

Minutes – Cemetery Commission Meeting

Wednesday Sep 13, 2023 In attendance: Neil Humphrey, Kathy Johnston & Avis Hayden

Topics discussed:

1. Paid bill from Shea Monument for headstone repairs and cleaning.
2. Weed cutting in front of Lawrence Cemetery sign has been completed.
3. Commissioners approved letter template to send to people following the purchase of a deed – this letter will serve as a friendly reminder to purchase and place cornerstones.
4. Commissioners continued discussion of the use of Cemetery Trust Fund to cover expenses to repair and clean cemetery stones. Draft policy not yet approved. Will circulate and submit for approval at next meeting.
5. Commissioners agreed to make a list of stones in all three cemeteries that need repair and / or cleaning. Will prioritize the list. Will work down the list in keeping with our budget.
6. Commissioners acknowledge the investment of \$90,000 of Cemetery Trust funds into a Certificate of Deposit earning 4.64% interest. The investment term ends spring 2024.
7. Commissioners were unable to work on maps today due to rain. After some discussion we agreed to explore hiring a drone operator to make a computerized map of the cemetery, which will be more accurate than paper map. Kathy has contacted a drone operator. Neil will call him to explain our needs and get a cost estimate.
8. Commissioners paid a visit to Ira Allen Cemetery to examine the Perry headstone which is very large and seriously leaning forward. Shea Monument agreed to do the work to straighten it up. Will bill by the hour.
9. There is a privately-owned family cemetery on North Road that is in need up upkeep. The Town Clerk checked the deed for this plot and it is properly documented on the deed but there is no provision for upkeep. Commissioners agreed to track down someone in the family and send a letter inquiring about plans for upkeep.

Next scheduled meeting is Wednesday October 11, at 10:00 am at the Town Office.

Respectfully Submitted,

Avis Hayden