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**TOWN OF  
BROOKLINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
Cemetery Trustees**

P.O. BOX 360 – 1 Main Street  
BROOKLINE, NH 03033-0360

<http://www.brooklinenh.us>

***Brookline Cemetery Trustees Minutes  
September 15, 2023***

Meeting held in person at the Brookline Public Works building and via Zoom

**Attending:**

Brian Rater, chair

Mike Wenrich, sexton

Ann Somers, secretary, via Zoom

Judy Cook, member

The meeting opened at 11:02 a.m. There was no public input.

**Approve minutes**

The minutes from August 18<sup>th</sup> and September 1<sup>st</sup> were approved unanimously as written: **Brian-Y, Judy-Y, Ann-Y.**

**Sexton Report**

**Mike** reported that all has been “quiet” at the cemeteries since the last meeting.

**Invoices**

**Millican Nurseries LLC:** 13 trees plus bags for watering them in: \$6,919. **Brian moved, Judy seconded, we voted Yes unanimously to authorize Mike to spend up to \$7,000 toward trees and related expenses.** This purchase includes 10 maples of three varieties and 3 Japanese maples - 2 Bloodgoods and 1 Coral Bark. Judy is donating an additional Bloodgood. The trees are expected to arrive and be planted on September 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Irrigation**

Directly following the planting of the trees, the irrigation system will be completed. To support and protect the spigots, we will use the smaller granite posts which are being removed from entrance ways.

### **Ground-penetrating radar**

**Mike** reported a response from one of two companies he contacted, confirmed that what we are looking for is unmarked graves in the older sections of Pine Grove; he awaits a proposal. We anticipate doing this next year to ascertain which gravesites remain available.

### **Pine Grove service building repair**

**Judy** reported she has contacted a mason who suggests a more substantial approach than simply pointing; his recommendations include replacing a dozen broken concrete blocks, and coating the exterior to seal it. He will provide a quote. **Judy** plans to paint the door. The first step toward achieving this will be power washing the building. We anticipate accomplishing this next year.

### **Gravel for roads**

This will be done after the trees and irrigation are installed.

### **Grants**

**Mike** continues to be open to opportunities.

### **Fencing**

In conjunction with the sidewalk project on South Main St, the vinyl fencing will be discarded and the granite posts will be removed and stored over the winter. Next year **Mike** will install a 3-section sample of our proposed post-and-chain fencing and we will seek input from townspeople before moving forward.

### **Trees**

We plan to purchase additional trees for Pine Grove next year, possibly four large ones and some smaller ornamentals, with some of our focus on the currently undesigned southwest section. **Mike** has suggested re-purposing the rocks and boulders currently lining Cross Road to create an extended level SW surface for burials and a lower surface with something like columbaria or a memory garden below, at the Cross/South intersection. **We will include a site review in our next meeting.**

### **Monument maintenance**

**Judy** reports that with substantial help from **Dave Tiller** and **Matt Sniffen**, the South Fence project is DONE! Monuments have been cleaned, repaired, straightened as needed; spaces have been evaluated carefully and missing corners have been added. There appears to be one unresolved anomaly around plot P-SF-7 which is using 6' of space by family design but leaves unaccounted for another 3'- 4' between itself and P-SF-6. With the bark mulch no longer being managed by family, **Judy is returning the plot to grass and clover** for ease of maintenance.

**Judy** reported on several other maintenance projects, and noted that the chain fall and tripod is working well for moving heavy monuments.

**Budget for 2024**

**Brian** offered a proposed budget of \$34,700; discussion and adjustments brought the total to \$40,300. **Ann moved, Brian seconded, and we voted 2-1 to request \$27,500 from town funds: Ann-Y, Brian-Y, Judy-N**, Judy preferring a higher figure. **We voted unanimously to accept the overall budget for 2024.**

	2023 Appropriations/Revenue	2023 Actual Expenditure/Revenue	2024 Proposed	Notes
Revenue:				
Rights to Inter				
Expenses:				
Mowing, Landscaping and Maintenance	\$25,000.00		\$25,000.00	
Tree Maintenance	\$12,000.00		\$5,000.00	8 trees
Gravel for Roads	\$1,000.00		\$1,000.00	
Monument Maintenance	\$1,300.00		\$1,300.00	\$500 for contractors
Burials	\$400.00		\$400.00	
Office	\$0.00	\$1,507.00	\$0.00	
Building Repair			\$4,000.00	
Pine Grove Irrigation		\$324.90		
Electricity			\$100.00	should be \$250
Ground Penetrating Radar			\$2,000.00	
Fencing			\$500.00	
Mapping			\$1,000.00	
Total Expenses:	\$39,700.00		\$40,300.00	
From trust funds:	\$15,000.00		\$12,800.00	
Net Tax Appropriations:	\$24,700.00		\$27,500.00	

The meeting was adjourned at 12:27 p.m. **The next meeting** is scheduled for Friday, October 13, 2023 at 11:00 a.m., initial location TBD, either at Pine Grove Cemetery SW corner, or at the Public Works Building.

Minutes submitted by Ann C. Somers