

Informational Hand-out for Town Meeting from the Board of Selectmen

Overview of Warrant Article #4

3/16/2013

Warrant Article #4 provides Surveying and Engineering Services for the permitting necessary to allow the Department of Public Works (DPW) to process sand and gravel from the property adjacent to Greenvale Cemetery. A central location for the dispensing of sand is preferred by DPW to reduce fuel consumption, increase response time for sanding and plowing, and reduce wear and tear on vehicles. Potential future use of the property may include a centrally located DPW facility. See drawing on back.

In 2011 the Town engaged an engineering company and test pits were dug, which confirmed the existence of good sand, and gravel. The proposal from the engineering company to open the property for gravel screening came in at \$27,200 and was deemed too expensive by the Selectmen. A search for a competitive engineering company resulted in a not-to-exceed \$15,600 quote; a savings of \$11,600 from the original proposal. The warrant article reflects the fact that the Town is essentially starting over with a new engineering company. To be clear, the Board of Selectmen intends to open the site for gravel screening during 2013. DPW indicates that the gravel processing effort will require screening gravel and sand on site for a limited time during the summer. The cost savings of \$10,000 is outlined in article #6.

The Selectmen, the Cemetery Trustees, and the Department of Public Works are discussing the incorporation of a tree and vegetation buffer around the cemetery, as well as a building buffer to ensure the peaceful setting of the cemetery. Additionally, no building or excavating will take place in the Shoreline boundary setbacks. The total area for excavation is 5-6 acres, which will take a number of years to complete. The approximate cleared area per year is .5 to 1 acre and new growth will have begun growing back the following year. The grove of trees specified in the deed from Cora A. Worthley will remain incorporated leaving the use of the property "as the Town may see fit".

Full excerpt from the Cora A. Worthley deed of 1936 follows:

"It is expressly understood and agreed by and between the parties hereto, their heirs, administrators, executors, successors and assigns and made a condition hereof that so much of the property hereby conveyed as lies adjacent to and back of the Greenvale Cemetery, so-called, which is part of these premises, shall always be held and owned by said town of Greenfield and that on so much of said property adjacent to and back of said cemetery as now laid out or hereafter laid out, no trees or lumber thereon shall be cut except for the purpose of proper pruning, care and maintenance of the grove thereon to the end that a grove shall be kept adjacent to and back of said cemetery as scenic background.

Nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit the use of the remaining property herein conveyed as the Town may see fit."

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Map of the Proposed Site Use

