

## **Waterbury Cemetery Commission**

October 1, 2019 Meeting – 4 PM

Steele Community Room

Meeting Minutes

Present: Jack Carter, Betty Jones, John Woodruff, Barbara Walton and Jan Gendreau

Minutes of September 3, 2019 meeting were approved.

### **Discussion**

#### **Restoration, Resetting and Repairing stones in Hope and Old Center Cemeteries**

1. John mentioned that Matt will begin cleaning the stones in Hope and cleaned 3 stones in the Old Center Cemetery. The 3 stones to be cleaned was a request from a family member to John.

#### **Bush Work in Hope**

1. Jack and John reported bush cleanup done by Ainsworth Associates and town highway department has greatly improved the look of the cemetery;
2. Jan asked the Congregational Church about cutting the overgrowth along the fence. The church hopes to start cutting the overgrowth in the of Spring 2020. They are looking for some volunteers to cut the overgrowth down.

#### **Maple Street Cemetery -Shed; Water and Road Improvements**

1. Jack reported that hopefully the completion of building frame, etc. for the bulletin board this week. Individual (Tim Chicoine) had been ill and unable to do the work;
2. John mentioned again to the Highway Department that water pipe still needs to be moved and road upgrade hasn't been finished. It's been a busy fall for the Highway Department and they hope to get to it soon.

#### **General Financial: 2019 Budget – Bill Shepeluk, Town Manager**

Discussed with the committee the current 2019 budget/balance sheet ending Sept 9 with the committee.

#### **Loomis Hill Cemetery**

Discussed with Bill Shepeluk about the challenges of accessing the cemetery. Signs placed on both sides of the driveway prevents people from wanting to walk down the 3-foot access to the cemetery. Bill explained the law as it relates to putting up a directional / informational sign to the access the cemetery. It appears we cannot put up a sign about right of way unless the property owner allows it. Although Barb did comment that Howsmon's survey, several years ago, established that the right of access is on the Howsmon property which is now owned by Emert/Thompson. The survey map done by Glen Towne shows the right of access was on the Howsmon property. Survey map on file with the warranty deed between Howsmon and Emert/Thompson shows the right of access for the cemetery to lay along the property line between formerly Howsmon property and Hoare's and midpoint of the old discontinued highway (Old Notch Road). Barbara remembers seeing the markers for that boundry running down roughly the middle of Hoare's driveway. Several suggestions or items to be considered about the improving access for the public:

1. John to connect with the Hoare's about allowing an informational signage explaining access;  
Question: Shouldn't the board get written permission for sign from Emert/Thompson? They appear to own the land.

2. Consider contacting the Emert/Thompson to see if we could get an access to cemetery at the lower end of his property; and or perhaps swap or purchase the existing right of way with Emert/Thompson?
3. Is there another location where we could purchase a right away access?



### **Cemetery Book Update**

1. Betty reported back about her discussion with the Waterbury Genealogy Group to take on the updating of the Cemetery Book they did 20 plus years ago. It would be an addendum of only active cemeteries represented in the current book. The group didn't give a yes or no to the project but will discuss again.

### **Additional Information**

1. Betty also mentioned the Spring 2020 Old Vermont Cemetery Association Annual Meeting will be held at the Methodist Church in Waterbury Center. Great opportunity for all of us to attend.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 PM. **Next meeting is Tuesday, November 5, 2019 at 4PM**

Respectfully submitted Barbara Walton