



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

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
CEMETERY COMMISSION  
MONDAY, January 11, 2021**

Location: Via ZOOM  
Present: Craig Simmons, Julie Bullock, Roy Erickson, John Piechota

Meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm

**Minutes**

BULLOCK: Motion to approve the minutes of the Public Meeting of 10/26.  
ERICKSON: Second  
All were in favor

BULLOCK: Motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on 10/26  
ERICKSON: Second  
All were in favor.

**Finances**

Finances are in good shape. No money has been spent to date on the Section O

**Updates from John Piechota**

The Highway Dept. employee has been cutting brush and sticks. Dept. has agreed to leave him at the Cemetery as long as there is no ice and snow.

A temporary flat marker has been installed and will be replaced with a permanent marker in the spring.

The John Deere gator is not running. John is looking into maybe getting a new one and then find a way to fund it. He'll get quotes and maybe put it on a Warrant for the Spring Town Meeting.

### Upper Building and Contents at Aspen Grove

John reported on the condition of the upper building at Aspen Grove. He met with the DPW, Stuart Beckley, and the Building Inspector to determine if the building is safe or not. Conditional issues are:

- Building leaning toward Aspen Street
- Sinking toward the Bell Tower
- Gravel floor failing
- Rotted beams
- Peak of roof separated 3 or 4 inches

The group discussed the issues and what could be done about it, including taking it down and replacing with a metal storage building, which would be cheaper than rebuilding, but might not last for than 20 to 30 years.. John reported that there is surplus equipment with little value other than scrap. John also wanted know if there is any historical value to the building. As a conservationist, Julie would like to see a building suitable for the Cemetery. Craig suggested that all the Commission can do is provide advice to the DPW of the issue. According to the Charter it's up to them to decide what to do with the building. There was continued discussion regarding the surplus equipment.

**BULLOCK:** Motion to request the Town to auction off the surplus equipment that has been designated as either useless or can be sold for scrap, namely: tractor, blower, lawn mowers and wood beams.

**ERICKSON:** Second  
All were in favor.

### Section O

John provided a rough draft of the layout of Section O. John suggested that the back quadrant be sold off first to provide easier access to the lots with backhoes and trucks. There will be no solid road so the road can be changed to access future lots. Burial lots can be adjusted to provide space for new trees. John will contact Ed's Landscaping for his concerns or ideas, since Ed will be the one with the machinery.

Craig mentioned that the BOD approached Stuart about a COVID plan if many burials are needed.

### Tom Clark

Tom Clark sent a letter to Craig expressing his interest in purchasing a lot in Section N, which is located on the hill. This area is difficult to access. John spoke with him and Tom said he only wants a marker. There will be no burial. There was continued discussion regarding the type of marker.

SIMMONS: Motion to sell Tom Clark a single lot in Section N on the condition that there will be no burial and only a cremation. In addition the Cemetery Commission will approve, in writing, the type of marker to be placed and the no burial condition.

ERICKSON: Second  
All approved

**2020 Cemetery Commission Report**

Julie read the draft of the Cemetery report for review. All agreed it was fine and Julie will send it to Mary Midura.

**Part-Time Employee for 2021**

Advertising will need to be done. The issue was tabled until the next meeting.

There being no further business, Julie Bullock made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:30.

The next meeting will be on February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 3:00 via ZOOM.

Recorder  
Nancy Dunn

Approved:

Craig Simmons \_\_\_\_\_

Julie Bullock \_\_\_\_\_

Roy Erickson \_\_\_\_\_