

## MINUTES

### CEMETERY TRUSTEES MEETING JUNE 15, 2016

Meeting convened at 6:30 PM with Trustees Sluski, Pike and Weeks present. Also in attendance were Steve Honeycutt and Mark Eldridge.

Minutes of June 7, 2016 were approved with one correction: "this se" was corrected to "these" in the 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph.

Atty. Roger Murray reviewed and reorganized the proposed contract following our discussion of June 7. The new Contract for Care of Cemeteries was reviewed with Mark Eldridge. After the review, Guy moved, Peter seconded and the Trustees voted unanimously to hire Mark Eldridge, doing business as Beech River Lawncare, and the contract was signed. Guy and Mark have walked the cemeteries and Mark is familiar with specific concerns regarding cemetery maintenance such as bumping and scratching stones, driving over stones and other markers, and rutting – all caused by equipment and vehicles of maintenance workers, gravediggers, and visitors.

Steve Honeycutt reported on recent activity with regard to the Town House Cemetery. Fencing has yet to be relocated and there are posts that need to be replaced. Is the fence town office maintenance or cemetery maintenance? Or should it be shared? Sue Weeks met with Jack Parsons last fall and discussed the need to relocate the fence so that burial equipment could access all lots in the cemetery. At that time, it was agreed that Jack would work with the sexton to relocate the fence to a mutually agreed location. However, Jack has been unavailable for this project so far this year. Trucks have to cross the town office lawn between the office and the main cemetery and even that is not adequate to reach all the plots. This will be discussed with the selectmen at our meeting with them on Monday the 20<sup>th</sup>.

Steve also discussed recent issues with people needing grave digging for cremations when there is no local undertaker involved. The question of liability came up. We will discuss this with selectmen also.

We had more discussion on signage and the need to post rules of use regarding dates the cemetery is open, that plantings are not allowed, clean-up of flowers and other decorative items. There was also discussion of solar lights and how these are becoming problems at other cemeteries.

Cory Hunter submitted a bill for mowing and trimming cemeteries: Town House Cemetery May 17 and 28; Tuftonboro Neck, Swett and Thompson-Moulton on May 25, Hoyt-Ladd-Remick and Edgerly-Blake on May 26 for a total of \$1,375.00. Guy noted that Cory had resigned on May 4 and that the Selectmen's minutes for May 13 note that they asked Cory to mow the Town House Cemetery for Memorial Day. Peter moved and Sue seconded to pay the bill; motion passed 2 to 1.

Guy has made inquiries of TruGreen as to the ingredients in the pesticides they use and has yet to get answers.

We had some discussion of the Sexton Job Description and the Cemetery Rules and changes that need to be made to both. Based on the new Cemetery contract, the Sexton will be responsible for removing plants and other articles that families place on graves. We also need to develop a new fee schedule for rights of burial and perpetual care. We will broach this subject with the selectmen on June 20. Guy will be unable to attend that meeting as he will be out of the country.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM

Susan Weeks, Chair