

TOWN OF SCOTLAND BOARD OF SELECTMEN



Scotland Town Hall - 9 Devotion Road, P.O. Box 288 Scotland, CT 06264
(860) 456-7797 ext.1

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING April 21st, 2026 - 7:00pm Location: Scotland Volunteer Community Hall 47 Brook Road

Meeting Minutes

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:02pm by First Selectman Dana Barrow Jr. Present: Selectman John Aldrich; Selectman Michael Gurnack; Treasurer David Zito; Executive Administrator Wendy O'Connor and members of the audience.
2. Additions to Agenda: None
3. Audience with Citizens: Kevin Ring Sr. presented the tax abatement program for the Scotland Volunteer Fire Department.
4. Approval of the March 17th, 2026 BOS Meeting Minutes
 - **MOTION: Motion made by Michael Gurnack to approve the minutes of the March 17th, 2026 Board of Selectmen meeting, seconded by John Aldrich. Motion carried.**
5. Treasurer's Report
 - Treasurer David Zito presented the treasurer's report. Attached to minutes.
 - Discussion was held on the 26-27 draft budget.
6. Discussion of bidding on a used bucket truck from Eversource
 - **MOTION: John Aldrich made a motion to approve bidding on a bucket truck from Eversource, seconded by Dana Barrow Jr. Motion carried.**
7. Discussion on sending Lawn Care Services out to bid: Dana Barrow Jr. discussed the lawn care services for the upcoming season. There was a significant increase. We sent this out to bid and the bid opening will be April 28th.
8. Discussion held on the Resolution authorizing the Board of Selectmen to enter into an interlocal agreement with the Towns of Canterbury and Hampton regarding shared revenue collection services. The resolution was approved at the special town meeting held on April 14th, 2026. This will be a better option for the Town considering the issues that the Town of Windham has been experiencing recently.

9. Approval of dates for 2026 Public Information Session on the Budget and Annual Town Meeting: Public Hearing, May 26th and Annual Town Meeting June 9th.

- ***MOTION: Mike Gurnack made a motion to approve the following meeting dates; May 26th, 2026 at 7:00pm for the Public Hearing on the 2026-2027 budget and June 9th, 2026 at 7:00pm for the Annual Town Meeting, seconded by John Aldrich. Motion carried.***

10. Audience with Citizens

11. Selectmen's Report

- Budget: Most of the Town Departments have submitted their Budgets to the Treasure for review by the BOS. Unfortunately, due to the dramatic increase in the number of Students in the PHHS the budget went up \$ 525,000.00 this year. The enrollment has gone down in numbers for the past few years and will not stay this high in years to come, but this year is an exception.
- State Mandates: No new mandates this month.
- Zip Code Issues: I contacted Senators Murphy's Office last week, no updates on the Zip Code Bill.
- NECCOG: See Newsletter
- Council of Small Towns [COST].
- Connecticut Conference of Municipalities [CCM]:
- The Town Hall Renovation Project: The project is out for Bids. We retain the right to reject all Bids if we do not have the financing in place.
- Roads / Public Works. Public: The Public Works Department, The Town Emergency Management Director, The Fire Chiefs and the Board of Selectman met on the way the Public Works Department responded to the Blizard of 2026. The meeting was to review the new Emergency Weather Protocol put forth by the 1st Selectman to avoid the mistakes made during the Blizard. New mandated minimum staffing requirements and better communication is needed.
- Bridges: The Inspection company has been chosen for the Brook Rd Bridges, SLR was chosen by a narrow margin.
- Fire Department: The Fire Department has installed the Apparatus Exhaust System so when diesel fuel Fire Apparatus start up the bays. In addition, the New Fire Alarm System has been installed. These systems were installed because of the 95/5 Grant the Fire Department applied for and received from the Department of Homeland Security. The reimbursement in funding has been held up due to Congress not having approved the Funding for Homeland Security yet. The Town would like to thank the Volunteer Fire Department for their work, especially in inclement weather conditions.
- Community Center: To rent the Community Center Hall, please contact Wendy O'Conner at the Town Hall during normal work hours. Please note: The Community Center is still run by a group of Volunteers that manage the Center for the use of the Town residents. Thank you to those volunteers.
- STEAP Grant: The Fire Department Bay Door Replacement, Furnace, AC Units, Underground Tank Removal, Windows, Personal Doors Replacement, Installation of a Handicap button with automatic opener on the Front Door should start around April of this year.
- Grange Hall: Farmers' Market is closed for the season.

- Solar Project: The Town has received the Building Plans for the Solar Array on Gager Hill Rd. The plans are under review now. The Town is moving forward to using a computer software program to track Building Permits, Fire Marshal Inspections, Zoning Permits and other town functions. The town is probably one of the last Towns still only using paper.
- Landfill Permit: Sticker are available for purchase at a cost of \$ 25.00 per household from the Town Clerk Monday and Thursday from 9-3 PM and Wednesday from 1-7 PM.
- *Scotland residents: My door is always open to discuss anything, and the BOS meets on the 3rd Tuesdays, I encourage all residents to come to the meetings.*

12. MOTION: Motion to adjourn at 8:03 pm made by Mike Gurnack, seconded by John Aldrich. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Wendy O'Connor
Executive Administrator