

## Calais Cemetery Commission Meeting Minutes

June 24, 2015

Town Hall

Present: John Simanskas, Juanita Nunn, Jennifer Whitman, Randy Koch

Guest: Sexton Wyatt Healey

Meeting called to order around 7:05

Minutes of the previous Commissioners' meeting were reviewed and approved.

Sexton's salary and accounting methods were discussed.

Guest: Wyatt Healey arrived at 7:20

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

A discussion ensued of the presentation at the last select board meeting of the Vermont Community Foundation as the manager of the Cemetery Trust Fund.

Wyatt reported that the rotted fence boards at Ainsworth were disposed of by Alfie.

Wyatt stated that there is enough in the budget for 2014-15 to cover until the new fiscal year begins on 1 July. He asked John whether any new charges have been made against the old budget and stated that he will be holding off submitting his own invoices until the new year starts.

It was noted that after a town meeting vote to this effect, there will be a reserve budget for left over cemetery fund money at the end of fiscal year to carry into the next year. This reserve fund measure must be voted again at town meeting next year.

Wyatt will be submitting a more detailed form concerning equipment hire and hours per the commission's request.

It was decided to raise the labor rate" to \$13 for everyone on Wyatt's crew and to raising the "equipment hire" rate for push mower from \$2 to \$5. It was decided that reporting of costs will be done on a new state cemetery payroll form.

The 2015/2016 cemetery budget stands roughly as follows:

|                             |              |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Annual Maintenance          | \$35,000     |
| Hedge Trimming              | 5,000        |
| <u>Remedial maintenance</u> | <u>9,000</u> |
| Total                       | \$49,000     |

Wyatt has decided that he will consider the cost work rebuilding the fence at Old West Church and disposing of the fence boards at Ainsworth as chargeable to the Remedial Maintenance account, not Annual Maintenance.

The idea of ghost walk in a couple cemeteries was discussed.

John is going to contact the Calgani firm and perhaps another to get competing quotes to that of Kevin Walbridge. Wyatt stated that other contractors have been showing up at certain cemeteries to estimate cleaning and repair costs.

Hedge trimming contract: competing bidders have been unresponsive so as of now we have only one price.

Wyatt's first priority after grass cutting will be work on chain fence at Ainsworth.

Wyatt says Alfie is raising his price from \$750 to \$800 to dig graves.

Wyatt wants more notice on projects so he knows how much side work to schedule.

Next meeting date will 23 July

Adjournment moved and voted.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Randy Koch,**

**June 29, 2015**