

VERNON CEMETERY COMMISSION

SPECIAL MEETING

JUNE 14, 2016

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The Special Meeting of the Vernon Cemetery Commission was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Chairman Jean Luddy. Members present were Chairman Jean Luddy, Judy Hany, Lois Tonski, and Stuart Edwards. Absent was Scott Brown. Also present were Superintendent Alan West, Secretary Carol Nelson and Vernon resident Dan LeBlanc.

Citizen's Forum – None

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 1, 2015 – A motion was made by Lois Tonski, seconded by Stu Edwards and unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the December 1, 2015 regular meeting as presented. The March meeting was cancelled.

Superintendent's Report

- a. Seasonal Employee Status – Staff includes two new seasonal college students. Bill Aforismo has suffered a heart attack during the week preceding and is hoping to return to work in July. Returning seasonal employee Jim Wood has been assigned as temporary supervisor of the seasonal staff. Carol Nelson will be out with knee replacement surgery.
- b. Budget FY17 – The proposed budget in the amount of \$321,804 was approved in April. It represents an increase of \$3100.
- c. Chapel update – The work is on hold with no financing seen in the immediate future. We are waiting for the historical property designation. The possibility of grants is dim with the State of Connecticut financial situation.
- d. VCMS time capsule – We were contacted by the school administration to assist in disinterring the burial vault that was buried twenty-five years ago. Alan coordinated its removal with the assistance of Elm-Cap Industries and Public Works. Lots of good press and a certificate of appreciation were received from the school.
- e. Elmwood sign bird damage – The newly replaced sign has again suffered damage. This time birds have made numerous holes in the columns to gain access for their nesting. Patching will be necessary perhaps with vinyl.
- f. OSHA Inspection – A town-wide inspection has included the Cemetery Department. Fines were assessed for violations for the unbolted bench grinder, lack of training on the fire extinguishers, and the respirator. The initial fines were lowered as all the items have been or are being addressed. A safety manual is being created. A hazard and sound assessment with OSHA is being scheduled as a preventative measure and will be at no charge. Chemicals will be disposed of as we don't have applicator licensure.

Unfinished Business

- a. Brick Memorial Walkway – The project is in the new budget. The brick will be purchased along with pulverized stone and materials.

New Business

- a. Price Schedule review – The present schedule has Valley Falls and Elmwood at about twenty percent more than Grove Hill. The complexity of the fees can cause some confusion. A comparison chart of local prices was shown. A motion was made by Lois Tonski, seconded by Judy Hany and unanimously approved to accept the suggested price schedule of interments and other fees to bring Grove Hill prices to match Valley Falls and Elmwood prices. See attached A.
- b. Rules and Regulations changes – Urns, Plants, Shrubs, Floral Baskets - Following discussion a motion was made by Stu Edwards, seconded by Judy Hany and unanimously voted to accept the revisions as presented. See attached B.

The raised border list of seventeen lots in Grove Hill that are preexisting to the prohibition of raised borders was presented. A motion to approve the list as presented was made by Judy Hany, seconded by Lois Tonski and unanimously voted in the affirmative.

APPROVED BORDERS by the VERNON CEMETERY COMMISSION

SECTION	LOT	NAME	DATE APPROVED
E		Dailey	6/14/2016
E		Sherman	6/14/2016
E		Schtatz	6/14/2016
M		Ludke	6/14/2016
M		Lehrmitt	6/14/2016
M		Gunther/Dimmock	6/14/2016
M		Wagner/Sieber	6/14/2016
H		Say	6/14/2016
N Ext		Gamer	6/14/2016
N		Monaghan	6/14/2016
N		Galloway	6/14/2016
S		Thompson	6/14/2016
S		Baron-Krieger	6/14/2016
S Ext		Bull	6/14/2016
S Ext		Fisher	6/14/2016
K		Ryan	6/14/2016
Maxwell	29, 29 1/2, 30	Weigel	6/14/2016

- c. Gengras lot – Valley Falls, marker request – The lot is a small two grave cremation lot that was sold as allowing for only one flush marker. Following the burial of the cremains of Paul Gengras, a government marker was installed leaving no room for a future like sized maker for Mrs. Gengras. Superintendent West offered the following solutions:
 1. Redo the Government marker and include her name on it. This would be subject to Veteran Affairs approval to replace the marker.

2. Install a smaller marker, 10" x 16" for Mrs. Gengras with a stone foundation on the burials.

No action was taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:06 p.m. with a motion made by Lois Tonski, seconded by Stu Edwards and unanimously approved.



Carol S. Nelson
Cemetery Secretary

Approved: September 6, 2016

A Attachment

VERNON CEMETERY COMMISSION
PRICE SCHEDULE
Effective July 1, 2016
GROVE HILL CEMETERY
ELMWOOD CEMETERY
VALLEY FALLS CEMETERY

LOTS: A certificate is issued for each lot sold at no cost to the purchaser.

\$700 Each Grave (perpetual care included)
\$1050 Non-resident
\$450 Burial Rights (each additional burial added to a lot plan)

CREMATION LOTS

Non-resident: 50% additional surcharge

Resident:

Elmwood:	2 grave Flush Marker	\$450	Grove Hill: \$450-\$900 Range
	2 grave Slant Marker	\$625	
	Burial Rights	\$450	
Valley Falls:	2 grave Flush Marker	\$450	
	2 grave Slant Marker	\$625	
	4 grave Slant Marker	\$950	
	Burial Rights	\$450	

INTERMENTS: Grass and lowering device included in price.

Full Burial

Cremation

\$825	Adult	\$225	Ashes (no scheduling)
		\$350	Ashes (with scheduled time)
\$175	Winter charge	\$125	Winter charge (Dec 1 – Apr 15)
\$400	Saturday/Holiday	\$250	Saturday/Holiday
\$350	Infant		
\$250	Saturday/Holiday		
\$125	Tent (definite decision)		
\$150	Tent (day of interment)		
\$200	Overtime charges after 3:00 p.m., per hour, one hour minimum		

NO INTERMENTS ON SUNDAYS, MEMORIAL DAY, THANKSGIVING OR CHRISTMAS.

Disinterment: One and one-half times the burial rate.

RULES: All interments subject to the Superintendent's approval.

All interments must have concrete vaults

Ashes interments must provide waterproof, crushproof, sealed container.

Cost of removal and replacement of monuments and markers, if necessary, is the responsibility of the owner.

Funerals must vacate the premises by 3:00 p.m. overtime charges will apply, one hour minimum.

B Attachment: Rules & Regulations -URNS – PLANTS – SHRUBS – FLORAL BASKETS

1. The cemetery staff plants and maintains trees, shrubs and flower beds to preserve the beauty and maintain the cemetery landscape features, but will not undertake to maintain individual plantings. Picking cemetery flowers is not allowed.
2. The cemetery shall have the authority to remove and dispose of all floral designs, flowers, weeds, trees, shrubs, plants, herbage and all other items from the cemetery as soon as, in the judgment of the Superintendent, they become unsightly, dangerous, detrimental, diseased or when they do not conform to cemetery standards. Cost of removal will be billed to the lot owner.
3. The cemetery shall not be liable for any floral piece, basket or other containers. All winter decorations must be removed by April 1st of each year. Decorations not removed will be discarded. Unsightly or hazardous items will be removed at the determination of the superintendent.
4. Lot owners may not plant or replace shrubs or trees without the consultation and approval of the Superintendent. Shrubs must be kept pruned and not protrude onto adjoining lots. Hosta at the end of the monument will be considered a shrub. Yearly arrangements may be made with the cemetery Superintendent for the care of shrubs.
5. The planting of trees and shrubs is not allowed in Valley Falls Cemetery or in Sections R, S, S Ext. and the cremation sections in Grove Hill Cemetery and Elmwood Cemetery.
6. Flowers are allowed to be planted in beds adjacent to the front of monuments only. Containers of flowers and plants should be of a suitable style so as to prevent overturning by the wind and of a weight that can be lifted by one hand to facilitate the trimming of grass. Wood chips and landscape stones are not allowed unless approved by the superintendent.
7. Glass jars and wire holders present a hazard to the cemetery workers, therefore their use is prohibited. Candles or LED garden lights, shepherd hooks, and garden shop figurines and other types of lawn ornaments are not allowed. Artificial flowers may be used only if they are securely fastened in a container. ~~Urns and borders around the flower beds must be preapproved by the superintendent. The superintendent shall have the authority to remove and dispose of any items that do not conform.~~
8. Rose bushes and other shrubs with thorns are not permitted.
9. Raised borders are not allowed with the exception of those preapproved by the Commission. Urns and flush boarders around the flower bed must be preapproved by the superintendent.
10. The superintendent shall have the authority to remove and dispose of any items that do not conform.