

City of Barre

Public Body Meeting Minutes

Committee: Cemeteries

Date of Meeting: June 15, 2026

Location of Meeting: In-Person The Roosevelt Room 3rd Floor Alumni Hall

Committee Members In Attendance: Chairperson Starr Parnigoni LeCompte, Helen Long, Heather Milne-Ritchie, Ilene Gillander, Giuliano Cecchinelli, Donna Dryman-Pulice and Director Tom Baker

Committee Members Absent: Mark Gherardi, Renie Zanleoni and Mayor Thom Lauzon

Guests Present: Roxanna Salem, Historian for the Rebecca Hastings Chapter of the DAR

Meeting was called to order at: 11:00am

Minutes of the Meeting on Monday May 18, 2026 were approved.

Moved : Heather Milne-Ritchie Second: Helen Long

Roxanna Salem was present on Zoom to make a request from the DAR to place an historical marker honoring the citizens who served in the Revolutionary War. It was suggested that Whitney Maxfield, of the Flags for Veteran's Committee, be contacted to aid in choosing the best location for the marker.

Motion was made to accept the DAR's Marker. The motion was approved

Motion: Donna Second: Helen

TRUGREEN Report Trugreen applied grub control and fertilizer on June 6, 2026 in Hope Cemetery. The grub control and fertilization will continue annually. Discussion followed concerning grub control in Elmwood in 2027. Tom will follow-up with Trugreen for pricing.

Meeting with Carol Dawes

Carol will attend the July 20, 2026 meeting. Two line items of \$10,000 each will be added to the cemetery's budget for stone cleaning in Elmwood Cemetery and St. Monica's this year. Tom will get the consent of the City Council for these two line items.

Report on filling the Foreman of the Cemeteries position

Don Bullard is retiring at the end of June 2026. His position has been posted within the City. The foreman will be in charge of daily operations within the cemeteries. Added responsibilities include selling plots, office work and scheduling. The new foreman will also be expected to learn the new software system.

Condition of equipment

Tom has bids out to purchase new mowers which cost approximately \$10,000 each. Purchasing a new backhoe is budgeted for next year. The money will come from the Capital Improvement Fund.

Replacing Hedges

Discussion followed concerning the terrible condition of many of the hedges. Many need to be replaced. These are "Burning Bush" hedges which are considered invasive species and can not be purchased or propagated.

Bus Signs

Tom promised that he would have the bus signs installed by the next cemeteries meeting on July 20, 2026.

Removal of the Old Fountain

Starr volunteered to find a contractor that will remove the old fountain and pave over the location. Alcide Fantoni's world fountain will be relocated within the cemetery. Heather will follow up with Don for a possible location for the world fountain and the Zanleoni bench.

Cozzi Fountain Update

Heather reported that Mark Gherardi, in collaboration with other BGA members, would like to present a conceptual design of the proposed Cozzi fountain and eliminate the design competition previously considered. Heather will ask Mark to bring his design to the meeting on July 20, 2026.

Round Table

Starr and Ilene met with Steve England and Erroll Briggs to discuss the long term plan to restore, repair, refurbish or replace veteran's stones in Elmwood Cemetery.

Executive Session Motion was made to continue in Executive Session

Motion: Ilene

Second: Heather

Motion approved

Next Meeting: July 20, 2026

Motion to Adjourn: Moved : Heather Second: Donna Motion approved

Meeting was Adjourned at: 12:34pm

Respectfully submitted,
Ilene R. Gillander, Secretary