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CITY OF MELROSE

WYOMING CEMETERY

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Cemetery Commission Meeting Minutes

March 19, 2026, 8:45 A.M.

Melrose City Hall, Cassidy Conference Room, 562 Main Street, Melrose, MA 02176

Attendance:

Co-Chair, Eileen Hamblin (EH)

Cemetery Administrator, Denise Slane (DS)

Commission Member, Susan Cann (SC)

DPW Deputy Director, Jim Troup (JT)

Commission Member, Paul Cusolito (PC)

Call to Order

EH called the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m.

Introduction of New Commission Member

New commission member, Paul Cusolito, introduced himself and gave a brief background history on his involvement with the city.

Nominations and Appointment of Chair

For position of Chair: EH nominated SC for Chair, PC second, SC accepted the nomination, all agreed, SC appointed new chair.

For position of Co-Chair: SC nominated EH for Co-Chair, PC second, EH accepted the nomination, all agreed, EH appointed co-chair.

Review of Minutes

Meeting minutes from February 26, 2026, were reviewed. SC requested a check on an ADA compliance item. A review determined a mis-type, DS will correct. A motion to accept the minutes with the correction was made by EH and seconded by PC. Minutes accepted.

Financial Report

The financial report for February 2026, as prepared by DS was reviewed. A motion to accept the reports was made by EH and seconded by PC. Reports accepted.

DS also presented an updated report from Audit of the cemetery land, perpetual care and other accounts to the commission.

Public Comment

A motion to open the meeting for public comment was made by EH and seconded by PC. All in favor. Floor opened at 8:55.

No residents in attendance.

A motion to close the meeting for public comment was made by EH and seconded by PC. All in favor. Floor closed at 8:55.

New Business

Spring Cleanup

DS gave an update on spring cleanup from the foreman. Spring cleanup is scheduled to be completed by Memorial Day weekend.

Old Business

Update on Cemetery Equipment

DS presented the specs for a new dump truck that were determined by the cemetery foreman. It was discussed that the dump truck is part of the FY27 improvement plan. SC asked if the V-plow was included in the specs, JT stated that the truck will be setup with a plow kit and believes it is part of the purchase. SC requested that the V-plow be purchased with the truck so that the cemetery will have the proper equipment.

Discussion and Vote on Veteran graves and requirements

SC requested this item be tabled for the April meeting.

Discussion and Vote on Veterans Flag Policy

SC requested this item be tabled for the April meeting, as the Veterans Advisory Board has not had their meeting yet to review the language of the proposed policy.

Future Cemetery Expansion

DS presented maps of areas that could be potential areas for expansion of double depth graves. EH stated that she feels as members of the commission it is their duty to determine the need of expansion for today and to determine future areas for down the road. SC stated that the commission should review the areas and have the foreman verify the space so that the commission can come up with a strategic/business plan for expansion down the road. It was discussed that there was an older plan that was created by previous administration. It was discussed to obtain a copy of this plan and expand on it with updated information and digitalization records. SC gave an update on the Ripley school land and stated she will be meeting with planning about the parcel. SC stated there is a committee in place to review what this land could be used for and to determine how the piece of land that the cemetery owns will be compensated. This item will be discussed at future meetings.

Items not reasonably anticipated by Chairman at time of posting

~Tree Work

DS gave an update from the foreman, that he has been meeting with the city arborist and tree work will be addressed by what is deemed most dangerous and in the most populous areas.

SC made a motion to adjourn, EH second the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:36 a.m.