

# RECYCLING AND SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE MEETING

## MINUTES

January 20, 2026

Start Time: 7:00 pm

Location: Town Hall

**RSWC Members:** Tim Logan - Chair, Meryl Mandell - Recycling Coordinator, Barbara Bigelow, Gail Fleischaker, Mary Glavin, Marla Killough, Tim Logan, Peg Ross, Eduardo Reyes.

**Absent:** Steve Rice

### Agenda

- 1A. Accept minutes of 7/21/2025 meeting minutes accepted with no changes.
  - Motion to accept: All Yes
- 1B. Introduction of possible new committee member Eduardo Rayes
  - The Committee welcomed its newest Member, Eduardo Rayes.
  - Meryl said that the Selectboard had appointed Eduardo at its last meeting.
2. Bag distribution status
  - Meryl will send out the distribution list in February.
  - The Committee agreed that each time slot should have 2 people.
  - Meryl asked if Members could please sign up for at least 4 time slots.
  - Tim and Eduardo will restack the boxes in the Shed in anticipation of the new bag order.
  - Meryl will submit a new bag order. Hopefully the Vendor will give more notice than last year.
3. Update on re. pickup concerns on snowy / icy days
  - Meryl will keep in contact with Casella when adverse weather may affect trash/recycling pick up days.
  - Any changes to schedules will be sent out via the Recycling Coordinator. Also, communications will be sent out via the NextDoor app.
4. Stepping out of the box to find new ways to transfer Meryl Mandell's (Recycle Coordinator) vast institutional knowledge to an eventual "next generation" coordinator
  - The Committee discussed creating a SOP manual to bring all the items of the Committee and Recycling Coordinator position in one place.
  - To be continued.

5. Possible FinCom/Selectboard proposal to site a transfer station in Shutesbury
  - The committee discussed and felt this it not a viable option given the size of the Town.
  - The Committee voted unanimously against this proposal.
6. Possible FinCom/Selectboard proposal to start giving residents fewer trash bags to raise town funds - what does this mean for our distribution?
  - The Committee discussed and felt this was not a viable option.
  - The Committee voted unanimously against this proposal.
7. Next solid waste contract - possible changes to pick up options
  - Meryl suggested that a small sub-committee be convened to work on the next Curbside RFP. The Town is seeking a one-year contract extension on the existing contract with Casella.
  - Mary and Gail volunteered to join the Sub-committee.
  - Meryl will solicit the FinCom to invite a member to join, if interested, as well as informing the Town Administrator of the new Sub-Committee.
8. Outreach efforts - what more should we be doing? Any suggestions for a Town Announce for difficult recyclables?
  - The Committee discussed various ideas.
  - Mary suggested putting out townwide survey to find out residents' options/concerns/input on the Town PAYT and Recycling programs.

## **New Business**

1. Election of new committee Chair
  - Tim expressed that he would like to relinquish being Chair due to family medical obligations.
  - The Committee discussed possible new Chair.
  - The Committee voted that Mary Glavin to be the new Chair. Mary accepted.
  - Starting new meeting Tim will go back to preparing the meeting minutes.

## **Meeting End:**

Time 8:30      Date January 20, 2026  
Minutes prepared by Mary Glavin