

HOUSATONIC IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA

Tuesday, January 27, 2025

6:30 pm

Ramsdell Library

1087 Main Street, Housatonic, MA

This is a hybrid meeting. To join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82708422761>

The Webinar ID: 827 0842 2761 and

Or One tap mobile :

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Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and Governor Healey's March 28, 2025 Revised Order extending remote participation by all members in any meeting of a public body, this meeting of the Housatonic Improvement Committee will be conducted both in-person and via remote participation to the greatest extent possible. Specific information and the general guidelines for remote participation by members of the public and/or parties with a right and/or requirement to attend this meeting can be found on town's website: www.townofgbma.gov. Committee members and members of the public may attend this meeting in person or remotely. Instructions for remote access can be found at the top of this agenda. Every effort will be made to ensure that those attending remotely can access the proceedings in real time, via technological means.

Order of Agenda

1. 6:30 pm Open Meeting with Community Potluck
2. Call to Order (Roll Call Vote)
 - a. Sara Parker taking minutes
 - b. *Great Barrington Here and Gone* books from Historical Society for HiC
3. Developing our Shared Agreements
 - a. *When this committee is working well, what's happening in the room?*
 - b. *What helps you contribute without burning out or pulling back?*
 - c. *When we miss each other's point in a conversation, or when things feel tense or confusing, what would help us find our way back?*
4. Ramsdell Building Committee recurring update: Ruby Chang
5. Housatonic Tree Planting update: Louise Goldsmith
6. HiC 2026 Goals / Work to Be Done update
 - a. Confirm project plans for 2026
 - b. January and February action items for committee members
7. Brainstorm how to get young people and young families in the community engaged with HiC and community efforts
8. Committee Admin:
 - a. HiC town email address: hic@townofgbma.gov
 - b. Approval of minutes from November 18, 2025 (Roll Call Vote)
 - c. Next meeting dates: Confirm February 24th, March 24th

- i. Confirm who's taking minutes for February 24th meeting
 - d. Proposed meeting dates for 2026:
 - i. February 24th (4th Tuesday)
 - ii. March 24th (4th Tuesday)
 - iii. April 28th (4th Tuesday) (NOTE: Earth Day is April 22nd)
 - iv. May 26th (4th Tuesday) (NOTE: Memorial Day is May 25th)
 - v. June 23rd (4th Tuesday) (NOTE: Party in the Park)
 - vi. July 28th (4th Tuesday)
 - vii. **August Break?** (if none, August 25th — 4th Tuesday)
 - viii. September 22nd (4th Tuesday)
 - ix. October 27th (4th Tuesday)
 - x. November 17th (3rd Tuesday) (NOTE: Thanksgiving is November 26th)
 - xi. **December Break?** (if none, December 15th — 3rd Tuesday)
9. All Things Housatonic
 - a. Free Meals at Taft Farms and Guthrie Center
 - b. New \$1,500 HWW customers rebate
 - c. Housatonic the Beautiful Fund update on Party in the Park and Earth Day
 - d. Housatonic Filter Initiative: Donna Jacobs
10. Citizen Speak Time
11. Media Time
12. Adjournment (Roll Call Vote)

Pursuant to MGL. c. 30A sec. 20 (f), after notifying the chair of the public body, any person may make a video or audio recording of an open session of a meeting of a public body or may transmit the meeting through any medium. At the beginning of the meeting, the chair shall inform other attendees of any such recordings. Any member of the public wishing to speak at the meeting must receive permission from the chair. The listings of agenda items are those reasonably anticipated by the chair which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.