

TOWN OF NEW BOSTON

CEMETERY TRUSTEE MEETING MINUTES

MAY 1, 2024

A meeting of the New Boston Cemetery Trustees was held on May 1, 2024 at 5:05pm, Town Hall meeting room. Warren Houghton, Trustee opened the meeting, seconded by Almus Chancey, Chairman with all members in favor. Also present: Gail Stout, Trustee, Maureen Mansfield, Superintendent of the Cemetery and Tom Mansfield.

Meeting minutes of the June 7, 2023 meeting were read. A motion was made by Warren to accept the minutes as read, seconded by Almus. The motion passed unanimously.

The 2024 cemetery maintenance contract with Maureen Mansfield was approved and signed with the total cost of \$32,600. This consists of four (4) payments to be issued as follows:

May 1, 2024	\$ 8,150.
June 1, 2024	\$ 8,150.
August 1, 2024	\$ 8,150.
September 1, 2024	\$ 8,150.

Warren reported several headstones targeted for repair had been completed and that Alex Pendlebury had done an excellent job. \$4,000 of the \$5,500 voted on last year was spent on these repairs. There was discussion about continuing with the headstone repairs. A motion was made by Warren to fund \$5,000. for the current year to continue with the repair of additional headstones and repair of the chimney before the roof is repaired. The motion was seconded by Almus. The vote passed unanimously.

Warren reported a bid of \$5,500. was received from North Point Roofing to replace the Hearst House Roof, which all agreed was more than reasonable. Warren made a motion to fund the \$5,500 for the roof repair and to hire North Point Roofing to complete the project. Almus Seconded. The motion passes unanimously. The southeast corner of the building should be repaired this year as well. The \$2,500 voted last year was not spent. Warren reported Jeff Graybill had agreed to perform these repairs. He expects the cost could be up to \$5,000. Warren made a motion to fund up to \$5,000 for Jeff Graybill to repair the southeast corner of the Hearst House. Seconded by Almus. The motion passed unanimously.

The removal of brush and other unwanted vegetation around the lilac bushes has been taken care of. The stumps now need to be removed to avoid regrowth and eventually allowing the area to be mowed. Tom estimated the cost to be around \$400. Almus motioned to fund \$400. for this purpose, seconded by Warren. The vote passed unanimously.

Tom and Maureen reported the erosion issues from the roadway are under control at this point. Maureen also reported the trees damaged this Spring had been taken down and disposed of.

Tom and Maureen report a loam and seed purchase is needed. Warren made a motion to fund the purchase of seed and two loads of loam estimated at \$500. Seconded by Almus. The vote passed unanimously.

Gail reported the Trustees had received a letter from Paul Statt requesting to purchase a lot in the cemetery for his brother John Statt's remains. Remembrances were shared of the Statt family's long-term residency in New Boston and John's dedicated service to the New Boston Fire Department. However, the New Boston Cemetery By-Laws restrict the sale of cemetery lots to New Boston residents only and Mr. Statt currently resides in Pennsylvania. Maureen agreed to telephone Mr. Statt with this information. Gail will follow up Maureen's telephone call with a letter from the Trustees.

There was discussion regarding compensation for the many hours Maureen spent working on the cemetery books and other record-keeping projects. It was suggested Maureen begin documenting time spent on this and other tasks completed outside of the regular maintenance contract of the cemetery. Further review and discussion on this subject is expected.

Tom reported there are two sets of large shrubs being removed from the cemetery after Memorial Day to avoid damage to the nearby stones.

A motion was made by Warren to adjourn the meeting at 6:38pm, seconded by Almus. The vote passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail P. Stout, Clerk

cc: Maralyn Segien