



Town of Rye Newsletter



Vol. 27, No. 1 A Publication of the Rye, New Hampshire, Select Board March 2024

Be Sure to Vote on Tuesday, March 12th Town and School Election, Rye Elementary School, 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Selectmen’s Message:

WHAT’S GOING ON IN TOWN?

One hundred thirty-four registered voters attended the 2024 Deliberative Session that was held on Saturday, February 3rd at the Rye Junior High School to review the articles on this year’s warrant. The 2024 budget was finalized at \$13,457,939.00. The 2023 Tax Rate increased from \$6.98 to \$8.03 per \$1,000 of valuation while the valuation was increased by .58% from \$3,244,252,900 to \$3,263,133,200.

A breakdown of the impact of money Warrant Articles is as follows:

WARRANT ARTICLES Article	Amount of Warrant Article	Tax Impact Per \$1000
Article #6 Harbor Road Bridge	975,000	0.00
Article #7 Perkins Road Culvert	307,000	0.00
Article #8 Highway Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve	200,000	0.061
Article #9 Library Common Improvements	160,000	0.049
Article #10 Fire and Ambulance Capital Reserve	100,000	0.031
Article #11 Design & Construct Recreation Softball Field	75,000	0.023
Article #12 Design & Engineer Phase I – Rec Master Plan	75,000	0.00
Article #13 Building & Maintenance Capital Reserve	35,000	0.011
Article #14 SPCCP/SWPPP Capital Reserve	25,000	0.008
Article #15 Library HVAC Capital Reserve	20,000	0.006
Article #16 Contingency Fund	15,000	0.005
Article #17 Revaluation Capital Reserve	15,000	0.005
Article #18 RPL Building Maintenance Expendable Trust	10,000	0.003
Article #19 Emergency Management Capital Reserve	35,000	0.011
Article #20 Conservation Maintenance Expendable Trust	10,000	0.003
Article #21 Recreation Building & Property Maint. Fund	10,000	0.003
Article #23 Landfill Monitoring Capital Reserve	10,000	0.003
Article #24 Center for Wildlife	2,500	0.001
Total of All Warrant Articles with Tax Impact	722,500	0.221

Thank you to all that joined us for the Deliberative Session to learn about and discuss the town warrant articles. Your thoughts and comments were helpful and

TOWN REPORTS AVAILABLE TUESDAY, MARCH 5TH

The Annual Report of the Town of Rye for the year 2023 will be available for pick-up on Tuesday, March 5th at the following locations: Town Hall, Town Hall Annex, Rye Public Safety Building, Rye Public Library and the Recycling Center. You can also view it on the Town website www.town.rye.nh.us.

If you are unable to pick up your copy at one of these locations, please call the Selectmen’s Office at (603) 964-5523 or email jireland2@ryenh.us to request that one be mailed to you.

appreciated. Bob Eaton, our dedicated Town Moderator since 2008, has announced his planned retirement from the active role of Moderator. During the Deliberative Session Moderator Eaton was recognized by the Select Board with words of appreciation and a crystal clock to symbolize his timeless commitment to the town. Bob's signature statement at the beginning of every Deliberative Session, "I may not run a perfect meeting, but I will do my best to run a fair meeting," will be remembered for years to come. The debt owed to him is profound. Many of you are aware of the invaluable role he played, and as he steps down, his absence will be keenly felt on multiple levels. Please be sure to watch the recording on Townhallstreams.com to learn more about the issues on the ballot that will be voted on at the upcoming election on March 12th.

Storm Event: We extend our gratitude and sincere appreciation to our dedicated Police Department, Fire Department, and Department of Public Works for their unwavering commitment and tireless efforts during the January coastal storms, coupled with flooding. Their joint efforts helped ensure the safety and well-being of our community. The storm damage caused to state and local infrastructure is still being assessed. Working together with the NHDOT, and other area resources, the town was able to quickly open coastal roads back up and patch the seawall and shale piles. Residents who experienced any property storm damage can report it to the state by calling 2-1-1.

On February 2nd, Senator Jeanne Shaheen, Senator Maggie Hassan, State Senator Debra Altschiller, and other state and local officials visited Rye to support the work being done to address the damage caused by recent storms and to improve coastal

Selectmen's Message (continued from page 1)

resiliency. We appreciate their support and the work of our local state representatives and other elected officials for their continued efforts on bills and programs that would support communities impacted by these coastal storms. Their collective work underscores their dedication to the well-being of our seacoast communities and to our environment. The Select Board will continue to have department heads track expenses related to the storm with the hopes that FEMA makes a disaster declaration or other funds become available to offset our storm related expenses.

Spring Road Repair: The Rye Department of Public Works (DPW) is prepared to address road conditions, particularly as we approach the spring freeze-thaw cycle. The fluctuating temperatures during this time pose unique challenges to road maintenance. Recognizing the impact of these conditions on our community's infrastructure, the DPW will continue its proactive approach to road maintenance and repair. If the operating budget is approved, the town plans to purchase an asphalt hot box, which will allow the town to apply hot asphalt directly into potholes. Using this application method, patches will last much longer until a permanent repair can be made. One of the biggest challenges currently at the DPW is staffing shortages. Recruitment for additional staff is ongoing.

Town Hall Annex: Since its opening over a year ago, the Annex has proven to be a resounding success. Housing essential offices including the Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Assessing, Supervisors of the Checklist, and the Assistant Town Administrator/Finance Director, alongside the Mel and Jean Low Conference Room, the Annex has become a hub of administrative activity. The convenience of the drive-through service window at the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's Office has significantly enhanced residents' experience. Staff and elected officials alike appreciate the town's commitment to providing a space that fosters efficiency and effectiveness. Moving forward, discussions will focus on ensuring that all other town offices in town have the necessary facilities and space to continue serving the public effectively.

Advisory Committee for the Restoration of the Historic Rye Town Hall: The Town Select Board has

established an Advisory Committee for the Restoration of the Historic Rye Town Hall. This committee is an advisory body to the Select Board and will undertake the crucial task of gathering and scrutinizing prior town hall plans and studies. Their primary goal is to craft a comprehensive restoration and renovation proposal for the Rye Town Hall that not only caters to the spatial requirements of town hall personnel and the community at large, but also outlines a clear methodology and timeline for funding and executing the project in the future, pending town approval. The Select Board is currently seeking individuals from the public to join this committee, which will play a pivotal role in shaping the future of the historic Town Hall.



Town Historian: On January 22nd, the Select Board appointed Alex Herlihy as Town Historian. Alex has an in-depth knowledge of Rye's past and is actively involved with the Rye Historical Society. The duties of the Town Historian are to provide authoritative information, as needed or required, based on accurate data and objective evaluation and interpretation, of Rye's history to town officials, boards, committees, and staff. The Town Historian will work closely with the Historic District Commission, the Heritage Commission, the Historical Society, and the Select Board to preserve historical documents, photos, and artifacts and to write articles for the townspeople and future generations to appreciate and enjoy.

Be Involved: Please read the rest of our town newsletter for interesting department reports and articles about our community. It's a great way to stay informed about what's happening in our town and learn more about local initiatives and events. We encourage residents to be involved, volunteer for events, attend board and committee meetings, and be an active part of our community. Your contribution matters and helps make our town a great place to live for everyone.

Select Board,
Tom King, Chairman
Bill Epperson, Vice-Chairman
Bob McGrath, Selectman

Town Clerk/Tax Collector's Message

The Town has four elections this year; the Presidential Primary was held on January 23rd, the Town Election will be held on March 12th, State Primary Election on September 10th, and General Election on November 5th. All Elections are held at the Rye Elementary School with polls open from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Absentee Ballot applications can be printed off the Town website, picked up at the Town Clerk's office, or you may request one via email.

Beach Parking Permits are on sale at the Town Clerk's office and go into effect May 1st. Please bring in your vehicle registration and a form of payment of thirty dollars (\$30.00) each for the first two permits requested and a third may be purchased for thirty-five dollars (\$35.00). Beach Parking Permits are for property owners and full-time renters. Full-time renters need a 'Beach Parking Permit Letter of Release' from the property owner. Your status as a resident or property owner will be verified before the Beach Parking Permit is issued. Just a reminder that motorcycles and mopeds do need a Beach Parking Permit to park in the "permit only" areas. Beach Parking Permits can only be purchased at the Town Clerk's Office with a valid registration and cannot be purchased online or by mail-in.

Dog renewal letters have been mailed to residents. All dogs are required to be licensed between January 1st and April 30th and a current Rabies Certificate is needed for each dog. If you no longer have your dog, please notify our office so we can update our files. For your convenience, renewals can be done on the Town's website (www.town.rye.nh.us), in person, or by mail (please remember to include a self-addressed stamped envelope).

- 1st Dog Senior Citizen \$3.00
- Spayed/Neutered Dog \$7.50
- Puppies (3-7 months) \$7.50
- Male or Female Unaltered \$10.00
- Kennel/Group License \$20.00

First issue 2024 property tax bills will be due on July 1st. It is the taxpayer's responsibility, who escrow their taxes, to forward a copy of the tax bill to their mortgage company. If you are paying by mail and would like a paid receipt, please mail in the full bill

Town Clerk's Message

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along with a stamped, self-addressed envelope with your payment. When mailing in your payment and you do not require a receipt, please only mail in the bottom portion of the tax bill with your payment. For your convenience, we have a locked mailbox in the Town Hall Annex lobby (500 Washington Road) or drop off through the drive-up window. Payments can also be made online by going to the Town of Rye website and clicking on the red icon and following the instructions.

We accept cash, check, or credit card as forms of payment. Remember when paying by credit card there is a fee of 2.99% which would reflect on your credit card statement. Reminder, the first issue sewer bills have been mailed and were due on February 26th. 2024 tax liens for all unpaid 2023 tax and sewer bills will be placed on August 1, 2024. Please call my office at 964-8562 for the interest due on any outstanding bills. Deeding for 2022 tax liens (unpaid 2021 taxes) will be done on November 1, 2024. If you have any questions, contact my office so we may assist you.

I would like to thank Amy and Lindsay for all the support in the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's office and Bob Eaton for all his hard work and dedication as our Town Moderator. Bob dedicated his time to making sure that all our elections and Deliberative Sessions went smoothly. He will be greatly missed.

Think spring, it is around the corner.

Donna DeCotis
Town Clerk/Tax Collector

Planning Board Update

RYE 2035

planning today for tomorrow's future

MASTER PLAN UPDATE:

The Master Plan (MP) update project which began in June 2023 continues on pace with a public hearing expected this Fall. As a guide to our future, the process provides Rye with an opportunity to look ahead and establish new visions and directions. In short, this work will shape our goals and strategies for the next ten years and beyond. Our Town departments, boards, committee members, and members of the public have been focused on identifying and discussing existing conditions in Rye since July. Thank you for your input!

As we continue the outreach phase of the MP engagement, we turn our attention to exploration and discussion of key themes identified in the 2021-22 visioning engagement:

- ⇒ Climate change adaptation and resilience
- ⇒ Land and development
- ⇒ Municipal operations and organization
- ⇒ Natural resources, environment, and sustainability
- ⇒ Community

Opportunities for residents to get involved include:

- An online version of the community forum event will be open through March 15th – please visit the project website: <https://www.publicinput.com/RyeFuture>
- Master Plan Steering Committee meetings: the first Tuesday of each month at 1:00 pm
- Visit the project website for information on additional outreach events throughout the community, project process, and next steps. Also on the project website are key documents such as Existing Conditions Analysis (1/29/2024) and the Build Out Analysis (baseline build-out scenario, 10/2023) which provide a baseline understanding of our Town today.

- Share information with others
- Contact Kim Reed, Rye Planning & Zoning Administrator by email at kreed@town.rye.nh.us or by phone at 603-379-8081

2024 PROPOSED ZONING CHANGES:

Proposed changes and explanations to Zoning and Floodplain Ordinances may be found at <https://www.town.rye.nh.us/planning-board/pages/2024-zoning-ordinance-and-floodplain-ordinances-be-2024-warrant-and-ballot>. The proposed Zoning Ordinance changes encompass RZO: §190-2.2.D(2)(b) and (c), and Article XI – PRINCIPAL DWELLING definition, re: condominium conversions, §190-5.7.C re: draining into watercourses/town drainage system, §190-5.9.E(2)(a) and (b) re: loss detrimental to neighborhood, and §190-5.9.E(4) and (5) re: public hearing, §190-2.1.A(1) re: zoning map revision which took place in 2023, and §190-3.1.H(1)(a) and (b) re: mean high watermark. The proposed Floodplain Ordinance change encompasses FPO: §60-6.A(4) re: time frame around determination of substantial improvement/repair of substantial damage.

BOARD MEMBERS AND RESOURCES:

As we approach elections, we wish to thank several Board members who have been steadfast in their commitment to the Board: Kevin Brandon, Steve Carter, Kathryn Garcia, Katy Sherman, and Rob Wright. We wish them the best and are grateful that many may continue their service to the Town!

The Planning Board (Board) has engaged Rockingham Planning Commission to facilitate the reestablishment of a Technical Review Committee (TRC) for the purpose of providing review of land use applications that come before the Board. The purpose of the TRC will be to ensure compliance with town regulations, provide advisory comments, and to aid in efficiency in process for applicants, staff, and the Board members. We expect to have the procedural components and forms in place by the Fall.

With appreciation to the Board, to those who are stepping up to serve, and to our dedicated team of Kim Reed, Kara Campbell, and RPC!

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Losik, Chair
Rye Planning Board

**Town of Rye
MEMORIAL DAY
CEREMONY
Central Cemetery
(beside Town Hall)
Monday, May 27, 2024
9:00 a.m.**



RYE 2035 Planning Today for Tomorrow's Future. Online Community Input Tool

The Rye Master Plan Steering Committee is asking community members to provide their feedback on a variety of topics related to Rye's future including coastal resilience, transportation, housing, municipal facilities and services, natural resources, and more. This online tool includes all of the questions explored at the in-person Community Forum Event held on February 15th. We encourage you to answer as many questions as you wish. Your input is greatly valued during this process! It will help shape the direction of RYE 2035 the community's new Master Plan.

To provide your feedback to inform Rye's Master Plan, please visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Rye2035>

To review a detailed snapshot of Rye today, please see the Rye, NH Existing Conditions Report on the Rye Future project website: <https://www.publicinput.com/RyeFuture>

If you have any questions, please contact Kim Reed, Planning and Zoning Administrator, by email at kreed@town.rye.nh.us or by phone at (603) 379-8081.



RYE 2035

Share your Input on Rye's Future!

We need your help creating Rye's Master Plan for the next decade.

Couldn't make the community forum event or have additional feedback to share? Provide your input through our online tool or through a paper survey available at the Town Hall!



(Take my picture)

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Rye2035>

Responses will be accepted until March 15th.

Rye Senior SERVE is here to serve you...

Rye Senior SERVE can help you manage your weekly vital errands. Our friendly, caring drivers and volunteers will provide you with safe and dependable transportation. We will pick you up and drive you to:

- * Shopping at Market Basket
- * Breakfast at Hebert's
- * Rite-AID pharmacy
- * TD BANK
- * Medical appointments

Rye Senior SERVE also provides door to door service for a monthly luncheon social at one of the Seacoast areas fine restaurants.

If you have questions about any of the programs or services provided by Rye Senior SERVE, please call one of the following numbers for more information.

- * General inquiries, call Jim at 603-436-6041
- * Rides to medical appointments, call Claudia at 603-964-5633
- * Rides for shopping, call Janice at 603-964-5523

The Rye Senior SERVE volunteers who provide the services and programs listed above are all Rye residents.

Jim Delaney
Rye Senior SERVE

Rye Police are asking for help!



Clean Out Old Prescriptions: Rye Police Officers continue to engage with people on how we can encourage people to be part of the commitment to end addiction. Some statistics state that 480 million pain-related prescriptions were written in 2014. 70% of prescriptions remain unused and could be available for abuse. Three out of four people reported their first opioid use was a prescription drug.

Your officers researched how other communities handle prescription disposal across the country. We discovered a drug deactivation system called Deterra. Deterra is a simple, environmentally friendly bag system that gives residents the opportunity to safely dispose of their old and unwanted prescription medications in the privacy of their own home. Officers are continuing to coordinate with other town resources (Rye Fire Department, Rye Town Hall, Rye Town Hall Annex, Rye Highway Department, Rye Library, Rye Senior Serve, and Rye Recreation) to proactively distribute the Deterra system out to Rye residents. For more information about the Deterra drug deactivation bags, please visit the Rye Police website at www.ryepolice.us, our Facebook page, or Twitter page.



Dog-walking at Town Beaches and Town Forest:

Warm weather is approaching, and more people will be walking their dogs on Town beaches and in the Town Forest. **Please pick up after your dog!** While most people adhere to the ordinance and pick up after their dogs, there are those who do not. We thank our law-abiding dog owners who gently remind those who forget they need to clean up!

Hours for Dogs on Town Beaches:

Beginning the Saturday before Memorial Day, May 25, 2024, dogs are **NOT** allowed on the town beaches from 9:00a.m. until 7:00p.m., Sunday through Friday. Saturdays dogs are **NOT** allowed on town beaches 9:00a.m. to 9:00p.m. This is in effect until the

Police Dept. Message

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Saturday after Labor Day, September 7, 2024. Dogs are **NOT** allowed on NH State Parks Beaches or any NH State Parks property during the summer season. Please see NH State Parks website and signage, as NH State Park's rules and dates do not always coincide with town rules.



Beaches + Public Town Property = NO ALCOHOL:

Town ordinance prohibits open containers of alcohol, including alcoholic beverages in any cups.



Share the Roads:

Motorists, bicyclists, runners, and walkers need to be courteous to each other. If you're running, bicycling, or walking group contains more

than one person, please consider breaking up into smaller groups and distance each smaller group. Motorists, please remember there are others on the road. Safety is a cheap and effective insurance policy.

Thank you for your continued support. I sincerely appreciate everyone's encouragement.

Kevin Walsh
Chief of Police

Heritage Commission Update

The mission of the Rye Heritage Commission (RHC) is to promote the preservation, protection and recognition of the town's historical and cultural resources and locations. In doing so the Commission may advise and collaborate with Rye's boards, local organizations, businesses and individuals regarding cultural sites, historical buildings and preservation projects.

RHC has hired a carpenter to rebuild part of the historic gazebo. Also, the Commission has taken the initiative to promote the restoration of the Town Hall by requesting a sub-committee be formed by the Select Board.

In 2023 a sub-committee of RHC created seven new signs that brings Rye's history to light. The committee is currently working on four additional signs relating to the history of fishing, shipwrecks/life saving, Central Cemetery, and schools which will be in the ground later this year.

The Rye Advocates (RA) for Historic House Preservation is an ad hoc group that emerged from the RHC in 2020. The RA is made up of members of other history minded boards and other historic preservationists. It was needed because this topic requires a separate organization to tell the historic buildings' stories and to remind us of their historic importance. David Choate has been the chair of the RA from the beginning and welcomes new members.

By 2022, the RA had compiled a list of 317 buildings in town built before c. 1905. Dating houses is always a challenge, but RA has identified many ways to help homeowners learn their house history through workshops and publicity that give access to information. These 317 buildings are identified by both road and date and may be accessed from RHC.

The Rye Advocates is now developing a website that will give viewers access to a wide variety of historic house information. If you are skilled at building websites, we could use your help. Please contact David Choate by email at david.choate@colliers.com.

Rye's historic graveyards (60+) are in need of a "Friends" group to upgrade their documentation and find more people willing to be caretakers of them. If interested contact the RHC chair by email at alexherlihy@comcast.net.

The Demo Review Committee continues to be vigilant about any threats to Rye's historic structures. The most recent case involves 237 Locke Road that is being offered for free, but needs to be moved to another lot. There has been much publicity about this project. The RHC chair lives in a historic Rye house that he had dismantled and moved to Rye and reassembled in 1975. That is what needs to happen to this historic early 1800s farmhouse, otherwise it will be demolished. If interested please contact the RHC chair.

RHC is in need of additional members. After reading its mission statement above, if interested, please contact the chair at email address listed above or just attend our next meeting where the public is always welcome. Meetings are at the Town Hall on the first Thursday of the month at 5:30p.m.

Alex Herlihy, Chair
Rye Heritage Commission

Mosquito Control Spray Notice

The Mosquito Control program begins on April 8, 2024 in the Town of Rye. Crews from Dragon Mosquito Control will check swamps, salt marshes, woodland pools, ditches, catch basins and other shallow, stagnant water for mosquito larvae. When mosquito larvae are found, treatment may occur using one or more of the following insecticides:

VectoBac (Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis 2.8%)

VectoMax (Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis 4.5% & Bacillus sphaericus 2.7%)

Natular (spinosad 2.5%)

BVA 2 Mosquito Larvicide Oil (mineral oil 97.0%)

Residents who do not want mosquito treatment to occur in wetlands on their property may utilize Dragon's 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, color of your house and acreage you own. Call 603-734-4144 or email Help@DragonMosquito.com for more information.

OFFICIAL BALLOT
Town of Rye
March 12, 2024

FOR MODERATOR
for three years Vote for one
NINA PARROT

FOR SELECTMAN
for three years Vote for one
ROB WRIGHT
TOM KING

FOR TREASURER
for three years Vote for one
SUSAN PHILBRICK

FOR CEMETERY TRUSTEE
for three years Vote for one
KENNETH MOYNAHAN

FOR LIBRARY TRUSTEE
for three years Vote for two
JOANN HODGDON
JOE MARTTILA
JEFF ROSS
JOANNE COUTU

FOR LIBRARY TRUSTEE
for two years Vote for one
JULIE TUCKER
RACHEL MCCANN

FOR TRUSTEE OF TRUST FUNDS
for three years Vote for one
KERRY POPE

FOR BUDGET COMMITTEE
for three years Vote for two
DOUGLAS ABRAMS
KATE DUMAS
JULIE TUCKER

FOR BUDGET COMMITTEE
for one year Vote for one
MICHAEL A. COUTU

FOR PLANNING BOARD
for one year Vote for one
DONALD CAVALLARO

FOR PLANNING BOARD
for two years Vote for one
ROBERT EBERHART

FOR PLANNING BOARD
for three years Vote for two
PETER MOYNAHAN
JOHN M. SHAW
PAUL ZIOLKOWSKI
STEVEN BORNE

FOR ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT
for three years Vote for two
CHRISTOPHER PIELA
ROBERT M. PATTEN

FOR SEWER COMMISSIONER
for three years Vote for one
SUSAN LABRIE

A REMINDER

If you study the ballot at home and fill in the checklist on the back page of this issue, you'll save yourself lots of time in the voting booth on March 12th! But don't forget to take your checklist with you. (And don't leave it in the voting booth!) If you have any questions, please call the Selectmen's Office, 964-5523.

FOR SUPERVISOR OF THE CHECKLIST
for six years Vote for one
SALLY KING
SUSAN PHILBRICK
GARY TERHUNE

ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT QUESTIONS

ARTICLE 03. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Rye Zoning Ordinance in accordance with the recommendation of the Rye Planning Board, as follows:

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment 1 as follows?

Amendment 1

Re: Two Dwellings on One Lot

Amendment to the Rye Zoning Ordinance §190-2.2. D Applicability of use district regulations. as follows: (Note: ***New text emboldened and italicized.*** Deleted text ~~struck through~~).

§190-2.2.D. Lots.

- (1) In the Single Residence and General Residence Districts only, ***except as otherwise expressly permitted in this § 190***, there shall be no more than one principal building on one lot.
- (2) Lots with two or more principal dwellings.
 - (a) A lot which has two or more principal dwellings is a nonconforming use. Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary in Section 190-6.2 and 190-6.3, on such lots with two or more principal dwelling units, the following are prohibited expansions of a nonconforming use and/or nonconforming structure:
 - [1] Increasing the building footprint of a dwelling.
 - [2] Enlarging the bulk of a dwelling.
 - [3] Adding decks, porches or other appurtenances to a dwelling, including roof decks.
 - [4] Enlarging decks, porches or other appurtenances of a principal building.
 - (b) This provision applies to all lots which have two or more principal dwellings. ~~including lots having such dwellings in the condominium form of ownership.~~
 - (c) ***Lots which contain two or more dwelling units and/or structures in a condominium form of ownership pursuant to a condominium conversion authorized under §190- 5.3,***

shall be deemed to have two or more principle dwelling units on a lot, and no such dwelling unit and/or structure shall be expanded in the manner reflected in §190-2-2(D)(2)(a).

(d) This provision shall not apply to those properties that have permitted accessory dwelling units or legal apartments.

Explanation

The amendments to § 190-2.2.D and the amendment to the definition of "Principal Dwelling" under Article XI are intended to clarify that condominium conversions, which is taking multiple existing dwelling units on a single lot and establishing a condominium form of ownership, are permitted in the Single Residence and General Residence Districts if approved in accordance with § 190-5.3. The amendments also clarify, however, that any dwelling units or structures that are subject to a condominium conversion cannot be altered to expand the footprint or bulk of any condominium unit.

YES NO

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment 2, as follows:

Amendment 2

Re: Two Dwellings on One Lot

Amendment to the Rye Zoning Ordinance, Article XI – **Definitions** as follows: (Note: New text emboldened and italicized. Deleted text struck through)

PRINCIPAL DWELLING - The primary or predominant structure to which a property is or may be devoted to a residential use and to which all other uses and structures on the premises are subordinate or accessory. **Condominium units on the same lot, whether within the same dwelling structure or detached, shall each be considered a principal dwelling for the purpose of this §190.**

Explanation

The amendments to § 190-2.2.D and the amendment to the definition of "Principal Dwelling" under Article XI are intended to clarify that condominium conversions, which is taking multiple existing dwelling units on a single lot and establishing a condominium form of ownership, are permitted in the Single Residence and General Residence Districts if approved in accordance with § 190-5.3. The amendments also clarify, however, that any dwelling units or structures that are subject to a condominium conversion cannot be altered to expand the footprint or bulk of any condominium unit.

YES NO

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment 3, as follows:

Amendment 3

Re: Stormwater Management

Amendment to the Rye Zoning Ordinance §190-5.7.C amend as follows: (Note: **New text emboldened and italicized**. Deleted text struck through).

§ 190-5.7 Stormwater management.

- A. Purpose. It is the intent of this section to protect, maintain and enhance the public health, safety and environment by regulating building and land development so that surface water drainage from building and land development does not adversely affect adjacent properties, watercourses or the Town's storm drainage system. **[Amended 3-18-2017]**
- B. Drainage onto adjacent properties. No use of land; no construction, reconstruction, alterations, replacement, or expansion of buildings, structures and impervious surfaces; no grading or excavation of the land; and no destruction or alteration of natural vegetation or ground cover shall increase the surface water drainage flowing onto an adjacent property unless a drainage easement allowing such flowage in perpetuity is recorded.
- C. Drainage into watercourses/Town drainage system. No use of land; no construction, reconstruction, alterations, replacement, or expansion of buildings, structures and impervious surfaces; no grading of the land; and no destruction or alteration of natural vegetation or ground cover shall increase the surface water drainage or flowage into existing watercourses or into the Town's storm drainage system **incumbent upon the applicant to prove via approved engineering plans the Town's storm drainage system has unless the Public Works Director determines that the watercourse or drainage system will have the capacity to accommodate the additional flow, both now and in the future.**
- D. Drainage and grading plan. The Building Inspector may require submission of a detailed stormwater management and erosion control plan which includes a drainage and grading plan at his/her sole discretion and at the expense of the property owner whenever there is construction of a new building/structure, expansion of a building/structure, reconstruction, or changes to the impervious surface or whenever there is question regarding compliance with this section. **[Amended 2002; 3-18-2017]**

Explanation

To reduce overburden, and protect, the Town's storm drainage system and to place safe guards.

YES NO

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment 4, as follows:

Amendment 4

Re: Demolition Review

Amendment to the Rye Zoning Ordinance § 190-5.9 Demolition Review amend as follows: (Note: ***New text emboldened and italicized***. Deleted text ~~struck through~~).

§ 190-5.9 **Demolition review. [Added 2009, amended 3-12-2-13]**

A. Purpose. The purpose of this section is to encourage the preservation of buildings and places of historic, architectural and community value.

B. Demolition. For the purposes of this section, the word "demolition" means the act of pulling down, destroying, dismantling, removing or razing a building or part of a building. This shall include a monument, statue, memorial, or accessory building. It does not include interior demolition which does not alter the appearance of the exterior of the building. **[Amended 3-10-2020 by Art.2]**

C. Demolition subject to review. Any demolition within the Town of Rye, excluding the Historic District, shall be subject to the requirements of this section where: **[Amended 3-10-2020 by Art. 3; 7-13-2021 by Art. 3]**

(1) The demolition is:

- (a) A building or part of a building greater than 500 square feet of gross floor area; or
- (b) A monument, statue, or memorial; or
- (c) An accessory building less than 500 square feet of historical or architectural interest; and

(2) The building or part of a building, monument, statue, memorial, or accessory building was constructed more than 50 years before the date of application for a demolition permit.

D. Demolition Review Committee. A Demolition Review Committee is hereby established consisting of three persons and three alternates. **[Amended 3-10-2020 by Art. 3]**

(1) The Demolition Review Committee members shall be appointed by the Select Board to three-year terms, with the initial terms staggered as one-, two- and three-year terms, respectively. The initial terms of alternates shall be staggered as two - and three-year terms, respectively.

(2) One member of the Demolition Review Committee shall be a

member of the Historic District Commission, one member shall be a member of the Planning Board, and one member shall be a representative of the Rye Historical Society.

(3) If the Town establishes a Heritage Commission pursuant to RSA 673:1 and RSA 673:4-a, the Demolition Review Committee shall be comprised of three members of the Heritage Commission and two alternates appointed by the Chair of the Heritage Commission. If the Demolition Review Committee already exists pursuant to Sub-section D(2) above, such appointments shall be made as replacements for the existing Demolition Review Committee members as the terms of the existing members expire.

E. Demolition review procedure.

(1) When an application for a demolition permit, or a building permit involving demolition, or a site plan review involving demolition, is made, or a formal written application is submitted to the Building Inspector for a determination under this section, the Building Inspector will determine if the building, or section of the building, meets the criteria of § 190-5.9C. If it does, the Building Inspector shall:

- (a) Notify the applicant in writing within five business days of the filing that the demolition must be reviewed before proceeding and that the delay will not exceed 49 days.
- (b) Within five business days forward the application to each member of the Demolition Review Committee.

(2) The Demolition Review Committee shall meet within 10 business days after receipt of the application and make one of the following two determinations: **[Amended 3-10-2020 by Art. 3]**

(a) If the Demolition Review Committee determines that the building is not potentially significant ***and its loss will not be detrimental to the neighborhood***, it shall, within three business days of making that determination, notify the Building Inspector of the determination. In such a case, a demolition permit may be issued by the Building Inspector provided all other requirements applicable to the demolition have been met.

- (b) If the Demolition Review Committee determines that the building is not potentially significant **and its loss will be detrimental to the neighborhood**, it shall schedule a public hearing within 12 business days of making that determination, and within three days of making that determination notify the Building Inspector of **that determination**. Notice of the public hearing shall be posted in two public places and published at least five days prior to the hearing, not including the day of the hearing or the day of posting. Notice to abutters shall be made by certificate of mailing to all abutters not less than five calendar days before the date of the hearing. **[7-13-2021 by Art 3]**
- (3) Within five business days of the Demolition Review Committee's decision to hold a public hearing, the Building Inspector shall notify the applicant that a sign identifying the building as proposed for demolition and the date, time, and place of the public hearing on the proposed demolition is ready for posting in a visible location on the building or site. Posting of the sign within five business days of receiving notification from the Building Inspector shall be the responsibility of the applicant.
- (4) **At the Public Hearing**, the Demolition Review Committee shall hear all public testimony regarding demolition of the building. The owner or **the owner's** his representative shall be invited **is expected** to attend the hearing.
- ~~(5) During At the conclusion of the hearing, the Demolition Review Committee shall either:~~
- ~~(a) Notify the Building Inspector in writing within three business days of the decision if the building is found to be not significant, in which case demolition may proceed, provided all other requirements applicable to the demolition have been met.~~
- ~~(b) Hold a meeting between the Demolition Review Committee and the owner (or owner's representative) within 10 business days of the public hearing to discuss alternatives to demolition. if the Demolition Review Committee determines the building is significant and its loss potentially detrimental to the community.~~
- (6) The demolition review process shall not delay the issuance of a demolition permit by more than the 49 days provided by § 190-5.9E(1)(a), except in the following circumstances:

inability to meet with the Demolition Review Committee shall extend the period until such a meeting is held and for 20 days following the date of the meeting.

- (b) An owner's delay in posting the sign required by §190-5.9E(3) shall extend the period by the number of days of delay in posting the sign.

F. Demolition.

- (1) If no alternatives to demolition have been identified and agreed to by the applicant, after the meeting provided for in § 190-5.9E(4)(5)(b), the applicant is free to proceed with demolition, provided all other requirements for demolition are met. Prior to demolition, and if the applicant is in agreement, the Demolition Review Committee shall photographically document the building. The Demolition Review Committee shall also encourage the applicant to salvage significant architectural features.
- (2) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent immediate demolition where public safety is at stake and the building has been determined by the Building Inspector to be a public hazard and demolition is the only viable recourse.
- (3) A demolition permit shall be conditioned upon receipt of all local, state, and federal permits required for the demolition activity. **[Added 3-10-2020 by Art. 3]**

G. Criteria. In determining if a building is "potentially significant" or "significant" the Demolition Review Committee shall consider whether:

- (1) The building is of such interest or quality that it would meet national, state or local criteria for designation as a historic, cultural or architectural landmark.
- (2) The building is of such **an** unusual or uncommon design, texture or materials that it could not be reproduced or could be reproduced only with great difficulty and expense.
- (3) The building is of such historic, architectural or community value that its removal would be to the detriment of the public interest.
- (4) Retention of the building would help preserve and protect a historic place or area of historic interest.

Explanation

To amend the Demolition Review to align with the changes recommended by Town Attorney in 2022.

YES NO

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment 5, as follows:

Amendment 5

Re: Zoning Map

Amendment to the Rye Zoning Ordinance §190-2.1 amend Zoning Map district boundary as follows: (Note: **New text emboldened and italicized**. Deleted text ~~struck through~~).

§ 190-2.1 Zoning Map; district boundaries.

A. *Establishment.*

(1) The districts aforesaid and the boundaries of such districts shall be such as shown upon a map prepared by ~~for~~ the Rye Planning Board titled "Zoning Map ~~Town of Rye Rockingham County, New Hampshire 1992,~~ and drawn by James W. Sewall ~~Company last revised in 2023,~~ and produced by CAI Technologies at a scale of one inch equals 1,000 feet, together with all notations, references, and other matter and things set forth and/or attached thereto, on file in the office of the Town Clerk of the Town of Rye, New Hampshire. This same map is hereby adopted and shall be known as the "Official Zoning Map of the Town of Rye," and shall be certified by the **Select Board** ~~Selectmen~~ and the Town Clerk, and the **Select Board** ~~Selectmen~~ and the Town Clerk shall make all changes as may be effected by any amendment or changes in this chapter, such things to be made properly and promptly. [Amended 1993; 2002; 2007; 2010; **2024**]

(2) The Zoning Map was amended March 9, 2010, to enlarge the Commercial District by moving the boundary between the Commercial District and the Single Residence District that is located west of Lafayette Road and north of Breakfast Hill Road a distance of 800 feet further to the west so that the new boundary is 1,300 feet from Lafayette Road and to add a new Multifamily Dwelling Overlay District, per § 190-3.7 of this chapter. [Amended 3-10-2020 by Art. 3]

Explanation

To amend the creator of the Map, and the revision that took place in 2023.

YES NO

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment 6, as follows:

Amendment 6

Re: Mean high water mark

Amendment to the Rye Zoning Ordinance §190-3.1.H (1) and (2) to correct an inconsistency. (Note: **New text emboldened and italicized**. Deleted text ~~struck through~~).

§ 190-3.1 WETLANDS CONSERVATION DISTRICT (Adopted 1977)

A. H. Wetlands buffer. [**Amended 1990; 2001; 2002; 2012; 3-11-2014; 03-14-2023**]

(1) *Buffer description.* The wetlands buffer shall include all land:

(a) Within 100 feet of the edges of all tidal lands, marshes, bays, estuaries, rivers, and creeks and their tributaries, as defined by the **mean high watermark**. ~~highest flooding of the ocean tides;~~ [**Amended 3-14-2023**]

(b) Within 100 feet of the edges of all natural perennial streams and vernal pools; as well as the edges of Eel Pond, Burke's Pond, Brown's Pond and East Rye Pond as defined by the **mean high-watermark;** [**Amended 3-14-2023**]

Explanation

To correct an inconsistency in 3.1 buffer language to be consistent with that in NH RSA Public Use of Coastal Shoreland -483-C:1 V. The high water mark which bounds the shoreward extend of the public trust shorelands in New Hampshire, excluding abnormal storm events, means the average height of all the high waters over a complete tidal cycle commonly referred to as the mean high tide line.

YES NO

ARTICLE 04. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Rye Floodplain Development Ordinance in accordance with the recommendation of the Rye Planning Board, as follows:

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment 1, as follows:

Amendment 1.

Re: Substantial Improvement/Substantial Damage

Amendment to the Rye Floodplain Development Ordinance §60-6 Substantial Improvement/Substantial Damage to add a timeframe. (Note: **New text emboldened and italicized**. Deleted text ~~struck through~~).

§ 60-6. Substantial improvement and damage determinations.

A. For all development in a special flood hazard area that proposes to improve an existing structure, including alterations, movement, enlargement, replacement, repair, additions, rehabilitations, renovations, repairs of damage from any origin (such as, but not limited to, flood, fire, wind or snow) and any other improvement of or work on such structure, including within its existing footprint, the Floodplain Administrator, in coordination with any other applicable community official(s), shall be responsible for

the following:

- (1) Review description of proposed work submitted by the applicant.
 - (2) Use the community's current assessed value of the structure (excluding the land) to determine the market value of the structure prior to the start of the initial repair or improvement, or in the case of damage, the market value prior to the damage occurring. If the applicant disagrees with the use of the community's assessed value of the structure, the applicant is responsible for engaging a licensed property appraiser to submit a comparable property appraisal for the total market value of only the structure.
 - (3) Review cost estimates of the proposed work, including donated or discounted materials and owner and volunteer labor, submitted by the applicant and determine if the costs are reasonable for the proposed work, or use other acceptable methods, such as those prepared by licensed contractors or professional construction cost estimators and from building valuation tables, to estimate the costs.
 - (4) Determine if the proposed work constitutes substantial improvement or repair of substantial damage as defined in this chapter, ~~taking place during a five-year period in which the cumulative cost equals or exceeds fifty percent of the market value of the structure. For each structure, the five-year period begins on the date of the first permit issued for improvement or repair of that structure subsequent to March 12, 2024.~~
 - (5) Notify the applicant in writing of the result of the substantial improvement or damage determination. If the determination is that the work constitutes substantial improvement or substantial damage, the written documentation shall state that full compliance with the provisions of this chapter is required.
- B. Repair, alteration, additions, rehabilitation, or other improvements of historic structures shall not be subject to the elevation and dry floodproofing requirements of this chapter if the proposed work will not affect the structure's designation as an historic structure. The documentation of a structure's continued eligibility and designation as an historic structure shall be required by the Floodplain Administrator in approving this exemption.

Explanation

To put a time frame around the determination of Substantial Damage/Substantial Improvement and a starting date. to apply a term date for calculating substantial improvement and substantial damage.

YES NO

ARTICLES

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 thirteen million, four hundred fifty-seven thousand, nine hundred thirty-nine and 00/100 dollars (\$13,457,939.00)? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be twelve million, three hundred fifteen thousand, four hundred sixty-two and 00/100 dollars (\$12,315,462.00) 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)

YES NO

ARTICLE 06

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of nine hundred seventy-five thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$975,000.00) for the purpose of repairing the Harbor Road bridge with this sum to come from the unassigned fund balance. 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. (8-1)

YES NO

ARTICLE 07

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of three hundred seven thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$307,000.00) for the purpose of replacing the culvert on Perkins Road with this sum to come from the unassigned fund balance. 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. (8-1)

YES NO

ARTICLE 08

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of two hundred thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$200,000.00) to be added to the Highway Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund created in 1994. This

A YES vote would raise \$13,457,939.00 to fund the Town Operating Budget.

A NO vote would raise a default operating budget amount of \$12,315,462.00.

A YES vote would raise \$975,000 to repair the Harbor Road bridge which would come from the unassigned fund balance and not have any current tax impact.

A NO vote would not raise \$975,000 to repair the Harbor Road bridge.

A YES vote would raise \$307,000 to replace the culvert on Perkins Road which would come from the unassigned fund balance and not have any current tax impact.

A NO vote would not raise \$307,000 to replace the culvert on Perkins Road.

A YES vote would raise \$200,000 to be added to the Highway Heavy Equipment CRF to be used to offset the future cost of purchasing DPW heavy equipment.

A NO vote would not raise \$200,000 to be added to the Highway Heavy Equipment CRF.

appropriation is in addition to the operating budget. (Majority vote required.)

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

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

YES NO

ARTICLE 09

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate a sum not to exceed five hundred thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$500,000.00) towards improvements to the Library Common, which is the public space in the Town Center located adjacent to the Rye Public Library, \$160,000.00 of such monies to be raised by taxation, and the remainder to be from private donations, bequests, and other non-appropriated funds. Further, to authorize the Rye Library Board of Trustees to accept such private donations and to expend such prior donations and non-appropriated funds received by the Town for that purpose. This article is non-lapsing until December 31, 2026 or until the project is complete, whichever comes first. (Majority vote required.)

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (2-1)

This article is recommended by the Budget Committee. (7-1)

YES NO

ARTICLE 10

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$100,000.00) to be added to the Fire and Ambulance Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund, the purpose of which was amended by Article 15 of the 2018 Town Meeting. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget. (Majority vote required.)

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

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

YES NO

ARTICLE 11

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of seventy-five thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$75,000.00) for the purpose of designing and constructing a softball field on a portion of the soccer fields at the Town Recreation Area located at 55 Recreation Road. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget. (Majority vote required.)

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

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

YES NO

ARTICLE 12

To see if the Town will vote to approve Phase 1 of the design and engineering of the Rye Recreation Master Plan and will authorize the Select Board to expend seventy-five

thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$75,000.00) from the Recreation Commission *Youth Recreational Athletics Account* for said purpose. The *Youth Recreational Athletics Account* is funded with monies received from fundraising and private donations. This article has no current tax impact. (Majority vote required.)

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

YES NO

ARTICLE 13

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of thirty-five thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$35,000.00) 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)

YES NO

ARTICLE 14

To see if the Town will vote to establish a Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure Plan/Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SPCCP/SWPPP) Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of preparing for mandates related to the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System Program, also referred to as "MS4 Program" and such other regulatory mandates that may relate to stormwater management and control. Further to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty-five thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$25,000.00) to be placed in this fund. Further, to name the Select Board as agents to expend from said fund. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget. (Majority Vote Required)

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

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

YES NO

ARTICLE 15

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$20,000.00) to be added to the Rye Public Library HVAC Capital Reserve Fund established by Article 12 at the 2016 Town meeting under the provisions of RSA 35:1, for the purpose of replacing the Rye Public Library's aging and inefficient current heating, ventilation and air conditioning system. 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)

YES NO

A YES vote would approve Phase 1 of the design and engineering of the Rye Recreation Master Plan and allow \$75,000 to be expended from the Recreation Youth Athletes Account for that purpose and not have any current tax impact.

A NO vote would not approve Phase 1 and disallow \$75,000 to be expended from the Recreation Youth Athletes Account for that purpose.

A YES vote would add \$35,000 to the Municipal Buildings Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund.

A NO vote would disallow the addition of \$35,000 to the Municipal Buildings Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund.

A YES vote would establish a SPCCP/SWPPP Capital Reserve Fund for mandates that may relate to stormwater management and control and add \$25,000 to the fund.

A NO vote would disallow the establishment of a SPCCP/SWPPP CRF.

A YES vote would add \$20,000 to the Rye Public Library HVAC Capital Reserve Fund.

A NO vote would disallow the addition of \$20,000 to the Rye Public Library HVAC Capital Reserve Fund.

ARTICLE 16

To see if the Town will vote to establish a contingency fund pursuant to RSA 31:98-a for the current year for unanticipated expenses that may arise during the year and further to raise and appropriate fifteen thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$15,000.00) to put in said fund. This sum to come from the unassigned fund balance. Any appropriation left in the fund at the end of the year will lapse to the general fund. (Majority vote required)

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

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

YES NO

ARTICLE 17

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of fifteen thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$15,000.00) 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 revaluation of the Town at least as often as every fifth year as required by RSA 75:8-a. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget. (Majority vote required.)

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

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

YES NO

ARTICLE 18

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$10,000.00) 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)

YES NO

ARTICLE 19

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of thirty five thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$35,000.00) to be added to the Emergency Management Capital Reserve Fund established by Article 18 of the 2023 Town Meeting under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of emergency preparation and management, infrastructure repair, pollution mitigation, coastal hazard response, and all other costs and expenditures related to any disaster, critical incident, accident, fire, flood, public health concern, storm, or weather-related event. 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)

YES NO

ARTICLE 20

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$10,000.00) to be added to the Conservation Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund established by Article 13 at the 2021 Town meeting pursuant to RSA 31:19-a to repair and maintain land and buildings owned by the Town of Rye and managed by the Rye Conservation Commission. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget. (Majority vote required.)

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

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

YES NO

ARTICLE 21

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$10,000.00) to be added to the Recreation Buildings and Property Maintenance Fund the purpose of which was amended by Article 18 of the 2022 Town Meeting. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget. (Majority vote required).

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

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

YES NO

ARTICLE 22

To see if the Town will vote to change the purpose of the Grove Road Landfill Capital Reserve Fund established by Article 11 at the 1994 Town Meeting to the Dumps and Landfills Monitoring Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of monitoring all dumps and landfills in the Town and to designate the Select Board as agents to expend. (2/3 vote required).

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

YES NO

ARTICLE 23

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$10,000.00) to be added to the newly re-purposed Dumps and Landfills Monitoring Capital Reserve Fund. This Article is contingent on the passage of Article 22. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget. If Article 22 fails this article will be null and void. (Majority vote required).

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

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

YES NO

ARTICLE 24

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of two thousand five hundred and 00/100 dollars (\$2,500.00) to

A YES vote would add \$10,000 to the Conservation Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund

A NO vote would disallow the addition of \$10,000 to the Conservation Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund.

A YES vote would add \$10,000 to the Recreation Buildings & Property Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund.

A NO vote would disallow the addition of \$10,000 to the Recreation Buildings & Property Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund.

A YES vote would change the purpose of the Grove Road Landfill CRF to encompass all dumps and landfills in Rye.

A NO vote would not change the purpose of the Grove Road Landfill CRF.

A YES vote would, if Article 22 passes, add \$10,000 to the newly re-purposed Dumps and Landfills Monitoring Capital Reserve Fund.

A NO vote would disallow the addition of \$10,000 to, if Article 22 passes, the newly re-purposed Dumps and Landfills Monitoring Capital Reserve Fund.

help support the Center for Wildlife, located at 375 Mountain Road, Cape Neddick, ME, a non-profit organization. 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. (7-1-1)

YES NO

ARTICLE 25

To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the 400th Anniversary Celebration Expendable Trust Fund established by Article 12 of the 2022 Town Meeting. If approved, the monies in said Fund, with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, are to be transferred to the Town's general fund. (Majority vote required).

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

YES NO

ARTICLE 26

To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Parsonage Maintenance Fund established by Article 15 of the 2015 Town Meeting. If approved, the monies in said Fund, with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, are to be transferred to the Town's general fund. (Majority vote required).

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

YES NO

ARTICLE 27

To see if the Town will vote to study the appointment of a Town Treasurer, in accordance with RSA 41:26-e, rather than the election of a Town Treasurer.

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

YES NO

ARTICLE 28

To see if the Town will vote to study the effects of discontinuing the combined office of Town Clerk/Tax Collector.

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

YES NO

ARTICLE 29

To see if the Town will vote to study the appointment, rather than the election of a Tax Collector, while considering the separation of the Town Clerk-Tax Collector under Article 28.

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

YES NO

ARTICLE 30 (By Petition)

Shall the Rye Board of Selectmen implement a plan to determine which (if any) town

A YES vote would raise \$2,500 to help support the Center for Wildlife.

A NO vote would not raise \$2,500 to help support the Center for Wildlife.

A YES vote would discontinue the 400th Anniversary Celebration Expendable Trust Fund with the fund balance transferred to the general fund.

A NO vote would disallow the 400th Anniversary Celebration ETF from being discontinued.

A YES vote would discontinue the Parsonage Maintenance Fund with the fund balance transferred to the general fund.

A NO vote would disallow the Parsonage Maintenance Fund from being discontinued.

A YES vote would study the appointment vs the election of a Town Treasurer.

A NO vote would not allow the study of the appointment vs the election of a Town Treasurer.

A YES vote would study the effects of discontinuing the combined office of Town Clerk/Tax Collector.

A NO vote would not allow the study of discontinuing the combined office of Town Clerk/Tax Collector.

A YES vote would study the appointment vs the election of a Tax Collector.

A NO vote would not allow the study of the appointment vs the election of a Tax Collector.

roads, or portions thereof, having a posted speed limit of 35 mph are not currently in compliance with State law, and establish a speed limit of 30 mph on such roads, per RSA 265:60 and RSA 259:118?

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

YES NO

ARTICLE 31 (By Petition)

To see if the Town will vote to direct the Select Board to publish a list of all civil litigation matters that are presently or were active during the calendar year together with the amount of legal fees and costs incurred related to each such case as of December 1 of that calendar year. Further, to see if the Town will vote to direct the Select Board to maintain and update on no less than a quarterly basis a list of all active litigation in which the Town is a party, said list to identify: (a) the case caption; (b) the court and/or administrative agency in which the matter is pending; and (c) the docket number related to such case, provided that, if the identification of the litigation would disclose information which would constitute an invasion of privacy, the Town may identify the caption using a pseudonym, i.e. "John Doe" or "Jane Doe" and may identify that the case number is "withheld." For the purposes of this warrant article, "litigation" shall be defined as any matter brought by or against the Town, or in which the Town has sought status as an intervenor, and which is filed with a State or Federal court or administrative agency but shall not include criminal prosecutions initiated by the Town Prosecutor, County Attorney, Attorney General, or any other prosecuting entity.

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

YES NO

ARTICLE 32 (By Petition)

To see if the Town will vote to alter the boundaries of the Town Forest, as established in 1981, utilizing a concise metes and bounds description to be provided by a surveyor and further to authorize the Select Board, Conservation Commission, and the Cemetery Trustees, to alter the location of the Rye Town Forest and to correct the Conservation Easement granted by the Town to the Rockingham County Conservation District on January 29, 2001 (recorded at Rockingham County Registry of Deeds Book 3539, Page 0314) related to the Rye Town Forest, in accordance with the following parameters:

- A. The unwooded portion of the so-called "Perry Walker Tract" that was conveyed to the Town of Rye in 1961 for the purposes of "enlarging the Central Cemetery" will be removed from and unburdened by the Conservation Easement
- B. The wooded portion of the Perry Walker Tract to the immediate north of the Cemetery Annex (hereinafter the "wooded uplands") will be removed from and unburdened by the Conservation Easement.

A YES vote would implement a plan to see if there are any roads in town with a speed limit of 35 MPH and are not in compliance with State law and change the speed limit to 30 MPH on those roads.

A NO vote would not implement such a plan.

A YES vote would require the Select Board to publish a list of current civil litigation matters along with legal fees and costs incurred as of Dec. 1st of each calendar year. It will also require the Select Board to maintain and update on no less than a quarterly basis a list of all active litigation in which the Town is a party.

A NO vote would not require the Select Board to publish litigation lists.

A YES vote would alter the boundaries of the Rye Town Forest and correct the Conservation Easement granted by the Town to the Rockingham County Conservation District in 2001 in accordance with the parameters listed in the article.

A NO vote would not alter the boundaries of the Rye Town Forest and not correct the Conservation Easement granted by the Town to the Rockingham County Conservation District in 2001.

- C. The lands identified in Paragraphs A and B will be under the management and control of the Cemetery Trustees.
- D. The Conservation Commission will retain a perpetual easement, 20 feet in width, over the wooded uplands for the red trail and such portions of the orange trail that are within those wooded uplands. The Cemetery Trustees shall have the option in the future to relocate the easement for red trail and orange trail (if the latter is included in the easement area), to along the perimeter of the cemetery lands that are along the existing stone wall adjacent to the Cemetery Annex, provided that the cost for the laying out, grading, and clearing of such a trail shall be paid by the Cemetery Trustees. If the Cemetery Trustees exercise that option, the perpetual easement referenced would be amended to the relocated red trail and/or orange trail.
- E. The trees on the wooded uplands are to remain unless and until that space is needed for cemetery purposes in the discretion of the Cemetery Trustees.
- F. The Cemetery Trustees will consult with the Conservation Commission regarding the location of any cemetery road constructed in the wooded uplands if that cemetery road crosses the red trail, provided that, if the Cemetery Trustees and the Conservation Commission are unable to reach agreement after good faith discussion as to that cemetery road, the Cemetery Trustees shall have the final say as to the location of that cemetery road.
- G. For the avoidance of any disturbance of funerals, signage shall be posted along the red trail at the entry of the cemetery lands identifying that the land is part of the cemetery and stating that "users are advised to exercise proper respect and consideration for funerals and their attendees," or words to that effect. The cost of the signage will be borne by the Cemetery.
- H. The Cemetery Trustees will not grade the wooded uplands until it is reasonable and prudent to do so in the discretion of the Cemetery Trustees.
- I. The portion of the Perry Walker Tract located to the south of the Cemetery Annex, largely comprised of wetlands, will remain in the conservation easement, with the exception of the portion of those lands that are presently used by the Cemetery Trustees for storage.
- J. The survey of the metes and bounds description will be funded by the Select Board and Conservation Commission, with the metes and bounds description to be approved by the Select Board, Cemetery Trustees, and Conservation Commission.

Further, to authorize the Select Board, Cemetery Trustees, and Conservation Commission to enter into an agreement formalizing the terms set forth above and to execute any

documents and take all other necessary actions related to this Article. (Majority Vote Required)

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

YES NO

ARTICLE 33 (By Petition)

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to prepare an informational guide to assist land use applicants, developers, and members of the public with regard to the building and land use processes in the Town of Rye, said guide to identify the various ordinances, rules, and regulations applicable to building and land use, as well as the various applications, checklists, and fee schedules which may be applicable.

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

YES NO

A YES vote would authorize the Select Board to prepare an informational guide to assist with the building and land use processes.

A NO vote would not authorize the Select Board to prepare an informational guide to assist with the building and land use processes.

ARTICLE 34

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 2024.

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

YES NO

A YES vote authorizes the Selectmen to dispose of surplus town equipment via public auction.

A NO vote prevents the Selectmen from disposing of surplus town equipment via public auction.

YOU HAVE NOW COMPLETED VOTING

Beach Committee Update

Despite rain, snow and high surf in January and February, volunteers from the NH Chapter of Surfrider managed to take water samples at Sawyers Beach and Jenness Beach State Park, along with three other beaches on the NH Seacoast. Sawyers was added again to the testing list two years ago and is supported by the Beach Committee. Although Sawyers results showed "medium bacteria" on February 7, 2024, 94% of samples collected at this site over the last twelve months have met the water quality standards set by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services. (<https://nh.surfrider.org>)

The Beach Committee is looking forward to welcoming Chris Grippo, Chair of the NH Chapter of the Surfrider Foundation to speak with us in March. Our goal is to learn about the proper way to take water samples and the connection to the Jackson Estuarine Lab at UNH. We plan to add another beach during some of the shoulder season, most likely at Wallis Sands.

Once again, we plan to schedule a beach cleanup during the spring school break in April. Tentative date and place: Cable Beach on Friday, April 26th at 10:00a.m.

We welcome community members to join a meeting or send their concerns and questions by email to: beachcommittee@town.rye.nh.us. Check out the calendar on the Town's website, as our meeting date may change beginning in March.

Mary-Ann Sullivan, Chair
Beach Committee



SPRING / SUMMER PROGRAMS



2024

Physical Address: 55 Recreation Road, Rye, NH 03870
Mailing Address: 10 Central Road, Rye, NH 03870 Tel. 603.964.6281
E-mail dmartin@town.rye.nh.us, Town Website: www.town.rye.nh.us



SPRING / SUMMER PROGRAMS SIGN-UP COMMENCEMENT
Monday, February 12, 2024, 9:00a.m.
Rye Recreation Office, 55 Recreation Road, Rye, NH



Programs are limited to a first-come, first-served basis. Registrations will be held online and in person at our office. We have a new user-friendly recreation software that is open to the public for registrations. To register online go to rye.recdesk.com or scan the QR code at the bottom of the page, select "create account" on the home page and follow the prompts on the screen. If you are registering someone within your household for programs, you will need to create an account for the "Head of Household" first, then add accounts for the members of your household who you would like to register for a program. Once you have an account and/or household you can register for programs with ease!

THE WAVE SENIOR LUNCH PROGRAMS



The lunch programs are held at the Rye Congregational Church, 580 Washington Road, Rye, NH on the second Thursday of each month. Lunch is at 12:00p.m. followed by entertainment at 1:00p.m. Reservations for lunch are required and the cost is \$15.00 for a complete lunch, or \$5.00 for a beverage and dessert only. If you are not having lunch you can still attend, but we ask that you notify us in advance.

C'EST CHEESE - CHARCUTERIE BOARD MAKING

Join us for this special make-and-take event with C'est Cheese, North Hampton's European style cheese store. Each participant will be able to create and take home their own charcuterie board.

Date: Thursday, March 14, 2024

Lunch: Tuscan chicken, dinner rolls, garden salad, dessert, and coffee/tea/water.

Reservation Deadline: Thursday, March 7, 2024

APRIL ENTERTAINMENT COMING SOON

Date: Thursday, April 11, 2024

Lunch: Lasagna, dinner rolls, garden salad, dessert, and coffee/tea/water.

Reservation Deadline: Thursday, April 4, 2024

SAGES ENTERTAINMENT - THE FLEA CIRCUS

Sages Entertainment is back for another fun-filled afternoon and this time they will be bringing their Flea Circus! Do not miss out on this month's lunch and laughs.

Date: Thursday, May 9, 2024

Lunch: Chicken alfredo, dinner rolls, garden salad, dessert, and coffee/tea/water.

Reservation Deadline: Thursday, May 2, 2024

MICHAEL PERRY - EXPLORING ICELAND'S WILD WEST

Join Freeport, Maine's Michael Perry for an early spring adventure just below the Arctic Circle in Iceland's Majestic West Fjords. This program will include lots of Viking history, segments on Iceland's role in WWII, and Iceland's renewable energy story.

Date: Thursday, June 13, 2024

Lunch: Sandwich trays, garden salad, dessert, and coffee/tea/water.

Reservation Deadline: Thursday, June 6, 2024

SENIOR DAY TRIPS

Space is limited for the Senior Day Trips. It is important to register early. No refunds will be given unless funds can be recovered from the contract provider. Prior to the trip, you will receive correspondence confirming departure time, location, and schedule.

THE BEACH BOYS - ULTIMATE TRIBUTE SHOW

Their tribute performances are as true to form as the originals, featuring the incredible five-part harmonies of The Beach Boys, so much so you might forget this is a tribute show!

Date: Thursday, April 25, 2024

Lunch: Baked stuffed chicken or vegetarian lasagna with salad, potato, vegetables, breads, dessert, and coffee/tea/water.

Reservation Deadline: Thursday, March 28, 2024

Fee: \$89 per person

SENIOR DAY TRIPS

HAPPY 2 GATHER - ULTIMATE 60'S SHOW

Sing along to the sounds of "The Doors", "Simon and Garfunkel", "Janis Joplin", and many more. This show promises to leave you feeling groovy!

Date: Thursday, September 19, 2024

Lunch: Stuffed shells, rolls, garden salad, Boston cream pie, and coffee/tea/water.

Reservation Deadline: Thursday, August 22, 2024

Fee: \$89 per person

JIMMY BUFFETT TRIBUTE SHOW

Jimmy and The Parrots have been playing for delighted crowds for years. So, what screams out *it's summertime* more than lobsters and Jimmy Buffett?

Date: Tuesday, July 16, 2024

Lunch: Whole lobster, clam chowder, fresh steamed mussels, fresh Maine clams, corn-on-the-cob, potatoes & onions, blueberry cake, rolls, butter, and coffee/tea/water. 1/2 of a BBQ chicken is available as a non-lobster alternative.

Reservation Deadline: Tuesday, June 18, 2024

Fee: \$89 per person

THE SICILIAN TENORS - LIVE CONCERT

The Sicilian Tenors filmed in England at the beautiful Highclere Castle, the home of the hit TV series *Downton Abbey*. Now is your opportunity to hear the songs and enjoy an amazing reproduction of this special concert live!

Date: Wednesday, November 13, 2024

Lunch: Thanksgiving dinner with all the fixings and sides or vegetable lasagna, dessert, and coffee/tea/water.

Reservation Deadline: Wednesday, October 16, 2024

Fee: \$89 per person

RYE REC WORLDWIDE ADVENTURES

EXPLORE BRITISH LANDSCAPES



Witness breathtaking British landscapes during a 10-day stay in Scotland, England, and Wales, with an optional extension in France! Visit the historic capital of Scotland, and knock on the door of William Shakespeare's childhood home. To find out more information call Rye Recreation at (603) 964-6281.

Dates: August 20-29, 2024

EXPLORE SWITZERLAND, AUSTRIA & BAVARIA



Join Rye Recreation in a 10-day stay in Switzerland, Austria, and Bavaria. Experience the picturesque Austrian Alps, walk through the Mirabell Gardens, and so much more! We welcome you to enjoy this pre-planned, stress-free vacation. To find out more information call Rye Recreation at (603) 964-6281.

Dates: November 6-15, 2024



WE ARE ONLINE!

Scan the QR code or go online to rye.recdesk.com to create an account and register for all the latest Rye Recreation programs.

ADULT LEISURE AND FITNESS PROGRAMS

STRENGTH & BALANCE



Instructed by Kim Rivest, this group fitness class will help you strengthen major muscle groups using weights and work on balance. A combination of exercises performed standing or seated will challenge you and allow you to work at your own pace. Class begins with a warm-up and finishes with a series of stretches to leave you feeling refreshed and energized.

Please wear sneakers and comfortable clothing. Classes are held on Wednesdays, 9:30a.m. to 10:30a.m.

Dates: April 3, 10, 17, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5, 12, 19, 26 (12 classes)

Location: The Wave at Rye Congregational Church, 580 Washington Road, Rye, NH

Fee: \$60 per participant (Prorated to start date)

ADULT PICK-UP BASKETBALL

Facilitated by Dennis Okyere, Adult Pick-up Basketball will be hosted on Sundays. Play scrimmage games and practice your skills. Participants are required to sign up with Rye Recreation in advance so they can be notified of any schedule changes. The program is held on Sundays, 9:00a.m. to 11:00a.m.

Location: Rye Junior High Gym, 501 Washington Road, Rye, NH

Dates: Sundays, February 18, March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, April 7, 14, 28, May 5, 12, 2024

Fee: \$66 per participant

CHAIR YOGA



Instructed by Amelia McKenney, Rye resident, volunteer, and life-long athlete. This gentle form of yoga is practiced sitting in a chair or standing using a chair for support. Build inner and outer strength while relaxing and centering the mind. Have fun with others while learning postures that help you build

strength, flexibility, and balance. While focusing on the relaxation response to reduce stress and promote health. Please wear comfortable clothing. Classes are held on Tuesdays and/or Thursdays from 10:00a.m. to 11:30a.m.

Location: The Wave at Rye Congregational Church, 580 Washington Road, Rye, NH

Dates: February 20, 22, 27, 29, March 5, 7, 12, 14, 19, 21, 26, 28, April 2, 4, 9, 11, 16, 18, 23, 25, 30, May 2, 7, 9, 14, 16, 21, 23, 28, 30, June 4, 6, 11, 13, 18, 20, 25, 27, July 2, 9, 11, 16, 18, 23, 25, 30, August 1, 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 22, 27, 29, 2024 (55 classes)

Fee: No cost (**Registration required**)

ADULT YOGA & MEDITATION

This course is instructed by nationally certified classical yoga teacher Jeanie Ryan. Build core strength, flexibility, and balance while gaining relaxation tools and healthy living tips. Learn the ancient practice of combining yoga and meditation to harmonize the mind, body, and spirit. This is a multi-level class. Beginners welcome. Please bring a yoga mat, as they are not provided. Classes are held Thursdays from 9:00a.m. to 10:30a.m.

Dates: May 2, 9, 16, 23, 2024

Location: The Wave at Rye Congregational Church, 580 Washington Road, Rye, NH

Fee: \$66 per participant (4 classes)

ADULT GOLF LESSONS



Practice and improve your golf skills at Pease Golf Course, 200 Grafton Road, Portsmouth, NH. In the case of inclement weather a rain date will be scheduled for the Tuesday or Thursday following each session.

ADULT GROUP GOLF LESSONS (Co-recreational)

Session 1: Thursday, May 2, 9, 16, 23; 5:30p.m.-6:30p.m.

Session 2: Thursday, June 6, 13, 20, 27; 5:30p.m.-6:30p.m.

Session 3: Thursday, July 11, 18, 25, August 1; 5:30p.m.-6:30p.m.

Fee: \$155 per session (4 lessons), clubs available if needed.

WOMEN'S GOLF LESSONS

Session 1: Tuesday, April 30, May 7, 14, 21; 6:30p.m.-7:30p.m.

Session 2: Tuesday, June 4, 11, 18, 25; 6:30p.m.-7:30p.m.

Session 3: Tuesday, July 9, 16, 23, 30; 6:30p.m.-7:30p.m.

Fee: \$155 per session (4 lessons), clubs available if needed.

YOUTH SPORTS AND CAMPS

BASEBALL CAMPS WITH STEPHEN MCMANUS (Co-recreational)



Join us for another season of co-recreational Baseball Camp with Stephen McManus at Flash Jenness Field. All baseball camps are open to residents and non-residents in 2nd through 8th grades.

Spring Baseball Camp

Dates: April 22-25, 2024; 9:00a.m.-12:00p.m. (4 days)

Location: Rye Recreation, 55 Recreation Road, Rye, NH

Grades: Youth currently in grades 2-8.

Fee: \$220 per participant

Summer Baseball Camp

Session 1: June 17, 18, 19, 20; 9:00a.m.-12:00p.m. (4 days)

Session 2: June 24, 25, 26, 27; 9:00a.m.-12:00p.m. (4 days)

Location: Rye Recreation, 55 Recreation Road, Rye, NH

Grades: Youth entering grades 2-8 in Fall 2024

Fee: \$220 per participant per session

BASKETBALL CAMPS



Coach Pat Quinn is a seacoast native who has spent his life playing and coaching basketball for universities across New England and varsity teams in the surrounding areas.

Over the years, Pat has conducted camps, clinics, and training groups for kids of all ages! Coach Quinn is excited to bring new basketball opportunities to Rye Recreation this summer! All basketball camps will be held at Rye Elementary School, dependent on availability. Each camp is four days, Monday through Thursday. Times and dates vary based on age group (Program price includes a camp t-shirt).

Fee: \$200 per participant

Boys Basketball Camp

Dates: July 15-18, 2024

Times: Boys entering grades 3-5 in Fall 2024; 9:00a.m.-11:30a.m.

Boys entering grades 6-8 in Fall 2024; 1:00p.m.-3:30p.m.

Girls Basketball Camp

Dates: July 22-25, 2024

Times: Girls entering grades 3-5 in Fall 2024; 9:00a.m.-11:30a.m.

Girls entering grades 6-8 in Fall 2024; 1:00p.m.-3:30p.m.

SUMMER VOLLEYBALL CAMP (Co-recreational)



Come better your skills and understanding of volleyball with Coach Ray Panek! Coach Panek is a certified New England Regional Volleyball Association Coach. Youth Volleyball Camp is a 6-week evening program at Pirates Cove Beach (meet behind The Surf Club). This program is for teenagers in 7th through 11th grades as of Fall 2024.

Dates: Thursdays, July 18, 25, August 1, 8, 15, 22 (6 days)

Time: 5:15p.m.-6:30p.m.

Price: \$60.00 per participant

Location: 1200 Ocean Boulevard, Rye, NH

Find more Summer Volleyball for youth and adults on Facebook!

Want more Summer Volleyball coordinated by our local volleyball advocate, coach, and resident Ray Panek? Please join Coach Ray's private Facebook group: "PIRATES COVE BEACH VOLLEYBALL". This group will keep you aware of all adult and youth summer volleyball programs, plus scheduled weekly pick-up games behind The Surf Club starting this Summer 2024.

YOUTH GOLF LESSONS - JUNIOR CLINICS

Session 1: July 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12, 2024

Session 2: August 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16, 2024

Times: Grades K-4; 8:00a.m.-8:45a.m.

Grades 5-12; 9:00a.m.-10:00a.m.

Fee: \$80 per session (5 lessons), clubs available if needed.

Location: Pease Golf Course, 200 Grafton Road, Portsmouth, NH

SUMMERTIME HoRYEzons DAY CAMP



Camp begins at 8:30a.m. and ends at 4:30p.m. This camp is for participants entering grades K-6 in Fall 2024. Pre-camp (8:00a.m.-8:30a.m.) and post-camp (4:30p.m.-5:00p.m.) will be offered for an additional \$25.00 per week and the participant must be

pre-registered for this option. Camp will be located at Rye Elementary School for all weeks except four and five, dependent on availability. There will be no half day options for Summertime HoRYEzons Day Camp.

Fees: Weeks 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 @ \$190/week

Week 2 (no camp 7/4/24) @ \$152/week

Week One: Movies with New Rye Cinema (Rye Elementary) June 24-28, 2024

Week Two: Comic Books (Rye Elementary) July 1-5, 2024

(No camp 7/4/2024)

Week Three: Zoo-mendous (Rye Elementary) July 8-12, 2024

Week Four: Crustacean Exploration (New Castle) July 15-19, 2024

Week Five: Disco Fever (New Castle) July 22-26, 2024

Week Six: Olympic Escapades (Rye Elementary) July 29-August 2, 2024

Week Seven: Sports Week (Rye Elementary) August 5-9, 2024

Week Eight: Drip, Drip, Drop (Rye Elementary) August 12-16, 2024

Please see the 2024 Rye Recreation Summertime HoRYEzons detailed flyer to see a description of each week on the next page or contact Rye Recreation for more information.

THE WAVE CLUB



This after school program is open to 6th through 8th grade students from 3:00p.m. to 5:30p.m., Monday through Friday, at Rye Congregational Church.

The Wave Club is a space built for middle school teens to hang out with each other, and do their homework. There are activities and games to

enjoy weekly. The Wave Club has open enrollment, so it is never too late to sign up. If you have any questions, give us a call at Rye Recreation!

Location: The third floor of Rye Congregational Church, 580 Washington Road, Rye, NH

Dates: Monday through Friday (excluding school holidays and closings) until the last day of school, tentatively June 13, 2024.

Time: 3:00p.m.-5:30p.m.

Fee: \$125 per person

EVENTS

EASTER EGG DIG AT WALLIS SANDS STATE BEACH



Join Rye Recreation for their annual Easter Egg Dig at Wallis Sands State Beach. Youth ages 2 to 9 years old can dig in the sandy shore to find wooden eggs and turn them in for a candy surprise! The time of the event will be determined based on the tide charts for the day, so keep an eye out for details. We hope to see you there.

Ages: 2-5 and 6-9 years old

Date: Saturday, March 23, 2024

Location: 1050 Ocean Boulevard, Rye, NH

Fee: No charge

TOWN OF RYE MEMORIAL DAY



The Rye Memorial Day Ceremony is free and open to the public. Be sure to mark your calendars!

Location: Central Cemetery, 20 Central Road, Rye, NH

Date: Monday, May 27, 2024

Time: 9:00a.m.

Fee: No charge

COMING SOON TO RYE RECREATION

Rye Recreation has a few more programs up their sleeve for the spring and summer seasons. Keep an eye out for more information about these programs below on Rec Desk (rye.recdesk.com).

GRANITE STATE TRACK AND FIELD

Dennis Okyere will be hitting the track and field this spring with Rye Recreation! This program is offered for youth ages 9 to 14 years old.

MARINE SCIENCE CAMP

Rye Recreation will be hosting a Marine Science Camp for youth in Kindergarten through Eighth grades. Come learn about Beluga Whales, marine reptiles, sharks, bioacoustics, and much more!

LEARN TO PLAY PICKLEBALL

Looking to get out on the courts but do not know how to play? Rye Recreation will have you covered with a Learn-to-Play Pickleball Program in the warmer months with Coach Pete. Pete is a highly ranked pickleball player.

SUMMER SURF LESSONS

Rye Recreation will be working with Cinnamon Rainbows this summer to bring surfing lessons back to the Town of Rye for youth and adults.

SUMMER SOFTBALL CAMP

Want to have fun and just play some softball? Come learn skills and drills this summer with Sean Evans.



IS THE PROGRAM YOU WANT NOT OFFERED THROUGH RYE RECREATION? GIVE US A CALL!

(603) 964-6281

If you have reached the end of our newsletter and did not find the program you want, let us know! Rye Recreation is always looking for new programs to offer and members of the seacoast community to help us make them happen. Maybe you are interested in creating a cribbage group, want to learn more about a new interest, or would like to be a part of a walking group. Regardless of the reason, we would love to hear your thoughts!



2024 RYE RECREATION

SUMMERTIME HORYEZONS



Welcome back campers! Summer is almost here and we are very excited to announce this year's Summertime HoRYEZons week themes and dates! We have lots of fun activities, trips and entertainers lined up for everyone this year and cannot wait for camp to start! The first week of camp is June 24th and the last week of camp will be August 12th. Camp begins at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 4:30 p.m. This camp is for participants entering Grades K-6 Fall 2024.

Pre-Camp (8:00-8:30 a.m.) and Post-Camp (4:30-5:00 p.m.) will be offered for an additional \$25.00 per week and the participant(s) must be pre-registered for this option.

Pricing: Weeks 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8—Full-day Only @ \$190.00 per week.

Week 2 (no camp 7/4/24) Full-day only @ \$152.00 for the week

*** No half-day option is available this year.**

Week One: Movies With New Rye Cinema (Rye Elementary) June 24-28, 2024

Field Trip: Chunky's in Manchester, NH Come kick off the summer with a Rye movie mania week!

Week Two: Comic Books (Rye Elementary) July 1-5, 2024; no camp July 4th

Entertainer: A visit from Superheros Jump in to the story with Rye Rec! Dress up as your favorite comic book hero and jump into the story with Rye Rec.

Week Three: Zoo-mendous (Rye Elementary) July 8-12, 2024

Field Trip: The Stone Zoo in Stoneham, MA Put on your safari hat and take a trip into the jungle during a Zoo-mendous experience.

Week Four: Crustacean Exploration (New Castle) July 15-19, 2024

Entertainer: TBD Take a dip into the open sea's during our week at Great Island Commons.

Week Five: Disco Fever (New Castle) July 22-26, 2024

Field Trip: Roller World in Saugus, MA Slide back in time to the 1970's and catch your disco fever.

Week Six: Olympic Escapades (Rye Elementary) July 29-August 2, 2024

Entertainer: Storyteller and performer Judy Pancoast Help Rye Rec carry the torch into week six's Olympic Escapades. Play field games and listen to Judy Pancoast tell her encapsulating stories.

Week Seven: Sports Week (Rye Elementary) August 5-9, 2024

Field Trip: Portland Sea Dogs vs. Altoona Curve in Portland, ME Calling all sports fans!! Come represent your favorite team at Summertime HoRYEZons. Play sports and support the Portland Sea Dogs in Maine.

Week Eight: Drip, Drip, Drop (Rye Elementary) August 12-16, 2024

Entertainer: "Foam Party" with Sages Entertainment. Soak up a few more rays of sunshine during our last week of summer camp. Play water games and enjoy a Foam party with Sages Entertainment!



Please contact Rye Recreation at 603.964.6281 for more information.



Rye Public Library Events: Spring 2024

“Despite the forecast, live like it’s spring.” — Lilly Pulitzer.

Solar Eclipse Viewing Party

April 2024 presents a swath of North America with a unique opportunity. On Monday April 8th much of New England [including Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine] will be in the viewing track of a total solar eclipse. Rye Public Library will [weather permitting] host a viewing party on the Library Common. We have a supply of eclipse glasses [only view an eclipse with proper eye safety equipment] and will gather on the Common lawn at 3PM to offer a community viewing experience. Join Us!

Ongoing Activities:

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

Fourth Wednesday of each month at 2 pm and 6pm!

3/27 *Enchantment* by Katherine May

4/24 *Normal People* by Sally Rooney

5/24 *What is Home, Mum?* by Sabba Khan

Coloring for Adults: 11am on Mondays! Materials provided.	Military Book Discussions [New Time!]: First Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm. 3/2, 4/6, 5/4
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

Mar 11 <i>Jules</i> PG-13 87 min	Apr 15 <i>Alice, Darling</i> R 126 min
May 13 <i>Mr. Johnson</i> PG-13 100 min	

FRIENDS OF THE RYE PUBLIC LIBRARY

New members welcome!

The FRPL meet monthly on second Tuesdays at 6:00PM

Museum memberships supported by *The Friends*:

Children’s Museum of NH, Dover	Museum of Science, Boston MA
Children’s Museum and Theater of ME	New England Aquarium
Currier Museum of Art, Manchester	Ogunquit Museum of Art, ME
Historic New England	Peabody Essex Museum, Salem, MA
Friends of the Rye Public Library sponsored museum passes -- <i>continued</i>	
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Boston MA	Seacoast Science Center, Rye
Portland Museum of Art, Portland, ME	Strawbery Banke, Portsmouth
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 – Drop in every Wednesday from 11AM-1PM and/or Thursday evenings from 5PM to 7PM for help with questions about your electronic devices. 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 March – May 2024
 More details at ryepubliclibrary.org or (603) 964-9551**

<u><i>Ongoing Youth Programs</i></u>	
<p>Playtime Party Mondays 10:30am</p> <p>Sensory Play Tuesdays 10:30am 18m+</p> <p>Games and Snacks Tuesdays 3:00pm-4:00pm Grades 5+</p> <p>Story Time Fridays 10:30am</p> <p>Saturday Story Times 1st Saturday of the month 10:30am</p> <p>*Writers' Group 5:00pm-7:00pm Every other Wednesday Ages 16+</p> <p>Pokémon Night 1st Tuesday of the month 5:00pm-6:00pm</p>	<p>All Ages</p> <p>Lego Night 2nd and 3rd Tuesdays of the month 5:00pm-6:00pm</p> <p>All Ages</p> <p>Minecraft Night 4th Tuesday of the month 5:00pm-6:00pm</p> <p>All Ages</p> <p>*Dungeons and Dragons 4th Thursday of the month Grades 6+ 4:00pm-6:00pm</p> <p>Crafternoon 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month 3:00pm-4:00pm Grades 5+</p> <p>Teen Advisory Board 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month 4:00pm-5:00pm Grades 7+</p> <p>Graphic Novel Book Club 3rd Wednesday of the month 4:00pm-4:45pm Grades 4-6</p>
<p>YAttitudes Book Club 3rd Wednesday of the month 6:00pm-7:00pm</p>	

Grades 6+

Special Programs

Sticker-Palooza

Wednesday, March 6th

3:15pm-4:15pm

All Ages

Fun with AI

Thursday, March 7th

3:00pm-4:00pm

Grades 6+

***Saturday D&D One-Shot**

Saturday, March 9th

10:00am-12:00pm

Grades 3-5

Balloon Games

3:15pm-4:15pm

Wednesday, March 13th

All Ages

Cozy Baking

Thursday, March 14th

3:00pm-4:00pm

Grades 6+

Community Terrarium

Thursday, March 21st

3:15pm-4:15pm

Grades 6+

Fun with Bread

Wednesday, March 27th

3:00pm-4:00pm

***D&D One-Shot**

April 3rd

3:15pm-5:15pm

Grades 3-5

Splatter Painting

Wednesday, April 4th

3:00pm-4:00pm

Grades 6+

Giant Candy Land

Wednesday, April 10th

3:15pm-4:15pm

All Ages

Cozy Baking

Thursday, April 11th

3:00pm-4:00pm Grades 6+

Garden Club

3rd Saturday of the Month starting in April

10:00am-11:00am

All Ages

Spy School

Wednesday, May 1st

3:15pm-4:15pm

Grades 4 & 5

Guess the Flavor

Thursday, May 2nd

3:00pm-4:00pm

Grades 6+

Butterfly Habitat

Wednesday, May 8th

Check website for rain date

3:15pm-4:15pm

All Ages

Cozy Baking

Thursday, May 9th

3:00pm-4:00pm

Grades 6+

Flower Art

Thursday, May 16th

3:00pm-4:00pm

Grades 6+

Tadpoles

Wednesday, May 22nd

Check website for rain date

3:15pm-4:15pm

Grades 4-5

***D&D One-Shot**

May 29th

3:15pm-5:15pm

Grades 3-5

Rye Library Board of Trustees Message

It has been exciting over the last few months for the Trustees to share their vision and the plan for the Library Common, and we are delighted with all the positive feedback received. After many months of working with Terra Firma, one of the Seacoast's premier landscape architects, and drawing upon feedback from the public, including an Advisory Committee of interested individuals with whom we have been meeting for over 2 years, we have designed a space that includes a performance structure, seating areas for smaller gatherings, a larger terrace by the Library entrance, landscaping using native plants and new hardwood shade trees and a stonewall along the front of the property. This will be an iconic centerpiece for our town which will act as a magnet to bring people together, which is consistent with the nearly universal request people have made to create a more vibrant Town Center.

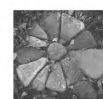
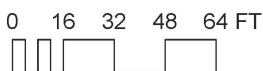
In support of this effort, the Trustees have moved forward with Warrant Article 09 seeking \$160,000 from taxpayers to assist with implementing the Library Common project. This represents approximately one-third of the estimated cost of the project and, for a home assessed at \$800,000, will result in a *one-time* tax increase of **\$39**. The remainder of the project will be funded by previous donations to the Library and managed by the Trustees along with newly raised private funds. We think that this is a reasonable ask given the transformative nature of this project and is an investment that will bear dividends for generations.

At the Deliberative Session, Warrant Article 09 was amended using language which might create the impression that the Library is seeking taxpayer support for the full cost of the project - \$500,000. This is entirely not the case. As noted above, only \$160,000 will come from taxes while all other costs of the project will be funded using existing funds previously gifted to the Library over many years and the fundraising efforts of the Trustees. We fear that the amendment, possibly compounded by some posts on social media, may confuse some voters. However, to be clear, absolutely ***no*** taxpayer funds beyond the \$160,000 appropriation will be requested to complete this project.

Please consider the actual request of Warrant Article 09 and support the creation of a more vibrant Town Center for all to enjoy. We will continue to share more specifics as we finalize details of the Library Common design as we work collaboratively with other interested parties to make this project a reality.

Thank you for your continued support of the Library and the Library Common that will transform the Center of Rye!

Rye Public Library Board of Trustees



terra firma
landscape architecture

163.a court street · portsmouth, nh 03801
office 603.430.8388 | terrence@terrafirmalandarch.com

Rye Fire Rescue Update



Lt. Chuck Gallant: As many of you are aware, longtime Rye Fire Lieutenant Chuck Gallant, passed away suddenly and unexpectedly at his home on Thursday, December 14, 2023, after working an overtime shift. Chuck had served with Rye Fire Rescue since 2003. He was well known for his compassion and generosity inside and outside the fire station. Chuck was the driving force behind the Rye Toy Bank, making sure children throughout the area had presents at Christmas time. He also organized the annual Holiday Parade, taught CPR to the public and much more. We will always remember Chuck's serving spirit! Our continued thoughts and prayers are with Chuck's family as they deal with this loss. Finally, we would like to again thank the Rye residents and employees who reached out to offer their condolences in so many ways. We are still humbled by your compassionate response.

Lifeguard Courses Offered: How about spending the summer on the beach! Do you know anyone who might be interested in being one of Rye's lifeguards at the beach this summer? If you do, please pass along this information! During the summer season, Rye lifeguards stand watch at Sawyers, Cable and Wallis Beaches. Rye Fire Rescue is conducting 2 separate lifeguard courses in March and April. The course fee is \$200 however reimbursement is available for those who work as a Rye Lifeguard for the upcoming season! Those interested please reach out to Lifeguard Coordinator Becca O'Brien by phone at 603-674-5020 or by email at robrien@town.rye.nh.us.

Mark Cotreau
Fire Chief

COURSES LIFEGUARDING HOSTED BY RYE FIRE & RESCUE

COURSE DETAILS

- PRE COURSE WORK REQUIRED (ONLINE - 6 HRS)
- FRIDAY EVENING AT THE POOL: SWIM TEST, INTRODUCTIONS
- ALL DAY SATURDAY LEARNING SAVES, FIRST AID & CPR
- ALL DAY SUNDAY BACK-BOARDING, WRITTEN TEST AND FINAL IN-POOL SCENARIOS



COURSE DATES

- MARCH 22-24 SEACOAST YMCA
- APRIL 12-14 SEACOAST YMCA



COST & INFO

- \$200 LG COURSE FEE
- RECERTIFICATION/REVIEW COURSE AVAILABLE FOR \$150
- REIMBURSEMENT OF COURSE FEE AVAILABLE IF WORK AS A RYE BEACH LIFEGUARD DURING 2024 SEASON

Robrien@town.rye.nh.us
603-674-5020

Public Works Update

Best Management Practices (BMP) for Lawn Care: Before we know it, another spring growing season will be upon us. A number of common lawn care practices can have an adverse effect on ground and surface water quality. Excess nutrients (including nitrogen and phosphorous found in fertilizers) that run off lawns into local waterbodies can trigger algal blooms that cloud the water and rob it of oxygen. There are a number of alternatives to the use of chemical fertilizers. Rather than mowing and collecting grass clippings the use of a **mulching** mower will break down clippings adding organic material

to the soil. **Aeration** of compacted soils facilitates air, water and nutrients to more effectively reach the root systems. The following are a number of easy BMP's for creating and maintaining healthy lawns that are both attractive and safe for the environment.

1. **Choose the Right Grass Seed:** Choose varieties that require less maintenance. In New England mixes should have a high percentage of turf type grasses such as tall, compact, and fine leaf fescues. Mixes should have low percentages of Kentucky Bluegrass and/or perennial ryegrass. Up to 10% of total seed mix can be white clover.
2. **Don't Overwater:** One inch of water per week is typically enough. Overwatering can lead to runoff and

leaching of contaminants into the groundwater.

3. **Test Your Soil:** Many times, adjusting the soil pH with lime or organics are the only treatment needed. To have your soil tested contact extension.unh.edu/programs/soil-testing-services.
4. **Mow Smart:** Mow grass to a three-inch height or higher. Never cut more than one third of the blade length. Leave clippings on the lawn to provide a slow release nutrient and never dispose of clippings in drainage areas, storm drains, wetland or water bodies.
5. **Determine How Much to Apply:** Measure the area to be treated with fertilizer and only apply the amount recommended. Save remaining

Public Works Update

(continued from page 24)

fertilizer for later application in a water and air tight container, or share excess with others. Apply less than four times per year.

- 6. Know When and Where to Apply:** Apply no earlier than spring green-up and no later than mid-September. Avoid applying fertilizers mid-summer when growth is dormant or before a heavy rain when much will be washed away.
- 7. Choose the Right Fertilizer:** Select fertilizers recommended by your soil test, and select brands with low or no phosphorous unless your soil test indicates otherwise. Slow release formulations (greater than 50% water insoluble nitrogen) are generally preferred. Organic fertilizers are typically slow release and contain micronutrients that are beneficial to soil.

Rye Snow Plowing by the Numbers

- Plow Routes - 7
- Miles of Road – 45
- Average Tons of Salt Used Each Storm - 47
- Pounds of Salt Applied per Lane Mile – 450
- Average Yearly Number of Call Out Winter Events Anticipated – 21
- Cost of Salt per Ton - \$72 Untreated / \$87 Treated
- Average Tons of Salt Used Each Year – 897

All numbers are based upon historic information compiled from 2011 to 2023.

Winter: So far this winter the Public Works staff has responded to 8 weather events. Either snowstorms, freezing rain or icing events. The DPW responded to 3 astronomical high tide events associated with high winds and rain, causing local flooding that resulted in significant and extensive damage along the coast. Emergency repairs were made on Harbor Road and to the seawall/revetment along Harbor Road. The seawall/revetment was compromised at Sawyers beach and 1A and needed rebuilding twice. Significant sections of the sidewalk along Ocean Boulevard received extensive damage and will remain closed pending permanent repairs.

Thank you for giving our plow drivers room to operate. Remember to slow down as the plow approaches in the oncoming direction and don't crowd the plow. Plow operators make

numerous stops and back frequently so use caution. The material spreaders which the DPW uses to treat the roads deposit salt out of the rear of the trucks so please keep back 50 feet.

Remember to remove snow and ice accumulation off vehicles before driving. Snow and ice falling from moving cars or trucks creates hazardous driving conditions and could result in fines. Early removal of snow after a snowstorm is the best way to prevent ice from accumulating and eliminate falling ice hazards.

RECYCLING BY THE NUMBERS: Congratulations on being such active recyclers! Your recycling efforts have had a positive impact on the environment and town expenditure. Here are some weights and conversions from 2022 **YOU** recycled and some comparable positive environmental impacts. Recycling isn't just good for your wallet, it's great for the environment, saving energy and resources.

- 19,680 pounds of aluminum cans Rye recycled conserved enough energy to run a TV for 1,141,440 hours.
- 37,000 pounds of plastics Rye recycled saved 1,944 gallons of gasoline.
- 20,444 pounds of electronics saved enough energy to power 575 homes for one day.
- 338,500 pounds of glass Rye recycled saved 2,026 trash bags from ending up in a landfill.
- 92,102 pounds of scrap metal Rye recycled conserved 286,232 pounds of iron ore.
- 192,102 pounds of paper Rye recycled saved 4,316 trees.
- 6,250 pounds of tires Rye recycled conserved 149 gallons of oil.

The materials recycled were sent to market to be remanufactured into new products. Recycling uses much less energy than making products from virgin resources, and using less resources means fewer greenhouse gases emitted into the atmosphere. Through your recycling of these materials and others you avoided about 3,193,858 pounds of carbon dioxide emissions. This is the equivalent of removing 323 passenger cars from the road for an entire year. **Data was calculated using U.S. EPA Waste Reduction Model.

Jason Rucker
Public Works Director

Conservation Commission Update

The Rye Conservation Commission (RCC) continues to fulfill its obligation under NH RSA 36-A to oversee proper utilization and protection of the natural resources and the watershed resources of our town.

The **Goss Farm**, in accordance with the agricultural easement governing it, is productively utilized by leasing both the farm field and hoop house, as well as by the full use of resident community gardens. The owners of the Carriage House restaurant, following a successful first year, have signed up to continue to grow produce for their popular local restaurant. The twenty-four community garden plots, while full in 2023, can be expanded to accommodate interested residents as space allows.

Collaborating with **Taking Action for Wildlife**, an initiative with UNH Extension, RCC participants took a course and designed a project to manage Goss Farm's open fields to actively attract pollinators. The project's implementation earned the distinction with NH Butterfly as "one of the best places in Southeast New Hampshire to observe butterflies this past summer."

The RCC erected a set of gourds to attract Purple Martins to the farm, which is now home to a Purple Martin colony. The new colony and successful nesting were recently highlighted in NH Audubon's winter edition of the Afield magazine and came with a commitment from Audubon to sponsor the next tier of six nesting gourds. Good news for Purple Martins on the Seacoast.

Also at Goss Farm, RCC members grow and pick blueberries and sell them to fund future projects at the farm.

The new well that was dug at the farm in 2022 and funded by the 2021 Goss Farm Fair proceeds is fully operational. The well enabled the farm to stop using town water supplied by the Rye Water District, and contributed to taking pressure off the town's water supply. The organic crops are now watered with unchlorinated water.

When you visit the Goss Farm, take note of the two historical markers that have been installed: A rough stone, donated by Greg Bauer, has a bronze plaque that sets forth the history of the Conservation Commission's acquisition of the property for the town. The second

(See Conservation Update, page 26)

Conservation Update

(continued from page 25)

is a historical marker contributed by the Rye 400 to commemorate the Goss Farm as the oldest known salt marsh farm on the eastern coast of the United States.

RCC used grant monies to develop and conduct the October 24th **Connect to Protect** workshop. Over 50 participants increased their knowledge about natural resources in the town, climate change impacts, water quality issues, the Natural Resource Inventory (NRI) and watershed connectivity beyond town boundaries. From the headwaters of the Salmon Falls, Cocheco, and Lamprey Rivers to the marshes of Hampton and Rye, 52 communities in New Hampshire and Maine call this watershed *home*.

RCC also continues to work on invasive plant control yearly. Phase IV of the town forest is complete. Primary targets were Japanese Knotweed, Glossy Buckthorn, Oriental Bittersweet, Burning Bush and Japanese Barberry. Phragmites control for 2023 is complete at Wallis Salt Marsh east and west. Invasive control continues at Awcomin Marsh, Goss Farm and the Junkins Family Conservation land.

RCC continues its mission to open new, and maintain existing, trails on land it manages. Focus areas include the Cedar Run and Jim Raynes Forest areas off South Road, Brown Lane Farm off West Road, and the Town Forest. Depending on the property easement, permitted activities include hiking, bicycling, hunting, and dog walking. There is further information on the town website.

The RCC, after hearing public input, decided not to pursue at this time public parking on the beautiful 3.6 acre property known as the Junkins Family Conservation Land on Berry's Brook/Seavey Creek that was purchased in 2022 with funds from the Land Acquisition Bond.

The RCC is also working with the Rye Water District and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in permitting an exploratory well on Brown Lane Farm as a potential source of water for the Town of Rye.

Rye's commitment to remaining a semi-rural community has contributed to making our town a uniquely desirable place to live. Residents are pivotal

partners with RCC in protecting our town's scenic vistas, intact wildlife corridors and habitat, greenways, and fragile water resources. Thank you, Rye residents.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Oliver, Member
Rye Conservation Commission

Rye Energy Committee Update

Rye Community Power (RCP) was approved by voters in the March 2022 Town Meeting and launched in April of 2023 using the Community Power Coalition of NH (CPCNH) as our power supply partner. RCP is self-funded entirely by its rates and no taxes were or will be used to implement or operate RCP.

Rye Community Power has been quite successful for our town! Over the first eight months of the program, Rye Community Power:

- Saved Rye customers over \$260,000 over Eversource default energy supply costs
- Supplied over 10 GWH of electricity to its customers
- 98.3% of customers use Granite Basic, 0.9% opted-up to more renewable energy products
- 0.7% opted out of RCP while near 4 times as many (2.7%) have opted-in to RCP from other suppliers

CPCNH is a community governed nonprofit, with over 50 member towns, cities and counties, that currently operates 14 community power programs that serve 16 NH communities. A dozen more programs will launch in March and up to 20 more programs are on track to launch this summer. This will increase the buying power of CPCNH.

RCP is voluntary and customers have more choices than before. Customers can visit the RCP website www.communitypowernh.gov/rye or call the customer service number 1-866-603-POWR (7697) to opt-up to a different product from Granite Basic if they would like to reduce their carbon footprint, or if they would like to opt-out of RCP and go back to Eversource or to a competitive supplier. There is no fee to change products or to opt-in or -out.

CPCNH sets the rate for its

operating community power programs on the same schedule as the utility rate periods. CPCNH rates **have always been lower than the utility default rates**. The Community Power Coalition of NH has the lowest rates in the state, beating all 3 investor-owned utilities, the NH Electric Coop, and the broker-served community power programs.

New rates will take effect as of the February meter reading. The new rates are 8.1¢/kWh for Granite Basic, 8.4 ¢/kWh for Granite Plus, 9.4¢/kWh for Clean 50, 12.4 ¢/kWh Clean 100, These will be effective through at least July 31.

CPCNH is working through details to offer power for customers who have solar installations and net metering. For the time being, we advise those customers to purchase their power from Eversource to maintain your net metering credits. At this time, Eversource is not complying with the state rules permitting net metering as they are not supplying the data needed for Rye Community Power to properly credit net metering customers. We will get the word out to Rye customers when this has been resolved. Meanwhile, you can visit www.communitypowernh.gov/rye to read the Frequently Asked Questions to learn more about this.

The Energy Committee is taking part in Rye long term goals, by actively participating in the Master Plan process and has submitted an update to the latest plan.

We are continuing to support local solar installations. At this time Rye Elementary School is finalizing the details to install solar panels on the roof to offset most of their electricity requirements. The Rye Junior High array has already produced great savings, especially as it produces power during the peak hours of consumption.

Additionally, we are also developing details on a potential solar farm at the Breakfast Hill Landfill. There are many approaches to this potential development, including the new IRA law tax incentives. Exeter is in the process of a similar installation.

The REC continues our consulting activities in town, for potential HVAC upgrades, for the Library and EV/Hybrid vehicle purchases the town.

For those interested in more details of our activities, please join us at the Town Hall, on the second Tuesday of the month at 3:00 pm.

Sewer Commission Update: BRIC Grant Awarded

The Town of Rye Sewer System consists of 6.9 miles of gravity sewer, three pump stations, one of which is in an existing FEMA 100-year designated flood zone, and 3.5 miles of force main that directly abuts the Atlantic Ocean, which runs through the town of North Hampton and discharges to the Town of Hampton sewer system. The Sewer Commission identified early on that this critical infrastructure was becoming increasingly vulnerable to environmental impacts.

Priority was given to identify funding sources to assist with the development of a plan to mitigate potential hazards in the quest of becoming more resilient. Late in 2022, a FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Funding Application was submitted. The goal of the grant proposal was to engage an engineering firm to develop a sewer vulnerability assessment, that would evaluate the impacts associated with climate change, and develop specific goals and options for increasing infrastructure resiliency.

The proposed scope of services was as follows: Step 1: Inventory existing sewer infrastructure; determine existing conditions, location, past impacts from extreme weather events, etc. Step 2: Determine extent of flood risk to existing infrastructure using sea level rise and groundwater rise data projections as well as projected increases in extreme precipitation derived from the New Hampshire Coastal Flood Risk Guidance Part 1: Science. Step 3: Using data from Step 2, determine the existing infrastructure's tolerance for flood risk and areas most vulnerable to damage or disruption from flooding. Step 4: Identify and evaluate adaptation strategies for mitigating flood risk to existing infrastructure. Step 5: Prioritize adaptation strategies for future implementation. The intent of the grant proposal was to result in a complete project application for future funding opportunities to support the mitigation activities derived from the assessment and to support Rye's Hazard Mitigation Plan (2022).

The New Hampshire Department of Safety, Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management

(HSEM) recently approved the grant proposal. The Federal portion of the grant is \$55,500.00 and the local cost share is \$18,500.00, of which will be satisfied through the sewer budget. Shortly after being awarded the grant, two back to back weather events on January 10 and 13, 2024, further drove home the need for the assessment. Both pumps at Church Road and Jenness Beach Pump Station ran continuously for over 24 hours each day to keep up with the flow. The second storm event left the access to the Church Road Pump Station flooded, Jenness Beach Pump Station surrounded by flood water and within feet of our sewer line on Route 1A in North Hampton other utilities were exposed and a water line broke.

The timing of the award could not have been better, as on January 29, 2024 the Sewer Commission was notified that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is requiring communities to develop major storm and flood event adaptation plans as part of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting process. The scope of services for the sewer vulnerability assessment should satisfy this mandatory requirement, otherwise the Sewer users would have had to bear 100% of the cost.

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.

**Rye ♻️ Recycling – Let's
do it the
"Rye-ght" way!**

The Recycling Education Committee (REC) continues its work of promoting recycling. Because the national recycling rate of 33% is similar to that of Rye, it may be that people have lost focus on the vital importance of this environmental action.

In previous publicity, REC has urged residents to do online research of

success stories that make recycling work. Much of this success has to do with making recycling profitable for the businesses that buy the materials.

There is no federal mandate to recycle, only EPA guidelines, so it falls to the 20,000 communities in the nation to develop their own initiatives and programs. States vary in their support for recycling.

At the Rye Transfer Station, some of the materials earn the town money and others require the town to pay to have it removed. Far too much material is not clean and cannot be recycled including wood, glass, etc. Please consult the DPW Director's statistics on recycling in the Town Report for 2023.

The Swap Shop opened in 1987 and has been serving Rye residents well since then. Its management was taken over by the Recycling Committee when the Select Board established it in 2014. Many thanks to volunteers who keep it cleaned out of large unwanted items. REC asks residents to please abide by the sign on the outside of the shop. While the REC does not have statistics on how much material the shop has kept out of the landfill, the amount each year is substantial.

Residents are welcome to attend REC's monthly meetings on the third Wednesday of the month at 6:30p.m. upstairs in the Rye Public Library.

Alex Herlihy, Chair
Rye Recycling Education Committee

School Board News

Rye schools have been honored again! U.S. News and World Reports recently named Rye Elementary School the #1 elementary school and Rye Junior High School the #4 middle school in the State of New Hampshire. We join in recognizing all the excellent work our administrators, staff and students do each day.

In crafting a vision of how our students will continue to be successful learners, the School Board is grateful to students, staff, parents, and community members who have volunteered their time to help craft our "Portrait of a Learner". Our community established

School Board News

(continued from page 27)

the aim to cultivate learners who are kind, creative, responsible, persistent and collaborative (among other characteristics.) This document, which can be found on the district website in the most recent SAU50 Sensation, will inform our district's practices and instruction for a long time to come.

All this could not be done without our vibrant community! The Board thanks the Rye 400 Committee, Rye Public Library, the Historical Society, the Driftwood Club, the Conservation Commission, and Rye Rec, in particular, for their extraordinary support of RES and RJH this year. With events such as musical performances, planting 400 trees in Rye, and presentations on indigenous peoples, farming, Rye history, and so much more, our community has fostered the educational process with great energy and generosity. Together, we celebrated the Third Annual Wedgewood Festival this fall at RJH (sporting its new, fully installed roof).

The Board looks forward to the installation of the new RES playground by the end of the spring term. We deeply appreciate all donations toward the playground from town residents, including a generous contribution following the Rye 400 Auction. We are further grateful to Rye 400 for inviting 4th through 8th graders to hear Dan Brown speak about his passion for writing and his success as a writer, which was truly inspirational for our budding writers. Indeed it has been an inspiring year.

Susan Cole Ross, Secretary
Rye School Board

Rye Historical Society News

Discover Rye's History: Join Us for a Season of Exploration!

As the warmth of spring beckons, the Rye Historical Society eagerly prepares to reopen its doors for another season of discovery and celebration of our town's rich heritage. Mark your calendars for **Saturday, May 4th**, as we invite you to join us as we kick off our

season with the reopening of our museum, welcoming visitors every Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to noon.

But that's not all! This year, we are thrilled to offer an array of engaging programs made possible by the generous support of our members. Here's a glimpse of what's in store:

1. **April 11 - 6:30 p.m. at Rye Public Library:** Join us for the *Granite State Gallery: New Hampshire Art and Artists through the Years*. Explore the vibrant tapestry of New Hampshire's artistic heritage, from the majestic landscapes that inspired renowned painters to the diverse array of talent that has shaped our state's cultural landscape.
2. **May 23 - 6:30 p.m. at Rye Public Library:** Dive into the fascinating world of genealogy with *Genealogical Gold in Town Books and Reports*. Learn how to unlock the secrets of your family's past as we explore the wealth of genealogical treasures hidden within town books and reports.
3. **September 19 - 6:30 p.m. at Rye Public Library:** Join us for an intriguing exploration of *The Third Life of Herbert Philbrick, author of I Led Three Lives*. Delve into the captivating story of Herbert Philbrick and his remarkable journey from undercover FBI agent to acclaimed author.
4. **October 17 - 7 p.m. at Rye Public Library:** Discover the fascinating history of *Parsons Field - From Pasture Land to Community Recreation*. Trace the evolution of Parsons Field from its humble beginnings as pasture and the community cry to turn it into a beloved community recreation space.

In addition to these exciting programs, we invite you to join us for our popular **historic trolley tours** and **boat tours to the Isles of Shoals**, where you can experience the beauty and history of our coastal region from a unique perspective. And let's not forget our **member parties**, where you can connect with fellow history enthusiasts and celebrate our shared passion for preserving Rye's heritage.

As we embark on another season of exploration and discovery, we extend a warm invitation to all to visit the Rye Historical Society, where the stories of our past come alive. Together,

let's celebrate the unique history and vibrant community that make Rye such a special place to call home.

We look forward to welcoming you!

Warm regards,
Ginna Macdonald, President
Board of Directors

Rye Water District News

We welcomed much more precipitation in 2023 compared to previous years, which reduced some stress on our water system, but it was still a very busy year for the Rye Water District. This coming year will likely be even busier.

Annual Meeting: The Rye Water District (RWD) Annual Meeting will be held on March 23, 2024, starting at 10:00a.m. at the Rye Junior High School. Unlike the Town and School District, all Rye Water District business is conducted via the Annual Meeting. Only those attending the meeting and served by RWD have a vote on the district budget, proposed rules, and other matters. Please attend so you can have a say in how RWD operates.

This year, there are seven total warrant articles (the 7th just allows for the potential of addressing additional business as needed). The first two deal with electing commissioners and other officers of the district. We're sorry to see him go, but Ralph Hickson, the current chair of the District, has decided not to seek re-election after countless years of dedicated service to our town. Don't forget that before his time as a Water District Commissioner, Ralph served as a School Board member for many years and continues driving the Senior Serve van weekly. Volunteers like Ralph are the backbone of our town, and we will miss him!

Those interested in becoming a commissioner must attend the annual meeting to be nominated (self-nominations are welcome).

Article 5 is the District's proposed budget for 2024, which is \$2,190,304. This budget represents an approximately 1.5% increase from last year's budget, which is quite modest.

Article 4 asks the members of the District to raise and appropriate

Water District News *(continued from page 28)*

\$30,000 and to place the money in the Storage Tank Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund. The water district adds money to these reserve funds to smooth out expenditures over the long term (and to avoid tax spikes). This is similar to what the Town does for replacing things like fire engines and other large but predictable expenses.

Article 3 contains the largest request by the district. It asks the members of the district to raise and appropriate \$15,950,000 to construct a central water treatment plant. This treatment plant is designed to treat all three of our current wells for different reasons, hence the reason for constructing a central facility. The facility would reduce the iron, manganese, and total organic compounds from the Bailey Brook and Cedar Run wells. This is important because the levels of these compounds coming out of the Cedar Run Well are high enough that we only use this well in emergency situations. Reducing these compounds would allow us to have substantially more water to serve the district.

The proposed treatment facility will also reduce the current levels of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, collectively known as PFAS, PFOS, and PFOA chemicals, in anticipation of a new requirement from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The proposed EPA rules would lower the maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) to 4 parts per trillion (ppt). These chemicals—known as “forever chemicals”—are linked to a wide range of negative health outcomes. Only our Garland well produces water with PFAS levels slightly higher than the proposed MCL, but as our highest-producing well, it is critical that we bring this well into compliance when the new regulations are implemented to ensure that if our drinking water contains any PFAS/PFOA at all, it is at levels below which it can be detected by current technology.

The Commissioners know that the almost \$16 million price tag can be eye-popping. However, we have been able to take advantage of some unique financing options. The District met the eligibility requirements for a series of low-interest loans from the New Hampshire Drinking Water Groundwater Trust Fund. The Commissioners had been trying to secure one of these loans

for almost 10 years, but we never ranked high enough on the eligibility list because our water was considered fairly high quality, and we were not perceived to have enough financial need. However, our E. coli contamination at the end of 2022 had one positive outcome. It allowed us to move up the list to become eligible for these loans. We are convinced that we will not have this opportunity again for the foreseeable future. This prompted the need for the warrant article this year because we must accept the main loan (\$10 million) by May 2024.

We are eligible for three different lines of funding from the state's Groundwater Trust Fund, as follows:

- ⇒ Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund Loan for \$4,950,000 with a projected interest rate of 3.5%
- ⇒ Drinking Water State Revolving Fund—Emerging Contaminants (PFAS and Manganese) for \$1,000,000 with 100% forgiveness
- ⇒ Drinking Water State Revolving Fund for \$10,000,000 with a 2.8% interest rate and 10% forgiveness (\$1 million)

As you can see, these are exceptionally favorable loan terms (likely a 20-year loan period). Of the total amount of \$15,950,000, we will be eligible to have \$2 million forgiven with the remaining loans at an average interest rate of just over 3%. We are also in the process of searching for additional funding, including federal funding, which we anticipate becoming available after the EPA rules are enacted.

Informational Meeting: To learn more about the proposed treatment plant and anything else about the water district, please join us at Rye Junior High School at 6:30 PM on Monday, March 18th.

Other Water District News: There's lots more going on with Rye Water District. We highlight some key items below.

Chlorine

We hear many concerns about the level of chlorine in our water. Here's some good news! NHDES permitted RWD, as of the end of November 2023, to lower the free chlorine residual requirement from 1.4 ppm to .6 ppm due to new pipe configurations on Garland Road and a new process control building. These building projects were

completed by the end of September, and we're already seeing the payoff with a significant reduction in chlorine levels. We hope you notice the change.

Water Quality

1. The district has completed the required sampling procedures by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) for lead and copper since the mandate to chlorinate. Chlorine tends to cause lead and copper to precipitate out of the water supply. Our samples have been at the non-detect levels or below the required MCL for lead and copper for the past year. Therefore, the District's sampling plan has been reduced to 20 samples once per year from 40 samples twice per year.
2. The district has completed its required monthly sampling by NHDES for bacteria at all three wells. No bacteria has been detected since the mandate to chlorinate. Although not required by NH DES, RWD will continue sampling monthly for E. coli and coliform.
3. As required by EPA, the district is documenting data on all service connections for the presence of lead and or galvanized water supply pipes. Our staff and consultant are reviewing all data on file to determine how many properties need a visual inspection to verify the service line type. EPA has set a date of 10/16/2024 for submittal of service line inventory. NHDES awarded the District a \$40,000 grant to help fund the project's cost. Thus far, we have not found any lead service lines, and we do not anticipate finding any.
4. We will conduct a pilot study to help determine the best filtration process for iron and manganese at our proposed water treatment plant. NHDES has provided a \$50,000 grant to help fund this study.

Water Supply

1. The district is moving forward with its investigation of a new water source off of West Rd. on the Brown Conservation Easement. We are collaborating with the Rye Conservation Commission to ensure we minimize any adverse impact from drilling the test wells. By the time you're reading this newsletter, we should have a good sense of whether we have found a viable water source.
2. Conservation is one of our most

Water District News

(continued from page 29)

important sources of water. Therefore, we remind you to use water wisely. Unnecessary loss from irrigation systems, garden hoses, toilets, and other outlets are, in many cases, our biggest culprits of water loss. While 2023 was a wet year, it is a safe bet that we could see drought or near-drought conditions again in the near future.

For More Information:

Again, please join us on **Monday, March 18th, at 6:30 PM at the Rye Jr. High School** for an informational meeting on the proposed treatment plant and other updates.

Please attend our **annual meeting on Saturday, March 23rd, at 10:00 AM at the Rye Jr. High School** to elect a new commissioner and weigh in on important district matters.

As always, our monthly meetings are open to the public. The meetings are on the first Wednesday of each month at 9:00 AM at the Water District office located at 60 Sagamore Road.

Rye Water District Commissioners,
Ralph Hickson, Chair
Scott Marion
Rosalie Lopresto-Drakatos

Report from the New Town Historian

I hope I am the bearer of good news with this first article for the newsletter.

In January the Select Board appointed me to be the Town's official Town Historian. I have been serving informally in this role through the Rye Historical Society for most of this century. I appreciate the Select Board creating this position because it provides a broader platform with which to share Rye history, engage with the public, and seek Rye history information and stories from residents.

Thanks to my work with the Rye Junior High School in 2023, I have created a website, Ryehistoryrocks.com, that contains over 80 topic narratives on different aspects of our past as well as short video narratives from different historical sites around town. I also encourage you to peruse the Rye

Historical Society's website under the "resources" tab. All annual Rye Town Reports from 1869 to the present are online. The Rye Public Library also has all the published books about Rye's history.

I have learned much about our town's past from researching a new town history which will be published this year: *Rye, New Hampshire: A Town at the Crossroads of American History*. Further info on the book can be found on my website.

I hope these three recent Rye history topics may be of interest:

A. On Jan. 21st, Rye made the front page of the Sunday New York Times in a feature article about the Boston Post Cane project starting in 1909. The newspaper gave out 700 of these canes to towns in eastern New England, including Rye, to honor the oldest resident in the town. That tradition continues in Rye and over 500 of the original towns.

B. At a recent Select Board meeting something came up about land and conservation that reminded me of the plot plan that was made for the Wedgwood Farm in 1918 at 19 Lang Rd where I grew up. This important document shows all abutters and two non contiguous lots, common for most farms - one for firewood and one at the shore line for harvesting salt marsh hay. My brothers and I donated the Wedgwood four acre wood lot to the town deep in the woods off Washington Road, but as with most former farms, locating the salt marsh plot is a mystery.

C. The Town Deliberative Session on Feb. 3rd was a 9-5 affair; some of us were there for the duration and enjoyed the Civic Fest in the Cafe sponsored by the Civic League. This event marked 25 years since Rye adopted the SB2 model in which Town Meeting is broken up into two sessions - one for deliberation and one for voting. While we now have far more people voting in town elections, it is still only about 30% of all registered voters, a stark contrast to national elections. More efforts at citizen engagement are needed.

What is the best way for me as town historian and Rye residents to engage in conversations about Rye history?

1. For inquiries or to offer new perspectives, contact me directly by email at alexherlihy@comcast.net. This contact could lead to a phone call

and/or in person meeting to continue the conversation.

2. Look at my website and contact me with any questions and/or suggestions.

3. Attend public programs sponsored by the Rye Historical Society on town history such as one on Oct 17th on the history of the Parsons Park (field and woods) property.

4. As Town Historian I will be sponsoring programs as well.

5. While I am not on social media, I understand that many are and that history is discussed. If people who post opinions about Rye history or beyond in a good faith effort, revealing their sources, that is a good thing. But if their comments are driven by an agenda of partisan national ideology, I don't see how that furthers open dialogue about controversial topics.

6. Difference of opinion - You may not always like what I say or write, but I ask you to please not "throw the baby out with the bath water." If the Select Board makes a decision you don't like or the New York Times prints something you disagree with, does it make sense to vote out the Select Board or cancel the subscription? Why not write or call me, or get on the Select Board agenda to discuss your issue and write to the editor or the reporter at the newspaper?

I approach history with an open mind with the goal of examining all of our past and whenever possible consult multiple sources to get closer to the facts, the truth of what happened in the past. This includes the very recent past such as the 25th anniversary of the Town Deliberative Session on Feb. 3rd.

In this new position I will make a good faith effort to report and comment on what my research reveals. I ask that others do the same and for all of us to listen to different perspectives and try to learn from them. There are countless efforts like this going on in our country right now and that is the path to finding common ground. As to the national partisan divide, if we follow the above path, we don't have to live like this.

I welcome your participation and suggestions in how I might make this new position in our town government. Finally, I am especially interested in working with people younger than me so that they will take over this position in the future.

Alex Herlihy
Town Historian

Town of Rye Board Meetings

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Selectmen's meetings are held in the Rye Town Hall Courtroom (first floor), 10 Central Road. Other board meetings are also held at Rye Town Hall, 10 Central Rd., unless otherwise noted. Because meeting schedules are subject to change, check the bulletin board at Town Hall or the Town website: www.town.rye.nh.us for up-to-date information.

March 2024							1	2
3	4	5 1:00 p.m. Master Plan Steering Committee 3:30 p.m. Energy Committee	6 9:00 a.m. Rye Water District 60 Sagamore Road 5:30 p.m. Town Center Committee 7:00 p.m. Zoning Board of Adjustment	7 5:30 p.m. Heritage Commission	8	9		
10 Daylight Savings Time Begins	11 6:30 p.m. Select Board	12 8:00 a.m. Sewer Commission 8:00 a.m.- 7:00 p.m. Town Election Rye Elementary School	13 5:30 p.m. Historic District Commission	14 6:30 p.m. Conservation Commission	15	16		
17	18 5:30 p.m. Beach Committee	19 6:00 p.m. Planning Board 6:30 p.m. Recycling Education Committee	20 9:00 a.m. Rye Water District Work Session 60 Sagamore Road	21 1:00 p.m. Cemetery Trustees	22	23 10:00 a.m. RWD Annual Meeting		
24	25 6:30 p.m. Select Board	26	27	28	29	30		
31 Easter	April 2024							
1	2 1:00 p.m. Master Plan Steering Committee	3 9:00 a.m. Rye Water District 60 Sagamore Road 5:30 p.m. Town Center Committee 7:00 p.m. Zoning Board of Adjustment	4 5:30 p.m. Heritage Commission	5	6			
7	8 6:30 p.m. Select Board	9 8:00 a.m. Sewer Commission 3:00 p.m. Energy Committee	10 5:30 p.m. Historic District Commission	11 6:30 p.m. Conservation Commission	12	13		
14	15 5:30 p.m. Beach Committee	16 5:00 p.m. Mosquito Control Commission 6:00 p.m. Planning Board 6:30 p.m. Recycling Education Committee	17 9:00 a.m. Rye Water District Work Session 60 Sagamore Road	18 1:00 p.m. Cemetery Trustees	19	20		
21	22 6:30 p.m. Select Board	23	24	25	26	27		
28	29	30	May 2024					
1 9:00 a.m. Rye Water District 60 Sagamore Road 5:30 p.m. Town Center Committee 7:00 p.m. Zoning Board of Adjustment	2 5:30 p.m. Heritage Commission	3	4					
5	6	7 1:00 p.m. Master Plan Steering Committee	8 5:30 p.m. Historic District Commission	9 6:30 p.m. Conservation Commission	10	11		
12 Mother's Day	13 6:30 p.m. Select Board	14 8:00 a.m. Sewer Commission 3:00 p.m. Energy Committee	15 9:00 a.m. Rye Water District Work Session 60 Sagamore Road	16 1:00 p.m. Cemetery Trustees	17	18		
19	20 7:00 p.m. Beach Committee	21 5:00 p.m. Mosquito Control Commission 6:00 p.m. Planning Board 6:30 p.m. Recycling Education Committee	22	23	24	25		
26	27 Memorial Day Town Offices Closed	28 6:30 p.m. Select Board	29 9:00 a.m. Rye Water District	30	31			

Library Trustees, first Thursday every month
5:30 pm at the Library

Additional Civic Meetings: Rye Lions Club, First Wednesday every month, 7 pm at the Rye Library
Friends of the Library, second Tuesday every month, 7pm at the Library

My Voting Notes

Moderator, 2 years (1)

Selectman, 3 years (1)

Treasurer, 3 years (1)

Cemetery Trustee, 3 years (1)

Library Trustee, 3 years (2)

Library Trustee, 2 years (1)

Trustee of Trust Funds, 3 years (1)

Budget Committee, 3 years (2)

Budget Committee, 1 year (1)

Planning Board, 1 year (1)

Planning Board, 2 years (1)

Planning Board, 3 years (2)

Zoning Board of Adjustment, 3 years (2)

Sewer Commissioner, 3 years (1)

Supervisor of the Checklist, 6 years (1)

Article 3.

Amendment 1. Yes No

Amendment 2. Yes No

Amendment 3. Yes No

Amendment 4. Yes No

Amendment 5. Yes No

Amendment 6. Yes No

Article 4.

Amendment 1. Yes No

Article 5. Yes No

Article 6. Yes No

Article 7. Yes No

Article 8. Yes No

Article 9. Yes No

Article 10. Yes No

Article 11. Yes No

Article 12. Yes No

Article 13. Yes No

Article 14. Yes No

Article 15. Yes No

Article 16. Yes No

Article 17. Yes No

Article 18. Yes No

Article 19. Yes No

Article 20. Yes No

Article 21. Yes No

Article 22. Yes No

Article 23. Yes No

Article 24. Yes No

Article 25. Yes No

Article 26. Yes No

Article 27. Yes No

Article 28. Yes No

Article 29. Yes No

Article 30. Yes No

Article 31. Yes No

Article 32. Yes No

Article 33. Yes No

Article 34. Yes No

SCHOOL ELECTION

School Board Member, 3 years (1)

School District Moderator, 3 years (1)

Article 1. Yes No

Article 2. Yes No

Article 3. Yes No

Article 4. Yes No

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