

## **Lakeville Cemetery Commission**

### **Meeting Minutes**

July 14, 2020

The remote meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chairman Upham. The meeting was recorded by LakeCam.

Members present: Commissioners Upham, Orrall and Morton.

Guests: None

Minutes of the June 20, 2020 meeting were read and approved.

In a review of the budget it was noted that we have encumbrances totaling nearly \$6500.00.

1. Wall at McCully Cemetery--- \$1000.00
2. SouthEast Fence for installing posts at Thompson Hill ----\$2981.00.
3. Granite posts----\$2500.00

The FY2021 budget remains at \$13,000.00.

#### **Old Business:**

1. Granite posts: We are pursuing leads for granite posts in Madbury, NH and Newport, RI. Roan Barber has stated that he will speak to someone who may know of posts that are local. Commissioner Orrall took note of the size posts we are seeking and will check around.
2. Commemorative Plaque for the Veterans Cemetery: Chairman Upham spoke to Rex Monuments. Their suggestion was either engraving an upright stone with the pertinent info or a bronze plaque attached to an upright stone. This would be placed near the sign at the Veterans Cemetery. Tabled until the next meeting where we will share our thoughts on this, such as materials and what it should say.
3. Haskins Cemetery: Chairman Upham suggested sending a letter to George Orrall asking if he would consider deeding his privately owned plot, measuring 15ft.x 46ft. within the town owned cemetery, to the town, which would in turn give him a deed back for his plot. This would make the entirety of Haskins Cemetery town owned. George Orrall has owned this plot since 1974. He would need liability insurance for the town to do anything in his area of the cemetery, since it is private property. Commissioner Orrall does not think he will be receptive to this, but will call him to discuss it. A motion

was passed to have a letter concerning this sent to Mr. Orrall.

New Business:

1. All commissioners have their cemetery assignments and will report on them at the August meeting.
2. Pierce Cemetery has a huge tree which has fallen and is leaning into the cemetery, which will destroy stones if it falls into the cemetery. This tree is on land owned by Mass Audubon Society, who must be informed in writing, telling them that they will be liable for any damage. Chairman Upham will contact Linda Grubb to get a contact at Mass Audubon.
3. The rods at Pickens 1 are all bent. A motion was passed to contact S.E. Fence to straighten them.
4. We have designated an area at the back of Precinct Cemetery for the burial of cremains. Chairman Upham was approached by a representative of a vault company about placing a columbarium there. Each niche would be large enough for two cremains and would cost \$1400.00, which includes the inscription on the plaque. Further discussion will be ongoing.
5. Mullein Hill Cemetery, which is now owned by Cornerstone Community Church, has contacted the Cemetery Commission because parishioners are upset that the town no longer maintains the cemetery. They have hired their own landscaper. Approximately 10 plot owners have paid Perpetual Care to the town. Chairman Upham met with Pastor Wiegand to discuss this and the enlargement of the cemetery, which is not possible due to wetlands issues. Pastor Wiegand will discuss with his parishioners what they wish to do re the Perpetual Care issue. Chairman Upham has suggested that we return the Perpetual Care funds, which the town holds, to the church and let them maintain the cemetery themselves. We are awaiting a letter from the pastor. Item tabled until we receive this letter.
6. Concerning the town's Social Media Policy. Commissioner Orrall is the administrator of a Facebook page called the Lakeville Complaint Box where people can post about issues they have throughout the town, including town government. Commission and board members in the town of Lakeville cannot talk about town matters on Social Media. He will check with the Town Administrator to see if he can remain as administrator of this site.
7. Commissioner Orrall questioned whether we could repurpose the white vinyl

fence at Thompson Hill when we replace it with posts and rods.  
Commissioner Morton stated we plan to use it along the sides and back as a barrier to protect the neighbors' property.

8. Commissioner Orrall reported that there is a damaged wild cherry tree in Haskins Cemetery. He suggested that we consider removing the tree, which has a burl on it, which would be of interest to a craftsman. He will look for someone who might be interested in purchasing it, which would return money to the town.
9. Section markers will be replaced at Precinct Cemetery to mark areas so that people who are unfamiliar with the cemetery will be able to find plots.
10. Chairman Upham will order business cards for Commissioner Orrall and magnetic signs for the sides of his truck to identify him as a Cemetery Commissioner. He will also get him a key to the Cemetery Commission file at the Town Office Building.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

The next meeting will be on August 11, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.