

OAKWOOD CEMETERY BOARD MEETING
WEDNESDAY, September 18, 2024 6:00 P.M.
Oakwood Cemetery Chapel

1.) Call to Order: Nancy Gimenez called the September Oakwood Cemetery Board meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Roll Call: Board members present were: Beyer, Blazel, Erdmann, Gimenez, Lichtfuss, and Seaman. Staff in attendance were Sexton Drover. Absent was: LaBuda. There was a Quorum.

2.)General Public Comments: Meeting was open to the public and published that the chapel was not handicapped accessible. There were no public comments.

3.)Financial Report: Financial Report was reviewed. Sexton Drover noted they took the truck to Princeton to get the plow put on. The second half of the \$42,000.00 cost of the truck will be coming due. Gimenez noted that is probably why the balance is currently this high. Gimenez noted that Deruyter has been paid. A motion by Seaman to accept the financial report, second by Blazel. The motion carried by voice vote.

4.)August 21st Meeting Minutes: The minutes from August 21, 2024 were reviewed. A motion by Erdmann to accept the minutes, second by Beyer. The motion carried by voice vote.

5.) Review the 2005 Tree Survey Pack and Discuss. Subject was reviewed at the August 2024 meeting and can be removed from agenda.

6.)Old Business:

- A. **Liability insurance that covers the loss of replacement trees.** Seaman noted that Thiel will need to check into this. Sexton Drover stated that Zabel doesn't think it covers replacement.
- B. **Tree options and prices** - Seaman passed out information from Marty's Blue Sky, noting that most trees would be for next spring. However they did have a couple trees that they would give us a break on yet this fall, Autumn Blaze Maple and River Birch, but no warranty, but later said he's always worked well with the city and would give the cost of the tree towards another. He also suggested using deer repellent. \$75.00 Delivery charge. One thing Marty's said was to avoid Snow Maples as the roots strangle the trees. Seaman also contacted another company out of Markesan - Wisconsin Bare Root Nursery but hasn't been able to talk directly to anyone yet, she had their information on how to order for next year. Sexton Drover noted that Zabel bought a number of trees for the city - Nathan Strong Park and throughout the city to replace lost trees. Erdmann suggested contacting Gene Berlowski on suggestions for types of trees and placement. Gimenez contacted Stuart's Nursery but found they don't have much left in stock. She also contacted Block's and was told they will be having a half off sale this Friday with a good selection of 8-12 foot trees. They deliver but Sexton Drover stated they could

probably pick up too. Erdmann made a motion for Gimenez to purchase 6 trees from Blocks on Friday, second by Seaman. The motion was carried by a voice vote.

- C. Tree Survey:** Gimenez emailed Ranger Services Inc. who did the previous survey and told them what we would like but has not heard back.
- D. Update on green burial preservation:** Seaman is still working on talking directly to Jim Olson, she spoke with his niece, but has not received a reply from Olson. Gimenez stated we could plan on viewing the 45 minute webinar at the October meeting, all were in agreement.
- E. Update on equipment training for zoom meetings:** Rutkowski made a binder with directions on how to use the equipment. Gimenez and Seaman will practice prior to the October meeting in order to view the webinar for the group.

7.)New Business:

A.) Discussion on new mower for cemetery Sexton Drover updated the Board that the mower needs replacing, it's burning oil and has 2000 hours. Sexton Drover fshared a bid from Modern Rental for a new 60" zero turn of which we would pay half and the Council would pay half. Cost is \$14,256.00 so our cost would be approximately \$7,128.00. Gimenez noted this will be added to the October agenda for approval.

B.)General Discussion: Sexton Drover noted they trimmed the trees by the quarry wall. Erdmann asked about the aisle markers as she had difficulty locating the one by Block 18. Sexton Drover explained every block has 2 markers, all double sided, 1" X 6" size. Erdmann passed out information on Potters Field.

C.)Suggestion for next meeting agenda: 1)Budget for November 2024-November 2025, 2) Budget for Flowers for 2025, 3) Approval of New Mower Purchase

8.) Adjourn:Blazel made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Beyer provided the second. The motion was carried by voice vote. Meeting was adjourned at 6:47 P.M. Members were able to tour the chapel following the meeting.

This report is respectfully submitted by Gloria Lichtfuss, Oakwood Cemetery Board Member