Call to Order at 7:35 am

Marie Grella, Chairperson; Cynthia Dokmo, member; Lisa Eastland, member; Peter Lyon, Selectman; Eric Slosek, DPW Director: Pat Delisle attending.

**Citizen Forum**; No Citizens present.

**Minutes**: Lisa makes a motion to approve the minutes from November 27, 2022, seconded by Cynthia,

all in favor, motion passes

**Mowing Bid;** There will be 16 mowing with the possibility of extra mowing under a contract with Knotts Land Care. The contract is for 7 months (32 weeks). Lisa makes the motion to accept Knotts Land Care contract of $6,832.00 for 16 mowing of Forestview Cemetery, also to accept the contract of Meadowview Cemetery of $24,416.00 for 16 mowing. Cynthia seconds this motion, all in favor, motion passes. The Cemetery Trustees sign the contract Knotts Land Care.

Lisa asks what went into the budget for next year ((FY24)? Eric states that the mowing line (outside hire) for FY24 is $42,800. Lisa states that in November they had talked about reducing the budget for that line but couldn’t remember if they actually did.

**Rules & Regulations for Amherst Cemeteries**:Rules and Regulations are needed for Forestview Cemetery. Cynthia would like to know if they will be selling lots sequentially or can someone pick a lot anywhere? Lots will be sold sequentially. Permanent raised planter boxes that are attached or abutting the stone, the owner of the lot is responsible for the upkeep of the planter. The cemetery sexton reserves the right to remove the planters. Verbiage, height and width are discussed, over the course of the next month this verbiage will be solidified. Details as to what can be planted (bulbs, perennials etc.), in what size planters, what type of material and for how long memorabilia will be allowed to stay on the lot, will be further discussed and determined. Lisa suggests that they change as much as they can customize the rules and regulations for Forestview, and state in the rules that they may be changed.

Will Memorial trees be available for Forestview Cemetery? Yes

Lisa makes the motion to amend Meadowview Cemetery regulations for purchasing Memorial trees raising the cost from $300.00 to $500.00, seconded by Cynthia all in favor. Cynthia makes a motion to reconsider the former vote, seconded by Lisa. All in favor, motion passes. Cynthia makes a motion not to change the cost of the Memorial trees at this time, Lisa seconds this motion, all in favor, motion passes.

**Budget:** Currently the FY23 budget in over in wages, part-time wages and outside hire. Eric state that we are looking at negative $24,000.00. We will look at the detail to be sure only what should be charged there is charged there. The mowing line will be over by $8,928 before the next budget kicks in. If the Town were to hire 2 part time employees it would cost $40,000, so we are saving money signing on with Knotts Land Care, LLC

Lisa would like to reopen the possibility of selling off some land at Forestview Cemetery.

Someone had given Lisa the name of an appraiser, she had called them and they were not taking on anymore clients. A second appraiser had not returned her calls. Peter Lyon states that he can get the name of the appraiser that the ACC uses. Lisa has a neighbor that would very much like to purchase portion of the land abutting her parcel. Peter asks if they would consider selling some land to the Town. Lisa states they would absolutely sell some to the Town. Marie states that could sell the piles of loam currently at Forestview. Peter asked if the loam is needed for any reason at the Cemetery. No it is used for burials. They could sell it and an income from that would go to the Cemetery. Before any land is sold, Cynthia would like to be sure that they have enough for a reflection area, the memorial wall and possibly a scatter garden.

Marie would like to have the Avenue name poles installed before spring.

The Milford Rotary will be celebrating their 75th anniversary and they are looking to help the four towns that they have members from by donating something. Would there be anything that the Cemeteries would like or need that they could donate some funds towards or donate the item? This is just something to be thinking about.

Marie would like to have a introduction to the public to Forestview. Once the Cemetery is cleaned up, the trustees should do something to let people know that it is ready. Discussion follows, no decisions were made.

The scatter garden stone should be placed as soon as it is voted on.

Marie makes a motion to adjourn at 8:30am.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 18

There will be no meeting in April.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Delisle