

**Freetown Cemetery Commission**  
Minutes of the Wednesday, June 16, 2021 Meeting  
Town Hall — Assonet, Mass.

*Cheryl A. Anderson*  
**RECEIVED**  
**FREETOWN TOWN CLERK**  
**2021 OCT -8 PM 12:15**

**Present:** Adrienne Levesque and Mike McCue.  
**Absent:** Keven Desmarais.  
**Call to order:** Mike McCue called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

**Reorganization**

The following items were moved by Mrs. Levesque, seconded by Mr. McCue, and voted unanimously:

- That Mr. McCue continue as chairman for the year ensuing.
- That Mr. McCue continue as Superintendent of Public Cemeteries until June 30, 2022.
- That Richard Brown continue as Asst. Superintendent for the Assonet Burying Ground until June 30, 2022.
- That Mr. McCue continue as the single signatory for bills and payrolls until June 30, 2022.

**Receipt of Minutes and Superintendent's Reports**

The minutes of April 14th were received, as were the Superintendent's reports for April and May.

**Seasonal Labor**

Mr. McCue reported that Owen Borges has begun work as the Sexton, and is working out well. His hours will change during the summer when he is no longer in school, and then will change back when school begins again in the fall.

**Discussion on Outside Services**

Mr. McCue reported complaints from funeral homes about inconsistencies in prices. Specifically, they do not like that the gravediggers themselves decide what constitutes "winter" and they do not like that if one is unavailable, they may have to pay more for someone else. Discussion was held on what could be done to address these issues. One thought was that instead of having individual contractors set prices, the Cemetery Commission may instead set a price schedule and require the contractors to agree to it. Consensus was to wait until all members could be present before making any decisions.

Similarly, discussion was held on the setting of foundations and installation of certain markers. Right now Heath Chace and Abby Michaels set most of the foundations, but occasionally a monument company may set their own and not always in a spot that we would like. There have also been issues with markers installed facing the wrong direction. Further discussion will be held when all members are present.

**Assonet Burying Ground**

The following items were taken up under this heading:

- Mr. Desmarais is still working with Cody Velozo on refurbishing the pole to be used as a new flag pole.
- Jeff Chandler will be making a determination over the summer about what to do with the old shed.

### **Updated on Old Business or New Business**

The following items were taken up under this heading:

- Brief discussion was held on future land needs. Specifically, discussion centered on whether it would be practical to find a smaller parcel of land to open a cremation-only cemetery rather than look at larger tracts for a traditional cemetery. No doubt, there could be a space crunch 50 years down the line at the rate things are going, but could this be alleviated somewhat with such a concept as a cremation-only property? Further discussion will be held when all members can be present.

### **Other Business Properly Before the Commission**

No items were taken up under this heading.

### **Meeting Adjourned**

A motion was made by Mrs. Levesque, seconded by Mr. McCue, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 4:37 p.m.

This is a True Record by me.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Michael T. McCue, Chairman