

## **BRIDPORT BOARD OF CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS' REPORT FOR 2018**

The Town takes care of the Central Cemetery, Town Line Cemetery, Pine Hill Cemetery and Wells Cemetery. There are approximately 2,400 gravestones in these Cemeteries. Many of the gravestones are very old with some having an age of about 200 years and/or do not have an adequate base to support them. The result is a continuing need to mostly repair gravestones and to replace some that have deteriorated too much. The respective gravestone owners and/or their families should be doing the maintenance thereon. The lack of such maintenance by them leaves it up to the Town to do so.

For many years a portion of the proceeds from the sale of any cemetery lot has been set aside for perpetual care. Only the income from such portion is available and used for perpetual care expenses. Perpetual care of a lot has been limited to for care of the ground, including only grass type growth, and not anything else such as not for any monument or other manmade object. If no such proceeds were set aside for perpetual care, then all of the proceeds from the sale of any cemetery lot would be available for cemetery expenses.

We have made and plan to continue to make significant progress in improving our Cemeteries. Attached as a part of this Report is a SUMMARY OF 2018 BRIDPORT CEMETERY GRAVESTONE WORK.

Attached as a part of this Report is a 2018 CEMETERY EXPENSE ACCOUNT on this year's expenses and an overall CEMETERY FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2018.

Over the many years of their existence, many gravestones have had various kinds of lichens grow thereon and have otherwise accumulated dirt on them. It is felt that the appearance of the Cemeteries could be significantly improved if some cleaning of the gravestones was done. This year cleaning was done on all of the about 250 gravestones in Town Line Cemetery and some other gravestones.

Thanks go to the Town for all of its support of the Cemeteries, without limitation including its contracting out for the mowing/trimming of grass in the Central Cemetery, Pine Hill Cemetery and Wells Cemetery, the appropriating of other money for the Cemeteries and doing any needed picking up of brush and tree limb debris.

Lot owners and family members are asked to please remove old and/or faded plastic flowers or other such items which can become brittle and fall apart and be blown around and be subject to being torn into multiple pieces by a lawn mower or grass trimmer. Glass items are not allowed for reasons that include they can break and create a hazard.

Cemetery lots continue to be available for purchase. In 2018 four lots were sold in the Central Cemetery, two lots were sold in the Town Line Cemetery and one lot was sold in the Pine Hill Cemetery. If you wish to purchase any lot, please contact the Sexton, David Bronson at 758-2546.

Bridport Board of Cemetery Commissioners, January 2019

## SUMMARY OF 2018 BRIDPORT CEMETERY GRAVESTONE WORK

This year's gravestone work included re-straightening many gravestones with some mortared up and some broken ones epoxied back together and included doing cleaning on many gravestones. This work included paying Paul Wagner and Kim Bronson for 248.5 hours and David Bronson volunteering for at least 220 hours.

Bridport Central Cemetery: Most of the gravestones needing to be re-straightened in all of its rows east of the east or entrance drive and in its first 5-rows (3-long and 2-short) west of the east or entrance drive were re-straightened. This amounted to about 460 gravestones re-straightened. Of these: about 10 were epoxied back together, 1 was mortared up, and about 3 had aluminum braces put on to replace old wood braces. There were about 5 unmarked stones put in place where the records indicated there used to be unmarked stones. In the rest of the Cemetery there were about 30 gravestones re-straightened of which about 5 were epoxied back together. The gravestones epoxied back together and that had aluminum braces put on also had cleaning done on them.

Town Line Cemetery: All of the about 250 gravestones in the Cemetery had cleaning done on them. About 73 gravestones were re-straightened, mostly in the westerly section. Of these, about 8 were epoxied back together and 3 were mortared up.

Wells Cemetery: All of the about 14 gravestones in the Cemetery had cleaning done on them and 3 were re-straightened.

Pine Hill Cemetery: All of the about 136 gravestones in the Cemetery had a cleaning compound sprayed on them to help kill the lichens and other growths but no use of water and hand scrubbing has been done yet. About 2 of the gravestones were re-straightened.

### 2018 CEMETERY EXPENSE ACCOUNT

Crazy Squirrel Landscaping - grinding down of 5 stumps in Central Cemetery	\$ 750.00
gravestone cleaning solution, mostly D/2 Biological Solution (26 gallons), and GCT Stone Epoxy for broken gravestones (its cost portion being about \$450.00) from Granite City Tool Co. of VT. Inc.	\$1,481.43
brushes, scrapers, etc. for cleaning gravestones, bag of mortar, stainless steel bolts and other hardware, and misc. mostly from Broughton's Farm Supply	\$ 121.44
labor costs	<u>\$5,350.21</u>
Total Expenses	<b>\$7,703.08</b>
less amount paid from Town Budget Cemetery Expense Account	- \$6,000.00
less amount paid from Town Line Funds for labor and supplies	- \$1,620.00
less amount paid from Central Cemetery Funds	- \$ 83.08

**CEMETERY FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2018**

**CENTRAL CEMETERY**

**NOT-SPENDABLE FUNDS**

Perpetual Care Fund - beginning balance	\$45,857.01
Perpetual Care from Lots sold (4)	<u>\$ 550.00</u>
Perpetual Care Fund - ending balance	<b>\$46,407.01</b>
Hilda Hunt Water Fund	<u>\$ 500.00</u>
Total Not-Spendable Funds - ending balance	<b>\$46,907.01</b>

**SPENDABLE FUNDS**

	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenses</b>	<b>Balance</b>
Beginning balance			\$4,327.27
Lots sold (4)	\$ 550.00		
Interest on Hilda Hunt Water Fund	\$ 6.75		
Interest on other Bank Accounts	\$ 13.25		
Interest on Town Grader Loan	\$1,013.67		
	Total Income		\$1,583.67
Hilda Hunt Water Fund payment to Congregational Church	\$ 2.79		
Mowing/Trimming expense paid to Town		\$1,000.00	
Gravestone maintenance expense		\$ 83.08	
		Total Expenses	<u>(\$1,085.87)</u>
Total Spendable Funds - ending balance (of which \$6.75 is Hilda Hunt Water Money)			<b>\$4,825.07</b>

**BANK ACCOUNT AND TOWN GRADER LOAN ASSETS**

Hilda Hunt Water Fund - VT Federal Credit Union CD	\$ 506.75
VT Federal Credit Union Share Account	\$ 25.00
VT Federal Credit Union Central Cemetery Account (VFCUCCA)	\$ 6,319.85
VT Federal Credit Union Central Cemetery Checking Account	\$ 80.48
Principal of Town Grader Loan (perpetual care funds)	<u>\$44,800.00</u>
Total of all Funds - ending balance	<b>\$51,732.08</b>

**TOWN LINE AND PINE HILL CEMETERIES**

**NOT-SPENDABLE FUNDS FOR TOWN LINE AND PINE HILL**

Perpetual Care Fund - beginning balance	\$4,025.00
Perpetual Care from Lots sold (3)	<u>\$ 300.00</u>
Total Not-Spendable Funds - ending balance	<b>\$4,325.00</b>

**SPENDABLE FUNDS**

	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenses</b>	<b>Balance</b>
Beginning balance			\$5,145.69
Lots sold (3)	\$300.00		
Interest on Bank Account	\$ 10.19		
Interest on Town Grader Loan	\$117.66		
	Total Income		\$ 427.85
Mowing/Trimming expense (Town Line)		\$ 760.00	
Gravestone maintenance expense (Town Line)		\$1,620.00	
		Total Expenses	<u>(\$2,380.00)</u>
Total Spendable Funds - end balance (Town Line, Pine Hill)			<b>\$3,193.54</b>

**BANK ACCOUNT AND TOWN GRADER LOAN ASSETS FOR TOWN LINE AND PINE HILL**

Principal of Town Grader Loan (perpetual \$4,000.00, spendable \$1,200.00)	\$5,200.00
VT Federal Credit Union Business Money Market Account (VFC-UBMMA)	<u>\$2,318.54</u>
Total ending balance	<b>\$7,518.54</b>

**See rest of Cemetery Board Report for 2018 CEMETERY EXPENSE ACCOUNT**