

**Minutes of 6/19/2024 Cemetery Commission
6 P.M.
Approved at the Meeting of July 17, 2024**

Members present: Walter Tibbetts (WT), Dina Stander (DS) and Susan Millinger (SM).

The Meeting was called to order at 6:12 p.m.

1) Minutes of the May 15, 2024 meeting: Motion to approve these minutes was made, seconded and unanimously passed by a roll call vote.

2) New burials and lot sales: no new burials

- a. Cremation burial of Margaret Gurman will take place on June 23.
- b. No lots have been sold in the past month.
- c. Clarification of terminology: although often used interchangeably, it has been determined that technically “plot” refers to a grave, the place of burial, while “lot” refers to the unit of 8 plots (graves).

3) Groundskeeper Update: Carl Louder has turned in all his paper work. He’s continuing to get used to West Cemetery: which mower to use for which areas, for example. WT says Carl did well on the stressful Memorial Day preparations. Brush cutting is coming soon. WT took 2 pickup loads to the back of the cemetery for disposal while clearing the drive beside the Hearse House. WT wants soon to spend a day with Carl clearing up along the stone wall west of the Hearse House.

4) Update on ground penetrating radar and mapping project: Bob Perry sent the Commission a Service Agreement from Topographix LLC requesting a \$5,000 retainer and the rest on completion of the project. The Town requires paperwork including an invoice to approve payment. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to approve the Service Agreement.

5) Gravestone Restoration Project: No update. WT suggests we apply in the fall for another CPA grant to continue with the next stage of this project. There were no applications for CPA grants in FY 2024.

6) Supplies and Equipment Purchased/ Still Needed: WT was able to purchase most of the equipment he needed: including the 5-gallon gas cans and another set of blades for the big mower. It is difficult to find blades for the smaller mower. WT does need new ½ inch iron pins to use in marking the lots on the sides of the roads. There isn’t enough money left for all he needs, but WT could get (and make) some iron pipes

7) Other Unfinished Business: The footstone for Margaret Gurman is being made by Mann Memorials. WT explained the identity of this new firm. Mann Lumber bought Athol Granite Works, which had closed, and renamed it. Athol Granite Works had been owned by the previous owners of Dorsey Memorials. On the subject of gravestone

businesses: WT sent maps of West Cemetery to Negus and Taylor of Greenfield, who were pleased to receive them.

8) No New Business

9). No Unfinished business,

10) Date and time for the Next Meeting: July 17 at 6 p.m.

11) Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and unanimously approved in a roll call vote. The meeting was adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

Submitted by
Susan Millinger,
Cemetery Commission secretary