

Town Hill Cemetery Committee  
Town Hall, Town of New Hartford, CT  
Special Meeting  
September 20 2021

Meeting called to order at 3:58 PM

Present: Mary Lou Rayno (chairman), Debra Lindell (treasurer), Anne Hall (secretary), Nancy Linton

Meeting Minutes: Minutes of June 21, 2021

Motion to approve the minutes by Nancy, seconded by Debra, all in favor

#### Financial Report:

Mary Lou reviewed the current finances of the cemetery. Currently, there is \$1,680 in the Northwest Community Checking Account, and as of the end of August, the Edward Jones account had approximately \$135,256 in it. All bills to date have been paid. Mary Lou estimated that Pinegrove Maintenance will have two more monthly bills, at \$250 each, and then the fall cleanup which usually is around \$1200. So we may need to transfer some more money into the checking account for this year, depending on the total for the fall cleanup. The bills for Bristol tree service were: \$4000 for the original three larches and then an additional \$3600 for the other larch and the tree that broke during the thunderstorm this summer.

#### Future tree work:

The committee discussed the need for future tree work. In particular Mary Lou noted that there are a number of small saplings and brush along the north line. The other tree work that may need to be done is thinning or clearing entirely the saplings near the Aranow Plot. Anne noted that these in particular would be relatively easy to deal with at this time, but will get more expensive as time goes by. In addition, there are a number of low branches that make accessing certain graves almost impossible, especially a plot that will have a cremation burial this fall. Anne mentioned that as per a previous conversation with Mary Lou, her husband Scott Rogers, would be willing to help remove a few branches to access a plot that has a cremation burial scheduled for this fall; but that the major work probably should be done by a professional company with access to a chipper.

It was decided that the committee would meet up at the cemetery next Wednesday (September 29th) at 5pm to get a better idea of the scope of the work that needs to be done. Following that Mary Lou will see if Pinegrove would be willing to do the work as part of their fall cleanup.

There was general consensus that fewer trees would be better in the long term for the maintenance of the cemetery.

#### Future Monument Repair:

The committee decided to consider this in greater detail while at the cemetery next Wednesday along with the tree work.

#### Need for a new grave digger:

The previous grave digger is no longer doing this sort of work. Last year, Anne's husband, Scott Rogers, dug one cremation plot and is willing to do this work again as is needed, in particular for a cremation scheduled for early this fall. However, Anne wanted the affirmation of the committee that it was appropriate for her husband to be hired to do this work. It was agreed that it was alright to have him do this work when needed. Nancy noted that if a grave digger was on call for full burials then they might also wish to do cremations. Anne agreed on this point, and stated that her husband would only do the work if a regular grave digger did not want to or was not available. There was general agreement.

Mary Lou noted that this does not solve the issue of needing a new grave digger, as people doing full burials must be certified by the state given the scope of the work and equipment needed. Mary Lou will contact the other cemeteries to see who they are using now.

Next meeting: There is a regular meeting scheduled for November 1<sup>st</sup> and then a December 6<sup>th</sup> meeting. Mary Lou mentioned that unless there was something pressing, she may cancel the November meeting as the December meeting was set for a 6 month financial review of the Edward Jones account.

Motion to adjourn at 4:25 made by Nancy, seconded by Debra, all in favor.