

Town of Orford
Cemetery Commission
Meeting Minutes October 14, 2023

Members Present: Brenda Smith, David Smith, Linda Pease

Others Present: Chase Kling, Selectboard Representative

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Brenda, seconded by David to accept the minutes of September 9, 2023.

Motion passed 3/0.

Old Business

Signs with the Rules and Regulations of the Orford Cemeteries: Call placed to Julie Donnelly, Vision Signworks LLC asking her to add “No Dogs Allowed” to previous order of 5 signs, 18”x24” listing rules and regulations of Orford’s cemeteries.

Tree removal at the Dame Hill Cemetery: Cemetery Commissioners reviewed all three contractor bids:

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------|
| 1) Wagner Woodlands | \$9,999.00 |
| 2) LongTo Tree Service | \$9,500.00 |
| 3) Thomson Tree Service | \$9,300.00 |

David moved to accept Thomson Tree Service’s bid. Brenda seconded. Motion passed 3/0.

David will meet on-site with Thomson Tree Service and Shawn Garran, owner of the abutting property, to go over access to the site of the tree removal and to take pictures of the area (before and after) where the trees are to be removed and discuss the plan and timeline of this project.

The Town of Orford will ask Shawn Garran to sign a document giving Thomson Tree Service permission to go on Shawn’s land, which abuts Dame Hill Cemetery where the work will take place.

New Business

Brenda and David reported on their attendance at the NHCA (New Hampshire Cemeteries Association) Fall meeting on October 11th. They reported excellent presentations, notably one by Robert Perry of Topographix and author of Cemetery Mapping – Techniques and Applications. Brenda bought his book for the Orford Cemetery Commission and will share it with Emily Bryant who is assisting with mapping the cemeteries. Linda made a motion to have Brenda reimbursed \$100 out of the Cemetery Commission budget for the purchase of the book, David seconded. Motion passed 3/0. The invoice will be sent to Esther, Town Administrator, for Brenda to be reimbursed.

Orford Cemeteries 2024 Budget: The Orford Cemetery Commission submitted its budget to the Selectboard on October 14, 2023. Total General Operations Budget is: \$29,900.00.

Other

The Orford Cemetery Commissioners will contact Seth Carter, Trustee of Trust Funds, asking him to attend our November 11 meeting to discuss our 2024 Perpetual Care Budget. Fence repair at the West Cemetery and headstone maintenance are items on our radar for 2024.

Discussion of the Orford Cemetery workforce to use the Highway Department's SUV (former police cruiser) to haul mowers between the Town of Orford Cemeteries resulted in the need to purchase a 2" hitch to be put on the vehicle. The cost would be \$654; the work to be done at the Orford Servicenter. Chase Kling will bring this matter to the Selectboard asking for their approval that the Town of Orford pay for this.

Adjourn

Motion made by Brenda, seconded by Linda to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed 3/0. The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Pease