

DRAFT

**TOWN OF TURTLE
CEMETERY COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES OF JUNE 4, 2008**

1. Meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Don Jones, Chairman.
2. Members present were: Ethel Maxworthy, Jean Swanson, Chuck Wollslair, Don Jones-Chairman, Tim Kopp-Turtle Town Supervisor, Sexton-Mike Birkholz. Present also Citizen Ed Swanson. Absent was member Greg Skokut.
3. Motion for Agenda approval was made by Tim Kopp, seconded by Chuck Wollslair and approved by all members present.
4. Motion to approve Minutes of May 7th meeting was made by Tim Kopp, seconded by Don Jones. Motion so carried by all members present.
5. A Financial Statement/Report was given in a brief form by Don Jones, Chairman stating that he will be working with Deb Bennett in the Turtle offices to develop a new and more thorough type of a printed report to present to the committee members.
6. Mike Birkholz, Sexton gave a monthly report, consisting of the charges to the Cemetery Committee for the time, fuel, equipment and extra limestone. He also indicated that these charges included an additional cost for depreciation of equipment. That charge is \$30.00 per machine/per mowing. (i.e. 2 machines = \$60.00 per mowing.) The method will show the Committee's payment for equipment depreciation purposes. Committee members asked if this was something that was also being charged to the budget of Parks Committee. Committee members also indicated that this might be a way to help in the purchase of new mowers when needed.
7. There were no questions/request or suggestions from the Citizens present.
8. Old Business:
 - a) The members cleaned up old and weathered decorations, straightened flag holders in both Shopiere and Turtleville Cemetery. Bill Brewer, Town Supervisor sent memo to the Committee indicating that he had several complimentary comments from citizens referencing the look and care of both cemeteries. We had one complaint that a large wreath was tossed that had been placed on the new grave sight until a headstone could be purchased. The Committee members all agreed that a monetary gift back to the family member was in order to replace the wreath until such time a headstone was purchased. A roll call was conducted with all "yes" by voting members. Mike Birkholz will make contact with the appropriate family member. It was suggested also that the April 1-15 and October 1-15 notice to remove decorations be put into our Town Topics Newsletter.

- b) The Memorial Day Flags in cemeteries are going to remain on display until after the 4th of July Holiday. The flags are starting to get worn and faded. Mike Birkholz indicated that new flags will be needed in the near future. He asked direction as to purchasing flags but it has not been in the Cemetery budget in the past. This item has been tabled until further investigation as to how/from which committee/when the flags are purchased.
- c) Turtleville Cemetery's driveways were refurbished with limestone. It came to four (4) loads and a cost of \$158.00. This will come from the Cemetery budget. Mike indicated that this was the first time in several years of employment with Turtle that Turtleville Cemetery had been refurbished. Cemetery Committee was not charged with the labor in this program. This will need to be a budgeted item in the future.
- d) The Headstone Resetting that the Highway Dept. will be doing was questioned if it had been supported by the Town Board of Supervisors. A third individual would be hired on a part time bases to do this job. Sexton Mike Birkholz indicated that he had the help for the "how-to" by appropriate monument distributor to assist with resetting smaller/simpler repairs. Tim Kopp indicated that the Board of Supervisors do support this method of repair. The larger and more difficult headstone repair will still be contracted to appropriate professionals.
- e) LLS has approached the Committee to please help in the selection of which stones are to be repaired. Also since his estimated costs were determined, once the stones have been "flagged", do not change or remove them. It could make a difference the end charges.

9. New Business:

- a) It was noted that Mrs. Jacque Patch had resigned her position with the Committee, active immediately. A new candidate will be suggested to the Board of Supervisors at the June 11th meeting for approval. Don Jones will be the new Chairperson.
- b) At the August meeting the Committee will be reviewing procedures and By-Laws along with the new Committee appointed member.
- c) It has been asked by an individual who owns grave sites that the Town of Turtle buy back their extra lots. This was brought to the Committee's attention to help with directing the Sexton and Office Personnel as to response. The committee recommended that the Town of Turtle not take responsibility for resale of lots. That the individuals can leave their name, phone numbers, etc. and the Sexton and Office Clerk who would direct interested persons to such seller/owner.. It was noted that the Office Clerk definitely needs to be notified as to who own the deeds accordingly to make things totally legal.

10. The Committee would like to make contact with Bob Halderson and see if he would still be interested in working with Sexton Birkholz, and the Committee. The Committee would like to know any additional thoughts that Mr. Halderson might have reference the large landscape issues. Mike Birkholz will make contact with Bob Halderson and refer back to the Committee in August.

11. The next meeting date will be August 6th 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at the Turtle Town Service Center.
12. Motion to Adjourn meeting made by Chuck Wollslair, seconded by Ethel Maxworthy. Meeting adjourned 8:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Jean Swanson, Secretary