

REGULAR MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL GROUNDS/CEMETERY COMMISSION April 27, 2023

A meeting of the Municipal Grounds/Cemetery Commission was held in the office of DPW 50 Manca Drive on Thursday, April 27, 2023.

Members Present: John Awdycki, Chairman; Brian LaRoche; Denise Merriam; Christine Harty, Administrative Assistant

Attendees: Dane Arnold, Director of Public Works

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson, John Awdycki called the meeting to order at 7:45 am.

OPEN MEETING RECORDING

ANNOUNCEMENT – any person may make a video or audio recording of an open session of a meeting, or may transmit the meeting through any medium, subject to reasonable requirements of the chair as to the number, placement and operation of equipment used so as not to interfere with the conduct of the meeting. Any person intending to make such a recording shall notify the chair forthwith. All Documents referenced or used during the meeting must be submitted in duplicate to the Secretary of the Committee, pursuant to the Open Meeting and Public Records Law. All documents shall become part of the official record of the meeting. There was no one present taping the meeting.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Motion made by Brian LaRoche second by Denise Merriam to accept the minutes of the March 9, 2023, meeting as written. All in favor motion carries.

ORDINANCES, GENERAL LAWS, AND SPECIAL ACTS

CORRESPONDENCE

FINANCIAL STATEMENT: REPORTS FROM AUDITOR

Motion made by Denise Merriam second by Brian Laroche to accept the financial statement, all in favor motion passes.

STATUS OF FACILITIES

Dane: Plow damage to stones within City cemeteries. Department is down 3 crew members, stones to be repaired by Memorial Day.

REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEAD UNDER COMMITTEE'S JURISDICTION

Dane: The department received \$150K from Mayor for equipment at Oliva Case. Lead time on the equipment out to September. Rethinking pickle ball at the park. May be too loud so close to backyards of surrounding homes.

John: Suggests no lights at park, limit use to daytime?

Dane: Vinyl covering on court to drown out sound? The thought is to wait one year and see how it goes with pickle ball at park on Leo Drive.

Dane: Indicates there is a tree hearing in May. We are repaving the road on Eaton Street at Park Street for a second time due to tree cover. The tree cover needs to be cleared 20ft off the road. The cost to install guardrails on one half of the road is 120K.

Dane: Hands out a spreadsheet of fees from surrounding towns regarding cremation for review. His thought was to add a non-resident fee?

Brian: Agrees with increasing rates but suggests it is done across the board, stating it has been some time since the last increase.

Dane: Idea of separate rate for crematoriums?

Brian: Questions if there will be perpetual care?

Dane: Set up revolving fund? Mentions maintenance of sealant, steam cleaning, etc. Cost of brass plates like cost of stones?

Denise: Check with Auditor regarding a fund account? Dane adds contacting City Solicitor as well regarding account. Suggests waiting on the rate increase until further information is received on crematoriums.

NEW BUSINESS

The next meeting is scheduled for June 22, 2023, at 7:45 am.

Motion made by Denise Merriam second by Brian Laroche to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 am. All in favor, motion carries.

Respectfully submitted:
Christine M. Harty, Administrative Assistant

All documentation mentioned at the meeting may be viewed at the DPW Office at 50 Manca Drive