

St. Johnsbury Cemetery Commission  
October 11, 2018

The St. Johnsbury Cemetery Commission met at the town offices. In attendance were Lauren Järvi, Andy Dussault, Bryan LeBlanc and Chad Whitehead

Meeting called to order by Lauren at 8:00 AM.

Andy moved to approve the minutes for the September 13 meeting. Lauren seconded the motion which was approved by Andy and Lauren. Bryan abstained as he was absent from the meeting.

The warrant was approved and signed.

Chad agreed to follow up with Roger Brown on the question of the stumps and trees over the vault at the Grove Cemetery.

Andy is concerned that the public may not be aware of the cost we are incurring to hire a mower at the Grove each summer. For the time being we'll not pursue the goats option. Chad will continue to explore our options with the Work Camp and Probation and Parole to see if we can rely on them for next year. Absent that we'll need to put it out to bid again and include a figure of \$12,000 in the budget.

Other items to include in the budget will include an amount for fencing for the CVBY, and possibly the Grove.

We discussed establishing a position of sexton. Chad will prepare a preliminary job description for review at our next meeting. Mark Harpin has expressed an interest in this.

Andy has learned that the bid to remove the large pine trees at CVBY could be as much as \$10-12,000. With this in mind we've agreed that it probably makes more sense to trim the lower branches that may be more likely to come down in a storm. There is concern about any potential damage to stones and/or surrounding properties in the event of a major windstorm. Chad will contact Hugh to see about what this would entail, and also regarding removal of the birches on the northwest corner of the property.

Finally we discussed the information Lauren brought from the VOCA (Vermont Old Cemetery Assn) meeting she attended in Ludlow last Saturday. Tom Giffen, VOCA President has offered to come to St J next year and coordinate a volunteer day at CVBY. Andy moved that Lauren should contact Tom re this. Seconded by Bryan. Unanimously approved. We'll see about contacting STJA, the St Johnsbury Middle School, the ST HHC and others to round up interested folks to help with this project.

Bryan moved to adjourn at 8:50. Seconded by Andy. Unanimously approved.