

City of Buffalo City – Cemetery Committee Meeting
Wednesday, May 18, 2022, 7:30pm at the Buffalo City Municipal Building and Cemetery

The Cemetery Committee meeting was called to order by Mayor Ben Holien. Also present: Kim Beseler, City Superintendent Stan Meier and City Clerk Jenny Ehlenfeldt.

Committee discussed the columbarium sales. Columbarium was installed in 2020 at a cost of about \$27,000 plus \$20,000 for the cement walkway. So far we have sold 23 columbarium niches for a total of \$25,000. Holien would like us to get an estimate of how much another would cost at this time for future discussion. Holien added that we may need to adjust columbarium rates based on updated costs to construct a new one.

Discussed veteran flag placement at the cemetery. Consensus of committee that vet flags will be placed before Memorial Day and left until after Veteran's Day. Committee will discuss the leaving of flags in for the winter later. Trust to Beautify Graves urns will be going in this week. We still have about 200 urns the city is responsible for purchasing and maintaining through the old trust contracts. These are not offered anymore due to the lack of funds available.

Reviewed plot and burial costs. Discussed hiring out to have graves dug. Committee agrees to keep prices the same for now and continue having city crew dig graves with the help Jeff Duellman for digging full burial graves. Duellman did say his rate may go up this year. Committee agreed a vault storage fee should be charged if the City is requested to store any bodies in the winter months. This fee of \$150 will be added at budget time next year.

Meier will find the historical donation sign that was refurbished a few years ago. Committee would like the sign to be placed on the new shed.

Committee adjourned and reconvened at the cemetery. Dying bushes around the Huebsch Mausoleum were discussed. Meier will trim as much as possible without removing all before Memorial Day. Will look into removing all and planting a different type of bush. Clerk will contact the Huebsch Family to see if they would consider donating.

Discussion on many fake flowers and small trinkets and items placed on several graves in the cemetery that cause mowing issues. The items end up blowing off the graves and mowers mow around leaving long grass in some areas. Friends of the Cemetery have been trying to keep up with picking up the items as much as possible. Committee consensus to keep an eye on the items and if they are getting to be too much of a problem, possibly removing some in the future. Meier will be removing all fake flowers/other items placed in the ground after Memorial Day per policy that is posted throughout the cemetery.

Motion Holien, second Beseler to adjourn. All yes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted for the Cemetery Committee,

Jenny Ehlenfeldt
Clerk/Treasurer