



**Town of Whitingham
Cemetery Commission**

MINUTES OF September 29, 2026

These Minutes will be accepted into the public record (with any corrections noted) at a future meeting of the Whitingham Cemetery Commission.

Attendees: Brad Lackey, Madeline Klein, & Katherine MacLean

Brad called meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. Seconded by Madeline.

No Visitors. No additions.

Brad made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from May 7, 2026, with one small correction:

- Original "...leaving about \$3000 for Fall cleanup plus repairs."
 - Corrected: "...**anticipating** about \$3000 for Fall cleanup plus repairs."
- Motion to approve corrected minutes seconded by Madeline. All in favor.

Financial Information for Larger Projects

Jacksonville Cemetery Cleanup – along roadside

\$4300 (approx.) paid to Deerfield Valley Maintenance in July – work required 3-5 people for a full day of cutting, chipping entire perimeter to improve appearance before Old Home Week. This work was not included in the budget.

Green Cemetery Cleanup

\$6300 (approx.) – Matt Betit – not included in the budget

Brad made a motion to move \$10,000 from cemetery fund to cemetery budget to offset these large expenditures. Madeline seconded. All in favor.

Financial Update for Previous Projects

Gravestone Repairs

Brad reported we spent less than the anticipated \$3000 – total paid to Mark Spiller was \$2395 on May 29, 2026.

Joyce Dix headstone issue was resolved in May – cost \$500

Cemetery Signage

Madeline reported that the total cost for signage was more than we anticipated. Cost was \$71/post to have the town guys place them. Total cost was \$880.90.

Committee discussed the process of approving bills, that the bills no longer require two signatures. Brad will email the committee members all invoices for these bills along with a budget summary from MaryLee.

New Mowing Contract

Brad reported that he will be drafting a new mowing contract, as the current 3-year contract will expire this year. Going forward, we will use a 2-year contract. Committee discussed adding more specific requirements for mowing, trimming, and cleanup, as well as roadside/hill cleanup for Jacksonville Cemetery and brushhogging at Cutting Cemetery. Extra work for fall and spring cleanup will continue to be billed separately per hour/day.

Committee requests the Selectboard to communicate with the power company to grant the maintenance people access to Blanchard Cemetery off dam road. The power company has told the maintenance people they are not allowed to use any form of motorized vehicle to bring the necessary equipment to the cemetery, so they have not been mowing or trimming it.

Committee will meet again at the end of October to review Brad's draft of the new contract and approve it. New contract will be posted by the beginning of November and decided on by early-mid December.

Cemetery Administration

Katherine reported the headstone for Mary LaRochelle was successfully placed in the LaRochelle family plot at Green Cemetery in August.

Brad made a motion to adjourn at 7:27 p.m., Madeline seconded. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Brad Lackey, Madeline Klein & Katherine MacLean