



**CITY OF RYE
1051 BOSTON POST ROAD
RYE, NY 10580**

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
Council Chambers, City Hall
Wednesday, January 7, 2026
6:30 p.m. Executive Session
7:00 p.m. Public Session**

If you wish to address the Council, kindly sign in with the Clerk by completing the Speaker Form. The Mayor and Councilmembers are happy to meet with residents at City Hall. Check the City website for the “office hours” schedule at <https://www.ryeny.gov/government/city-council>.

Note: This agenda may be updated after Sunday’s Inauguration.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order *Mayor*

EXECUTIVE SESSION

2. Matters covered under NYS Public Officers Law Article 7 §105
- a. Personnel *City Manager*
 - b. Litigation *Corporation Counsel*

WELCOME

3. Pledge of Allegiance and Welcome to the Public *Mayor*
4. Roll Call *Clerk*
5. Special Acknowledgements *Mayor*
- a. Recognition of Achievements in the Community
 - b. Proclamation thanking Ted Stein for service on the Board of Ethics
 - c. Proclamation thanking Guy Dempsey for service on the Landmarks Advisory Commission
 - d. Proclamation thanking Nancy Everett for service on the Landmarks Advisory Commission

- e. Proclamation thanking Mario Sax for service on the Landmarks Advisory Commission
 - f. Proclamation recognizing Catherine Parker for her service as County Legislator
 - g. Resolution declaring January 8, 2026, as Catherine Parker Day in the City of Rye
- 6. Report of the City Manager *City Manager*
 - 7. Hearing of the Public on Non-Agenda Items *Mayor*

ACTION ITEMS

- 8. Consent Agenda *Clerk*
 - a. Approval of the Minutes of the City Council Meeting of December 17, 2025
 - b. Approval of request by the Midland Fair Committee to hold a parade on Saturday, May 9, 2026, from 10:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. preceding the Midland Elementary School Fair
 - c. Designation of the Journal News as the official newspaper of the City of Rye
- 9. Items Removed From the Consent Agenda (if any) *Mayor*
- 10. Appointments by the Mayor *Mayor*
- 11. Appointments by the Mayor With Council Approval *Mayor*
- 12. Appointments to Boards and Commissions *Mayor*

PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION/PUBLIC HEARINGS

- 13. Proposed additions to the Rules and Regulations of the City of Rye Police Department. *Public Safety Commissioner*
 - a. Policy 410 – Appearance Tickets
 - b. Policy 412 – Rapid Response and Deployment
 - c. Policy 413 – Immigration Violations
 - d. Policy 414 – Utility Service Emergencies
 - e. Policy 415 – Aircraft Accidents
- 14. Presentation and Discussion on the Proposed Changes to the City’s Leaf Blower Law *Corporation Council*

15. Consideration to set a public hearing for Local Law No. 1-2026 to repeal sections of Chapter 133 “Noise” § 133-7 “Lawn maintenance equipment regulations” in its entirety and amend Chapter 122 “Leaf Blower Regulations” of the Code of the City of Rye to prohibit the use of gas leaf blowers with certain exceptions and to amend the penalties for violations of the Chapter for the January 28, 2026 City Council meeting.

INFORMATION

16. Councilmember Reports

Deputy Mayor

17. Old Business-New Business

Mayor

ADJOURNMENT

If the Council adjourns into executive session, it will then adjourn without further public session.

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The next regular meeting of the City Council will be held on Wednesday, January 28, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. for executive session and 7:00 p.m. for public session.

City Council meetings are available live at www.ryeny.gov/home under Rye TV Government Videos, on Cablevision Channel 75 and Verizon Channel 39, and on demand, indexed by agenda item, on the City website at <https://www.ryeny.gov/government/city-council>.



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

DEPT.: City Council

CONTACT: Josh Nathan, Mayor

AGENDA ITEM: Special Acknowledgements

FOR THE MEETING OF:

January 7, 2026

RECOMMENDATION: That the Mayor and Council recognize the work and achievements of community members.

IMPACT: Environmental Fiscal Neighborhood Other:

BACKGROUND:

- a. Recognition of Achievements in the Community
- b. Proclamation thanking Ted Stein for service on the Board of Ethics
- c. Proclamation thanking Guy Dempsey for service on the Landmarks Advisory Commission
- d. Proclamation thanking Nancy Everett for service on the Landmarks Advisory Commission
- e. Proclamation thanking Mario Sax for service on the Landmarks Advisory Commission
- f. Proclamation recognizing Catherine Parker for her service as County Legislator



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

DEPT.: City Council

CONTACT: Josh Nathan, Mayor

AGENDA ITEM: Resolution declaring January 8th as Catherine Parker Day in the City of Rye.

FOR THE MEETING OF:

January 7, 2026

RECOMMENDATION: That the Council make the declaration.

RESOLVED, The City Council hereby declared January 8th as Catherine Parker Day in the City of Rye.

IMPACT: Environmental Fiscal Neighborhood Other:

BACKGROUND: Once declared, January 8th, 2026, will be Catherine Parker Day in the City of Rye. Catherine Parker's name will be displayed prominently on the City's mobile sign on Purchase Street.



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

DEPT.: City Manager

CONTACT: Brian Shea, Interim City Manager

AGENDA ITEM: Approval of the Minutes of the City Council Meeting of December 17, 2025

FOR THE MEETING OF:

January 7, 2026

RECOMMENDATION: That the Council review and approve the meeting minutes.

IMPACT: Environmental Fiscal Neighborhood Other:

BACKGROUND: See the attached December 17, 2025, meeting minutes.

UNAPPROVED MINUTES of the Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Rye held at City Hall on December 17, 2025, at 6:30 P.M.

PRESENT:

JOSH COHN, Mayor
KEITH CUNNINGHAM
BILL HENDERSON
JAMIE JENSEN
JOSH NATHAN
JULIE SOUZA
JAMES WARD
Councilmembers

ABSENT:

ALSO ATTENDING:

BRIAN SHEA, INTERIM CITY MANAGER
KRISTEN WILSON, CORPORATION COUNSEL
JOE FAZZINO, DEPUTY COMPTROLLER
RYAN COYNE, CITY ENGINEER

The Council convened in City Hall at 6:43 P.M. The meeting was streamed live at www.ryeny.gov for public viewing.

1. [Pledge of Allegiance.](#)

Mayor Cohn led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. [Roll Call.](#)

The City Clerk called the roll, and there was a quorum.

3. [Draft unapproved minutes of the Regular Meeting of the City Council held December 3, 2025.](#)

On motion by Councilperson Souza, seconded by Councilperson Jensen, and unanimously carried, it was

RESOLVED to approve the drafted unapproved minutes of the Regular Meeting of the City Council held on December 3, 2025.

4. [Members of the public may be heard on matters for Council consideration that do not appear on the agenda.](#)

- Schuyler Johnson, 8 Red Oak Drive, discussed funding for the Rye Fire Department
- Victoria McMahon, 1 Hillside Road, discussed hiring 4 career firefighters.
- Former Mayor, Douglas French, 46 Meadow Place, thanked the outgoing Mayor and Councilmembers for their service.
- Angelo Scarfone, 16 Nursery Lane, spoke regarding Gagliardo Park
- Former Councilmember, Emily Hurd, 21 Green Avenue, thanked the outgoing Mayor and Councilmembers for their service.
- Former Democratic Chair, Meg Cameron, 5 Martin Butler Court, thanked the outgoing Mayor and Councilmembers for their service.

5. [Report of the City Manager.](#)

Interim City Manager Brian Shea gave an update to the Council on several topics.

6. [Mayor's Message.](#)

The Mayor delivered his final address.

7. [Building Five concept presentation by Stantec.](#)

City Engineer Ryan Coyne introduced Stantec Design Architect, Tom Castelline, who presented the updated high-level concept design.

8. [Discussion of Hornridge-Boston Post Road pedestrian safety.](#)

Traffic and Pedestrian Safety Committee Chairman Brian Depsey gave an overview of the options being considered to improve safety at the intersection in question.

Diana Reilly, 133 Wagner Avenue in Mamaroneck, discussed the Hornridge Crosswalk.

9. [Open a public hearing to adopt a local law to override the state-enacted tax levy limitation.](#)

On motion by Councilperson Souza, seconded by Councilperson Nathan, and unanimously carried, it was

RESOLVED to open the public hearing.

On motion by Councilperson Souza, seconded by Councilperson Nathan, and unanimously carried, it was

RESOLVED to close the public hearing.

10. [Resolution to adopt a local law to override the state-enacted tax levy limitation.](#)

On motion by Councilperson Souza, seconded by Mayor Cohn, it was:

RESOLVED that the City Council hereby adopts a local law authorizing property tax levy in excess of the limit established in General Municipal Law §3-C.

Adopted by the following vote:

ROLL CALL

AYES: Councilpersons Henderson, Jensen, Nathan, Souza, Ward, Mayor Cohn

NAYS: Councilperson Cunningham

ABSENT: None

11. [Continue the public hearing on the 2026 Budget.](#)

On motion by Councilperson Souza, seconded by Councilperson Nathan, and unanimously carried, it was

RESOLVED to close the public hearing.

12. [Resolution to adopt the 2026 Budget and establish the 2026 tax levy and 2026 tax rate.](#)

On motion by Councilperson Souza, seconded by Mayor Cohn:

WHEREAS, on November 5, 2025, the 2026 Proposed Budget was presented to the City Council.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City does hereby certify to the City Comptroller the 2026 City of Rye tax rate of \$233.17 per \$1,000 taxable assessed valuation and the 2026 City of Rye tax levy of \$34,075,476; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council does hereby direct the City Comptroller to apportion and extend against each taxable property listed upon the assessment role at the tax rate certified in this resolution to produce the tax levy certified in this resolution, and to render tax notices for, and receive and collect, several sums so computed and determines, with interest as provided by law, and any special assessment heretofore authorized and approved.

Adopted by the following vote:

ROLL CALL

AYES: Councilpersons Cunningham, Jensen, Nathan, Souza, Ward, Mayor Cohn

NAYS: Councilperson Henderson,

ABSENT: None

13. [Resolution authorizing the City Comptroller to make necessary year-end closing transfers.](#)

On motion by Councilperson Souza, seconded by Mayor Cohn, and unanimously carried.

RESOLVED, the City Comptroller is hereby authorized to make necessary 2025 fiscal year-end budget transfers in City accounts, provided a list of such transfers over \$10,000 is furnished to the City Council after the completion of such transfers.

14. [Old Business/New Business.](#)

Interim City Manager Brian Shea presented the outgoing Mayor and Councilmembers with small gifts. Mayor-elect Nathan thanked the outgoing members for their service and contributions.

Councilperson Henderson thanked Mayor Cohn and Councilperson Souza for their service, his family members, and City Staff for their work, and wished the new Council success.

Councilperson Souza thanked the community, City Staff, Commission volunteers, fellow Councilmembers past and present, her family, and friends for their support.

15. [Adjournment.](#)

On motion of Councilperson Souza, seconded by Mayor Cohn, and with the Council in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 8:49 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Noga Ruttenberg
City Clerk



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

DEPT.: City Manager

CONTACT: Brian Shea, Interim City Manager

AGENDA ITEM: Consideration of a request by the Midland Fair Committee to approve a parade to precede the Midland Elementary School Fair on Saturday, May 9, 2026, from 10:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.

FOR THE MEETING OF:

January 7, 2026

RECOMMENDATION: That the Council consider the request.

IMPACT: Environmental Fiscal Neighborhood Other:

BACKGROUND: The Midland Fair Committee is requesting the Council approve a parade to precede the Midland Elementary School Fair on Saturday, May 9, 2026, from 10:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.

See the attached request email.

From:
To: [Sullivan, John P.](#)
Cc:
Subject: Midland Fair Parade Date Approval Request - May 9th 2026
Date: Thursday, December 11, 2025 3:18:25 PM

Hi John,

I hope you are doing well.

I'm reaching out regarding the 2026 Midland Fair. I would like to submit a request to the City Counsel for Midland School's Fair Parade on Saturday, May 9, 2025. The fair will run from 11-3pm, so we would like the parade lineup to be at 10:30am with the parade kicking off at 10:45am. Can we request a street closure from the Rye Train Station through town, up Palisades Road and back to Midland School from 10:30-11? We have done a rolling street closure in the past. There will be some food trucks, but as in prior years, they will be on school grounds. If that plan changes we will let you know.

Thank you for your help and support.

Rosa Rotondi, Melissa Mapes, Annie Gray, and Danielle Lambert
Midland Fair Co-Chairs

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Rosa Rotondi



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

DEPT.: City Manager

CONTACT: Brian Shea, Interim City Manager

AGENDA ITEM: Designation of the Official City Newspaper.

FOR THE MEETING OF:

January 7, 2026

RECOMMENDATION: That the Mayor and City Council designate the Journal News as the official City newspaper for purposes of publishing legal notices.

IMPACT: Environmental Fiscal Neighborhood Other:

BACKGROUND: The Rye City Charter requires the City Council to designate a newspaper circulated at least once a week in the City as the official newspaper of the City. A daily newspaper provides the City staff with the most flexibility in meeting notice deadlines. Each of the newspapers covering the City provides different types of coverage but working with a weekly paper is much more difficult in meeting notice deadlines and a monthly paper cannot meet the notice needs of the City.



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

DEPT.: City Council

CONTACT: Josh Nathan, Mayor

AGENDA ITEM: Appointments by the Mayor

FOR THE MEETING OF:

January 7, 2026

RECOMMENDATION: That the Mayor consider potential appointments.

IMPACT: Environmental Fiscal Neighborhood Other:

BACKGROUND:



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

DEPT.: City Council

CONTACT: Josh Nathan, Mayor

AGENDA ITEM: Appointments by the Mayor With Council Approval

FOR THE MEETING OF:

January 7, 2026

RECOMMENDATION: That the Mayor and Council consider potential appointments.

IMPACT: Environmental Fiscal Neighborhood Other:

BACKGROUND:



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

DEPT.: City Council

CONTACT: Josh Nathan, Mayor

AGENDA ITEM: Appointments to Boards and Commissions.

FOR THE MEETING OF:

January 7, 2026

RECOMMENDATION: That the Council consider potential appointments.

IMPACT: Environmental Fiscal Neighborhood Other:

BACKGROUND:



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

DEPT.: Police Department

CONTACT: Michael Kopy, Public Safety Commissioner

AGENDA ITEM: Consideration of the proposed additions to the Rules and Regulations of the City of Rye Police Department.

- Policy 410 – Appearance Tickets
- Policy 412 – Rapid Response and Deployment
- Policy 413 – Immigration Violations
- Policy 414 – Utility Service Emergencies
- Policy 415 – Aircraft Accidents

FOR THE MEETING OF:

January 7, 2026

RECOMMENDATION: Consideration of the listed policies.

IMPACT: Environmental Fiscal Neighborhood Other:

BACKGROUND: The proposed policies have been reviewed by the Commissioner and the Rye Police Association for review pursuant to the provisions of the collective bargaining agreement.

See the attached memo and policies.

Michael Kopy
Public Safety Commissioner
1051 Boston Post Road
Rye, New York 10580



Tel: (914) 967-1234 ex 2011
E-mail: mkopy@ryeny.gov
<http://www.ryeny.gov>

CITY OF RYE Public Safety

To: Brian Shea, Interim City Manager
From: Michael Kopy, Public Safety Commissioner
Date: 01/07/2026
Re: Police Department – Lexipol Policy

Reference the captioned subject, the attached policy changes are forwarded for review. As you know, the city contracted with Lexipol prior to my arrival to develop policies for the police department based on nationwide standards and best practices, while also incorporating state and federal laws. I have reviewed the policies submitted by Lexipol with a committee at the police department (including the PBA) and made the appropriate changes where necessary.

I believe that the adoption of these policies are in the best interest of public safety in the City of Rye and I recommend that they be forwarded to the City Council for action. Below is a brief overview of the changes from both the current City Police Department policy, as well as what was submitted by Lexipol, for each section.

I will be available to answer questions when these are reviewed.

Policy 410 – Appearance Tickets

The purpose of this policy is to provide members of the Rye Police Department with guidance on when to release adults who are suspected offenders on an appearance ticket for criminal offense rather than having the person held in custody.

Policy 412 – Rapid Response Deployment

The purpose of this policy is to identify guidelines and factors that will assist officers in situations that call for rapid response and deployment. .

Policy 413 – Immigration Violations

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines to members of the Rye Police Department relating to immigration and interacting with federal immigration officials.

Policy 414 – Utility Service Emergencies

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for addressing City utility service emergencies. This policy will address calls for service that are directed to the Police Department.

Policy 415 – Aircraft Accidents

This policy provides department members with guidelines for handling aircraft accidents.

Appearance Tickets

410.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide members of the Rye Police Department with guidance on when to release adults who are suspected offenders on an appearance ticket for a criminal offense, rather than having the person held in custody. Additional release restrictions may apply to those detained for domestic violence, as outlined in the Domestic Violence Policy.

410.2 POLICY

The Rye Police Department will consider its resources and its mission of protecting the community when exercising any discretion to release suspected offenders on an appearance ticket, when authorized to do so.

410.3 RELEASE

A suspected offender may be released on issuance of an appearance ticket for all other offenses except any of the crimes listed in the Prohibitions section of this policy (CPL § 140.20; CPL § 140.27; CPL § 150.20).

Prior to release, an officer shall inform the arrestee of his/her option to provide contact information for purposes of receiving a reminder of his/her court appearance date (CPL § 150.10). The contact information should be recorded and promptly filed with the appropriate criminal court along with the citation (CPL § 150.80).

410.3.1 RELEASE BY PEACE OFFICER

If the officer is a peace officer, the officer may issue and serve an appearance ticket if specially authorized by state or local law. Otherwise, the officer shall enlist the aid of a police officer and request that the police officer issue and serve an appearance ticket upon the arrested person (CPL § 140.27).

410.3.2 RELEASE FOLLOWING FINGERPRINTING AND PHOTOGRAPHING

Following an arrest for a felony, a misdemeanor defined in the penal law, or a misdemeanor defined outside the penal law that would constitute a felony if the accused had a previous judgment of conviction for a crime, the officer shall ensure fingerprints of the accused are taken prior to release on an appearance ticket (CPL § 160.10).

An officer should take fingerprints of a person arrested for any offense, prior to release on an appearance ticket, if the officer:

- (a) Is unable to ascertain the person's identity.
- (b) Reasonably suspects that the person is providing false identification information.
- (c) Reasonably suspects that the person is sought by law enforcement for some other offense.

A photograph and palm prints of the arrested person may be taken along with their fingerprints.

Appearance Tickets

410.3.3 APPEARANCE TICKET RETURN DATE

Officers should make all appearance tickets returnable in the appropriate local criminal court as soon as possible, but no later than 20 days from the date of issuance, or at the next scheduled session of the appropriate court, if such session is scheduled to occur more than 20 days from date of issuance (CPL §150.40).

410.4 PROHIBITIONS

The release of a suspected offender on an appearance ticket is not permitted when the person is accused of an A, B, C, or D felony, a violation of the following class E felonies, or is required to be arrested under CPL § 140.10(4) (CPL § 140.20; CPL § 150.20):

- (a) Rape in the third degree (Penal Law § 130.25).
- (b) Escape in the second degree (Penal Law § 205.10).
- (c) Absconding from temporary release in the first degree (Penal Law § 205.17).
- (d) Absconding from a community treatment facility (Penal Law § 205.19).
- (e) Bail jumping in the second degree (Penal Law § 215.56).

See the Domestic Violence Policy for release restrictions related to those investigations.

410.5 INITIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Officers should issue an appearance ticket, rather than effect a custodial arrest, for any offense other than a class A, B, C, or D felony; a violation of § 130.25, § 205.10, § 205.17, § 205.19, or § 215.56 of the Penal Law; or an applicable domestic violence offense under CPL § 140.10(4), unless there is reason to believe the individual:

- (a) Has one or more outstanding local criminal court or superior court warrants.
- (b) Has failed to appear in court proceedings in the last two years.
- (c) Has not made the individual's identity or method of contact known even after a reasonable opportunity to do so.
- (d) Has been charged with a crime between members of the same family or household (CPL § 530.11).
- (e) Is charged with a sex offense under Article 130 of the Penal Law.
- (f) Should be brought before the court for consideration of an order of protection under the circumstances of the offense.
- (g) Is charged with a crime for which the court may suspend or revoke the individual's driver license.
- (h) Reasonably appears to need immediate medical or mental health care such that it would be in the individual's best interest to be brought before the court.
 - 1. In such cases, officers should make reasonable efforts to secure medical or mental health services (CPL § 150.20) (see the Emergency Admissions and Medical Aid and Response policies).

Appearance Tickets

- (i) Is 18 or older and charged with either of the following (CPL § 150.20):
 - 1. Criminal possession of a weapon on school grounds as defined in Penal Law § 265.01-a.
 - 2. A hate crime as defined in Penal Law § 485.05.
- (j) Is charged with a qualifying offense pursuant to CPL § 510.10(4)(t) or CPL § 530.40(4)(t) (CPL § 150.20).

410.5.1 CONSIDERATIONS

In determining whether to cite and release a person when discretion is permitted, officers should consider:

- (a) The type of offense committed.
- (b) The known criminal history of the suspected offender.
- (c) The ability to identify the suspected offender with reasonable certainty.
- (d) Whether there is any record of the individual failing to appear in previous cases or other articulable indications that the individual may not appear in court for this offense.
- (e) The individual's ties to the area, such as residence, employment, or family.
- (f) Whether there is reasonable likelihood that criminal conduct by the individual will continue.

410.5.2 IMPAIRMENT

Officers should consider the suspected offender's apparent level of impairment due to alcohol and/or drugs prior to release and follow the Medical Aid and Response Policy as applicable. For impaired suspected offenders who do not require medical aid, officers should consider arranging release to a responsible person.

Rapid Response and Deployment

412.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Violence that is committed in schools, workplaces and other locations by individuals or a group of individuals who are determined to target and kill persons and to create mass casualties presents a difficult situation for law enforcement. The purpose of this policy is to identify guidelines and factors that will assist officers in situations that call for rapid response and deployment.

412.2 POLICY

The Rye Police Department will endeavor to plan for rapid response to crisis situations, and to coordinate response planning with other emergency services as well as with those who are responsible for operating sites that may be the target of a critical incident.

Nothing in this policy shall preclude the use of reasonable force, deadly or otherwise, by members of the Department in protecting themselves or others from death or serious injury.

412.3 CONSIDERATIONS

When dealing with a crisis situation members should:

- (a) Assess the immediate situation and take reasonable steps to maintain operative control of the incident.
- (b) Obtain, explore and analyze sources of intelligence and known information regarding the circumstances, location and suspect involved in the incident.
- (c) Attempt to attain a tactical advantage over the suspect by reducing, preventing or eliminating any known or perceived threat.
- (d) Attempt, if feasible and based upon the suspect's actions and danger to others, a negotiated surrender of the suspect and release of the hostages.

412.4 FIRST RESPONSE

If there is a reasonable belief that acts or threats by a suspect are placing lives in imminent danger, first responding officers should consider reasonable options to reduce, prevent or eliminate the threat. Officers must decide, often under a multitude of difficult and rapidly evolving circumstances, whether to advance on the suspect, take other actions to deal with the threat or wait for additional resources.

If a suspect is actively engaged in the infliction of serious bodily harm or other life-threatening activity toward others, officers should take immediate action, if reasonably practicable, while requesting additional assistance.

Officers should remain aware of the possibility that an incident may be part of a coordinated multi-location attack that may require some capacity to respond to incidents at other locations.

When deciding on a course of action officers should consider:

Rapid Response and Deployment

- (a) Whether to advance on or engage a suspect who is still a possible or perceived threat to others. Any advancement or engagement should be based on information known or received at the time.
- (b) Whether to wait for additional resources or personnel. This does not preclude an individual officer from taking immediate action.
- (c) Whether individuals who are under imminent threat can be moved or evacuated with reasonable safety.
- (d) Whether the suspect can be contained or denied access to victims.
- (e) Whether the officers have the ability to effectively communicate with other personnel or resources.
- (f) Whether planned tactics can be effectively deployed.
- (g) The availability of rifles, shotguns, shields, breaching tools, control devices and any other appropriate tools, and whether the deployment of these tools will provide a tactical advantage.

In the case of a barricaded or trapped suspect, with no hostages and no immediate threat to others, officers should consider covering escape routes and evacuating persons as appropriate, while summoning and waiting for additional assistance (e.g., special tactics and/or hostage negotiation team response).

412.5 PLANNING

The appropriate Division Commander should coordinate critical incident planning. Planning efforts should consider:

- (a) Identification of likely critical incident target sites, such as schools, shopping centers, entertainment venues and sporting event venues.
- (b) Availability of building plans and venue schematics of likely critical incident target sites.
- (c) Communications interoperability with other law enforcement and emergency service agencies.
- (d) Training opportunities in critical incident target sites, including joint training with site occupants.
- (e) Evacuation routes in critical incident target sites.
- (f) Patrol first-response training.
- (g) Response coordination and resources of emergency medical and fire services.
- (h) Equipment needs.
- (i) Mutual aid agreements with other agencies.
- (j) Coordination with private security providers in critical incident target sites.
- (k) A review of, and coordination with, the emergency response plans filed by the school district (Education Law § 2801-a).

Rapid Response and Deployment

412.6 TRAINING

The Patrol or Detective Lieutenant should include rapid response to critical incidents in the training plan. This training should address:

- (a) Orientation to likely critical incident target sites, such as schools, shopping centers, entertainment venues and sporting event venues.
- (b) Communications interoperability with other law enforcement and emergency service agencies.
- (c) Patrol first-response training, including patrol rifle, shotgun, breaching tool and control device training.
- (d) First aid, including gunshot trauma.
- (e) Reality-based scenario training (e.g., active shooter, disgruntled violent worker).

Immigration Violations

413.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines to members of the Rye Police Department relating to immigration and interacting with federal immigration officials.

413.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Rye Police Department that all members make personal and professional commitments to equal enforcement of the law and equal service to the public. Confidence in this commitment will increase the effectiveness of this department in protecting and serving the entire community and recognizing the dignity of all persons, regardless of their national origin or immigration status.

413.3 VICTIMS AND WITNESSES

To encourage crime reporting and cooperation in the investigation of criminal activity, all individuals, regardless of their immigration status, must feel secure that contacting or being addressed by members of law enforcement will not automatically lead to immigration inquiry and/or deportation. While it may be necessary to determine the identity of a victim or witness, members shall treat all individuals equally and not in any way that would violate the United States or New York State constitutions.

413.4 DETENTIONS

An officer should not detain any individual, for any length of time, for a civil violation of federal immigration laws or a related civil warrant.

An officer who has a reasonable suspicion that an individual already lawfully contacted or detained has committed a criminal violation of federal immigration law may detain the person for a reasonable period of time in order to contact federal immigration officials to verify whether an immigration violation is a federal civil violation or a criminal violation. If the violation is a criminal violation, the officer may continue to detain the person for a reasonable period of time if requested by federal immigration officials (8 USC § 1357(g)(10)). No individual who is otherwise ready to be released should continue to be detained only because questions about the individual's status are unresolved.

If the officer has facts that establish probable cause to believe that a person already lawfully detained has committed a criminal immigration offense, he/she may continue the detention and may request a federal immigration official to respond to the location to take custody of the detained person (8 USC § 1357(g)(10)).

An officer is encouraged to forgo detentions made solely on the basis of a misdemeanor offense when time limitations, availability of personnel, issues of officer safety, communication capabilities, or the potential to obstruct a separate investigation outweigh the need for the detention.

Immigration Violations

An officer should notify a supervisor as soon as practicable whenever an individual is being detained for a criminal immigration violation.

413.4.1 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

When notified that an officer has detained an individual and established reasonable suspicion or probable cause to believe the person has violated a criminal immigration offense, the supervisor should determine whether it is appropriate to:

- (a) Transfer the person to federal authorities.
- (b) Lawfully arrest the person for a criminal offense or pursuant to a judicial warrant (see the Law Enforcement Authority for Police Officers Policy).

413.5 ARREST NOTIFICATION TO IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT

Generally, an officer should not notify federal immigration officials when booking arrestees at a jail facility. Any required notification will be handled according to jail operation procedures. No individual who is otherwise ready to be released should continue to be detained solely for the purpose of notification.

413.6 FEDERAL REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE

Requests by federal immigration officials for assistance from this department should be directed to a supervisor. The Department may provide available support services, such as traffic control or peacekeeping efforts.

413.7 INFORMATION SHARING

No member of this department will prohibit, or in any way restrict, any other member from doing any of the following regarding the citizenship or immigration status, lawful or unlawful, of any individual (8 USC § 1373):

- (a) Sending information to, or requesting or receiving such information from federal immigration officials
- (b) Maintaining such information in department records
- (c) Exchanging such information with any other federal, state, or local government entity

413.7.1 IMMIGRATION DETAINERS

No individual should be held based solely on a federal immigration detainer under 8 CFR 287.7 unless the person has been charged with a federal crime or the detainer is accompanied by a warrant, affidavit of probable cause, or removal order. Notification to the federal authority issuing the detainer should be made prior to the release.

413.8 U VISA AND T VISA NONIMMIGRANT STATUS

Under certain circumstances, federal law allows temporary immigration benefits, known as a U visa, to victims and witnesses of certain qualifying crimes (8 USC § 1101(a)(15)(U)).

Immigration Violations

Similar immigration protection, known as a T visa, is available for certain qualifying victims of human trafficking (8 USC § 1101(a)(15)(T)).

Any request for assistance in applying for U visa or T visa status should be forwarded in a timely manner to the Detective Division supervisor assigned to oversee the handling of any related case. The Detective Division supervisor should:

- (a) Consult with the assigned investigator to determine the current status of any related case and whether further documentation is warranted.
- (b) Contact the appropriate prosecutor assigned to the case, if applicable, to ensure the certification or declaration has not already been completed and whether a certification or declaration is warranted.
- (c) Address the request and complete the certification or declaration, if appropriate, in a timely manner.
 - 1. The instructions for completing certification and declaration forms can be found on the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) website.
- (d) Ensure that any decision to complete, or not complete, a certification or declaration form is documented in the case file and forwarded to the appropriate prosecutor. Include a copy of any completed form in the case file.

413.9 TRAINING

The Patrol or Detective Lieutenant should ensure officers receive training on this policy.

Training should include:

- (a) Identifying civil versus criminal immigration violations.
- (b) Factors that may be considered in determining whether a criminal immigration offense has been committed.

Utility Service Emergencies

414.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for addressing City utility service emergencies. This policy will address calls for service that are directed to the Police Department.

414.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Rye Police Department to appropriately respond to City emergency utility service requests received by this department.

414.3 UTILITY SERVICE EMERGENCY

A current contact list of City personnel to be notified in the event of a utility service emergency should be available in the Desk.

414.3.1 WATER LINES

The City's responsibility for water lines ends at the water meter; any break or malfunction in the water system from the water meter to a residence or business is the responsibility of the customer.

If a water line break occurs on the City side of the water meter, public works personnel should be notified as soon as practicable.

414.3.2 ELECTRICAL LINES

When a power line poses a hazard, a member of this department should be dispatched to the reported location to protect against personal injury or property damage that might be caused by the power line. The fire department, electric company and/or the public works department should be promptly notified, as appropriate.

414.3.3 RESERVOIRS, PUMPS, WELLS

In the event of flooding or equipment malfunctions involving City reservoirs, pumps or wells, the public works department should be contacted as soon as practicable.

414.3.4 NATURAL GAS LINES

All reports of a possible leak of natural gas or damage to a natural gas line shall promptly be referred to the fire department and the local entity responsible for gas lines. A member of this department should be dispatched to the reported location if it appears that assistance such as traffic control or evacuation is needed.

414.3.5 TRAFFIC SIGNALS

A member of this department should be dispatched upon report of a damaged or malfunctioning traffic signal in order to protect against personal injury or property damage that might occur as the result of the damaged or malfunctioning signal. The member will advise the Desk of the problem with the traffic signal. The desk officer should make the necessary notification to the appropriate traffic signal maintenance agency as soon as practicable.

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A decision to place a signal on flash should include a consultation with the appropriate traffic signal maintenance agency, unless exigent circumstances exist.

Aircraft Accidents

415.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide department members with guidelines for handling aircraft accidents.

This policy does not supersede, and is supplementary to, applicable portions of the Crime and Disaster Scene Integrity, Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan and Hazardous Material Response policies.

415.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Aircraft - Any fixed wing aircraft, rotorcraft, balloon, blimp/dirigible or glider that is capable of carrying a person or any unmanned aerial vehicle other than those intended for non-commercial recreational use.

415.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Rye Police Department to provide an appropriate emergency response to aircraft accidents. This includes emergency medical care and scene management.

415.3 ARRIVAL AT SCENE

Officers or other authorized members tasked with initial scene management should establish an inner and outer perimeter to:

- (a) Protect persons and property.
- (b) Prevent any disturbance or further damage to the wreckage or debris, except to preserve life or rescue the injured.
- (c) Preserve ground scars and marks made by the aircraft.
- (d) Manage the admission and access of public safety and medical personnel to the extent necessary to preserve life or to stabilize hazardous materials.
- (e) Maintain a record of persons who enter the accident site.
- (f) Consider implementation of an Incident Command System (ICS).

415.4 INJURIES AND CASUALTIES

Members should address emergency medical issues and provide care as a first priority.

Those tasked with the supervision of the scene should coordinate with the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) before the removal of bodies. If that is not possible, the scene supervisor should ensure documentation of what was disturbed, including switch/control positions and instrument/gauge readings.

Aircraft Accidents

415.5 NOTIFICATIONS

When an aircraft accident is reported to this department, the responding supervisor shall ensure notification is or has been made to NTSB, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and when applicable, the appropriate branch of the military.

Supervisors shall ensure other notifications are made once an aircraft accident has been reported. The notifications will vary depending on the type of accident, extent of injuries or damage, and the type of aircraft involved. When an aircraft accident has occurred, it is generally necessary to notify the following:

- (a) Fire department
- (b) Appropriate airport tower
- (c) Emergency medical services (EMS)

415.6 CONTROLLING ACCESS AND SCENE AUTHORITY

Prior to NTSB arrival, scene access should be limited to authorized personnel from the:

- (a) FAA.
- (b) Fire department, EMS or other assisting law enforcement agencies.
- (c) Medical Examiner.
- (d) Air Carrier/Operators investigative teams with NTSB approval.
- (e) Appropriate branch of the military, when applicable.
- (f) Other emergency services agencies (e.g., hazardous materials teams, biohazard decontamination teams, fuel recovery specialists, explosive ordnance disposal specialists).

The NTSB has primary responsibility for investigating accidents involving civil aircraft. In the case of a military aircraft accident, the appropriate branch of the military will have primary investigation responsibility.

After the NTSB or military representative arrives on-scene, the efforts of this department will shift to a support role for those agencies.

If NTSB or a military representative determines that an aircraft or accident does not qualify under its jurisdiction, the on-scene department supervisor should ensure the accident is still appropriately investigated and documented.

415.7 DANGEROUS MATERIALS

Members should be aware of potentially dangerous materials that might be present. These may include, but are not limited to:

- Fuel, chemicals, explosives, biological or radioactive materials and bombs or other ordnance.

Aircraft Accidents

- Pressure vessels, compressed gas bottles, accumulators and tires.
- Fluids, batteries, flares and igniters.
- Evacuation chutes, ballistic parachute systems and composite materials.

415.8 DOCUMENTATION

All aircraft accidents occurring within the City of Rye shall be documented. At a minimum the documentation should include the date, time and location of the incident; any witness statements, if taken; the names of RPD members deployed to assist; other City resources that were utilized; and cross reference information to other investigating agencies. Suspected criminal activity should be documented on the appropriate crime report.

415.8.1 WRECKAGE

When reasonably safe, members should:

- (a) Obtain the aircraft registration number (N number) and note the type of aircraft.
- (b) Attempt to ascertain the number of casualties.
- (c) Obtain photographs or video of the overall wreckage, including the cockpit and damage, starting at the initial point of impact, if possible, and any ground scars or marks made by the aircraft.
 1. Military aircraft may contain classified equipment and therefore shall not be photographed unless authorized by a military commanding officer (18 USC § 795).
- (d) Secure, if requested by the lead authority, any electronic data or video recorders from the aircraft that became dislodged or cell phones or other recording devices that are part of the wreckage.
- (e) Acquire copies of any recordings from security cameras that may have captured the incident.

415.8.2 WITNESSES

Members tasked with contacting witnesses should obtain:

- (a) The location of the witness at the time of his/her observation relative to the accident site.
- (b) A detailed description of what was observed or heard.
- (c) Any photographs or recordings of the accident witnesses may be willing to voluntarily surrender.
- (d) The names of all persons reporting the accident, even if not yet interviewed.
- (e) Any audio recordings of reports to 9-1-1 regarding the accident and dispatch records.

Aircraft Accidents

415.9 MEDIA RELATIONS

The Public Information Officer (PIO) should coordinate a response to the media, including access issues, road closures, detours and any safety information that is pertinent to the surrounding community. Any release of information regarding details of the accident itself should be coordinated with the NTSB or other authority who may have assumed responsibility for the investigation.

Depending on the type of aircraft, the airline or the military may be responsible for family notifications and the release of victims' names. The PIO should coordinate with other involved entities before the release of information.



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

DEPT.: Corporation Counsel

CONTACT: Kristen Wilson, Corporation Counsel

AGENDA ITEM: Presentation and Discussion on the Proposed Changes to the City's Leaf Blower Law

FOR THE MEETING OF:

January 7, 2026

RECOMMENDATION: That the Council consider the presentation and discuss the potential changes to the City of Rye's leaf blower local law.

IMPACT: Environmental Fiscal Neighborhood Other:

BACKGROUND: Corporation Counsel, Kristen Wilson, will give a presentation explaining the proposed changes to the City's leaf blower local law.



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

DEPT.: Corporation Counsel

CONTACT: Kristen Wilson, Corporation Counsel

AGENDA ITEM: Consideration to set a public hearing for Local Law No. 1-2026 to repeal sections of Chapter 133 “Noise” § 133-7 “Lawn maintenance equipment regulations” in its entirety and amend Chapter 122 “Leaf Blower Regulations” of the Code of the City of Rye to prohibit the use of gas leaf blowers with certain exceptions and to amend the penalties for violations of the Chapter for the January 28, 2026 City Council meeting.

FOR THE MEETING OF:

January 7, 2026

RECOMMENDATION: That the Council consider setting the public hearing.

IMPACT: Environmental Fiscal Neighborhood Other:

BACKGROUND: A draft local law will be included in the agenda packet once available.