

Somers Cemetery Committee

July 9, 2025

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to order: 6:30
2. Members present: David McCaffrey, Elaine Friedman, Patricia Loftus (chair)
Absent: P. Bachetti
Town Hall reps: Danielle Urbon, Todd Rolland
3. Public comment – Move to New Business
4. Vote to approve minutes:
March 12, 2025 – No quorum for voting, move to September
May 14, 2025 – No quorum for voting, move to September
5. Committee reports:
 - A. Finance: Link for business office to All Funerals is completed. We will now be paying a monthly fee for online payment access.
 - B. Sexton: No report, not present.
 - C. Landscaping: No report, not present.
 - D. Veteran Affairs: Government foot stone raising delayed until fall. More medallions missing. More flags needed.
 - E. DPW: Water spigot installed at New West on the back side of the auxiliary building. Chair's note: Pin Oaks at Center Cemetery are now looking healthy. A red maple in Center is looking stressed, crown with no leaves. A huge thank you to the DPW for their assistance in keeping our cemeteries in good condition.
6. Old Business:
 - a. Concern forms: None.
 - b. No response from Grever & Ward per our vote last meeting to use re-bar for pinning new plots or choice on the number plates to be used for the new sites in section 2.
 - c. Requesting delivery dates and costs of pin and plate supplies from the finance office & DPW.
 - d. All Funeral demo date still to be confirmed. Finance office requests a week day time period. Committee has requested that the demo should include not just the cemetery committee but sexton, landscaper, local funeral directors. Chair will provide a list of funeral directors to the finance office.

7.New Business:

a. Concern form:(new): Clients have requested permission to install an additional flat stone as a memorial stone on a grave site. No plans for cremains to be buried. Clients were given permission to add a flat stone as a memorial (third on a grave) but have not been given permission to bury cremains with this third stone as town regulations do not allow for a third burial on a plot.

Presently there is one burial, two stones. The second stone is for a planned burial. The third stone must remain as a memorial only.

Town regulations allow for a maximum of two burials per grave. (one traditional with one cremation or two cremations) The process of changing a regulation would involve a petition to the Town's Board of Selectmen and support and approval of the Town's Cemetery Committee.

Motion: To allow a 3rd stone with maximum of 2 burials (E. Friedman, 2nd D, McCaffrey. Vote passed 3/0

- b. New water line from DPW incurs no cost to the committee. (Thank you!)
- c. Center Cemetery changes to water line locations due to pinning of new grave sites. Work ticket has been done. Site work not begun as of the meeting. Pinning schedule will be coordinated with this.
- d. Section posts discussed. Committee is in favor of metal signs rather than granite posts. Vendor information to follow.
- e. Invitation offered for cemetery tour in Manchester on Sunday, July 13, 2025 at their West Cemetery on Spencer St. This is the oldest cemetery in town and the tour will be done by the Manchester Historical Society and a renowned grave yard historian.

Request from D. McCaffrey: Contact J. Appell and see if he is available for a fall repair series in a cemetery to be determined. Chair will make contact and report in September.

Adjournment: 7:25

Next meeting: September 10, 2025

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Loftus , Chair, (interim secretary)