



Town of Rye Newsletter



Vol. 25, No. 4

A Publication of the Rye, New Hampshire, Select Board

December 2022

Selectmen's Message:

Boil Water Order, Tax Rate, Rye400 Celebration, New Salt Shed and More!

Water District Boil Water Order: As those of us who are in the Rye Water District Precinct know the 25 days under the "boil water mandate" reinforced the importance of a quality water source in our lives. While the water district staff worked long hours to resolve the issue, we at home fretted over boiling water, teaching young children (and even older members of our family) to brush their teeth with bottled or previously boiled water, to wash dishes with boiled water, and in some cases find out that we had a sanitize setting on our dishwasher that we had never used.

Many of us were informed of the boil water order via a reverse 911 call within hours of the order going into effect while some never knew about the order until days later. The key to being a recipient of the reverse 911 call was to have signed up on line for the NH Alert system---a simple process of googling NH Alert and following the prompts to sign up. We highly encourage everyone to sign up thereby ensuring that you are

promptly notified of any future emergency alerts on incidents impacting the seacoast. Please see pages 3-5 in this newsletter for instructions on how to sign up for E-911 and Water District alerts. The Rye Emergency Management team along with the Select Board and Water District began providing cases of bottled water to residents that were affected by the order days after the alert was issued. Police, Fire, and Public Works personnel along with help from the Rye Lions Club worked long hours to provide the water and we want to thank them for their efforts. We would also like to thank the PR support donated to the Town by John Guilfoil Public Relations, LLC.

Thanks to those who attended the joint Select Board and Water District public session on Sunday, November 6th at the Rye Junior High. Many good questions were asked of the Water District Commissioners and representatives of the NH Department of Environmental Services (DES). The most impactful question was "is our water safe to drink" to which the DES representative unequivocally stated that Rye water is now absolutely safe to drink. Please see the Rye Water District report in this newsletter for further details.

Tax Rate Setting: During the tax rate setting meeting on November 9, 2022, the Select Board reviewed the preliminary tax rate of \$7.28 as determined by the Department of Revenue Administration. The preliminary rate dropped substantially from 2021 due to the recent revaluation in which the overall increase in the Town-wide valuation was 47%. The Select Board discussed several scenarios and finally

voted to use \$973,326 from unassigned fund balance to lower the Town rate to \$6.98.

- The Town portion of the rate has decreased from \$2.80 to \$2.07
- The Local School share decreased from \$4.34 to \$3.20
- The State School share decreased from \$2.10 to \$1.04
- The Rockingham County share decreased from \$.98 to \$.67

In addition, the precinct rates were set as follows:

- Rye Water District decreased from 65 cents to 41 cents per thousand of valuation
- Jenness Beach remains at 12 cents per thousand of valuation
- Rye Beach decreased from 41 cents to 29 cents per thousand of valuation

Rye residents should add the Town wide tax rate to their respective precinct rate to obtain the total tax rate for their property.

Town Hall Annex: The Town Hall Annex renovations which began earlier this year, continue under the direction of Triple Construction. Since the last update in September, much progress has been made toward completion. The interior walls are completed and primed. The flooring in all areas is complete. The new water line has been installed from the hydrant to the building and a huge thank you goes out to the Rye Water District and BCK Excavation for completing this over a holiday weekend to minimize the disruption to the Rye Jr. High and weekday commuters. The acoustical ceilings are 95% complete. All electrical and data wiring is substantially completed. We have experienced a slight delay with changes and supply chain issues that are affecting the custom

Holiday Parade

"VINTAGE RYE HOLIDAY"

Sunday, December 4, 2022, 3:00 p.m.

Webster at Rye, 795 Washington Road to the Rye Junior High School

For additional information call the Fire Dept. at 964-6411.



Selectmen's Message

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millwork installation and due to some unforeseen circumstances the exterior painting will not be completed until the spring.

Even with the delays, we are still anticipating transitioning the Town Clerk's Office, Assessing, some members of Finance and the Supervisors of the Checklist, as previously discussed, by the end of the year. There will be some ongoing items after the transitions, so please be patient with us while we settle into our new space.

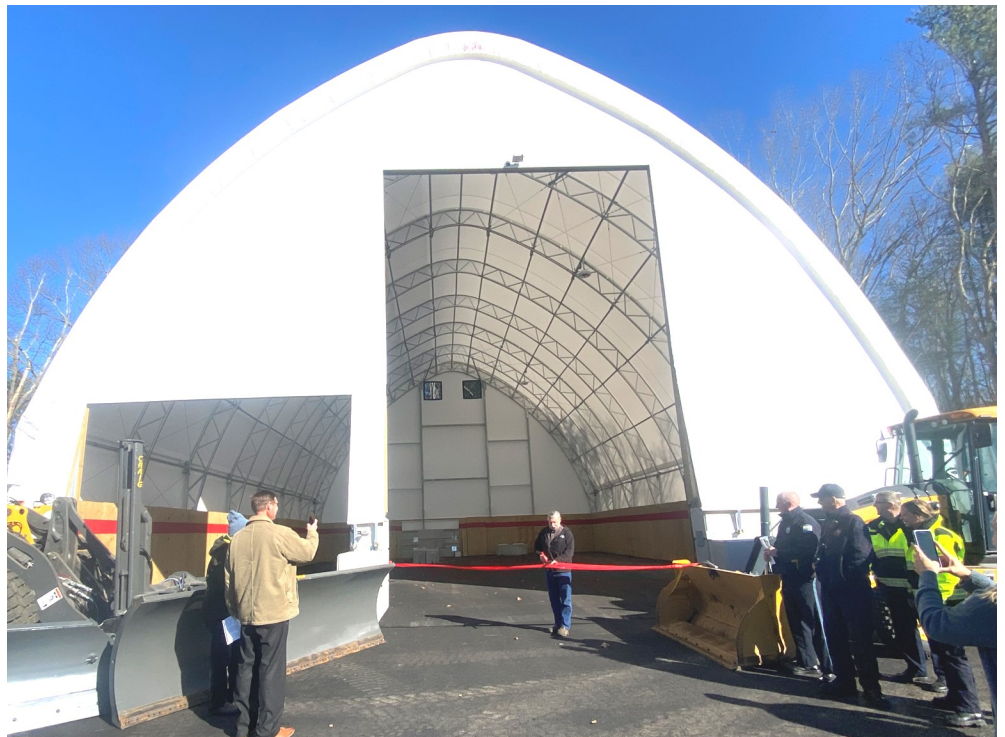
On behalf of the entire municipal staff, we would like to thank the Library, Conservation Commission, Dan Philbrick and the support of the entire Rye Community for making this all possible. We appreciate your investment in our staff as much as our staff appreciates your investment in them.

Rye400 Celebration: The Rye Historical Society has generously agreed to organize Rye's 400th anniversary and the Rye400 celebration planning is well underway. On Sunday, December 4th at 3:00 p.m., the kick-off event is a combined holiday parade, candlelight stroll through Town Center and a tree lighting ceremony at Parsons Field. The Select Board has voted to expend the first tranche of town funds authorized by warrant article to support the holiday event and the telephone pole banners that have been installed around town. The Rye400 Committee and its related activities are an initiative of the Rye (NH) Historical Society, a 501(c)(3), tax-exempt organization. Qualified donations are tax-deductible in accordance with the standards and regulations of the Internal Revenue Service. There are numerous opportunities to assist with event planning. Please consider supporting your Rye400 celebration both financially and as a volunteer. There is a link on the Town website which will direct viewers to the official Rye400 website www.ryenh400.org. Let's celebrate!

Pease Cargo Facility: The Select Board has attempted to keep Rye residents informed about the proposed cargo facility at Pease over the last year. The September 2022 town newsletter had a lengthy explanation of events to date. Since that time, one of the two developers which have options to provide proposals has terminated their air cargo facility plans. ProCon/Kane announced that they are pursuing an advanced manufacturing facility on one of the two parcels, which the Pease Development Authority (PDA) accepted.

That said, another development company, East West Aeronautical announced that they are committed to bring an air cargo proposal to the PDA Board. Per an interview by Roger Woods, associate publisher at InDepthNH, with Eric Anderson, President of East West Aeronautical, Mr. Anderson made it clear that his company was moving forward with a plan to create a Cargo Facility at Pease. The next PDA Board meeting results will not be known in time for this edition of the newsletter. However, your Select Board is following the PDA meeting agendas and application schedule closely and will update you on any future plans to expand cargo facilities at Pease.

DPW Salt Shed: Rye's new salt shed located at the Department of Public Works facility on Grove Road was officially dedicated on Monday, November 14th. Rye residents graciously supported this endeavor to minimize the potential for groundwater contamination by winter de-ice materials. Given the recent events in Rye concerning drinking water, this is both a prudent and timely example of the Town's proactive efforts to protect our water supply.



(Former DPW Director, Dennis McCarthy cuts the ribbon at the ribbon cutting ceremony on 11/14/22)

Save the date for the Deliberative Session: Mark your 2023 calendars now to save the date for the first half of our Town Meeting known as the Deliberative Session. At this time, the 2023 budget and warrant articles will be finalized for placement on the March ballot. For the coming year, the Deliberative Session date is **Saturday, February 4th** and the snow date is set for February 11th. The second half of our Town Meeting, the Town Election, will be held Tuesday, March 14th at the Rye Elementary School.

Rye Select Board,
Phil Winslow, Chairman
Tom King, Vice-Chairman
Bill Epperson, Selectman



How to Register for CodeRED Alerts Online

Select Managed Account Preference

Creating a managed account will allow you access to modify your existing notification settings and contact information, below is a list of your options:

1. SINGLE SIGN-ON ACCOUNT

To create a single sign-on account, click the button next to “Yes” and click the corresponding logo to the credentials you would like to use, either Google, Facebook or Twitter. You will be prompted to log into your account to permit access.

2. MANAGED ACCOUNT

To create a managed account, click the button next to “Yes” and create a username and password. Please be sure to record this information for later use. *(username: 6 characters or more, password: 8)*

3. NON-MANAGED ACCOUNT

You will not have another option to create an account later in the form, or have the ability to log back in and update your contact information at a later date.

Contact Information

Contact Address and Communication Methods

Fill out your information and identify whether it is a business or home address. You will have the option further down to add more locations.

It's simple and quick to enroll! Just visit the url below and follow the steps.
<https://www.onsolve.com/landing/sign-up-for-r-codered-emergency-alerts/>

CodeRED™
 Keeping citizens informed.
The site is optimized for current and supported common browsers (i.e. Chrome, Firefox) for the best user experience. Please report any issues to us at 800-452-3333.

COMMUNITY NOTIFICATION ENROLLMENT CNE Collection Org

Please take a moment to fill in the appropriate information below to be notified by your local emergency response team in the event of emergency situations or critical community alerts. Examples include: evacuation notices, bio-terrorism alerts, boil water notices, and missing child reports.

Would you like to create a managed account?

Creating a managed account will allow you access to modify your existing notification settings and contact information. You may also add an additional address for the CodeRED system to monitor.

YES, I would like to create a managed account

Or Create An Account:

Username:

Password:

Confirm password:

NO, I would like to review and submit my information

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Please take a moment to fill in the appropriate information below to be notified by your local emergency response team in the event of emergency situations or critical community alerts. Examples include: evacuation notices, bio-terrorism alerts, boil water notices, and missing child reports.

Contact Information

First name: Last name:

Contact Addresses and Communication Methods

Address is: Residential Business

Address name: Home

Address to be notified (please no. house):

City:

State: Choose State...

Zip:

Phones

Be sure to include area code and full telephone number. To receive text messages, you must click the “Send text messages” box below and select your mobile provider.

Via dropdown, select your provider. If your provider is not listed, select “Other.”

- Check the box for “General Notifications” if you wish to receive community alerts. Please note: **Emergency Notifications cannot be opted out—your public safety agency will determine what constitutes an emergency and issue notifications accordingly.**
- Check the box(es) to receive optional weather notifications (Please note this component is not available on every account, if you do not see it skip this step).
- You may register more than one phone number by clicking “+Add phone”.

Emails (Optional)

To receive emails, click “+ Add email” and enter your email address. You will be asked to select the types of alerts and optional weather warnings you wish to receive via email.

Terms and Conditions

You must check the box to continue.

Data Privacy

You must check the box if you would like to keep your information private.

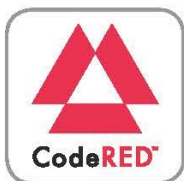
Verify Information

Press button to verify your information.

Confirmation Screen

Once completed, you will receive a confirmation email (only if you created a managed account). It contains your account details, along with information regarding the CodeRED Mobile Alert app.

- **Caller ID** – Add the numbers listed to your phone’s contact list.
- **CodeRED Mobile Alert app** – Download the FREE app to receive safety notifications as you travel to stay informed.



DOWNLOAD NOW!
onsolve.com/crmobile

Phones

Phone Number: TDD/TTY device - Tone delivery for hearing impaired

Send text messages - 1 message per alerting event. Message and data rates may apply
[SMS Terms & Conditions and Privacy Policy](#)

Reply STOP to 31678 or 76127 or 78963 to stop receiving messages from that number

Mobile Provider:

Alert Types

Emergency Notifications
 General Notifications

Optional Severe Weather Warnings

Phone:

Tornado Severe Thunderstorm Flash Flood

Emails

Email address:

Confirm email address:

Alert Types

Emergency Notifications
 General Notifications

Optional Severe Weather Warnings

Tornado Severe Thunderstorm Flash Flood Winter Storm

Terms and Conditions

By adding your phone number you agree to receive telephone calls that deliver messages from your local municipality or employer that are pre-recorded and sent by OnSolve™

I have read, understand and agree to the [terms and conditions](#).

Data Privacy

By electing to keep your information private, OnSolve™ will not release your information to any third parties unless compelled to do so by a competent court of law. And OnSolve™ will allow your information to be made available to your local provider only for use in one of OnSolve™’s services. If the box is left unchecked, you are electing to make your information public, meaning OnSolve™ may release the information to your local provider, and it may become subject to local public information rules and requests.

Keep my information private

Congratulations

Your contact information has been successfully added and you will now receive notifications through CodeRED.

Caller ID

You will recognize the CodeRED call when your caller ID displays the following numbers. Please be sure to add these telephone numbers into your telephone’s contacts, when applicable.

866-410-5000 or Emergency Comm for Emergency Notifications
855-989-4638 or EON Community for General Notifications

If you would like to hear the last message delivered to your phone, simply dial the number back.



 **ONSOLVE™**

To sign up for the Rye Water District Alerts please visit their website www.ryewaterdistrict.com and click on the “sign up for alerts” button (pictured below).

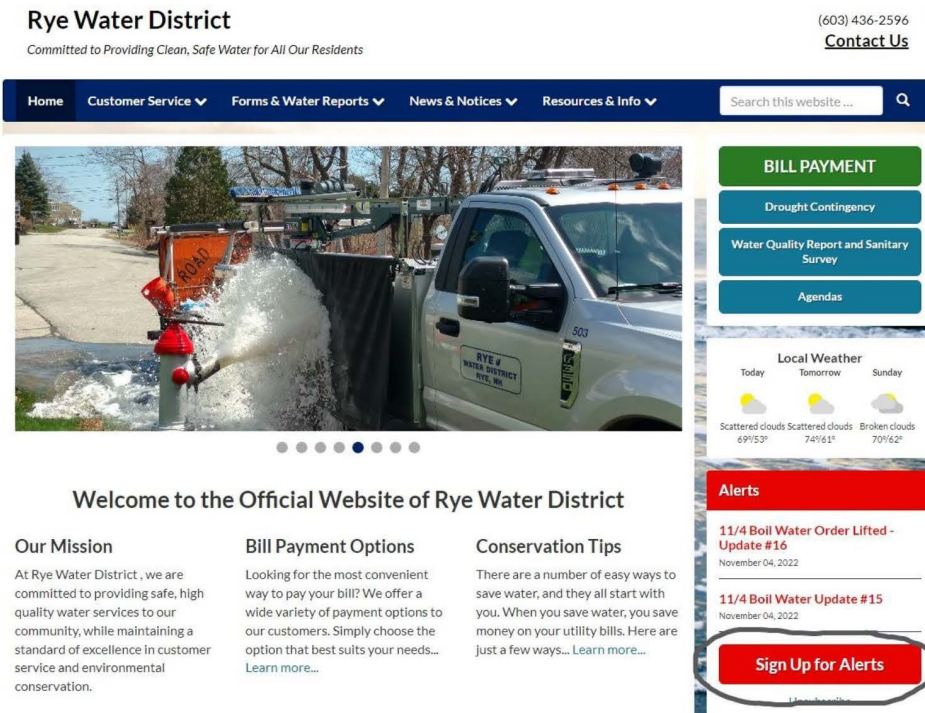
main water supply entity for Rye, serving approximately 4300 residents at about 1700 connections. Residents in the southeastern parts of town are served by Aquarian Water Company, and a small number of residents in the Wentworth and Pioneer Roads part of town are served by Portsmouth under agreement with the RWD. The RWD is overseen by three commissioners — Art Ditto (chair), Ralph Hickson, and Scott Marion—and is staffed by four professionals, led by Superintendent Arik Jones.

Bacteria and Boil Water

The RWD conducts monthly monitoring for total coliform and E. coli. Our October sample revealed the presence of total coliform bacteria, which triggered the requirement to conduct another test as soon as possible. Keep in mind that each test sample has to be sent to a laboratory for analysis and reporting. This introduces an unavoidable time lag. The second set of samples indicated a positive result for E.coli, which immediately triggered the boil water mandate on October 12th. Note: Any detectable amount of E.coli results in a boil water order.

RWD staff worked around the clock to search for the cause of contamination as well as flushing the system while continuing to test to see if the problem was resolved. After continued positive samples of either total coliform or E. coli, the NH Department of Environmental Services (DES) ordered the system on October 27th to be fully chlorinated. Chlorination commenced almost immediately, and after consecutive negative samples between November 2nd and 4th, the boil water order was lifted.

The commissioners and staff of RWD recognize the inconvenience of this three-week period on residents’ lives. We appreciate people’s patience as we worked through these challenges. Critically, we are deeply grateful to the many members of the Town of Rye leadership, agency heads and staff who



Welcome to the Official Website of Rye Water District

Our Mission
At Rye Water District, we are committed to providing safe, high quality water services to our community, while maintaining a standard of excellence in customer service and environmental conservation.

Bill Payment Options
Looking for the most convenient way to pay your bill? We offer a wide variety of payment options to our customers. Simply choose the option that best suits your needs... Learn more...

Conservation Tips
There are a number of easy ways to save water, and they all start with you. When you save water, you save money on your utility bills. Here are just a few ways... Learn more...

This box will appear when you click the “sign up for alerts” button. Fill out your name, email and/or your cell phone number. Click subscribe and you are all set to receive the alerts.



Subscribe to the Website

Name:

1. Receive our News, Projects and ALERTS via Email:
Email:

2. Receive ALERTS via Text Message:
Cell Phone #:
(Enter 10 Digit Cell Number xxx-xxx-xxxx)

I'm not a robot

Your privacy is important to us. View our privacy policy.

Rye Water District News

This year has been a year like none other in the history of the Rye Water District (RWD). As residents know, we just came out of a boil water mandate, but the work of dealing with a new chlorinated system, as well as trying to find the root cause of the original contamination, continues to require tremendous efforts by the District staff. While the boil water mandate received the most public attention this year, we were

dealing with drought conditions starting this spring and continuing through this fall. Additionally, we continue to search for new sources of water. Finally, District staff continue to be engaged with several major construction projects.

Many residents have become a lot more familiar with RWD recently than ever before, but here’s a bit of background for those not sure how that District works. RWD is the

Water District's News

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supported this emergency response.

While the immediate issue of bacterial contamination has been addressed, we are still working to find the cause, but we acknowledge that we may never isolate the specific cause. Additionally, we are monitoring potential issues that could arise when chlorinating a system that has not traditionally been chlorinated. We will continue to update residents as we learn more.

The Drought

In June 2022, NHDES listed most of the N.H. seacoast region in moderate drought. The District imposed voluntary water restrictions at that time. But by early August 2022, NHDES moved all of the N.H. seacoast region to a severe drought designation, which is when the District imposed mandatory water restrictions. The restrictions focused on limiting irrigation to odd and even days to coincide with house numbers. Irrigation is the largest drain on the Rye water system in the spring, summer, and fall months of the year, and it represents the shortest line to the biggest gain in water conservation.

Many water users complied with the restrictions. However, a significant number of households did not. The District staff members tried to inform as many owners as possible of current drought conditions and requirements. Unfortunately, the use is uneven when comparing the heaviest to the more conservative users. For example, we can look back to 2020 when we experienced similar drought conditions. In that year, 404 users consumed between 101,000 and 7,000,000 gallons (you read that right!) for a total usage of over 100 million gallons. In contrast, the 723 most conservative households used less than 50,000 gallons/year each, or approximately 20% of the total usage of heavy users.

The RWD Commissioners as well as staff will be spending the

winter months drafting plans and potential ordinances to both incentivize and mandate, if necessary, more responsible water conservation practices.

Major Project

The District began the replacement of the 8-inch cast iron water main on Wallis Road from the intersection of Odiorne Drive to Route 1A - Ocean Blvd. The older main is being replaced with a 12-inch high-density polyethylene (HDPE) using open trench excavation and directional drilling. Directional drilling technology minimizes potential environmental impacts in the area of the pipe replacement. The increased pipe diameter and HDPE style of pipe will increase fire flow capacities and limit pipe failure due to corrosion as a result of the soil and saltwater in that area. The project is anticipated to be substantially completed by early Winter of 2022, and final completion is expected by Spring of 2023. The loan funds were provided by the NH Department of Environment Services (NHDES) - Drinking Water Groundwater Trust Fund.

New Water

Finally, as Rye grows, the District is conducting research on potential new water sources to supplement our three wells. RWD is collaborating with the Rye Conservation Commission and the Select Board to identify potential new well sites and to conduct test drilling in the most environmentally responsible ways possible. This work is ongoing, and we will update you as we learn more.

As always, you can contact the Commissioners by email at: commissioners.ryewater@comcast.net. Additionally, please visit the RWD website to learn more and to sign up for alerts: www.ryewaterdistrict.com.

Rye Water District Commissioners,
Art Ditto
Ralph Hickson
Scott Marion

Planning Board Update

As we approach year end, the Planning Board is reviewing applications for properties at 15 Sagamore Road: 3 single family dwellings and 2 commercial buildings, and 850 Washington Road: major subdivision for 3 lots and a road. Plans for both projects are on file in the Planning and Zoning Department.

The seven-member Master Plan Steering Committee (MPSC) was sworn in, and a chair (Rob Wright) and vice chair (Kathryn Garcia) elected at its first meeting on October 4th, attended by: Anne Fox, Howard Lazerowich, Gregg Mikolaities, Rob Patten, and Joe Persechino. The first actions - after introductions and personal backgrounds were exchanged - were to re-state the timeline for the Planning Board to enact a Master Plan Update, the process steps, and an immediate focus on the first action, which is to polish the RFP document prior to presentation to the full PB at its meeting on 11/8/22. This is in support of meeting with the Select Board and Budget Committee to gain approval for the MPSC budget request to be included in the Town Warrant in March of 2023.

The Rules and Regulations (R&R) committee completed its work editing and updating the Land Development Regulations in August. After a public hearing in September, the proposed amendments were unanimously adopted by the Board on 9/20/22.

During September and October, the R&R committee has continued its work with town attorney Eric Maher on the review of the Town's Zoning Ordinance in preparation for public meetings to gather public input. The goals included clarifying and simplifying where appropriate, incorporating recommendations from the 2021 Natural Resource Inventory which provide resource protection, and aligning the

Planning Board Update

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ordinance with statutory changes. The R&R committee held a public meeting on 11/7/22, presented all proposed zoning changes to the Planning Board on 11/17/22, and received public comments at both meetings. A public hearing on the proposed changes is scheduled for 12/6/22.

Many thanks to the Planning Board, the MPSC, and staff for their dedicated contributions throughout 2022.

Patricia Losik, Chair
Rye Planning Board

Rye Historical Society News

400 memberships for the 400th

If we have not been too subtle, you know that 2023 is the year Rye marks 400 years since David Thompson settled at what is now Odiorne Point. Banners have been hung from telephone poles, events are being planned, and activities to bring the community together around this historical milestone have commenced. The Rye 400 committee, an all-volunteer group of dedicated RHS board members, town, and community members, deserve a medal for the amount of work they have done to get the celebrations off the ground. The celebrations kick off in December and run the entire year until next December. Visit www.ryeNH400.org for more information on events and sponsorships.

In a bold move, we are striving to engage more of our community to support RHS's work of collecting items of historical significance and sharing these collections. We have hired an archivist who has been instrumental in documenting items in our database, and we are

in the process of upgrading our software which will make it easier for people to access this collection online.

You can help by becoming a member! Membership dues come in a variety of levels to match every budget, and you can easily sign up online at ryeNHhistoricalsociety.org.

Respectfully Submitted,
Virginia Macdonald

Rye Budget Committee Update

The Rye Budget Committee is comprised of eleven members, five of whom are elected at large, while the other six are appointed as representatives of various committees or precincts. See the Budget Committee page on the Town website for a complete list of Budget Committee members. The Budget Committee provides an additional layer of oversight of the budgets of each of the town departments beyond the Select Board's review.

We are right in the middle of budget season now, with the School Board, Select Board, and Budget Committee each holding all-day work sessions over the past few weeks to engage in detailed reviews of the school and town budgets.

Each of the town and school departments works diligently in preparing their budgets to balance the required services to maintain the desired quality of life in our town while trying to minimize tax increases.

The Town has managed to hold tax rates fairly steady through the challenges of the pandemic, but the budgets proposed for 2023 attempt to address some shortfalls in services due to the pandemic. This year's budget also attempts to address several overdue capital issues.

Therefore, the main goals for the preparation of the 2023 budget were to:

1. Provide a budget appropriate for the level of service desired by the citizens of Rye.
2. Address staffing and deferred maintenance of equipment and facilities.
3. Remain as fiscally responsible as possible to the taxpayers of Rye.

While the figures are still preliminary, we expect an approximate increase in the town budget of approximately 10% over 2022. This is largely due to a 5.8% increase in health insurance, a 1.5% increase in dental insurance, an estimated 2.75% cost of living adjustment (COLA) for non-union employees, and increased staffing levels in certain departments.

The Select Board and Budget Committee will continue to look for ways to minimize the impact on property taxes in the coming year, such as drawing on reserve funds when appropriate and other cost-saving measures.

Scott Marion, Chairman
Rye Budget Committee

Rye Energy Committee Update

Rye Community Power continues to progress towards launch. Now that the PUC rules for electric aggregation have been approved, the Community Power Coalition of NH (CPCNH) is taking the next step of developing a cost-sharing agreement and rate/reserves/risk management policies. If all goes as planned, Rye Community Power will launch in the spring of 2023.

Thirty days before Rye Community Power (RCP) launches, rate-payers who are currently on Ever-source default supply will be notified by mail about the rates, the launch date, and the options for

Energy Committee Update (continued from page 7)

opting out or for choosing a higher mix of renewable energy. Within 14 days of the mailing, a public hearing will be held to answer any questions the community may have. Anyone currently receiving electric supply from an alternative supplier will be given the option to opt-in to RCP.

The Energy Committee will offer public information sessions about RCP in the coming months. Watch for more information about them on our webpage on the Town website www.town.rye.nh.us.

Due to the rise in price of natural gas, Eversource electric supply rates increased in August and it looks as if they will ask for another increase that will take effect in February. For those who wonder why electric rates continue to rise, it's due to the way our electricity is produced and purchased. Fifty five percent of New Hampshire's electricity is produced using natural gas, much of it delivered by ship. The price of natural gas has increased dramatically, due to increased demand post Covid, further compounded by European shortfall to replace Russian supply. Since NH electric utilities buy electricity from producers that rely mostly on natural gas, the rate they charge is based on the amount they pay for electricity.

The way to minimize these extreme price fluctuations is to create a portfolio of electric supply contracts purchased from producers using a variety of fuels, including renewables, and a range of contract lengths. Eversource purchases power in six month contracts, but the electric aggregation legislation allows communities to band together to purchase from a wide range of sources with various contract lengths, making more stable rates possible. The CPCNH plans to do just this.

Rye is one of 12 cities and towns in the first wave of CPCNH members to offer Community

Power. When Rye Community Power launches, Eversource will deliver the electricity CPCNH purchases, while continuing to provide billing and customer service.

Community Power will help to stabilize the rates we pay for electricity, allowing members like the Town of Rye to supplement supply with local producers using technologies like solar, wind, and hydro, to reduce our reliance on natural gas. This will give us more choice, reducing emissions, increasing reliability, while supporting more local production and jobs.

Speaking of electricity produced locally, the installation of the solar system at Rye Junior High school is now complete. This means the panels on the school roof will produce about 80% of its electric needs. The Elementary school solar system should be installed once the funding for replacing the roof is finalized.

We learned at the Local Energy Solutions Conference that the Inflation Reduction Act offers increased tax incentives for installing solar panels, heat pumps and purchasing electric vehicles. Beginning in 2023 the tax incentives for solar panels and battery back-up will increase from 26% to 30%, heat pumps will get up to \$2,000 rebates and electric vehicles will receive up to \$7,500.

The Town Hall annex renovation at the old TD Bank building is nearing completion. The renovation includes energy-saving LED lighting and a heat pump for cooling and heating.

We are considering a developer's proposal to install a solar array on the old Breakfast Hill landfill. The preliminary plan proposes installing a system that would produce approximately one megawatt of electricity annually. The electricity produced could be purchased by the Town or CPCNH.

We had a table at the Annual Rye Lions Club Car Show on

September 18th where we offered information about community power as well as information about ways to reduce your heating and energy bills.

We also co-hosted with the Portsmouth Energy Committee a NHSaves Button Up Workshop on November 3 at the Portsmouth Library. The biggest takeaway from the presentation was, the best way to save on home energy costs is by buttoning up our homes, thus using less electricity and heating fuel. If you'd like to learn how to save money by making your home more energy efficient you can listen to a recording of the session and view the presentation from our webpage on the Town website www.town.rye.nh.us.

We want to welcome our newest members Rob Spork and Silas Proft. Both Rob and Silas have experience in energy finance. We look forward to tapping their knowledge to help us evaluate future energy projects.

Anyone is welcome to attend our meetings which are held on the first Tuesday of the month at the Rye Public Library. Please join us!

Rye Energy Committee,
Howard Kalet, Co-Chair
Tom Pfau, Co-Chair
Lisa Sweet
Carl Nicolino
Frank Melanson
Rob Spork



Department Programming

For programming offered through the Recreation Department, please visit the Recreation Department page on the Town website or contact the Recreation Office at 603-964-6281 or by emailing Dyana at dmartin@town.rye.nh.us or Vicki at vloring@town.rye.nh.us.

Rye Beach Committee Update

Beach Cleanups: The Beach Committee will celebrate Rye's 400th Anniversary during Earth Month, April 2023. We plan to hold 4 for 400th Beach Cleanups with the invaluable support of the Blue Ocean Society for Marine Conservation. While protecting our beaches is always the reward for our community, participants will be offered a chance to win a gift certificate as part of our celebration. The dates are based on tides and times to accommodate different schedules within the NH Seacoast Community.



Beach Cleanup Schedule:

- ⇒ Monday, April 3rd, 4:00-5:30pm -Foss North & South
- ⇒ Saturday, April 8th, 9:00-10:30am-Pirates North & South
- ⇒ Thursday, April 20th, 4:30-6:00pm (Earth Week)-Jeness to Cable
- ⇒ Friday, April 28th, 10:30m-Noon (Local School Vacation Week)-Sawyers to Philbricks
- ⇒ Rain Date TBA (if necessary)

Water Testing November at Sawyers: "100% of samples collected at this site over the last 12 months meet water quality standards set by New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services." Go to www.nh.surfrider.org and click on "Blue Ocean Water Task Force" for more details. Hats off to the Surfrider volunteers!

Student Environmental Posters: We coordinated our schedule with the 400th Anniversary Committee. This year, the posters will display a sticker to commemorate Rye's special celebration. Once

again, we will depend on some students from RES and RJH to create the artwork.

Other Projects: There are a few other projects that we are working on in cooperation with the Select Board (Bill Epperson, Member) and DPW. The Beach Committee will provide an update in the next newsletter.

Congratulations: Former Beach Committee member, Seana Zelano, is now a published author! Please go to www.sacredstories.com to find *The Way of Inanna*. Thanks for your work on the Beach Committee and Bravo!

Members of the Beach Committee participate in planning each project. In order to facilitate the larger projects, each member takes on a lead role. Current projects in progress are: Anne Baker Robert is designing the sticker for the student beach posters, Cybele Grier is working on details for the 4 for 400th Beach Cleanups, Mary-Ann Sullivan is coordinating the poster project, Mary Connolly Mitchell will meet again with the parking permit subcommittee and also help with the poster project. Joan Zofnass, our trusty and ever-present alternate will assist with beach cleanups. Kudos to all!

In the meantime, consider joining the Committee or volunteering to help with projects, such as beach cleanups or placing student posters at the beach entrances next spring. Please send any questions, comments or suggestions by email to: beachcommittee@town.rye.nh.us.

Mary-Ann Sullivan, Chair
Rye Beach Committee



The Rye400 Committee launches its yearlong 2023

celebration of the area's 400th anniversary on December 4th. Along with the parade that is funded by the citizens of Rye and organized by Lt. Chuck Gallant of the Rye Fire Department, there's a candlelight stroll to view historic homes identified by the Historic District Commission, hot chocolate, Santa, caroling, and a tree lighting on Parsons Field! Additional thanks go to the Rye Police, Friends of the Rye Public Library, Rye Lions Club, Rye Congregational Church Choir, St. Theresa's Rockingham Choral Choir and Tate & Foss for making the family-oriented **Vintage Holiday Parade, Tree Lighting and Candlelight Stroll**, a reality.

Speaking of the holidays, show your "Rye Pride" by giving **Rye400 gifts** this year! Check out the wide range of clothing and products that come in a variety of sizes and colors visiting ryeh400.myspreadshop.com.

Art Show: There's a **Call for Artists/Photographers** to submit entries for the **Rye400 People, Places, and Things: Images of Rye Art Show**. It will be held on Saturday, **March 25, 2023**, at the Rye Congregational Church, 580 Washington Road, Rye, NH, 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. The show is a juried event, open to the public. Prize levels in two categories, are as follows:

Adults, 18 years and older:

- First Prize: A cash award of \$1,000. The winning piece becomes the property of the Rye Historical Society.
- Second Prize: A cash award of \$500
- Third Prize: A cash award of \$250

Students, K-12:

- First Prize: A cash award of \$150
- Second Prize: A cash award of \$100
- Third Prize: A cash award of \$50

Artists and/or photographers may enter up to three (3) pieces for

Rye Public Library Events: Winter 2022/2023

“In seed time learn, in harvest teach, in winter enjoy.” — William Blake.

Rye Reads!

Let’s kick of the 2023 Rye 400th Celebration by joining together in reading and discussion of the book *Tuck Everlasting!* Copies will be available in January at the Rye Public Library to read, then return for others. We’ll host a film event and book discussion later in the Spring.

Ongoing Activities:

Adult Book Discussion: Please sign up to join these lively discussion groups.

Fourth Wednesday of each month at 2 pm!

12/28 *Oh, William!* by Elizabeth Strout

1/24 *The Song of Achilles* by Madeline Miller

2/22 *The Ride of Her Life* by Elizabeth Letts

Coloring for Adults: 11 am on Mondays! Materials provided.	Military Book Discussions: First Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm. 12/8, 1/5, 2/2
RPL Knitters: By the Fireplace at 10 am on Thursdays! All skill levels are invited to join this welcoming group.	

Monday Movie Matinees – shown in the Community Meeting Room on the second Monday of every month at 1:00 pm

Dec 12 <i>Elvis</i> PG-13 159 min	Jan 9 <i>The Eyes of Tammy Faye</i> PG-13 126 min
February 13 <i>Mrs. Harris Goes to Paris</i> PG 115 min	

FRIENDS OF THE RYE PUBLIC LIBRARY

New members welcome!

The FRPL meet monthly on **Third Tuesdays at 6:00PM**

Museum memberships supported by *The Friends:*

Children’s Museum of NH, Dover	Museum of Science, Boston MA
Currier Museum of Art, Manchester	Strawbery Banke, Portsmouth
Historic New England	Ogunquit Museum of Art, ME
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Boston MA	Peabody Essex Museum, Salem, MA
Portland Museum of Art, Portland, ME	Seacoast Science Center, Rye
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA	Woodman Museum, Dover

Museum Passes Donated by the Friends of the Rye Public Library

ASK A LIBRARIAN about Technology – If you have questions about your computer or how-to on your device [phone or tablet] call RPL at 603-964-8401 to set up a tech help session. These sessions are process oriented and not meant to troubleshoot device functionality. If you wonder how to download books and other library materials to your device, create an e-mail account or manage storage, etc. this session is for you. If your device just crashed or won't boot up, that's beyond the scope here.

Rye Public Library Youth Department
Programming December 2022 – February 2023
 More details at ryepubliclibrary.org or (603) 964 – 9551

Youth Programs:	
<u>Regularly Scheduled Programs</u>	<u>Special Events (by age group)</u>
<p>Middle Grade Book Boxes* Available the 1st Wednesday of the month</p> <p>Teen Book Boxes* Available the 2nd Wednesday of the month</p> <p>Playtime Party (18m – Pre-K) Mondays 10:30am</p> <p>Games and Snacks (Grades 6+) Tuesdays After school - 4:00pm</p> <p>Crafternoon (Grades 5+) 1st and 2nd Thursdays of the month</p> <p>Story Time Fridays 10:30am</p> <p>Friday Flick <i>Check website for movie titles</i> 3rd Friday of the month 3:00pm</p> <p>Saturday Story Times 1st Saturday of the month starting in January 10:30am</p> <p>Pokémon Night 1st Tuesday of the month 5:00-6:00pm</p> <p>Lego Night 2nd and 3rd Tuesdays of the month 5:00-6:00pm</p> <p>Minecraft Night 4th Tuesday of the month 5:00-6:00pm</p> <p>K - 3 Book Club <i>Check website for book titles</i> 3rd Saturday of the month 11:00am – 12:00pm</p> <p>Graphic Novel Book Club (Grades 4-6) <i>Check website for book titles</i> 3rd Thursday of the month 3:00-4:00pm</p> <p>YAttitudes Teen Book Club (Grades 6+) <i>Check website for book titles</i> 2nd Thursday of the month 6:30 – 7:30pm</p> <p>Minecraft Night 4th Thursday of the month 5:00-6:00pm</p>	<p>Gift Making Workshop (Grades 6+) Wednesday, December 7th 3:00-4:00pm</p> <p>Candy Pizza (Grades 4&5)* Friday, December 2nd 3:15-4:00pm</p> <p>Hot Cocoa and Cookie Tasting (Grades 6+) Wednesday, December 14th 3:00-4:00pm</p> <p>Gift Making Drop-in (Grades 4&5) Friday, December 9th 3:15-4:15pm</p> <p>Noon Year's Eve Party 9 (All Ages) Saturday, December 31st 11:30-12:15pm</p> <p>Afternoon Cartoons (Grades 6+) Wednesday, January 4th 3:00-4:00pm</p> <p>Mini Pizzas (Grades 4-5) Friday, January 6th 3:15-4:15pm</p> <p>Mini Pizzas (Grade 6+) Wednesday, January 11th, 3:00-4:00pm</p> <p>Friday the 13th Party (Grades 4&5) Friday, January 13th, 3:15-4:00pm</p> <p>Teen Movie Night (Grades 7+) <i>Check website for movie titles</i> Thursday, January 19th 6:00pm</p> <p>DIY Fidgets (Grade 6+) Wednesday, January 18th 3:00-4:00pm</p> <p>Unbox the Flavor (Grades 6+) Wednesday, January 25th 3:00-4:00pm</p> <p>Pokémon Party Thursday, January 26th 3:00-4:00pm</p> <p>Among Books (An "Among Us" Game Event) Friday, January 27th 6:00-7:30pm</p> <p>Green Screen (Grades 6+) Wednesday, February 1st 3:00-4:00pm</p> <p>Dog Man Day Friday, February 3rd 12:00-3:00pm</p> <p>Green Screen (Grades 4-5) Friday, February 10th 3:15-4:00pm</p> <p>PAntines Party Tuesday, February 14th 3:00-4:00pm</p> <p>Anti-Valentines Cupcakes (Grades 6+) Wednesday, February 15th, 3:00-4:00pm</p> <p>Candy Sushi (Grades 4-5) Friday, February 17th, 3:15-4:00pm</p> <p>Unbox the Flavor (Grades 6+) Wednesday, February 22nd, 3:00-4:00pm</p>

Rye400 Update

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consideration by Saturday, **February 18, 2023**. Full event rules and an entry form may be found on the Rye400 website, www.rye400.org under "Rye Art Contest".

Rye400 Fundraising: To date, the Rye400 Committee has raised more than \$100,000 toward its \$150,000 goal. We thank our individual donors to date as well as our business partners including: *Tate and Foss/Sotheby's International Realty, Carey & Giampa Realtors, Madden Group, Re/Max Rising Tide, Partners Bank, The Inn at Rye Place, Christine's of Rye, The Nvest Group, Rye Motor Inn + Swim Shop and Service Federal Credit Union*. If you'd like to make a donation to support the upcoming year of Rye400 events, please go to <https://www.ryenh400.org/sponsorship-opportunities>.

Keep up with everything Rye400 by accessing the website at www.ryenh400.org. Also, follow Rye400 on Facebook, Instagram (@ryenh400) and the Nextdoor app.



Tips from the Police Chief

Winter Parking: Winter is here and soon the snow will arrive. Residents and visitors are asked to please park in their driveways during the night and during snow removal to assist the Rye Highway

Department with snow removal. The parking ban is from November 1st to April 15th.



Snow Plowing: If a private contractor plows your driveway, please remind the contractor not to push snow across the road from your driveway.

Holidays: Please lock your vehicles. This is the time of year when people keep gifts in their cars and thieves target vehicles with valuables in plain sight. Gift cards are also targeted by thieves. Please put the cards out of sight, even when you are at home. Keep your receipts for gift cards. If a card is lost or stolen, the receipt can help track the card. Do not give out your social security number, including when using the computer to make purchases. Never give out personal information.

Vacation: If you are planning to go away, even for just a few days, please make sure your home is locked. If you have a security system, use it; let your neighbors know you are going to be away. Always make sure the driveway and walkways are maintained. Whenever possible, ask someone to check the house and please let the Rye Police know you are away.



Scams/Fraud: The Rye police officers have been getting an increased number of fraud reports especially around holidays.

Some of the amounts of money Rye citizens are getting scammed for, \$3,500.00 to \$15,00.00 each report. An example of a police fraud/scam investigation, someone receives an e-mail they purchased an item on Amazon, a TV for \$1,500.00. The resident e-mails back stating they did not purchase the TV. Then the e-mails consist of the Rye resident needs to purchase gifts cards, send the number on the back of the card to change the order status from

purchase to cancel the order.

In this specific report, the person reported they purchased 37 gift cards, scratched off the codes, took a picture, and texted the gift card code numbers to another cell phone number. The resident was then given an e-mail receipt. The receipt says the amount will be credited to her Amazon account. The following day The Rye resident was texted by Amazon, they needed to purchase additional gift cards to confirm the address so they can mail a refund check to the Rye resident. This is when the Rye resident called Rye police. Yes, believe it, people are falling for this. Please check in with neighbors, friends, and family often.

Have a safe and happy holiday season.

Kevin Walsh,
Chief of Police

Rye Senior SERVE is here to serve Rye Seniors

Rye Senior SERVE can help you manage your vital errands. Our dedicated staff and volunteers will provide you with safe and dependable transportation. We provide weekly door to door service to:

- ⇒ Shopping at Market Basket
- ⇒ Breakfast at Hebert's
- ⇒ TD Bank
- ⇒ Local pharmacies

Additionally, **Rye Senior SERVE** offers monthly outings to local restaurants.



Rye Senior SERVE and its volunteers can also provide individual transportation to necessary local appointments.

For more information please contact President, Jim Delaney at 603.436.6041.

Rye Fire & Rescue Update

Fire Safety in Chicken Coops: Over the past few years, we have responded to several fires in chicken coops. Most fires can be eliminated using sound fire prevention information.

The National Fire Protection Association recommends these key safety tips:

- Make sure heat lamps are properly secured. Relying on the spring clamp alone is not adequate to prevent the lamp from dislodging.
- Place space heaters on a sturdy surface so they cannot be knocked over.
- Keep heat lamps and space heaters away from anything that can burn.
- Brush cobwebs and dust from light fixtures and outlets on a regular basis.
- Use lightbulbs with covers that will protect them from dirt.

Choose electrical equipment manufactured for agricultural or commercial purposes and don't use extension cords in coops.

If possible, locating a chicken coop in a place where there is no other structure close will help keep a potential fire from damaging other buildings.

Additional information can be found at: <https://www.nfpa.org/-/media/Files/Public-Education/Resources/Safety-tip-sheets/ChickenCoopSafetyTips.ashx>

Dementia Training: We were excited to accept Benchmark of Ryes' offer to provide Rye Fire Rescue training on how to best interact with dementia patients! The training held on September 7th focused on helping us realize how a patient with moderate dementia is impacted by what is going on in their environment and how to relate to these patients. Effectively relating to our patients increases the effectiveness of our pre-hospital care. The training was interesting and will help us provide better care to these folks. This training is also available to the folks who are dealing with this disease in their family. Anyone interested can contact the Fire Chief for more information.



Rye Health Officer Dr. Gail Snow honored by NH Health Officers Association!

On October 25th, the NH Health Officers Association awarded our own Dr. Snow its Lifetime of Service Award recognizing her contributions to Rye for the past 37 years! That is correct, she started as Rye's Health Officer in 1985!

The Lifetime of Service Award recognizes those who have demonstrated a long-term commitment to local public health and made a positive contribution to their local community. Dr. Snow is the perfect example of this award as she is 100% committed to the citizens of Rye. She consistently shows this whether addressing long-term issues such as failing septic systems in our low-lying areas, kitchen complaints or simply performing her regular inspections.

During the recent pandemic, Dr. Snow correctly assessed the potential workload needed to properly manage Rye's portion of the crisis. She also had the leadership to advocate for two deputy health officer positions to bolster our operational capability. She is a selfless leader who cares only for the health and welfare of the residents and visitors to Rye! Congratulation Dr. Snow on this well deserved award!

Mark Cotreau, Fire Chief

Rye ♻️ Recycling – Let's Do It the Rye-ght Way!

New Transfer Station Educational Video: The Rye Recycling Education Committee (RREC) has created a new 3 minute film about

the transfer station to help anyone who is not familiar with the many items that can be recycled. It may be viewed on the town website under the DPW site and also on our Facebook page. The film ends with the words: "The goal of the transfer station is to keep as much as

possible out of the land fill." Turnkey landfill in Rochester is actually a series of capped mountains of trash that is growing fast. Anytime you throw something in the general trash, take a second and think "can this be recycled?" Many times it can!

Swap Shop: The Swap Shop is starting to fill up quickly and there

Rye Recycling Update

(continued from page 13)

is only so much room. Please recycle large, bulky sporting equipment such as skis, golf, etc at Play it Again Sports next to Market Basket. Also - please do not leave large luggage that fills up the floor space. Salvation Army and Goodwill can handle those types of bulky items. The Swap shop is only for smaller quality items. Quality clothing can be folded or hung, otherwise any clothing with holes/missing buttons etc including fabric/textiles should be put in the HELPSY bin just outside the shop to be recycled. The swap shop will continue to be open limited hours. If the shop is closed, there are many bins outside where you can place clothing. Please do not put anything on the ground outside the Swap Shop.

Please Recycle Your Clothing: Before buying new clothing for the upcoming winter, check out the many places on the Seacoast where you can find quality used clothing and boots and give them another life. Children's Orchard, Goodwill, Salvation Army are all great places to find needed items. Also, post on social media (Seacoast Buy Nothing Facebook Page is a great one) or ask friends if they have clothing to give away. We need to change the stigma that "hand-me-downs" are not valuable or that we are "taking away" from folks in need.

The amount of resources and energy that go into making clothing is astounding. Did you know that it takes 2,000 gallons of water to make a single pair of jeans? And what happens to all of our clothing that no one wants? The EPA has reported over 60% of American's used textiles are sent to landfills, over 10 million tons a year! This is a direct result of "fast fashion" or cheap, trendy clothing of poor quality. If you need to purchase new clothes, buy for quality and please pass down to others in the community.

Rye Recycling Education Committee
Alex Herlihy, Chair
Pamela Helfrich
Cynthia Bogert



Public Works Update

With winter just around the corner, the Rye Public Works and Highway Department are transitioning from construction and maintenance operations to winter maintenance emergency response. These preparations consist of a number of pre-planning activities such as, setting up plows and deicing equipment, reviewing treatment and plow routes while identifying potential hazards, the installation of grade stakes at select locations to delineate the edge of the road shoulders, removal of encumbrances in the road right of ways, patching potholes in the pavement, removing low hanging branches, and adding gravel to low road shoulders. Rye Public Works has planned a winter operational meeting, will perform dry runs of plow routes, and calibrate deicing material spreaders.

Homeowners should remove any sports equipment such as basketball hoops, skateboard jumps and street hockey nets, from the road right of way. Residents who desire to mark the edge of their lawns to minimize plow damage may install thin plastic road delineators which can be purchased at any locale hardware store or building supply. These delineators may be installed along your road frontage but must be at least three feet off the edge of road pavement towards your property. The use of items not intended for plowing delineation, such as metal rods, stones, and granite posts, should not be employed for road delineation. Delineators not properly located or constructed of unacceptable material will be removed by the public works staff.

- Mailboxes should be inspected to ensure the support structures can resist the forces of Mother Nature. Only mailboxes actually struck by road maintenance equipment will be eligible for replacement by the Public Works Department.

- An alternative location for vehicles currently parked within the road right of way should be secured.
- Sump pump discharges should be relocated to a location which prevent freezing on the pavement and not cause a problem.
- Clear the area around and over area drains and catch basins of leaves and debris or notify the departments of potential blockages.
- To minimize lawn damage set thin plastic delineators no closer than three feet to the edge of road pavement.
- Do not plow or blow snow into the road.
- Watch out for plows and give sufficient room to operate.

Your cooperation is appreciated by the entire Public Works staff.

WHAT TO DO WITH YOUR LEAVES AND GRASS CLIPPINGS TO PROTECT RYE'S WATERS.

MULCH YOUR LEAVES: Mulched leaves on your lawn add valuable nutrients and organic matter. Grass clippings provide a source of slow-release nutrients reducing the amount of fertilizer needed.

Remove the bag from your lawn mower or use a mulching lawnmower. Leave the clippings to add organic matter and recycle nutrients.

Remember, backyard composting of your leaves, grass clippings and brush reduces the flow of waste, while at the same time, producing valuable organic matter for the soil. It improves your soil and the plants growing on it.

Never dispose of yard waste in surface waters or near wetlands. Decomposing leaves and grass in waterways use oxygen that other organisms need to survive. Yard waste dumped near waterbodies contributes to stream algae and odors. Dumping of yard waste in or near wetlands and waterbodies is against the law.

(See Public Works Update, page 15)

Public Works Update

(continued from page 14)

As always you can pick up informational brochures at the Public Works Department and Transfer Station.

ADDITIONAL TRANSFER STATION NEWS

The Transfer Station and Recycling Center is modernizing and getting with the times!



A new payment system is in the works. The current payment system, that was implemented during the pandemic, will be phased out and a cashless credit/debit card system will be implemented. More information to follow in the near future.

Jason Rucker
Public Works Director

Rye School Board Update

The Rye Schools are in full swing with plenty of exciting and educational opportunities for our students this fall. Over the past few weeks, our third graders had a special trolley tour of Rye to learn about our unique history and local heritage, and the fourth grade visited the NH State House. To round out their civics lessons, Rye Elementary hosted a special Veteran's Day assembly to honor the service and sacrifices of local veterans. Special thanks to the fourth-grade student council for making this special event such a success!

Rye Elementary School also celebrated Halloween with their annual costume parade around the school grounds. Students and staff did not disappoint with plenty of scary (and creative) costumes! Later that evening, the PTA hosted the second-annual "Trunk or Treat" where parents decorated their cars

and hosted a special trick or treat event right in the school parking lot. Thank you to the PTA for all their efforts to benefit the school community – it was a great night!

On Friday, November 4th Junior High School held its second Wedgewood Festival. This unique event blends together creative student led carnival games, tours of the Wedgewood property, a community potluck, and a bonfire complete with S'mores. All proceeds from the event help fund graduation activities for current 7th and 8th graders. This awesome event can only happen because of the hard work and dedication of the RJH staff, parent volunteers and the Wedgewood Committee – thank you to everyone who made this such a memorable evening!

Speaking of the Junior High, you may have noticed that there are barricades set up all around the school. This is in preparation for the solar panel installation. This is a project that has been in the works for years - ever since a Rye sixth grade student (who is now a sophomore!) asked a Revision Energy representative a question at a presentation at the Music Hall. This student-inspired project is finally becoming a reality as the solar panels will be installed in November and December and the array will come online before the end of the year. We are so proud of RJH students and staff for leading the way on renewable energy!

If you would like to learn more about what is happening with Rye Schools, please join us on the third Wednesday of each month for Rye School Board meetings held at the Junior High School at 5:30P. We hope to see you there. As always, thank you to the entire community for your generous support of Rye schools and Rye students!

Rye School Board,
Chairman Matt Curtin, Heather Reed
Katherine Errecart, Susan Ross and
Jeanne Moynahan

Town Clerk/Tax Collector Update

With 2022 coming to an end and the State Primary Election and State General Election behind us, it is time to go forward.

Our 2nd issue 2022 Tax Bills have been mailed and are due on December 20th. I am pleased to announce that the tax rate has decreased from last year. Our last quarter Sewer Bills were sent out and are due on September 30th. For your convenience we have placed outside our office a secure mailbox to drop off tax and utility bills. As we say 'Drop and Go'. If you would like a stamped receipt mailed back, please include a self-addressed stamped envelope with your payment. Also, for your convenience, our side door will be open to pay tax and utility bills and get a stamped paid receipt.

All property tax and sewer bills may be viewed, printed and paid online. Go to the Town website www.town.rye.nh.us and first click on 'Online Registration & Payments' then the red icon (Property Tax/Utility Billing), EB2 GOV will be the next screen. Search by either map or parcel number, account number, address, name. You may print your bill or pay your bill online. For online payments, we except checks or credit card (remember there is a 2.79% if paying by credit card). If paying in person, check, cash, or credit card.

You can begin licensing your dogs in January, 2023. All dogs must be licensed by April 30th. A current rabies certificate will be needed. Beach parking permits will be available soon after the beginning of the year. A registration will be required for each vehicle you want to put a beach parking permit on. Remember each household is allowed two (2) vehicles and one (1) motorcycle or moped. The fee will again be \$25 per vehicle. In order to obtain a parking permit, you must be

Town Clerk Update

(continued from page 15)

a Rye resident or property owner. Transfer Station Permits are also available in our office. A registration must be presented for each vehicle you would like a permit for.

The Town Election will be held on Tuesday, March 14, 2023. Hope to see a turnout and interest as we had in the Primary and General Election. Election results for the General Election is on our website (www.town.rye.nh.us). Filing for 'Town Offices' will begin January 22nd and last day will end January 31st at 5:00 PM. Forms will be available in the Town Clerk's office after January 1st.

Our door is always open, the team, at the Clerk's office, are here to serve you as residents. Please feel free to contact our office with any questions you may have. If we cannot answer them we will be glad to direct you to the proper person.

Happy Holidays from Donna, Amy and Lindsay in the Clerk's office.

Donna DeCotis
Town Clerk/Tax Collector

Rye Heritage Commission Update

It has been a busy year for the Rye Heritage Commission and this last quarter is no exception. The Gazebo project is finally beginning. The Gazebo originally was located in front of the Ocean Wave Hotel where Philbrick's By the Sea is located today, just south of Parson's Point. It was renovated during the 1990's and donated to the Heritage Commission two years ago. We have finally found carpenters who will make a reproduction of the decayed bottom section and then lower the repaired original top onto that new section. When finished, it will be

located close to where it sits now, behind Town Hall.

Our Graveyard Adoption Program continues to gain sponsors. We have had three recent adoptions. Please contact the Rye Heritage Commission if you are interested in adopting a graveyard. Sites are still available. Our past chairman Phil Walsh was responsible for digitizing the Graveyard list.

We are delighted to announce that Phil Walsh is this year's recipient of the Historic Louise Tallman Preservation Award, which is presented annually in December by the Heritage Commission to a Rye resident who has worked diligently for historic preservation. Phil not only excelled as chair of the Commission, but will be the youngest recipient of this honor in 2022.

Finally, you should have received a mailer for the Rye Heritage Commission Historic Signage Appeal. As a part of our town's 400th Anniversary of settlement, the RHC is undertaking a project to recognize significant historical and cultural themes and events in Rye's past. We are designing and creating seven 30" x 40" all season signs to be placed in historically relevant locations in Rye to make history accessible. These are several suggested contribution levels and signs also can be underwritten with a personalized dedication as a Sign Dedication Contributor. We appreciate contributions in any amount! You can find additional information on the mailer or check the Heritage Commission page on the Town website.

Rye Heritage Commission
Beverly Giblin, Chair

Visit the Town website
<http://www.town.rye.nh.us>
for news and up to date
information about the Town,
including
meeting notices,
agendas and minutes

Conservation Commission Update

The Rye Conservation Commission (RCC) has been busy marking both the entrances and trails on conserved lands in Rye, including the new marker installed on Goss Farm (pictured below).



In addition to Goss Farm and the well-known Rye Town Forest trails, Rye has several other conserved parcels with hiking trails:

Marden Woods – At 309 Washington Road, an opening in a small stone wall and a bronze sign on a granite post marks the entrance to this 25.4 acre parcel. An old woods trail, marked with orange diamonds, provides an easy-to-follow and wide path, beginning at the opening in the stone wall on Washington Road, looping to the left or right and coming back to the looping point. The trail utilizes only a small portion of the parcel due to the wetlands that cut through the property, allowing for a wildlife corridor on the other undisturbed portion of the parcel.

Seavey Acres – Off of Pioneer near the intersection of Brackett Road is a small parking lot and a stone wall marking the entrance to two trails: the green trail is a straight shot through the parcel ending at the end of Berry Brook Lane development. The orange trail is a loop. This parcel is contiguous to the recently acquired Pioneer Road property. RCC is working on public access to this parcel.

(See Conservation Commission Update, page 17)

Conservation Commission Update (continued from page 16)

Rand Forest - These trails can be accessed from either Sea Glass Lane or at the cul de sac at end of Liberty Common. Parking is available on the left after you enter Sea Glass Lane. To access the trail, go behind the houses, stay on the left of the metal marking posts and walk towards the woods. There are two loops – one orange and one yellow.

Cedar Run Woods – This is a short trail on 28 conserved acres at the end of Cedar Run off South Road with the only trail being a loop, recently marked with trail signs by RCC. Parking is available at the gravel/grass area.

Airfield Woods – At the end of Airfield Drive, past the “Road ends” sign, a path takes you to the entrance of the woods with a trail to the left that borders the beginning of Berry’s Brook and goes past an old mill pond studded with lily pads and loops back to the beginning. Staying straight at the woods entrance takes you behind the Whitehorse Farms cul de sac out and back. The trails are marked, well-groomed and easy to follow. This 110-acre property also connects to the smaller eight-acre Moody Woods that continues to Mountainview Terrace off Washington Road.

In addition to its work with the trails in Rye, RCC also works to protect wetlands and town-owned conservation land throughout our town. Rye wetlands are comprised of marshes, estuaries and vernal pools. Each of these aquatic systems serves a critical function in wildlife habitat and plays an important role in protecting our aquifers, the source of much of Rye’s water supply.

Thus, wetland preservation is paramount to protecting our natural resource inventory. Specific wetland buffers and regulations that serve this purpose are familiar to Rye’s Building Inspector, Milon (Chuck) Marsden and the RCC. To

give you the tools to help us protect Rye’s water resources, we have compiled the following list of things to consider before renovations or improvements to your home and/or property:

- All wetlands in Rye have either a 75-foot or 100-foot buffer of legal protection, depending on the nature of the wetland. No work in the wetland or applicable buffer (either 75 or 100 feet) may be done without review by the Rye Conservation Commission. The wetland buffer serves as a filtration system for water that enters the wetlands whether it be natural, such as rain, or through private watering such as sprinklers and irrigation systems.
- All dumping is prohibited in the wetlands and in the applicable buffer (either 75 or 100 feet), including grass clippings. And of course, all dumping is prohibited in the Atlantic Ocean.
- Regulations concerning any tree cutting apply to the wetlands and wetland buffers in Rye – notify the Building Inspector before cutting a tree on your property and complete a tree-cutting permit, available at the building inspector’s office or on the town website.
- All changes to structures, whether permanent or not, require review by the Building Inspector.

If, after reading this, you still have any questions about what conservation rules to consider in planning a home improvement, feel free to contact any member of the Commission: Mike Garvan, Jaci Grote, Sally King, Suzanne McFarland, Susan Shepcaro, Danna Truslow and alternates Jeff Gardner and Karen Oliver; or contact the Chair, Suzanne McFarland by email at suzanne.ryeconservation@gmail.com. The Rye Conservation Commission is here for you.

Karen Oliver, Alternate Member
Rye Conservation Commission

Mark Your Calendars Now

- ◇ Budget Committee Work Session School Proposed Budget Ending June 2024, Wednesday, December 7, 2022, 6:30 p.m. Rye Junior High School
- ◇ Budget Committee Work Session 2023 Town Budget Thursday, December 8, 2022, 6:30 p.m. Rye Town Hall
- ◇ Budget Committee Public Hearing School Budget Ending June 2024, Wednesday, January 11, 2023, 6:30 p.m. Rye Junior High School
- ◇ Budget Committee Public Hearing 2023 Town Budget, Thursday, January 12, 2023, 6:30 p.m. Rye Town Hall
- ◇ Precincts Work Session & Public Hearing Wednesday, February 1, 2023, 6:30 p.m. Rye Town Hall
- ◇ Deliberative Session (First Session of Town Meeting), Saturday, February 4, 2023, 9:00 a.m. Rye Junior High School
- ◇ Snow Date Deliberative Session Saturday, February 11, 2023, 9:00 a.m., Rye Junior High School
- ◇ Municipal Election (Second Session of Town Meeting), Tuesday, March 14, 2023, 8:00 a.m.– 7:00 p.m. Rye Elementary School

Sewer Department Update

The Rye collection system was constructed in the early 1990's and consists of 6.9 miles of gravity sewer and 3.5 miles of force main. The Town of Rye wastewater collection system discharges to the Town of Hampton and is treated at Hampton's Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). As part of the current Inter-municipal Agreement that is good until November 16, 2024, Rye is responsible for contributing to the Town of Hampton WWTP upgrades (Rye's

Year	Total \$	Rye's Over-all Share	2023 Payment	Upgrade Description	Final Payment Year
2005	\$4.75 Million	\$190,000	\$10,200.72	Additional clarifier, dewatering equipment, sludge thickening facility	2024
2009	\$1.38 Million	\$55,200	\$3,315.72	Process/control building, replace generator, upgrade headwork's	2028
2011	\$1.265 Million	\$50,600	\$3,305.20	Sludge monitoring and handling, NPDES Engineering	2034
2018	\$11.78 Million	\$471,200	\$33,435.40	Plant upgrades	2043

share 4%). Please see the table below indicating the current list of bonds and Rye's share budgeted for in 2023.

The proposed sewer budget for 2023 is \$414,440 which includes \$49,000 that is recovered by the owner of Adams Mobile Home Park. This is a \$54,152 increase over last year's budget. The first bond payment for the 2018 Hampton WWTP \$11.78M loan is due in 2023 and Rye's share is \$33,435.40, which accounts for 62% of the budget increase. The balance of the increase can be attributed to a sewer rate increase by the City of Portsmouth in which Adams Mobile Home Park is connected, other rate increases and inflation.

The current sewer rate is .09 cents per cubic feet of H2O consumption. It is projected that the rate would need to increase by 1-1 ½ cents in 2023. Rye does not bear the full cost of a wastewater treatment facility because the flow is treated at Hampton's WWTP. The original bond for Rye's sewer service in the amount of \$4.4 million was shared (40%, Town of Rye general fund and 60%, users of the sewer services) and paid off at the end of 2012. It is important to note that sewer in Rye was originally mandated, to protect the shoreline. The Sewer Department Budget is covered by user fees. However, Federal, State and local funding opportunities (grants, loan forgiveness, non-financial assistance etc.) when granted assist greatly in maintaining the infrastructure.

The Sewer Budget operates out of fund 2. Revenues received from fees and charges are deposited into the fund and department costs are expended from the fund. The monies can accumulate from year to year and are not deemed part of the general fund; the fund must be self-supporting.

The Sewer Commission continues to pursue educational opportunities, recent activity includes attending the NHDES Asset Management Workshop "Demystifying Asset Management", EFCN Webinar "Long-term Investment for Financial Resiliency" and FEMA's Webinar "Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) and Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) grant".

The Sewer Commissioners are David Kohlhase, Chairman, Susan Labrie, and John McCune, and the Sewer Director is Lee Arthur. The Sewer Office is located on the second floor of the Rye Beach Village District Building, 830 Central Road, Rye Beach, NH. If you have any questions, please feel free to drop in or contact us at (603) 964-6815.



2023 PETITIONED WARRANT ARTICLES

Registered voters in Rye may submit Petitioned Warrant Articles for the 2023 Warrant to the Select Board until the deadline of Tuesday, January 10, 2023. The deadline for Petitioned Bond Warrant Articles is Friday, January 6, 2023. For more information, please contact the Selectmen's Office by email at jireland2@ryenh.us or by calling 603-964-5523. Instructions are also posted on the Town Website: www.town.rye.nh.us on the Selectmen's Office page.








Rye Firefighter's Toy Bank

Summer is over and the holiday season is on its way...

Tis the season that the Rye Firefighters start to plan for the families of the Rye Community and the surrounding Seacoast Area that will be unable to share in the joys of the season. This is the 17th year that the Rye Firefighters have been able to participate in the Seacoast Area Firefighter Toy Bank and we greatly appreciate all of the support that our local community has offered to fellow residents. The many donations of toys and financial contributions have helped to make the season a wonderful time for various families who would be unable to celebrate on their own. This is why we once again must ask for your help in preparing for this season. We will be accepting any donations that could be offered from November 1st until December 21st.

Here is how you can assist:

-  Donate new, unwrapped toys for ages from newborn to 17 years old. Some ideas for donations are toys, crafts, games, dolls, inflatable sleds, footballs and basketballs. We are always looking for ideas for the 11-17 age group.
-  Donate gift cards for local merchants to aid in purchasing items such as clothing and toys.
-  Donate financial contributions to assist in making certain wishes come true. Donations should be made to the Rye Firefighter Toy Bank.
-  Please drop off or mail any of your donations to the Rye Fire Station located at 555 Washington Road.
-  Toy Drop-off Locations will be located at: Rye Fire Station, Rye Town Hall, Rye Library, Rye Elementary, Rye Junior High, Rye Congregational Church, Saint Theresa Church, Seaport Fish, Atlantic Grill, Common Roots, Mainly Tubs and Rye Country Day School.

If you or someone you know could use some assistance for the holidays please contact Chuck Gallant or John Klanchesser at the Rye Fire Department by phone at (603) 964-6411 or by email at ryefirefightertoybank@gmail.com.

Thank You for Your Support

Town of Rye
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