



*Town of Ware
Cemetery Commission
99 Pleasant Street, Ware, Massachusetts 01082*

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2020**

Location: Aspen Grove Cemetery, Ware, MA
Time: 3:00
Present: Craig Simmons, Julie Bullock, Roy Erickson, John Piechota

Meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm

Bullock: Motion to approve the minutes of the June, August, and September special meeting as written.
Erickson: Second
All were in favor

Updates

John reported that Bill Cote worked on two stones that had flipped over. The foundations will need to be redone.

An abutter reported that a tree is leaning over his shed. John notified the DPW. It is out of the Cemetery's hands.

Foundation work is going on.

There was a water break in Section C. Now getting ready for the Fall.

Work on the wall will continue at some point.

There are over 900 free trees available for planting. John suggested that smaller flowering trees that require no or little maintenance should be planted. A request can be made to the Cemetery Board.

Joe Harper contributed to the flowers in the planters. The Cemetery Commission is very appreciative of his contribution.

Section O

Craig reviewed the plan for Section O. John suggested that no graves will be purchased until work is completed, which includes marking off the corners for the graves and tree work. John said that 90% of the tree work can be done in-house.

There was continued discussion regarding funding for the project, which would involve using money from the Trust Funds. The \$9050.00 for this Section would be split between the Reed Trust Fund and the Perpetual Care Account. Eventually the Town would help out with money.

BULLOCK: Motion to take \$4,525.00 from the Reed Trust Fund and \$4,525.00 from the Perpetual Care Account for laying out of Section O.

ERICKSON: Second.
All were in favor

Mr. Lemaitre will work with Stuart Beckley. Craig will let Stuart know that the project has been approved by the Cemetery Commission.

Mr. Lemaitre said that he might be able to start the work this Fall.

Rate Increase

There was a discussion regarding Cemetery Fees. It was decided that a single grave will be \$500 as already in place. The change will be \$1000 for two graves, \$2000 for four graves.

There was a discussion regarding placement of uprights. Roy suggested that only one upright would be placed for multiple plots making it easier for mowing. It was also suggested that specific instructions for Section O be put in place regarding upright placement.

There was a discussion regarding the Revolving Account and how and what it can be used for. Craig has asked the Town Hall for the text explaining how a Revolving Account works.

There was also a discussion regarding weekend burials. These are paid to an outside contractor rather than Ed's Landscaping. John will contact Stuart regarding hiring Ed for the weekend burials or send it out to bid.

Volunteers

Persons who wish to reduce their property taxes by cleaning stones, cleaning up brush or anything that is low risk work, may contact Mary Midura to see how to set it up.

Evaluation of Part Time Employee

John anticipates that Tom Clark will not be returning. He suggested that an exit interview should be conducted to determine his reasons and maybe suggestions for a future job description.

Internet Access

Roy will work on setting up internet access at the Aspen Grove office, which will be on the Town's server. In addition, a telephone answering system will be set up as well.

Misc.

For persons, who wish to attend a Cemetery Commission meeting, a ZOOM meeting will be set up. Roy will use his computer. The Cemetery Commission will meet in person.


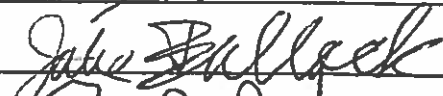
New Cemetery rates must be posted in the Ware River News. Roy and Craig will work on the issue.

Julie asked about a tree behind the Ware Meeting House. It will be taken care of.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 4:30. The next meeting will be at the Town Hall on October 19 at 3:00.

~~Adjournment~~
Nancy Dunn

Approved:

Craig Simmons 
Julie Bullock 
Roy Erickson 