

**TOWN OF LUDLOW
BOARD OF CEMETERY COMMISSION**

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Board Members Present:

Herbert B. VanGuilder, Chairman
John Paige
Nataile Gruber, Flowers Chair
Ludwig Gabranski
Brett Sanderson, Clerk & Vice Chairman

Staff Present:

Jamie Farquhar, Sexton
Eugene Dean, Asst. Sexton

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Chairman, Herbert VanGuilder.

Approve Minutes:

Minutes were noted that 'hand site work' should have been typed as 'land site work'. Motion by Nataile Gruber to except the minutes of October 15, 2008. Second by Ludwig Gabranski. So voted.

Comments From Citizens:

None present.

Sexton's Monthly Report:

Sexton James Farquhar noted that, as of last Friday (November 14, 2008), the Cemetery has closed operations for the season, however burials will still be done until weather no longer permits.

Water lines have been drained and flags have been picked up, etc.

There was a discussion with regards to the Police Department not opening & closing the Cemetery. It was noted to advise Chief Billings, as each cruiser is supposed to have keys.

Jamie Farquhar also presented a thank you card with a check donation in the amount of \$250.00 from the neighbor in the red house at the end of Orion Ave., Michael & Mary Pat Roy, who expressed their appreciation to the Cemetery Staff. (see card). Chairman, Herbert VanGuilder, expressed that it is his opinion that Mr. & Mrs. Roy intended the monies to be divided between the three staff members. After discussion, Nataile made the motion to have the monies from check # 2659 in the amount of \$250.00 donated by Mr. & Mrs. Roy of Florence, Massachusetts, be divided equally by the three cemetery staff members. Ludwig Gabranski seconds the motion. So voted.

Old Business:

Under old business, Chairman, Herbert VanGuilder, noted that the previous discussion in regards to recommending that the tree work to be paid out of land site work was suggested because there were no funds listed under the line item 'Tree Work'. Craig, the owner of G.M. Tree Tech LLC, who presented the best bid, stated that he will hold the bid for the needed tree work to be done in the spring of 2009.

Herbert VanGuilder, Chairman, also noted that he had contacted Howard Barton Sr. in regards to possibly saving money during our 'closed season' meter readings. Howard Barton noted that our present use was the most economical way. Mr. Barton also noted that for budget purposes, we should reflect a 10% increase for electrical services.

New Business:

New business was deferred to the budget. The new budget proposal for FY2010 was reviewed line by line with the following preliminary results (see enclosed sheet).

Discussion resulted in the urgent need for new truck monies to be paid for by a separate article, plus utilizing monies already in the equipment fund (Article 12- 2007 Town Report). There was also a discussion regarding the lower building remodeling that had begun 2 years ago and needs to be completed. Commissioners noted to create a separate article in the amount of \$35,000.00 to go toward this project, which will hopefully include the replacement of the asbestos roof.

Chairman, Herbert VanGuilder, noted that we are technically in violation of a State Statute with regards to the fencing of cemeteries. This budget will begin to address those fencing requirements.

John Paige noted that, under the revenue section of the budget, that there really have been no monies from the line item listed as 'Trustee of Public Funds'. The commissioners have decided to cut this line item to \$ 1,000.00.

The commissioners advised the Chairman to prepare tonight's budget information, so that the figures can be given to the Municipal Office and put into a proper format that would be presented to the Cemetery Commissioners for review at 6:00 p.m. on December 10, 2008.

Adjourn:

Motion by Nataile Gruber to adjourn. Second by John Paige. So voted.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:04 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Herb VanGuilder
Chairman & Acting Clerk

Herbert VanGuilder, Chairman

Brett Sanderson, Vice Chairman & Clerk

John Paige

Nataile Gruber, Flowers Chair

Ludwig Gabranski