

Somers Cemetery Committee

10.13.15 – Special Meeting – 6 PM

Town Hall Selectman's Conference Room

1. Call to order @ 6:01 PM

2. Members present: Carole Pyne – chair, George Warner, Casey Biega, David Morgan, Patricia Loftus – secretary. Guests: Mike Marinaccio – town CFO, David McCaffrey – Somers American Legion, John Guzzi – landscaping, Jay D'Aleo – sextant / Rogers Memorials

3. American Legion report: MBA Citizen Project – middle school group will be cleaning military headstones in New West. This will be done with product supplied by the Historical Society and under the adult supervision of Mr. McCaffrey and other adults involved with the project.

Flags on military graves will be removed after Veteran's Day and between November 15 and December 1, 2015. They will be replaced in the spring.

There are plans to have permanent markers on the head stones. This will be done section by section within each cemetery.

North Cemetery will be receiving a flagpole and flag from the Somers American Legion. The pole had originally been placed at the Senior Center. The pole, flag and lighting will be maintained by the Legion. At a time for memorials the flag will be lowered to half-staff by the legion and returned to full staff by them.

4. Landscaper report: Comment on military medallions – Leaving medallions on the sites during the winter make it much harder to plow or dig. A suggestion was made to use tabs for markers (flush to the ground). Also suggest 1 year notice to move from medallion to ground tab.

Estimate received for New West to remove small stumps, Center cemetery to cut up downed limbs and drag back into woods, Center Cemetery cut up downed limbs and drag back into woods, Center

Cemetery to have topsoil installed, (see under crabapple, Berry monument. Motion, discussion, vote. Accepted

Town is to do the North Cemetery push back of the border and New West to push back on the west end.

5. Sexton report: Asked for more snow plowing and staking in West and New West Cemeteries. Asked sub committee about plans for new cremation lots, and already established estate lots.

A border of small shrubs is to be considered for the perimeter of estate lots in Center Cemetery.

6. Treasurer's Report: A debit of \$57,000 to the town was requested be paid off. Motion, discussion, vote to pay off in lump sum accepted.

7. Investment Report: Investments are doing well. Almost all funds have been transferred to Morgan Stanley fund. The transfer of funds began to happen after the market correction.

8. Sub committee report: Designing a five-year business plan was part of the assignment. A request to have all committee members and interested parties, (Sexton & American Legion) pick five most important items in each of four categories, and report them to the subcommittee.

9. Chairperson report: Signs are needed for each cemetery to announce spring & fall clean up. Date for fall clean up final is November 15. Remove all items before this date.

10. Meeting dates for 2016 voted and accepted. Note day of the week is the same but the number of meetings has increased from 4 to 6 and the time is now 6 PM instead of 2 PM.

Second Wednesday of the month at 6 PM. 1.13.2016
3.9.16, 5.11.16. 7.13.16 9.14.16 11.9.16

Adjournment at 7:25 PM

Minutes for any meeting are not official until voted upon at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Respectfully submitted: Patricia Loftus, secretary (Thanks to Casey Biega for taking notes from section 3 through 10.)