

BARRE TOWN CEMETERY COMMISSION
MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 23, 2020 MEETING
TOWN OFFICE and/or HOME BASED CONFERENCE CALL

CALL TO ORDER

Call to order at the town offices at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Commission members: Alan Garceau, Robert Benoit, Angela Labrador, Clement Vaillancourt, and Dwight Harrington attended the meeting. Carl Rogers, town manager, attended, and sexton Dwight Coffrin called in by phone.

AGENDA CHANGES - ADDITIONS

Details: Mr. Garceau asked to add gravestone replacement to the agenda.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mr. Vaillancourt made a motion, seconded by Mr. Benoit, to approve the agenda as written and amended. With no further discussion, the motion carried on a voice vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Garceau made a motion, seconded by Ms. Labrador, to approve the minutes of the August 26, 2020 meeting as written. With no further discussion, the motion carried on a voice vote.

QUARTERLY BUDGET REPORT

Town manager Rogers presented details of the budget figures for the end of FY 2019/2020. He explained the new format used in the budget reporting to the commission. The revenue side of the sheet showed an overall surplus, mostly in the cemetery operational categories. One of the figures in the interest row had an error, but overall, the year finished with a surplus. The expenditure sheet showed overall payouts to be about two and a half percent under budget. The figures show a good year for the cemetery budget.

Mr. Rogers also presented the budget figures for FY 2020/2021 perhaps based on the early July data. Revenues are as expected and running near the 1st quarter projections. Wages paid are also on track and the insurances have been paid on schedule. The overall percentage of expenditures is where it should be given one quarter of the fiscal year has passed.

RECEIVE GUESTS

None this meeting.

SEXTON REPORT

Mr. Coffrin reported the crew had cleaned out the shrubs and grass on the Farwell Street side of the Maplewood Cemetery near the northerly property line. Also in that cemetery, other shrubs have been trimmed, grass mowed and trimmed, and the lilac tree will be trimmed next month. Fallen memorials will be reset in the October timeframe. Matt Peake has started sandblasting the fence and the crew followed along and applied primer to the completed area. One lot has been sold to William John.

At Wilson, two, two-grave lots and a columbarium niche have been sold, the lots to John Lawson and Erwin Waibel, and the niche to Dale Finck. The crew has completed trimming trees and shrubs and the cemetery has been mowed and trimmed, perhaps for the last time this season. Randy Pickel removed three large maple trees and trimmed others per his contract. There has been one foundation order and one marker installed. Three interments took place this month, for the fiscal year there have been three niche entombments, one full interment, and seven cremains interments for a total of eleven.

APPROVAL OF DEEDS AND MONUMENTS

- A. Deeds: Wayne and Ellie Lawrence, Section New-B, Lot 163, 8x10, Wilson Cemetery.
Richard and Kathy Kusiak, Section New-B, Lot 139, 10x10, Wilson Cemetery.
- B. Niche reservation: none this meeting.
- C. Monuments: Erwin Waibel, Lots 169ed and 169ee, Section East, Wilson Cemetery.
- D. Niche covers: Laura Lynn Kamhi, Columbarium 4, Side B, Niche 20

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Bulk Trash Day wrap-up. The weather cooperated and Ms. Labrador and Mr. Benoit worked at the front of the line explaining the rules, inspecting loads, and collecting donations. The final tally came to \$651 in donations for the commission. Mr. Rogers provided the data, 155 loads came in making the event the 10th most active in the 19 years of data. The overall average is about 154 loads, this was an average year although the traffic flow seemed slow. Overall, the event flow was average, but the donations above average. Ms. Labrador said the people coming through the check-in were friendly and conscientious about wearing masks.

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- B. Tree removal at Wilson Cemetery status. The maple trees at the Wilson Cemetery have been removed per contract, the work went well. The contractor did a good job cleaning up the site. The tree in the front of the cemetery still has a few dead limbs near the top, the contractor will be asked to reexamine the tree. The monument area has been cleaned up well. The stump removal was not included in the work.
- C. Dogwood replacement at columbaria site. Mr. Coffrin has not had the opportunity to go to White River to look for replacement shrubs. He will make the trip in the near future and report back at the October meeting.
- D. Monument sketches. Mr. Vaillancourt provided sketches for the minimum sizes for a single grave lot. The base and the die have been shown in three dimensions with the dimensions given for length, width, and height. The base and the die have been identified in the text. The sketches could be loaded on the cemetery website or given as a handout. Mr. Rogers suggested doing a version with the dimension lines but no numbers. Mr. Coffrin could write in the proper numbers per lot size as he worked with a client.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Stone replacements. Mr. Garceau told the commission the gentleman who has given the commission the very good price of \$200 per replacement stone would be retiring in December. The price for the replacements will likely go up in the future. He suggested using the donation money to order more replacements before the end of the year. A survey would cover the historic sections of the cemeteries and include photos. They would be the same Woodbury granite used in previous replacement work. Mr. Garceau made a motion to ask Mr. Harrington to do another survey in the cemeteries to identify stones to be replaced, possibly using donation money, and bring the results to the October meeting. Mr. Vaillancourt seconded the motion and with no further discussions, the motion carried on a voice vote. Mr. Harrington agreed to do the survey.

AROUND THE TABLE DISCUSSIONS

Mr. Garceau asked the members of the commission to consider budget needs and bring requests to the October meeting. Mr. Coffrin will bring his suggestions as well.

Mr. Harrington noted the granite or concrete cover over a culvert entrance at a culvert near the vault and located on the driveway between the vault and Websterville Road. The cover is in about four pieces and should be replaced.

Mr. Garceau thanked the participants for the bulk trash day and Mr. Vaillancourt for the work he has done on the sketches.

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting set for: October 28, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.
Location: Room 3, Barre Town Municipal Office.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Ms. Labrador made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Garceau. With no further discussion, the motion carried on a voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of Alan Garceau, Chairman
by Dwight D. Harrington, recorder