

Brenda Eckstrom Nancy Miller Deborah Jean Rose

## TOWN OF WAREHAM

## **Cemetery Commissioners**

95 Charge Pond Road Wareham, Massachusetts 02571 (508) 295-5300 Fax: (508) 295-639

## CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS MINUTES OF MEETING

Date:

Thursday, November 20, 2014

Location:

Memorial Town Hall, 54 Marion Road, Wareham, MA 02571

Place:

Room #23

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Attendance:

Commissioners: Brenda Eckstrom

Present

Nancy Miller

Present

Deborah Jean Rose

Absent

Liaison officer:

David Menard

Present

Deborah J. Berchtold, Administrative Assistant

Present

- The meeting opened at 5:30 p.m.
- The minutes of the meeting held on September 4, 2014 were read and approved 2-0-0. discussed.

• Deeds signed:

Mary and Robert Gallus

Centre Annex

Lot 268

Graves 3 & 4

Donna L. Cattabriga

Agawam Annex

Lot 227

Graves 5 & 6

Deed Transfer:

From Colin MacPhail to Barry and Donna Cattabriga Agawam Lot 376 Graves 5,6,7 & 8

Monument Foundation Pads Approved:

Randall:

Centre Annex Lot 264 graves 3 & 4

Bailey:

Agawam Annex Lot 231 graves 1,2,7 & 8

Maynard:

Agawam Annex Lot 81 graves 1 & 2 Centre Annex Lot 272 graves 1 & 2

Burroughs/Martins McCann:

Agawam Annex Lot 1 graves 3, 4, 5 & 6

Five foundation pads were approved by the Cemetery Commissioners at this meeting. Some of the owners had been waiting quite some time for their approval. David Menard suggested that a standard size headstone be permissible without a vote from the Cemetery Commissioners. That way some of the owners would not have to wait for the next cemetery meeting for approval. It was agreed that any type of complex stone or a questionable stone would be presented at a Cemetery Commissioners meeting for a vote. Stone size, such as a flat marker, was also discussed. It was suggested this may be something to be considered once the expansion of the

cemetery is completed.

- Payables in the amount of \$764.35 for paint and plywood in the cemeteries was voted 2-0-0. The payment batch will be processed by the Accounting Department next week.
- Water usage in the cemeteries was given a lengthy discussion. Sometime between March of 2014 and September of 2014 an outside spicket located at the Centre Cemetery was left to run for an unknown amount of time. A letter was sent to the Wareham Water Department requesting an abatement on this water account. The water bill the Municipal Maintenance Department received for this account was \$5, 284.38. The WWD responded and was willing to offer the Town an abatement of \$924.74, as a 20% one- time courtesy abatement. David Menard originally states that he would be shutting the water off in the cemetery as this kind of water usage bill is detrimental to his department's budget. Nancy and/or Brenda will be making a case to discuss with the Acting Water Superintendent, Andy Cunningham, to seek a total abatement on this account. The possibility of digging a well in the cemetery was introduced as an option for water usage and will be further examined.
- Discussion of notifying lot owners to remove items on the graves and/or shrubs continued. A bag and tag theory was discussed and due to the fact that Municipal Maintenance is short staffed it was decided that this would not be feasible. A discussion of a community cleanup ensued, perhaps authorizing the Commissioners to produce a cleanup policy. Nancy Miller is going to discuss with Billy Ames the clean up policy for Saint Patrick's Cemetery
- Clarification of the various Town Articles was settled at the Municipal Maintenance Department's office and was not discussed during this meeting
- Cemetery information listed on the Town's website was presented for discussion. It was stated that the ancient sections of the Agawam and Centre Cemeteries are not visible on the website. Nancy offered to contact Andy Griffith regarding pictures of old graves and any other information which would pertain to the cemeteries and see if he would give the Town permission to reproduce them.
- Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m. Next meeting will be held on December 11, 2014, at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cemetery Commissioners

/djc

Mary Ann Silva, Town Clerk 
 Mary Healy, Department Assistant

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST

TOWN CLERK

AND THE