

Town of Auburn
Cemetery Trustees
August 24, 2023
2:00 PM

Trustees Present: James Thompson, Walter Milne, David Zaleski

Mr. Thompson called the meeting to order at 2:05 pm

This meeting is the Public Budget meeting which was duly noticed.

Discussion on Land Swap: Town Administrator Chris Sterndale informed the trustees that he and MWW have been discussing the deed preparation, and he asked if we had any thoughts on easement language to allow MWW access to their property beyond the cemetery. We do not have a Use Plan at this point as we don't expect the land to be used for many decades. We also touched briefly on budget needs for the coming year with Chris.

Budget Preparation: We discussed the 2024 budget which increases from last year by about \$2,000. Line by line the Budget is as follows:

The Secretary/Administration and Salary/Wage lines will remain but be zeroed out,
Lawn mowing will stay the same at \$15,500,
Fertilization will increase by \$1,000 to \$12,000,
Property Maintenance will increase by \$2,000 to \$8,000,
Mapping, Supplies, and Miscellaneous will stay the same,
Mileage will increase by \$25 to \$525,
Cemetery Dues will increase by \$50 to \$250.

The Proposed Budget passed unanimously.

Capital Improvement Projects: There were three items put in the budget that we are planning to present to the Selectmen.

One is to replace the existing 500 feet of chain link fence abutting the school parking lot and fields with a new chain link fence. The quote from American Fences is \$20,500.

Second is to contract to purchase, spread and compact 100 yards of gravel (30 yards at Longmeadow and 70 yards at Village) on the roads at each cemetery. This should be bank run gravel and the quote from Plaza Landscaping was \$8,500.

Third was to replace the deteriorating Village Cemetery sign with a new sign. Several options were discussed including adding an engraved sign similar to the one at Longmeadow Cemetery. This would cost around \$1,200. Adding granite posts would cost about \$1,000. We budgeted

\$3,000 which would include installation costs. The current sign was a gift from the family of a decedent. We will notify the family of our intentions, and we plan to attach the commemorative plaque to the back of the new sign.

All three items were approved unanimously by the Trustees.

Assessment of Remains: Mr. Thompson discussed the idea of hiring a company to scan the areas where there might be unknown and undocumented burials. There was an interest in doing this by the Trustees so Mr. Thompson will get more information regarding this project.

Other business: Mr. Milne will attend the Fall Meeting of the NH Cemetery Association on October 11, 2023 at the Derryfield in Manchester.

A motion to adjourn was made at 2:55 by Mr. Thompson. Mr. Milne seconded the motion. All trustees were in favor, and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Walter Milne, Recording Secretary