

The Ishpeming Cemetery Board meeting was held on Monday, March 20, 2023, at the Ishpeming City Hall Conference Room. The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Member Piereson.

Staff present: April Holm-DPW, Bill Anderson-DPW General Foreman, and Kaleb Rundman-Assistant Foreman Cemetery Parks. Council Liaison: Councilmember Scanlon was absent.

Present: Dr. Stephen Piereson, Tracy Magnuson and Jim Bertucci, Karen Kasper (4). Absent: Christine Moffat (1).

PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

A motion was made by Member Magnuson, supported by Member Bertucci and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of January 16, 2023 as presented.

COLUMBARIUM UPDATE

Assistant Foreman Rundman presented 1 quote for the new columbarium. We are still waiting on a few more. The quote we received was from Sunburst Memorials the price included freight, foundation, and setting it in place. The cost was \$52,141 and did not include etching. This is significantly more expensive from the Rest In Peace columbarium.

There was a discussion on the increased cost and if purchasing a new columbarium was even an option given the current fee structure. Member Magnuson suggested we table the topic until all quotes have come in and add to the next meeting agenda.

GIS UPDATE

DPW General Foreman gave an update that TriMedia was able to get a portion of the cemetery mapped out. April Holm discussed what the GIS mapping system looked like. Once the system goes live people would be able to go to the City's website and scan a QR code with their phones and put in their loved ones name and the program would be able to give them directions on how to locate where they are buried. The system would also provide birthdates and death dates if the are available. This would be a drastic upgrade to the system that the City is currently using.

CEMETERY REPORT

DPW General Foreman Bill Anderson brought up the topic of a wage increase for our summer part time employees equal to what the part time tube slide employees would receive. He suggested that it was not a good idea because we have not had any issues finding students to work. Also, summer students can work more and have favorable hours versus tube slide employees. The idea of part time students getting a pay increase when DPW is not able to get their contract also was not sitting well with the DPW Union. Member Bertucci agreed with Bill regarding the contract negotiations. The board agreed to leave the wage at \$12 for now and if we need to revisit the topic because of lack of interest to add to the next meeting agenda. Cemetery/Parks Assistant Foreman Kaleb Rundman is hoping to get part time students started May 1st to help get the Cemetery ready for Memorial Day.

Kaleb Rundman also let the board know that he has not been able to get a quote for the fence repair because of all of the snow. Once the snow melts, he will get some quotes.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Member Kasper said that she was going to hold cemetery tours in July & August this year. Also On May 20th the ROTC Program is going to come the Ishpeming Cemetery and wash tombstones of our Veterans starting with those from the Civil War and progressing from there as time allows.

NEXT MEETING DATE AND PLACE

The next meeting will be held May 15, 2023, at Ishpeming City Hall.

ADJOURNMENT

At 3:23 p.m., a motion was made by Member Magnuson with support from Member Kasper to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

April Holm
Recording Secretary