

Town of Springfield – Cemetery Commissioners
Minutes
Selectmen's Hall - 96 Main Street - Third Floor
Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Commissioners present: Ronald Griffin, Scott Page, Cathryn Feickert, Barbara A. Courchesne, Ex-Officio and Isaiah Millay, Sexton.

Meeting called to order: 5:01

Additions to the Agenda: None

Approve Minutes of April 3, 2024: **Motion made by Cathryn to accept both sets of Minutes, seconded by Ron; All in favor.**

Spring Cemetery Update & Review: Sexton Millay reported that two weeks were spent in Oakland cleaning up from the tree removal. The cleanup included 22 truckloads of limbs. Cleanup in Summer Hill started on May 1st and the spickets will go on next week. All cemeteries have been mowed once.

Removal of Pine Trees in Oakland: This project is almost completed. Crown Point Excavation was definitely the right company for the job and the trust fund's money has been well spent. Public Works will be aerating and hydroseeding; stumps will be ground. In Section CA there are 48 gravestones that were moved out of the way of tree removal, will all be returned soon.

Trust Fund Disbursement: The tree removal is finishing up and the town has not yet received an invoice. Barbara reported that the Trustees Public Funds met on April 29th and newly elected Trustee, Sue Dana, is putting together a spreadsheet for the cemetery trust, separate from the spreadsheet of the co-mingled funds.

VOCA project Summer Hill: July 27th from 8 – 12pm is when VOCA will come to Summer Hill Cemetery to give instruction on cleaning and repairing of stones. Prior to July 27th, Sexton Millay will flip some stones onto pallets so that they are dry. Cathryn will attend the VOCA meeting Saturday, May 4th in Vergennes and check in on some event details to report to the Commissioners at their next meeting. Commissioners discussed how to request volunteers and the potential of an overwhelming response. Maybe the number of volunteers should be limited and what can be accomplished in 4 hours. Volunteers will be asked to sign the town's Volunteer Form. There is a list of requested items to be on hand for the volunteers. The town has purchased D2 and the Commissioners are working with Public Works to flush out what tools can be used. Ron will investigate obtaining a historical marker for Summer Hill cemetery. Commissioners discussed withdrawing their November 2023 VOCA grant application for this year's event and reapplying next year after this year's July 27th event, at which time it will become more known how much work can actually be accomplished and a more accurate request for funds can be made. The VOCA grant is very limited and to-date, most of the materials are obtainable and/or donated.

Motion made by Scott to withdraw November 2023 VOCA grant application, seconded by Ron; All in favor.

Non-Conforming monument in Pine Grove: There is a non-conforming rock placed on the Spicer lot in Pine Grove. The placement of the rock doesn't comply with the monument rules and regulations

and the Commissioners wants to invite the owner to the June meeting to discuss a remedy. Discussion ensued around the difficulty with ground settling/shifting internments overtime.

Public Comment: None.

Scott stated that the June 5th meeting will include discussion regarding the update of burial fees, perpetual care and lot fees.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m. by motion. Next meeting will be Wednesday, June 5, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara A. Courchesne

Barbara A. Courchesne
Cemetery Commissioner, Ex-Officio