

CEMETERY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
April 7, 2015
5:00 PM
Conference Room C

Present: William Graham
Maureen Sargent
Gail Forsberg

Also

Present: Daniel Nason, DPW Director
Don Leblanc

Before the meeting, Mr. Nason introduced Don Leblanc to the Commissioners, stating he will now be attending the meetings on a regular basis. Don is very knowledgeable regarding any cemetery issues as he spends the majority of his time doing the burials and maintenance there.

1. Review/approve minutes from January 6, 2015 meeting

Minutes were reviewed - no changes made

Motion: Approve minutes from January 6, 2015 meeting

Motion seconded - Unanimous vote to approve minutes

2. General Discussion

Commissioner Graham brought up the number of graves available in the current cemetery space. Mr. Nason referred to the current map that was just completed in the last few months showing the number of lots available to be approximately 1100. Giving the past sale of lots, - and if the sale of future lots stays at a similar pace (approx.50 per year) this number of lots will be sold in about 15-20 years. Mr. Graham asked if there is any land in Town that could be purchased for future use as a cemetery after the current cemeteries are full. Mr. Nason said that currently he knows of none.

3. Review Cemetery Regulations

At the previous meeting, Mr. Nason said he would like to make a few changes to the current regulations. Several items were discussed, such as changing any reference to the Town or Superintendent to specifically state "Public Works Director". Also he would like the headstone regulations and price sheet attached directly to the Cemetery regulations as one full document.

Mr. Nason had to leave this meeting early as he had an additional meeting to attend.

The Commissioners discussed at length several changes to the regulations. Including but not limited to changing the rates for grave purchases for residents vs. non-residents. (See new regulations)

Motion: To have the changes discussed added to the regulations, and take a formal vote at the next meeting for acceptance.

Motion seconded - Unanimous vote

4. Current Rates-Review spreadsheet-Residents vs. Non-Residents status

It was suggested that the non-resident rate be increased to a price of \$1,600.00 to purchase an individual lot, as compared to the current residential rate of \$600.00. There was a lengthy discussion on how to determine a "resident vs. non-resident" with respect to former residents. Wording discussed: You are considered a "resident" if the number of years that you were a resident within the Town of Northborough EXCEEDS the number of years you have not been a resident.

Motion: Incorporate wording changes within regulations.

Motion seconded, unanimous vote to change the residential/non-residential wording.

NEW BUSINESS

Deed Transfers - with new regulations regarding residential status, it was decided by the Commissioners to assess a fee of 1000.00 for each transfer of deed from a resident to non-resident.

Motion: Assess a fee of 1,000.00 for each deed transfer from a resident to non-resident

Vote: Unanimous approval to assess such fee.

- Next Meeting:

Next meeting is scheduled for: Tuesday, April 21, 2015 at 5:00 PM.

Adjourn: At 6:15 PM, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Robbie Powers, DPW Administrative Assistant

