

Minutes of
Bainbridge Township Cemetery Board
August 4, 2010

Present: Bill Takacs, Chairman; Jeff Markley, Township Trustee; Don Mitchell; Ted Seliga; Greg Marous, Road Department and Linda Zimmerman, Secretary

Mr. Takacs called the meeting to order at 3:37 P.M. at the Town Hall.

MINUTES

The minutes of the July 7, 2010 meeting were approved as written.

OLD BUSINESS

Columbariums

The board discussed various manufacturers of columbariums and it was noted that not all manufacturers build all granite columbariums. Different kinds of granite was discussed and the board was in agreement that the thickness of the granite is important so the columbarium construction needs to be carefully compared. The proposed cost of each niche was discussed but the determining cost will depend on the cost to build the columbarium which would include any footers, landscaping, crane rental etc. The board discussed the cost for an urn burial in a single grave. The current costs are:

Cost of grave in the new section = \$450.00

Regular resident weekday opening = \$125.00 (burial of ashes)

Simple footer = \$200.00 for basic headstone 24" x 12"

Simple headstone = \$1,000 (conservative side)

The cost for the burial of one person in one grave would potentially be \$1,775 and an additional person with a burial fee of \$125.00 would be \$1,850.00. Three to four cremations can be placed in one grave but only two can be placed in one columbarium niche.

The board was in agreement to invite a representative from Sheffield Monument Company to a meeting to discuss types of granite and general construction of a columbarium. The board discussed the reasoning for building a columbarium and that is to preserve land and grave sites and agreed that the design has to be completed and a decision has to be made on the granite so the construction process can be started.

New Sign for Restland Cemetery

The board discussed the new proposed sign for the entrance to the cemetery. Mr. Marous reported that the Bainbridge Community Church is also obtaining quotes for their new signs and the church prefers that all of the signs look the same so the signs should be purchased from the same company. The board was in agreement to have the church obtain three quotes for the two church signs and the one cemetery sign.

Cemetery Management Software

Mr. Markley reported that he consulted with Mr. Lou Marion, IT Director of Geauga County and he feels that updating PlotFinder is not the best way to go because it is no longer supported so he will look into other applications and will make a recommendation. Mr. Marous reported that he spoke to a representative of Web Cemetery at the Ohio Association of Cemetery Superintendents & Officials conference who has had past experience with the PlotFinder software. The board will continued to review proposed software management companies.

Budget

The board was in agreement to table the budget discussion to the September 2010 meeting.

Proposed New Maintenance Building

The board was in agreement to place the proposed new maintenance building on hold but that it should be placed on the township's five year plan.

Landscape, Tree Planting & Marketing Plans

The board discussed replacing the tree that was moved because it was struck by lightning. Mr. Markley suggested that an arborist such as the urban forester from the county can develop a tree planting plan for Restland Cemetery. Mr. Marous stated that there was a representative from Davey Tree at a recent conference he attended and they can perform tracking of all of the trees in the cemetery and every tree can be mapped and a program can be put in place to replace the trees.

Headstone Repairs

Mr. Marous reported that he spoke with Sheffields about repairing headstones and it will probably be done in the Fall.

Easement on the Driveway for the Church

Mr. Marous submitted a map he obtained from the church showing the easement the township has with the Bainbridge Community Church for the driveway into Restland Cemetery. The board held a discussion about moving the driveway and entrance of the cemetery in the future.

Pre-Payments

The board held a discussion regarding pre-payments for footers and opening and closing costs and was in agreement to not accept pre-payments.

Request for Headstone Placement

Mr. Marous said he received a request to install a headstone sideways on a grave. The board was in agreement to not allow headstones to be installed sideways across the grave so they must be placed in the normal direction.

Special Meeting

The board was in agreement to hold a special meeting on Wednesday, August 18, 2010 at 3:30 P.M. for the purpose of inviting a representative from Sheffield Monuments to attend the meeting to discuss the construction of columbariums and the differences of granite.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held September 1 , 2010 at 3:30 P.M.

Since there was no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda L. Zimmerman
Secretary to Cemetery Board