

## SOMERS CEMETERY COMMITTEE

MEETING 1.7.15 2 PM

Start 2:07 PM

Present: Carole Pyne – chair, George Warner,

David Morgan, Patricia Loftus

Guests: Mark Marrinaccio – CFO, Brian Wissinger – finance office, David McCaffrey – American Legion Post 101, Casey Viega – CT lic. funeral director

1. Approval of October 2014 minutes: Voted as corrected: (p.1 – B1 “NOT” interested), (p.1 – B3 change to “cremated remains”)
2. Letter of retirement from Ed Sullivan was accepted with regret.

George Warner – motion, David Morgan – second

### REPORTS:

CFO - Mike Marinaccio: On the investment(s) including the monies from the cemetery committee funds nine RFPs were sent out today to selected companies who have done business with the town in the past (with the pension fund, volunteer FD pension, BD of Ed, Cemetery Committee). There are 30 days to respond to the Finance office. Four companies will be selected to pitch their proposal. The committee composition is made of 6 members. Selectman Bud Knorr, CFO, members of the Bd of Ed, and at least one citizen not on a committee. Selection should be completed in March with a start date late April or early May. A report of progress will be given to the Cemetery Committee at the April meeting.

CFO Treasurer asst.: Brian Wissinger presented the quarterly report. Some items will be included in the April report as they did not clear in time to be included. See report filed electronically. David Morgan opined that we are losing approximately \$2,000 per burial (comparison of burial vs. cost of maintenance of cemeteries per year).

Asst/ Treasurer's Report: George Warner – no report.

Chairperson report: Complaints must be filed in writing to the Cemetery Committee, in care of Town Hall. No phone call complaints will be accepted. On December 11<sup>th</sup>, three cemetery committee members met with the Selectpersons during their scheduled meeting to discuss cemetery regulations and procedures.

Brian Wissinger will be selling lots for “right to burial” through the financial office during regular office hours.

Jay D'Aleo: Sexton's report: no report

#### Old Business:

A. Violations of cemetery regulations such as ornaments on trees and shrub planting without permission are beyond the responsibility of the landscapers.

B. Flag removal was completed the week after Veteran's Day. David requested that the Somers American Legion Post 101 be allowed to place a flagpole in North Cemetery. Motion made and approved by unanimous vote. The height and description of the flag pole is to be approved by the cemetery committee.

David also reported that the flag ash repository for Center Cemetery should be ready by spring. Weather dictating the date.

c. New sign wording reviewed and tightened. Final wording approved. David McCaffrey will be organizing RFPs.

#### New Business:

A: There is no change in the policy of “no buy back” of plots. Changes will be allowed only in Center Cemetery of empty plots and only with approval of the committee.

David Morgan spoke to the following:

We must require registration of change of ownership of burial certificates or deeds before burial is allowed. Motion made and approved by a unanimous vote.

B. New deeds will not be issued only a burial certificate. There will be a \$50.00 fee to validate any transfer. Money goes to the committee's coffers. Voted and approved unanimously.

C. Committee approved unanimously by vote a trade of empty plots from David Reed. (plots #'s on file with the finance office)

D. Chair will send out for bid: Landscaping contract 2015 – 2017, specify a bond is necessary to cover repairs of stones; a leaf clean up and flower clean up I spring and Nov. 1 of each year. Spring date set by Cemetery Committee with landscaping contractor.

E. Send out to bid: grave digging contract 2015, specify bond for repairs, and broken armed service emblems. Replace flags and service emblems in same location. One or two year contracts considered.

F. Other:

Respectfully submitted:

Patricia Loftus, recording secretary

Meeting adjourned at 3:29PM

Meeting minutes are not official until approved at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Next meeting April 22, 2015 2PM Town Hall