

Cemetery Commissioners
By Conference Call
Meeting Minutes June 5, 2020

Present: Scott Sawyer, Marion Loring and Curt Wilton (Staff Liason), Marie Ryan

Curt Wilton opened the meeting at 9:05 AM and made a motion/request for Scott to be Chair for the meeting since Earl was not on the call, Marion 2nd and Scott accepted.

Review Minutes from Previous Meeting:

Marion made a motion to accept the minutes from the last meeting, Scott seconded and all were in favor.

Review Complaint about Mowing over Memorial Day Weekend:

Curt stated that he wanted to address the complaint about the mowing and condition of the cemeteries over the Memorial Day weekend on social media. Curt explained that on the Friday of Memorial Day weekend, the contractor, Bob Filleault, began to prepare the cemeteries for the holiday, however once he began, he was contacted that he had a death in the family. Curt contacted Bob and Bob stated that he would complete the job by Memorial Day morning. Curt stated that he and Bob are extremely professional and do their best. Curt said he did not agree with the complaint and he did not appreciate the comment. Scott said that Bob and the Committee are beginning to move forward in a positive manner and it will take time to get everything up to snuff. They are all in the process of addressing all the issues and it won't all be fixed at once and people need to be patient. Marion added that Curt is doing a great job and he documents everything if any one ever has a question about something. She wants to see it all keep moving forward with a positive attitude.

Review Monument Repairs:

Curt explained that the Town got 4 good days of work from A&A Monuments where they did a lot of repairs to the head stones throughout all the cemeteries. He has before and after pictures if anyone wants to see them. Curt asked the Committee to vote to authorize and allow him to pay for another 4 days' worth of work for more repairs and really get everything looking

good. Marion made a motion to authorize 4 more days of repair work as necessary, Scott seconded and all were in favor.

Graveside Plantings and Fencing:

Curt stated that people need to be educated with the bylaws and rules of the cemeteries. He stated that many people do not realize that they are not aware of the rules and policies. He would like to get some signs created to assist with notifying people about the rules, such as with dogs, no dumping and the plantings. Scott said his only concern is too many signs then no one will read any of them. Curt said that he would only do possibly one large sign with the majority of the rules and policies and a smaller sign in regards to dogs. Scott also stated he did not think that people should need a sign to say no dumping and that they should already know that. Bob spoke up and stated that one time when he was at the cemeteries, he actually saw someone dump their garage over the hill and wrote down their plate #. Scott suggested that in the future if anyone observe this happening they should give that information to the Police Department. Curt said there have been mattresses, metal objects, etc. thrown over the hill in the past and they do need signs for that.

Marion made a motion to purchase a sign for the bylaws and a small sign for the dogs, Scotts seconded and all were in favor.

Mowing Contractor:

Curt spoke on this subject because he felt the need to state the facts due to people having questions on this issue. Curt stated that the Mowing Bid was advertised in the newspaper even though it was not required. He said they only had one person bid and it was their current contractor. He also said that at the last meeting the Committee voted to accept his bid. Curt also acknowledged that Bob had all the insurance required such as Worker's Comp and liability and that he is a professional contract and the Committee has complete confidence in his abilities to do a nice job at the cemeteries.

Miscellaneous Items:

Curt wanted to acknowledge the fact that Scott was not going to continue on the Committee and wanted to thank him for all his years of service to the Town and that he appreciated all his work. Marion also thanked Scott for being a great team player and helping out.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be on Friday, July 10th at 9 AM and it may or may not be by conference call at that time.

Citizen Speak time:

Doreen Rushbrook asked about the mowing bid and if it was advertised and Curt responded yes it had been even though it was not required and that the only bid they received was Bob's. She then admitted that she is the one who shared the pictures of the cemetery condition on social media over Memorial Day weekend. She thought they looked awful. She also had a concern in regards to the stones that get chipped by the zero turn mowers and asked if those are what Bob will be using. Curt responded yes, that is what works best. Bob explained that he weed whacked and had all the work done by Sunday of that weekend and suggested that her pictures were taken prior to that being completed. Bob also said that he has no chips in his mower that would suggest that his mowing chipped the stones. Doreen asked if he had insurance that will pay for any damages and Bob responded, yes, if he did damage he would put into his insurance a claim for that but that currently his mower has not done any of that damage.

Kate Kilmer also spoke up with her concerns about stones being hit by mowers and again Bob and Curt assured them that the zero mowers did not do that and they are aware of and currently it should not be an issue. Kate thanked them both and wished Bob good luck. Curt explained that this is all past history and that he and Bob are working on things to improve and people need to give them the opportunity to work on things and move to a more positive direction. Marion spoke to the fact that sometimes peoples' tempers get out of control and we need to respect each other and work together to improve things. Marion told Doreen that she understands that she is upset but that Curt has a list of all the stones that need to be fixed and little by little they are getting it done.

Doreen thanked Bob and sad she hopes he will do what he says and keep everything in good shape.

Marion made a motion to adjourn at 9:50 AM, Scott seconded and all were in favor.

The next meeting will be July 10th, 2020 at 9 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Y. Ryan