



Regular Meeting

Wednesday, August 12, 2026, 3:30 p.m.

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

In Person

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

Members Absent: none

Staff Present: Kristin Beers

Others Present: Betsy Paret; Sean Toplosky; Natalie Cashen

I. Call to Order

Peter Staniels called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

II. Public Forum

Peter shared some personal health information and advice as to what to do if symptoms should present themselves.

III. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes from June 10, 2026

Motion made by John Mayville to approve the June 10th meeting minutes, with a second by Rod Moore. Motion approved unanimously.

IV. Review Rod and Pete's List of Cemetery Projects

In preparation for this meeting, Peter visited all the cemeteries and emailed committee members a list of repairs and future maintenance items. He asked if anyone reviewed the list and had any feedback or comments.

Rod visited most of the cemeteries after a recent storm and found the road in section six of the Village Cemetery had washed out again. It was just repaired by the town. There was discussion that the sure-pac material needs to be a larger-sized gravel to withstand the rainfall.

Rod had focused his efforts on the Checkerberry Cemetery, repairing the wooden fence except the portion where a tree had fallen. He hopes to get back soon to paint the fence. There was a quick discussion about the opening at the back of the cemetery that Chris Derouchie uses as access for mowing, and whether or not the town needs to get a written agreement with the neighbor to use that.

Rod found online a Maryland cemetery committee that created a grid-like map, linked with GPS, that can list items/projects with accurate locations. He is going to try to create something like that for the Village Cemetery.

Peter spoke with the neighbor on the southern border of the Miltonboro Cemetery about cleaning the overgrowth back away from the cemetery wall, and the neighbor was receptive to that idea. There was a question about the property line and a suggestion to get written permission before clearing up that growth if it is not on the town's property.

Milton's Tree Warden, Kris Dulmer, would be a good person to contact for help clearing trees. He has a lot of experience and enjoys such work. Natalie Cashen and Sean Toplosky, visitors attending today's meeting, also have some skills and equipment that could help with tree cutting and masonry work.

Jim Ballard shared that the Crown Cemetery was vandalized years ago and the Town of Georgia helped Milton with those repairs. There was discussion about putting a sign at the Founders Cemetery, which is located on the Rowley property.

V. Discuss Ways to Determine Cemetery Usage

Jim thought it would be nice to find a way to track visitors in the cemeteries. There are strips that can be used to keep track of traffic on roads. Something like a trail camera might be too expensive. Betsy Paret mentioned that there are kiosks set up at the Town Forest, Eagle Mountain and Lamoille River Walk with a register for visitors to sign. Perhaps such kiosks at the cemeteries would help determine the cemetery usage.

VI. Fill Committee Vacancy

This agenda item was added after Al Beaupre's term expired, with hopes the group could brainstorm ways to find a new member. Since then, however, the Town Manager's office posted the vacancy, and Natalie attended this meeting in response. The committee members introduced themselves to Natalie and shared how long they each have been involved in the Cemetery Advisory Committee. She is very interested in joining the group and plans to submit an application to the Selectboard.

VII. Other business as needed

Jim hasn't received any further complaints about the trees that were cut down in the Miltonboro Cemetery.

John asked if VOCA was coming this year and Peter shared that VOCA's active members have to travel great distances to help us in Milton. Since this year's clean-up day was cancelled due to the weather, it was suggested that next year we schedule a rain date.

The high school has a new employee responsible for coordinating volunteers. Peter has not heard yet about the September day of service, which is usually well attended by student volunteers. He will reach out soon. Jim and the Historical Society have already been contacted by the school.

There was discussion about advertising the need for a group of volunteers to commit to helping with cemetery projects. Perhaps the Friends of the Cemeteries can be revitalized with this purpose.

John asked for an update on the trees growing through the metal fence along the Main Street frontage. There is currently no planned date to address the trees.

VIII. Adjournment

**Motion made by Rod Moore to adjourn the meeting at 4:24 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/IgCH0NIBojnmRp7DV9MrglUOAe3bGbB6cFYzHOPH4PB5tKc?e=bL275T>

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.