

GRAND ISLE CEMETERY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

June 9, 2026, 4:30 p.m., Grand Isle Town Office

Meeting was called to order by Valerie Hunter, Chair at 4:29 p.m.

Commissioners present: Brian Allen, Lucille Campbell, Sue Lawrence, Suzanne Sauvé. Val Hunter was present on Zoom.

Guest: Melissa Boutin, Town Treasurer

Additions or Deletions: none

Minutes: Sue moved to accept the minutes of April 14, 2026. Brian seconded. Passed with all in favor.

Administrative Report – Sue Lawrence

Financials: Sue requested that Melissa explain the recommendations she has for the Cemetery Commission. Melissa is looking for consistency in positions across all the town boards/commissions and recommends that the Cemetery Commission change the title of the Administrator/Secretary because of the money collected for lots, the coding of the expenses and paying invoices. She is suggesting adding Cemetery Commission Treasurer to the Administrator title. In addition, the auditors recommended “that the Town utilize the General Fund for the cemetery expenses and transfer the interest earnings from the permanent fund and transfer annually to this fund.” Melissa does not feel this is a good idea. She suggested setting up two funds: the Cemetery Permanent Fund and the Cemetery Operating Fund. The Permanent Fund would be the present Perpetual Care Fund, the Operating Fund would be the rest of the assets, revenues and expenses. The Perpetual Care funds are in a CD and amount to \$23,655.83 with the recent addition of \$4,000 from the stock proceeds.

Sue moved that we make two accounts: a Cemetery Permanent Fund and a Cemetery Operating Fund. Brian seconded. Passed unanimously.

Lawn Care & Maintenance: Lawn care bill was presented for the prior month for \$6,849.00 which included a 5% fuel surcharge of \$324.00

Burials & Lot Sales: Two upcoming cremains burials. No lot sales.

Old Business:

CD renewals: Melissa spoke to the government funds representative at M & T Bank who recommended changing the \$107,300.18 land fund CD to a Jumbo CD at a 3.01% rate for 6 months. The other two CDs were each renewed for 6 months at 2.71%.

New Business:

Title change – Administrator/Secretary/Assistant Treasurer: Lucille moved that the title of Administrator/Secretary be changed to Administrator/ Cemetery Commission Treasurer. Suzanne seconded. All in favor.

Pet Burial: Sue reported that she recently had a request from someone who wanted to bury a pet in their lot. Lucille said this was not allowed per 18 V.S.A §5302 which defines a cemetery as being for human remains. She recommended that we add the text of that statute to the beginning of our Rules and Regulations. Brian moved to do so, Suanne seconded. All in favor.

Shed Roof – Jesse reported that the shed roof was leaking through the west side. He worked on it but doesn't know if it is fixed. Brian will look at it and determine if the shed needs new shingles or if we need to consider putting up a new shed.

Vault – Lucille reported that there are moisture stains and cracks inside over the door and cracks on the west side of the interior wall. Brian will look at it. We may need to contact Half Moon Stone Works. Suzanne mentioned that the padlock for the outside vault door is missing. Brian will check on that as well.

Flag Order 2027 – Discussion about the Masonic Lodge being willing to pay for the flags for Memorial Day again, but not being willing to do the ordering. Consensus was that the Cemetery Commission will order our flags, pay with the Town credit card, and send the invoice to the Lodge. Lucille contacted Stove and Flag Works and found out that the quantity of flags ordered does not change the cost per flag. This year the cost is \$1.75 per flag. Val suggested we order next year's flags now. Lucille will contact Jeff Parizo to ask if the Lodge will accept an invoice from this year for next year's flags.

Liquor/Alcohol at Grave Sites – Suzanne reported that she had found an unopened bottle of liquor on a grave at Hoag Cemetery and two unopened bottles on graves at the Village Cemetery. She removed the one at Hoag and asked what she should do with it and the other two. Our Rules state no glass containers at the cemeteries and that any glass containers may be removed by the Commissioners. After discussion it was decided that Suzanne would dispose of the liquor by pouring it on the graves where it was found.

Brian moved to adjourn. Sue seconded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 5:39 p.m. Next meeting July 14, 2026, 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lucille Campbell, Recording Secretary