

New Philadelphia City Council

Parks and Cemetery Committee

Meeting Notes

March 28, 2016 7:00pm

Present for all or portions of the meeting were the following: committee chairman Aimee May and committee members Rob Maurer and Kelly Ricklic; Councilmembers John Zucal, Darrin Lautenschleger and Dean Holland; Council President Sam Hitchcock; Clerk of Council Julie Courtright; Mayor Joel Day; Service Director Ron McAbier; Auditor Beth Gundy; Treasurer Tom Gerber; Safety Director Greg Popham.

ITEMS: Discuss the Cemetery Board's motion to combine the Cemetery Endowment Funds, reinvest the money for a better return and use the interest income to offset the debt of the purchase of new cemetery land and/or for operating costs of perpetual care.

Available/possible land for cemetery purposes.

The funds proposed to be combined are 814-5600 and 812-5600. The total of those funds combined is \$422,709.06. Councilmember Zucal mentioned putting the interest earned from the Evergreen Endowment back into the trust instead of putting it in to the cemetery operating fund as it is done currently. The interest amount is approximately \$2000 per year. There was also concern that interest earned was not going to be enough to use for land and a new building.

Ms. Gundy stated that the perpetual care fees had not been collected since 2003. All plots at the cemetery get the same care.

Mr. Maurer and Mr. Gerber stated that it was probably not going to be worth hiring an investment firm to manage the funds as they generally have expensive fees.

There was also discussion about the number of available cemetery lots and if additional land was available. Mrs. May stated that at the last board meeting it was reported that there were approximately 40 plots left. Mayor Day stated that he had contacted a realtor and they are looking into available cemetery land within the city. Service Director McAbier also indicated that there was possible land near the grass runway at the airport.

Committee member Kelly Ricklic's suggested that the Treasurer researches to see what the highest yield is before voting to approve combining and moving the funds. Mrs. May will work with the Treasurer to gather this information and a meeting will be held at a later date to discuss further.

With no further business to be discussed by the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Aimee May
Chairwoman