

TRUSTEES OF CEMETERIES
MASSACHUSETTS

City of Malden

150 FOREST STREET MALDEN, MA 02148
781-322-2360

James Tuxbury, Chairman
Sheila Fermano, Secretary
Joseph Barriss, Trustee
Vincent Miraglia, Trustee
William Settemio, Trustee

October 20, 2023

MEETING MINUTES OF: October 18, 2023

A meeting of the Cemetery Board of Trustees was held at the Forest Dale Cemetery, 150 Forest Street, Malden on the above date, in accordance with the Notice of Meeting, as provided in G.L. c.30A, §§ 18-25. Notice was filed with the City Clerk's Office, City of Malden.

Chairman James Tuxbury called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M.

The members present were James Tuxbury, Vincent Miraglia, William Settemio, Joseph Barriss and Sheila Fermano. Superintendent Christopher Rosa also attended the meeting, as well as invited guest, Fire Chief Steve Froio.

APPROVAL of CEMETERY MINUTES: The minutes of the September 20, 2023 meeting were read and upon the motion of Vincent Miraglia and seconded by Joseph Barriss, the Board voted to accept the minutes as read; all were in favor. **CARRIED**

Motion was made by Vincent Miraglia to suspend regular order of business in order to hear from the Fire Chief. Motion was seconded by Joseph Barriss. **CARRIED**

Chief Froio said he had been in conversations with the Superintendent of Cemeteries and would like to make changes and improvements to the Firefighters Memorial. He was proposing a cremation wall for those firefighters that died in the line of duty. Superintendent Rosa explained the proposed layout but emphasized he would have to test the area for ledge before any design could be presented to the Trustees.

President Tuxbury said he was all for it but his main concern was the number of burials and what would the firefighters consider a line of duty death. Fire Chief Froio said any active-duty firefighter that died of any issue defined by the State of Massachusetts as a line-of-duty death. Each Niche would be reserved for a Malden firefighter who precedes his/her spouse, or significant other, in death. Interment will only occur up to five years after separation from service. The spouse or significant other may be interred following the interment of the firefighter.

Any disputes of the right of burial will be decided by the City of Malden Board of Trustees.

Trustee Miraglia wanted to see the plan in writing, as well as a design; Superintendent Rosa reiterated he could not present a plan until the testing on the site was completed. Motion was made by William Settemio and seconded by Sheila Fermano that the Trustees grant space for the Firefighters line of duty cremations; all were in favor. **CARRIED**

Present Tuxbury then asked what costs were entailed. Chief Froio said he was not asking for any funding from the Trustees as the funds had already been secured.

Motion was made by Vincent Miraglia to return to regular business; second was made by Joseph Barriss; all were in favor. **CARRIED**

CORRESPONDENCE: (None)

TRUST REPORT: The Trust Report was read by Superintendent Chris Rosa. The Cemetery Trust received Perpetual Care income for the month of September in the amount of \$25,850.25. This money was turned over to the Treasurer's office to be added to the Cemetery Trust accounts. Upon the motion of Vincent Miraglia and seconded by Joseph Barriss, the Board voted to accept the Trust Report as read; all were in favor. **CARRIED**

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: The Superintendent's report was received by the Trustees and was read by Superintendent Rosa. Burials for the month of September were as follows: One (1) new double deep, eight (8) existing cremains, five (5) full burial existing lots and (1) new two-grave lot for a total of fifteen (15) burials.

- Superintendent Rosa said another mower has been ordered.
- Several dead trees and headstones have been repaired at Salem Street.
- All Niche lottery winners have been notified and 23 of the 25 have been paid for so far.
- The contractor has started to clean the back brush area and will repair the Veterans section next week.
- Arbor Tree and ASAP continues to remove dead trees here and at Salem Street.
- The orchard trees and 12 new trees have been planted throughout Forest Dale.

Motion was made by Vincent Miraglia and seconded by William Settemio to accept the Superintendent's Report; all were in favor. **CARRIED**

DISCUSSION ON CREMATION BURIALS: Superintendent Rosa said the cost of opening the Niche should be amended. He felt there was a loss of revenue as the cost of the Niche included the opening each time there was a cremation burial. He said there is a cost to open a grave every time there is a full burial, even if it contained cremains, but currently there is no charge for a Niche opening. After much discussion the following motion was made by William Settemio and seconded by Sheila Fermano to amend the current fee schedule as follows: Niche Wall - \$4,400; Niche Wall Opening - \$400; effective on new Niche purchases as of October 19, 2023; all were in favor. **CARRIED**

GENERAL CEMETERY BUSINESS: Trustee Miraglia will review the rules and regulations with Superintendent Rosa and will make a presentation to the Trustees at the next meeting. He would also like to meet with the Cemetery's financial group, have discussions on the budget and the need for more help in the deptment.

Next meeting of the Board of Trustees: The next meeting of the Cemetery Board of Trustees will be held on November 15, 2023, at 5:00 PM.

ADJOURNMENT: All business before the Board of Trustees having been completed and upon motion of William Settemio and seconded by Joseph Barriss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Sheila Fermano, Secretary