

Town of Springfield – Cemetery Commissioners - Minutes
Selectboard Hall - 96 Main Street - Third Floor
Wednesday, September 3, 2025

Commissioners present: Ronald Griffin, Beth Gray, Cathryn Feickert and Barbara A. Courchesne, Ex-Officio.

Meeting called to order: 5:01 p.m. by Vice-Chair Beth Gray.

Additions to the Agenda: None.

Approve Minutes of August 6, 2025: Cathryn moved, and Ron seconded approval of minutes. Barbara added a correction to the date of the next meeting in the last paragraph. All voted in favor.

Cemify: Barbara provided an update as to the progress being made by Cemify on mapping and staff entering burial records; both are progressing well. All of Oakland has been mapped by Cemify. Pine Grove is partially done. Barbara has contacted Surveyor, Chris Paton, for a mylar copy of newly surveyed Section 6. The mylar will be recorded in the land records and a digital copy provided to Cemify for mapping. Ron will provide Barbara with some landmark details to be added to arial view of Oakland's mapping such as water faucets, a driveway in the Russian section, dirt pit, etc.

Cemetery Update and Review: Barbara presented a copy of the proposed posting of Rules & Regulations to be laminated and posted at Oakland, Summer Hill and Pine Grove and Commissioners tested the QR code. Ron reported the following:
Oakland – Section J has 2 large bushes affecting stone of Perkins and the stone next to it. Needs to be trimmed.
Parker Hill – There are a few dozen new stones.
Pine Grove – Faucets have been fixed. Fence needs to be repaired.
Boedtker – Looks good.
Eureka Road – Fence needs to be secured with either a rope or bungee.

Summer Hill Stone Cleaning: Next stone cleaning event will take place on Tuesday, October 21 from 1-3 p.m. which will include possible student attendance after school. Barbara will follow up with the request for more water pumpers from Public Works.

Public Comment: Lucas Eivins, Student Council Advisor, presented a proposal to work with the Commission to incorporate student community involvement and community graduation requirements by assisting with stone cleaning in Summer Hill Cemetery. The students would be mostly freshmen and teacher-chaperoned to assist with general clean-up and stone cleaning. Pre-teaching skills to be acquired prior to assisting in the cemetery would involve respect and care. Commissioners Gray and Feickert are willing to meet with students at school prior student volunteering to discuss expectations. Lucas envisions a couple of student events prior to the end of the year. Since students will be under the age of 18, Barbara will check with Human Resources as to the appropriate volunteer waiver form. Lucas believes the school will require its own release form to be signed by parents.

Adjournment: Motion was made, seconded and voted in favor to adjourn at 5:37 p.m. Next meeting will be October 1st at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara A. Courchesne
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