

Budget & Finance Meeting
Tuesday, December 10, 2019
3:00 PM

Discussion on Cemetery, Granville First Response

Present: Doon Hinderyckx, Pat Harvey, Nancy Woolley, Barb Dehart, Vic Ribauda, Rob Gardner, Lois Bond **Absent:** Tom Schnabel, Robert Meagher, Jim Bowen
Guests: Tom Paquette, Dan Sargeant, Granville First Response

Discussed Timeline to Town Meeting and plan for further meetings.

Tom Paquette presented the proposed Cemetery budget and indicated that with the money available it is difficult to accomplish much other than routine maintenance for the Town's 7 cemeteries: Woodlawn, Old Village, North Hollow, Bingo, West Hill, Tupper, Little Hollow. Projects in FY19 included removal and trimming of several trees around the boundaries of Bingo by Trees, Inc. and clearing the south and east stonewall line of trees and vegetation at North Hollow. Steve Twitchell and his crew did a remarkable job. Little Hollow continues to be cared for by Byron Peters, Jr.

Tom feels that the West Hill and Bingo boundaries should be better defined and that both may actually have more acreage than has been thought, which would then allow for more burial space. He will review USFS records to see if there are boundary markers between the Town and the USFS. Tom suggested that retired USFS archeologist Dave Lacey may return in summer 2020 with a group to work on repairing stones in these cemeteries. There would be no cost to the Town. Volunteers are welcome!

In reviewing the proposed budget, we are fortunate that both Steve and Byron will hold their rates from FY20, \$11.520 and \$680, respectively.

Tom has discussed with Ray Harvey the Williams monument, on the south downhill side of Woodlawn towards Route 100, which has been displaced and down for several years. Ray feels that to get to the site it would be necessary to come up from Route 100 with equipment.

Both the main and Emerson fountains need work. The main fountain runs continuously during the summer, but would benefit from a post and spigot for turn-off. The Emerson fountain may have more serious problems. Will need to discuss with Marv and Terry in the spring.

The road around Woodlawn Extension needs to be better defined as people are driving over lots. Tom discussed making improvements to the road with John Champion but John is concerned as to whether the bridge could handle loaded Town vehicles. Suggestion made to line the road with verde antique border.

Still waiting for Dean Russell to produce cemetery maps. Dean has donated a plotter, and hopefully this spring the maps will arrive.

Barb has suggested that the Cemetery Commission become more familiar with details of the Perpetual Care Trust account and WRCU accounts – what these funds are for and how can they be used.

Essentially, the Commission was asked to again review their needs and prioritize work to be done, and also consider using funds in their Reserve accounts. A first draft of Cemetery budgetary needs is \$25,440. The Commission will further discuss and return to B&F with specific figures.

Following the Cemetery discussion, and while waiting for Dan Sargeant to arrive, we briefly talked about the Elevator Service line item in General Town Expense, salaries, appropriations, the Capital Plan, Windsor County Sheriff, the Fire Department telephone and alarm, and Tom Schnabel's work on Office computers.

Barb is working on Reserve Funds.

At 5:30 Dan Sargeant arrived to discuss the Town's contracted per capita arrangement with Granville First Response. Granville is considering a stipend program (\$10.00) for members who respond to calls and attend meetings. Currently two Rochester residents participate in Granville's program. It is hoped to attract more Rochester people who would go through training and be outfitted with a jump kit.

Radios need replacement on a rotational basis. Discussed backcountry and off-road rescue.

Granville receives and is grateful for unsolicited donations.

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| Experience in FY19 was: | Rochester – 81 calls | FY18 – Rochester – 95 calls |
| | Hancock – 31 calls | FY18 – Hancock – 23 calls |
| | Granville – 13 calls | FY18 – Granville – 20 calls |

Rochester can expect an increase in the contract from \$4,500 to \$6,472, which would include the stipend.

Adjourned: 5:50 PM

Nancy Woolley