

RCL 2017 VOTER PREPARATION

Warrant Articles

Vote on March 14, 2017

What voters need to know and understand
POST Deliberative Meeting

Click for : [Town Sample Ballot](#). [School Sample Ballot](#)

Town's Deliberative Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

RCL Deliberative Meeting Notes: Part 1 [Notes](#) Part 1 [Video](#)

Part 2 [Notes](#) Part 2 [Video](#)

Part 3 [Notes](#) Part 3 [Video](#)

School Deliberative

RLC [Notes](#) [Video](#)

www.ryecivicleague.org

Contact: civicnews@ryecivicleague.org

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Position	Candidate(s) on ballot
1 Board of Selectmen (3 years)	Phil Winslow, Paul Goldman, Richard Moynahan
1 Town Clerk/Tax Collector (3 years)	Donna Decotis, Wendy Bookholz
1 Cemetery Trustees (3 years)	Roger Philbrick
2 Library Trustees (2 seats, 3 years)	Karen Allen, Brian Klinger
Trustees of the Trust Funds (3 years)	Jeffrey Balboni
2 Budget Committee (2 seats, 3 years)	Jaci Grote, Peter Crawford
2 Planning Board (2 seats, 3 years)	Jerome Gittlein, J. Merrill Lord
1 Planning Board (1 seat, 2 years)	Patricia Losik
2 Zoning Board of Adjustment (2 seats 3 years)	Shawn Crapo, Write In for the second spot
Sewer Commission (3 years)	David Kohlhase
2 School Board (2 seats, 3 years)	Jeanne Moynihan, Paula Tsetsilas, Gary Bowser

Candidates Night March 9th 7:00pm Rye Public Library
 Watch on www.townhallstreams.com if you can't be there

This table shows what each household pays annually for the various Warrant Articles

Warrant	Budget Item	Amount	If your property is assessed for this amount, this is what your approximate				
			\$350,000	\$500,000	\$750,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,250,000
6	Town Hall tear-down/rebuild	bond					
7	Town Hall renovation	bond					
8	Operating Budget	\$ 9,413,952	\$1,749	\$2,498	\$3,747	\$4,996	\$6,246
9	Plow truck	from reserve					
10	Shoals View paving	\$ 125,000	\$23	\$33	\$50	\$66	\$83
11	Public Works Empl. CBA	\$ 17,153	\$3	\$5	\$7	\$9	\$11
13	Fire Fighters CBA	\$ 30,170	\$6	\$8	\$12	\$16	\$20
15	Police CBA	\$ 22,939	\$4	\$6	\$9	\$12	\$15
17	Fire truck capital reserve	\$ 100,000	\$19	\$27	\$40	\$53	\$66
18	Rec. Community Ctr. (fm.	\$ 40,000	\$7	\$11	\$16	\$21	\$27
19	Highway equipment reser	\$ 75,000	\$14	\$20	\$30	\$40	\$50
20	Employees leave fund	\$ 50,000	\$9	\$13	\$20	\$27	\$33
21	Municipal buildings reserv	\$ 25,000	\$5	\$7	\$10	\$13	\$17
22	Salt shed design	from reserve					
23	Library expendable trust	\$ 5,000	\$1	\$1	\$2	\$3	\$3
30	Town Hall repair	\$ 500,000	\$93	\$133	\$199	\$265	\$332
School 1	School Budget	\$14,087,950	\$2,617	\$3,739	\$5,608	\$7,477	\$9,346
School 3	Maintenance	\$ 75,000	\$14	\$20	\$30	\$40	\$50

Article 3 Amendment 1: Accessory Dwelling Unit changes.

[Click Here](#) for the full text

Background: Limits impact of new State law aimed at creating more affordable housing inventory across the State by dovetailing with the State law provisions

[Click Here](#) for information presented at the PTA information night

[Click Here](#) for information from the Rockingham Planning Commission

[Click Here](#) for additional information from the NH Office of Energy & Planning

Wording changes:

The Planning Board, not the Zoning Board of Adjustment, would now be responsible for assuring that Accessory Dwelling Units meets the standards:

- Between 600 and 1200 sq. ft.
- Limits a one bedroom unit to two occupants. A two bedroom unit can have three people.
- Property owner must reside on the premises

New conditions are added:

- Rye Sewer Commission approval is needed for properties they serve
- Limited to one Accessory Dwelling Unit per lot (in addition to the main unit)
- 3 month minimum lease for rentals
- An interior door is required between the Principal Dwelling Unit and the Accessory Unit
- Not allowed in a detached building

Pros: Enables more in-law apartments and rental unit inventory in Rye

Cons: Not allowed on detached buildings. Increases population density and traffic flow

Article 3 Amendment 2: Expiration of Variances & Special Exceptions

[Click Here](#) for the full text

Background: Variances and Special Exceptions expire if substantial construction has not begun within two years. Residents have debated with the town over what constitutes “Substantial Construction.”

Adds examples of “Substantial Construction”:

- If a building, completion of a weather tight structure
- If a septic system, must be ready for DES inspection for operational approval
- If a driveway or road, it must have the base course and ditches to final grade and all drainage facilities in place

Variances to required lot dimensions will expire unless a subdivision plan has been recorded within two years

Pros: Clarifies requirements for variances and special exceptions

Cons: Leaves less room for extenuating circumstances

Article 3 Amendment 3: Height Limit Change

[Click Here](#) for the full text

Background: This change results from the Wentworth Country Club's plan to increase the height of its netting for their driving range. The Building Inspector determined that it was a fence that would exceed the 6 foot height limit and denied a building permit. At its September 7, 2016 meeting, the Zoning Board of Adjustment, by a 3-2 vote, determined that it was not a fence, but recommended that the applicant obtain site plan approval from the Planning Board. That has not yet been sought. The Wentworth may be waiting for this to pass before bringing its application.

This change expands the applicability of the height limit from just buildings to structures in general, but specifically exempts golf course netting, wireless telecommunications towers and farm silos.

This is a companion to Article 5, Amendment 1, which moves the fence restrictions to the Zoning Ordinance from the Building Code, allowing the ZBA to grant variances, including for golf netting.

Pros: Could prevent future intrusions on residents as long as it's not a wireless telecommunications tower, farm silo or golf course safety net.

Cons: It allows golf courses to put up driving ranges adjacent to residential houses. Residents seeking to avoid increasing Comcast rates may be prevented from installing TV antennas sufficiently high to receive Boston, Manchester and Portland TV stations as the 35 foot height limit may apply to additions to the roof, not just the building height.

Article 3 Amendment 4: Retirement Community Development (RCD) changes to the Requirements section Adds 20 more RCD units to be built

[Click Here](#) for the full text

Background: Many are upset over the former Rand Lumber Development in Rye (Sea Glass Lane) with expensive, tightly spaced units that would not be affordable to many seniors living on fixed incomes. Enhances affordability of RCDs.

Changes:

- Adds “affordability” requirement and definitions to obtain “bonus” units
- Increases the maximum number of units from 16 to 20. Note: Sea Glass Lane is 20 units since the Planning Board gave bonus units, two of which were for excellence in design
- Increases the number of allowed units per contiguous upland acre from four to eight
- Decreases the maximum square footage from 1800 to 1500. Note: Planning Board can still grant waivers of up to 20 percent, which would allow it to go up to 1800 sq. ft.
- Number of RCD units in town was capped by a formula. The number of units is being raised to 62 from 51 (42 have been built to date, so this will enable 20 more RCD units).
- Enables Planning Board to waive the garage requirement

Pros: Adds affordability to the requirements to obtain bonus units and to the purpose.

Cons: It does not remove the “powers” the Planning Board gave themselves that enabled Sea Glass Lane. Increasing number of remaining units from 10 to 20 will further impact Town demographics (median age in 2014 was 50.8).

Article 3 Amendment 5: Wetlands [Click Here](#) for the full text

Background: Acknowledges that “Stormwater runoff” is also a significant contributor to pollution and the importance of “buffers” to protect our environment and property. Adds Best Management Practices (BMP) definitions with resources for storm water, agriculture, and forestry. No changes to wetland definition, size, or buffer distances.

Changes:

Adds GIS and NH Wetland maps as tools

Additions to Wetlands Ordinance Purpose

- “stormwater runoff” as a threat to wetlands
- “minimize the spread of invasive species”
- “restrict construction in the wetlands to the maximum extent practicable”
- Water supply protection
- Allows non-forestry cutting of trees in wetlands with permit from Building Inspector and according to Best Management Practices (“BMP’s”). Requires stumps (but may be ground) and that root systems, shrubs, and herbaceous layers remain in place
- Increases permitted uses for non-forestry cutting and agriculture
- Allows for maintenance of swales, rain gardens and detention ponds in wetlands.
- While septic systems are prohibited in the buffer, existing systems can be replaced, but every effort must be made to reduce violation distances and impacts.

Pros: Identifies key threats to wetlands and resources. Defines Best Management Practices for activities in wetlands and their buffers. Better defines permitted uses and process.

Cons: Does not address with specific requirements for rebuilds/expansion, and attendant storm water when structures, drives/parking, lawns, etc... are in buffers

Article 3 Amendment 6: Frontage

[Click Here](#) for the full text

Background: Makes a change to the Definitions found in the appendix of the ordinances.

Changes:

Removes wording about having one side meet the depth setback requirements. Section 202.6 is the frontage definition

Pros: Removes an existing conflict in the language between two sections.

Cons: There is still no definition of a corner lot. While section 202.6 of the Zoning Ordinance provides that the frontage, depth and front yard requirements must be met for both streets, it is unclear whether an intersection creating an angle of less than 90 degrees, or a turn in the road with no intersecting street, would create a corner lot, or exactly how the frontage would be measured in such circumstances.

202.6 Corner Lots: On corner lots, the driveway shall exit only to the lesser traveled street. On a corner lot, frontage, depth and front yard requirements shall be met for both streets.
(Rev. 1995)

Article 3 Amendment 7: Stormwater

[Click Here](#) for the full text

Background: Makes it clear that the Building Inspector can require a stormwater management plan whenever there is construction or changes to the impervious surface.

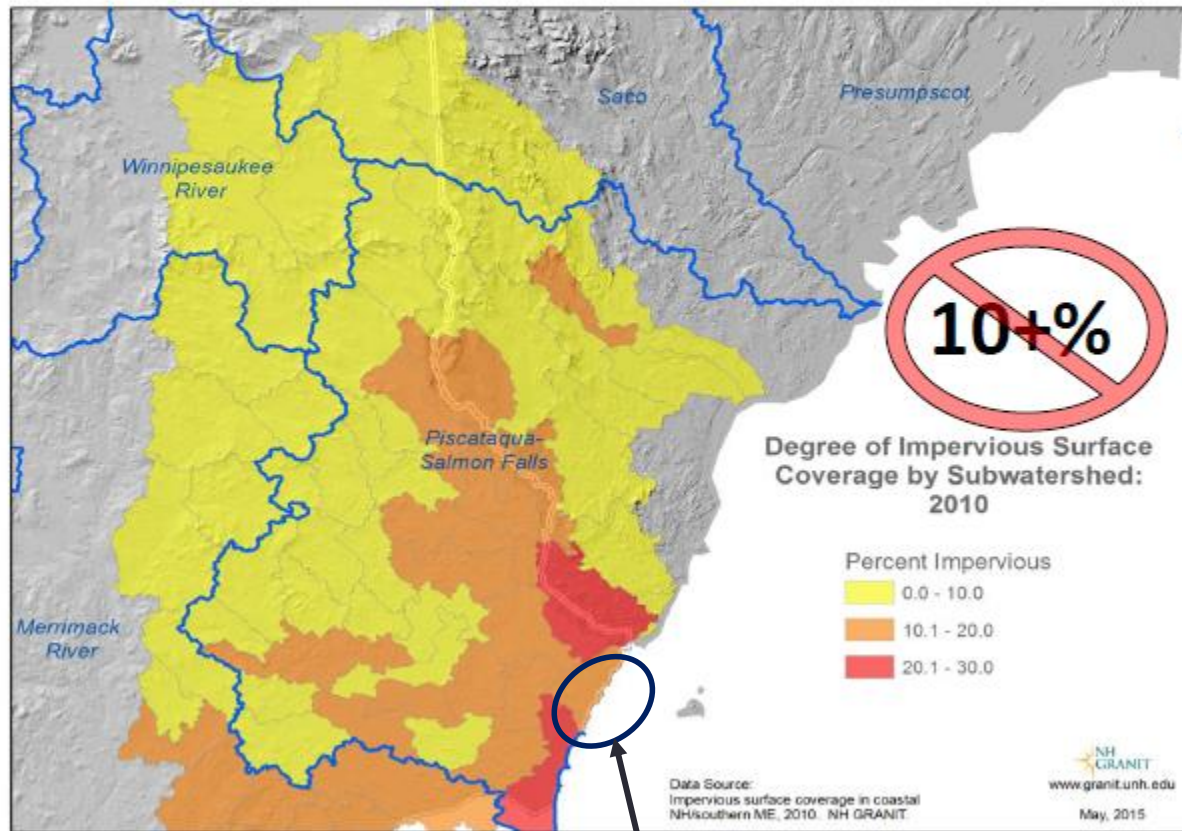
Changes:

Adds wording for drainage and grading plan being required for construction

Pros: Enables Building Inspector to require a stormwater management plan when there is construction, ensuring proper drainage and runoff.

Cons: Adds to the burden on homeowners, particularly in densely-packed areas such as Jenness Beach. While it does help the Building Inspector to require drainage and grading plans, Rye is still weak on comprehensive stormwater management.

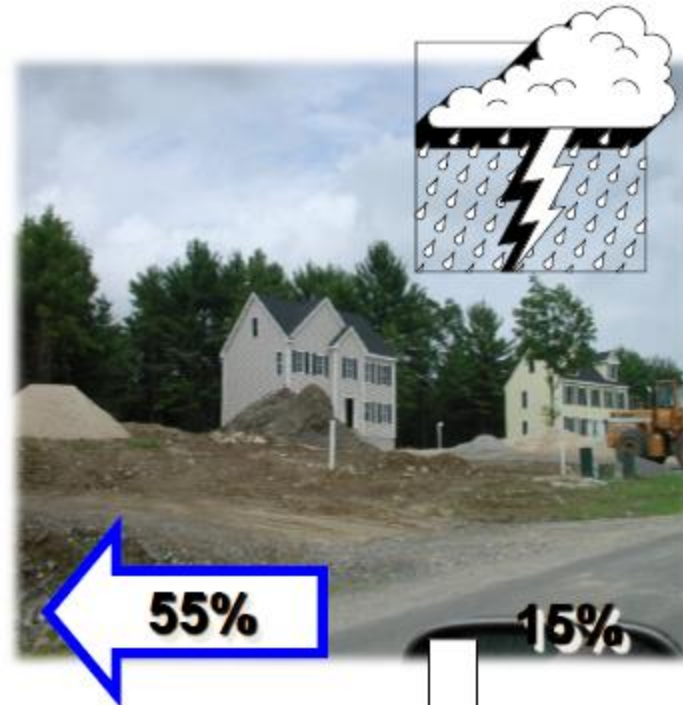
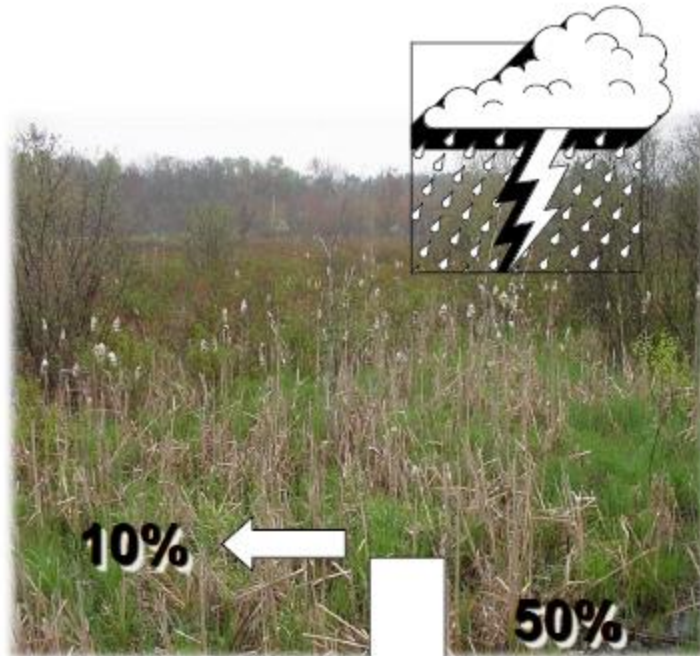
Impervious Surfaces Increase Water Quality Problems



Approx. location of Rye

From the NH Department of Environmental Services November 2016

More Developed Land = More Stormwater Runoff



Stormwater runoff contributes to **82%** of
water quality impairments in NH!

Article 4 Amendment 1: Building Code Ordinance Change

[Click Here](#) for the full text

Background: The Zoning Board of Appeals is also the Building Code of Appeals in Rye. This gives the ZBA authority to grant variances to the town building codes.

Changes:

Adds two new paragraphs under the appeals section for appeals related to the building code.

Pros: Enables the ZBA to grant variances to the town building codes

Cons: The codes establish the requirements and if they need to be adjusted they should change the code rather than give additional power to the ZBA.

Article 5 Amendment 1: Fences

[Click Here](#) for the full text

Background: The ZBA was challenged on their right to grant a waiver on something in the [building code](#). The ZBA can grant variances to the Zoning Ordinance, not the Building Code. This came up in connection with the golf course netting at the Wentworth Country Club. The Building Inspector had determined that it was a fence, subject to the six foot height requirement in the Building Code. The ZBA determined, by a 3-2 vote at its September 7, 2016 meeting, that it was not a fence, however a subsequent ZBA may decide a different case differently. See the companion Article 3, Amendment 3 which exempts golf course netting from the height limitation.

Changes:

Removes “Fences” from the building code and adds this language to the building ordinance.

Key points: Fences can’t be higher than 6 feet, must be 1 foot from the property line, and the finished side must face the abutters (unless the fence is agreed to by both abutters and is on the property line).

Pros: Allows the ZBA to grant a variance for fences

Cons: Allows the ZBA to allow a variance for fences. No final determination has been made as to whether golf course netting constitutes a fence. Together with Article 3, Amendment 3, which specifically exempts golf course netting from height limits, makes it easier for golf courses to obtain ZBA and Planning Board approval of golf course netting.

There are 5 Town Hall Related Warrant Articles

Article	What it does
Article 6	BOS Warrant Article for \$3.4 million to demolish and rebuild a Town Hall replica
Article 7	Petitioned Warrant Article for \$3.2 million to renovate Town Hall
Article 24	Tie Breaker: If both of the above get 60%, authorizes Selectmen to proceed with the Article receiving the most “yes” votes
Article 34	Petitioned Warrant Article for volunteer to develop an alternate design for demolishing and rebuilding
Article 30	If neither Article 6 nor Article 7 pass, provides \$500,000 to repair and refurbish the exterior, provide handicapped access and facilities, replace and restore windows as appropriate, and improve the energy efficiency of Town Hall.

Background Information on Town Hall

- [RCL background](#) presentation with diagrams and history
- [Hutter Response](#) to the Design Build Request
- [Town Hall Committee](#) page on the Town Website
- [Heritage Committee](#) insights into Town Hall

2011 Voters say Yes, we should invest in the current building:

Town votes (610 Yes, 455 No) \$40K to study whether the existing Town Hall building is worth renovating and evaluate space needs. AG Architects reports we should invest in the Town Hall building and presents 15,000 sq. ft. plan for renovation and a large connected building.

2012 Voters halt AG Plan, say look at the space we need:

Town voted down (830 No, 484 yes) the \$135K to proceed further with AG Design.

Petitioned Warrant Article passed (1,070 Yes, 268 No) to look at other options and space needs per employee of similar towns. Space Needs Committee (SNC) reduces need to 10,500 sq. ft, estimates \$2.1 million cost.

2013 Funding approved for developing designs:

Town votes (699 Yes, 384 No) \$60,000 for new sample (schematic) designs. New architect (SMP) hired. Town Hall Committee selects option of second building connected with underground passageway.

2014 Funding approved for completing a design :

Town votes (932 Yes, 710 No) \$250,000 to complete the design, now 12,500 sq. ft. Detailed design drawings and associated construction documents are completed by the architect. Project is put out to obtain bids from four pre-selected construction firms.

2015 Town says No to \$4.1 million and BOS launches survey:

Town votes down \$4.1 million (887 No, 575 Yes) for renovating Town Hall and constructing connected building

Town Hall building selected for the Seven to Save State program

Town spends > \$6,000 for survey that provides parameters for moving forward

2016 Town says No to both of the Selectmen's Town Hall articles

Town votes down (856 No, 703 Yes) spending another \$60,000 studying and costing five options for town offices

Town votes down (1261 No, 320 Yes), purchase of the property next to the Public Safety Building for \$460K

Feb. 2011: Town-retained AMEC concludes foundation is in good condition

Michael Magnant

February 8, 2011

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2.0 RESULTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

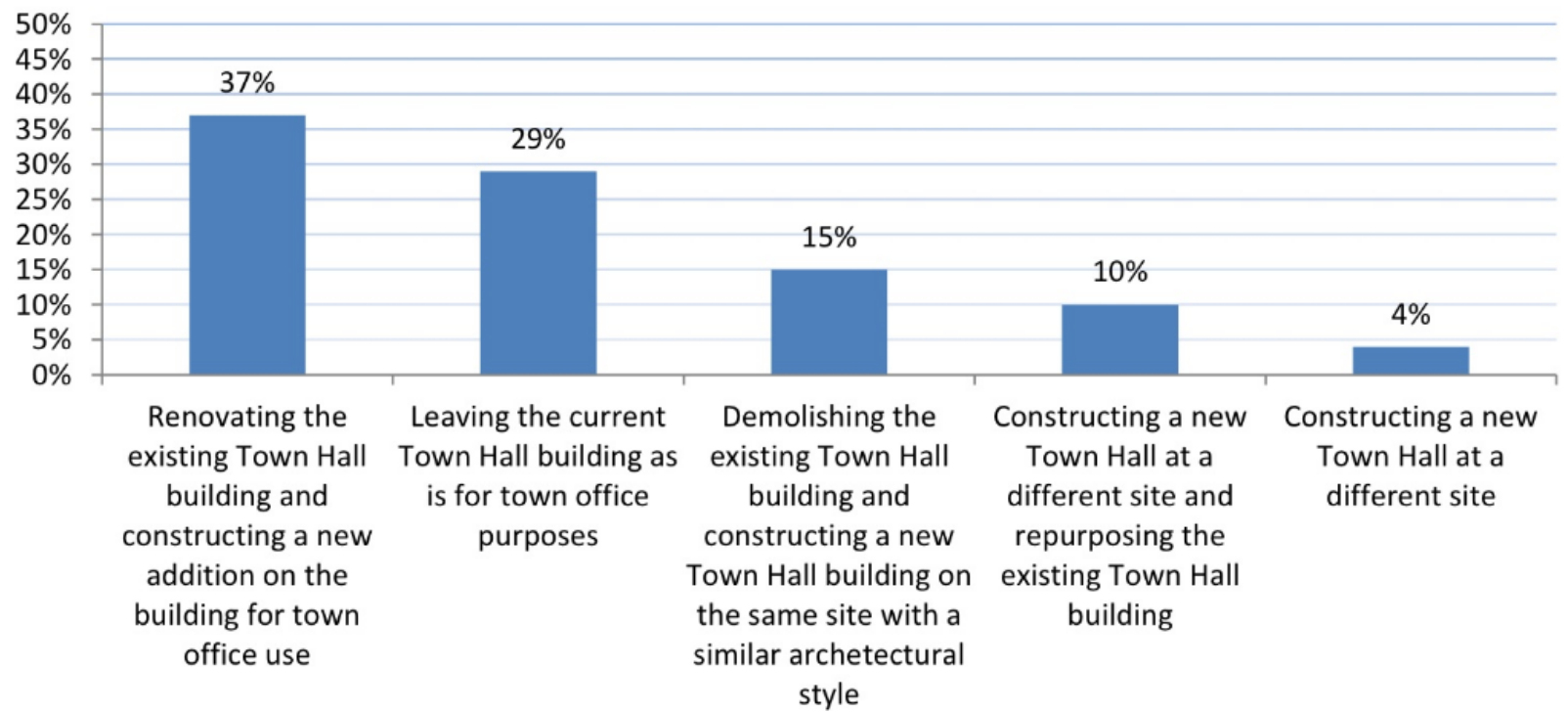
Foundation

Based on our visual observations of the perimeter foundation walls, we found that the existing foundation walls have only minor cracks and/or deterioration of mortar joints. During our visit, the foundation walls showed no signs of overstress or excessive settlement. Although the top and bottom of the foundation walls were concealed and we could not verify the existing condition of these elements, it is our opinion that the existing foundation is in good condition. We recommend filling in the cracks in the poured concrete sections of the walls with pressure grout. At the granite walls, we recommend that the deteriorated/cracked mortar be removed and new mortar be installed. Both of these recommended repairs are to help prevent future deterioration due to water infiltration.

September 2014: Since Town Hall will be expanded by more than 50 percent according to the then-existing plan, full Building Code compliance is needed according to Town architect SMP. Their subcontractor, Steffensen Engineering, presents the option of adding eight steel posts to the walls, which is accepted. Steffensen does not disagree with AMEC assessment, but recommends selective demolition of a portion of the foundation to ascertain whether it would withstand the point loads of the posts. \$15,800 is added to the project in case the south foundation needs to be replaced.

October 2015: The Selectmen-appointed Town Hall Committee retains UNH Survey Center to survey 2981 Rye households. Thirty-eight percent (1132) respond. The message is clear: Renovate the Town Hall or leave as is (66%).

Figure 8: What Option Do You Prefer For The Rye Town Hall?



Cost sensitivity per survey (60% must approve if bond financing used):
25% not willing to pay anything more
18% willing only to pay up to \$2 million
7% willing only to pay up to \$2.5 million

Late 2016 -- BOS launches Design/Build Request for Proposal:

BOS requested (from the same four firms invited to bid in 2014) schematic designs and bids for two options:

- 1) Renovate the existing building with a small addition
- 2) Demolish and build a replica

BOS parameters included:

- Same space as 2014 design (voted down in 2015), but delete space for Recreation and Sewer Departments, which have already moved out of Town Hall.
- Great Hall space to be used for Office Space

Response (December 2016):

- Only one of the four firms responded: Hutter Construction
- While Hutter provided designs and prices for both options, the BOS decided to only move forward with the demolish and replica build option

Cost Effectiveness:

	2015 Project	2017 BOS-proposed project
Total project cost	\$4,100,000	\$3,386,752
Approximate sq. ft	12,500	8,000
Cost per sq. ft.	\$328	\$423*

*Includes design cost, already done when 2015 project proposed. For purposes of an “apples” to “apples” comparison, adding the 2014 architect’s cost of \$250,000 to the 2015 project yields a cost per sq. ft. of \$348.

Article 6: Single option to tear down Town Hall and build a replica like building

Background: The 2016 vote left the BOS with no funds.

Estimated Cost is \$ 3,386,752 (Public Safety building was several \$100,000 more and 2 years late)

Pro: Finally moves this forward. Captures current favorable interests rates by borrowing now.

Con: Town survey implies that a majority does not want to see the historic building demolished. It is spending money without the strategic plan for all of the towns facility infrastructure



2nd Floor

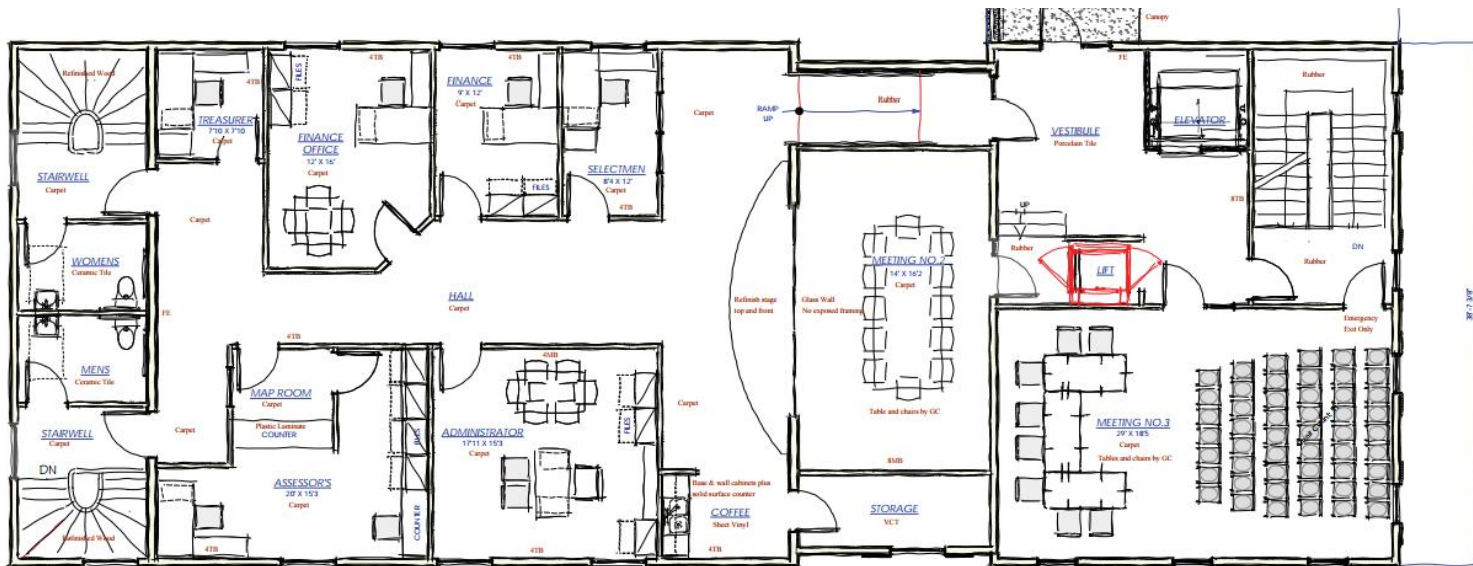
Article 7: Renovate Town Hall based on the Hutter options

Background: Citizen’s petitioned warrant article to renovate the existing building, since the Board of Selectmen are only providing a new build option to the voters.

Enables the Town to authorize bonds of \$3,200,000 for renovating the current building.

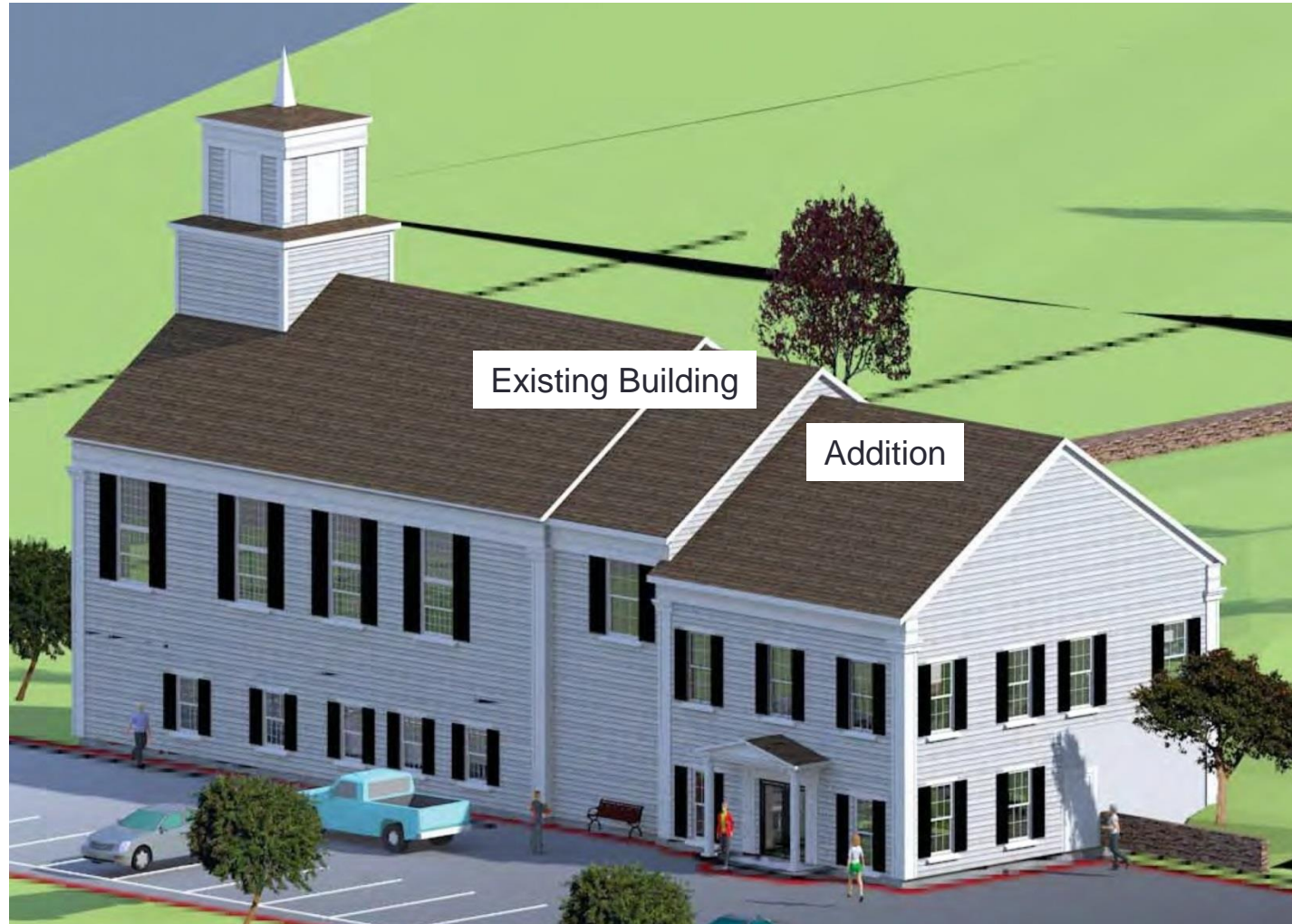
Pro: Renovation project for the current Town Hall. Possibility of obtaining grants to offset some of the cost.

Con: Renovation may have more chances of cost over runs. It is spending money without the strategic plan for all of the towns facility infrastructure.



2nd Floor

Both of the Hutter options would look the same on the exterior. While all space would be rearranged, the interiors for the two options would be almost identical.



Article 24: If both Articles 6 & 7 get more than 3/5 of the vote

Background: If the two bond articles pass (60% needed), then the BOS will proceed with the Article that has the most votes.

Pro: The BOS will side with the will of the majority. Selectman Musselman said at the 1/23/17 meeting that, if this fails, the Selectmen would be free to select either option.

Con: Sends an unclear message to BOS. Some may say No, as a double no to either \$3MM warrant article

Article 34: Residents are offering to develop an alternative design

Background: If the existing Town Hall is to be demolished, the question arises as to why be constrained with a replica rather than starting with a clean slate. Much work has already been done by AG Architects and SMP Engineering that can be leveraged.

See supporting website: [Click Here](#)

Pro: No cost to the town and gives additional information on a new alternative.

Con: While this is no cost to the town for now, it still is demolishing the historic building and it continues the path of investing in the Town Hall without a long term facilities infrastructure strategic plan. No committee is proposed to provide public input during the design process.

Article 30: \$500,000 for Town Hall improvements

Background: If Articles 6 & 7 fail, then this would come into play.

Specifically calls out:

- Repair and refurbish the exterior
- Provide handicapped access and facilities
- Replace and restore windows as appropriate
- Improve the energy efficiency

Will take into consideration the impact of twenty-first century technology on space needs

Heritage Committee Town Hall information. [Click Here](#)

Pro: Gets the major issues with Town Hall solved now for much less cost than renovating or tearing down and rebuilding.

Con: Town would effectively be making the decision not to tear down the Town Hall as money invested by this warrant article would be wasted if it is. Provides only about 6000 sq. ft. of space, compared to about 8000 sq. ft. of space with the \$3.4 million and \$3.2 million bond articles. An additional department or two might need to move out to unoccupied nearby space in other Town facilities (Public Safety Building or Old Police Station) over the medium term to provide the same amount of space as Hutter determined is needed, according to its designs.

Article 27: BOS/Police Chief Dogs on a Leash

Background: Residents have filed complaints with the BOS about unleashed dogs knocking down and otherwise making contact with people on the beach.

Current Ordinance says that dogs must be under control. Proposed change requiring that dogs must be on a leash at the beach during the Summer was modified at the Deliberative Session to require dogs to be leashed only after they are observed not to be under control.

- Dogs would continue to be allowed between Wallis Sands State Beach and Odiorne State Park during the summer season between 6:00 a.m. and midnight (Saturday before Memorial Day to the first Saturday after Labor Day). Note: Under the originally proposed ordinance, Foss Beach beach was to be exempt from leash requirements during the hours that dogs are allowed on the beach, but this language was removed at the Deliberative Session.
- Dog waste can no longer be left, to be picked up at a later time. (This text is redundant with Article 28) .
- No dogs are allowed on the State beaches so there are always Dog Free beaches in Rye

Pro: For people who are not comfortable with dogs, this puts dogs that are not under control on a leash. Unleashed dogs could be a potential liability for the town.

Con: As amended, the proposed ordinance changes little. Unleashed dogs are still allowed unless they are observed to not be under control.

Article 28: No leaving the poop

Background: Some of the pollution on Parson's Creek could be attributed to dog waste.

Dog waste, even bagged waste, can no longer be left to be picked up at a later time.

Pro: Can eliminate a portion of the Parson's Creek pollution. Do not like seeing dog waste bags that have been forgotten

Con: Do not support forcing a person to maintain possession of dog waste until it can be placed in a proper receptacle.

Blue Ocean Society	# Cleanups	Dog poop (un-bagged)	Dog poop (bagged)
Bass Beach	9	1	16
Foss Beach - North	2	2	18
Foss Beach - South	7	11	13
Jeness Beach (state parking lot to Cable Road Ext)	11	132	50
Pirate's Cove (Wallis Sands Extension)	4	12	14
Totals	33	158	111

Article 32: Supports Article 27 regarding dogs on leashes

Background: Changed at the Deliberative meeting so it just says that you support Article 27, making this a redundant article.

Pro and Con depends on where you stand on leashes

Pro: You want to emphasize that you want dogs that are not under control on leashes.

Con: You do not support the amendment to the beach ordinance that is encompassed in Article 27, either because it does not go far enough by removing all unleashed dogs from the beach during the summer, or because it goes too far and you are concerned that a subjective determination that a dog is out of control may be used to force dogs to be leashed.

Article 8: Town Budget

See RCL Town Budget analysis: [Click Here](#)

Budget spread sheet from the Deliberative meeting: [Click Here](#)

Proposed budget, less Warrant Articles: \$9,413,952

Default budget: \$8,840,336

Default budget is effective if the proposed budget fails to pass. The default budget may not be changed. Last year's budget was \$9,104,794. Negative adjustments to that of \$264,458 yielded the default budget.

Pro: Provides funding for continued Town operations at the level requested by the Selectmen, avoiding the necessity of cuts. There could be no spending for new purposes not in the 2016 budget if the default budget is adopted.

Con: Appropriates nearly \$600K more for the Town which would need to be raised through taxes (over 30 cents or \$150 for \$500,000 house). However, this is the approximate amount of the surplus each year, so, barring an emergency, it should be possible for the Town to continue to use budget surpluses to prevent spikes in the tax rate.

This table shows what a household pays each year for the different Town and School Services

		If your property is assessed for this amount, what you are paying each year for this Service				
Budget Item	2017 Budget	\$350,000	\$500,000	\$750,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,250,000
General Government	\$ 1,711,733	\$318	\$454	\$681	\$908	\$1,136
DPW	\$ 1,684,037	\$313	\$447	\$670	\$894	\$1,117
Fire	\$ 1,530,889	\$284	\$406	\$609	\$813	\$1,016
Police	\$ 1,440,150	\$268	\$382	\$573	\$764	\$955
Library	\$ 673,573	\$125	\$179	\$268	\$357	\$447
Other Services Total	\$ 457,744	\$85	\$121	\$182	\$243	\$304
Debt Service	\$ 524,295	\$97	\$139	\$209	\$278	\$348
Other revolving	\$ 479,339	\$89	\$127	\$191	\$254	\$318
Sewer excl. debt svc.	\$ 258,343	\$48	\$69	\$103	\$137	\$171
Recreation	\$ 266,350	\$49	\$71	\$106	\$141	\$177
Capital Outlay	\$ 387,500	\$72	\$103	\$154	\$206	\$257
School	\$ 14,087,950	\$2,617	\$3,739	\$5,608	\$7,477	\$9,346

Seeing what a household invests each year in Education, many more residents could be more engaged in the return on that annual investment.

Article 9: \$170,000 for New Truck with Plow

Background: Replaces 2004 Truck. Amount amended down from \$175,000 at the Deliberative Session by Selectmen as there is not enough in the reserve to spend \$175,000.

Pro: Uses the Highway Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve fund. No new money needs to be raised as it has been set aside in prior years. However, spending this money means that the fund will need to be replenished in order to keep buying equipment. Having too many new purchases in a single year strains the DPW staff.

Con: Service life is 15 years and this truck is 12 years old with only 25,500 miles.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION & RATIONALE

Truck # 108 is a Freightliner M2 six wheel dump truck purchased in 2004 It is currently 12 years old and has 25,500 miles on it. Its service life expectancy should be 15 years. This truck is scheduled for replacement in 2017. Replacement cost with chassis, dump body, frame, plow and spreader is anticipated to be \$175,000. It currently is severely corroded, and has a number of sub-components which are inoperable.

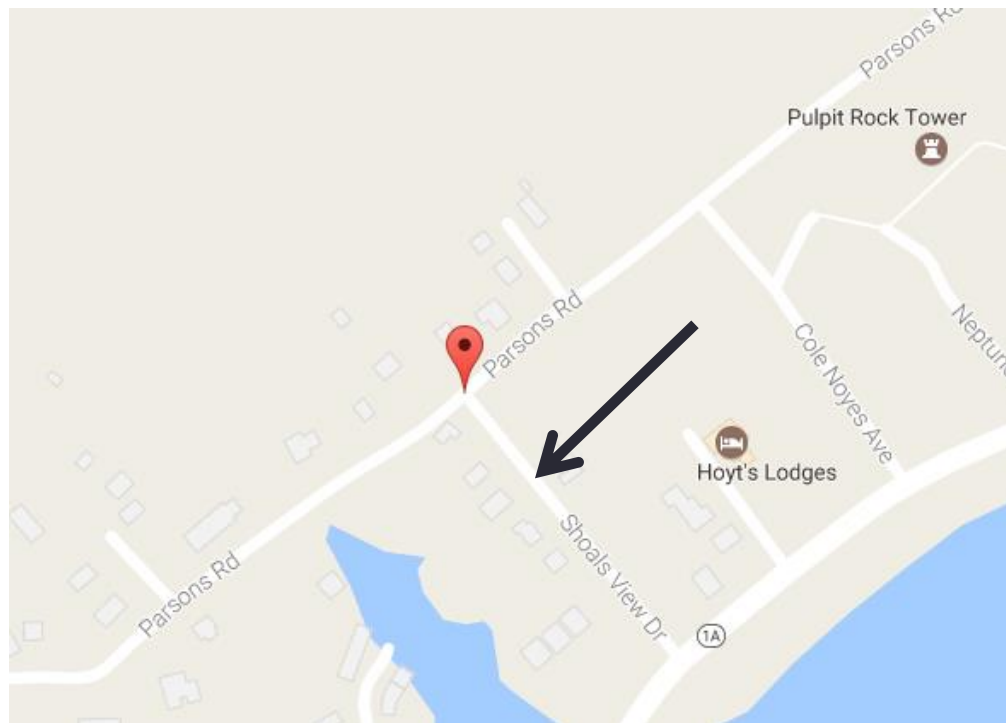


Article 10: \$ 125,000 paving of Shoals View Drive

Background: This was much debated at the Selectman's meetings of August 22, 2016 and November 14, 2016. The BOS is choosing not to have this come from the DPW road maintenance budget, but to be funded by a separate warrant since this is changing a dirt road into a paved road. This is one of the last unpaved Town-owned roads in Rye. The others are in the same area, but do not receive as much traffic.

Pro: Enables the Town to do a better job maintaining the road and minimizing dust.

Con: This has always been a dirt road, and the Town is incurring all of the costs.



Collective Bargaining Agreements

Background: A three year agreement, as is typically the case. There is a 2017 prorated increase based on 2016 inflation and then the additional increases in years two and three. The increase amounts include incentive payments for employees to convert to less expensive health plans. These incentives are less than the savings if they do so.

Pros: Allows wages to remain competitive and employees to keep pace with inflation.

Cons: Increase is greater than recent inflation rate. Two percent annual increases over a number of years when inflation is well below that (as has recently been the case).

NOTE: Even numbered articles permit the Board of Selectmen to call a special meeting if the immediately prior warrant article fails to pass.

Inflation < 2% they get a 2% increase.

Inflation > 3.5% they get a 3.5% increase.

Inflation between 2% and 3.5%: increase equals inflation rate.

Article 11: Town Employees (Teamsters Local 633) [Click Here](#) for more details

Year	Estimated Range of Increase over prior Year	
2017 (9 mos. at 2.5%)	<u>\$17,153</u>	
	<u>Base 2%</u>	<u>Max 3.5%</u>
2018 (12 mos.)	<u>\$18,618</u>	<u>\$24,481</u>
2019 (12 mos.)	<u>\$18,230</u>	<u>\$28,068</u>

The range in years 2018 and 2019 is a minimum and maximum amount

Article 13: Fire Fighters (IAFF Local #4411) [Click Here](#) for more details

Year	Estimated Range of Increase over prior Year	
2017 (9 mos. at 2.5%)	<u>\$30,170</u>	
	<u>Base 2%</u>	<u>Max 3.5%</u>
2018 (12 mos.)	<u>\$35,653</u>	<u>\$44,605</u>
2019 (12 mos.)	<u>\$27,660</u>	<u>\$39,458</u>

The range in years 2018 and 2019 is a minimum and maximum amount

Article 15: Police Association (Teamsters Local #633) [Click Here](#) for more details

Year	Estimated Range of Increase over prior Year	
2017 (9 mos. at 2.5%)	<u>\$22,939</u>	
	<u>Base 2%</u>	<u>Max 3.5%</u>
2018 (12 mos.)	<u>\$22,335</u>	<u>\$28,207</u>
2019 (12 mos.)	<u>\$20,876</u>	<u>\$29,108</u>

The range in years 2018 and 2019 is a minimum and maximum amount
Determined by Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA).

Article 17: \$100,000 for the Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund

Current reserve balance is \$254,508.65

Current CIP plan has:

- \$575K ladder truck in 2018
- \$55K forest fire truck (pickup) in 2021 and
- \$500K pumper truck in 2022

At the current accretion rate, the fund will be insufficient to pay for all of these purchases by 2022.

Pros: Builds funds towards the purchase of the next fire truck

Cons: You feel Rye does not need a ladder truck, when there is one at the end of Lang Rd. in Portsmouth. Also, discussions are ongoing with North Hampton to share a ladder truck.

What do we already own: [Click Here](#)

- 1) Ambulance 1 2008 (replacement approved last year, may keep this one also)
- 2) Engine 3 2003 Emergency 1 Typhoon
- 3) Engine 1 1994 KME Navstar Pumper
- 4) Ladder 4 1988 LTI Custom Ladder Truck (Quint)
- 5) Utility 1 2006 4X4
- 6) Air 1 – Breathing Air Unit – One of three units in the district
- 7) 1931 Ford Antique engine

Article 18: Rye Recreation Space Options and Planning

[Click Here](#) for information from the PTA review meeting.

[Click Here](#) to see the Recreation Needs Assessment Final Report to the BOS

[Click Here](#) for the Architect's Report

[Click Here](#) Architect's June Report

Background: The space needs study looked at what Recreation is doing and the space these programs require. The next step is to study options for how best to utilize the existing space and how best to meet the future Space Needs. This should provide enough information for the town to discuss what the next steps should be.

Plan is for:

2017 \$80,000 for planning/design/engineering (\$40,000 from the revolving fund)

2018 \$150,000 for planning/design/engineering

2018 \$2,250,000 for construction

2018 \$250,000 for land and site work

Total \$2,730,000

Pros: Finally starts the process for providing adequate space for the Rye Recreation programs

Cons: Do not feel Rye should invest in a Community Center, or you want to first see a comprehensive plan and strategy for all of Rye's facilities

Article 19: Highway Equipment Capital Reserve: add \$75,000

Background:

- ~ \$1.3M of DPW trucks/equipment for the transfer station and road maintenance. Lifetimes vary, but a rolling replacement plan works out to about a \$100,000 per year.
- Creates a balanced approach of rotating out the oldest equipment as maintenance costs and inconveniences increase. It also smooths taxes by allowing contributions each tax year to this capital equipment reserve.
- DPW staff plans on purchasing one vehicle a year, each purchase consumes a fair amount of DPW time and effort, so multiple purchases in a year should be avoided

Current Fund Balance is \$171,162.77

Pros: Annual funding keeps the tax rate steady despite periodic large ticket items purchased (six wheel dump trucks, heavy equipment for Transfer Station)

Cons: Minimal interest earned on money set aside. Reserve may create the impression that equipment purchases are without cost as money has already been set aside.

Note: This is a decrease from \$100,000 in the past few years. Last year was also \$75,000

Article 20: \$50K for the Accumulated leave fund

- Fund to pay Town, Police and Fire employees their accumulated sick and vacation pay when they leave
- New union contract for new employees caps the amount of accumulated sick and vacation
- Current balance is \$167,567.51. Total liability for unpaid leave is \$483,576.70.

Pro: Helps us get closer to the liability number

Con: Underfunding could cause a one year increase in taxes (from less surplus or more funds required to be raised) if multiple retirements in a year deplete the fund.

Article 21: \$25K for the Municipal Buildings Maintenance Fund

- Balance was \$63,520.80 at the end of 2016
- Other maintenance requirements appear to be imminent.

Pro: Allows maintenance cost to be accrued for annually, spreading out the cost and avoiding the need to transfer funds from other budget items if an unexpected maintenance requirement comes up.

Con: Additional cost, but risk of unplanned costs in future years

Article 22: \$25,000 for Salt Shed engineering and design

Background: In 2005, we voted to start accumulating funds to replace the salt shed as the entire Transfer Station sits on top of the aquifer.

The fund currently has a balance of \$107,564.14 and this would remove \$25,000 from that fund.

Pro: It finally starts the process of replacing the salt shed.

Con: There are plans to re-layout the Transfer station and there is a risk that some of this work would need to be duplicated in the future.

Article 23: \$5K for Library Maintenance Fund

- Small number and Library budget increases have been small in recent years.
- Current balance is \$23,044.51.
- [Click Here](#) to see usage statistics

Pro: Allows maintenance cost to be accrued for annually, spreading out the cost and avoiding the need to transfer funds from other budget items if an unexpected maintenance requirement comes up.

Con: Additional cost, but risk of unplanned costs in future years

Article 25: Fire Department Ordinance #18 [Click Here](#)

Background: This completely removes the language from 1972 that established a Full Time Rye Fire Department. The structure would revert to State RSA 154:1, with a Fire Chief appointed by the Board of Selectmen, and firefighters also appointed by the Board of Selectmen upon recommendation of the Fire Chief.

Currently, Ordinance 18 provides for suspension or discharge of firefighters by the Fire Chief, with provision for a public hearing before the Board of Selectmen. RSA 154:1, VI provides for Fire Chief organization and administrative control of the fire department, but subject to written formal policies and guidelines adopted by the Board of Selectmen. This appears to provide for greater interference by the Board of Selectmen with the Fire Chief than is the case with Ordinance 18.

NH RSA 154:1 [Click Here](#)

Pros: Puts more control of the Fire Department under the Board of Selectmen

Cons: Allows the Board of Selectmen to interfere with the Fire Chief to a greater extent

Article 26: No Parking on sections of Recreation Road

During soccer games and Little League Baseball cars have been parking on the sides of Recreation Road. This will ban parking on one side of the road and require parking on the other side to be off of the pavement.

Rye has recently added expanded parking to Rye Recreation fields.

Pros: Will prevent the narrow parts from being clogged.

Cons: You may have to park much further away on the very busy days



Article 29: Accepts Star Fish Circle as a Town Road

Background: This is the road in the new Sea Mist Landing Subdivision off of Brackett Rd. between Clark and Wallis Roads.

Pro: The Town would have full control of the road after this is adopted and the Board of Selectmen verify that all steps required before the Town may take control have been completed.

Con: The Town would be responsible for all future maintenance of the road.



Article 31: Reaffirms the authority from the Board of Selectmen to buy or sell land without voter consent.

Background: This article was turned on its head at the Deliberative Session by a Selectmen-sponsored amendment. Originally, the warrant article was to rescind the Selectmen's authority.

Last year, the BOS were in the process of selling the Parsonage Apartments to the Housing Authority for \$1 before resident opposition caused them to reconsider. The Town also just purchased part of the Transfer Station land for \$75,000 that the town had believed we owned already.

When the BOS does not want to do something, they say no money has been budgeted or appropriated so they can't do anything. There was no funds budgeted or appropriated for them to buy this land, but the \$75,000 was found and spent without a town vote.

Pro: Expresses your support for this continued authority.

Con: Whether this article passes or not, the Selectmen would retain their authority to purchase land without a Town Meeting vote granted by the voters in 2002. By reaffirming an authority granted in 2002, passage of this article may undo 2016 Article 24 which withdrew land sale authority from the Selectmen, and which passed 841-588.

Article 33: Have a committee look at ways Zoning and the Master Plan can help to keep a minimum number of students at the Rye Schools

[Click Here](#) for information provided at the PTA information night

Background: Student population at Rye Elementary and Junior High Schools has been dropping continuously over the past few years. The SAU Business Manager has been pointing out the much lower number of Rye Live Births (Rye families that have babies) and other factors.

The goal is to understand whether the Town can take actions so that the schools can maintain a minimum number of students.

Excellent Video about NH and population shifts: [Click Here](#) (note it is about 1 hour long)

Facts provided to Rye by the author: [Click Here](#)

Pro: You would like to see the school population maintain a minimum level. Having more “starter” homes for families can help families looking to have children move into Rye.

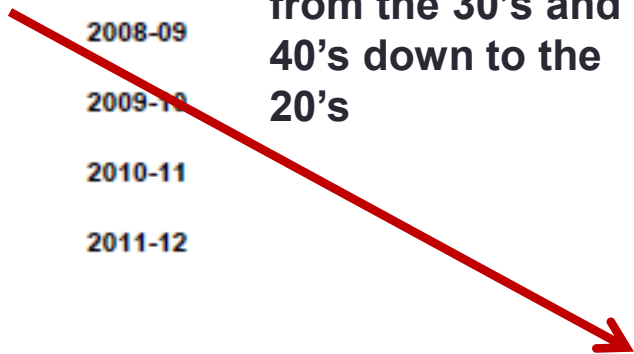
Con: You are OK with Rye continuing to fund smaller schools as student populations continue to drop.

Resident Live Births is a trackable indicator as to what the school population may be in future years.

From the 2011-2012 School Budget

YEAR	RESIDENT LIVE BIRTHS	YEAR/GRADE
2001	43	2006-07
2002	34	2007-08
2003	34	2008-09
2004	31	2009-10
2005	45	2010-11
2006	26	2011-12
PROGRESSION RATIOS		
2007	38	2012-13
2008	26	2013-14
2009	41	2014-15
2010	31	2015-16

Trend is dropping from the 30's and 40's down to the 20's



From the 2017-2018 School Budget

YEAR	RESIDENT LIVE BIRTHS	YEAR/GRADE
2006	26	2011-12
2007	37	2012-13
2008	26	2013-14
2009	41	2014-15
2010	31	2015-16
2011	37	2016-17
PROGRESSION RATIOS		
2012	30	2017-18
2013	29	2018-19
2014	24	2019-20
2015	25	2020-21

Article 35: Trail Access Feasibility Committee

[Click Here](#) for information from the PTA information night

Background: The trails in the Town Forest (a.k.a. Rye Woods in the warrant article) have become a subject of much discussion recently after a resident complained about hunters shooting deer close to the Town Forest. The Conservation Commission formed a subcommittee to look into various issues with the trails and the bridges over numerous wet areas in the Town Forest, however, two members resigned and the function of the subcommittee has been folded back into the Conservation Commission, with one member being appointed as an alternate. The Town Forest abuts Parsons Field, which is near Rye Junior High. The warrant article seeks trail improvements to provide access to the Town Forest from the center of town and the Junior High in particular.

The article was amended at the Deliberative Session to require only that the Conservation Commission consider the establishment of the Committee.

Pro: Would make it easier to access the Recreation Area, particularly for young children.

Con: Access is already possible, although the absence of signs and clear path may make it difficult for young children, and even adults traveling there the first few times. Trail improvements would cost money.

Article 36: Allows the Selectmen to sell Surplus Equipment

Pro: Would permit the Town to receive revenues from surplus equipment during the year, without needing to wait for Town Meeting approval.

Con: Without the scrutiny provided by the Town Meeting, equipment could be sold for less than its fair market value. Trade in offer for ambulance was lower than expected. This underscores the need to obtain an appraisal if multiple bids cannot be used to establish the value.

School Article 1: Budget of \$14,087,950

See RCL Budget analysis: [Click Here](#)

Summary:

Budget up \$651,566 (4.9 percent) from \$13,436,384 last year, despite \$295,400 reduction in debt service (principal and interest payments) due to maturing of 20-year bond.

Default Budget of \$13,967,307 (only about \$120,000 less than the proposed budget).

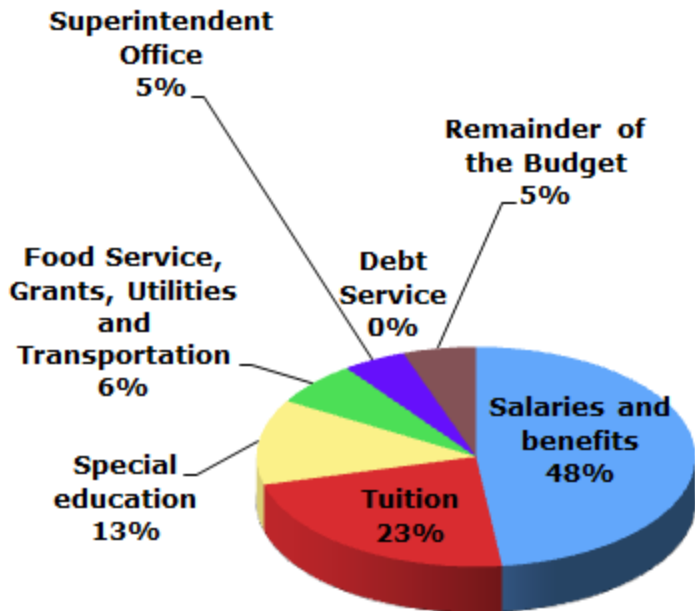
Default budget is theoretically the same as the prior year's budget, except that one-time expenditures need to be deducted, and adjustments, positive or negative made for contractual or legally-mandated expenditures. The net of these adjustments, which includes \$295,400 negative for the debt service, is \$530,923 positive, thus the total adjustments excluding that for the debt service are \$826,323 positive this year. Essentially all year-over-year increases in Special Education, High School Tuition and Busing costs were assumed to be legally-mandated and added to the default budget.

Pros: Keeps School from utilizing Default Budget. This would require finding \$120,000 in reductions. However, in recent years the budget has been underspent substantially (the 2015-2016 surplus was nearly \$400,000) so this might not be difficult.

Cons: Continues costs (see RCL Budget presentation). Despite the large budget increase, staff reductions continue to be the most significant form of budget control, in reaction to the large increases in Special Education (\$338,944) and Portsmouth High School tuition (\$321,596).

Table of Contents

- What Makes up the Tax Rate
- Town Budget Details
- **School Budget Details**



Percentage of 2017-2018 budget

■ Salaries and benefits

■ Tuition

■ Special education

■ Food Service, Grants, Utilities and Transportation

■ Office of the Superintendent

■ Debt Service

■ Remainder of the Budget

Key Points:

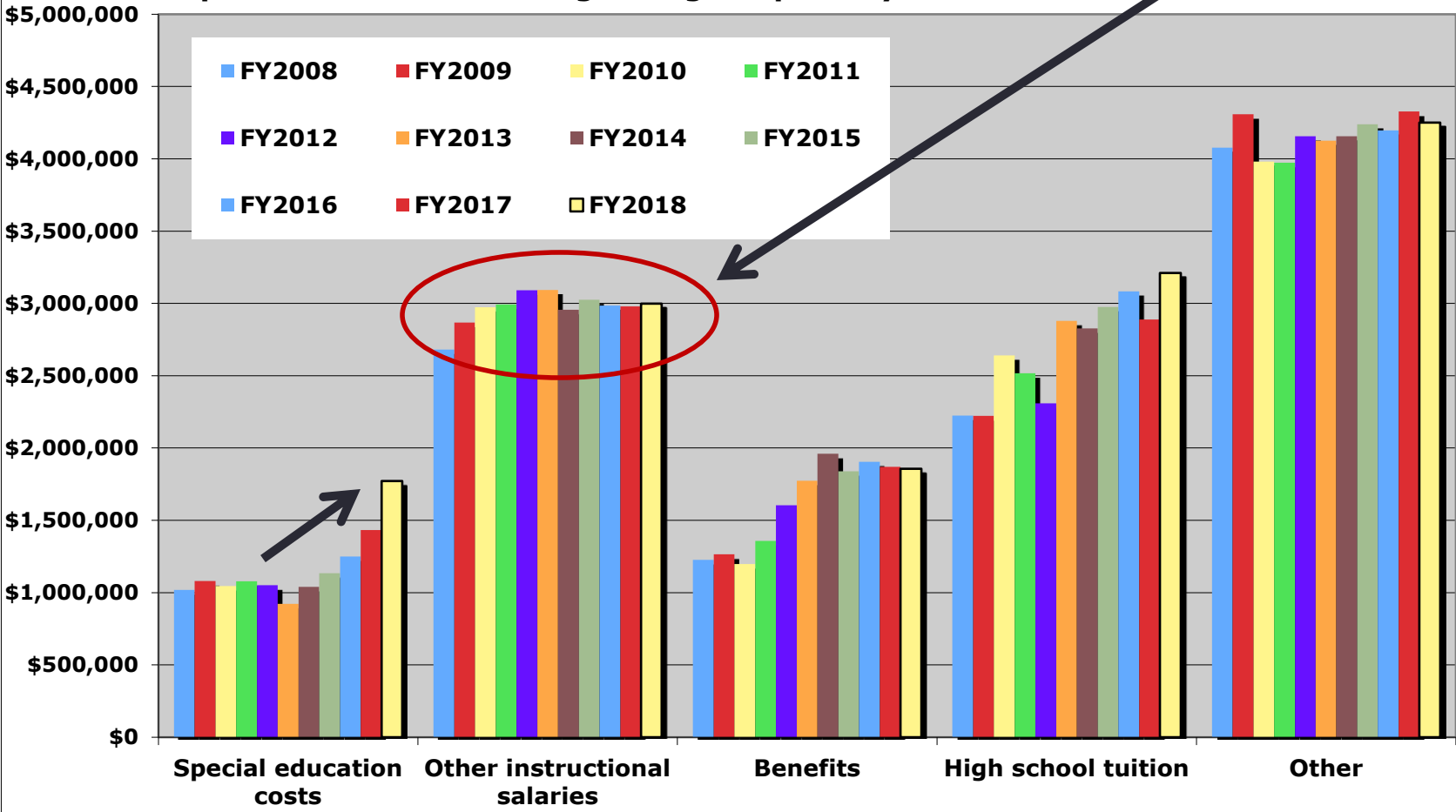
71% of the budget is Tuition and Salaries/Benefits

Major increase for 2017-2018 brings Special Ed. to 13%

Rye is less than ½ of SAU 50 costs (Office of the Superintendent), but those are way up due to new Assistant Business Manager

Special Education has the largest increase this year. If this is growing and budgets are relatively flat, where are the offsetting cuts? Teacher hours?

Special education cost is growing the past 5 years.



School Article 2: \$75,000 for School Buildings and Grounds Expendable Trust

The funds available were barely sufficient to replace the boiler when it failed.

[Click Here](#) to read the Maintenance Section from the 2017-18 Budget Report

Pros: Will help the School Board maintain its buildings

Cons: Increases the tax rate even further in a year when the school tax rate is likely to be up significantly. The projected School District tax rate increase prior to this appropriation is \$.59 or \$295 on \$500K house.

School Article 3: Study best uses of school properties in the face of declining enrollments

[Click Here](#) for more information

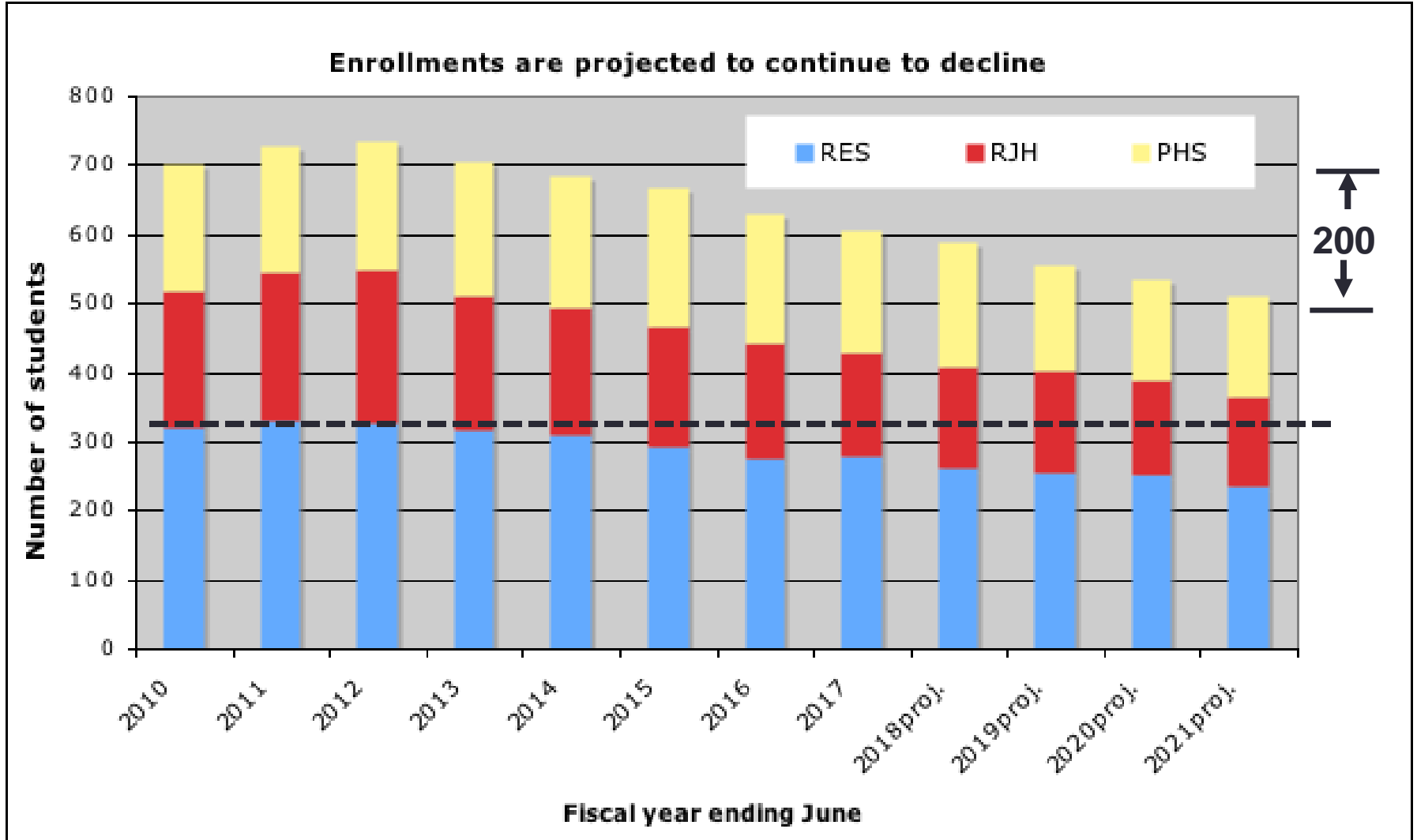
Background: While the total school population is dropping, this could be feasible in the future. The stated capacity of Rye Elementary School (450) is sufficient to accommodate the students in both schools already, although configuration changes would likely be needed. This process could help the town better understand if there will be space available at the school buildings in the near future (for Recreation or other uses)

Article was amended at the Deliberative Session to broaden the range of issues to be considered beyond school consolidation. Amendment also placed committee appointment authority with the School Board (in consultation with the Selectmen) rather than with various town boards and committees.

Pros: Will provide the town useful information when next steps are evaluated

Cons: Adds an additional task for the school board if they send representatives to the committee

Note that the 2020-21 Enrollment projection for both schools is almost down to the 2010-11 RES population. 200 Student drop in K-12 over that time.



Water District Budget

- Total appropriations excluding warrant articles up from \$1,196,895 to \$1,218,887. Projected tax rate is down due to shift in the portion of the Water District budget that is funded by water charges compared to taxes. [Click Here](#) for Budget
- Annual Water District meeting is scheduled for **Saturday March 25, 2017, 10:00 a.m. at Rye Junior High.** Water District is not currently SB2 so amendment and the up or down vote on warrant articles will occur at the same meeting.
- CIP Plan for this year included \$670,000 for Garland Rd. Pump House, however this was not budgeted. No major capital projects will be proceeding this year.

Water District Petitioned Warrant Article on official ballot for election of officers

A petitioned warrant article is being submitted that would require the Water District to use the official ballot (i.e. ballot card at the polls) for the election of officers. This would be the precursor to adoption of SB2 by the Water District (i.e. separate Deliberative Session and election) as is currently the case with the town and the school district.

Pros: Would allow all voters to elect the officers, not just those in attendance at the annual meeting.

Cons: Could add administrative costs to coordinate who gets these ballots and who doesn't.

Jenness Beach Village District

- Total appropriations (no warrant articles) down from \$129,925 to \$125,000. Projected tax rate is down from \$.29 to \$.24. [Click Here](#) for budget
- No annual meeting date yet appears on Town calendar.

Rye Beach Village District

- Total appropriations (no warrant articles) up from \$100,385 to \$129,850. Precinct building maintenance/repair and street light maintenance are major increase areas.
- No annual meeting date yet appears on Town calendar but the meeting is believed to occur on the second Tuesday in April each year, in the evening, at the Rye Beach Precinct Building (Rye Beach Post Office). That would be April 11, 2017.

[Click Here](#) for budget

This Presentation

Was created by the Rye Civic League to help taxpayers be prepared for the deliberative town meeting

- This has now been updated after the Deliberative Town Meeting and posted.

The Rye Civic League publishes the monthly Rye Civic News. You can add yourself to the Rye Civic News at www.ryecivicleague.org

Links to Warrant Article Information

Zoning Ordinances

[Accessory Dwelling Units](#)

[Expiration of Variances](#)

[Height Limit](#)

[RCD Units Expansion](#)

[Wetlands References](#)

[Frontage](#)

[Storm Water](#)

Building Code Ordinances

[ZBA is the Code board also](#)

[Fences](#)

[Town Hall Warrant Articles](#)

Article 6: [BOS Demolish and Rebuild](#)

Article 7: [Renovate and expand](#)

Article 24: [Town Hall Tie Breaker](#)

Article 34: [Volunteer new design](#)

Article 30: [Maintain Town Hall](#)

Article 27 [Police Leash law](#)

Article 28 [No Dog Poop](#)

Article 32: [Leash law statement](#)

Article 8: [Town Budget](#)

Article 9: [New Truck & Plow](#)

Article 10: [Pave Shoals View Drive](#)

Article 11 & 12: [Town Employees CBA](#)

Article 13 & 14 [Fire Fighters CBA](#)

Article 15 & 16: [Police CBA](#)

Article 17: [Fire Truck Reserve](#)

Article 18: [Community Center Planning](#)

Article 19: [Highway Equipment Fund](#)

Article 20: [Accumulated Leave](#)

Article 21: [Municipal Building Fund](#)

Article 22: [Salt Shed design work](#)

Article 23 [Library Maintenance Fund](#)

Article 25: [Fire Department Ordinance](#)

Article 26: [Parking at Rye Rec.](#)

Article 29: [Star Fish Circle](#)

Article 31: [Voter approval for Land purchases](#)

Article 33: [Plan for Younger Family Housing](#)

Article 35: [Trail upgrade planning](#)

Article 36: [Surplus Equipment](#)

School Article 1: [Budget](#)

School Article 2: [\\$75 K for Maintenance Fund](#)

School Article 3: [Long term space planning](#)

[Water District Budget](#)

[Water District Official Ballot](#)

Links for Warrant Article Table