

St. Johnsbury Cemetery Commission
September 10, 2026

The St. Johnsbury Cemetery Commission met at the town conference room.
In attendance were Bryan LeBlanc, Tim Clouatre, Lauren Järvi, Karen Budde and
Chad Whitehead

Meeting called to order by Lauren at 8:00AM.

Tim made a motion to approve the minutes from our August 13 meeting.
Seconded by Lauren. Approved by T & L.

Karen provided updates on multiple projects including lot details for Shane at
Truline in the new Centervale section. She also described how the cemetery was
apparently originally laid out and various modifications done since then, up to the
current time.

We decided to defer purchasing a dog station for Centervale. The issue that
prompted our discussion seems to have become less compelling.

We agreed it's time to publish the announcement that Karen developed last year on
our Cemetery Rules and Seasonal Decoration Removal. She'll see to it that this
happens soon.

Karen also offered to have her neighbor Hugh Wescott take a look at the hearse
house at the Grove. There is concern that it's state of instability has become
critical.

We discussed how best to proceed to find a new sexton for next year, after Karen
retires this fall. No one has been identified but Chad will see if there's anyone
currently employed by the Town and we'll send out feelers for other potential
candidates.

Tim made a motion to update to the language in our Rules and Regulations,
section on Interments and Disinterment to read as follows:
Casket burials must be enclosed in an outer container or receptacle of concrete.
Urns made of biodegradable material, carboard, pottery or other fragile material

must be enclosed or covered by a durable vault of concrete. This will replace item 3 currently on page 4. Seconded by Bryan. Approved by T & B.

Lauren reported that she has visited with Ken and Bev Robinson regarding the possibility of establishing a Memory Garden in the back section of the Ayer-Hawkins Cemetery. They seemed to be fine with the idea. We'll decide how best to proceed with this option.

Chad confirmed that it's his understanding that any surplus funds from prior years that are in our reserve account should be available for our use, perhaps as a line item in a budget, or continued to be reserved for a future larger project. He'll let us know if there is any Select Board approval needed to use the funds, annually, or as needed.

Tim moved to adjourn at 9:06. Seconded by Bryan. Approved by B&T,

Our next meeting will be on October 8.

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