

Minutes of  
Bainbridge Township Cemetery Board  
December 5, 2012

Present: Bill Takacs, Chairman; Ted Seliga; Rob Arnold; and Linda Zimmerman, Secretary. Jim Stanek, Service Director joined the meeting at 4:10 PM and Greg Marous, Road Department joined the meeting at 4:22 PM.

Mr. Takacs, Chairman called the regular meeting to order at 3:30 P.M. at the Town Hall.

MINUTES

The minutes of the November 7, 2012 meeting were approved as written.

OLD BUSINESS

Photographing Headstones

The board referenced the motion from the November 7, 2012 meeting regarding the recommendation that “no photographs, rubbings or other reproductions shall be taken or captured in the Bainbridge Township cemeteries without the express permission of the next of kin except for record-keeping purposes by the township.” The board reviewed the legal opinion from the Geauga County Prosecutor’s office which references ORC 517.06 that states that the Board “shall make and enforce all needful rules and regulations” governing all aspects of the operation of the cemetery, the rules do need to be reasonable and in compliance with other relevant statutory and constitutional provisions. See OAG 87-042. The Prosecutor’s Office did not see any basis in health, safety or morals for this kind of a rule, nor are we readdressing an ongoing problem existing in the cemetery and the biggest problem will be enforcement.

The board was in agreement to not pursue this proposed rule based on the Prosecutor’s Opinion.

Mr. Seliga made a motion to not pursue the aforementioned recommendation regarding no photographs and rubbings at the Bainbridge Township cemeteries per the Geauga County Prosecutor’s opinion.

Mr. Arnold seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Cemetery Management Software

Mr. Seliga reported that the WWI memorial at Restland Cemetery is not located on a specific grave and that an adjustment has to be made to the CIMS software. He said it will be reported as Section 1, Lot 0, Grave 0 within the mapping portion of the new software. He said the software will probably be ready sometime after January 1, 2013 but there is work that will need to be done on the software after it is delivered.

Mr. Seliga showed the board a copy of the mapping system.

#### Dirt Storage Building

The board noted that the proposed dirt storage building is still pending.

#### Green Burials

The board was in agreement to continue the discussion on green burials at the next meeting.

#### Drainage System and Waterlines in Restland Cemetery

The board discussed the drainage system for the old section and that it needs to be repaired and some of the waterlines in the new section need to be relocated. The board noted that it will be placed on the project list for next year. Mr. Stanek will draft a memo to the Board of Trustees so it will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

#### McFarland Cemetery Entrance

The board discussed the easement for the entrance to McFarland Cemetery and was in agreement to not pursue changes to the entrance due to potential safety hazards.

Since there was no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda L. Zimmerman  
Secretary to Cemetery Board