

Meeting Minutes
Cemetery Trustees & DPW Staff
September 21, 2023

The meeting was called to order in the Sunnycrest Conference Room in the Town Hall at 6:03pm.

In attendance:

Cemetery Trustees – Cara Dunn (2026), Maria Barud (2025) & Karen Pied (2024)

DPW Staff - Dave Wholley, Ricky Robichaud & Denise Manella

Finance Director – Justin Campo

The purpose of this meeting was to go over current issues and concerns.

Old Business

Fencing at Pillsbury Cemetery: The purpose of this is to continue the white post & rail fencing that is already in existence along Hovey Road. This needs to be done because when the cemetery is closed people are driving around the gate and driving over the grass. This is an area in the cemetery that has plots that have been sold. Dave has pricing and specs from November 2022. He emailed the information to the Cemetery Trustees. The Cemetery Trustees will work on getting current pricing.

Future Expansion of Pillsbury Cemetery: Cemetery expansion was on the ballot in March 2023 and passed. This expansion at Pillsbury Cemetery is in an area in the rear left- hand side that will need no additional drainage or clearing. Three roads will have to be constructed, topsoil stripped, area graded and markers placed. The expansion will add 300-350 lots. Expansion is needed because we are running low on plots for sale. We currently have 172 single plots available for

sale. After the next expansion takes place, there is room for additional expansion in the future. This will cost more because nothing has been done to the land yet.

Signs for all Cemeteries: The purpose of this project is to make all of the signs uniform at all 7 cemeteries in Londonderry. The design is done. Approvals are needed to put up new signs in town. This will be put on hold.

New Business

Cemetery Maintenance Contribution 2023: Justin Campo discussed the cost to maintain the cemeteries and the Cemetery Trustees yearly contribution to the cemetery maintenance. Currently, the contribution is \$17,500 for FY 2023. Justin needs the Cemetery Trustees to release that money.

Cara made a motion to release \$17,500. The motion was seconded by Maria. All in favor. **Motion passed.**

Cemetery Maintenance Contribution 2024: With prices going up, Justin asked to increase the Cemetery Trustees yearly contribution to \$25,000 for FY 2024.

Karen made a motion to increase the yearly contribution to \$25,000. The motion was seconded by Cara. All in favor. **Motion passed.**

2023 Lots Available: There are 172 single lots available for sale in Pillsbury Cemetery.

Burial Options: Currently only burial plots are offered in Londonderry. Another option is a columbarium. This is a room or building with niches for funeral urns to be stored. The Cemetery Trustees will begin researching columbariums.

Winter Operations: The cemeteries are closed from December – April each year. They are closed because winter maintenance is not in the budget. The roads in the cemeteries are narrow and difficult to navigate in the best conditions and

they aren't wide enough to do winter maintenance. Last year the cemetery was open until the end of December. We have to look out for the best interest of the cemetery. When it is safe to do so, we will open.

Future Planning:

- Fencing for Pillsbury Cemetery.
- Cemetery Expansion.
- Look into the possibility of getting a columbarium – a room or building with niches for funeral urns to be stored.
- Fee structure

The meeting was adjourned at 7:36pm.

The next meeting will take place on Thursday, April 18th at 6pm in the Sunnycrest Conference Room in the Town Hall.