



TOWN OF MILLINOCKET
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
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Cemetery Committee Meeting

Date: June 4, 2021

Time: 10 am.

Place: Airport Conference Room

Attendees: *Bob Healey, Dave Manzo, Charlie Pray, Ralph Soucier.*

- *Ralph – Updates on Cemetery YTD: Crews at Cemetery and Public Works worked together to prepare the grounds for Memorial Day Weekend. Green Thumb applied the Weed Control and fertilized before the holiday. Brush was trimmed by the crew along the fence line. Several sunken graves were repaired-ongoing.*
- *Ralph - Reviewed last year's Cemetery activity. Average about 70-80 burials/year. More cremations than traditional burials. Also I have been keeping a list of maintenance items that could be done with such as the metal fence on the North end needs to be repaired or replaced, the Vault concrete sides need repairs, the Garage roof will need shingles at some point, and the roads in the old sections are humped up in the middle and could be ground down and replaced with crushed stone.*
- *Bob- asked if the Beatles are still being a problem. Ralph- we have not had an issue as of last year and have stopped the Grub Control applications on the grass. We now do the Weed and Fertilizer yearly.*
- *Charlie – discussed the issue with many grave-stones and markers are tipped and broken especially in the old sections, and would like to have the Committee's involvement to decide what proper action to take to do these repairs. The State of Maine Statutes Title #13 lists responsibility for Municipalities which includes: Ensure the grass is suitably cut and trimmed, Keep flat grave markers free of grass and debris, and keep trees at the burial places free of fallen trees, branches, vines, and weeds.*

- *Ralph – Yes this has been an issue for some time, and we were looking into getting a professional memorial company to come in and give us an estimate of costs to address this issue. I have called Rogan’s in Bangor who do this type of work and they quoted \$150/hr. plus any cement work would be extra. If a foundation is needed it would cost another \$600 for each head stone that required one. I am still investigating another local person to do repairs. The Crew we have at the Cemetery is very limited to Mowing, Trimming, Cleaning, and doing burials and can not take on a large maintenance function as stone repairs.*
- *Charlie- mentioned that volunteers could be a source to help trying to locate the owners of the stones before the Town would act on any repairs.*
- *Bob- said he could work on that and may ask for our help to use the map books at the Cemetery for reference. Location of families will be a task due to the fact the burials in the old section are dated back in the early 1900’s.*
- *Ralph – I will work on getting other options to get these stones straighten up once we start getting a list together from contacting families.*

At this point we will start getting a list together and come back to the Committee for a clearer direction.