

Cemetery Commission MEETING MINUTES

July 9, 2008

Meeting called to order at 4:06PM by Chairman Upham.

Members present: All present (Commissioners Mr. Brad Bates and Mr. Richard De Moranville)

Guests present: Author Jean Douillette (**Lakeville Massachusetts Gravestone Inscriptions 1711-2003**), and Contractor Christopher Reed.

Minutes of Meeting held on June 11, 2008 were read seconded and approved.

Unfinished BUSINESS:

A: Two proposals were received for Ward Cemetery. Fallen tree problem and brush clean-up. This matter is tabled for any additional proposals. Also Pond Cemetery should be looked at. It was motioned & seconded to contact Waubault (sp) Tree Service for a package proposal.

B: Cemetery reports were given for the assigned cemeteries. Commissioner Bates will discuss the needed grass cutting and minor clean-ups and a removal of a small tree at the entrance to Hafford Cemetery with the Town Highway Department next week. He will also move the signs that need to be relocated to the proper cemetery and discussed previously. Commissioner Bates suggested that Strowbridge Cemetery, especially the new section be evaluated to see if it viable for a cemetery. A test bore may be necessary. There is a supposed ledge there that may prevent burials. Thompson Hill Cemetery needs to have a damaged fence post replaced. Reports accepted.

C: Commissioner Bates will check with Mr. Crutchfield on making or repairing signs at the cemeteries.

D: Commissioner Upham reported that he did not send a letter to Ashley Funeral Home instead would like to send a letter to all funeral directors in the surrounding area. Everyone would be informed of our interment policy and not to single out Ashley Funeral Home. Approved with specifics and discussion in new business.

New Business:

A: The present Interment Certificate was discussed. For clarity and to insure errors a new Interment Order to replace the certificate was made by Commissioner Upham. It was reviewed and approved as a replacement and to be attached to a Burial Permit before a burial takes place. It will be mailed to all funeral directors a with a policy letter. Motion made and seconded. Approved

B: Discussion of hiring contractors for opening of graves. Numerous names were mentioned. Chris Reed, Contractor spoke of his experience digging graves in the town cemeteries for over 26 years. He

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would accept \$500.00 to open and close a grave insuring that it was leveled, loamed and seeded when needed. Upon leaving the meeting a motion by Commissioner Bates, 2nd by Commissioner Demoranville to accept Mr. Reed as a contracted grave digger. Additionally, Mr. Reed would have to have liability insurance made out to the Town of Lakeville and submit a W9 Form. Any additional grave diggers contracted would also have to have the required liability insurance and to submit a W9 Form. The agreed upon price of opening a grave, closing, raked and seeded would be \$650.00. The contractor would receive \$500.00 and \$150.00 would be placed into a Cemetery Fund. Motion made and seconded to hire Mr. Reed and to identify at least 2 other contractors who may be interested. Approved.

C: The Cemetery Commission does not have a metal detector to locate markers. Commissioner Upham Suggested one is purchased. Motion made and seconded to purchase one. In this regard Commission Bates volunteered to make a probe for the commission to use in locating liners or vaults.

D: Commissioner Upham handed out a comparative chart comparing area cemetery price lists. He stated that the commission should raise prices of cemetery services and lots to be in line with other cemeteries and to prepare for the day that the town has available space. Commissioner Upham suggested that this issue be tabled until the next meeting which would allow the Commissioners time to review and make recommendations. Approved.

There being no further business a motion was made and seconded to adjourn. Approved.

Meeting adjourned at 5:44PM.

Next meeting will be on August 13, 2008, 4:00PM at the Town Hall Conference Room.