

Princeton Cemetery Commission Meeting – Monday March 30, 2020
Remote-Meeting
Minutes

Present: Chair Charlie Steele, Greg Miranda, Lynne Grettum, and Town Administrator Sherry Patch

Absent: Lou Trostel, Paul Constantino, and Cemetery Superintendent Bill Bergstrom

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Steele at 5:02 P.M.

This meeting was held remotely using WebEx as recommended by the town during the current health advisory prohibition on in-person meetings. The agenda was limited to essential business due to the circumstances.

Cemetery Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Bergstrom was absent during the meeting. He called in after it ended, and noted that he has five burials scheduled for this spring, and that he had some additional suggestions for possible maintenance-contract bidders that he would pass along to Administrator Patch.

Outsourced Maintenance Contract – One Bid

Only one bidder responded to the original request for bids on a new three-year cemetery maintenance contract (June 2020 – June 2023), and that one bid was more than double the amount of the previous contract. A price at that level would negate the cost-savings the town had achieved by contracting out the maintenance to begin with. It was also discovered that the current contractor had not been aware of the request for bids, and was still interested in continuing to work with the town.

The budget approval process has been pushed back, and the BOS is currently discussing a new timetable with a possibility for Annual Town Meeting in late June. That delay allows time for the contract to be put out to bid again.

A motion was made by G. Miranda to reject the sole existing bid and to put out another request for bids, in hope of receiving more responses. The motion was seconded by C. Steele, and passed by a vote of 3-0. Administrator Patch agreed to advertise for a new bid next week, and will post notice on the town website and consider other means of getting the word out in the local area.

Items not anticipated by the Chair 48 hours before meeting

None.

Next Meeting – TBD

Chairman Steele did not set a date and time for the next meeting due to current uncertainties.

L. Grettum motioned to adjourn, seconded by C. Steele, passed unanimously.
Meeting adjourned at 5:15 P.M.