

Minutes of
Bainbridge Township Cemetery Board
September 5, 2012

Present: Bill Takacs, Chairman; Jeff Markley, Township Trustee; Ted Seliga; Rob Arnold; Greg Marous, Road Department; Jim Stanek, Service Director and Linda Zimmerman, Secretary

Mr. Takacs, Chairman called the regular meeting to order at 3:50 P.M. at the Town Hall.

MINUTES

Mr. Marous made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 1, 2012 meeting as written.

Mr. Seliga seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Ohio Cemetery Association Convention

Mr. Marous reported on the Ohio Cemetery Association Convention he recently attended. Some of the topics discussed at the convention were educational requirements for township trustees and councilmen; indigent burials; policies and rules; backyard burials; columbariums; church owned columbariums - if any fail, townships have to take them over so it was recommended that townships tighten up their zoning to not permit churches to have columbariums; selling memorial trees; disease resistant trees; alkaline hydrolysis which is legal in only three states; cemetery anniversary parties; green burials - there are 60 green burials in the State of Ohio currently and green burials would save tons of reinforced steel and concrete every year.

Glass Vases

Mr. Marous noted that there was a rule to not permit glass vases in the cemetery but it was excluded from the current rules. More research will be done pertaining to this and it will be discussed at the next regular meeting.

Fee for Disinterment of Cremation Remains

The board discussed that currently there is no fee for the disinterment of cremation remains and was in agreement to charge the same fee as an interment.

Mr. Marous made a motion to recommend amending the cemetery fee schedule to add the fee for disinterment of cremation remains (in-ground and niche) to \$125.00 on weekdays and \$200.00 on Saturdays and all nonstandard burial hours.

Mr. Arnold seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Tent Rental Fee

Mr. Marous reported that he has had some requests for the use of the tent. The board discussed potential fees and was in agreement to permit the rental of the tent.

Mr. Seliga made a motion to recommend allowing the use of the tent for a fee of \$50.00 on weekdays and \$75.00 on Saturdays and all nonstandard burial hours.

Mr. Marous seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Request for Columbarium Niche Rental

Mr. Marous reported that he has had a request from a non-resident family who wants to rent a columbarium niche for up to two years until they move and take the urn with them. The board held a discussion and was in agreement to not permit the rental of niches.

Mr. Seliga made a motion to not allow niche rentals.

Mr. Marous seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Cemetery Management Software Update

Mr. Seliga gave a report on the cemetery software package from CIMS. He said they are working on the mapping, the grave mapping is good but there is a discrepancy on the aerial overview. He explained that there is an issue with the location of the drainage in the old section which is being addressed, the drains didn't correspond to some of the drawings and if the old grave layouts are correct, the software should be completed in about a month but some of the graves will require restrictions on full burials because of the drains. All catch basins and drains will be put on the maps within the software. Mr. Marous explained that some of the graves now are for ashes only. Mr. Seliga said the intent is to make the drainage accurate to the grave sites despite any other inaccuracies and the purpose of the utility mapping is to show where the drains, water and electric lines are located.

Pet Burials

The board discussed pet burials and noted that the Village of Chagrin Falls is in the process of creating a pet cemetery. Mr. Arnold will supply the board with the Chagrin Falls rules and regulations for pet cemeteries when they are available. It was noted that the area must contain three acres. Mr. Markley said he will mention the proposed pet cemetery to the Board of Trustees if the cemetery board is serious about creating one. The board discussed permitting only flat headstones in the pet cemetery.

Tree Planting Plan - Memorial Trees

The board discussed locations and maintenance of memorial trees and it was noted that the township will have to check the legality of them.

Columbarium

The board noted that two columbarium niches have been sold and the time-frame is nearing the end for people to trade in their grave(s) for a columbarium niche.

Dirt Storage Building

Mr. Markley reported that the dirt storage building is part of the facility planning.

Since there was no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:11 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda L. Zimmerman
Secretary to Cemetery Board