

# PEMBROKE CEMETERY COMMISSION AGENDA

August 10, 2023

1. Call meeting to order
2. Approve the minutes of July 13, 2023 meeting

New Business:

Old Business:

3. The CIP 2024 request for the rebuilding of three entrances to Evergreen with the existing granite was presented to the CIP Committee July 20th with VJ giving them pertinent information about the repair/reconstruction
4. Following up on July 20<sup>th</sup> with a walk through at Pembroke Street Cemetery to see headstone damages and the small maple that may be a problem. Public works will take care of some of the trimming issues in and around various headstones. It was clear that the landscapers are not being cautious enough in their mowing around some headstones. VJ will be in touch with them regarding this. It seems to be a consensus that we will probably not go with them when our contract expires
5. Evergreen Cemetery follow up of Ryan Mihill plot. Chris Addington informed us of more information on the Mihill lot. Joanne Johnson (Ryan's Mother) has an additional 3 lots in the same row as Ryan's grave. One is to the left and two to the right.

This is additional information from Chris:

Melissa D. is in 56 B, to her left 57 A is open, (no 57 B = path) left again 58 A then 58 B both open. It appears that Joanne Johnson has reserved three other lots in the same row as Ryan Mihill's grave: one to the left of the grave and two on the right of the grave. The flowers now along the sides of Ryan Mihill's grave also extend along the sides of Melissa Driesse's grave, behind Ryan's lot. The bench appears to be either in a pathway between the larger blocks of lots or on Lot 58-A. Does Crypt Keeper indicate that Lot 58-A has been sold to anyone? Our Crypt Joanne has reserved (but not paid for) 4,45,A, 4,44,A & 4,43,B. Directly behind Ryan Mihill a Melissa Driesse is buried.

I Hope this helps the commission understand better the lot configuration/ownership. With this information it appears the bench is on one of the Mihill plots. However, the runaway of flowers still need to be addressed.

6. Jim notified the Board of Selectmen of the wrong amount posted for burials in the Town Code Chapter 155. David Jodoin said it would be corrected. The Commission previously talked about changing the wording of Chapter 160-5("fee"). VJ recently received this email from Gerry Fleury:

Since I brought up the issue with a problematic section of the Town Code for cemeteries at the public hearing Wednesday evening, I thought it only helpful that I suggest a solution, so here it is. Instead of trying to define "emergency" elsewhere in the Code, just remove the section of the existing code identified by ~~strikethrough~~ in the attached document and replace it with the section added in *italics*.

Gerry included this as his suggestion for the changes:

155-12 Burials on Sundays or Holidays

No burial shall be held on Sunday or holidays except ~~in case of emergency~~,  
*when such prohibition would result in unreasonable hardship to one or more persons wishing to attend the burial event. Determination of unreasonable hardship shall be determined by the Superintendent.*

7. Research the feasibility of creating a Columbarium in the back section of Evergreen Cemetery. This was brought up by Gerry Fleury at the CIP meeting on July 20<sup>th</sup> and previously discussed several years ago by the commission
8. VJ/Adam Status updates:
  - a. Pembroke Street flag solar light (have we been able to visualize them in darkness?)

**Cemetery Commission Six Year cemetery plan:**

1. Updating Pembroke Hill gate with new coat of paint
2. Removal of trees at New North Pembroke Cemetery
3. Rebuild the three split granite retaining wall entrances to Evergreen cemetery **CIP request for 2024**
4. Restore old gates at Pembroke Street
5. Update Cemetery mapping with Town wide Cemeteries surveyed with GPR
6. Gazebo in Evergreen Cemetery- to install new one like the one in the 1950's plan.
7. Find a Cemetery Design company to design a Columbarium in the back area at Evergreen Cemetery