



**Minutes of the Cemetery Commission
January 21, 2020
78 Main Street, Hudson MA 01749
3rd Floor Conference Room**

Meeting convened at 9:01 AM.

Members present: Gary Collins, and Nelson Santos.

Others present: Eric Ryder.

Nelson Santos called the meeting to order at 9:01 AM.

Nelson Santos noted that former commissioner, Joe Chaves is no longer on the Cemetery Commission and has been succeeded by Christine DiMare. Joe Chaves was thanked for his many years of service and Christine DiMare was welcomed.

Previous Meeting Minutes for Approval:

July 24, 2018.

MOTION: Nelson Santos moved to accept the July 24, 2018 meeting minutes. Seconded by Gary Collins. Motion carried unanimously.

Review Financials.

The commissioners reviewed the financials provided and prepared by Patricia Fay, Town of Hudson Financial Director.

MOTION: Nelson Santos moved to accept the financials provided and prepared by Patricia Fay, Town of Hudson Financial Director. Seconded by Gary Collins. Motion carried unanimously.

Review of the status of Forestvale Building Construction based on approved Town Warrants; Review of recent work completed by DPW at Cemeteries; Review and discussion on Forestvale stone wall required repairs; Review and discussion regarding Warrant Articles for May Town Meeting; and Review of staff and equipment at Cemeteries; and Review/discuss 2020 objectives:

Eric Ryder reported that the paving repair project is ongoing and will begin again in the Spring of 2020 at Forestvale. Further that the entrance to Forestvale, previously approved by the commission to be redesigned, was installed when the work to Broad Street was completed. Additional that the entrance will be irrigated, plantings installed,

and new signage. Said work to be completed throughout 2020 and into 2021 with the building/garage rehabilitation project. Electricity has been brought to the current building as well. It was further reported that cost to build a new building at Forestvale would be too expensive. Therefore, the objective has turned to renovation of the current building which would include painting, roof, flashing, windows/doors, HVAC-mini split, etc.

Commissioners requested that Mr. Ryder investigate seeking to try to have an indoor public restroom if possible, in the same budget.

It was also reported by Mr. Ryder that the retaining wall at Forestvale is in disrepair and patches are no-longer working. Therefore, Mr. Ryder is obtaining quotes to replace the entire retaining wall that runs along Broad Street. Early quotes are estimated at \$170,000.00+/- . Both commissioners in attendance expressed concern with completing said project in one phase due to financial constraints and other items that may need to be done in the short-term.

It was further reported that the current availability of lots with current clearing projects is estimated at 8 years.

Additionally, it was reported that Forestvale requires a replacement mower that is estimated to cost between \$16,000.00 to \$17,000.00.

Eric Ryder noted that the mower needed is addition to the new mower previously approved for purchase in 2018.

Mr. Ryder also reported that Main Street Cemetery has had some tree work completed and may have some limited work done in 2020.

MOTION: Nelson Santos moved to accept Eric Ryders report of status and future needs. Seconded by Gary Collins. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Gary Collins moved to approve the first phase of the reconstruction of the forestvale retaining wall project limited to \$80,000.00 for the first half of the project subject to vote at the next Town Meeting. Seconded by Nelson Santos. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner requested that Mr. Ryder work with Patricia Fay to create the required warrant articles.

MOTION: Nelson Santos moved to approve purchase of a new lawn mower out of the perpetual care fund. Gary Collins seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioners then reviewed the current price structure and costs to the Town with each lot sale. Commissioners were of the unanimous opinion that the price of lots and services must be increased in order to assist with the ongoing rehabilitation and maintenance of the Town Cemeteries. Commissioners also conducted in-meeting research of neighboring Towns/Cities to

review their price structure and noted that the current price structure of the Hudson cemeteries were still below the average.

MOTION: Gary Collins moved to increase the price structure as per the attached documents effective April 1, 2020. Seconded by Nelson Santos. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner appointed Eric Ryder with notifying Town Clerk and administrative staff at the DPW of the same with notice being provided to all Town Residents at the discretion of Town Clerk at least 30-days prior to the new price structure taking effect.

Items Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair 48 Hours in Advance of the Meeting: None.

Schedule of Next Meeting: Meeting tentatively scheduled for Monday, May 11, 2020 at 6:00PM 3rd Floor Conference Room, with notice posted as required.

Adjourn: Nelson Santos moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 AM, seconded by Gary Collins. By unanimous vote, the meeting adjourned at 10:30AM.

List of Documents Used by the Commission at the Meeting:

1. Meeting Agenda
2. Financial Reports
3. Price Structure with the increase notes

Approved: _____