

Cemetery Trustees Meeting
May 20, 2021
1:00 pm ZOOM

In attendance: Marie Grella, Cynthia Dokmo, Lisa Eastland, Eric Hahn, (guests) Bob Grunbeck, Lori Mix, Laurie May, Finance Director.

Meeting called to order at 1:05

Marie reads the following:

To comply with the Governor's Emergency Order #12 and to be consistent with the other Town board and committees, please read this statement after calling to order each online meeting:

- Pursuant to the State of Emergency declared by the Governor as a result of the COVID19 pandemic and in accordance with his Emergency Order #12, this meeting is authorized to take place electronically. There is no physical location to observe and listen to this meeting. However, in accordance with the Emergency Order, we are:
- Utilizing Zoom teleconferencing for this meeting. All members of the Board have the ability to communicate during the meeting through this platform and the public has access to contemporaneously listen and if necessary participate in the meeting by dialing +1 646 558 8656 and using a webinar ID of 873 2242 7125 or by using the link contained in the agenda posted at amherstnh.gov.
- Notice of the meeting and means to access it were previously posted in accordance with law. Members of the public that have phoned into the meeting can raise their hand by pressing the *9 on their phone, in order to make it known that they would like to speak to the Board. If anyone has a problem accessing the meeting, please call 603-440-8248 for assistance. In the event the public is unable to access the meeting, the meeting will be adjourned and rescheduled.
- All votes will be taken by roll call and for ease, in alphabetical order.
- <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87322427125>
- Or Telephone:
- Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):
- US: +1 646 558 8656
- Webinar ID: 873 2242 7125

A roll call is taken.

Citizen Forum: No citizens present

Laurie May introduces herself to the Committee.

Cemetery Trust Funds: Bob Grunbeck introduces himself to the committee. The Trustees of the Trust Funds are making their way to all the various boards in town to make sure they understand what assets they have in capital reserves and trust funds, to make sure they understand what the current environment is for investing in return. And to encourage them to look at what they have and to utilize the best way it was intended and set up. The problem currently in the financial markets is: there is a lot of money for the purpose of cemeteries, as of December 31, 2020 the

cemeteries in normal trust funds have 1.471 million dollars on the principal side, in addition to that had \$298, 963 in income. The main point that they are trying to make: on the income side that is required by law to be kept that in guaranteed insurance, there is virtually no return on it, at .02 basis point, it earns nothing. On \$100,000 we earn about \$20 a year. When you take into account inflation and management fees we are losing 2 ½ % a year, current holding of \$298,963 is losing in real value, \$7,500 a year in general. We are paying .8 basis points in management fees. The Trustees of the Trust fund are highlighting the cost of having that money sit idle. They might have perfectly good needs for it to sit idle; they just want to bring it to the Cemetery Trustees attention. In addition to that, in the Cemetery Expendable Trust there is still \$15,000 in principal and \$35,000 in income for another \$50,000 that again is sitting in cash, combine the Cemetery Trustees have \$350,000 earning .02 basis points. The Cemetery Trustees have a list of things to purchase; an area for reflection, a memorial wall, scatter garden, trees, a gazebo big shed. The shed would cost between \$80,000 and \$100,000 and they have been pushing that off until the cost of lumber goes down a little. Bob really encourages that the Cemetery Trustees to expend the remaining amount in the Cemetery Expendable Trust and get it off the books. It has \$50,000 in it. Lisa asks if this fund can be used to pay the company that was hired to mow the cemeteries. This is one of the purposes that this Trust was set up for and can be used for that. Eric Hahn states that there is no sense to delay the purchase of things that are on the Cemetery Trustees horizon already, if they want to move forward with the memorial wall or the shed there is no sense in delaying it.

Authorization for payment; Eric Hahn gives some history of how the accounts payables were handled and the current procedures. The following motions were made:

Marie makes a motion to approve Invoice #1536 in the amount of \$18,212.10 payable to Knots Land Care, for the installation of an irrigation system at Forestview Cemetery from the Cemetery Expendable Trust Fund. Seconded by Lisa Eastland
Roll call vote: Marie Grella; aye, Cynthia Dokmo; aye, Lisa Eastland; aye

Marie makes a motion to approve Invoice #1668 in the amount of \$16,390.89 payable to Knots Land Care, for the installation of an irrigation system at Forestview Cemetery from the Cemetery Expendable Trust Fund. Seconded by Lisa Eastland
Roll call vote: Marie Grella; aye, Cynthia Dokmo; aye, Lisa Eastland; aye

Marie makes a motion to approve Invoice #185329 in the amount of \$174.41 payable to Stateline Irrigation Supply for a hunter roam remote kit for the irrigation system at Forestview Cemetery from the Cemetery Expendable Trust Fund. Seconded by Lisa Eastland
Roll call vote: Marie Grella; aye, Cynthia Dokmo; aye, Lisa Eastland; aye

Marie makes a motion to approve Invoice #593 in the amount of \$500.00 payable to Grella & Son Landscaping, Inc., for monitoring the irrigation system installation at Forestview Cemetery from the Cemetery Expendable Trust Fund. Seconded by Lisa Eastland
Roll call vote: Marie Grella; aye, Cynthia Dokmo; aye, Lisa Eastland; aye

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93 Marie makes a motion to approve Invoice #460 in the amount of \$1,000.00 payable to Grella &
94 Son Landscaping, Inc., for the installation of an irrigation system at Forestview Cemetery from
95 the Cemetery Expendable Trust Fund. Seconded by Lisa Eastland
96 Roll call vote: Marie Grella; aye, Cynthia Dokmo; aye, Lisa Eastland; aye
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98 Marie makes a motion to approve Invoice dated May 4, 2021 in the amount of \$7,066.00 payable
99 to The Wash Well Company, for the replacement of 2 wells at Forestview Cemetery from the
100 Cemetery Expendable Trust Fund. Seconded by Lisa Eastland
101 Roll call vote: Marie Grella; aye, Cynthia Dokmo; aye, Lisa Eastland; aye
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103 This is for a total of 43,342.99 from The Cemetery Expendable Trust leaving a balance of
104 approximately \$7,000.00.
105

106 **Re-buried remains at Town Hall Cemetery:** Tabled until next meeting.
107
108

109 **Flagpole dedication:** Kelly Mullin 48 Christian Hill Rd. The irrigation does not reach the plants
110 that Andrew put in, he has been watering them. If we could let Perry Day know and possibly
111 have them adjusted. Eric Hahn explains that the system does reach that circle from 3 separate
112 sprinkler heads.
113

114 Recommendations for the next meeting: Complete lay out of Forestview Cemetery with the help
115 of Smith & Heald and Medlyn Monument, because Marie feels they would be very helpful. And
116 Marie would like to know what we can do to make their work easier such as burials. Marie
117 would like to discuss this next month. As well as possibly having larger stones where Forestview
118 has larger graves.
119

120 A motion is made to adjourn at 2:24 pm..
121

122 Respectfully submitted,
123 Pat Delisle
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