

**TOWN OF LUDLOW
BOARD OF CEMETERY COMMISSIONERDS**

REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday September 17, 2014

Board Members Present:

Brett Sanderson (at 5:10 pm) Nataile Gruber
Lou Gabranski Marty Nitka

Board Members Absent:

Herb VanGuilder

Others Present:

Doug Sheehan

SPECIAL NOTE:

In the absence of Mr. Van Guilder and Mr. Sanderson, board members took vote to appoint acting chair.

***MOTION by Nataile Gruber and seconded by Lou Gabranski to appoint Marty Nitka as acting chair.
Motion passed unanimously.***

1. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Meeting was called to order by Acting Chairman, Marty Nitka, at 5:00 p.m.

2. APPROVE MINUTES

- A. Marty Nitka advised that the minutes to be approved were from August 20, 2014
- B. **MOTION by Nataile Gruber and seconded by Lou Gabranski to approve the minutes of August 20, 2014 as presented. Motion passed unanimously.**

NOTE: Brett Sanderson arrived at 5:10 p.m. and assumed chair of the meeting.

3. SEXTON'S REPORT

- A. Marty Nitka advised that the sexton is present and has submitted a written report. He advised that the report included discussion of 6 persons shooting in the cemetery.
- B. Doug Sheehan advised that on 2 mornings, 6 people were shooting in the cemetery. He said that he later ran into Chief Billings and told him that people were walking around the cemetery with guns and shooting.
- C. Nataile Gruber said that the cemetery is no place for shooting.
- D. Marty Nitka said that he thinks there is an ordinance against shooting in the Village. The cemetery is in the Village.
- E. Doug Sheehan continued, saying that one person of the 6, came to his house to discuss this and told Doug Sheehan that Herb Van Guilder had told this person that he could shoot up there.
- F. Marty Nitka said that there is nothing in the policy book about hunting or shooting up there.
- G. Doug Sheehan said that he does not think there should be shooting up there. He said that the person asked for a key to the gates and Doug Sheehan refused.
- H. **MOTION by Lou Gabranski and seconded by Nataile Gruber to add to the policy book that Hunting and Shooting is not allowed in the cemetery. Motion passed unanimously.**
- I. Doug Sheehan said that people were also shooting on the other side of the property line and scared people who were mowing the lawn.
- J. Marty Nitka asked Doug Sheehan if Chief Billings had any answers with regard to legality of shooting in the Village.
- K. Doug Sheehan said that the Chief said he would talk to the persons involved.
- L. Marty Nitka said that in his report Board Chair Herb Van Guilder said that he told the people to speak to the sexton about shooting in the cemetery. He added that no one seems to know what is in the policy book other than board members. He said that the book needs to be updated.
- M. Doug Sheehan advised that Green Mountain would take down the tree (discussed at the previous meeting) for \$2200. It was the lowest bid. He has signed the proposal.
- N. Doug Sheehan continued saying that the office needs a new computer and that he had purchased one at Staples and returned it because a board member said it should have gone through the board first. He added that he would like to be able to access the internet up there.
- O. **MOTION by Marty Nitka and seconded by Nataile Gruber to authorize Doug Sheehan to purchase a new computer for \$750. Motion passed unanimously.**
- P. Doug Sheehan said it would cost about \$37/month for high speed internet access.

- Q. Brett Sanderson said that Doug Sheehan needs to be able to access information while in the office at the cemetery.
- R. **MOTION by Nataile Gruber and seconded by Marty Nitka to authorize Doug Sheehan to have internet connection installed at the cemetery. Motion passed unanimously.**

4. **OLD BUSINESS**

- A. There was no old business.

5. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. DISCUSS IMPROVING SOIL CONDITIONS

- i. Brett Sanderson said they could table this until next month.
- ii. Doug Sheehan advised that they are getting some top soil to fix some areas up there.
- iii. Brett Sanderson said it also needs fertilization.

B. UPDATE IN OKEMO/CEMETERY LAND QUESTION

- i. Marty Nitka advised that in his Chairman's Report, Herb Van Guilder reported that on August 28th, he called Ted Reeves and advised Mr. Reeves of the Commission's actions on the land deal. He also had noted that on August 27th, he signed the deed. It was not clear what deed that referred to.

C. DISCUSS POSSIBLE DEED ERRORS

- i. Doug Sheehan advised that he has found several deeds with section errors and they should be corrected. He can't sell a lot, if another deed has that lot number on it. He said that the deceased are buried in the correct locations. He has discussed this with Pam Todt and she said that all of the incorrect deeds must be rewritten, that you cannot just cross out the incorrect lot numbers or sections.
- ii. Marty Nitka asked if Pam Todt is starting to correct the deeds.
- iii. Doug Sheehan said that she did prepare the corrected deed for Loretta Dionne.
- iv. Brett Sanderson said that the deeds need to be corrected sooner rather than later.
- v. Marty Nitka asked Doug Sheehan to handle this.
- vi. Doug Sheehan added that the former sexton had actually found some of these errors, but did not have them corrected.

D. DOGS IN CEMETERY

- i. Nataile Gruber advised that she had been told that Herb Van Guilder had told people that they can walk their dogs, on leash, in the cemetery. She said there used to be signs on the gates that said NO DOGS.
- ii. Doug Sheehan said that a staff member had been told to take the signs down.
- iii. Marty Nitka advised that NO DOGS is in the policy book.
- iv. Brett Sanderson said that since it is in the policy book, a vote is not needed to replace the signs. He asked Doug Sheehan to have the signs put back up.
- v. Brett Sanderson said that they should also have NO HUNTING signs made up.
- vi. Doug Sheehan will look into it.

E. CHANGE MEETING TIME

- i. Nataile Gruber said that 5:00 p.m. is too early for some members to get to the meeting on time.
- ii. Brett Sanderson said he would prefer 6:00 p.m.
- iii. **MOTION by Nataile Gruber and seconded by Lou Gabranski to change meeting time to 6:00 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.**

6. **SET DATE FOR NEXT MEETING**

- A. The next regular meeting will be on October 15, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

7. **SIGN WARRANT ORDERS**

- A. Marty Nitka noted that there was a note from the office reminding commissioners to go into the office regularly to sign warrant orders.

8. **ADJOURN**

- A. **MOTION by Marty Nitka and seconded by Nataile Gruber to adjourn this meeting. Motion passed unanimously.**
- B. Meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisha Klaiber

Herbert VanGuilder, Chairman

Marty Nitka

Lou Gabranski

Brett Sanderson

Nataile Gruber