

Cemetery Meeting Minutes
Cemetery Trustees & DPW Staff
April 10, 2025

The meeting was called to order in the Sunnycrest Conference Room in the Town Hall at 6:02pm.

In attendance:

Cemetery Trustees –Cara Dunn (2026), Amy Wheeler (2027) & Laura El Azem (2028)

DPW Staff - Dave Wholley, Ricky Robichaud & Denise Manella

Finance – Justin Campo

Old Business

Presales: Presales were put on hold on July 1, 2024, and it has been going well. The plot inquiries would have resulted in the sale of 2 dozen lots. The hold will continue until December 31, 2025. The issue will be revisited at that time. **This item is open.**

Signs for all Cemeteries: The purpose of this project is to make the signs uniform at all 7 cemeteries in Londonderry. The design is done. At this time, only Glenwood, Pillsbury and Pleasant View will get new signs. Dave will send a copy of the design to the Cemetery Trustees. The remaining cemetery signs will be replaced later. **This item is open.**

Descendant Burials: There are occasions when plots are sold and everyone on the deed is deceased. This can cause issues because we do not know who is supposed to be buried in the lot. We will find a procedure to deal with these instances. At this time, the descendant will have to prove that they have rights to the lot. Cara suggested that we may want to get legal advice about how to proceed with proving descendant rights. **This item is open.**

New Business

Pleasant View Cemetery Land Donation: There is a parcel of land (7 Litchfield Road) that goes right up to the back side of Pleasant View Cemetery. The developer wants to donate the land to the cemetery for possible expansion. There are no stipulations. This is currently in the

planning process. Having the land will help protect this historic cemetery. A decision will be made by the Fall, and it will cost nothing. All 3 Cemetery Trustees are in favor of accepting the land donation. **This item is open.**

Purchase of Cemetery Plots by Former Londonderry Residents: Plots are sold to Londonderry residents only. There will be one exception – residents who moved from town to go to a long-term care facility due to illness. **This item is closed.**

36 Gilcreast Road: This is a new development with 250 rental homes that abuts Pillsbury Cemetery. Dave spoke to the builders about a barrier between the houses and the cemetery. He suggested an earthen berm or a grassy knoll that would function as a natural landscape barrier.

This item is open.

Weekend Overtime Rate Proposal: The DPW has been paying the overtime costs associated with weekend urn burials. For 3 hours of overtime, it costs \$214.10. All 3 Cemetery Trustees are in favor of imposing a \$300 weekend urn burial rate. This will go into effect on July 1, 2025. Weekday urn burials will continue to be done at no charge.

Amy made a motion to impose a \$300 weekend urn burial fee. Laura seconded. All in favor. The motion passed. **This item is closed.**

Headstone Cleaning Service: Dave received information about a person who runs a headstone cleaning service. The Cemetery Trustees have no interest in looking into this further.

This item is closed.

Request for Sunnyside Headstone Repair: We received a letter from Walter Kimball asking if he could remove the headstone from his great, great, great grandfather's grave to have it repaired. All 3 Cemetery Trustees gave permission for Walter to repair the stone. Denise will inform him of the decision by mail. **This item is closed.**

Maintenance Expense Request: Justin Campo, Finance Director, requested \$25,000 from the Cemetery Trust Fund to cover maintenance expenses. The money covers the work that Shady Hill and Trimmers do in all the cemeteries in town. Shady Hill and Trimmers extended their

contracts from last year with no price increase. All 3 Cemetery Trustees agreed to release the \$25,000 from the Cemetery Trust Fund. **This item is closed.**

Cemetery Expansion: We will have to decide if there will be another warrant article on the next ballot. Since presales have stopped, we do not need to do an expansion right now. The next phase will not need to be done until we get below 100 graves available. This may allow us to do the expansion in the next 3-5 years. **This item is open.**

Dave motioned to adjourn the meeting. Cara seconded the motion. All in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:23pm.

The next meeting will take place on **Thursday, October 16, 2025, at 6pm** in the Sunnycrest Conference Room in the Town Hall.