article for the Recreation Department to construct a heated storage facility at the Recreation area. This much needed facility will allow us to consolidate or equipment that is in 9 locations throughout town, often subject to unsuitable conditions. The location will make it more efficient for Recreation staff and we anticipate not having to replace equipment as often because of the suitable storage. Construction is scheduled to start in February 2019 and is anticipated to be completed by September 2019.

Rye Recreation offered a variety of recreation and sport opportunities in 2018. We continue to assess our programming and add and remove programs based on participation. Our growing Active, Alive and Over 55 Club offered seven-day trips, four overnight trips, and nine lunch programs where more than 442 meals were served. Chair yoga was added to the Over 55 Fitness Program which already includes a walking group, stretch and balance, and live long and strong fitness class. Other programs offered include basketball league, pick-up basketball, open court basketball and holiday recess basketball, indoor tennis lessons, golf lessons, paddle board lessons, ski and snowboard lessons, soccer league, surf lessons, yoga classes, babysitter courses, summertime horizons day camp, lego robotics camp, lacrosse camp, baseball camp, basketball camp, golf camp, skateboard camp, soccer camp, and surf camp.

Discussions have begun to utilize available space at Rye Congregational Church for a senior center, youth center and other possible programming. Limited programming for middle school students was identified and we are excited about this opportunity for more space to address this issue and the ability to offer programming that we have not been able to because of inadequate space.

The After-School Program continues to serve a very important need to working families in our community and is open to kindergarten through fifth grade students, at Rye Elementary School, from 2:45-5:50 p.m., during the school year. This year enrollment in the Afterschool Program was capped due to space restraints and there was a waiting list.

Rye Art in Bloom continues to be a very popular yearly community event. It has been held for the past eighteen years and is hosted by Rye Recreation and Webster at Rye. Other events sponsored by Rye Recreation in 2018 were child care for the Town's Deliberative Session, the Independence Day Celebration and the Memorial Day Ceremony, which includes a poster and poetry contest.

The Rye Recreation Commission is a voluntary board that meets monthly. Current Commissioners are Gregg Mikolaities, Chairperson, Cory Belden Vice Chairperson, Todd Cronin, Stephen King, Brett Mulvey, Joe Persechino and Georgina Saravia. Our excellent full time staff includes Lee Arthur, Recreation Director, Kelley Gallant, Programs Supervisor, and Victoria Loring, Administration and Programs Assistant.

Respectfully submitted,
Gregg Mikolaities, Chairperson



RECYCLING EDUCATION COMMITTEE'S REPORT

The mission of the Rye Recycling Education Committee is to deliver information and educate people about the importance of recycling with three goals: 1.) to increase the town's recycling rate; 2.) to encourage more recycling at the schools; and 3.) to grow the number of households utilizing the Mr. Fox food scrap composting program.

This year, again we have been trying to focus on recycling at our two schools. The Rye Elementary School has continued to do a great job at recycling and has put funding in their budget for Mr. Fox to pick up the compost. The students continue to collect paper and cardboard which they store in a shed outside the Elementary School. After which it is brought to the Transfer Station.

We are mainly focusing on the Rye Junior High School. Carla Cole, who is a parent volunteer, is doing a great job with the composting at the school and she has arranged to have an assembly for the students to have a representative from Mr. Fox come and speak to the students. We are still working with the school to organize a recycling club and to add Mr. Fox into the Junior High School budget.

Because a sign was posted in front of the bulky container at the Transfer Station that basically says "Pay the attendant before you throw it away," more items have been put into the Swap Shop causing disarray. As a result, many volunteers have stepped forward to help organize and make sure items are kept in order. We had a meeting with Dennis McCarthy about the Swap Shop to strategize how to make the Swap Shop work better. Consequently, there is a new collection container for clothes and shoes, sponsored by the Epilepsy Foundation. Also, a new company has taken over the book bin.

We continue to look for a couple more members to join our committee. The more people we have, the more we can spread the word. **"Recycling it's the *Rye-ght* thing to do."**

Respectfully submitted

John Provencher, Chairman
The Rye Recycling Education Committee

"Remember, think before you throw."

SEWER COMMISSION'S REPORT

The Rye Sewer Commission is responsible for the administration, billing, operation and maintenance of the Rye Sewer District. At the end of 2018, Rye had 548 parcels connected to the sewer system with no new connections during the year. The Commission also administers the billing and operation of Adams Mobile Home Park, which is connected to the City of Portsmouth Sewer System. One hundred percent of the cost to discharge wastewater to the City of Portsmouth Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) is recovered. The City of Portsmouth Sewer System also extends to the Atlantic Grill, located at Foyes Corner. The private sewer line has been turned over to the City of Portsmouth and they are now responsible for the administration, billing, operation and maintenance of the line. Discussions took place in 2018 to expand the City of Portsmouth Sewer System from the Rye/Portsmouth boundary on Lafayette Road ending at Washington Road in Rye. Both the Board of Selectmen and Rye Sewer Commission recommend the following 2019 warrant article: "To see if the town will vote in favor of the expansion of the City of Portsmouth sewer system (at no cost to the town of Rye and pursuant to an intermunicipal agreement to be negotiated between the Rye Sewer Commission and the City of Portsmouth) in order to provide public sewer service by the City of Portsmouth from the Rye/Portsmouth boundary on Route 1 ending at the Route 1/Washington Road intersection."

The Rye collection system was constructed in the early 1990's and consists of 6.9 miles of gravity sewer. In 2018 a new privately owned section of sewer line in Foss Circle was turned over to the Rye Sewer Commission. The air release valves and saddles that are part of the force main on Route 1A in North Hampton and Rye were replaced. Sewer system manholes were inspected and the property under easement, where the Church Road Pump Station is located, was cleared. The rainfall for November in 2018 (8.65 inches) was more than the total amount for the whole 4th quarter in 2017 (8.04 inches). This surge in rain fall attributed to the flow in November being 269% higher than the same period in 2017.

Rye has three pump stations that are remotely monitored daily and inspected weekly. In 2018, an old 90 degree bend at Church Road Pumping Station was replaced with a new t and ball valve to accommodate ice pigging. General pump maintenance was carried out at all three stations, the wet wells at Church Road Pump Station and Jenness Beach Pump Station were cleaned and the system flushed. Station maintenance is contracted out to the Town of Hampton as the Town of Rye wastewater collection system discharges to the Town of Hampton and is treated at Hampton's WWTP. As part of the current Intermunicipal Agreement that is good until November 16, 2024, Rye is responsible for contributing to the Town of Hampton WWTP up grades (Rye's share 4%). Recent upgrades include a 20 year bond for \$11.191 Million of which Rye's share is \$447,640 with \$33,232.80 payable in the first year (2019). One hundred percent of the sewer department budget is covered by user fees.

The Town of Rye is a co-permittee on the Town of Hampton's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit and subject to EPA and DES reporting as well as requirements. As a result, the Collection System Operations and Maintenance Plan Summary Report is filed annually. On November 7, 2018 the EPA conducted an inspection of the Town of Rye Sewer System and the EPA Wastewater Collection System CMOM Program Self-Assessment Checklist was completed.

To install sewer pipes, make or alter sewer connections in Rye you must obtain a sewer license and sewer permit. There is also an application process for the installation of a secondary usage water meter. In 2018, two installer's license and three applications for secondary usage water meters were received.

The current sewer commission consists of David W. Kohlhasse, Chairman; Peter G. Kasnet, Vice Chairman; David M. Adams, Commissioner, and Lee Arthur, Administrator. The sewer office located on the second floor of the Rye Beach Village District Building, 830 Central Road, Rye Beach, NH.

Respectfully submitted,
David W. Kohlhasse, Chairman
Rye Sewer Commission

TOWN OF RYE
GENERAL ASSISTANCE REPORT – 2017

NH state law (RSA165) requires municipalities to “relieve and maintain” those within the city or town who are “poor and unable to support themselves”. This broad mandate, tested and re-affirmed repeatedly for more than 200 years, leaves towns subject to wide fluctuations in cost. The variability from year to year is unpredictable. We strive to minimize the Town’s costs through careful case management and leveraging other sources of financial assistance and support. At any given time, a small number of Rye residents experiencing a lengthy period of unemployment, illness, or impending homelessness can increase general assistance expenditures with little notice. The General Assistance law exists to protect the municipalities’ residents from impoverishment and homelessness, as a result of these setbacks.

Expenditures have remained stable since FY 2016. Assistance of mortgage and utility expenses are secured by property liens which will eventually return the funds to the Town.

SIX YEAR GENERAL ASSISTANCE HISTORY

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
	\$ Total	\$ Total	\$ Total	\$ Total	\$ Total	\$ Total
Burial	\$0	\$750	\$0	\$0	\$750	\$750
Electric	\$1,874	\$499	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$427
Food	\$30	\$75	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$269
Propane	\$465	\$0	\$205	\$989	\$543	\$1,456
Gasoline	\$260	\$412	\$120	\$0	\$0	\$40
Mortgage	\$15,148	\$14,045	\$11,395	\$12,831	\$12,542	\$14,342
Oil	\$1,036	\$0	\$2,062	\$0	\$407	\$1,130
Personal	\$104	\$259	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$40
Prop Tax	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Rent	\$27,865	\$37,831	\$22,207	\$12,797	\$9,720	\$5,961
Rx / Med	\$485	\$281	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Util-Other	\$137	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,776	\$0
Transp.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$47,404	\$54,152	\$35,989	\$26,617	\$25,738	\$24,415
Vouchers Written	78	84	51	35	37	33
Assisted Cases	31	41	18	8	10	9

Ellen Tully, Welfare Director
City of Portsmouth
1/7/19

TOWN OFFICES AND SERVICES

HOURS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Assessor's Office	8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Building Inspector:	
Building, Planning, Zoning Office	8:00 a.m. – 12 noon
Afternoons by appointment	
Library:	
Monday and Friday	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday	9:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Saturday	9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Public Works Director: Monday – Friday	6:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Recycling Center & Brush (CLOSED MONDAY)	
Recycling Area: Tuesday - Saturday	7:30 a.m. – 3:45 p.m.
Brush Dump (TUES. & SAT. ONLY)	7:30 a.m. – 3:45 p.m.
Recreation Director: Monday – Friday	8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Selectmen's Office: Monday - Friday	8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Sewer Commission: Monday – Friday	8:00 a.m. – 12 noon
Town Administrator: Monday - Friday	9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Town Clerk/Tax Collector: Monday – Friday	8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Treasurer: Tuesday & Thursday	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Notices for Selectmen's meetings are posted on the Town bulletin board located at Town Hall and at the Rye Public Library. Notices for other Town Boards, Commissions and Committees are posted at least at two of the following locations: The Town bulletin board, the Rye Post Office bulletin board and/or the Rye Public Library. Notices are also posted on the Town website: www.town.rye.nh.us

AMBULANCE-FIRE-POLICE EMERGENCY 911

AMBULANCE OR FIRE EMERGENCY.....	911 OR 964-8683
Fire Department – Non Emergency.....	964-6411
Fire Department Fax.....	964-9894
POLICE EMERGENCY.....	911 OR 964-5521
POLICE (ROUTINE CALLS ONLY).....	964-7450
Police Department Fax.....	964-7458

Be sure to give your name and address as well as the nature of your emergency clearly.
DO NOT HANG UP until you are certain that your message has been understood.

* * * * *

DEPARTMENTAL DIRECTORY

Assessing Department.....	964-5523
Building/Planning/Zoning Department.....	964-9800
Building/Planning/Zoning Fax.....	964-2964
Cemetery Superintendent.....	(cell) 817-0066
Library.....	964-8401
Library Fax.....	964-7065
Public Works.....	964-5300
Public Works Director/ EMERGENCY	(cell) 396-0315
Recreation.....	964-6281
Recycling Center (Recycle or Brush).....	964-5300
Selectmen.....	964-5523
Selectmen Fax	964-1516
E-Mail:	jireland@town.ryc.nh.us
Town Website:	www.town.ryc.nh.us
Sewer Commission.....	964-6815
Town Administrator.....	964-5523
Town Clerk / Tax Collector.....	964-8562
Town Clerk / Tax Collector Fax	964-4132
Treasurer.....	964-5523
Welfare, Overseer of Public.....	964-5523

A BRIEF LOOK AT RYE HARBOR DREDGE HISTORY

Until 1900, coastal Rye was composed primarily of marshland, drained by winding creeks formed as a result of tidal ebb and flow over time. These expanses of marsh were separated by rocky promontories which were not connected by roadway along our eastern shore.

In 1606, explorer Samuel De Champlain noted potential for protected anchorage at the latitude of 43 degrees, accurate for what would later become the location of Rye Harbor.

Rye Harbor is manmade. According to L.B. Parsons, *History of Rye, N.H.*, an area was dug out around the "deep hole" about 1756. More than 30 years later, the task of creating a permanent harbor "betwixt" Ragged Neck and Little Neck was undertaken in May of 1792 when a committee of seven was appointed to "dig out what they think proper". The list of those who subscribed to dig consisted of 47 names, the number of days each devoted to the task and if they also supplied oxen and/or rum.

During the 1800s, schooners transported products and goods up and down the coast. Rye Harbor was part of this commerce with potatoes being an important export of the farmers of Rye. The history of Rye Harbor as a market place, fishing and lobster hub, home to the Irish moss industry and restaurant destination is well documented in Parsons *History of Rye, N.H.*, William Varrell's *Rye on the Rocks* and *Just Rye Harbor* by Thomas C. and Rosemary F. Clarie.

In retrospect, perhaps the greatest occurrence to impact harbor access, use and development over the past 400 years was the construction of coastal Route 1-A, also known as Ocean Boulevard. This undertaking, funded by the State and designed to connect the existing roads that ran from inland to the sea, was constructed in segments. The State appropriation of 1901 was for a 5-mile stretch requiring a long bridge across Rye Harbor, but, as reiterated in *Just Rye Harbor*, State Commissioners Howard, Follansbee and Brown, who were also supervisors of the Ocean Boulevard construction, thought "that the harbor might be skirted by a gracefully curved drive to more general public satisfaction". Parsons *History of Rye, N.H.* states that "A principal object of the promoters of this shore-line road is said to have been to secure to the public, for all time, free and unobstructed access to the seashore of the state at all points."

Over time public sentiment grew for enlargement and improvement of Rye Harbor which had remained, since its inception, open to the sea and exposed to loss and destruction due to savage storms. The 1934 town meeting voted to appropriate a total of \$23,000 as the Town's share for improvements to Rye Harbor, if State and Federal aid could be secured.

In 1938, as part of the National Resources Commission's recommendation to Congress, \$330,000 was proposed to dredge Rye Harbor and build jetties for protection at the entrance. Late that year jetty construction was underway; and the first dredging of the harbor began in 1941. Unfortunately, the waste material dredged from the bottom of the harbor was spread on the marsh behind the Goss property, the area known as Awcomin Marsh. There were plans at that time to use this "reclaimed land" for a New Hampshire National Guard landing field and military reservation.

In 1962 the harbor was dredged again; and, despite concerns expressed by the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department and the New Hampshire State Port Authority, dredged spoils were spread atop the 1941 deposit on Awcomin Marsh. During the 1962 dredging process, some of that material was used to construct the parking lot abutting Ocean Boulevard. The docks, the State Pier and the launching ramp were also constructed at that time. Throughout its history, harbor activity had been concentrated along the southern edge of the harbor, not far from the harbor's mouth. That changed in 1962.

The Rye Conservation Commission 2002 annual report stated in regard to its Awcomin Salt Marsh Restoration Project "This project includes the removal of 100,000 cubic yards of spoils placed on the marsh when Rye Harbor was dredged in the 1940's and 1960's, and restoration of over 25 acres of salt marsh."

In 1990, the Rye Harbor channel was dredged. Since then, 28 years have passed, the need to dredge again is apparent and we are currently competing for Federal funds. Each dredging project is a multi-year effort which requires Federal, State and local coordination. The good news is that the material to be dredged has been tested and approved for dumping at the Cape Arundel site or at the Isles of Shoals North site.

Without dredging, the dynamic diversity of this unique place will gradually silt to a halt.

