

Regular Meeting of the Cemetery Commission
Monday, October 7, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.
Bristol Historical Society, 98 Summer Street, Bristol, CT 06010

ATTENDEES: Chairman Michael Saman
Commissioner Thomas LaPorte
Commissioner Linda Arbesman

ABSENT: City Council Liaison, Ellen Zoppo-Sassu
Commissioner Deanne Levesque
Commissioner Stanley Piotrowski

1. Call to Order

Chairman Saman called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

2. Public Participation

Roger Rousseau, the Purchasing Manager of the City of Bristol approached the Committee. Commissioner Saman explained the several service problems within the cemeteries such as Lewis Street, Downs Cemetery, Lake Avenue and the Soldier's plot. The maintenance contract is with the West Cemetery Association.

Mr. Rousseau explained the bid process from the developing the scope of services to the solicitation of bids. In the current contract there's approximately \$8,000 for landscaping and \$25,000 for the managing of the plots. Throughout the years there was no formal contract. Current budget is \$40,000.

North and South Cemetery is currently closed with no more burials. Mr. Rousseau indicated that a bid can be issued in February for ground maintenance services beginning April 2020. Commissioner Saman will provide names of Board members to Mr. Rousseau.

Mr. Rousseau will submit a letter to the Association to start the conversation for moving forward with lawn services and maintenance of the burial logs and maintenance of records.

Commissioner Arbesman would like to know if they're not doing the services and they're getting paid for it, what are they using the money that they're getting paid for?

3. Approval of Minutes

MOTION: Made by Commissioner LaPorte to accept the September 9, 2019 meeting minutes.
Seconded by Commissioner Arbesman
All in favor; motion passed

4. Old Business by Commissioners

Commissioner LaPorte proposed having the Park Department to service the cemeteries in the future.

The Commissioners reviewed the wording on Cemetery Regulation signs. Lisa Wilson explained the proposed Cemetery Regulations sign and process. Lisa Wilson obtained the cost for the four (4) signs

and they will be made by the City of Bristol, Public Works Department. Cost of the four (4) signs will be a total of \$124.80.

MOTION: Made by Commission LaPorte to approve the purchase of four (4) signs.
Seconded by Commissioner Arbesman
All in favor; motion passed.

If there is a flag pole erected at South Cemetery, Commissioner Arbeson would like to see the Betsy Ross flags as it represents that era of the graveyard.

No grants available from Thomaston Savings.

Lisa Wilson informed the Commissioners that there's been no additional information received from Honorable Judge Andre Dorval regarding the Sarah Norton Pardee Trust. Mr. Richard Lacey will contact the Honorable Judge Dorval.

Commissioner Arbesman presented the book by John Banks titled Connecticut Yankee at Antietam.

5. New Business by Commissioners

6. Any other business proper to come before the Meeting

7. Adjournment.

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Arbesman to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Motion Seconded by Commissioner Saman.

Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted:

Mike Saman, Chairman