TOWN OF EAST HADDAM
Cemetery Committee
Meeting Minutes
May 21, 2026
Office Building, Meeting room 3
Via Zoom and YouTube Live

In attendance:

Cemetery Committee Members:

Karl Stofko, Chairman
Crary Brownell, Vice Chairman
Alison Guinness
Phil Barlow

Irma Carper-Miller
Bernie Miller

Call to Order

Dr. Stofko called the Cemetery Committee to order at 7:00 p.m.

Adoption of Minutes.

Motion by Mrs. Guinness to accept the minutes of the April 16, 2026 regular meeting as presented. Mr. Brownell seconded the motion. The motion adopting the January minutes carried unanimously with Mr. Barlow abstaining.

Communications/Cemetery Troopers Update

The Cemetery Troopers have been working at the Moodus Cemetery since the clean up day that was held in April. They had about 25 helpers come out for the day, many of whom are the spouses of the Troopers. Next Tuesday they will fix a stone at First Church and then will put the repaired stones back in place at Second Yard. They have 11 stones to reset.

Mrs. Guinness noted that there is a stone that is drastically leaning at Millington very near the road

Facilities Update

Would like them to take on the role of Superintendent of the Cemeteries. Mr. Brownell noted that perhaps it would be better suited to be someone on the Committee, rather than a town employee.

Old Business

The following items were discussed, with no resolution.

- The Mark Phillips stone is still missing.
- The Spencer stones are still located in the basement of the Municipal Office Complex
- Fencing at Bashan is still a wish of the committee, and an appropriate grant request. As is fencing at Three Bridges, and a gate for the entryway at Warner. (it was unknown if these items were part of facilities budget request).
- Article promoting need for expansion of cemeteries should be written as the process moves forward.

Burial request for space (Elaine Woods through Kim Woods) Millington. The deeds found only reference three burial plots, which have been filled (not the seven the family believe that they held).

General spencer was moved from Millington to the current Nathan Hale Schoolhouse monument site. A bronze plaque denoting that space cannot be located, but should be at the original site at Millington.

Way lot holds room for one more. (Hal Bailey is related)

By-Laws, Rules & Procedures, Ordinance

Two alternates were authorized at town Meeting in April. The Committee should work to recruit two people.

Additional cemetery space

Nothing new was reported.

Budget

It was noted that the budget passed.

It was also noted that Mrs. Denette had asked the Finance Director to arrange a conference call with Key Bank to see if a withdrawal can be taken from the investment account to fund a fence at Bashan Cemetery. The Finance Director advised that she will not be available until the audit was completed.

Audience of Citizens

Nothing noted.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Brownell and duly seconded, the meeting adjourned at 7:28

Respectfully Submitted,

Deb Denette