

**TOWN OF LAKEVILLE  
Cemetery Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
August 11, 2020 – 10:00 AM  
REMOTE LOCATION**

On August 11, 2020, the Cemetery Commission held a meeting at 10:00 AM remotely from various locations. The meeting was called to order at 10:01 AM by Chairman Upham. Cemetery Commission Members present were: Chairman Ken Upham, Joan Gladu Morton and Emery Orrall. LakeCAM was recording the meeting for broadcast.

In accordance with the Governor's Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c.30A, §20, relating to the 2020 novel Coronavirus outbreak emergency, the May 4, 2020 public meeting of the Cemetery Commission shall be physically closed to the public to avoid group congregation. **However, to view this meeting in progress, please go to [facebook.com/lakecam](https://www.facebook.com/lakecam) (you do not need a Facebook account to view the meeting). This meeting will be recorded and available to be viewed at a later date at <http://www.lakecam.tv/>**

Chairman Upham begins the meeting with a roll call vote of the members and then read an introduction regarding the need for a remote meeting and how a remote meeting will be conducted.

**READ MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

Commissioner Morton read aloud the minutes from the July 14, 2020 meeting.

Upon motion and second the Commission voted to approve the July 14, 2020 minutes as presented. Polled vote: Chairman Ken Upham - Aye, Joan Gladu Morton - Aye and Emery Orrall - Aye.

**OLD BUSINESS PENDING**

1. Haskins Cemetery (Invite Ltr)

*Norman Orrall was present through Zoom for the discussion.* Chairman Upham referenced the correspondence that was sent to Mr. Normal Orrall inviting him to attend the discussion but not indicating what it was regarding.

Chairman Upham asks Commissioner Morton to read aloud a section of the June 30, 2020 Lakeville Cemetery Commission Meeting minutes. Commissioner Morton read "Commissioner Orrall asked whether he should file a disclosure with the Town stating that his family owns Haskins Cemetery. His father bought the land and his family has the deed. Commissioner Orrall will send Chairman Upham the paperwork regarding this for review."

Chairman Upham reviewed with the Commission and Mr. Orrall the investigation into the statement that the Haskins Cemetery belonged to the Orrall family. There is reference to Thomas Orrall's purchase of a section of 15' x 46' of cemetery land and the deed is recorded on Book 1818, pages 566-567 and dated August 31, 1938. There is reference to research that was done of Lakeville from 1711 through 2003 with Thomas Orrall being identified as being outside of the fenced area of Haskins Cemetery. There is also reference to Emery Orrall's first meeting with the

Commission where he stated that his family owned Haskins Cemetery and donated granite posts. There is no record of this donation in the Town records. Chairman Upham explained that the parcel is now bounded on four sides with granite posts and rails and has been made to look like the cemetery appears as one cemetery instead of two.

Chairman Upham noted that the Lakeville Treasurer & Collectors Office has no record of taxes being paid on the property. It was found that Thomas Orrall passed away in 1974 but no record of probate has been found. There is reference to the post and rails that encompass the entire cemetery and that as of today there is a small portion adjacent to the outline that extends the layout of the cemetery with granite posts and rails but without any documented permission to do so that can be found. Chairman Upham referenced red tape and reports of a few people calling to inquire as to why the red tape is up at the cemetery. Normal Orrall explained that he has put the tape up along with his personal information, so anyone with questions on this can contact him directly and he asks if the few people that called were documented. Chairman Upham noted that it was not documented. However, he explains that the purpose of the discussion they are currently having is to document what has happened for the record.

Chairman Upham reiterates that the Haskins Cemetery has enclosed post and rails and that four of them were removed and altered so that now there is private property mixed in with Town property. He proposed three motions to correct this issue.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Morton and seconded by Commissioner Orrall, the Commission voted to purchase and install four granite posts and rails to return Haskins Cemetery to its original boundary. Polled vote: Chairman Ken Upham - Aye, Joan Gladu Morton - Aye and Emery Orrall - Aye.

Normal Orrall explained that his father worked with the Town and procured posts and a private contractor was hired to extend the fence around the cemetery as it was felt there was no need to have it separated as it could all be encompassed as one, even though it was private. Commissioner Morton asked what year this took place and Mr. Orrall replied 1970. There is discussion on the search for documentation in the archives. Mr. Orrall referenced the sign that he put up and indicated that the Town does not need to mow or maintain the private cemetery. Mr. Orrall noted that there are family members within ½ mile of the cemetery and they will maintain it.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Morton and seconded by Commissioner Orrall, the Commission voted to purchase and install a visitor's gate at the entrance of the Haskins Cemetery and not put a gate on the entrance to the Orrall Cemetery. Polled vote: Chairman Ken Upham - Aye, Joan Gladu Morton - Aye and Emery Orrall - Aye.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Morton and seconded by Commissioner Orrall, the Commission voted to approve the payment of \$3,492.00 for the purchase and installation of the fencing for the project discussed. Polled vote: Chairman Ken Upham - Aye, Joan Gladu Morton - Aye and Emery Orrall - Aye.

2. Pierce Cemetery

Chairman Upham discussed with the Commission the status of the tree that poses a danger to the cemetery property and the correspondence drafted to send to the owner, who resides in Florida currently. The Chairman will send the letter to the Commission Members for their feedback before sending the letter out.

3. Business Cards & Vehicle Signs

Chairman Upham noted that the business cards and vehicle signs have been ordered and that they have come in. The Chairman will distribute to the Commission.

4. Commemorative Sign

Chairman Upham discussed with the Commission any ideas that they may have for the Veteran's Cemetery Commemorative Sign. There is discussion on using bronze lettering and it is suggested that the wording be the date the cemetery was established and who the Cemetery Commission was at that time. There will be a mockup of the sign created for the Commission to review and approve.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Mullin Hill Cemetery

*Mullin*  
Chairman Upham explained that the Cornerstone Church has sent correspondence indicating that they will be keeping the property of the Mullin Hill Church and that they will not be donating it to the Town. They plan to establish a Cemetery Board and they are requesting a refund to the Church in the amount of \$3,900 for the people who paid for the perpetual care. Chairman Upham and Commissioner Morton have been working on this and a comparison of the records will need to be done to assure that the correct payment is returned. This will be reviewed further.

2. Keith Cemetery (Rail)

Chairman Upham noted that at Keith Cemetery there is a rail that was falling down. He has a proposal from Southeast Fence to fix that in the amount of \$175.00.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Morton and seconded by Commissioner Orrall, the Commission voted to approve the payment of \$175.00 to Southeast Fence Company for the repair of the rail at Keith Cemetery. Polled vote: Chairman Ken Upham - Aye, Joan Gladu Morton - Aye and Emery Orrall - Aye.

3. Robbins Cemetery (Connector)

Chairman Upham noted that he went out and took a look at the small aluminum connector that needs to be replaced. He was able to find the part at Home Depot for the cost of \$2. Chairman Upham will take care of this, he does not need a vote.

4. Assigned Cemetery Reports

Chairman Upham reported that at Precinct Cemetery he picked up three silver lights and one whirligig. Thompson Hill, he reported the grass was cut no issues. Howland Cemetery, he noted that they just did a burial last week. He noted that the DPW assisted in filling the pot holes with crushed gravel and cutting the grass and that the Booth Cemeteries looked good.

Commissioner Morton noted that Canady Corner Cemetery is fine. The Lang Cemetery had a lot of bent rods and there is overgrowth making its way around the Gomes stone. The McCulley Cemetery the wall repair is ongoing and there is a big dead branch hanging over some of the stones from a neighboring tree that needs to be addressed. The Robbins Cemetery and the Race Course Cemetery both have issues with the stones in the ground being covered by dirt and grass clippings. Commissioner Morton asks if the groundkeepers can be spoke to about this. Chairman Upham will coordinate.

Commissioner Orrall noted that the Reynolds Cemetery is neat and tidy and that there are some bushes and vines growing throughout the back. The Ward Cemetery is in poor condition with the rustic wooden fence damage that has not been repaired and there are a lot of broken stones. He also noted that there are metal rods that were not connected on the ground and twisted and bent. It looked like they were run over with the lawn mowers. Precinct One Cemetery is neat and tidy but Precinct Two has overhanging tress that are going to be a concern at some point. Pond Cemetery has some sunken and broken stones with some brush thrown out in the back of the property by the cliff. Clark Cemetery has bittersweet vines on the north side encroaching. The Haskins Reed Cemetery has vines and tress hanging over the back fence.

5. Thompson Hill (Turner)

Chairman Upham provided a brief overview of the work that was done at the Turner Plot and the rebuild of the structure.

**ADDITIONAL BUSINESS AS MAY ARISE**

It is noted that Chairman Upham will announce the next meeting of the Lakeville Cemetery Commission.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Upon motion made by Commissioner Morton and seconded by Commisioner Orrall, the Cemetery Commission voted to adjourn at 10:35 AM. Polled vote: Chairman Ken Upham - Aye, Joan Gladu Morton - Aye and Emery Orrall - Aye

Respectfully submitted by,

Colleen M. Lieb, Recording Secretary  
LAKEVILLE CEMETERY COMMISSION