



**FINAL**  
**GRANTHAM CEMETERY TRUSTEES**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**August 18, 2020, 6:30 p.m.**

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Trustee Chair C. Peter James called the meeting of the Town of Grantham Cemetery Trustees to order at 6:35 p.m. on Tuesday, August 18, 2020.

He read the following statement “As Chair of the Cemetery Trustees, due to the COVID-19/Coronavirus crisis and in accordance with Governor Sununu’s Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, this Board is authorized to meet electronically, and these reasons shall be reflected in the minutes.

Please note that there is no physical location to observe and listen contemporaneously to the meeting, which was authorized pursuant to the Governor’s Emergency Order. However, in accordance with the Emergency Order, this is to confirm that we are providing public access to the meeting by telephone and other electronic means. Notice of the meeting was given, as required by RSA 91-A, and included details for participating in the meeting. Members of the public will be invited to speak and recognized by the Chair. If, at any time during the meeting, there becomes a problem with access please call 603-863-6021 or email at: [info@granthamnh.net](mailto:info@granthamnh.net).”

Trustee Chair James continued by taking a Roll Call of those in attendance. He asked each member to state their presence and whether anyone else was in the room during the meeting, as is required under the Right-to-Know law.

**PRESENT:** Trustee Chair C. Peter James, Trustee Warren Kimball, Trustee Ralph Beasley, and Board Clerk Emily Owens.

**PUBLIC:** Sexton Warren Legacy.

- II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM JULY 21, 2020:** Trustee Beasley made a motion to approve the minutes from July 21, 2020, seconded by Trustee Kimball. *Unanimously Approved by roll call*

**III. NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. Approval of Invoices:** There was one invoice submitted by Legacy Landscaping for a total of \$250.00. \$75.00 for coordinating a monument and plot layout for Newton-Bartlett and \$175.00 for the cremation burial of Russell Currier. Trustee Kimball made a motion to approve the invoice from Legacy Landscaping in the amount of \$250.00, seconded by Trustee Beasley. *Unanimously Approved by roll call.*

- B. Cemetery Trustees Policy Manual:** Board Clerk Owens has started putting together a manual for the Trustees. When completed she will email the Trustees a Word version of the document for editing.

#### IV. OLD BUSINESS:

**A. Fisher Cemetery:**

1. **Simon B. Harris** – Trustee Chair James has received an email address from the NH AG’s office and will be contacting them to learn the next steps for the gravestone. Additionally, Trustee Chair James spoke to Chief Parsons about relocated the stone to the evidence lock-up in the Town Offices. This could be done with the new UTV the Town has ordered but not yet received. Trustee Beasley has volunteered to research the gravestone in the Grantham Archives.
2. **Plaque** – Placed on hold until next Spring due to COVID.
3. **Granite Posts and Chain Fence** – Placed on hold until next Spring due to COVID.

- B. Research Concerning Ground Probing Radar:** Trustee Chair James contacted a company in Salem, NH that does ground probing radar. He learned the costs is roughly \$3600 and the area needs to be raked prior to running the machine over the ground. Trustee Chair James thought a few volunteers could accomplish the task of raking the area easily.

- C. Cemetery Condition Update:** Trustee Kimball continues to reach out to local stone masons for a price and proposal on rebuilding the wall at Memorial Cemetery. Sexton Warren Legacy was willing to look at the damage and provide Trustee Kimball with an estimate on the repair. The Trustees discussed the repairs to the signpost at Memorial Cemetery. It was discussed that the signpost was designed poorly because water gets trapped in the joint then expands when frozen. It was decided that Sexton Legacy would repair the broken piece and the Trustees would look at a more permeant solution, since the signpost has been repaired previously.

Next, the Trustees discussed the gravestones at Hilldale Cemetery. Some gravestones have started leaning or have fallen on the ground. Sexton Legacy expressed an interest in looking at the gravestones and repairing the ones he can. He will contact Trustee Kimball with a count and an estimate on the number of gravestones he thinks he can repair. The remaining stones will have to be repaired by an outside local contractor. This will be discussed at the next meeting in September.

- D. Discussion Concerning Sexton Appointment:** Trustee Kimball invited Sexton Warren Legacy tonight to discuss a term for the Sexton and Sexton Legacy’s plans for the position. Sexton Legacy expressed an interest in retiring the end of this season, which is November or possibly December. Trustee Chair James asked if

Sexton Legacy had a replacement or someone he has worked with to recommend, he did not. The Trustees and Sexton Legacy discussed the Town Road Agent Jeff Hastings and Grounds Keeper Glenn Carey as possible replacements. Sexton Legacy mentioned that the replacement should have landscaping experience. Trustee Beasley asked if the position should be posted. The Trustees agreed it should be and Trustee Chair James will review the job posting.

Trustee Chair James asked Sexton Legacy what his opinions were regarding setting a term on the appointed position of Sexton. The Trustees decided the position should be for a 10-year term. If a Sexton expresses interest in continuing after the 10-year appointment, they can be re-appointed for additional terms.

- E. Cemetery History:** This item is tabled until the pandemic issue is resolved. Board Clerk Owens will contact Town Administrator White to ask about Trustee Beasley gaining access to the Archives.
  - F. Review Regulations:** This item is tabled until the pandemic issue is resolved.
- V. ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, a motion was made by Trustee Kimball to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Beasley and approved unanimously by roll call at 7:15 p.m. The next Trustee meeting is scheduled for September 15, at 6:30 p.m.