HOPE CEMETERY COMMISSION MEETING

SEPTEMBER 6, 2016

Meeting began: 4:14PM                Meeting ended: 5:17PM

Attendance:

William Wallace – Chairman
Richard Perry – Commission Member
Matthew Curewitz – Commission Member
Nicole Apostola – Commission Member
Robert C Antonelli Jr – Assistant Commissioner
Stephanie Choquette - Staff Assistant II

Last Meeting’s minutes accepted:

Richard Perry – Yes
Matthew Curewitz – Yes
Nicole Apostola - Yes
New Business:

1. Friends of Hope Cemetery: meeting on September 12, 2016. Suggestion would be to invite the new president Jan Parent to A Hope Cemetery Board meeting so that all members could meet with her.

2. Water System: was in use almost a full season but due to water conservation this will cause an earlier shut-off
   a. Old faucets will be replaced with new ones
   b. Some issues in regards to the handles of the faucets, spoken to contractor they will be replaced
   c. The faucets are under warranty if there should be any other issues
   d. The department is responsible for winterizing
   e. Anticipate the final sign off will be in the Fall

3. City of Worcester Diversity Program
   a. Board members will need to attend a diversity class as well as city employees
   b. Training classes will be required

4. Lynda Hixon – Worcester State College (Soldier Book)
   a. Images of America of Hope Cemetery
   b. Will need access to some records
   c. Will contact her in Fall 2017 to proceed for future book

5. Central Mass Striders: would like to know what the procedure would be to set up a running event in the cemetery (on a Saturday); that would involve filling out a park permit and then getting approval from Mr. Antonelli the Assistant Commissioner.

6. Hope Cemetery Staffing: there will be 1 new laborer position being filled in late November.

7. Fiscal Year 16 is now closed and 17 has begun

8. Capital Budget: new backhoe and a pickup truck

9. Master Plan; set up times with participating groups and consultants

Old Business:

1. Nixon Gates: Aqua line Utility will be doing the work
   a. Cost of repairs not including the design approximately 27,000.00
      b. The project is being rewritten by Mr. Antonelli to include the correct mortar (color-consistency)
      c. Archway – more intricate detail work needed

2. Fencing on Webster Street damaged by vehicle on Memorial Day weekend
   a. Going thru the driver’s insurance company / they wanted to replace / city refused that option and wants it redone.

3. The city will be contacting Bartlett on this issue
4. Mausoleums: the remains returned on 9-2-2016
   a. Family- Houghton was notified by the police / cemetery will receive a report at a later date
   b. Grave robber next court appearance will be January 9, 2017
   c. Norcross: Mr. Antonelli notified the family
   d. Friends of Hope Cemetery in the process of getting bids for the repairs of the Norcross Mausoleum

5. The Barn: questioning if Preservation Worcester will be an issue
   a. Mr. Curewitz and Mr. Perry have concerns in regards to its stability
   b. Safety issues for personnel and equipment
   c. Vandalism issues / fire safety etc.

Meeting to adjourn:

Nicole Apostola - yes
Matthew Curewitz -yes
Richard Perry - yes

Meeting ended at: 5:17PM