

OAK HILL CEMETERY BOARD OF MANAGERS

Members present

Alderman Shawn Burtle
Greg Hager
Julio Monge
Kerry Ward

Also Present

Superintendent Bill Newberry
Mayor Barry
Wand News 17- Eric Harrold
Mark Passoni
Shirley Sams

Not Present

Judy Rodden

Superintendent Newberry called the meeting to order on Tuesday, June 18, 2019 at 5:00 P.M.

ELECT CHAIRMAN OF CEMETERY BOARD

Superintendent Newberry advised that Mr. Jim Dennis has been the Chairman for years and now that he has retired, the Board needs to elect a new Chairman. The Board recommended Judy Rodden to be elected as Chairman as she has been on the Board the longest amount of time. Mayor Barry recommended this issue be tabled until the next meeting to discuss with Mrs. Rodden if she would be interested in being the Chairman.

Motion was made by Alderman Burtle and seconded by Board Member Monge to table the issue of the election of Chairman of Cemetery Board.

Motion carried 4-0.

MEMORIAL STONE FOR FLAG POLE

Superintendent Newberry had provided everyone with numbered pictures of three different colored stones to choose from for the memorial stone for the flag pole. Pyramid Marble and Granite has donated the stone and the engraving, the City Employees will pour the footings.

There was discussion regarding what wording to have on the stone Superintendent Newberry recommended the date-Dec. 1, 2018 F-3 Tornado and the slogan "We Bend but We Don't Break". Superintendent Newberry would like to get the stone put in place as soon as possible. Mayor Barry recommended that he contact Pyramid Marble and Granite to get a picture showing the layout of the wording on the stone before he proceeded with getting it engraved and bring to his office. Mayor Barry will then contact the Members of the Board to view the picture to ensure all are in agreement with the layout. There was discussion on where to place the stone. The Board suggested right in front of the flag pole, but Superintendent Newberry advised there is already a diamond shaped plaque in front of the flag pole which is for AmVets. He recommends placing the memorial stone on the right hand of the street of the main entrance, then it could be read without having to get out of the vehicle which would be convenient for the elderly.

Motion was made by Board Member Ward and seconded by Board Member Monge to approve of the selection of stone marked #1 which is a gray granite.

Motion carried 4-0.

STATUE DONATION

Superintendent Newberry informed the Board that Mr. Mark Passoni would like to donate a 4 ½ foot concrete angel statue to the Cemetery. He provided pictures of the statue to the Board to view. Superintendent Newberry advised the best place for the statue would be in Block 40 West of Gandy Street. There is a 15' - 20' sewer line located in this area that cannot be used for burials. Mr. Passoni stated he is donating the statue, but he would like the City to have it sit on a base and have a plaque placed in honor of his parents. Alderman Burtle asked Mr. Passoni if he was in a hurry to have the statue moved as it is now in his yard; he is not. The Board directed Superintendent Newberry to figure what the total cost to the City would be for a plaque, materials, concrete for the base including labor, to present at the next Cemetery Board Meeting.

Board Member Ward asked if Block 40 was going to be fenced in like the rest of the Cemetery. Superintendent Newberry advised no. There are two other locations blocks 32 and 39 that are not fenced, as there would not be enough room between the rows of graves and a fence to allow movement needed for equipment to dig or mow.

Motion by Alderman Burtle and seconded by Board Member Hager to table the issue of the statue donation.

Motion carried 4-0.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Newberry provided information on the number of grave plots remaining; as well as the number of burials and cremations, the number of graves sold, number of footings and Vet markers installed from May 1, 2019 to June 17, 2019. He advised the new roof was put on the office building, fence repaired around the fuel tanks, and the new flagpole is installed; these items were all covered by insurance. The building also had new gutters installed.

OTHER MATTERS

Superintendent Newberry advised the sales of graves have dropped. There were about 110 full burials a year and now the average is around 40-50 due to more people being cremated than before. Several cremations can be placed

on one plot. There are 15 acres in the back of the cemetery behind the shed that would cover approximately 5,000-7,000 burials, but is not ready for burials. A road has been built and a pipe put in for drainage, but more work is needed which the City is not ready to invest in at this time.

Motion to adjourn was made by Board Member Ward and seconded by Board Member Hager.

Motion approved 4-0.

Meeting adjourned at 5:34 p.m.

Superintendent William Newberry