



Special Meeting

Wednesday, June 10, 2026, 3:30 p.m.

Town Manager's Conference Room, 43 Bombardier Road, Milton, VT 05468

In Person

Members Present: Allen Beaupre; Jim Ballard; John Mayville; Rod Moore; Peter Staniels

Members Absent: none

Staff Present: Kristin Beers

Others Present: Betsy Paret

I. Call to Order

Peter Staniels called the meeting to order at 3:33 p.m.

II. Public Forum

None.

III. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes from May 13, 2026

Motion made by Allen Beaupre to approve the May 13th meeting minutes, with a second by Jim Ballard. Motion approved unanimously.

IV. 2026 VOCA Work Day

The annual cemetery clean-up day (scheduled for June 6th) was cancelled due to rainy weather. Per VOCA's email reminder, stones must be dry for 48 hours for the D2 cleaning agent to be effective, and stones must be dry before and for 24 hours after for epoxy to work.

Peter explained that VOCA hoped to help train a group of volunteers in Milton on how to repair headstones. It would be great to establish a core group of such workers. We will maintain the list of volunteers and email again whenever a clean-up day is rescheduled. Peter admitted that coordinating such a large event can be challenging. Maybe smaller events, more often, would be better. Despite the announcements on social media, John Mayville didn't see much printed outreach and recommended putting an advertisement in The Islander newspaper next time.

V. Future Cemetery Projects

Jim Ballard pointed out that Rod's new list of cemetery needs/projects will help identify and prioritize work needed, and we can plan smaller workdays, more often, throughout the year. While reviewing his

notes, Rod realized it was difficult to accurately describe the location of specific trees, for example. He researched ways to chart out the cemeteries, so that he can reference specific locations within the cemeteries. He's going to continue working to improve the list.

Peter explained that a lot of work has been accomplished in the Village Cemetery, leaving the front entrance on our to-do list. The trees growing through the iron fence that runs down Main Street will receive attention soon. The main gate and steps need repair. There was a brief discussion about the Church's chain link fence having been damaged/bent by snow removal efforts and hoping the Church will be able to fix that at some point.

It was brought up that the cemetery funds are supposed to be saved in separate funds for each specific cemetery and spent on that cemetery only. It was assumed that when the cemetery associations dissolved and the town had to take over, those funds were grouped into the one current cemetery fund.

Getting back to future cemetery projects, Peter mentioned that the tree issues are never ending. He has recently received phone calls about trees needing attention that weren't already on his and Rod's list. For example, the tree on the road out of Section 6 of the Village Cemetery by the four corners looks okay from one angle but is terribly damaged by woodpeckers on the other side.

Peter shared that Rod fixed the fence in the Checkerberry Cemetery and it looks much better now. There is access to that cemetery in the back for maintenance and it might be good to add a gate to our project list. There was a quick discussion about obtaining an easement or written agreement, if the current agreement for that access is only verbal.

Jim commented that Earl Gardner takes great care of the Marrs Hollow Cemetery. It was once considered an abandoned cemetery, like the Founders, but now looks great. Al Beaupre shared how the roads once connected from Hardscrabble to the Austin family cemetery and around that part of town.

John Mayville announced that stones have fallen over in Section 3 of the Village Cemetery and asked if the town can help right them with town equipment. There was discussion about purchasing the "Tombstone Jack" tool found online, and how maybe the Friends of the Milton Cemeteries can focus fundraising efforts on specific projects. We can apply for grants through VOCA and DAR, and we could also see about getting a price quote and hiring a monument company to do this work. It was also mentioned that we may need to replace stones that are too expensive or brittle, and unable to be repaired. Rod volunteered to meet with John Mayville to take pictures and make a list of the broken stones in Section 3 of the Village Cemetery and then get a price quote from a monument company.

VI. Other business as needed

There was discussion about moving the meeting schedule from quarterly back to monthly.

Rod Moore made a motion to change the regular meeting schedule back to monthly, on the second Wednesday of each month at 3:30 pm, with a second by John Mayville. The motion passed with four votes in favor. Al Beaupre abstained.

VII. Recognition for Al Beaupre's years of service

Peter thanked Al for his years of service on the Cemetery Advisory Committee. Jim presented his list of Al's service to the town. Al served as a member of the Planning Committee in 1968, was the Recreation Treasurer from 1966 -1969, Town Forest Fire Warden from 1975 – 1976, Fire Warden from 1977 – 1984, Cemetery Advisory Committee from 2014 – present, long time member of the Milton Advisory Club, member of the Jaycees, and owned his own business in town called Al's Upstairs from 1975 – 1988. Al reminded us that he served on the Fire Department for 29 years and then the committee reminisced about Al's Upstairs for some time.

VIII. Adjournment

Motion made by Allen Beaupre to adjourn the meeting at 4:40 p.m., with a second by John Mayville. Motion approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned by Peter Staniels.

All documents pertaining to this meeting may be viewed using the following link:

<https://miltonvt.sharepoint.com/:f:/s/TownOfMiltonFilesFolders/IgDicGFWgFPMT6Y0IPwGLvVwAUirfaBCJGT0IcvaKorNKeQ?e=5vx7WT>

Minutes recorded and submitted by Kristin Beers, Town Clerk.

APPROVED
MINUTES:

Chair

Date

ATTEST:

Milton Town Clerk

Filed this day with the Milton
Town Clerk's Office.