**Budget Subcommittee Minutes: Cemeteries**

October 29, 2021, 5:30 pm. Town Hall Conference Room B

In attendance:

Budget Committee Members: David Tyler and Amber LaTorre attended. Gaye Fedorchak was absent.

Cemetery Trustees: Peter Allen (Chair), Rae Mello-Andrews (Vice Chair) Kristin Snow (Secretary)

Duties of the Trustees:

Maintain 15 Cemeteries and the “Pest House”. The trustees are unpaid but volunteer up to 20-30 hours a week in the summer. They monitor burials to make sure the right person goes in the right spot and do the paperwork related to funerals and burials.

Both Pine Grove and McCoy Cemetery are active but currently Pine Grove is the only Cemetery selling plots (full burial plot $800, cremation $150). To purchase a plot one must be a taxpayer or resident of Gilford. These sales brought in about $10,200 YTD as of 10/05/21. The earnings go into the cemetery fund. That fund can be used for certain purchases including land if needed to expand burial capacity.

Budget Items of Note:

**01-4195-103 CEM-overtime:** This line item shows an increase of $99 or 94.29%. Overtime for seasonal employee and is often needed after days of rain, which impacts getting plots ready.

**01-4195-104 CEM-seasonal wages:** This line item shows an increase of $2,080 or 13.33%. This is to accommodate a pay increase from $15/hour to $17/hour for the PT seasonal Caretaker. This year a DPW employee worked as caretaker for a 6-month period. The Trustees were very happy with this arrangement and hope this same employee will return next year.

**01-4195-121 CEM-social security:** This line item shows a $135 increase of 13.84% increase.

**01-4195-122 CEM-Medicare:** This line item shows a $31 or 13.74% increase.

**01-4195-451 CEM-equipment purchases:** This item shows an increase of $500 or 50%. These funds are used for the purchase of new equipment and maintenance of existing equipment as needed.

**01-4195-559 CEM-special projects:** This line item is recommended by the selectman at $0. The Trustees has requested $17,500 for a new mower. The selectman deleted the $17,500, as the intention is to purchase this year instead. There was a question as to where this money will be reflected in the current year’s budget and looking to confirm at Budget Meeting.

David Tyler made a motion to accept the Board of Selectman’s 2022 budget of $41,708, seconded by Amber LaTorre. The subcommittee unanimously voted to approve the budget and the meeting adjourned at 5:54 pm.

Amber LaTorre