

WILLIAMSTOWN CEMETERY COMMISSION

October 24, 2019

Minutes

Present: John Perkins, CH, Susan Lyons, Daphne Herwig, Matt Couillard, Orvil Lasell

The Meeting was called to order at 7:05 P.M.

Minutes: Minutes from the September 26, 2019 Minutes were reviewed. Motion made by Matt C. to accept as written. 2nd by Daphne H. Passed and Minutes were approved.

Budget Status Report: Budget Status Report for 10-23-19 presented.

Warrants: Kirkyard Services, LLC for October 2019, \$3,687.50. Total paid out = \$3,687.50

Income: October Misc. Income: Suzanne LaFleche \$325.00; Tillotson \$55.00 – Total received was \$380.00.

New Business:

John P. If we go up on our rates we will need to inform the Funeral Homes of the increase by mid-winter. We will need to look at these rates at some point.

Daphne H. The Martin stone in the West Hill Cemetery that is broken and by the wall is a family stone. It looks like it could be repaired and could be re-set in the stand. Is this something that the Commission would take care of?

John P. The Commission would most likely replace it with a grass marker – the cost being around \$162.00. The cost to repair would be more expensive. Is this something that the Martin family might share the expense to repair? Joe might be able to give us a better idea of a repair cost.

Daphne H. Not sure – it's something I could check into.

John P. The tree pruning in the Village Cemetery has not been done yet as Jeremy Hagggett was injured and not able to work. He was going to get in touch with Mike Baril from the Marshfield Tree Service to see if they could work something out together and get the job done.

Matt C. The gate is closed in East Hill. Anyone know why?

Susan L. The Kanaly stone in the Village Cemetery has a grass marker leaned up against it with the name of Rosina C. Cheney. Not sure who put it there. I did do some research and discovered that her Mother's maiden name was Margaret Kanaley.

Also I met with Clayt Martin to look at the Helen Martin stone that is up on the Williamstown Elem. School property. The question is – are we going to move it to the Martin Lot in Village? The monument there has her name and dates on it also.

One more item. Bill Marcinkowski (sp?) called regarding a family lot in the Village Cemetery under the name of Bresett. His great- grandmother is buried there along with 4 others and it looks like it is supposed to be an 8 person burial lot. His question – “what

are the Cemetery Rules regarding my possibly being buried there if there is space available?"

Orvil L. It depends on if there are heirs to this Lot. He would need to do the research and prove relationship and also get permission from any remaining heirs.

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Daphne H. I found a note in the book "A History of Williamstown, VT" dated 1781-1991, (page 283). There was a newspaper article dated Feb. 1953 mentioning a fund that was being set up to restore and replace the headstones of Aaron and Eunice Martin in the East Hill Cemetery by Mary Green Nye of Berlin. She deposited the sum of \$50.00 in the account with hopes for more contributions. (See page 287) Also noted that this fund should not be confused with the permanent fund being established by Mr. & Mrs. W. P. Briggs for the upkeep of the cemetery as a whole to which more than \$1,100 has been contributed. (See pages 287,288) Both funds were in the care of the town treasurer, Percy Jeffords. The fund for Aaron and Eunice Martin was solely for erecting a lasting tribute to these pioneers. Also noted in the book: "A granite stone replaced the original slate markers which are now kept in the museum of the Williamstown Historical Society."

John P. Setting the date and time to pick up the flags in the cemeteries for Saturday, Nov. 16th – meeting in the Village Cemetery at 9:00 a.m.
Light on flag pole not bright enough. Should research again to see if a brighter solar one is available.

Handed out proposed Budget figures for 19-20 year.

Discussion followed: Figures gone over and John had come up with a total of \$48,000. Orvil thought that we should cut the Town Allocation by \$2,000 and we did make adjustments by decreasing Wages by \$1,000, decreasing Maintenance by \$500.00 and decreasing Cemetery Misc. Expenses by \$500.00. New budget total is \$46,000.00.

Orvil L. Burial Services shows up in our budget as a line item under both Income and Expense. Cemetery Lot Sales shows up in Income only. It needs to show under Expense also.

Susan L. I'll ask Jennifer to add it in as a line item under Expense. (Note: There is a Line Item number for this already, #001-7-03-99.05, listed as Lot Sales Res – Perp Care.)

John. P. Cemetery Lot Sales goes to Gary Storrs – Trustee of Public Funds. Every time we receive money for Lot Sales it needs to go into the Perpetual Care Fund.

Old Business:

John L. Any other business? None - -

Susan L. I'll make the motion to adjourn this meeting - - 2nd by Matt C.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:45 P.M.

NEXT MEETING: November 21, 2019
