

BRIDPORT BOARD OF CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS

Minutes of Meeting held on Friday, January 6, 2017, at 1:00 P.M. at the Bridport Town Clerk's Office at 82 Crown Point Road in Bridport

Present: David Bronson, Paul Wagner, Mark Pumiglia, David Basque and Joan Huestis

David Bronson reported that the correct amount voted at the January 13, 2016, meeting to pay the Town for reimbursement from Bridport Central Cemetery Spendable Funds for its mowing/trimming grass in 2016 in said Cemetery was \$1,000.00 and not the \$2,000.00 as in some prior years. All approved the minutes of the January 13, 2016, meeting as corrected and the minutes of the April 11, 2016, meeting as respectively submitted by David Bronson, Assistant Secretary.

All approved of the election of officers to serve until the next annual election as follows:

David Bronson = Chairperson, Sexton, Assistant Secretary

Paul Wagner = Secretary

Mark Pumiglia = 1st Assistant Chairperson

David Basque = 2nd Assistant Chairperson

Joan Huestis = Assistant Sexton

David Bronson reported on the completion of the \$50,000.00 loan to the Town for a part of its borrowing for the new Grader. He presented a copy of his May 19, 2016, Letter thereon to the Town Treasurer and Select Board and a copy of the PROMISSORY NOTE dated June 13, 2016, that has a Borrowing Date of July 13, 2016. The first interest payment of \$1,131.33 is due July 13, 2017.

David Bronson reported the sale in 2016 of 1-lot to Frances White in the Bridport Central Cemetery for \$200.00. He presented a copy of his November 7, 2016, Letter thereon to the Town Treasurer.

David Bronson reported that Michael Bordeleau, Pierre Bordeleau, Andre Bordeleau, Terry Bolduc, Steve Quenneville, Dennis Paquette and Tyler Pope did work in replacing portions of, repairing and painting the pipe and metal fencing around the "Hill" plot in the Central Cemetery.

In addition to his placement of American Flags in all the Cemeteries and picking up of old ones, David Bronson reported as follows:

in Town Line Cemetery he spent about 2 hours re-trimming brush and trees;

in Wells Cemetery he spent some time re-trimming brush and trees;

in Pine Hill Cemetery he spent about 3 hours re-trimming brush and trees, put in 3 metal posts to support some broken wood posts and in addition made several trips there concerning Roy Wilkinson's having 3-gravestones installed for three of his relatives and did some research thereon at the Town Clerk's Office; and

in the Central Cemetery, in addition to marking out for some burials and several gravestones:

---he spent about 3 hours re-trimming shrubs, picking up deteriorated flower pots, etc. and filling in an assumed old grave site;

---he spent about 12 hours investigating possible gravestones to replace, meeting with and correspondence with respective personnel of Clegg's Memorials and Livingstone Farm Memorials on replacement gravestones, did research at Town Clerk's Office, put a notice on removal of the old gravestones in the Addison Independent newspaper that cost \$30.81 (he presented a copy of such notice) and did work removing old gravestones and installing the new 7-replacement gravestones from Clegg's Memorials that cost \$2,174.00 (he presented a copy of such Billing);

---he spent about 13 hours looking through the Cemetery and preparing a sketch-map locating lots available to sell in the old part (he presented a copy thereof); and

---he spent about 6 hours looking through the Cemetery concerning looking for what gravestones needed repairs, what kind of repairs and met with respective personnel of Clegg's Memorials and Kuhn Memorials concerning repairs.

David Bronson also reported on the following gravestone work in the Central Cemetery:

Kuhn Memorials had given an estimate of \$3,000.00 for repairing about 8-gravestones (he had been told a fairly large gravestone would cost \$400.00 for digging out a hole, placing the gravestone therein upright and packing stone around it with some dirt on top of the stone) (he presented a copy of such estimate);

after discussion had been held among various Cemetery Commissioners and with the Town Select Board, it had been felt there was a much cheaper way to accomplish similar

gravestone repairs than doing so for \$400.00 for one and this had resulted in the following:

on November 17th Rick Coursey (a part time Town employee) worked about 7 hours and on November 18th he worked an additional about 7 hours and Dan Thomas (who had also done other work for the Town) worked about 8 hours, David Bronson worked with them both days and also donated use of his equipment, Michael Bordeleau donated the use of his tractor with bucket and backhoe both days, which resulted in:

- resetting upright 10-gravestones in dug holes and in packed stone,
- re-straightening of 3-gravestones,
- resetting bases for and re-standing up of 4-gravestones, and
- the moving and reinstalling of 7-gravestone unused bases to sites for use of old down gravestones.

David Bronson presented a copy of each of the following:
a SUMMARY OF BRIDPORT CENTRAL CEMETERY 2016 GRAVESTONE WORK;
a Letter to Michael Bordeleau dated December 28, 2016, thanking him for donating use of his tractor and thanking him and others for their work on the "Hill" plot;
a Letter to the Town Treasurer dated November 22, 2016, concerning certain 2016 Central Cemetery Expenses;
Craig L'Heureux's October 11, 2016, \$760.00 bill for Town Line Cemetery work;
a draft of the proposed BRIDPORT CEMETERY BOARD REPORT FOR 2016, which REPORT was approved of by all; and
a partially complete draft of a proposed CEMETERY FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2016.

All approved of the 2016 expenses for the cemeteries:
from Central Cemetery Funds: mowing/trimming grass of Central Cemetery \$1,000.00 to Town, and \$19.80 Vermont Federal Credit Union checks expense;
from Town Cemetery Budget: mowing/trimming grass of Town Line Cemetery \$760.00 to Craig L'Heureux, \$2,174.00 to Clegg's Memorials for 7-replacement gravestones, \$30.81 to the Addison Independent for notice on the foregoing, and \$461.00 for hired labor for repair of gravestones; and
from the Hilda Hunt Water Fund \$3.77 interest to the Bridport Congregational Church for water service.

There was discussion on work for 2017. This included that work was to continue in 2017 on replacing, repairing and/or other maintenance of gravestones. All approved paying the Town \$1,000.00 for reimbursement from Bridport Central Cemetery Spendable Funds for its mowing/trimming grass in 2017 in said

Cemetery. All approved paying \$2.74 from Hilda Hunt Water Fund interest (being amount available at the end of 2016) to the Bridport Congregational Church for water service in 2017. With David Bronson abstaining, all others approved of asking the Town to include in its 2017 Budget for Cemeteries \$6,000.00. All approved hiring Craig L'Heureux again for mowing/trimming grass in Town Line Cemetery in 2017, which expense is expected to be at a rate similar to 2016. David Bronson reported he understands Craig is willing to do it.

All four other Commissioners approved of David Bronson being authorized to approve orders and expenditures of the Board for 2017.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David A. Bronson".

David A. Bronson, Assistant Secretary

NOTE: Subject to later approval by the Board