

## Salisbury/Sharon Transfer Station Recycling Advisory Committee (TRAC) Minutes of TRAC Regular Meeting of Feb 18, 2026, Zoom Meeting - 5P

Present: Barbara Bettigole (chair), TRAC members, Ed Reagan, Anne Saunders, Karen Lundeen, Sarah Curtis, Paul Bascsik, Lisa Nauman & TS Mgr Brian Bartram

*NOTE: Minutes considered DRAFT ONLY until reviewed and acted upon at the next regular meeting*

- 1 - **Meeting called to order** at 5:01 by Chair Barbara Bettigole
- 2 - **Approval of Agenda** - Moved, seconded, all in favor
- 3 - **Approval of minutes from Dec 17** - Moved, seconded, all in favor
- 4 - **TS Managers Report**

A) Tire EPR - Brian reports that EPR (Extended Producer Responsibility) law in CT will go into effect prob in March 2026, final authorization pending. TS's can turn in at no cost, therefore no charge to users for tire drop off, will function like other EPR covered items such as mattresses. TS accepts several hundred tires per year. Brian gives brief explanation of EPR for new members.

B) Town Ordinance needed - Some commercial haulers with S/S customers do not bring waste to TS, need ordinance to insure compliance. Brian reports on our 5 commercial haulers, their customers either pay sticker fee or haulers pay towns. But not all always haul to SSTS. Brian explains necessity, including that our TS and jobs were built around new TS paid for with bonds & based on volume. Need both tonnage & control to ensure best practices & keep fair on user pricing, formerly all went thru MIRA but now towns need control as new facilities emerge. Anne asks if we had a flow control ordinance or just updating, not sure. Paul asks if private haulers are trustworthy when arranging fees, honor system based but with so few haulers & small community Brian says not an issue.

### 5 - **DEEP Grant Progress & Next Steps** -

A) - Both towns must pass resolutions to accept grant. Brian has submitted a draft & will send copy to TRAC - Necessary so both can accept grants in tandem. The process will take time, prob not in 2026 but towns are discussing in March BOS meetings

B) - DEEP contract then sent to towns - Contract will go to Salisbury, embedded in Salis budget, Salis will officially receive grant after resolution passage. Salis First Selectmen is contact person. Towns empower each other to accept, similar to other multi-town facilities, there will be several phases of implementation.

C) Grant Management Committee, search for volunteers in progr - TS needs Comm to learn ins/outs & how-to's of PAYT, other alternatives & make recommendations on moving to PAYT or not. Grant will cover Comm work. PAYT a completely clean slate, need methods, fees, data collection etc. WasteZero will consult also via grant. Barb comments how towns that have implemented both PAYT & Food Waste Diversion greatly reduced MSW, the most successful did extensive community outreach first. Need sensible, easy to understand explanations. Paul B asks about extensive WZ info Brian provided, meant to include all parameters, we will pick and choose but must be thorough since trying to alter people's habits. We have candidates for the committee, update at next meeting. Ed points out that both towns now committed to PAYT. Brian says increased costs are major motivator. Also are ways to offer assistance to needy users, similar to other social services. Town meeting not required to authorize but along w/ outreach is advisable. Major point - we have the grant & must proceed especially since unit based pricing was the "hook" that made this grant application successful. Karen says bottom line is that this is simply the right thing to do.

6 - **Outreach / Education** - Monthly newsletter ideas needed, Grant Comm work as discussed above.

7 - **Food Waste Progr Update** - Sweet Williams ready for next pickup following cold & snow hiatus

8 - **Other Business** - None

9 - **Public Comment** - Anne asks for specific name for Grant Comm since specific to this grant, confusing otherwise, many boards have a grant writing /researching Comm, will rename to SMMR2 Grant Committee.

10 - **Adjourn Meeting** - Barbara adjourned meeting at 6:05P

*Note: Next meeting scheduled for Weds Apr 15, 2026 at 5P by Zoom, unless postponed for Grant Comm Mtg*