

TOWN OF RYE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

**2021
MINUTES OF THE
DELIBERATIVE SESSION**

2021 BUDGET

**2019
AUDITOR'S REPORT
AND STATUS OF THE 2020 AUDIT**

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

**June 5, 2021
DELIBERATIVE SESSION**

At 9:10 a.m., on the 5th day of June 2021, at the Wentworth by the Sea Country Club Pavilion, Moderator Robert Eaton called the meeting to order and led those in attendance in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. He introduced himself and thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. Moderator Eaton asked for a moment of silence for friends and neighbors who passed away during 2020, as well as for all who were lost due to Covid 19 in America, as well as around the world.

Moderator Eaton introduced the Town officials on the stage: Town Clerk/Tax Collector Donna DeCotis, Town Counsel Michael Donovan, Chair of the Selectboard Phil Winslow, Selectboard Member Bill Epperson and Selectboard Member Mae Bradshaw. He also introduced Town Administrator Becky Bergeron and Selectboard Secretary Janice Ireland, who is present to address financial issues from 2020. He welcomed Rye's new Financial Director Ned Paul. Moderator Eaton recognized Phil Winslow, Chair of the Selectboard.

Selectperson Winslow thanked everyone for their patience and for accommodating the change in the date and venue for the Deliberative Session. The date for the Deliberative Session was set back in February. At that time, it was not known what the status of the pandemic would be, so they erred on the side of safety for all. He thanked Town Clerk Donna DeCotis for arranging the venue. He also thanked Moderator Robert Eaton for all his hard work over the past year in ensuring that the Town has well-run, honest and fair elections, as well as a well-organized Deliberative Session. He gave thanks to Police Chief Kevin Walsh and his officers for their assistance and ensuring everyone's safety at the Deliberative Session. He also gave thanks to Public Works Director Dennis McCarthy, Fire Chief Mark Cotreau and their teams for their help in making sure the Town has a safe presentation at the meeting. He thanked Janice Ireland for coordinating the Zoom portion of the meeting and Amy Thibodeau for handling the registrations. He thanked Firefighter/AEMT Peter Anania and Sgt. Bill Blais for taking care of the electronics. He gave thanks to the Supervisors of the Checklist, Sally King, Madeline Chichester and Jane Holway, and the Assistant Moderators, Karen Oliver and Michael Moody. He thanked Town Administrator Becky Bergeron for her coordination, along with Nicolle Casey from Wentworth by the Sea Country Club. He gave a special thank you to the owners of the Country Club for allowing the Town to use the venue. He commented that it takes an unbelievable amount of planning and coordination. The Selectboard appreciates everyone's help in making this happen. He thanked everyone in attendance for taking the time, on a beautiful day, to participate in the process for town government.

Acknowledging Public Works Director Dennis McCarthy, Selectboard Chair Winslow noted that Mr. McCarthy has worked for the Town of Rye for the past eleven years and his work has been

exemplary. Mr. McCarthy will be retiring at the end of this year and he will be missed very much. He thanked Mr. McCarthy for his service to Rye.

Selectboard Chair Winslow recognized the recent passing of Ned Tate, who was a long-time, iconic resident of Rye. Mr. Tate contributed greatly to his community and he will be missed.

The meeting was turned back over to Moderator Eaton.

Moderator Eaton noted that masks are required inside the pavilion. If anyone would like to remove their mask to speak, they may do so; however, he encourages attendees to wear masks at all times.

Moderator Eaton introduced the candidates who are running for Town offices and invited those in attendance to please stand. He announced that Rye Civic League will be hosting a Candidates Night on July 6th at 7:00 p.m. Candidates will be livestreamed at the Rye Public Library and the audience may attend virtually. He also announced that the Town and School Election for local offices and warrant articles will be held on Tuesday, July 13th at the Rye Elementary School. The polls will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Moderator Eaton 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 July election. Nonetheless, most articles may be amended in order to change how they appear on the ballot.
- 2. Moderator's Rules:** By New Hampshire Law, the Moderator sets the rules and procedures for the meeting. I won't follow Robert's Rules of Order or any other complicated rules of parliamentary procedure. As you all know by now, 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 summarize each article in the order that it appears on the warrant, unless somebody moves to take an article out of order. The whole article will be projected on the screen and there are hard copies of the warrant available. After reading the summary, I will ask for a motion and a second to move it to the floor for debate. I will then recognize the article's sponsor. After that, everyone here is invited to speak. If you want to speak to an article, line up behind the microphone and please stand approximately six feet apart. When it's your turn, introduce yourself by name and street address. I will also recognize anyone that may be outside at one of those microphones. For anyone outside who would like to speak, go to one of the microphones and wait for an assistant moderator to say you may speak. I will recognize new speakers before someone speaks a second time. Remember, everyone is present in the spirit of fair debate. Some of you may be passionate about certain issues; however, don't let your passion

get the better of you. Please be civil and courteous. Do not raise your voices. Avoid bitterness and refrain from personal attacks. Please, address all comments to me. 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. There is one significant change this year. This is a change that people have been encouraging me to make in past years and is being instituted this year because of the pandemic. I am setting a time limit for speaking of three (3) minutes. That applies to everybody, whether they are in the audience or at the officials' table. When there are thirty (30) seconds left, Steve Borne will hold up a yellow card. When your time is up, he will hold up a red card. At which time, I will ask you to conclude your remarks.

4. Amendments: Any registered voter can move to amend an article. All amendments must be in writing, unless they are very simple. Try to write out your amendment out in advance and please make it so I can read it. A motion to amend can be submitted even if the article to which it relates is not on the floor yet. I will read the motion and then open the floor for discussion. When you are ready to vote, I will restate the amendment. There are five limits to amendments. First, articles whose words are prescribed by law may not be amended. Second, I will not allow amendments to amendments before the original amendment is voted on. Third, an amendment may not add a new subject. Fourth, you cannot increase the budget, including warrant articles, by more than ten percent, unless the article uses specific language seeking to override the ten percent limitation. Finally, amendments cannot eliminate an article's subject matter.

5. Voting: If you haven't already done so, check in at the clerk's table, get a green voting card and sign it. You must check in to vote, even if you are outside. To vote, I will ask you to raise your card. If you are outside, an assistant moderator will count your vote. I will vote only to break or create a tie. We will vote by secret ballot if, before voting on an article, five voters who are here sign a written request for a secret ballot.

6. Recounts/Questioning a Vote: I will call for a recount if seven 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 held on the request of five 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 on the same matter.

8. Restricting Reconsideration: You may also move to restrict reconsideration of an article, but only after I order the article to be placed on the ballot. The motion is not debatable. If the motion carries, this meeting may not reconsider that article later. In moving to restrict reconsideration, please think about whether the subject article is so noncontroversial that such a motion would take up unnecessary time.

9. Calling the Question: This is the same as moving to end debate. The motion requires a second but is not debatable. It requires a two-thirds majority to pass. If the question is called, I will let the person speaking finish before I call for a vote. If you are in line, have your hand up or think I

nodded at you, you may not speak unless the call of the question is defeated. However, I will use my discretion to let somebody speak if I think that fairness requires it.

10. Non-Voters Who Wish to Speak: Sometimes a person who is not a registered Rye voter may ask to speak. I will ask if there is any objection. If nobody objects, I will permit the person to speak. If there is an objection and a second, 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 on issues relating to their departments.

11. 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 moved to the warrant. Articles 1 and 2 invite voters to vote in the election on July 13th. There is nothing to discuss or debate. Articles 3 and 4 propose to amend the Rye Zoning Ordinance and Rye Building Code. Such articles have not been discussed in the past because by law they cannot be amended. If somebody wants to make a motion to discuss any part of Articles 3 or 4, they are welcome to do so now.

Hearing no such motion, **Moderator Eaton ordered Articles 3 and 4 to appear on the ballot as written.**

ARTICLE 05. 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 ten million seven hundred fifty-four thousand six hundred sixty-five dollars (\$10,754,665)? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be ten million one hundred eighty-nine thousand three hundred three dollars (\$10,189,303) 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. (8-0)

Selectperson Winslow moved Article 5 to the floor. Seconded by Selectperson Epperson.
Moderator Eaton asked Selectman Winslow to speak to Article 5.

Selectperson Winslow noted there is a 4.21% increase in the proposed budget for 2021 over the 2020 Budget. The increase is mostly due to a health insurance increase of 9.25%, wages and salaries by contract increase of 4.21% and New Hampshire Retirement, which went up 13.96%. He asked Town Administrator Bergeron to speak in regard to the article.

Town Administrator Becky Bergeron stated that the health insurance costs increased by \$91,000 or 9.25%. This was predicated in portion on a 5.33% increase from HealthTrust. There were

also some other plan changes which coincided. There is a wage increase of 4.21%, as predicated in part on a 2.75% cost of living adjustment (COLA) for both nonunion and union staff, as well as step increases for certain individuals. The retirement has the highest increase of 13.96% or \$207,114, which was predicated on increases by the State. Of the \$434,179 additional expenses in the operating budget, \$381,798 is attributed to wages, salaries and benefits.

Moderator Eaton called for further discussion on Article 5.

Joseph Cummins, 990 Washington Road, asked if the legal budget includes expected settlements for the Town. He also asked what legal settlements came up last year.

Town Administrator Bergeron explained that the legal expense line item in the budget does not include any legal settlements. Those are for legal fees the Town pays.

Town Attorney Donovan noted that all settlements are required to be recorded with the Town Clerk and are subject to the Right-to-Know Law. The settlement of the litigation regarding the Parsonage required the Town to reimburse Mr. Philbrick \$31,000 for the demolition of the Parsonage building. He believes that was the only money paid out for settlements this past year.

Hearing no further discussion on Article 5, **Moderator Eaton ordered Article 5 to appear on the ballot as written.**

ARTICLE 06. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of eight hundred thousand dollars (\$800,000) for construction of transportation safety improvements, including a sidewalk and a bike lane, in the Town Center from the intersection of Washington Road and Wallis Road to the intersection of Central Road and Washington Road with five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) to come from NH Department of Transportation alternatives program grant (TAP) and the balance of three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) to come from general taxation for the local match required for the grant. This article is non-lapsing until December 31, 2025 or until the project is complete, whichever comes first. This project is contingent upon the receipt of the TAP grant. (Majority vote required.)

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

This article is recommended by the Budget Committee. (8-0)

Selectperson Bradshaw moved Article 6 to the floor. Seconded by Selectperson Winslow. Moderator Eaton asked Selectperson Bradshaw to speak to Article 6.

Selectperson Bradshaw explained that this article relates to the Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) Grant application. Last year, there was a warrant article that looked like this and it passed 992 to 666. Basically, it authorizes the Town to come up with \$300,000 as a match for a grant which is administrated by the NH Department of Transportation. Last year, the Town was not given the opportunity to apply for the grant, even though the warrant article passed, because the grant wasn't available. She continued that this is primarily for the Town Center. It came out of the planning work of the Selectboard's new Town Center Committee, which worked in conjunction with the Fire Chief, Police Chief and an engineering firm, as well as Rockingham

Planning Commission, to try to make the center of town a safer environment for pedestrians and bicyclists, and especially for children who often walk from the Junior High School to the Library. She continued that they have learned that with this year's application, the Town would be required to have a fulltime employee supervising the grant, which would be an incredible burden on the Town to participate in the grant. However, they also learned that the NH Department of Transportation would provide that for a percentage. So, the budget has been increased in a proposed amendment that she would like to present.

Selectperson Bradshaw moved to amend Article 6 to change the appropriation from eight hundred thousand dollars (\$800,000) to one million forty thousand dollars (\$1,040,000) and to raise the amount of the TAP Grant from five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) to seven hundred forty thousand dollars (\$740,000). Seconded by Selectperson Winslow.

Selectwoman Bradshaw explained that the amendment increases the NH Department of Transportation's contribution to the grant. The community will still be asked to pay the \$300,000 match that was passed last year. The Town will actually be getting the value of \$1,040,000. Because of the particular match relationship, the Town will be getting a much better contribution from the State if the grant is awarded. She pointed out that the timetable is a little uncertain. However, the Town has made it through the first couple of stages and has been recommended by Rockingham County. The decision on the grant is to be made in the month of June and the Town should be hearing soon. From there, it will go to the Governor's office in July to be approved by the Governor and Executive Council. Ultimately, the money will not be available until January 1, 2022. It is expected that the project itself will take a couple of years to develop the engineering and for the actual construction. The Town may not be looking at the improvements until as late as 2025. That is why that date has been added as a final date for this approval. If this amendment is approved, it will extend until December 31, 2025 to allow for the whole process to unfold and be paid for.

No further discussion was heard.

Moderator Eaton called for a vote on the amendment to change the appropriation from eight hundred thousand dollars (\$800,000) to one million forty thousand dollars (\$1,040,000) and to raise the amount of the TAP Grant from five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) to seven hundred forty thousand dollars (\$740,000). Motion to amend carried. Article 6 hereby amended.

Moderator Eaton called for discussion on Article 6 as amended.

Shawn Crapo, 676 Central Road, commented that he knows the grant focuses on pedestrians and bicycles. However, in the designing of this, the Town needs to make sure it also addresses vehicles. With the current configuration of Lang Road, a truck and trailer cannot properly pull out without going into the incoming lane of traffic, when heading towards the fire station. If the road is narrowed even more, there are going to be more vehicles head-to-head in that area.

Mr. Cummins stated that he hopes that some of this money can be spent to improve safety in the breakdown lanes along Washington Road, which can be a problematic road at various times. He

has walked often in the Town Center and does not see the safety concerns. He sees many more safety concerns on other parts of Washington Road.

Hearing no further discussion, **Moderator Eaton ordered Article 6 to appear on the ballot as amended.**

Motion by Selectperson Winslow to restrict reconsideration of Articles 5 and 6. Seconded by Selectperson Epperson. Motion carried. Reconsideration of Articles 5 and 6 hereby restricted.

ARTICLE 07. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of three hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$350,000) to mitigate future salt intrusion into the ground by erecting a salt storage handling and storage facility at the existing Public Works/Transfer Station property (309 Grove Road), and to authorize the withdrawal of ninety-two thousand dollars (\$92,000) from the Salt Shed Storage Capital Reserve Fund created in 2005 for this purpose. (Majority vote required.)

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)
This article is recommended by the Budget Committee. (8-1)

Selectperson Epperson moved Article 7 to the floor. Seconded by Selectperson Bradshaw. Moderator Eaton asked Selectperson Epperson to speak to Article 7.

Selectperson Epperson explained that this article is an attempt to mitigate future salt intrusion into the ground and therefore, into the drinking water. This particular article speaks to something that should have been done a long time ago. The \$350,000 will be reduced by \$92,000, which is in the Salt Shed Storage Capital Reserve Fund that was created in 2005.

Moderator Eaton called for further discussion on Article 7.

Jeffrey Quinn, 71 Cable Road, asked if someone can explain the reason for the dissenting vote by one of the members of the Budget Committee. He asked if it was a concern for tax dollars or if there is another safety consideration the voters should be made aware of. Moderator Eaton asked if anyone from the Budget Committee could address the reason for the dissenting vote. Scott Marion, 71 Washington Road, stated that he thinks it was more of a procedural versus a content dissent.

Shawn Crapo stated that he believes it was because of the overall cost and a question of general cost features. There was some discussion that the original bill talked to construction costs. When it was presented this year, there were even more costs for ongoing maintenance features. The minutes of the budget meeting reflect that it may not be “enough” or may not be the “actual reflection” of the final cost.

Public Works Director Dennis McCarthy commented that he believes there was some discussion about whether it was enough. Maybe the member who made the dissenting vote felt the number should be bigger. He explained that the \$350,000 is intended to just pay for the construction of the building itself, which will be a concrete foundation block with a fabric building on top. It is

a fairly inexpensive building that will hold about half a year's worth of salt. Currently, the existing facility holds about three storms worth, which could potentially be two weeks at the most and is falling apart. This has been a long time coming. He has been working on this proposal since he started in Rye. It will be nice to see this passed this year, so it can be finished.

Moderator Eaton called for further discussion on Article 7. Hearing none, **Moderator Eaton ordered Article 7 to appear on the ballot as written.**

ARTICLE 08. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) for the purchase of a mini pumper to replace engine 1 and to authorize the withdrawal of two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) from the Ambulance and Fire Special Revenue Fund and one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) from the Fire and Ambulance Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund the purpose of which was amended by Article 15 of the 2018 Town Meeting. This article has no current tax impact. (Majority vote required.)

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

Selectperson Winslow moved Article 8 to the floor. Seconded by Selectperson Bradshaw. Moderator Eaton asked Selectman Winslow to address Article 8.

Selectperson Winslow noted that the Town has two funds. One is the Ambulance and Fire Capital Reserve Fund, which currently has \$282,201. For the purchase, \$100,000 will be used from that fund, leaving a balance of \$182,201. The second fund is the Ambulance and Fire Special Reserve Fund. The current amount in that account is \$235,906, of which \$200,000 will be used for the purchase, leaving a balance of \$35,906. However, there is an upcoming article on the warrant which will add \$100,000 back into that fund. Between the two accounts, there would be a little over \$300,000 going into next year. He asked Chief Cotreau to talk about the replacement of the current pumper.

Fire Chief Mark Cotreau explained that this purchase is part of the Fire Department's twenty-year capital plan, which has been worked hard on over the last few years. The move to the mini pumper is an attempt to maintain operational readiness, while creating efficiencies for the Town and the Fire Department's operations. The mini pumper will be replacing a 1993 KME Fire Engine. It is a twenty-eight year old fire engine. In 2018, an independent assessment was done on this engine. It was found that the frame was starting to rot and it needed about \$75,000 in repairs. Also, the life expectancy was only another five to seven years. He continued that the replacement of the vehicle has been planned for some time. The current model of the Department is three big fire trucks. Those are needed for service capacity and operational readiness. However, the Department does not need all three trucks to be big fire trucks. The proposed model would be to maintain the pumper ladder truck, Engine 3 and a smaller mini pumper, which basically maintains pumping capability. This truck can be used for calls in which a smaller vehicle can be used. With the mini pumper, the Department will maintain the surge capacity needed to respond to multiple calls and large-scale incidents. It will also lessen the wear and tear on the larger, more expensive trucks. The maintenance on the mini pumper will cost a fraction of what it does for the bigger trucks. The Town will be saving \$300,000 to

\$400,000 versus buying a full-size custom pumper. There are other towns, such as Manchester by the Sea, MA, that run this model successfully. For a department in a community like Rye, it is a smart choice, which has carefully been thought out, and he respectfully requests the residents' support.

Moderator Eaton called for further discussion on Article 8.

Steven Borne, 431 Wallis Road, stated that in looking just at Rye, the Chief has done a fabulous job of looking at the capital plan and what the Town needs. Chief Cotreau has done the same with resources. The issue is about the Town, which is over saturated with vehicles, along with the surrounding communities that have the same problem. The Town has a ton of vehicles and not enough people. It is only fourteen percent of the time when the Department's vehicles are out that there is a second call. That call is usually served by one of the neighboring towns. It is not the Chief's job. It's the Town's job, led by the Selectboard, to say "we need to do a better job of more efficiently managing the capital, so there is less capital and additional staff can actually be funded".

Mr. Cummins stated that he is inclined to support this spending. He thanked Selectperson Winslow because it is refreshing to hear about the balance of a fund and how much it is going to decrease by pulling money out of that fund. He asked how trucks rot. He also asked how many miles are on the existing truck.

Chief Cotreau explained that especially with the older apparatus, the trucks have split frames and salt gets into different parts of the frame. Even though many times it looks okay on the outside, the frame is questionable underneath. He pointed out this is not limited to particular types of apparatus. It was very common in the 70's, 80's and 90's. It was very common for fire apparatus to take that route; especially, when the Town is near salt water, which can be worse than the salt on the roads. The mileage on the fire truck is only 39,000. Pump operators use pump hours, which is another key factor, and this is just shy of 3,000. The problem really isn't the mileage. If this was an over the road truck it could run hundreds of thousands of miles. The problem is that these trucks are big diesels designed to do that; however, they get started and shut off, over and over again, which creates the wear and tear on the vehicle.

Moderator Eaton called for further discussion on Article 8.

Mr. Crapo stated that part of the reason for this meeting is so people can decide what goes on the ballot to be decided by the voters. The Selectboard meets with department heads and come up with recommendations. The Budget Committee meets and makes recommendations. For safety purposes, the Town should be fairly autonomous and not rely on other towns' pieces of equipment. To be short on fire engines, when there is a fire, does not make sense. If the townspeople want to vote to have fifty extra fire engines and have their taxes be so affected, that is their prerogative. However, to try and cut, when it has been the recommendation of the boards, is irresponsible and that is why the Budget Committee unanimously recommended this article.

Hearing no further discussion, **Moderator Eaton ordered Article 8 to appear on the ballot as written.**

ARTICLE 09. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) for the purchase of a backhoe or front-end loader and to authorize the withdrawal of two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) from the Highway Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund created in 1994 for this purpose. This article has no current tax impact. (Majority vote required.)

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

Selectperson Epperson moved Article 9 to the floor. Seconded by Selectperson Bradshaw. Moderator Eaton asked Selectperson Epperson to speak to Article 9.

Selectperson Epperson noted that he will be proposing an amendment to the article, as the backhoe is budgeted for this year and the front-end loader is next year.

Motion by Selectperson Epperson to amend the article to read: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) for the purchase of a backhoe and to strike the words "or front-end loader". Seconded by Selectperson Bradshaw.

Moderator Eaton called for discussion on the motion to amend Article 9.

Selectperson Epperson noted that the fund has \$268,932. There is no tax impact by this particular article.

There being no further discussion, **Moderator Eaton called for a vote on the motion to amend Article 9 to strike the words "or front-end loader". Motion to amend carried. Article 9 hereby amended.**

Moderator Eaton called for discussion on Article 9 as amended. Hearing none, **Moderator Eaton ordered Article 9 to appear on the ballot as amended.**

ARTICLE 10. 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. (8-0)

Selectperson Winslow moved Article 10 to the floor. Selectperson Bradshaw seconded. Moderator Eaton asked Selectperson Winslow to speak to Article 10.

Selectperson Winslow noted the current balance in the Highway Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund is \$268,932. The last expenditure from that account was in 2020 for the replacement of a one-ton dump truck in the amount of \$70,000.

Motion by Selectperson Winslow to correct the name of the fund for which the appropriation is to be added to the “Highway Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund”. Seconded by Selectperson Bradshaw. Moderator Eaton called for discussion on the motion to amend Article 10. Hearing none, **Moderator called for a vote on the motion to amend Article 10 to add the word “Heavy”. Motion to amend carried. Article 10 hereby amended.**

Moderator Eaton called for further discussion on Article 10 as amended. No further discussion was heard. **Moderator Eaton ordered Article 10 to appear on the ballot as amended.**

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 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. (8-0)

Selectperson Bradshaw moved Article 11 to the floor. Seconded by Selectperson Epperson. Moderator Eaton asked Selectwoman Bradshaw to speak to Article 11.

Selectwoman Bradshaw noted that this article will be replacing the \$100,000 that is proposed to come out of the fund, which was discussed with a prior article. Over the next five years, fire and ambulance is going to have about 1.3 million in equipment that has to be provided, which is in the current Capital Improvements Plan (CIP). Currently, there is \$282,201 in that account and depleting it by \$100,000 will affect that. She pointed out it is really a savings account for the future. The Town has strategically tried to plan by having the Fire Department put a certain amount of money on the warrant each year, so there will always be some reserve. Also, it helps to keep the tax rate level by having a savings plan each year.

Moderator Eaton called for discussion on Article 11.

Hearing no discussion, **Moderator Eaton ordered Article 11 to appear on the ballot as written.**

ARTICLE 12. 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. (8-0)

Selectperson Epperson moved Article 12 to the floor. Seconded by Selectperson Bradshaw. Moderator Eaton asked Selectman Epperson to speak to Article 12.

Selectperson Epperson explained that the Town Employees' Accumulated Leave Fund is used to pay for accrued sick leave and vacations. It is a State mandated fund by RSA 31:19 and by Article 14 of the 1990 Rye Town Meeting for the purpose of funding town employees' accumulated leave. The State would like towns to have approximately fifty percent of this fund on hand. Right now, the total liability would be \$610,489. Currently, the fund balance is \$197,381. The addition of \$50,000 would bring the balance close to fifty percent.

Moderator Eaton called for discussion on Article 12.

Mr. Cummins asked the approximate annual buildup of that liability. Town Administrator Bergeron replied that last year, the liability was approximately \$550,000. The liability depends on the number of retirements and/or resignations during the year. It also depends upon the amount of time that employees are accumulating throughout the course of the year.

Moderator Eaton called for further discussion on Article 12. Hearing none, **Moderator Eaton ordered Article 12 to appear on the ballot as written.**

ARTICLE 13. To see if the Town will vote to establish a Conservation Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a for the purpose of creating a fund to repair and maintain land and buildings owned by the Town of Rye and managed by the Rye Conservation Commission and to raise and appropriate the sum of forty-five thousand dollars (\$45,000) to be placed in this fund, and to designate the Rye Conservation Commission as agents to expend. 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 (8-0)

Selectperson Epperson moved Article 13 to the floor. Seconded by Selectperson Bradshaw. Moderator Eaton asked Selectperson Epperson to speak to Article 13.

Selectman Epperson stated that the Conservation Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund, under RSA 31:19, is for the purpose of repairing and maintaining land and buildings owned by the Town of Rye. The amount of \$45,000 would be used to create this fund to make sure maintenance and repairs are budgeted.

Moderator Eaton called for discussion on Article 13.

Suzanne McFarland, Chair of the Rye Conservation Commission, explained that this warrant article came about because of discussions with the Budget Committee. It is basically for the Goss Farm Barn, which the Conservation Commission would like to properly maintain for future years, as the Goss Farm is being used quite actively.

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

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. (8-0)

Selectperson Bradshaw moved Article 14 to the floor. Seconded by Selectperson Epperson. Moderator Eaton asked Selectperson Bradshaw to speak to Article 14.

Selectperson Bradshaw stated that these funds are set aside for maintenance, so the Town can be good stewards of its properties in town. It's an operations account that is kept for building maintenance and it will need a majority vote of the governing body to actually expend it. She reiterated this is a plan to keep annually investing in a savings account that can be used when things break down.

Moderator Eaton called for discussion on Article 14.

Hearing no further discussion, **Moderator Eaton ordered Article 14 to appear on the ballot as written.**

ARTICLE 15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) to be added to the Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund established by Article 24 at the 2020 Town meeting pursuant to RSA 35:1 for the future revaluation of the Town so that the assessments are at full and true value at least as often as every fifth year. 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. (8-0)

Selectperson Winslow moved Article 15 to the floor. Seconded by Selectperson Epperson. Moderator Eaton asked Selectman Winslow to speak to Article 15.

Selectperson Winslow explained that by state law, the Town is required to reevaluate its properties to determine assessment value every five years. This spreads the cost of doing so over a five-year period, to help avoid spikes in the tax rate. The reevaluation is expected to be around \$60,000. The assessment will be started at the end of this year and completed in 2022. This will provide sufficient funds to pay for the revaluation. In future years, the request to add to the fund will be \$12,000, in order to keep it over the five years.

Moderator Eaton called for discussion on Article 15.

Mr. Cummins asked if the Town would not engage in appraisals every five years, if this article were to be voted down.

Selectperson Winslow explained that the Town would have to pay for revaluation in one year. This will go into the budget as \$30,000 for this year and \$12,000 in the future.

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

Mr. Crapo moved to restrict reconsideration of Articles 7 through 15. Seconded by Mr. Marion. Motion passed. Reconsideration of Articles 7 through 15 hereby restricted.

ARTICLE 16. 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. (8-0)

Selectperson Epperson moved Article 16 to the floor. Seconded by Selectperson Bradshaw. Moderator Eaton asked Selectperson Epperson to speak to Article 16.

Selectperson Epperson noted that Article 16 is really a mirror image of Article 12. The fund is to cover accumulated sick leave and vacation time. Currently, there is \$19,765 in this particular account.

Moderator Eaton called for discussion on Article 16. Hearing none, **Moderator Eaton ordered Article 16 to be placed on the ballot as written.**

ARTICLE 17. 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. (9-0)

Selectwoman Bradshaw moved Article 17 to the floor. Seconded by Selectperson Winslow. Moderator Eaton asked Selectperson Bradshaw to speak to the article.

Selectperson Bradshaw noted that this article is the same as Article 14, only it is for the benefit of the Library. Over the next few years in the CIP, the Library expects expenses of \$236,000 in

terms of improvements and maintenance of the building. Right now, the account has a balance of \$60,680. This is an article that is proposed annually to just build the fund.

Moderator Eaton called for further discussion on Article 17. Hearing none, **Moderator Eaton ordered Article 17 to appear on the ballot as written.**

ARTICLE 18. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of three thousand dollars (\$3,000) to be added to the Grove Road Landfill Capital Reserve Fund established by Article 11 at the 1994 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. (8-0)

Selectperson Epperson moved Article 18 to the floor. Seconded by Selectperson Bradshaw. Moderator Eaton asked Selectperson Epperson to speak to Article 18.

Selectperson Epperson explained that the Grove Road Landfill was closed some time ago. The \$3,000 will cover the post closure expenses and testing of that landsite to make sure nothing is there that could come to the surface and pollute the water.

Moderator Eaton called for further discussion on Article 18. Hearing none, **Moderator Eaton ordered Article 18 to appear on the ballot as written.**

ARTICLE 19. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to sell the 0.4 +/- acre parcel which was the site of the former Second Parsonage to the highest bidder over five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) if the parcel has not been exchanged for the former TD Bank property by July 31, 2021. The conveyance would include an easement allowing the parcel to utilize the septic system under the adjacent town parking lot provided the purchaser agrees to assume responsibility for the maintenance, repair and replacement, if necessary, of the system and any consequential repair of the parking lot to the satisfaction of the Public Works Department. The conveyance would retain a 3-foot-wide easement along the south and west boundaries of the parcel, allowing the Library Trustees to maintain the sidewalk and maintain and control the library sidewalk lighting adjacent to the present parking lot. The purchaser will have to comply with all zoning, historic district and planning board regulations.

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

Selectperson Winslow moved Article 19 to the floor. Seconded by Selectperson Epperson. Moderator Eaton asked Selectperson Winslow to speak to Article 19.

Selectperson Winslow stated that this article is moot because the ownership of the TD Bank property has been acquired by the Town. There wasn't a need to sell the Parsonage property to acquire TD Bank. Through the generosity of the Library Trustees, the Town has maintained ownership of the Parsonage, as well.

Moderator Eaton called for further discussion on Article 19.

Mr. Crapo stated that he wonders how there was an article, which the Town voted down, to use taxpayer money to buy the TD Bank building. Conservation funds is still taxpayer money. This whole transaction, whether it be through a settlement or not, is still using taxpayer money to purchase that land and facilitate the whole transaction. He asked how this can go forward, contrary to the Town vote of not purchasing the TD Bank building.

Selectperson Winslow explained that the \$400,000 was not taxpayer money. It was the result of funds bequeathed to the Library.

Mr. Crapo stated that the Library uses their bequest money to fund some of their expenses. They then sit with the Budget Committee and have an operating expense that goes over some of their other expenses. If they use all their bequest money for this, in future years, there is nothing preventing their budget from increasing and therefore, having a tax impact.

Selectperson Winslow noted that is entirely up to the Library Trustees.

Attorney Donovan explained that the original deal, which was approved by Town Meeting last year, had no cash outlay and eventually, \$700,000 was spent. There may not have been an original town expenditure in the article that was approved last year; however, there was what was called consideration. Consideration is an exchange of value. That value was that Dan Philbrick would have gotten the Parsonage property in exchange for the bank. That did not happen because the Library Trustees succeeded in driving Mr. Philbrick away through the lawsuit that was filed against the Town. That lawsuit was settled. As far as the \$700,000 goes, he thinks the wrong board is being asked by focusing on the Board of Selectmen. The Conservation Commission has contributed \$300,000 for the purchase of the bank property and the Library Trustees have used \$400,000 from a bequest. Each of those boards has the authority to spend that money without town meeting approval. The Conservation Commission can spend from the previously appropriated and approved bond without further town meeting action. The Library Trustees have authority to spend money from their bequest.

Attorney Donovan continued that, in actuality, the proposal started with the Library Trustees. The lawsuit included several claims by the Trustees and two other citizens of Rye, who happen to be members of the Historic District Commission. One of the claims made was that the authority to proceed with the redevelopment of the site, after the teardown of the Parsonage, took another town meeting vote. Another claim was that the 1997 town votes to acquire the Parsonage property indicated that the property should be retained for town use. Because of the lawsuit, the courts had jurisdiction over those two issues. The Selectboard and all parties settled the case by agreement and filed a settlement stipulation in the court. The settlement stipulation required the purchase of the TD Bank property for \$700,000 from Mr. Philbrick, with \$400,000 coming from the Trustees and \$300,000 from the Conservation Commission. Also, it required retention of the entire library property for library use. The settlement was approved and ordered by the court. That court order resolved all the legal questions as to whether another town vote was required, as well as whether the property could be retained by the Town for the Library without a further vote. Every party to that transaction, the Selectboard, Conservation

Commission, the two citizens who are members of the Historic District Commission, and the Library Trustees, signed off on that settlement and process. Each one of those parties were represented by their own attorneys. The simple explanation is that the court order governs and every action that was taken by that court order is legal. He commented that if there are further questions, he would invite representatives of the Library Trustees, Conservation Commission, or the two citizens involved in the litigation, to explain.

Moderator Eaton called for further discussion.

Veronica Morrow, 149 Fern Avenue, asked if someone can explain ownership of the properties and who paid for what. She also asked if the answer will be included in the minutes, as she would like to review the answer. Moderator Eaton stated that the minutes will record what happened at this meeting. They won't be verbatim; however, he expects they will accurately get the substance of the response.

Attorney Donovan explained that right now, the Conservation Commission owns the bank parcel, which includes the building and almost 4 acres of land. However, in the court order, as well as a separate agreement that all three boards signed, it is required that there be a lot line adjustment between the 4-acre bank parcel and the adjacent Town Forest. It also requires that the lot line adjustment result in 2.3 acres of land becoming part of the Town Forest. The other 1.5 acres will be deeded to the Town for use as a town office. That has yet to take place because it requires a survey and planning board approval. The survey has been completed and the hope is it will go before the Planning Board at its July meeting. At that time, the back 2.4 acres of the bank property will become part of the Town Forest, which is managed by the Conservation Commission. The front part will be for office use managed by the Selectboard. In terms of the Parsonage property, which is about .4 acres in size, it is owned by the Town right now. The agreement with the Library Trustees and the court order indicates there is a deed restriction on that property which requires that the property be used for library purposes. It is owned by the Town, as is the Library, but the deed restriction requires the .4 acres that used to be the Parsonage site to be used for library purposes in the future.

Attorney Donovan further explained that the Conservation Commission paid \$300,000 of the \$700,000 out of a conservation bond. The Library Trustees paid \$400,000 out of a recent bequest.

Mr. Cummins asked if the town citizens, who engaged in the lawsuit, were acting on behalf of the Historic District Commission. Attorney Donovan replied they were not.

Referring to Selectperson Winslow's comment that the article is a moot point, Mr. Marion asked if people are still going to vote on the article or if it will be stricken from the ballot.

Selectperson Winslow explained the intention is to move an amendment to the article and then it will be up to the voters to make a decision, but it is a moot point.

Attorney Donovan noted that this warrant was put together back in January. Under state law, the warrant cannot be changed from what was posted back in January. There is an amendment that will hopefully make it clear on the ballot that this article is moot.

Motion by Selectman Winslow to strike all but the first sentence of Article 19 and add a sentence at the end, so the article will read as follows: “To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to sell the 0.4 +/- acre parcel which was the site of the former Second Parsonage to the highest bidder over five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) if the parcel has not been exchanged for the former TD Bank property by July 31, 2021. **This article is moot (i.e. unnecessary) and not possible to carry out because the Town already acquired the bank property.**” **Seconded by Selectperson Bradshaw.** Moderator Eaton called for discussion on the motion to amend Article 19.

Mr. Borne stated that he would like to make a clarification on the point about the Town voting down the \$500,000 for TD Bank in previous years. This vote doesn't carry forward. He continued that Attorney Donovan neglected to inform everyone that the Town lent the money to Conservation to close the deal. The Town also spent \$31,000 to close this. In over a decade, the Town has spent over \$700,000 to try to figure what to do. What happened by November is not what the Town voted. The bottom line is that the court settled what happened, after so much time and effort was spent with Town Hall. He thinks that's a shame and very sad. It would have been nice if the court said take it to the ballot and let the voters decide. However, after all that time and effort, the voters aren't saying what happened, the court is.

Mr. Crapo stated that he would like to point out a flaw in the amendment. Attorney Donovan has just said that the Town has not been deeded the TD Bank yet. The amendment says “the Town has already acquired the bank property”. It either needs to be changed to say “acquired the rights to the bank property” or it needs to substitute “Conservation Commission” for “Town”.

Attorney Donovan noted the Conservation Commission is the Town. The amendment is accurate as drafted. The Conservation Commission is the Town and holds and manages it on behalf of the Town.

Hearing no further discussion, **Moderator Eaton called for a vote on the motion to amend Article 19, which would strike all of the existing article except for the first sentence and add the sentence at the end: “This article is moot (i.e. unnecessary) and not possible to carry out because the Town already acquired the bank property”. Motion carried. Article 19 hereby amended.**

Moderator Eaton called for discussion on Article 19 as amended.

Mr. Marion asked if it is irrelevant if this article is voted up or down. Attorney Donovan noted that either way, it is moot and nothing is going to happen.

Moderator Eaton stated that the amendment makes clear that nothing will happen because events have already overtaken what the article was originally intended to do.

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

ARTICLE 20. To see if the Town will vote to delegate to the Selectboard the authority to accept dedicated streets in accordance with RSA 674:40-a. This delegation would be limited to those roads that the Planning Board has approved following subdivision plan, site plan or street plat approval, and have received approval for dedication by the Planning Board and have been constructed and completed in accordance with planning board road construction regulations and have been recommended for acceptance by the Planning Board and Public Works Director. The Selectboard may accept these roads after holding a public hearing. (Majority vote required.)

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

Selectperson Bradshaw moved Article 20 to the floor. Seconded by Selectperson Epperson. Moderator Eaton asked Selectperson Bradshaw to speak to Article 20.

Selectperson Bradshaw explained that this article allows for new roads to be dedicated. The roads still have to go through full compliance with the Planning Board and Public Works, but it eliminates the need for the Selectboard to call for special elections or to wait for the next warrant article period. It's a way of making the roads approved and dedicated without having to wait for a warrant or special election.

Moderator Eaton called for discussion on Article 20.

Mr. Borne asked how this would benefit the Town, if they have to bear the cost of maintaining the road earlier. If the road is completely finished in April, right now, the developer has to maintain that road until the next election, so they're incurring the cost. This article is putting the burden on the Town to maintain the road, possibly eleven months earlier.

Public Works Director McCarthy explained that the developers actually put an article on the warrant early. They are coming in and asking the Town to accept a road long before it is ready to be accepted, so the Town is carrying these articles. It confuses the issue because in theory, the road isn't ready to be accepted when it's presented to the Town. The article is held in abeyance until half a year or sometimes a whole year, before it is actually ready. This way, the Selectboard will deal with the road at the time it is due. No road in this town is accepted until it is ready and complete. It does not cost the Town anything for a number of years after because they are well constructed. It makes the operation of the Town easier and cleaner. He noted that the road has to be dedicated by the Planning Board and approved by the town engineer for construction. It also has to be approved by the Public Works Director and by the Selectboard.

Moderator Eaton called for further discussion on Article 20.

Mr. Cummins asked if there have been any roads that have been rejected by the voters in the last ten years.

Selectperson Epperson noted that he is the Selectboard's representative to the Planning Board. This particular article was carefully crafted to make sure that the builders are not trying to get a substandard road accepted. The roads have to absolutely be built to town standards. They have to be approved by the Planning Board and inspected by the Highway Department. This is done so there is no attempt to get a substandard or incomplete road passed that the Town would have to take care of at some future time. This article is being proposed in order to help streamline the process.

Referring to the people living on these roads, Mr. Marion pointed out they are paying taxes when they occupy their house. That money is going into the town coffers. Does this mean that they are second class citizens until the Town decides to accept their road? He pointed out that they had to get approval from the Planning Board to build a house and build a road, so they are following the rules.

Attorney Donovan stated that he has been advising the Planning Board since 1984 and has been town counsel since 1993. In his tenure, there has never been a road article voted down by the Town.

Mr. Borne stated it's the concept of a private road. If someone lives on a private road, they pay to maintain that road. The question is when will the Town take responsibility for taking care of the road when it moves from private to public? The Town is bearing the burden of taking a private road public.

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

ARTICLE 21. (By Petition) To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to convey a portion of the 0.407 acre Parsonage lot (said lot being Lot No. 1 on the survey plan filed in the Rockingham County Registry of Deeds as Plan D-42497) and to acquire in an exchange at par the former TD Bank building and its 3.7 acre parcel, pursuant to the AMENDMENT TO CONTRACT FOR PROPERTY EXCHANGE/SWAP, dated November 6, 2020 and effective November 10, 2020, between the Rye Selectboard and 500 Washington Road, LLC, but with the following exceptions to the said AMENDMENT:

1. Rather than the 75 foot privately owned landscaped Open Space contemplated by Clause 11.3 of the AMENDMENT, said 75 foot area shall be retained by the Town of Rye for the exclusive use of, and control by, the Rye Public Library and for potential future Library expansion, with subdivision survey costs to be paid by the Library; and
2. The right of 500 Washington Road, LLC to own and control the lighting, pursuant to Clause 6.1 of the AMENDMENT, shall not apply to the areas adjacent to the 75 foot area referenced in 1. above; and
3. The date for Closing, pursuant to Clause 5 of the AMENDMENT, shall be extended to April 1, 2021.

The selectmen are specifically not authorized and are directed not to carry out the swap agreement unless amended by the provisions of the Warrant Article.

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

Article 21 was moved to the floor by Mr. Hugh Lee. Seconded by Mr. Marion. Moderator Eaton asked Mr. Lee to speak to Article 21.

Hugh Lee, 220 Pioneer Road, stated that as the sponsor of this article, he finds that it is now moot. The Selectboard has a proposed amendment that is similar to Article 19 and he supports the amendment.

Selectperson Winslow moved to strike all wording after the first sentence in Article 21, including the subparagraphs, and add a new sentence at the end, so the article would read: “(By Petition) To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to convey a portion of the 0.407 acre Parsonage lot (said lot being Lot No. 1 on the survey plan filed in the Rockingham County Registry of Deeds as Plan D-42497) and to acquire in an exchange at par the former TD Bank building and its 3.7 acre parcel. This article is moot (i.e. unnecessary) and not possible to carry out because the Town has already acquired the bank property.” Seconded by Selectperson Epperson.

Moderator Eaton asked Selectperson Winslow to speak to his motion.

Selectperson Winslow stated that the amendment is proposed for the same reasons that were discussed with Article 19. The item is moot. The ownership of the TD Bank parcel is with the Town. The ownership of the Parsonage property is with the Town. The control of the Parsonage property is with the Library.

Moderator Eaton called for further discussion on the motion to Amend Article 21. Hearing none, he called for a vote on the motion, which would amend Article 21 to state as follows: “(By Petition) To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to convey a portion of the 0.407 acre Parsonage lot (said lot being Lot No. 1 on the survey plan filed in the Rockingham County Registry of Deeds as Plan D-42497) and to acquire in an exchange at par the former TD Bank building and its 3.7 acre parcel. This article is moot (i.e. unnecessary) and not possible to carry out because the Town has already acquired the bank property.” Motion to amend carried. Article 21 hereby amended.

Moderator Eaton called for discussion on Article 21 as amended.

Mark Epply, 267 Brackett Road, asked if this amendment, which was made by the Selectmen, now changes the vote of the Selectmen to recommend from not recommended.

Selectperson Winslow asked Attorney Donovan if he would advise the Selectboard to vote for or against this.

Attorney Donovan stated that Mr. Marion proposed a question on Article 19 about what would happen if there is a “yes” vote or a “no” vote. Either way, the matter is moot. Probably the better outcome would be just to have a “no” recommendation on each of these articles and for the Selectboard to leave their recommendation as it is. Attorney Donovan commented that the Selectboard might want to change their recommendation on Article 19.

Moderator Eaton called for further discussion on Article 21. Hearing none, **Moderator Eaton ordered Article 21 to appear on the ballot as amended.**

ARTICLE 22. (By Petition) To see if the town will vote to urge that the New Hampshire General Court, which is obligated to redraw the maps of political districts within the state following the federal census, will ensure fair and effective representation of New Hampshire voters without gerrymandering.

Additionally, these voters ask the town of Rye to urge the NH General Court to carry out the redistricting in a fair and transparent way through public meetings, not to favor a particular political party, to include communities of interest, and to minimize multi-seat districts.

Furthermore, as the New Hampshire State Constitution, Part 2, Article 11 allows towns of sufficient population to have their own state representatives, not shared with other towns, for the town of Rye to petition the NH General Court for its own exclusive seat(s) in the NH House of Representatives if it does not already have it, ensuring that State Representatives properly represent the town’s interests.

The record of the vote approving this article shall be transmitted by written notice from the selectmen to Rye’s state legislators, informing them of the demands from their constituents within 30 days of the vote.

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

Article 22 was moved to the floor by Mr. Borne. Seconded by Mr. Marion. Moderator Eaton asked Mr. Borne to speak to the article

Mr. Borne stated that “Granny D” (Doris Haddock) was the 80 year old grandmother from New Hampshire who walked across the country to advocate for campaign finance reform. Her supporters became the NH Rebellion. The NH Rebellion became Open Democracy. Open Democracy is a NH-based nonpartisan group that is working on behalf of everyone to make democracy better. This is a voice of the people article that doesn’t carry any weight. It just says that the voters of Rye are in support of this. Right now, sixty-six communities across the State have already approved this exact wording, without any changes. It is expected that after the elections on June 8th and July 13th, it will be up to eighty communities.

Mr. Borne noted that Executive Council District 2 goes from Peterborough to Portsmouth. This is because the people in Peterborough, and across the State to Portsmouth, tend to lean towards one party. By packing all those people together, it makes it easier for the other party to win in the other council districts. Another good example of that happening is in Hudson. The Town of

Hudson has twenty-four thousand voters who tend to lean one way. The town right next door, Pelham, has fifteen thousand voters. Pelham tends to be purple. The last two redistrictings have been driving the gerrymandering more and more, so they combined Hudson and Peterborough. The one party in the purple makes all of the representatives for those thirty-nine thousand people one party. Right now, there are two hundred and four districts in NH. Two hundred and eighty-five of those representatives are in these multi-representative districts. The gerrymandering is twisting the maps, so it gives an advantage to one party over the other. The Legislature passed laws to make a fair, open and balanced process. For the last redistricting, the maps weren't disclosed to the representatives until 24 hours before. The Legislature passed laws that would force this to be fair, balanced and open. The Governor has vetoed it twice saying that the "slanted system" is working. So, the slanted system is giving the results. Mr. Borne pointed out that citizens pay for the political party primaries. He continued that the other part of this article is the 2006 Constitutional Amendment that said if the population of a town is large enough to be its own legislative district, it should be one. This is not being followed and it applies to Rye. He pointed out that Rye had six thousand voters at the last election. Rye is probably eligible to have its own district and possibly have its own representative.

Moderator Eaton called for discussion on Article 22.

Mr. Cummins moved to amend Article 22 by striking the last three paragraphs. Motion failed for lack of a second.

Moderator Eaton called for further discussion on Article 22.

Kendra Gemmett, 100 South Road, stated it amazes her that something that is designed to ensure fair and effective representation would not be recommended by the leaders of Rye. What the leaders of the Town have to say has an impact on the election.

Gail Brown, 33 Oceanview Avenue, pointed out that the article is not recommended by the Selectmen 2 to 1. She asked if it is fair to hear from the Selectboard as to why they do not support the article.

Selectperson Epperson said he voted against the article. He doesn't think the Town needs to get involved in this particular issue. The "fair and transparent" way has never been fair and transparent. Whoever is in power, whether it's Republicans or Democrats, does the gerrymandering at their convenience. If this article was to be equally applied in every single election, regardless of who's in power, he would be in favor. However, unfortunately, it is never fair and equitable depending on who's in power. However, he does believe in fair and equitable elections.

Mr. Marion stated that he thinks what Mr. Borne is proposing is to ensure a fairer process. Referring to the third paragraph, he thinks it confuses the main point. He thinks the main point is to get fair and free elections, and independent redistricting commissions.

Mr. Marion moved to strike the third paragraph of Article 22. Seconded by Mr. Crapo.
Moderator Eaton called for discussion on the motion to amend Article 22.

Mr. Borne stated the Open Democracy has five regional areas. There were probably one hundred people who worked for about eight months on this wording. He was saying the exact same thing as Mr. Marion, but then he heard how bad it is in some places across NH.

Mr. Crapo pointed out that it was said that all the communities' articles are identical; however, the word "Rye" is in it. He doubts the other towns had the word "Rye" in their article. He agrees with Mr. Marion. He thinks formation-wise this is an "A" article and a "B" article. In one respect, it asks for a fair, open and unbiased redistricting and then it specifically asks for a certain way Rye would be redistricted. He supports striking that part out at a minimum. However, he thinks the article should be separated out into different points.

Moderator Eaton called for further discussion on the motion to amend Article 22.

Mr. Borne commented that it is correct, the wording is not identical, as there was a blank line in order to write in the name of the town. He continued that the second part of this is the New Hampshire Constitution. He stressed that he supports New Hampshire's Constitution. He does not support striking any article that tells representatives that they should do things counter to the Constitution.

No further discussion being heard, **Moderator Eaton called for a vote on the motion to amend Article 22, which would strike the third paragraph of the article** regarding whether Rye should have its own exclusive seat(s) in the Legislature. **After a show of voting cards, Moderator Eaton ordered proctors to tally the vote. The vote was tied 20 to 20. To break the tie, Moderator Eaton cast a vote in favor of the amendment.**

Due to confusion expressed by the proctors as to whether they had tallied the vote accurately, Moderator Eaton called for the tally to be repeated. Because confusion remained after the re-tally, Moderator Eaton ordered a secret ballot. On the count of the secret ballot, the motion to amend failed by a vote of 21 to 25.

Moderator Eaton called for further discussion on Article 22.

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

ARTICLE 23. 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 2021.

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

Selectperson Bradshaw moved Article 23 to the floor. Seconded by Selectperson Winslow. Moderator Eaton asked Selectperson Bradshaw to speak to Article 23.

Selectperson Bradshaw explained that this follows procedure that is applied every year. The article is presented each year for confirmation. The procedure is either a private auction or sealed bid and it is for surplus, primarily out of Public Works.

Moderator Eaton called for discussion on Article 23. Hearing none, **Moderator Eaton ordered Article 23 to be placed on the ballot as written.**

ARTICLE 24. To transact any other business which may legally come before this meeting.

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

Moderator Eaton called for further business.

Selectperson Winslow stated that he inadvertently missed announcing that Lee Arthur, who has been the Recreation Director for the past 21 years, will be stepping down from that role and taking a different position with the Town. Ms. Arthur has done an amazing job and he thanked her for her service to the Recreation Department.

Ned Paul, 48 Pine Street, asked if the Selectboard's recommendations on Articles 19 and 21 would stay the same, after they were amended. Moderator Eaton said it was up to the Selectboard to decide if it wants to make a change. He expects they will be meeting shortly after adjournment to decide if they want to change any recommendations on any article that has been amended.

No further business was brought before the meeting.

Moderator Eaton adjourned the Rye Deliberative Session at 11:16 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna M. DeCotis,
Rye Town Clerk



2021
MS-737

Proposed Budget

Rye

For the period beginning January 1, 2021 and ending December 31, 2021

Form Due Date: 20 Days after the Annual Meeting

This form was posted with the warrant on: 1-25-2021

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
Scott Marion	School Board Rep	[Signature]
Michelle Goffe	Dep. Ballroom	[Signature]
Ruth Hickson	Rwd	[Signature]
Sharon Crapan	Ball Mt	[Signature]
KEVIN BRANSON	BUDGET COMMITTEE	[Signature]
DANIA SEIGLIE	BUDGET COMMITTEE	[Signature]
Peggy Balboni	member	[Signature]
Jeff Ross	Budget Committee	[Signature]
Philo Williams	Felection	[Signature]

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

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Appropriations

Account	Purpose	Article	Actual Expenditures for period ending 12/31/2020	Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2020	Selectmen's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2021 (Recommended) (Not Recommended)	Selectmen's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2021 (Recommended) (Not Recommended)	Budget Committee's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2021 (Recommended) (Not Recommended)	Budget Committee's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2021 (Recommended) (Not Recommended)
General Government								
0000-0000	Collective Bargaining		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4130-4139	Executive	06	\$244,736	\$285,195	\$303,888	\$0	\$303,888	\$0
4140-4149	Election, Registration, and Vital Statistics	06	\$28,371	\$34,755	\$26,820	\$0	\$26,820	\$0
4150-4151	Financial Administration	06	\$601,054	\$614,073	\$653,774	\$0	\$653,774	\$0
4152	Revaluation of Property		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4153	Legal Expense	06	\$144,846	\$130,000	\$168,320	\$0	\$168,320	\$0
4155-4159	Personnel Administration		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4191-4193	Planning and Zoning	06	\$168,445	\$171,429	\$190,697	\$0	\$190,697	\$0
4194	General Government Buildings	06	\$228,566	\$236,637	\$223,445	\$0	\$223,445	\$0
4195	Cemeteries	06	\$121,737	\$126,594	\$132,658	\$0	\$132,658	\$0
4196	Insurance	06	\$155,326	\$164,263	\$162,814	\$0	\$162,814	\$0
4197	Advertising and Regional Association	06	\$56,440	\$56,440	\$56,840	\$0	\$56,840	\$0
4199	Other General Government	06	\$96,331	\$114,280	\$117,111	\$0	\$117,111	\$0
	General Government Subtotal		\$1,845,852	\$1,933,566	\$2,036,366	\$0	\$2,036,366	\$0
Public Safety								
4210-4214	Police	06	\$1,505,914	\$1,536,125	\$1,650,478	\$0	\$1,650,478	\$0
4215-4219	Ambulance	06	\$181,782	\$135,749	\$189,737	\$0	\$189,737	\$0
4220-4229	Fire	06	\$1,458,227	\$1,568,151	\$1,686,071	\$0	\$1,686,071	\$0
4240-4249	Building Inspection	06	\$204,701	\$239,050	\$234,665	\$0	\$234,665	\$0
4290-4298	Emergency Management	06	\$12,317	\$11,500	\$12,000	\$0	\$12,000	\$0
4299	Other (Including Communications)		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Public Safety Subtotal		\$3,362,941	\$3,490,575	\$3,772,951	\$0	\$3,772,951	\$0
Airport/Aviation Center								
4301-4309	Airport Operations		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Airport/Aviation Center Subtotal		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0



Appropriations

Account	Purpose	Article	Actual Expenditures for period ending 12/31/2020	Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2020	Selectmen's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2021 (Recommended) (Not Recommended)	Selectmen's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2021 (Recommended) (Not Recommended)	Budget Committee's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2021 (Recommended) (Not Recommended)	Budget Committee's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2021 (Recommended) (Not Recommended)
Highways and Streets								
4311	Administration		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4312	Highways and Streets	06	\$1,077,766	\$1,374,305	\$1,404,806	\$1,404,806	\$1,404,806	\$0
4313	Bridges		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4316	Street Lighting	06	\$3,084	\$5,500	\$4,500	\$4,500	\$4,500	\$0
4319	Other		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Highways and Streets Subtotal		\$1,080,850	\$1,379,805	\$1,409,306	\$1,409,306	\$1,409,306	\$0
Sanitation								
4321	Administration		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4323	Solid Waste Collection	06	\$256,516	\$267,385	\$292,332	\$292,332	\$292,332	\$0
4324	Solid Waste Disposal	06	\$200,661	\$258,035	\$265,800	\$265,800	\$265,800	\$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		\$457,177	\$525,420	\$556,132	\$556,132	\$556,132	\$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	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Water Distribution and Treatment Subtotal		\$0	\$0	\$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



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Appropriations

Account	Purpose	Article	Actual Expenditures for period ending 12/31/2020	Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2020	Selectmen's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2021		Budget Committee's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2021	
					(Recommended)	(Not Recommended)		
Health								
4411	Administration	06	\$5,585	\$5,580	\$13,018	\$0	\$13,018	\$0
4414	Pest Control	06	\$109,256	\$130,214	\$125,117	\$0	\$125,117	\$0
4415-4419	Health Agencies, Hospitals, and Other		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Health Subtotal		\$114,791	\$135,804	\$138,135	\$0	\$138,135	\$0
Welfare								
4441-4442	Administration and Direct Assistance	06	\$12,635	\$36,300	\$36,800	\$0	\$36,800	\$0
4444	Intergovernmental Welfare Payments		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4445-4449	Vendor Payments and Other		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Welfare Subtotal		\$12,635	\$36,300	\$36,800	\$0	\$36,800	\$0
Culture and Recreation								
4520-4529	Parks and Recreation	06	\$368,204	\$457,311	\$479,569	\$0	\$479,569	\$0
4550-4559	Library	06	\$661,967	\$717,143	\$747,875	\$0	\$747,875	\$0
4583	Patriotic Purposes	06	\$5,577	\$10,700	\$20,700	\$0	\$20,700	\$0
4589	Other Culture and Recreation	06	\$7,942	\$14,160	\$8,160	\$0	\$8,160	\$0
	Culture and Recreation Subtotal		\$1,043,690	\$1,199,314	\$1,256,304	\$0	\$1,256,304	\$0
Conservation and Development								
4611-4612	Administration and Purchasing of Natural Resources	06	\$76,798	\$83,000	\$111,350	\$0	\$111,350	\$0
4619	Other Conservation		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4631-4632	Redevelopment and Housing		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4651-4659	Economic Development		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Conservation and Development Subtotal		\$76,798	\$83,000	\$111,350	\$0	\$111,350	\$0



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Account	Purpose	Article	Actual Expenditures for period ending 12/31/2020	Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2020	Selectmen's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2021 (Recommended) (Not Recommended)	Selectmen's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2021 (Recommended) (Not Recommended)	Budget Committee's period ending 12/31/2021	Budget Committee's period ending 12/31/2021 (Not Recommended)
Debt Service								
4711	Long Term Bonds and Notes - Principal	06	\$269,025	\$347,369	\$261,233	\$0	\$261,233	\$0
4721	Long Term Bonds and Notes - Interest	06	\$43,280	\$77,135	\$53,970	\$0	\$53,970	\$0
4723	Tax Anticipation Notes - Interest	06	\$0	\$1	\$2	\$0	\$2	\$0
4790-4799	Other Debt Service		\$0	\$1	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Debt Service Subtotal			\$312,285	\$424,506	\$315,205	\$0	\$315,205	\$0
Capital Outlay								
4901	Land		\$15,600	\$15,600	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4902	Machinery, Vehicles, and Equipment	06	\$93,474	\$288,327	\$271,751	\$0	\$271,751	\$0
4903	Buildings		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4909	Improvements Other than Buildings		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Capital Outlay Subtotal			\$109,074	\$303,927	\$271,751	\$0	\$271,751	\$0
Operating Transfers Out								
4912	To Special Revenue Fund		\$253,887	\$528,472	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4913	To Capital Projects Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914A	To Proprietary Fund - Airport		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914E	To Proprietary Fund - Electric		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914O	To Proprietary Fund - Other	06	\$0	\$0	\$507,155	\$0	\$507,155	\$0
4914S	To Proprietary Fund - Sewer	06	\$195,323	\$322,709	\$341,210	\$0	\$341,210	\$0
4914W	To Proprietary Fund - Water		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
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			\$449,210	\$851,181	\$848,365	\$0	\$848,365	\$0
Total Operating Budget Appropriations			\$10,754,665	\$10,754,665	\$10,754,665	\$0	\$10,754,665	\$0



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Special Warrant Articles

Account	Purpose	Article	Selectmen's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2021 (Recommended) (Not Recommended)	Selectmen's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2021 (Recommended) (Not Recommended)	Budget Committee's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2021 (Recommended) (Not Recommended)	Budget Committee's Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2021 (Recommended) (Not Recommended)
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4916	To Expendable Trust Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4917	To Health Maintenance Trust Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4312	Highways and Streets	05	\$800,000	\$0	\$800,000	\$0
			<i>Purpose: to raise and appropriate the sum of eight hundred</i>			
4902	Machinery, Vehicles, and Equipment	07	\$350,000	\$0	\$350,000	\$0
			<i>Purpose: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropri</i>			
4902	Machinery, Vehicles, and Equipment	08	\$300,000	\$0	\$300,000	\$0
			<i>Purpose: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropri</i>			
4902	Machinery, Vehicles, and Equipment	09	\$200,000	\$0	\$200,000	\$0
			<i>Purpose: to raise and appropriate the sum of two hundred th</i>			
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund	10	\$100,000	\$0	\$100,000	\$0
			<i>Purpose: to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred th</i>			
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund	11	\$100,000	\$0	\$100,000	\$0
			<i>Purpose: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropri</i>			
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund	15	\$30,000	\$0	\$30,000	\$0
			<i>Purpose: To raise and appropriate the sum of thirty thousand</i>			
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund	18	\$3,000	\$0	\$3,000	\$0
			<i>Purpose: To raise and appropriate the sum of three thousand</i>			
4916	To Expendable Trusts/Fiduciary Funds	12	\$50,000	\$0	\$50,000	\$0
			<i>Purpose: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropri</i>			
4916	To Expendable Trusts/Fiduciary Funds	13	\$45,000	\$0	\$45,000	\$0
			<i>Purpose: to establish a Conservation Maintenance Expendable</i>			
4916	To Expendable Trusts/Fiduciary Funds	14	\$35,000	\$0	\$35,000	\$0
			<i>Purpose: To raise and appropriate the sum of thirty-five th</i>			
4916	To Expendable Trusts/Fiduciary Funds	16	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000	\$0
			<i>Purpose: To raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand d</i>			
4916	To Expendable Trusts/Fiduciary Funds	17	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	\$0
			<i>Purpose: To raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand</i>			



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Special Warrant Articles

Total Proposed Special Articles	\$2,028,000	\$0	\$2,028,000	\$0
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Individual Warrant Articles

Account	Purpose	Article	Selectmen's Appropriations for 12/31/2021 (Recommended)	Selectmen's Appropriations for 12/31/2021 (Not Recommended)	Budget Committee's Appropriations for 12/31/2021 (Recommended)	Budget Committee's Appropriations for 12/31/2021 (Not Recommended)
Total Proposed Individual Articles						
			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0



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Revenues

Account	Source	Article	Actual Revenues for period ending 12/31/2020	Selectment's Estimated Revenues for period ending 12/31/2021	Budget Committee's Estimated Revenues for period ending 12/31/2021
Taxes					
3120	Land Use Change Tax - General Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0
3180	Resident Tax		\$0	\$0	\$0
3185	Yield Tax		\$0	\$0	\$0
3186	Payment in Lieu of Taxes	06	\$0	\$28,000	\$28,000
3187	Excavation Tax		\$0	\$0	\$0
3189	Other Taxes		\$0	\$0	\$0
3190	Interest and Penalties on Delinquent Taxes	06	\$0	\$51,000	\$51,000
9991	Inventory Penalties		\$0	\$0	\$0
	Taxes Subtotal		\$0	\$79,000	\$79,000
Licenses, Permits, and Fees					
3210	Business Licenses and Permits	06	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000
3220	Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	06	\$0	\$1,615,653	\$1,615,653
3230	Building Permits	06	\$0	\$325,000	\$325,000
3290	Other Licenses, Permits, and Fees	06	\$0	\$38,250	\$38,250
3311-3319	From Federal Government		\$0	\$0	\$0
	Licenses, Permits, and Fees Subtotal		\$0	\$1,979,903	\$1,979,903
State Sources					
3351	Municipal Aid/Shared Revenues		\$0	\$0	\$0
3352	Meals and Rooms Tax Distribution	06	\$0	\$250,000	\$250,000
3353	Highway Block Grant	06	\$0	\$100,000	\$100,000
3354	Water Pollution Grant		\$0	\$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)	05	\$0	\$500,000	\$500,000
3379	From Other Governments		\$0	\$0	\$0
	State Sources Subtotal		\$0	\$850,000	\$850,000



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Revenues

Account	Source	Article	Actual Revenues for period ending 12/31/2020	Selectmen's Estimated Revenues for period ending 12/31/2021	Budget Committee's Estimated Revenues for period ending 12/31/2021
Charges for Services					
3401-3406	Income from Departments	06	\$0	\$271,800	\$271,800
3409	Other Charges		\$0	\$0	\$0
Charges for Services Subtotal			\$0	\$271,800	\$271,800
Miscellaneous Revenues					
3501	Sale of Municipal Property		\$0	\$0	\$0
3502	Interest on Investments	06	\$0	\$25,000	\$25,000
3503-3509	Other	06	\$0	\$15,325	\$15,325
Miscellaneous Revenues Subtotal			\$0	\$40,325	\$40,325
Interfund Operating Transfers In					
3912	From Special Revenue Funds	08	\$0	\$200,000	\$200,000
3913	From Capital Projects Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
3914A	From Enterprise Funds: Airport (Offset)		\$0	\$0	\$0
3914E	From Enterprise Funds: Electric (Offset)		\$0	\$0	\$0
3914O	From Enterprise Funds: Other (Offset)	06	\$0	\$507,155	\$507,155
3914S	From Enterprise Funds: Sewer (Offset)	06	\$0	\$341,210	\$341,210
3914W	From Enterprise Funds: Water (Offset)		\$0	\$0	\$0
3915	From Capital Reserve Funds		\$0	\$392,000	\$392,000
3916	From Trust and Fiduciary Funds	09, 07, 08	\$0	\$0	\$0
3917	From Conservation Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
Interfund Operating Transfers In Subtotal			\$0	\$1,440,365	\$1,440,365
Other Financing Sources					
3934	Proceeds from Long Term Bonds and Notes		\$0	\$0	\$0
9998	Amount Voted from Fund Balance		\$0	\$0	\$0
9999	Fund Balance to Reduce Taxes		\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Financing Sources Subtotal			\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Estimated Revenues and Credits			\$0	\$4,661,393	\$4,661,393



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Budget Summary

Item	Selectmen's Period ending 12/31/2021 (Recommended)	Budget Committee's Period ending 12/31/2021 (Recommended)
Operating Budget Appropriations	\$10,754,665	\$10,754,665
Special Warrant Articles	\$2,028,000	\$2,028,000
Individual Warrant Articles	\$0	\$0
Total Appropriations	\$12,782,665	\$12,782,665
Less Amount of Estimated Revenues & Credits	\$4,661,393	\$4,661,393
Estimated Amount of Taxes to be Raised	\$8,121,272	\$8,121,272



Supplemental Schedule

1. Total Recommended by Budget Committee	\$12,782,665
Less Exclusions:	
2. Principal: Long-Term Bonds & Notes	\$261,233
3. Interest: Long-Term Bonds & Notes	\$53,970
4. Capital outlays funded from Long-Term Bonds & Notes	\$0
5. Mandatory Assessments	\$0
6. Total Exclusions (Sum of Lines 2 through 5 above)	\$315,203
7. Amount Recommended, Less Exclusions (Line 1 less Line 6)	\$12,467,462
8. 10% of Amount Recommended, Less Exclusions (Line 7 x 10%)	\$1,246,746
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)	\$14,029,411



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, 2019, 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 of 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 unmodified and adverse audit opinions.

Summary of Opinions

<u>Opinion Unit</u>	<u>Type of Opinion</u>
Governmental Activities	Adverse
General Fund	Unmodified
Permanent Fund	Unmodified
Sewer Fund	Unmodified
Aggregate Remaining Fund Information	Unmodified

Basis for Adverse Opinion on Governmental Activities

As discussed in Note 1-B to the financial statements, management has not updated the long-term costs of retirement healthcare and obligations for other postemployment benefits for the single employer plan in the governmental activities. Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that those costs be recorded, which would increase the liabilities, decrease the net position and increase the expenses of the governmental activities. The amount by which this departure would affect the liabilities, net position, and expenses on the governmental activities is not readily determinable.

*Town of Rye
Independent Auditor's Report*

Adverse Opinion

In our opinion, because of the significance of the matter described in the "Basis for Adverse Opinion on Governmental Activities" paragraph, the financial statements referred to above do not present fairly the financial position of the government-wide financial statements of the Town of Rye, as of December 31, 2019, or the changes in financial position thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Unmodified Opinions

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of each major fund and aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Rye as of December 31, 2019, and the respective changes in financial position and the respective budgetary comparison for the general fund and sewer fund, for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Change in Accounting Principle

As discussed in Note 2-D to the financial statements, in fiscal year 2019 the Town adopted new accounting guidance, Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 84, *Fiduciary Activities*. Our opinions are not modified with respect to this matter.

Other Matters

Management's Discussion and Analysis – Management has omitted a Management's Discussion and Analysis that accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require to be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such missing 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. Our opinion on the basic financial statements is not affected by the missing information.

Required Supplementary Information – Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the following be presented to supplement the basic financial statements:

- Schedule of the Town's Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability,
- Schedule of Town Contributions – Pensions,
- Schedule of the Town's Proportionate Share of the Net Other Postemployment Benefits Liability,
- Schedule of Town Contributions – Other Postemployment Benefits,
- Schedule of Changes in the Town's Total Other Postemployment Benefits Liability and Related Ratios, and
- Notes to the Required Supplementary Information

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, 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 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 21, 2020

*Plodzik & Sanderson
Professional Association*

EXHIBIT C-1
TOWN OF RYE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Governmental Funds
Balance Sheet
December 31, 2019

	General	Permanent	Sewer	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
ASSETS					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$3,209,485	\$ 74,803	\$1,319,588	\$1,030,100	\$ 5,633,976
Investments	1,315,052	4,315,738	52,148	-	5,682,938
Receivables:					
Taxes	873,685	-	-	-	873,685
Accounts (net)	122,889	-	21,225	37,898	182,012
Intergovernmental	7,529	-	-	-	7,529
Interfund receivable	29,974	-	-	-	29,974
Voluntary tax liens	261,794	-	-	-	261,794
Voluntary tax liens reserved until collected	(261,794)	-	-	-	(261,794)
Inventory	6,807	-	-	-	6,807
Total assets	<u>\$5,565,421</u>	<u>\$4,390,541</u>	<u>\$1,392,961</u>	<u>\$1,067,998</u>	<u>\$12,416,921</u>
LIABILITIES					
Accounts payable	\$ 98,781	\$ -	\$ 11,379	\$ -	\$ 110,160
Accrued salaries and benefits	93,420	-	1,128	4,449	98,997
Intergovernmental payable	101,354	-	21,200	-	122,554
Interfund payable	-	-	14,363	15,611	29,974
Total liabilities	<u>293,555</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>48,070</u>	<u>20,060</u>	<u>361,685</u>
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES					
Unavailable revenue - Property taxes	193,543	-	-	-	193,543
Unavailable revenue - Grants received in advance	21,346	-	-	7,060	28,406
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>214,889</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,060</u>	<u>221,949</u>
FUND BALANCES					
Nonspendable	6,807	4,360,144	-	-	4,366,951
Restricted	544,063	30,397	-	26,467	600,927
Committed	1,057,198	-	1,344,891	1,027,289	3,429,378
Assigned	281,776	-	-	-	281,776
Unassigned	3,167,133	-	-	(12,878)	3,154,255
Total fund balances	<u>5,056,977</u>	<u>4,390,541</u>	<u>1,344,891</u>	<u>1,040,878</u>	<u>11,833,287</u>
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and fund balances	<u>\$5,565,421</u>	<u>\$4,390,541</u>	<u>\$1,392,961</u>	<u>\$1,067,998</u>	<u>\$12,416,921</u>

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 - Governmental Funds to the Statement of Net Position
December 31, 2019

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Net Position are different because:		
Total fund balances of governmental funds (Exhibit C-1)		\$ 11,833,287
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not current financial resources, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.		
Cost	\$ 61,294,427	
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>(27,351,090)</u>	
		33,943,337
Pension and other postemployment benefit (OPEB) related deferred outflows of current year, and therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds as follows:		
Deferred outflows of resources related to pensions	\$ 788,775	
Deferred inflows of resources related to pensions	(623,426)	
Deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB	47,687	
Deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB	<u>(8,457)</u>	
		204,579
Interfund receivables and payables between governmental funds are eliminated on the Statement of Net Position.		
Receivables	\$ (29,974)	
Payables	<u>29,974</u>	
		-
Long-term revenue (taxes) is not available to pay current-period expenditures, and therefore, is deferred in the governmental funds.		151,100
Allowance for uncollectible property taxes that is recognized on a full accrual basis, but not on the modified accrual basis.		(18,500)
Interest on long-term debt is not accrued in governmental funds.		
Accrued interest payable		(19,921)
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.		
Bonds	\$ 1,180,000	
Unamortized bond premium	157,742	
Compensated absences	538,819	
Accrued landfill postclosure care costs	450,000	
Net pension liability	6,486,776	
Other postemployment benefits	<u>2,328,687</u>	
		<u>(11,142,024)</u>
Net position of governmental activities (Exhibit A)		<u>\$ 34,951,858</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, 2019

	General	Permanent	Sewer	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES					
Taxes	\$6,446,103	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000	\$ 6,456,103
Licenses and permits	2,051,138	-	-	-	2,051,138
Intergovernmental	437,344	-	-	5,977	443,321
Charges for services	367,195	-	365,960	452,141	1,185,296
Miscellaneous	154,604	776,399	7,054	136,336	1,074,393
Total revenues	<u>9,456,384</u>	<u>776,399</u>	<u>373,014</u>	<u>604,454</u>	<u>11,210,251</u>
EXPENDITURES					
Current:					
General government	1,689,669	127,127	-	49,116	1,865,912
Public safety	3,185,759	-	-	193,272	3,379,031
Highways and streets	1,295,110	-	-	-	1,295,110
Sanitation	513,210	-	190,775	-	703,985
Health	110,801	-	-	-	110,801
Welfare	29,946	-	-	-	29,946
Culture and recreation	1,191,258	-	-	231,963	1,423,221
Conservation	76,180	-	-	2,733	78,913
Debt service:					
Principal	364,000	-	-	-	364,000
Interest	78,896	-	-	-	78,896
Capital outlay	951,961	-	-	23,848	975,809
Total expenditures	<u>9,486,790</u>	<u>127,127</u>	<u>190,775</u>	<u>500,932</u>	<u>10,305,624</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	<u>(30,406)</u>	<u>649,272</u>	<u>182,239</u>	<u>103,522</u>	<u>904,627</u>
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)					
Transfers in	151,998	-	-	-	151,998
Transfers out	-	(28,998)	-	(123,000)	(151,998)
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>151,998</u>	<u>(28,998)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(123,000)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net change in fund balances	121,592	620,274	182,239	(19,478)	904,627
Fund balances, beginning, as restated (see Note 17)	4,935,385	3,770,267	1,162,652	1,060,356	10,928,660
Fund balances, ending	<u>\$5,056,977</u>	<u>\$4,390,541</u>	<u>\$1,344,891</u>	<u>\$1,040,878</u>	<u>\$11,833,287</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, 2019

	Estimated	Actual	Variance Positive (Negative)
Taxes:			
Property	\$ 6,243,770	\$ 6,192,733	\$ (51,037)
Land use change	33,255	220,000	186,745
Yield	-	546	546
Payment in lieu of taxes	27,605	28,410	805
Interest and penalties on taxes	53,000	49,518	(3,482)
Total from taxes	<u>6,357,630</u>	<u>6,491,207</u>	<u>133,577</u>
Licenses, permits, and fees:			
Business licenses, permits, and fees	750	1,020	270
Motor vehicle permit fees	1,505,950	1,638,437	132,487
Building permits	210,000	366,206	156,206
Other	44,010	45,475	1,465
Total from licenses, permits, and fees	<u>1,760,710</u>	<u>2,051,138</u>	<u>290,428</u>
Intergovernmental:			
State:			
Shared revenues	1,630	1,630	-
Meals and rooms distribution	278,678	278,678	-
Highway block grant	140,421	140,210	(211)
Other	2,125	5,104	2,979
Federal:			
Other	-	11,722	11,722
Total from intergovernmental	<u>422,854</u>	<u>437,344</u>	<u>14,490</u>
Charges for services:			
Income from departments	256,510	367,195	110,685
Miscellaneous:			
Interest on investments	50,000	62,402	12,402
Other	23,356	29,663	6,307
Total from miscellaneous	<u>73,356</u>	<u>92,065</u>	<u>18,709</u>
Other financing sources:			
Transfers in	492,000	537,000	45,000
Total revenues and other financing sources	9,363,060	<u>\$ 9,975,949</u>	<u>\$ 612,889</u>
Unassigned fund balance used to reduce tax rate	500,000		
Amounts voted from fund balance	11,714		
Total revenues, other financing sources, and use of fund balance	<u>\$ 9,874,774</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, 2019*

	Encumbered from Prior Year	Appropriations	Expenditures	Encumbered to Subsequent Year	Variance Positive (Negative)
Current:					
General government:					
Executive	\$ -	\$ 236,562	\$ 207,048	\$ -	\$ 29,514
Election and registration	-	20,995	18,527	-	2,468
Financial administration	-	593,808	584,750	-	9,058
Legal	-	130,000	151,942	-	(21,942)
Planning and zoning	-	167,555	167,691	1,013	(1,149)
General government buildings	16,661	205,361	166,567	26,400	29,055
Cemeteries	-	120,258	-	-	120,258
Insurance, not otherwise allocated	-	157,721	127,686	-	30,035
Advertising and regional associations	-	56,371	56,371	-	-
Other	-	102,100	106,975	-	(4,875)
Total general government	16,661	1,790,731	1,587,557	27,413	192,422
Public safety:					
Police	-	1,472,956	1,373,696	-	99,260
Ambulance	1,880	131,672	128,339	-	5,213
Fire	2,300	1,513,399	1,470,613	21,760	23,326
Building inspection	-	234,721	205,821	-	28,900
Emergency management	-	11,500	7,290	-	4,210
Total public safety	4,180	3,364,248	3,185,759	21,760	160,909
Highways and streets:					
Highways and streets	60,306	1,320,183	1,283,163	55,898	41,428
Street lighting	-	10,000	11,947	-	(1,947)
Total highways and streets	60,306	1,330,183	1,295,110	55,898	39,481
Sanitation:					
Solid waste collection	15,000	251,782	286,384	23,739	(43,341)
Solid waste disposal	5,000	208,327	222,053	5,000	(13,726)
Total sanitation	20,000	460,109	508,437	28,739	(57,067)
Health:					
Administration	-	5,485	5,453	-	32
Pest control	-	116,185	105,348	-	10,837
Total health	-	121,670	110,801	-	10,869
Welfare:					
Administration and direct assistance	-	46,600	29,946	-	16,654
Culture and recreation:					
Parks and recreation	9,350	417,569	400,979	4,205	21,735
Library	-	694,986	712,352	-	(17,366)
Patriotic purposes	-	10,700	10,066	-	634
Other	-	5,660	3,203	-	2,457
Total culture and recreation	9,350	1,128,915	1,126,600	4,205	7,460
Conservation	38,406	90,400	76,180	31,200	21,426
Debt service:					
Principal of long-term debt	-	364,000	364,000	-	-
Interest on long-term debt	-	78,896	78,896	-	-
Interest on tax anticipation notes	-	2	-	-	2
Total debt service	-	442,898	442,896	-	2

(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, 2019

	Encumbered from Prior Year	Appropriations	Expenditures	Encumbered to Subsequent Year	Variance Positive (Negative)
Capital outlay	359,811	720,191	951,961	112,561	15,480
Other financing uses:					
Transfers out	-	378,829	311,714	-	67,115
Total appropriations, expenditures, other financing uses, and encumbrances	<u>\$ 508,714</u>	<u>\$ 9,874,774</u>	<u>\$ 9,626,961</u>	<u>\$ 281,776</u>	<u>\$ 474,751</u>

SCHEDULE 3
TOWN OF RYE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Major General Fund
Schedule of Changes in Unassigned Fund Balance
For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2019

Unassigned fund balance, beginning (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis)		\$ 2,723,018
Changes:		
Unassigned fund balance used to reduce 2019 tax rate		(500,000)
Amounts voted from fund balance		(11,714)
2019 Budget summary:		
Revenue surplus (Schedule 1)	\$ 612,889	
Unexpended balance of appropriations (Schedule 2)	<u>474,751</u>	
2019 Budget surplus		1,087,640
Increase in nonspendable fund balance		(1,033)
Decrease in restricted fund balance		<u>1,822</u>
Unassigned fund balance, ending (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis)		3,299,733
 <i>Reconciliation on Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis to GAAP Basis</i>		
To record deferred property taxes not collected within 60 days of the fiscal year-end, not recognized on a budgetary basis		(151,100)
Elimination of the allowance for uncollectible taxes		<u>18,500</u>
Unassigned fund balance, ending, GAAP basis (Exhibit C-1)		<u><u>\$ 3,167,133</u></u>

SCHEDULE 4
TOWN OF RYE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Nonmajor Governmental Funds
Combining Balance Sheet
December 31, 2019

	Special Revenue Funds										Total
	Police Outside Detail	Beach Parking Permits	Heritage Commission	Recreation Revolving	Beach Cleaning	Ambulance	Parsonage	Conservation Commission	Escrow Deposits		
ASSETS											
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 7,060	\$ 73,889	\$ 26,467	\$ 396,876	\$ -	\$ 152,163	\$ 35,340	\$ 239,442	\$ 91,573	\$ 1,030,100	
Accounts receivable (net)	-	28,971	-	2,868	-	-	6,059	-	-	37,898	
Total assets	\$ 7,060	\$ 73,889	\$ 26,467	\$ 399,744	\$ -	\$ 152,163	\$ 41,399	\$ 239,442	\$ 91,573	\$ 1,067,998	
LIABILITIES											
Accrued salaries and benefits	\$ -	\$ 2,485	\$ -	\$ 1,964	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,449	
Interfund payable	-	-	-	-	12,878	-	-	2,733	-	15,611	
Total liabilities	-	2,485	-	1,964	12,878	-	-	2,733	-	20,060	
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES											
Unavailable revenue - Grants received in advance	7,060	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,060	
FUND BALANCES (DEFICIT)											
Restricted	-	-	26,467	-	-	-	-	-	-	26,467	
Committed	-	33,776	-	397,780	-	152,163	41,399	236,709	91,573	1,027,289	
Unassigned (deficit)	-	-	-	-	(12,878)	-	-	-	-	(12,878)	
Total fund balances (deficit)	-	33,776	26,467	397,780	(12,878)	152,163	41,399	236,709	91,573	1,040,878	
Total liabilities and fund balances	\$ 7,060	\$ 36,261	\$ 26,467	\$ 399,744	\$ -	\$ 152,163	\$ 41,399	\$ 239,442	\$ 91,573	\$ 1,067,998	



James A. Sojka, CPA*

Sheryl A. Pratt, CPA***

Michael J. Campo, CPA, MACCY

June 21, 2021

Scott T. Eagen, CPA, CFE

Karen M. Lascelle, CPA, CVA, CFE

Ashley Miller Klem, CPA, MSA

Tyler A. Paine, CPA***

Kyle G. Gingras, CPA

Thomas C. Giffen, CPA

Ryan T. Gibbons, CPA, CFE

Brian P. McDermott, CPA**

Justin Larsh, CPA

Sylvia Y. Petro, MSA, CFE

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

To the Members of the Select Board:

This is to advise you that as of June 21, 2021, the audit of the financial statements is substantially complete for the year ending December 31, 2020, and we anticipate issuing the Audit Report in July 2021.

* Also licensed in Maine
** Also licensed in Massachusetts
*** Also licensed in Tennessee

Sincerely,

Michael J. Campo, CPA, MACCY
Director

PLODZIK & SANDERSON, P.A.
Certified Public Accountants

1000 North Main Street • Newburyport, MA 01891 • Telephone: (978) 352-1000 • Fax: (978) 352-1001

ASSESSOR'S REPORT

The firm of Municipal Resources continues to handle the assessing functions for the Town of Rye. The same 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 associated with your property. Due to the current nationwide health situation, interior inspections have been limited.

Municipal Resources personnel are available to meet or speak with taxpayers. 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.

In the past year, over six hundred properties were viewed as a result of building permits, site changes, owner requests or incomplete construction at the time of the last visit. The net taxable assessment change arising from these and cyclical property reviews for the 2020 tax year was roughly \$32,000,000,000. Currently, there are approximately four hundred and seventy-five properties to be reviewed due to new building permits being issued or incomplete construction at the time of the prior inspection. In addition, MRI staff will be reviewing additional properties as part of the continuing cyclical review to verify the physical information contained on the current assessing property record cards.

The Department of Revenue Administration's review of sales information was completed and the Town's assessment ratio for the 2020 tax year is 78.0%.

Individual property information along with 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.rye.nh.us

Respectfully submitted,

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

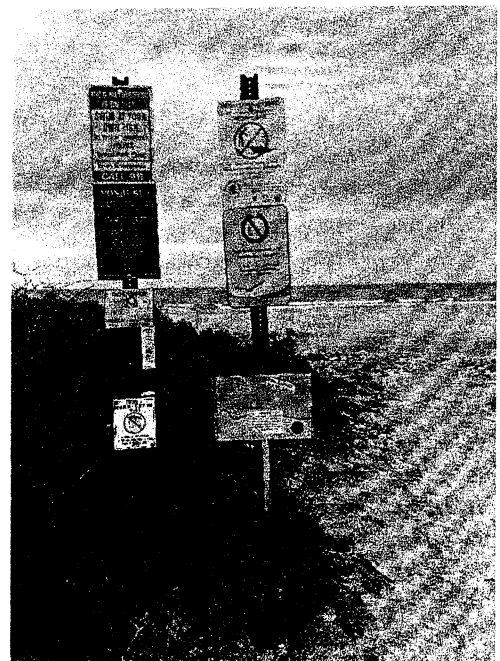
Rye Beach Committee Report – 2020

The Town of Rye Beach Committee consists of Frank Hwang, Mary-Ann Sullivan, Brendan Carney, Seana Zelazo, Roseann Vozella Clark and William Epperson (BOS representative). The Committee re-formed under the new group listed above in the Summer of 2020. Many of our activities in the remainder of the 2020 calendar year were to begin anew and focus our energies on key priorities based on our charter.

Below is a list of the activities, thoughts, and recommendations developed in 2020. Much work was done in a short amount of time focusing and preparing for the 2021 beach season.

- 1) Formed a new charter. The Beach Committee formed a new charter which focused on ensuring access and sustainability of the beach to all constituencies that utilize the beach and its surrounding areas. These constituencies include Town of Rye residents, beachgoers, businesses and, of course, the animals, plants and natural resources of the beach and ocean.
- 2) Researched and examined the work of the previous Rye Beach Committee to understand what issues and concerns had been previously addressed.
- 3) Collected ideas and concerns from the public and examined multiple possible issues to confront, prioritizing them based on timeline, severity, and ability to tackle in a timely manner.
- 4) Met with key stakeholders including prior Rye Beach Committee members, Fire Chief, Chief of Police, New Hampshire DES and Surfrider NH to understand their perspectives and their areas of concern.
- 5) Began work with NH DES, Surfrider NH and the Town of Rye to explore water quality testing during the “Shoulder” season (Post Labor Day to Pre-Memorial Day) to ensure water testing occurred at key beaches, given budget cuts and COVID-19 impact to NH DES testing plans.
- 6) Walked the beach to review sea grass concerns and beach access points.

Respectfully submitted,
Frank Hwang, Chairman



RYE ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT 2020

2020 was another busy year for the Rye Zoning Board of Adjustment (BOA). Property owners must appear before The BOA when their project does not conform to Rye's Zoning Ordinance, Flood Plain Ordinance, or Building Code. Projects such as additions, tear-downs, septic systems, and even sheds, could cause a property owner to seek relief from the BOA for their project.

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

The BOA is a quasi-judicial board consisting of five volunteer members, each of whom is elected for a 3-year term. In 2020, its members were Patricia Weathersby, Shawn Crapo, Burt Dibble, Charles Hoyt and Robert Patton. Charles Hoyt moved out of Rye part-way through the year, and alternate member Patrick Driscoll assumed his seat where he will reside until the next election. Rob Patten took an extended leave of absence, and alternate member Gregg Mikolaities filled in as his "permanent" alternate until his return. Many thanks to Pat and Gregg for stepping up and filling these roles. Chris Piela and Frank Drake were two other alternate members of the BOA, although Frank Drake has since resigned. The BOA is very grateful for all the long hours our volunteer members work on behalf of our town.

The BOA meets on the first Wednesday of each month to consider applications for relief. Beginning in March, the BOA met by Zoom meetings due to the pandemic, a process board members and applicants got better at each month. However, using such media did tend to make long meetings even longer.

During each meeting, members listen to the applicant and members of the public. After considering all information and applicable law, the BOA then decides to approve or deny an application. Conditions are often attached to approvals. When a request involves wetland, tidal areas, or buffers, an applicant must first appear before the Rye Conservation Commission to obtain the Commission's recommendation to the BOA. The BOA greatly appreciates the input of the RCC on such applications.

The BOA continues to receive a very large number of requests. In 2020, the BOA received almost 200 requests for relief contained in over 50 applications. 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. Three decisions were asked to be reconsidered by the board. Appeals of at least three matters were in the Superior Court in 2020.

Many of the requests brought to the BOA for zoning relief stem primarily from the extent of wetlands in Rye, our proximity to the ocean and marshes, and the manner in which our coastal areas were first developed. Many small coastal area lots, or large lots with wetlands, are unable to support a year-round home and/or updated septic systems without zoning relief. Compliance with FEMA regulations also often requires variance relief. The complex request for a cellular telephone tower on Port Way also required much of the Board's attention.

Anyone interested in the BOA is invited to attend our meetings on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM. For the foreseeable future, we meet via Zoom, although hope to again meet at Town Hall as the pandemic subsides. Three seats are up for election in 2021 and there are several vacancies for alternate members. We welcome your involvement in whatever form.

Respectfully submitted, Patricia Weathersby, Chair

BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT

The town budget for this coming year was developed from November to February by meeting with department heads and town administration to assess the needs of the town and each of the departments for the upcoming year. Warrant articles were also reviewed for recommendations.

The budget for operations, capital outlay and fund details totals \$10,754,665. Department operations in the 2021 fiscal year is \$9,634,549 and accounts for the majority of the budget. This represents an increase of 4.94% over the previous year due to increases healthcare and retirement costs as well as an increase in projected legal expenses for the town. Capital Outlay is slightly lower than the previous year (-5.75%) at \$271,751 and includes a computer and systems upgrade at the town hall and security systems for the town hall and safety building. Capital Outlay projects for DPW include drainage upgrades on East Atlantic, East Jenness, Kenphil, South Road and Sea Road.

There are 14 warrant articles that impact taxes on this year's ballot. One is for the budget for \$10,754,665. Nine of the warrant articles are seen each year on the ballot and are to raise and appropriate funds for town, highway and safety equipment, employee leave funds, and maintenance and the Grove Road landfill capital reserve fund. Rye has used this method of maintaining fund balances to normalize the tax rate for residents. Three warrants are for the completion of the salt mitigation at the transfer station for \$350,000, a local match for a \$800k TAP grant for transportation and safety improvements in town center, \$45,000 to initiate a maintenance fund for conversation land and buildings, and \$30,000 for the re-evaluation capital fund. A warrant article with no tax impact is the expenditure for a back hoe for \$200,000 from previously raised funds appropriated to the heavy equipment capital fund.

The school budget of \$14,531,910 is an increase of 1.6% due to increases in salaries, retirement and healthcare costs. Of this budget 24% accounts for teacher's salaries, 21% for high school tuition, and 39% is administrative costs that include SAU50 costs. The school board has been responsible for maintaining the curriculum for Rye children all the while maintaining two school buildings. There is one warrant article on the school ballot for \$50,000 which is the annual request for the school maintenance fund.

Thank you to the members of the Budget Committee for their dedicated participation in the Rye budget process: Margaret Balboni, Vice Chair, members Kevin Brandon, Jeff Ross, Dania Sieglie, and Doug Abrams, precinct representatives Shawn Crapo and Randy Crapo, School Board Representative Scott Marion, Water District Representative Ralph Hickson, and Selectmen Representative Phil Winslow.

Jaci Grote, Chair
Budget Committee

BUILDING INSPECTOR'S 2020 REPORT

This past year has been a challenge for everyone, as remaining healthy and safe is more critical than ever. I want to thank all staff in the town of Rye for their dedication throughout the pandemic. I want to give a special thanks to our administrative assistant Sandy Dufresne, who has been a great asset to both this department and the town. This past year was bittersweet, as we said goodbye to Peter Rowell in his choice to retire. I want to thank him for his many years of service to the town. I also want to thank him for his knowledge and support during the transition.

Currently, The Building Department staffs one full-time Building Inspector, and one part-time Administrative Assistant. The office is staffed every day between 8:00 AM and 2:00 PM by the Administrative Assistant. The office has developed new policies for appointments and office visits during the pandemic. Further information about these policies can be found on our website.

Construction has reached an all-time high, due to an influx of people relocating to the seacoast, as well as unexpected remodeling because many people staying home during the pandemic. Such projects in 2020 have been new developments, new construction, replacement buildings, as well as major and minor remodeling. Commercial projects have been limited to remodeling or changes of use. The Building Department has been overwhelmingly busy this past year so we would like to thank everyone for their patience and understanding.

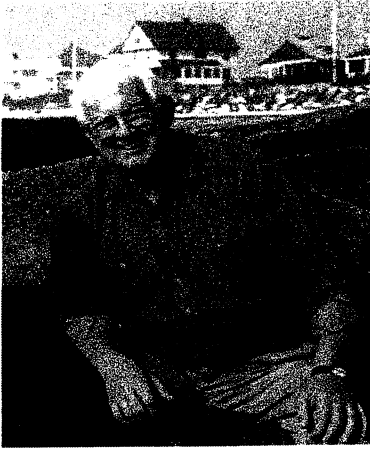
We continue to monitor the Parsons Creek Pump-Out and Inspection Regulation. The ordinance requires that we pump septic systems in the Parsons Creek Watershed every 3 years. We must deliver pumping invoices to the BD to avoid action by the town. This area has tested high for bacteria and has been identified as an impaired watershed by NH DES.

CATEGORY	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
CONSTRUCTION VALUE	\$37,714,133.00	\$31,843,387.85	\$21,667,671.13	22,998,718.13	\$26,648,066.57
BUILDING PERMIT FEES	\$438,567.44	\$366,205.65	\$215,659.756	\$225,058.93	\$274,579.20
NEW HOMES INCLUDES REBUILDS	17	25	12	13	27
ADDITIONS PERMITTED	44	34	22	N/A	N/A
DEMOLITION PERMITS	36	15	18	17	25
EXTERIOR IMPROVEMENTS	191	105	77	N/A	N/A
INTERIOR IMPROVEMENTS	222	252	216	N/A	N/A
PLUMBING PERMITS	102	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
ELECTRIC PERMITS	204	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
MECHANICAL PERMITS	307	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
SEPTIC PERMITS	117	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
NEW DWELLING UNITS #	Homes 10 NO APTS	17 Homes 3 APTS	6 HOMES. NO APTS	3 HOMES. 3 APTS	20 HOMES. NO APTS
TOTAL PERMITS ISSUED	1240	931	976	884	951

The Building Department primarily deals with the enforcement of the *State Building and Life Safety Codes*. We also enforce the town's Zoning ordinances and FEMA regulations, as well as assist in the enforcement of Planning Board decisions. All development within the high hazard flood area needs to be evaluated for compliance to prevent damage during a 1% flood event. If you are contemplating any building or land changes, please visit our website or call the Building Department.

Respectfully Submitted,
Milon C. Marsden, 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's gatekeeper for environmental guardianship and acts as Advisor to other municipal boards concerning environmental issues. In 2020, the Commission conducted over 100 site walks where recommendations were given to landowners to mitigate proposed impacts to our wetlands and their buffers. The Commission is a community resource providing education related to natural resources, introducing the community to accessible protected parcels and promoting the protection and enhancement of the natural resources found in Rye.

RCC is pleased to report that Jim Raynes, who served for over 25 years on RCC, was honored this fall with the prestigious James Hayden Award. The award recognizes those that have made significant contributions in their communities or the greater region in natural resource conservation and planning. Jim's involvement and achievements that illustrate his lifelong commitment and work for conservation in greater New Hampshire include: 8 years on the New Hampshire Association of Conservation Districts, 15 years on the Rockingham County Conservation group, and receiving the President's Award from the New Hampshire Association of Conservation Districts. Thanks to Jim, Rye stands out among seacoast towns for its preserved open spaces and natural resources. The Jim Raynes Forrest made up of 56 acres is dedicated in his honor.

The Brown Lane Farm, that consists of 78 acres, was acquired. RCC has worked on this acquisition for six years. This parcel adjoins Southeast Land Trust conserved property in North Hampton, making it possible to walk from West Road to South Road entirely on conserved property.

The Rye Town Forest Management Plan was approved by the Commission in June. The purpose of this 70-page plan is to provide natural resources information and forest management recommendations to RCC, citizens of Rye, and the easement holder Rockingham County Conservation District.

In order to comply with RSA 36-A:2, a subcommittee of RCC was formed to create a detailed Request for Proposal (RFP) in order to develop a Natural Resources Inventory (NRI). An NRI compiles information on naturally occurring resources within a given locality. Cultural resources, such as historic, scenic, and recreational assets are included. NRI's are comprised of maps, data, and a report that describes the resources, project goals and recommendations for next steps. The NRI can be integrated into a master, conservation or watershed plan. An NRI provides a strong foundation for informed land-use planning and decision-making.

The 9-acre Goss Farm continues to be well used with the community garden plots expansion due to demand. The Farmers added another ½ acre of farming and a cold storage unit inside the barn to assist with housing vegetables. The hoop-house was fully utilized.

RCC continues to maintain and mark existing and new trails. Check out our webpage on the town website for more details and new maps.

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne McFarland, Chair
Sally King, Vice-Chair
Mike Garvan, Clerk

Members: Jeff Gardner, Jaci Grote, Susan Shepcaro and Heather Reed
Alternates: Karen Oliver and Danna Truslow

DEMOLITION REVIEW COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

The purpose of the Demolition Review Committee is to review potential demolition applications for buildings or structures that are at least 50 years old and that are at least 500 sqft. in size. 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.

The Demolition Review Committee had 17 demolition applications to consider in 2020. The committee deemed most buildings or structures to be of no historical significance. However, one application (546 Washington Road) required a site visit, where the Committee was satisfied in applicant's plans to rebuild a historically appropriate replacement barn/garage.

However, not all demolitions result in a "win-win". Many Rye residents deemed the Parsonage to be historically significant and notified preservation contractor Stephen Bedard, who toured the building with members of the Demolition Review Committee and others. However, the Select Board did not afford the Committee to hold a public hearing on the proposed demolition and, sadly, the building was bulldozed the week of Thanksgiving.

There is a concern that the Historic District Ordinance does not protect most Rye buildings. Because of this concern, two members from each of the local preservation groups have started to meet informally to discuss ways to incentivize residents to preserve homes and buildings that they believe to be important to the fabric of Rye. The purpose of this citizen "task force" is to identify and catalog any structures that could be deemed significant and then to identify mechanisms for encouraging preservation. It is a daunting task, but one that will benefit all residents of Rye if successful.

The Demolition Review Ordinance adopted several new changes in 2020, including making the demolition permit the last one to be issued by the Building Inspector and allowing the Committee to issue permits with conditions. A few additional housekeeping Ordinance changes are also being proposed for the 2021 Town Warrant. The most important change is the sending out of a formal written notification to abutters that details when a public hearing is scheduled on a demolition application (a rare event for the Committee).

David Choate, Chairman
Rye Demolition Review Committee

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Emergency Management Team recognizes that alone we can do so little, but together we can do so much. Since March of 2020, representatives from the Police and Fire Departments, the Department of Public Works, all Town Hall Departments, Rye Library, Rye Recreation, Senior Serve, SAU 50 Superintendent's Office, both Rye schools, Rye Country Day School, Rye Water, the Seacoast Science Center, Evolve at Rye and Webster at Rye care facilities, the Town Administrator, and the Town of Rye Health Officer have been meeting electronically on a regular basis. The regular communication during this time has enhanced COVID-19 information among employees, service providers and Rye residents. This allows town services and the Rye community to keep operating in a healthy and safe manner during the medical pandemic.

Town employees have been following important safety protocols. This includes the use of masks, social distancing of 6 feet or more, and limiting exposure to others by being in contact with others for less than 15 minutes at a time.

Fire Chief Mark Cotreau and his staff are coordinating personal protection equipment (PPE) supplies for town employees and ensuring Evolve and Webster at Rye have PPE supplies. The Fire Department staff developed and organized a plan to educate private businesses on how to operate their business effectively with COVID-19 safety recommendations. The staff reviewed information from the Center of Disease Control (CDC), New Hampshire Homeland Security and Emergency Management (NHSEM), local health professionals, and other towns/cities in New Hampshire, in order to properly develop implementation plans for businesses and town facilities for re-opening to serve the public.

Senior Serve, Rye Recreation, and the Rye Library coordinated resources in order to perform delivery services, as well as daily phone calls, to people and families in need. For someone who is considered "at risk", Rye Recreation and Senior Serve would deliver food or medications to them. This is to ensure our vulnerable population could stay at home during the pandemic, as recommended by health professionals. The Rye Library and Rye Recreation also provide follow up to these individuals or families with daily phone calls. The Emergency Management Team would like to thank these employees and volunteers for helping others in our community. Thank you for your dedication and generosity.

The Emergency Management Team's priorities are identifying "at risk" residents and developing plans to ensure the vulnerable residents can get the services they need. This is the number one challenge we face. If you are someone that falls into this category, or know someone that does, please notify us so we can better serve them during this medical pandemic. You can call the Police or Fire Departments, Rye Recreation, Senior Serve or the Rye Library. This information is extremely helpful and allows us to deploy resources to people in need.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Walsh
Emergency Management Director

Rye Energy Committee 2020 Review

The Rye Energy Committee (REC) was established to:

- Assess the energy use and greenhouse gas emissions of Town municipal facilities
- Evaluate and recommend energy conservation measures and greenhouse gas emission (GHG) reduction practices recommended by State and Federal agencies and used by other NH municipalities
- Evaluate and recommend energy conservation and emission reduction alternatives for residents.

Our primary focus continues to be working towards reducing energy use in order to cut costs and greenhouse gas emissions.

Having worked in previous years to improve municipal facility energy efficiency by insulating and air sealing measures, the next best way to reduce costs and emissions would be to use solar panels to generate electricity. Over the past year, we have dug deeper into this to better understand our options. After a detailed review by the Energy and Finance Committee, it was apparent that most cost effective solar installation would be to focus on the schools. They are the largest electric users in town and have the best locations for the panels. The school board approved proceeding with a solar power purchase agreement, (PPA), that will finance the installation with no capital outlay. The PPA and a warrant article are being finalized prior to annual town meeting vote. If the warrant article passes, the solar systems should be installed this summer. Installing solar at the other municipal facilities will be reviewed again in the future.

Upgrades to LED lighting at both schools was completed by Eversource, which paid half the installation cost and is financing the remainder by level billing until the systems are paid off in three years. Power reductions are anticipated to be just under 20%.

LED lighting upgrades at the Library, Town Garage, Recycling Building and Swap Shop are expected to be completed in early 2021. Eversource is paying for half the installation cost and financing the remainder by level billing until the system improvements are paid off in three years. Electric use reductions are once again just under 20%.

One of the largest electric expenses to municipal facilities are demand charges. These result from periods of high demand at municipal facilities locations. These charges represent over 20-30% of electric charges on a typical month. A school energy audit was performed and paid for by Eversource to assess areas of potentially reducing electricity usage and demand charges. Building control system upgrades appear to have the most potential for reducing charges. Other equipment upgrades including circulator motors and HVAC also have potential but all have paybacks in excess of 10 years. However, when this equipment needs replacement these recommendations should be taken into consideration.

We continue to advise our town and residents of cost savings opportunities. In August and again this January, Eversource reduced electric supply rates below that offered by alternative power providers. The committee has recommended that all municipal facilities switch to Eversource to take advantage of this cost savings opportunity.

The Energy Committee is exploring the state legislation allowing municipalities to aggregate town-wide electric usage in order to negotiate lower electric supply prices. Referred to as Community Power, this legislation would allow the town and its residents and businesses to purchase electricity as one entity. The Energy Committee will share more information about Community Power as it becomes available in the coming months.

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Pfau, Howard Kalet, Lisa Sweet, Carl Nicolino & Nancy Siopes

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

2020 was a unique and challenging year for Rye Fire Rescue

Pandemic: The COVID-19 Pandemic beginning with the governor's state of emergency in March has had a significant impact on our operations. Internally we dramatically increased the sanitation and personal protective equipment requirements for the ambulance, equipment, and personnel. This includes additional education, monitoring and vigilance. We have worked hard to maintain our masks, gloves, gowns, and sanitizing inventory at a level where we can withstand an interruption in the supply chain. We extended this commitment to the other town departments, ensuring their protective supplies for continued operations. Along with our EMD we activated the Emergency Operations Center and have held weekly or bi-weekly coordination meetings with the other town departments and key town stake holders. We embraced the governor's efforts to facilitate restaurant openings by educating, permitting, and monitoring the outside seating program.

In an effort to leverage Health Officer Dr. Snow's efforts during the pandemic, the Select Board voted the Fire Chief and EMS Coordinator LT Jake MacGlashing as Deputy Health Officers for purposes of COVID response. As such, the department has taken a lead role in first responder testing and vaccination, town employee exposure assessment and associated contact tracing.

The statistical data contained within this report was undoubtedly affected by the pandemic and as such is inconsistent with existing trends. We are proud to take an instrumental position in helping Rye respond to and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic!

Ocean Rescue Program: Our Ocean Rescue program continues to make a difference for our community! We responded to 7 water rescue calls this year. The most notable was an August call for an overturned skiff outside Rye Harbor with 5 occupants in the water. Thank you to Rye residents and the NH Port Authority for their continued support of this lifesaving project!

New Pumper Ladder: Ladder 1, our long-awaited new pumper-ladder was placed in service December 16th. That same night it responded to its first call, a chimney fire on Long John Road. Many thanks for your continued support!



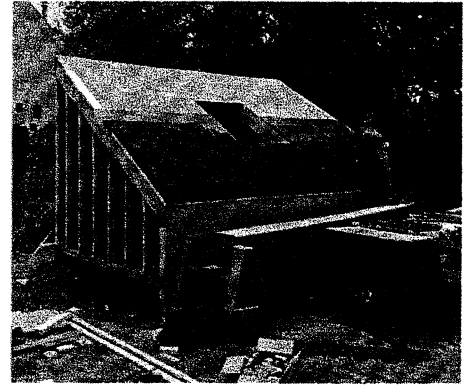
We responded to mutual aid structure fires in Salisbury, Hampton, New Castle, Kittery, Lee, Greenland and Stratham. We responded to 4 chimney fires at Adams Park, Ocean View Avenue, Pollock Drive and Long John Road. Rye Fire Rescue gave mutual aid (responded to another community) 73 times in 2020. We also received mutual aid 53 times in 2020. 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.

Personnel: Firefighter Paramedic Mike Hirtle retired this year. We thank Mike for his years of dedicated service and wish him and his family a long healthy retirement. After a competitive recruitment process call firefighter Peter Anania joined our department as a full-time firefighter/AEMT. We also welcomed aboard call firefighter Brendan Sullivan. Rye is fortunate to have these folks on-board and we look forward to working with them!

Training: We are very appreciative of a donation from Don Cook and D.D. Cook Builders! Don contributed the materials and talent to build a ventilation training prop for us in the rear of the station. This prop will help us maintain our roof ventilation skills!

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. This year, notable trainings from outside instructors included: structural pump operations, Ladder operations and vehicle extrication.



Emergency Responses

NFIRS CATEGORY	NUMBER
Fires/Explosions ¹	24
Overpressure/Ruptures	1
Emergency Medical/Rescue ²	487
Hazardous Conditions ³	39
Service Calls	90
Good Intent Call/Public Service	40
Fire and CO Alarms/Other Alarms	94
Weather Related	3
Special/Miscellaneous	0
TOTAL EMERGENCY RESPONSES	778
Mutual Aid Given	73
Mutual Aid Received	53

1-Fires occurred within the following sub-categories:

Structure fires: 10

Vehicle fires: 2

Brush fires: 5

Other fires: 7

2- Of the EMS responses 338 resulted in patient transport to a hospital at the following level of care:

BLS transports: 80(24%)

ALS transports: 258 (76%)

Included were 15 Motor Vehicle Accidents

Fire Prevention permits/inspections by type:

Propane Gas	95
Oil Burner	5
Fireworks	0
Fire Alarm	4
Blasting	0
Solid Fuel	4
School Inspections	5
Annual Inspections	8
Miscellaneous	16
Occupancy	17
Open Burning	528
Car Seat installs	34
TOTAL	719

Community: Rye Fire Rescue personnel traditionally participate in many community programs such as car seat installs and the Seacoast Firefighters Toy Bank (including an annual toy donation to CHAD at Wentworth Douglas Hospital). Unfortunately, COVID-19 precautions made it necessary to cancel the Holiday Parade, most CPR classes, family visits to the fire station; and fire station visits by school groups. Lt Gallant and FF Bohling are certified in properly installing 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

REPORT OF FOREST FIRE WARDEN

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	214
Beach Fires	156
Seasonal	158
Total Forestry Permits 2020	528

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. Some important precautions include keeping your roof and gutters clear of leaves and pine needles, as well as 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 Report

Town of Rye

2020

To say that the year 2020 was newsworthy is an understatement. The COVID-19 virus has affected everyone and has changed the way we do things and how we view just about every aspect of our lives. The Town of Rye employees have dealt with every problem that has arisen in an exemplary fashion, not only to keep the workings of the town up and running, but also to do so in a safe and efficient manner. There have been countless Zoom meetings and telephone calls, not only to address current problems, but to plan for potential issues in the future. Every department and every employee has contributed to this effort.

I have continued to do inspections as needed. This year I did in-depth inspections of both the middle school and the elementary school. I was impressed at the safety measures that had been instituted due to the pandemic. I also inspected a number of other buildings and spaces, including private schools, restaurants with outdoor dining areas, and nursing facilities.

Regarding the Seacoast cancer cluster investigation, there was a NH House Bill #HB1264 put forth in July which passed and was signed by Governor Sununu. This bill extended the commission on this investigation and set levels for contamination for various chemical substances. The bill also broadened the standards that govern the statute concerning ambient groundwater quality.

As many are aware, New Hampshire experienced a drought in this past year, summer 2020 being the driest on record. Because of this dryness, the mosquito issues were less significant than in previous years. There were no reported cases of West Nile Virus (WNV) or Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) in mosquitos or humans in Rye. There was, however, one batch that tested positive for WNV in Manchester and in Nashua. There were five cases of the Jamestown Canyon Virus detected in humans in the towns of Loudon, Dunbarton, Newport, Bow and Epsom. Luckily, again, no cases were detected in the Town of Rye. We did some supplemental spraying this year which included the schools as well as recreation areas. Still, I strongly recommend that residents take preventative measures when outdoors during the spring, summer, and fall months. These measures include wearing long sleeves and pants, as well as removing standing water in yard receptacles. These measures will also help to avoid ticks, as Lyme disease continues to be a problem in New Hampshire. We are one of the states categorized as “high-risk” for this disease.

Rabies continues to be ever-present in New Hampshire. This year, the State Public Health Laboratories received 525 specimens, of which 481 tested negative, 27 tested positive, and 17 were found to be unsatisfactory. Animals that tested positive included foxes, coyotes, raccoons, large brown bats, and skunks, while one goat and one cat also tested positive. There were 9 animals from Rockingham County that tested positive, but none from Rye. I would like to stress the importance of vaccinating your animals against rabies- this should include strictly indoor pets as well.

I would like to express my thanks to the Rye Select Board, Deputy Health Officers Chief Mark Cotreau and Lt. Jake MacGlashing, town personnel, and the citizens of Rye for their ongoing support and cooperation.

Respectfully submitted,
Gail A. Snow, M.D.
Health Officer

RYE HERITAGE COMMISSION REPORT

2020 has been a year like no other. As is the case with many commissions and boards, the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in our Commission meeting remotely since April. We have adjusted to our new reality and have continued with our objectives and goals. As 2020 was coming to an end, a gazebo, which originally sat on what was the property of the Ocean Wave Hotel, was donated to the town by current owner Doug Palardy. One of the roles of the Heritage Commission is to manage and preserve historic structures and properties in the town. We are undertaking an effort to restore the gazebo.

The gazebo will remain on the grassed area behind the Town Hall, and in 2021 it will be refurbished and preserved for future generations to enjoy.

In addition, the Commission submitted a grant proposal to The New Hampshire Land Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP), with the hopes to help fund the restoration of our Town Hall's monumental windows. Although the proposal was unaccepted, the Commission remains committed to working with the town to maintain and preserve the building.

In addition to Town Hall projects, the Commission created and completed a record detailing the town's graveyards, which can be accessed on the Town website. We continue to encourage residents to adopt graveyards and to take ownership for them in any compacity.

The Commission continues to investigate the possible acquisition of Pulpit Rock Tower. The Friends of Pulpit Rock commissioned an assessment study, which we reviewed. We have asked for an additional study to ascertain financial feasibility. In the meantime, we continue to work in partnership with the group in the promoting the tower's history during World War II.

Lastly, we are excited to announce the Town Hall has been placed on The National Register of Historic Places. Having this distinction opens the door for future grants that will allow for the building's preservation, and also serves as a wonderful recognition of the building's significance. I applaud the work of everyone involved in making this accomplishment happen!

Wishing everyone a healthy, productive, and prosperous 2021.

Respectfully submitted by,

Philip Walsh, Chairman
Rye Heritage Commission

RYE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

This past year proved to be very thought provoking for members of the Rye Historic District. In only six meetings, the members and alternates had to consider a number of projects on Star Island. These projects required substantial efforts on the part of both the Island and the Commission to compromise on a number of issues. The Island sought to provide its guests with exercise stations at various points around the island in order to support good health and fitness. The Island also aimed to improve their waste treatment plant, as well as make new construction safe by adding handrails, ramps and properly spaced bleachers. The Commission sought to preserve the unique collection of historically, architecturally and culturally significant buildings and structures and to achieve visual harmony in the Rye Historic District. Both The Island and the Commission worked together and were satisfied with the end results

The Commission passed its own set of Bylaws and succeeded in obtaining a \$20,000 grant from the Certified Local Government Program to hire a Preservation Specialist. The specialist will work with the Commission to develop Design Guidelines for the Town of Rye and its Historic District and properties.

We granted Certificates of Approval to individual property owners in the District for improvements, such as windows with interior wood but with exterior vinyl clad aluminum with an appearance in harmony with the neighbors' properties. We permitted one applicant to demolish a historic barn with the plan to build a replica with only minor deviations.

This year The Historic District Commission lost Charlie Hoyt, a long-standing and valuable member who moved out of Rye. However, the town center gained Stacey Smith and Lydia Tilsley, two highly motivated and participatory new alternates and abutters.

Our previous efforts to qualify the Second Parsonage for listing on the State of New Hampshire and the Federal Register of Historic Properties failed, with the finding that the site of the building was historic but the exterior of the building had been altered beyond the authenticity required to qualify it as historic. The Commission is exploring the possibility of seeking historic recognition of the entire District and having detailed inventories of the historic properties incorporated into the town GIS system. The commission will focus on the expansion of the District to include properties near the District, geographically and architecturally. We formed a new Rye committee with members of the Historic District Commission, the Heritage Commission, the Demolition Review Committee and the Historical Society. The goal of this new committee is to identify non-protected historic structures throughout the community. Our current Historic District is small, with twenty historic properties and ten non-historic properties; however, there are 300 properties in town built prior to 1900. The Historic District realizes that it is important to identify and acknowledge the impressive preservation work of these properties and honor those property owners, particularly those with properties built prior to 1850. We find it important to promote an overlay district of protection for these properties. The Commission will work to develop a design guideline, which will be instruction-focused rather than mandatory.

Respectfully submitted,
Mae Bradshaw, Select Board Representative

RYE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Through special exhibits, along with our programs and our museum being regularly accessible, the society aims to engage people in the vital aspects of Rye's history. This is so current issues may be better understood, and so that future plans can respect the natural and human history of the town.

Facility

The Town Museum is being lovingly maintained, even as it awaits new visitors and new exhibitions. The RHS Museum Director Alex Herlihy and other members of the Board are ensuring that our lighting and climate environment is conducive to the preservation of our collection. As result of an assessment of our lighting and climate environment, in 2021 we will require investments in new shades, aspects of our lighting system, along with the strategic management of the HVAC system. The exterior of the building was stained in 2020 and a new boiler was installed. We are in partnership with the town to undertake a joint maintenance project to improve the asphalt in front of our entry, thereby improving safety and accessibility.

Financials

Treasurer Steve Cash reports that the 2020 expense budget was dramatically reduced due to changes brought on by COVID-19. Fortunately, we nonetheless ended the year with a small surplus due to a stronger than average membership campaign. All other major expenses were delayed until the 2021 fiscal year or beyond. At the end of the year, total net assets (restricted and unrestricted, excluding property and collection) are estimated at \$107,000.

Museum Visits

We experienced a regular stream of requests for one-on-one visits to the museum in order to conduct research or view specific objects.

Collection Update

Board member Lewis Karabatsos began a comprehensive project to professionally catalogue the RHS collection of objects, documents, and photographs. Once complete, the entire collection will be searchable online and will be more manageable for Society leaders and volunteers. This is a multi-year project for which we will report regularly.

Programs Update

Like the majority of our sister organizations, we were not able to present programs in person this year, but we are now experts on Zoom and virtual presentations! Keep an eye out for virtual program dates and times for 2021. You will not want to miss the program presenters that Programs Manager Becky Marden and Alex Herlihy have recruited – the topics will inspire even the most screen-weary audience! For those interested in local authors, VP Ginna Macdonald has begun recording videos capturing local history, as well as launching a new series entitled, “History Happy Hour” on Sunday evenings. Each week, Board members read on from the current selection from our library on YouTube Live. This project has attracted many new friends and members, and will continue into the future.

Governance

Kelly Lewis took the reins on identifying, recruiting, and training new Board members as well as ensuring that our governing documents are up to date and thoroughly maintained. Lewis Karabatsos joined the Board in 2020. We are looking for 2-3 new Board members in 2021 who have specific skill sets.

Special Project

We are working on an Old House Documentation Project that includes the following activities:

- 1.) Finding the numbered road addresses for many of the houses for which we have old photos
- 2.) Organizing and filing the photos and information on houses in the collection
- 3.) Crafting and distributing a letter to all old homeowners to seek information on their houses

Submitted by Janet Clarkson Davis, President

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

2020

2020 presented unprecedented challenges to all municipal services including the Rye Public Library. After an initial two months of business as usual, we began to anticipate and plan for the potential impacts of an emerging novel coronavirus. Just how significant those impacts would be was not yet evident, but by the first week of March, we had revised our existing flu policy to reflect this new situation and developed the RPL Acute Respiratory Disease Policy. At the same time, we were making serious decisions about curtailing programming, and ultimately closing the library building to the public during New Hampshire's initial stay-at-home order. Clear and reasoned public communication about our decision making accompanied the process conducted by Library staff and Trustees.

Very quickly after closing the building, the entire staff was engaged in meeting and planning remotely. Effective by the second day of our closure period, the Library's full open-hours [and more] were monitored by staff, who quickly responded by phone or e-mail to answer questions and support technology needs. We also quickly developed a phone outreach plan. Staff made calls which included a wellness check-in along with announcement of health information sources and library services to our entire database of 3,400 Rye residents. We also ramped up production of our newsletter from a quarterly edition to our popular weekly *Booster* edition.

Sadly, during the early days of the pandemic we said goodbye to staff members Sherry Evans and Elizabeth Valcourt who left RPL for other opportunities. In early summer we welcomed Peter Cady, Catherine Rogers, and Josie Sedam to the team.

RPL has participated in Rye Emergency Operations Center meetings since NH's state of emergency declaration. The Library was recognized as a vital resource both for offering a sense of "normalcy" in this difficult time, and for being in-touch with a wide slice of the Rye population. We received and relayed any expressions of need from the community and offering information and entertainment to all.

In our initial COVID-19 response we concentrated services to circulating electronic materials and offering tech support in using them. We helped hundreds of people get connected to the many thousands of safe remote-access materials RPL has to offer. In a year that will be difficult to tabulate statistically. That being said, one stand-out is the growth in circulation of electronic materials, which saw a 45% growth from 2019! In June, we expanded our services to include borrowing by pick-up service from the weather-proof RPL foyer. We circulated over 10,000 items through that safe and effective system. After having UV treatment installed in our air circulation system, we have offered browsing inside the building by appointment along with foyer pick-up service.

We've also quickly rearranged to offer library card application and e-mail list registration online, in order to make it easier to get involved and stay abreast of RPL offerings. By the second day of the building closure in March we had begun providing live streaming programming, which is also available on-demand through our website. Since those early days we have been hard at work creating newsletter content and expanding our horizons making video programming in-house, along with finding quality presenters to provide remote-access programming.

Please don't hesitate to be in touch with questions or for details. We really hope to be able to open in a more conventional fashion as soon as it can be carried out safely for all parties. At the time of this writing, COVID-19 has spiked again domestically and internationally. We intend to hold fast to our proven service models as we watch conditions and plan for expanded services. Until then, Rye Public Library will do all we can to fulfill our mission to the Rye community. While we wish we could open our doors, and everyone on staff is anxious to serve you in person, it's obvious that our modified services are being well received, and we are meeting Rye's library needs with an innovative and flexible response.

Please help me recognize the extraordinary efforts of our outstanding Rye Public Library Staff: Marcia Beckett, Lisa Breton, Peter Cady, Jim Chase, Juliette Doherty, Shawna Healy, Lisa Houde, Brenda Nolette, Gwen Putnam-Bailey, Catherine Rogers, Jessica Ryan, and Josie Sedam with a word of support during your next RPL appointment. We look forward to bringing you the best in library service again in 2021.

As always, we are sincerely grateful 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. We fondly remember those patrons who passed in 2020 and are no longer with us at this writing.

Lastly, I'd like to recognize the incredible volunteers who continue to bring us their ideas and devote their talent and time to the library. I sincerely thank our Trustees and Friends of the Library and anticipate welcoming back the many others who work tirelessly to shelve and repair our collection and offer programs to their neighbors in the Rye Community. We deeply hope that 2021 brings a return to both Library and life as we knew them before the COVID-19 pandemic. Until then, we will continue with innovative, flexible services that keep all parties as safe as possible. Thank you for your understanding, support, and positive feedback throughout 2020!

Respectfully submitted,
Andrew Richmond, Library Director

Rye Public Library Trustee Report

2020 brought two major challenges to the Rye Public Library Board of Trustees. These challenges were the Covid-19 pandemic and negotiations to resolve the issue of trustee custody of Library-controlled property. This was created by the proposed “swap” of the Parsonage lot and building for the former TD Bank land and building intended to be authorized by the voters in March 2020.

Fortunately, Library employees were more than up to the challenge of the pandemic. Although the Library closed its doors to the public for a period, Director Andy Richmond and his staff responded with robust plans to allow it to remain “open” in other ways and, eventually, re-open the doors of the building to patrons.

Library staff remained at work, whether remotely or returning to the building in small “pods.” Library programming continued and even grew as the staff’s creative efforts to employ online resources were introduced. Eventually, in-person library services returned in limited fashion. Firstly, the transition occurred by way of a well-designed and managed “pick up/drop off” system, and then by way of a sign-up system allowing patrons to access the Library building for browsing and computer sessions.

Director Richmond represented the Library on both the town’s Emergency Operating Committee, as well as other Seacoast Area Libraries, ensuring that the Library’s efforts to serve the public were well-coordinated with other town entities and libraries in the region. His proposal to upgrade the Library’s HVAC system was quickly approved and implemented, providing UV treatment to the building’s airflow. Currently, no member of the Library staff has contracted COVID-19 from work-related exposure, which we view as a testament to the Library staff’s intelligent, thorough response to this unprecedented situation. The Trustees are grateful for the staff’s highly effective efforts to deal with the pandemic and are pleased to have been able to support them.

Since April 2020, the Trustees have continued their efforts to retain control of the lighted, landscaped property along the walkways, which was created and have been maintained by the Library since 1997. The Parsonage/TD Bank “swap” agreement executed in December 2019 and approved by voters in March was, unbeknownst to the Trustees, intended to transfer away Library-controlled property.

After the original “swap” agreement was voided in June, the Trustees negotiated and entered into, along with the Select Board, a written conceptual agreement by which the “swap” would occur and the Library would buy back one half of the Parsonage lot. This agreement would have maintained public control and custody of half of the Parsonage to create an open space for Library programming and public use, also allowing for future library expansion. More details about this “Conceptual Agreement” appeared in the Town’s September 2020 newsletter. The Trustees were disappointed that they were not given the opportunity to finalize the details of this agreement among all the parties, and it was also voided.

In November 2020 the Select Board executed a third agreement requiring demolition of the Parsonage building, excluding the Library from any role in controlling either the Parsonage lot or the land or lighting along its walkways, as well as part of the Library parking lot, all without the voter approval the Trustees understood was required of the second agreement.

In the course of these events, the Trustees sought legal counsel and advised the Select Board that New Hampshire RSA 202 A-6 gives the Library Trustees “the entire custody and management of the public library and of all the property of the town relating thereto.” After the Select Board executed the November agreement, the Trustees filed a complaint in Superior Court to challenge the Select Board’s continued efforts to remove property from Library custody without Trustee consent. That lawsuit remains pending as of this writing.

The Trustees continue to seek an acceptable settlement that both protects the Library, and also achieves the “swap.” An open negotiation for a mutually satisfactory solution has been the Trustees’ approach from the start. We welcome your inquiries and participation in this process and ask that your communications be directed to Rye Public Library Board of Trustees and its chair.

Jeff Ross, Chair
Rye Public Library Board of Trustees

TOWN OF RYE MOSQUITO CONTROL

The year 2020 was unusual in many ways with the summer being of one of the driest on record. The drought impacted all living creatures that rely on water including mosquitoes. Fewer mosquitoes meant less opportunity for disease outbreaks, one of the beneficial side effects of the drought. We all had more than our share of challenges last year. No one complained about a lack of threat from mosquito-borne disease. Only two batches of mosquitoes tested positive for West Nile Virus (WNV) in NH. One batch was from Manchester and one from Nashua. No mosquitoes tested positive for Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE). The NH Department of Health and Human Services confirmed five human cases of Jamestown Canyon Virus. One person tested positive from each of the following NH towns: Bow, Dunbarton, Epsom, Loudon and Newport.

Adult mosquitoes were monitored at five locations throughout town. Mosquitoes were collected in traps, identified to species and select species were sent to the State Lab in Concord for disease testing. No disease was detected in mosquitoes from Rye in 2020. Crews checked larval habitats 623 times during the season. There were 412 treatments made to eliminate mosquito larvae. Over 630 catch basins were treated to combat disease-carrying mosquitoes. School grounds, town trails and recreation areas were sprayed to control ticks and mosquitoes. Nearly 150 greenhead fly traps were deployed on the salt marshes to control greenhead flies.

The recommended 2021 Mosquito Control plan for Rye includes trapping mosquitoes for disease testing, sampling wetlands for larval activity, larviciding where mosquito larvae are found, efficacy monitoring, greenhead fly control using greenhead fly traps, mosquito and tick control at town owned property and emergency spraying when a public health threat exists. Fieldwork begins in April when mosquito larvae are found in red maple and cedar swamps, salt marshes and other wet areas. Dragon uses a naturally occurring biological product called Bti to control mosquito larvae in wetlands. Bti will not harm people, pets and other animals, aquatic life or other insects. Dragon has been using spinosad, an organic soil bacterium, to control disease-carrying mosquito in catch basins. Trapping adult mosquitoes begins in June and State disease testing starts in July. The mosquito control program ends in October when temperatures drop and daylight hours decrease.

Dragon Mosquito has been chosen again as our vendor for 2021. Residents who do not want their wetlands treated may use their No-Spray Registry online at www.dragonmosquito.com/no-spray-registry or write to Dragon Mosquito Control, PO Box 46, Stratham, NH 03885. Be sure to include your name, physical address, phone number, house color and the acreage you own. If you've submitted a request in prior years, please feel free to contact their office to reaffirm your request. To keep records current, we need to hear from you each year. Inquiries may also be emailed to help@dragonmosquito.com or call their office with questions at 734-4144.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy E. Sanborn, Chairman
Rye Mosquito Control Commission

PLANNING BOARD'S REPORT

During 2020, revised Land Development Regulations (LDR) were adopted and featured in the Town Code as Chapter 202. New standards for site runoff, storm water management (SWM), outdoor lighting, and landscaping were approved. Climate adaptation and resilience standards were included to minimize and prevent impacts to public and/or private property from coastal and freshwater flooding. The SWM and climate standards are consistent with land use and development recommendations in Rye's Master Plan per Chapter 3: Climate, adopted 12/12/17.

Provisions for flood hazard areas were updated in the LDRs with assistance from Planners Jennifer Gilbert and Samara Ebinger of the NH Office of Strategic Initiatives. Development proposals must be consistent with the Town's new flood insurance rate maps and flood insurance study as of 1/29/21, and include steps to minimize flood damage and provide for adequate drainage. For additional information, please review the Town website at: <https://www.town.rye.nh.us>.

Three major site development plans, several minor site development plans, accessory dwelling units, driveway applications, and lot line adjustments filled the agendas throughout the year. The Town's experts: legal (Attorney Michael Donovan), engineering (Sebago Technics), hydrogeology (Truslow Resource Consulting), environmental matters including septic and shoreland resources (Comprehensive Environmental Inc.), and wetlands/soils (Mike Cuomo, Soil Scientist) provided critical technical information to assist the planning process. Major site development plans that were approved included Samonas Realty Trust at 1215 Ocean Boulevard, Rannie Webster Foundation d/b/a Webster at Rye at 795 Washington Road, Wentworth by the Sea, and a project for a new 126' monopine wireless cell tower telecommunications facility, including equipment, with Verizon and AT&T, co-located at 68 Portway. Significant conditions were agreed in connection with these approvals.

The Technical Review Committee members (J Lord and Jim Finn), and Sebago Technics provided substantial assistance on the Stoneleigh Preserve and Tuck Realty/Goss Properties subdivisions as they continued their build-out. In both cases, buffers must be retained, and enhanced storm water management techniques must be incorporated which include: preserving site vegetation, reducing the development footprint, minimizing impervious surfaces via rain gardens, bio retention systems, and swales. An ongoing collaborative effort between RPB, Building Department, DPW, and the Town experts has ensured compliance with conditions of approval.

The proposed zoning amendments for the 2021 Warrant were concluded at the Planning Board meeting of January 12, 2021. Proposed zoning amendments may be reviewed at: <https://www.town.rye.nh.us/planning-board/pages/proposed-zoning-amendments-2021>.

Lastly, thanks to all of the RPB members: Stephen Carter, Bill Epperson, James Finn, JM Lord, Nicole Paul, Bill McLeod, Jeffrey Quinn, and Katy Sherman - your contributions to the Town cannot be overstated!

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Losik, Chairperson
Rye Planning Board

Police Department Annual Report 2020

On behalf of the Rye Police officers, we would like to thank you for your support. Officers find both citizens and town employees working together to make our community a safer and healthier place to live and visit. Since March of 2020, The COVID-19 pandemic has changed how we live. Closing Town and State of New Hampshire properties and then re-opening, using a coordinated health plan was challenging. Input received from the public and other service providers helped to direct strategies as the health plan was implemented. Rye police value all communication brought forth by the community members. Your contributions, cooperation and input has helped us reduce the spread of the virus.

It is always a common goal to understand and meet the community's expectations and ensure that the department's priorities match that of citizen's needs. To accomplish this, the police department reviewed resources and compared them to recommendations and mandates from the *New Hampshire Police Standards and Training Council*, and the *New Hampshire Commission on Law Enforcement Accountability, Community, and Transparency* report. The objective is to continue to advance police services and accountability. These types of improvements do not happen overnight; I want to thank Rye residents, current and past elected officials of Rye, and previous police administration. The Rye police department currently meets all mandates and most of the recommendations. The officers and I will continue to evaluate through feedback, so that the police department evolves and adapt to changing times.

I and all the officers continue to strive to address quality-of-life-related complaints; for example, driving behavior in Rye. The police department has started a driving compliance management plan. To help strategize with a driving compliance management plan, a Jamar vehicle tracker (which is a device that tracks and shares a vehicles' every move, in real-time) was purchased in 2019 and a digital moveable speed sign was purchased in 2020. This digital speed sign shows a driver the speed of the vehicle they are driving and creates reports to show the day of week and the time of day in which the vehicles speed occurred. These reports are showing the driving patterns of Rye roads. The reports assist supervisors, officers, and Rye residents to communicate safety concerns. Comparing information helps to identify how we can achieve voluntary compliance with operators of vehicles.

Another consistent challenge for the law enforcement community, that seems to be becoming more prevalent, is mental illness and substance abuse. Rye officers respond to multiple calls where they must take someone into custody because of unsafe behaviors being displayed. Officers understand why people do not want to discuss mental health challenges, due to fear and shame. Officers continue to work with the families to help arrestees get proper help while also preserving the dignity of those struggling with mental illness.

Respectfully submitted,
Chief Kevin Walsh

The following are the statistics for 2020:

8,487 calls for service	174 arrests	175 alarms
1,442 motor vehicle stops	102 accident investigations	444 animal control
30 911 hang up calls	188 medical aid calls	31 domestics
30 juvenile issues	2 burglary reports	51 thefts

\$144,615.03 parking fines collected, \$9,881.00 court fines collected, \$95,141.00 outside details

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Covid-19 pandemic put the world on pause and affected everyone in its wake. For approximately a quarter of the year, to protect both the staff and the public, we had to curtail the services offered at the Transfer Station. In September 2020, we brought the facility back online with the exception of the Swap Shop. However, all container services are now self-service, as residents must deposit fees into cash boxes to minimize resident to staff contact. The department only experienced one infection incident, but that incident had put half of the department staff out of work for almost two weeks. In addition, the department had two employees out sick or injured for more than fifty percent of the year.

This winter was relatively unusual, posing precipitation numbers that were approximately half of what we typically experience each year. The department responded to 13 weather events, which is about half our ten-year average of 21 events. The year's total snowfall accumulation was 35 inches, which is also about half the ten-year average of 68 inches. The 13 weather events consisted of nine snow events, and four that were ice-only. The snow events averaged approximately two- and three-quarter inches of accumulation per event. We deployed 493 tons of salt on the roadways to maintain safe road conditions, which totaled a cost of approximately \$27,000. The total salt was approximately half the ten-year average of 902 tons per year.

The department ordered a new one-ton dump truck and 30 cubic yard loose paper container. The two pieces of equipment cost approximately \$75,000 and \$10,000, respectively. The one-ton dump truck arrived in December, but we are still awaiting the loose paper dumpster's delivery.

The crack-sealing program addressed Dow Lane, Stonewall Lane, Marjorie Way, Holland Drive, Clarke Road, along with sections of Brackett Road, Central Road, South Road, Cable Road and Frontier Road. The program addressed a total distance of 3.6 miles, which cost a total of \$28,934.

The COVID-19 pandemic affected this year's road paving program greatly. The Board of Selectmen reduced the budget line 25%, from \$400,000 to \$300,000, in anticipation of a revenue shortfall attributed to the pandemic. The department was able to complete the final section of Harbor Road, between Ocean Boulevard and Locke Road. In addition, repaving began on Sagamore Road, where three sections were completed. We scheduled two additional sections of Sagamore Road for pavement in the next year. We paved the entire length of Garland Road, from West Road to Grove Road and Morgan Court, and from Sagamore Road to the end. We applied a total of 3,000 tons of bituminous asphalt pavement, which cost approximately \$250,000.

The Transfer/Recycling Station processed 1,252 tons of household rubbish, 36 tons of kitchen waste, 9 tons of wood, 330 tons of Demo/Debris, 152 tons of mixed paper, 92 tons of cardboard, 15 tons of newsprint, 87 tons of scrap metal, 186 tons of glass, 26 tons of steel/aluminum cans, 12 tons of plastic containers, 7 tons of miscellaneous electronics, 500 gallons of waste oil, and 310 tires. By excluding the wood, tires, demo/debris, electronics, waste oil, and metal from processing, the town residents diverted approximately 519 tons of material away from disposal in the landfill. This diversion represents a cost avoidance of approximately \$36,000 in tipping fees, and a recycling rate of approximately 30%. In addition, the facility obtained approximately \$51,500 in revenues from transfer station receipts and sale of recyclables, a decrease of approximately eight percent (21%) over last year. This large revenue loss is indicative of the very poor recycling market we are currently experiencing, as well as the effect of the Covid-19 pandemic on the facilities' operations.

We issued 26 new driveways permits this year, 21 paving permits and 25 excavation permits. These numbers represent an approximate 50% increase over the ten-year average. This activity is indicative of the very robust real estate economy.

I wish to thank the Public Works Staff, the Board of Selectmen, the Town Administrator, and the Town Hall staff for their assistance and support. I would also like to thank the Energy and Recycling Education Committees for their enthusiasm, along with all the town residents, whose input and cooperation remains crucial in keeping our department functioning.

Respectfully submitted,
Dennis G. McCarthy
Public Works Director



RECREATION COMMISSION'S REPORT

Rye Recreation was impacted in 2020 by COVID as was the rest of the world. While we faced many challenges, we pivoted and responded to the best of our ability. We started 2020 strong, the Multigenerational Community Center space at Rye Congregational Church was coming together for a spring 2020 Grand Opening. Volunteer Sam Hatem spent over 100 hours painting and preparing the space, at no cost to the town. We received bids for carpeting and acquired furnishings. New middle school programs and over-55 programming was also being planned. Then COVID hit Rye and all our programs were basically shut down for the remainder of 2020. We went from typically having over 2,750 participants in our yearly programming to under 500 participants.

With the absence of in person gatherings, a video of the Memorial Day Ceremony, which included a poster and poetry contest was created. To celebrate Independence Day, we held the July 4th Faces of Rye Photo Contest and produced the Town of Rye July 4th Celebration Video that received 1.2k views. Both videos were created with assistance from Rye resident, Bob Glowacky. Through the efforts of Commissioners Stephen King and Cory Belden we worked closely with David Williams and Leif Honda of the Rye Soccer Association and implemented a modified youth soccer program for the fall. With great cooperation from coaches, parents and participants, we were able to have 98 youth in our community safely play recreational soccer. We are thankful for our coaches and screeners who assisted with making fall soccer a success given the difficult circumstances.

Unfortunately, we had to cancel our summer and winter programming as well as our After School Program. We simply do not have the appropriate space to offer these programs during the pandemic. We remain optimistic that by the fall of 2021 the Multigenerational Community Center will be up and running and will become an active and vibrant space in the center of town for all ages to gather. We are excited about expanding our very popular over-55 programming. Prior to COVID the Active, Alive and Over 55 Club had 140 members who participated in trips, fitness classes, and lunch programs. Space has been designated within the community center for middle school students in response to an expressed need in our community from teachers, parents and students. We are pleased to be addressing this longtime void in programming for youth in middle school.

Even though COVID put a hold on programming, the Recreation Commissioners were active in planning for the future. We managed to hold in-person meetings while following proper social distancing and COVID protocols at our new Multipurpose Storage Facility at the Recreation Area. If you have not read about the new 1,820 square foot building or seen it, we would encourage you to take a ride to the Recreation Area to check it out. We are very proud that it was built for \$150,000/\$82.42 a square foot. All our materials, supplies, and equipment are now in one space and can be properly stored, so that we do not have to replace items prematurely due to environmental issues.

The next initiative for the Recreation Commission is to update the Master Plan for the Recreation Area. The last plan was done in the mid-90's and has served us well as a guide to the placement of equipment, fields, storage, parking, etc. The updated plan will address the next 10-20 years for the area. Also, with expanded outdoor recreation programming and the very popular walking trails in the Rye Town Forest, our outdated residential grade bathrooms need to be upgraded to handle the demand. We take seriously our responsibility of overseeing the Recreation Area and are very proud of its condition.

The Recreation Commission is a volunteer 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. The Recreation Department is overseen by Lee Arthur, Recreation Director, with assistance from Victoria Loring, Administration and Programs Assistant. Hopefully by the end of 2021 we can get back to some semblance of normal with the recreation programming.

Respectfully submitted,
Gregg Mikolaities, Chairperson

MULTIPURPOSE STORAGE FACILITY RIBBON CUTTING & OPEN HOUSE

By Lee Arthur

SHARING A COMMUNITIES ACCOMPLISHMENT

The Town of Rye held a ribbon cutting and open house to celebrate the completion of the Rye Recreation Multipurpose Storage Facility located at 55 Recreation Road.

Residents, the Select Board, recreation commissioners, town staff, community leaders and the builder Jarrod Patten, JRK Builders NH LLC gathered to share in the community's accomplishment.

The ceremony included opening remarks from Gregg Mikolaities, Recreation Commission Chairman. He thanked those in attendance for their support, spoke about the project's history and brought attention to the building attributes and other improvements at the recreation area. The event was photographed by Frank Kennedy, Rye Resident.

THE PROCESS

COLLABORATIVE EFFORT

On March 13, 2018 Rye voters approved Warrant Article 13, to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred fifty thousand dollars to construct the multipurpose recreation storage facility. The discussion on the need for proper program and storage space for Rye Recreation has been ongoing since 1999. Over the years the Recreation Commission has completed a Recreation Master Plan, conducted two town-wide recreation needs surveys, had an architect complete a facility and space needs assessment of Rye Recreation Facilities and the Select Board appointed members to a Rye Recreation Facilities Space Needs Assessment Committee.

At every turn the lack of appropriate, climate-controlled storage was identified as a critical shortcoming. Rye Recreation which provides a wide range of programs and services to residents, holds programs at more than 12 different sites, with supplies and equipment until now stored in 19 different locations.

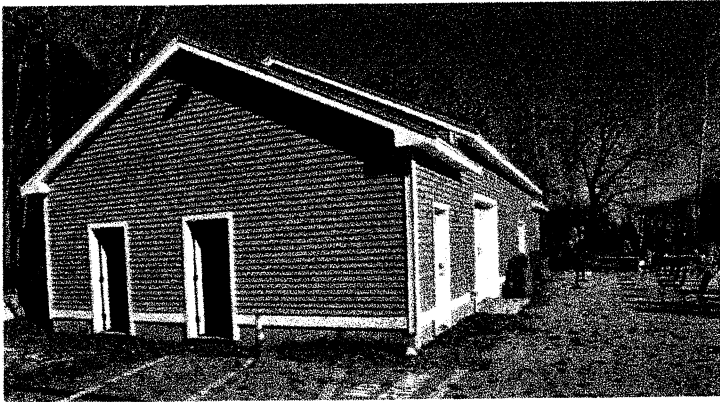
Those present toured the Rye Recreation Multipurpose Storage Facility, which features 1,820 square feet of overall space at a cost of \$150,000/\$82.42 a square foot. The concession area is 208 square feet, heated, overlooks the Ralph Morang Multipurpose Field, has a closet equipped to serve as a future restroom if decided and is where the timer for the exterior lights is located.



Left to Right: Cory Belden, Jarrod Patten, Stephen King, Lee Arthur, Bill Epperson, Philip Winslow, Gregg Mikolaities, Victoria Loring and Rebecca Bergeron. Photo by Frank Kennedy

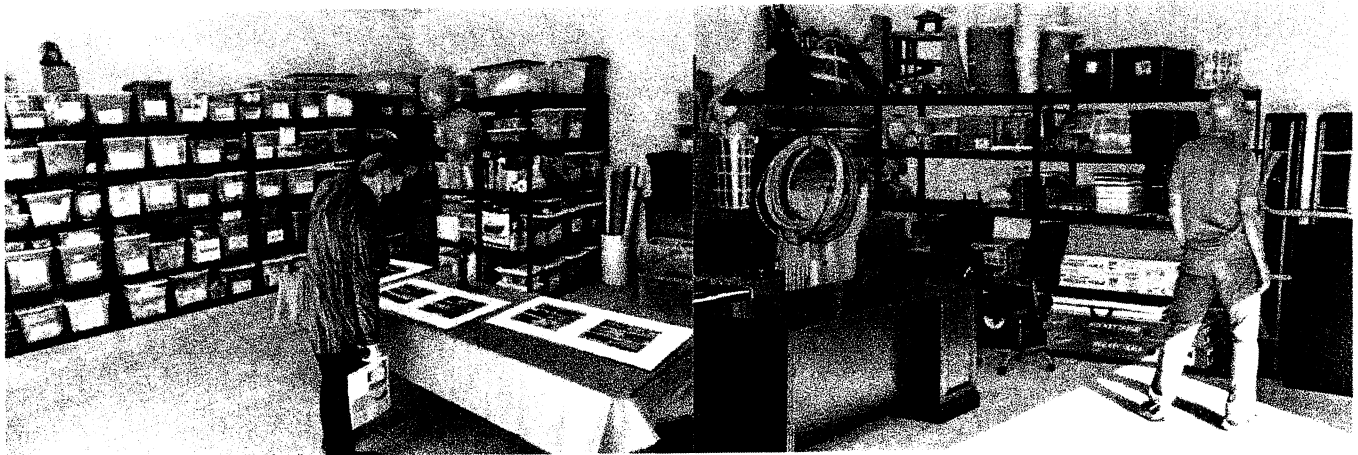
The heated storage area is 780 square feet, has double doors for easy entry, is furnished with shelving, has ample workspace and houses the irrigation controls. The unheated storage area is 728 square feet, has shelving and a garage door. Two community lockers each 52 square feet are accessible from the exterior of the building and are being used by Rye Little League and Rye Soccer Association. The electrical was brought underground to the building and the waterline was installed by the Rye Water District.

The former Soccer Snack Shack and adjacent utility sheds were demolished by the Public Works Department and the access to the overflow parking area was relocated in consultation with the Conservation Commission to the back of the building.



SPECIAL THANK YOU

To the residents of Rye, Select Board, Budget Committee, Capital Improvements Program Committee, Conservation Commission, Demolition Review Committee, Planning Board, Zoning Board of Adjustment, Recreation Commission, Recreation Facilities Needs Assessment Committee, Rye Water District, Building Department, Finance Department, Fire Department, Planning Department, Police Department, Public Works Department, Selectmen's Office, Recreation Department, and Jarrod Patten, JRK Builders.



RECYCLING EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The mission of The Rye Recycling Education Committee is to deliver information and educate people on the importance of recycling. Specifically, we have three goals we wish to accomplish. Our first goal is to increase the town recycling rate, our second being to encourage more recycling at the schools; and thirdly, we aim to grow the number of households utilizing the Mr. Fox Composting food scrap program.

The year of 2020 was a challenge for everyone, to say the least. Our committee had met as a group in January to outline what we wanted to accomplish for the year. We met again to finalize our goals in February, but by mid-March, we had to close our doors.

In January 2020, our committee created a Facebook page entitled, "Rye NH Recycling Education Committee." The page intends to act a hub for any recycling- related ideas, and includes information written by the RREC members. It will also allow Rye citizens to connect with each other on the topic of recycling.

Our committee also created a survey that asked if and how restaurants in Rye recycle. The survey was gaining traction, but curtailed, due to the pandemic. We acknowledge our neighborhood restaurants' main priority is to remain afloat, so when appropriate, the committee will resume the surveys and post our results on the RREC Facebook page.

I want to thank all of our RREC members and volunteers. Without your commitment to teach Rye citizens how to recycle effectively, our work would not be possible. I hope to see everyone for the coming term in 2021.

We are continuing 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."**

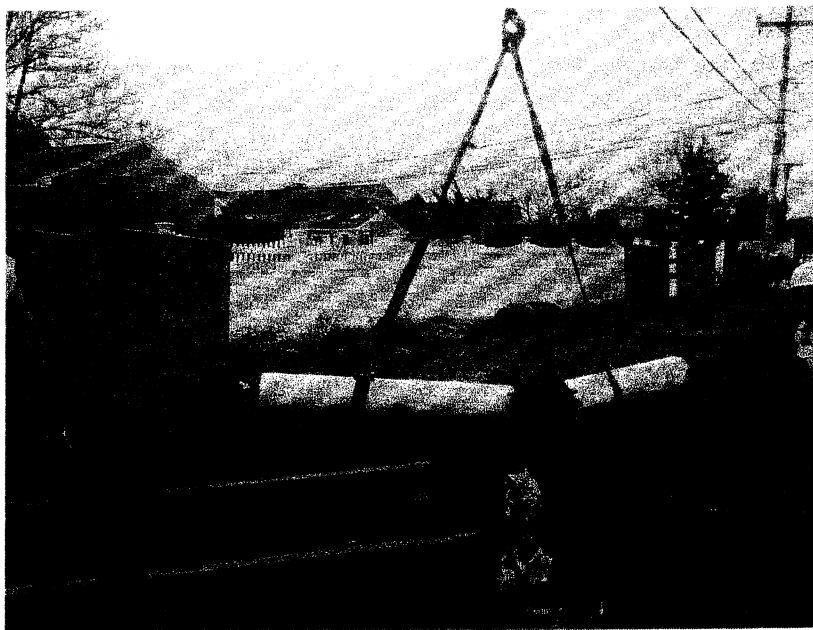
Respectfully submitted,
John Provencher, Chairman
The Rye Recycling Education Committee

"Remember, think before you throw and make a difference in the world, volunteer."

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 2020, Rye had 553 parcels connected to the sewer system with two 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 Wastewater 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.

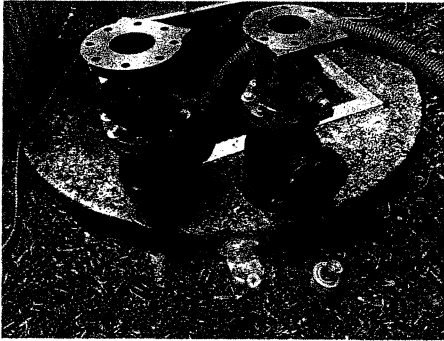
In 2019, the Town voted in favor of the following warrant article: "To see if the town will vote in favor of the expansion of the City of Portsmouth sewer system (at no cost to the town of Rye and pursuant to an inter-municipal agreement to be negotiated between the Rye Sewer Commission and the City 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." A draft inter-municipal agreement was presented to the Portsmouth City Council in January of 2020, but has not been accepted, partially due to capacity concerns at the Portsmouth/Rye line pump station. In addition, proponents failed to raise the funds necessary to move forward and the project remains stalled.



The Rye collection system was constructed in the early 1990's and consists of 6.9 miles of gravity sewer. The ductile iron pipe leaving the wet well at the Jenness Beach Pump Station failed and a repair clamp was installed in 2019. The section of pipe that failed was replaced in 2020. In addition, the sewer system manholes were inspected and the property under easement, where the Church Road Pump Station is located, was cleared including the

fence perimeter. The culvert in the driveway to the Church Road Pump Station failed and was replaced.

Rye has three pump stations that are remotely monitored daily and inspected weekly. General pump maintenance was carried out at all three stations, the wet wells at Church Road, Jenness Beach and Abenaqui Pump Stations were cleaned and the system flushed. The check valves,



plug valves, gaskets and transducer at the Abenaqui Pump Station were replaced. 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 inter-municipal agreement that currently extends to November 16, 2024, Rye is responsible for contributing to the Town of Hampton WWTP up grades (Rye's share 4%).

In 2019 a Pump Station Capacity Study revealed that there is significant remaining capacity at Abenaqui Pump Station, but Jenness Beach and Church Road Pump Stations do not have enough capacity during estimated peak flow events. As a result, the Sewer Commission added the following section to the Sewer Use Ordinance in 2020: "Section 603 Moratorium, Due to capacity limitations at the Jenness Beach and Church Road pump stations, the Sewer Commission will not approve an extension or expansion which adds additional wastewater flow to the collection system. This provision supersedes the moratorium adopted by the commission on November 26, 2019." The Sewer Use Ordinance and Sewer User Charge Ordinance have been incorporated into the new Town Code that was adopted on March 10, 2020.

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 and requirements. As a result, the Collection System Operations and Maintenance Plan Summary Report is filed annually. The NPDES Permit was reissued on December 17, 2020. To install sewer pipes, or 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 2020, four installer's licenses and four applications for a secondary usage water meter were received.

Our hearts remain heavy as we process the passing of Peter G. Kasnet, Vice Chairman of the Sewer Commission in 2020. He served as a commissioner for 15 years and was re-elected 5 times. He contributed significantly to the day-to-day operations of the Sewer Department, was extremely knowledgeable and above all a gentleman. He will be greatly missed. The current sewer commission consists of David W. Kohlhase, Chairman, David M. Adams, Commissioner, and Lee Arthur, Administrator. The sewer office is located on the second floor of the Rye Beach Village District Building, 830 Central Road, Rye Beach, NH.

Respectfully submitted,

David W. Kohlhase, Chairman
Rye Sewer Commission

SOUTHEAST REGIONAL REFUSE DISPOSAL DISTRICT 53B

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

District 53-B is presently made up of six member towns: Brentwood, Fremont, Kensington, North Hampton, Rye and Sandown.

Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, the District postponed its annual Household Hazardous Waste Day in Brentwood. Normally this event is held in the Fall; however, we are hopeful in 2021 we will hold a spring and fall event. Stay Tuned.

Effective April 1, 2020 the Board of Southeast Regional is as follows:

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

Respectfully submitted,
Everett (Bud) Jordan, Chairman
Southeast Regional Refuse
District 53B

**TOWN OF RYE
GENERAL ASSISTANCE REPORT – 2020**

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.

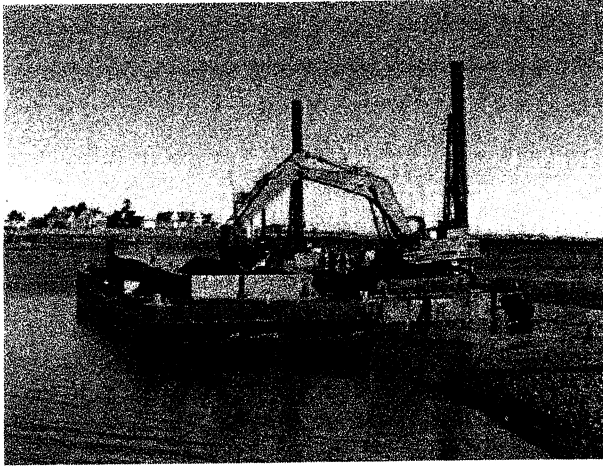
The decrease in applicants and, attending assistance, can be attributed in large part to the US government assistance programs available to the general population due to COVID-19. Utility expenses are secured by a property lien which will eventually return the funds to the Town.

SIX YEAR GENERAL ASSISTANCE HISTORY

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
	\$ Total	\$ Total	\$ Total	\$ Total	\$ Total	\$ Total
Burial	\$0	\$0	\$750	\$750	\$750	\$2,250
Electric	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$427	\$0	\$0
Food	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$269	\$0	\$0
Propane	\$205	\$989	\$543	\$1,456	\$2,566	\$1,747
Gasoline	\$120	\$0	\$0	\$40	\$0	\$0
Mortgage	\$11,395	\$12,831	\$12,542	\$14,342	\$13,362	\$0
Oil	\$2,062	\$0	\$407	\$1,130	\$0	\$0
Personal	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$40	\$0	\$0
Prop Tax	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Rent	\$22,207	\$12,797	\$9,720	\$5,961	\$16,886	\$5,638
Rx / Med	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Util-Other	\$0	\$0	\$1,776	\$0	\$0	\$0
Transp.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$35,989	\$26,617	\$25,738	\$24,415	\$33,564	\$9,635
Vouchers Written	51	35	37	33	40	18
Assisted Cases	18	8	10	9	12	11

Ellen Tully, Welfare Director
City of Portsmouth
1/4/2021

RYE HARBOR FINALLY DREDGED AFTER 30 YEARS



Rye Harbor had been last dredged in 1990 (over thirty years ago) and, for the past five years, commercial ground fishing, lobster, and whale watching tour boats were severely hampered from entering and exiting the Harbor during mid to low tide. The lack of access to the Harbor by watercraft was beginning to impact the \$5 million dollar economic benefit that the Harbor generates for the seacoast. The pre-dredging analysis of the Harbor by the US Corps of Engineers (Corps) was initially started in 2016 and completed in 2019. However, funding for the \$3.5+ million-dollar project was not available

to allow for the dredging work to be done. Spearheaded by local resident Don Blouin and Select Board Chair Phil Winslow, a grassroots group of fisherman, tour operators, and recreational boaters worked to bring the need for the funding to our US Senate and House Representatives. Senator Sheehan and Ex-Senator and Rye resident Judd Greg responded by visiting the Harbor along with representatives of the Corps in 2019. They toured the Harbor at low tide to see firsthand. Senator Sheehan, armed with pictures and the economic impact report, worked through the later part of 2019 to obtain funding. In late 2019 the US Senate Appropriations Committee approved its 2020 Energy and Water spending bill which included \$4 million dollars for Rye Harbor. The full Senate subsequently passed the legislation and it was signed by the President for the Rye Harbor work to be initiated in 2020 with completion in 2021. Prock Marine began the dredging work in late 2020 and working night and day will have it completed by late February of ~~this year~~ ²⁰²¹. The Harbor will now be ready to serve Rye and seacoast residents for another 20+ years.



TOWN OFFICES AND SERVICES

HOURS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Assessor's Office	8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Building Inspector:	
Building Department	8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Afternoons by appointment	
Planning and Zoning Office	8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
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	8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Town Clerk/Tax Collector: Monday – Friday	8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Treasurer: Tuesday & Thursday	10:00 a.m. - 1:00 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

DEPARTMENTAL DIRECTORY

Regular Hours: Monday - Friday - 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted

Assessing Department.....	379-8270	
Building Department.....	964-9800	8:00am – 2:00pm
Planning/Zoning Department.....	379-8081	8:00am – 3:00pm
Building/Planning/Zoning Fax.....	964-1516	
Cemetery Superintendent.....	(cell) 817-0066	
Library.....	964-8401	
Library Fax.....	964-7065	
Public Works.....	964-5300	
Public Works Director/ EMERGENCY ... (cell)	817-4482	
Recycling Center.....	964-5300	
Open Tues.-Sat., 7:30 a.m. - 3:45 p.m. Brush Dump: Tues. & Sat. only		
Recreation.....	964-6281	
Recycling Center (Recycle or Brush).....	964-5300	
Selectmen.....	964-5523	
Selectmen Fax.....	964-1516	
E-Mail: jireland2@ryenh.us		
Town Website: www.town.rye.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	

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.



JULY 4TH FACES OF RYE PHOTO CONTEST 2020

To celebrate Independence Day, the Town of Rye hosted a photography contest

FINALISTS



1st, Uliano Family
by Dawn Uliano



2nd, American Gal (Sophie)
by Janice Ireland



3rd, Celebrating Rye's History
by Adam Goodine (Friends of Pulpit Rock Tower)

HONORABLE MENTIONS



USA Birthday Suit by Lauren Kalil



Patriotic Backyard by Kim Gardiner



Hwang Family by Frank Hwang



Seacoast Strength & Conditioning
by Josh Gould



Rye Lobsta by Cheryl Eberhardt



Proud to Serve by Dennis McCarthy



Baby with Flag by Dawn Uliano



Patriotic Resident
by Beverly Levesque



Huck's First 4th of July
By Susan Shepcaro

