



CEMETERY BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

MARCH 14, 2019

8:00 AM

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Joel B. Day. Present were members Mark Wideman, Jim Exley, Tim Halter, Service Director Ron McAbier and Superintendent Kelly Herron. Absent was member Rich Geib and Dave Frantz. Guest was City Council Member Aimee May.

The minutes of the board's February, 2019 meeting were unanimously approved on a motion by Tim Halter and a second by Jim Exley.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Mr. Herron said he's awaiting word from Jim Demuth as to when seeding of the new Delaware Drive property can begin. The Superintendent reported that he received two bids for seed and fertilizer: one from Pace Sankar at \$2.09/lb. and the other from Buckeye Landscaping at \$1.50/lb. He said he would go with Buckeye Landscaping quote. He estimated the total cost to seed the new land would be \$3,000.00. In addition, he reported that cemetery workers removed an old billboard from the property and everything is mowed and ready to go.

Mr. Herron presented master plan drawings from consultant Jose Castrejon for the board members to review.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS

Board member Mark Wideman, suggested the removal and trimming of a few trees within the East Avenue and Evergreen cemeteries. He said he's noticed their poor condition while working and walking in the cemeteries. Board member Jim Exley also reported the need for road repairs within the cemeteries. Mr. Herron said that he will look into both issues.

Mayor Day was asked to clarify the use of cemetery funds for new construction. He said that money from the existing trust fund is being used to make the monthly payments on the bank loan obtained to purchase the Delaware Drive land.

He said that he and Auditor Gundy are awaiting approval from the State Auditor's office on moving the money in the cemetery endowment fund into a new fund established by City Council. He said that money will be used for new cemetery construction and paid back through lot sales.

The board then had a discussion on how to proceed with the master plan. Service Director McAbier made a motion to accept the drawings from MSP Design as presented and Mark Wideman seconded it. The motion was unanimously approved.

The Mayor said he will ask Council president Hitchcock to assign the cemetery construction project to City Council's Parks and Cemetery committee. He added that he would like to have the board present the master plan to Council, then hold public meetings in each of the City's four wards to show residents and gather comments. Mr. Wideman volunteered to be the presenter, with assistance from the Mayor, Service Director and Cemetery Superintendent. Mayor Day said he would inform the board of the date of the Council meeting presentation.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to conduct, at 8:31 a.m. the meeting adjourned following a motion by Jim Exley and a second by Ron McAbier.

Mary Ann Otte
Administrative Assistant