

*Town of Atkinson
Cemetery Trustees
Regular Meeting
Tuesday July 28, 2015*

MINUTES

Open Meeting:

K. Friel opened the Regular Meeting of the Cemetery Trustees at 7:30 PM on Tuesday, July 28, 2015, in the Atkinson Town Hall.

Members Present:

K. Friel, Chairman
S. Garrity
R. Patuto

Others Present:

M. Duffy, 7 Bittersweet Lane

Approval of Minutes:

K. Friel made the motion to approve the minutes of June 30, 2015, as amended. Second: S. Garrity. Vote: 3/0/0.

Financial Report:

None.

S. Garrity resigned as Treasurer for the Trustees. (Letter attached)

Resident Request:

M. Duffy requested permission to put a stone bench diagonally on Lot 186 of Section V, which was purchased solely for this purpose. The Trustees cautioned that there must be footings for such a bench, no other monuments would be permitted on that lot, must conform to the Rules and Regulations Governing Monuments and Markers and is subject to approval of the Request to Install a Monument or Marker.

K. Friel made the motion to approve the diagonal placement of a stone bench on Lot 186 of Section V, with the understanding that it be wholly within the lot with suitable footings, no other monument be permitted on that lot while the bench is there and is subject to the Rules and Regulations Governing Monuments and Markers. Second: R. Patuto. Vote: 3/0/0.

Discussion:

S. Garrity suggested that if a structure to be placed on a lot and has footings, the structure could be considered a monument, subject to the monument rules. However, she added that some items might be considered "unique fixed additions" according to item 15 of the Cemetery Rules. The Trustees agreed on this interpretation, and upon reviewing the Cemetery Rules, agreed that there were "unique fixed additions" on gravesites which ought to be removed. K. Friel, R.

Patuto and M. Watkins will walk through the cemetery and make a list of those items which ought to be removed, both unique fixed additions and shrubs and plantings. S. Garrity agreed to notify owners.

Correspondence:

7/28/2015 – Letter from Trustee S. Garrity explaining the circumstances concerning the Memorial Day flowers (copy attached).

R. Patuto offered S. Garrity an apology for any misunderstanding which may have occurred.

Old Business:

Tree Removal

It was determined that M. Bisol was not a certified arborist, and let his insurance for professional tree work expire several years ago. He said he now only works for family and friends.

R. Patuto contacted Urban Tree Service, the contractor chosen to service the Town's Highway needs. He arranged for Town Administrator Bill Innes, Urban Tree's arborist and him to walk through the cemetery to determine the work to be done. Urban Tree submitted the attached July 21, 2015 proposal.

R. Patuto will check with Urban Tree Service concerning removal of the tree stumps.

K. Friel made a motion to have Urban Tree Service perform the tree work as outlined in the July 21, 2015 proposal. Second: S. Garrity. Vote: 3/0/0.

R. Patuto noted that C. George, 6 Upland Road, Atkinson, has offered to donate the cost of the tree work (estimated to be \$3,500) in memory of his son, Christopher. The Trustees will present this generous offer to the Board of Selectmen for acceptance.

New Business:

Cremations

R. Patuto said he was no longer able to dig holes for the burial of cremated remains, and asked the Trustees to consider increasing the rates for cremation interments to hire someone to do this work. He added that these must be dug by hand since the hole is so small and must be precise.

The Trustees agreed to increase the rate for interment of cremated remains from Monday through Friday from \$150 to \$300, and for weekends and holidays the rate will go from \$250 to \$500, to become effective August 15, 2015. The Trustees will submit this recommendation to the Board of Selectmen on August 10, 2015.

Adjournment:

R. Patuto made the motion to adjourn at 9:15 PM. Second: K. Friel. Vote:
3/0/0.

Kathleen Friel, Chairman

Sydni Garrity

Robert Patuto