

Oakwood Cemetery Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, July 17, 2024 at 6PM
Berlin City Hall Council Chambers

The Meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by acting President Nancy Gimenez. Board members present were: Gimenez, Erdmann, Labuda and Seaman. Also present was Sexton Drover and Council Liaison Durtschi. Absent was Beyer and Blazel. There was a Quorum.

No Public Comments were made.

The third item on the Agenda was the Election of Officers for the remainder of 2024. Seaman nominated Gimenez to continue in the role of President. This was seconded by Erdmann. Gimenez nominated Seaman in the role of Vice President. This was seconded by Erdmann. Seaman nominated Liectfuss in the role of Secretary, this was seconded by Gimenez. Erdmann made a motion to approve all nominations and elect the officials as stated. Labuda seconded the motion which passed on a voice vote.

The first Financial Report of the year was presented by the City Clerk/Treasurer. Seaman made a motion to receive and place on file the written reports from the City Clerk/Treasurer. Labuda seconded the motion which passed on a voice vote.

The minutes from June 19, 2024 meeting were presented. Erdmann stated she was not present at the meeting but wanted to include the last name of Joni who is listed in the minutes. The person in question is Joni DeRuyter who does some planting and weeding at the Oakwood Cemetery. Seaman made a motion to approve the minutes with DeRuyter's name being added to the minutes. Erdmann seconded the motion which passed on a voice vote.

Erdmann made a motion to remove Agenda item 6 and 7 from the Agenda as they were discussed at the previous meeting with action taken. Gimenez seconded the motion which passed on a voice vote.

Old Business:

- a. Seaman presented on what she learned from local Green Houses and Nurseries regarding Hick's Yew, the agreed upon shrub to build our living fence at the North end of the Cemetery. Bloch's Green House \$75.00 per shrub, McKay's Nursery \$79.00 per Shrub. Stuart's did not respond. Drover stated He and Labuda tried to determine whether it was feasible to plant trees in the area under discussion and they felt as though there is a significant rock shelf at the west end of the area in question. Seaman asked Drover to discuss with Zabel the best course of action to take going forward.
- b. Drover reported on the Chapel Work (ongoing) and Kiosk (completed).
- c. Drover reported all items were updated in Kiosk and ready to remove old Rules/Regs board.
- d. Green Burials were discussed with Gimenez stating Rutkowski would set up the big screen to be able to view the video on green burials. Labuda stated the local Funeral directors he works with are steering away from green burials due to strict regulations with conservation. Gimenez stated she would look further into the Wisconsin rules of Green Burials and Seaman will invite Jim Olson, a funeral director with green burial experience, to our October meeting

e. Drover gave an update on the cemetery truck stating we are still waiting on equipment to be installed and when installed monies would be pulled from the account.

Under New Business, the board discussed the packet Mr. Robert Wendt sent with a request to purchase a specific lawn mower featuring a rear grass discharge. Labuda expressed a concern about grass looking winrowed which was not attractive and could cause staff many hours having to then clean up the rows of grass. The board agreed we are not going to be purchasing a new mower soon due to just having purchased a new mower and therefore, it would give Drover plenty of time to research the next mower when the time to purchase again is closer at hand. Drover will call Mr. Wendt to address his concern.

Also discussed the low hanging branches on the road ways causing cars to have to veer off the drive to go around or the branches hit the tops of the car. Drover stated he would get some of the street crew up to assist with that as time allows. Drover asked if an expenditure for patio pavers could be added to the next agenda. He needs approximately 12 pavers at a cost of approximately \$8.00 per paver.

At 7:18 Erdmann made a motion to adjourn. Seaman seconded the motion which passed on a voice vote.

Midge Seaman, Vice President