



HOPE CEMETERY COMMISSION MEETING

Monday February 3, 2025 – 4:00 P.M.
Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Administrative Office
Meeting Room A
50 Officer Manny Familia Way Worcester, MA 01605

Or

If you choose to use the Microsoft Teams platform:

- 1) Go to www.teams.com
- 2) Enter Meeting ID#: 245 463 498 366
- 3) Enter password: 5xj3vz6y

If you choose to attend via phone:

- 1) Call 1-469-998-7682
- 2) Enter Meeting ID#: 688 329 714#

If technological problems interrupt the virtual meeting component, the meeting will continue in-person.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Attendance (Roll Call)
3. Acceptance of Minutes for the January 13, 2025 (Roll Call)
4. To request a reasonable accommodation or interpretation or submit written comments or questions in advance of the meeting, please contact the Hope Cemetery by email at Hopecemetery@worcesterma.gov. Please note that interpretation requests must be received no later than 48 hours in advance of the meeting. Para solicitar una interpretacion razonable, o enviar comentarios o preguntas por escrito por favor comuniquese con la oficina de la Division de Parques, Recreo & Cementerio por correo electronico a Hopecemetery@worcesterma.gov. Por favor note que las solicitudes de interpretacion deberan ser enviadas 48 horas antes de la reunion.

5. Public Participation – Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021 and in order to ensure active, public engagement, the City of Worcester currently allows for both in person and remote participation at the Hope Cemetery Commission meetings. To partake in the “Public Participation” section of this meeting, you may join us directly within the 50 Officer Manny Familia Way Meeting Room A, follow the information above to join via the Microsoft Teams application or dial the direct line as indicated. If you would like to raise your hand when in the meeting as a call-in user, you may dial *5.
 6. Assistant Commissioners Report (See Report Topics Below)
 7. Old Business
 - a. 5 Year Capital Plan Discussion
 - b. Budget Discussion
 - c. Discussion on Barn Project
 - d. Explanation of Perpetual Care & Endowed Lots.
 8. New Business:

Agenda items must be submitted three (3) business days before each Commission Meeting with the subject line “Agenda Item” to Hopecemetery@worcesterma.gov.

 - a. Review of Commissioner Curewitz and Commissioner Faucher request and Commission approval of prioritize Hope Cemetery Capital Infrastructure and Rehab projects for FY2026.
 9. Tabled Items:
 - a. NA
 10. Tentative Date of Next Meeting:
 - March 10, 2025 (New Date)
 - March 24, 2025
 - May 5, 2025
 - June 9, 2025
 8. Meeting Adjourned (Roll Call)
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HOPE CEMETERY COMMISSION **MINUTES**

Monday January 13, 2025 – 4:00 P.M.
Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Administrative Office
Meeting Room A
50 Officer Manny Familia Way Worcester, MA 01605

Or

If you choose to use the Microsoft Teams platform:

- 1) Go to www.teams.com
- 2) Enter Meeting ID#: 291 705 029 245
- 3) Enter password: HC3wg6Bf

If you choose to attend via phone:

- 1) Call 1-469-998-7682
- 2) Enter Meeting ID#: 960 344 286#

If technological problems interrupt the virtual meeting component, the meeting will continue in-person.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order 4:00PM
2. Attendance (Roll Call)

John Deedy – present
Christopher Faucher – present
Andrew Lizotte – present
Idris Fatima – present
Matthew Curewitz - absent
3. Acceptance of Minutes for the September 9, 2024 (Roll Call)
Andrew Lizotte – yes
John Deedy – yes
Christopher Faucher -yes
Idris Fatima - yes
4. To request a reasonable accommodation or interpretation or submit written comments or questions in advance of the meeting, please contact the Hope Cemetery by email at Hopecemetery@worcesterma.gov. Please note that interpretation requests must be received no later than 48 hours in advance of the meeting. Para solicitar una interpretacion razonable, o enviar comentarios o preguntas por escrito por favor comuniquese con la oficina de la Division de Parques, Recreo & Cementerio por correo electronico a Hopecemetery@worcesterma.gov. Por favor note que las solicitudes de interpretacion deberan ser enviadas 48 horas antes de la reunion.

5. Public Participation – Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021 and to ensure active, public engagement, the City of Worcester currently allows for both in person and remote participation at the Hope Cemetery Commission meetings. To partake in the “Public Participation” section of this meeting, you may join us directly within the 50 Officer Manny Familia Way Meeting Room A, follow the information above to join via the Microsoft Teams application or dial the direct line as indicated. If you would like to raise your hand when in the meeting as a call-in user, you may dial *5.

6. Assistant Commissioners Report (See Report Topics Below)

7. Old Business

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8. New Business:

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- a. Request of Commissioner Curewitz and Commissioner Faucher to discuss and prioritize the Hope Cemetery Capital Infrastructure and Rehab projects for FY2026.

- John Deedy seconds the motion to discuss

- Authorize \$2,500,000.00 and borrow \$1,000,000.00 for the review and conceptual design of a new maintenance area as well as construction of a building for the storage of equipment to include but not limited to backhoes, dump trucks and mowers etc.
- Authorize \$2,500,000.00 and borrow \$1,000,000.00 for the cleanup of the old composting area along Hope Avenue.
- Authorize \$1,000,000.00 and borrow \$250,000.00 for the design and construction of a columbarium.

Christopher Faucher stated the barn renovation has been discussed for approximately 15 to 20 years. “It is a major hazard for the personnel and equipment. It is not able to be used for storage or any type of security location for the equipment used in the cemetery.” “It is an eyesore does not compliment the historical value of the cemetery at all.” “I would like for the City Manager and Council to be involved in the discussion of borrowing money in order for the old barn to be removed and a new facility built.” “Would like options in regards

to design and what is actually needed to facilitate the cemetery in present and future needs." "Can anything be salvaged from the old barn, to keep some of the cosmetics of the combination of old and new..."

John Deedy asking, "do we already have a plan or design to move forward?" "a proposed location?" "I am in favor of the compost site to be cleaned out"

Mr. Antonelli Assistant Commissioner stated that the city will need to go to bid, and we will review 3 conceptual designs and move forward after that."

Motion to accept:

John Deedy – yes
Idris Fatima – yes
Andrew Lizotte - yes

9. Tabled Items:
a. NA

10. Tentative Date of Next Meeting:

- February 3, 2025
- March 3, 2025
- March 24, 2025
- May 5, 2025
- June 9, 2025

8. Meeting Adjourned (Roll Call) at 4:30PM

Andrew Lizotte – yes
John Deedy – yes
Idris Fatima - yes

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:

1. Friends Of Hope Cemetery - Christopher Faucher would like to ask FHC if the Hope Cemetery board members could be emailed in regards to upcoming events.? Stephanie will contact Jan Parent in regards to this request.
 - a. Signage
 - b. Cemetery Plantings
 - c. Events
 - d. Sound System
 - e. Mausoleum
2. Genealogical - NA
3. Compost Site - NA
4. Water System - NA
5. Hope Cemetery Records - NA
6. Perpetual Care Fund – City Treasurer - NA
7. Rules and Regulation Changes - NA
8. Lot Sale Fee Changes - NA
9. Interment & Associated Fees - NA
10. Fiscal Year Budget - Update
11. Fiscal Year Capital Budget - Update
12. Donations - NA
13. Monuments and Mausoleums - NA
 - a. Discussion on new cremation burial options
14. Section Development -
 - a. Section 39 Possible Columbarium NA
 - Location – See Master Plan on the City Web Site
 - RFP
 - Design
 - Timeline
15. Building Rehab - Update
 - a. Barn
 - Reports – Submitted by the Friends of Hope Cemetery (2-10-2007)
 - Grants
 - Historical Commission
 - Plans of storage
 - b. Admin
16. Condition of Hope – Update
 - Keeping up with the maintenance in regards to weather conditions; snow, ice, wind (tree branches down)
 - a. Sheriff's Community Outreach Program
17. Hope Cemetery Master Plan Approved by City Council 10-10-17.
 - a. <https://www.worcesterma.gov/parks/hope-cemetery>
18. Misc. -
 - a. Productivity Reports
 - b. Staff: hired a new additional personnel member to work in the Hope Cemetery Administrative Office
 - c. City Council Orders
 - NA
 - d. Articles
 - e. Other

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:

1. Friends Of Hope Cemetery - Update
 - a. Signage
 - b. Cemetery Plantings
 - c. Events
 - d. Sound System
 - e. Mausoleum
2. Genealogical - NA
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