

Meeting Minutes
Cemetery Trustees & DPW Staff
April 18, 2024

The meeting was called to order in the Sunnycrest Conference Room in the Town Hall at 6:01pm.

In attendance:

Cemetery Trustees – Maria Barud (2025), Cara Dunn (2026), & Amy Wheeler (2027)

DPW Staff - Dave Wholley & Denise Manella

Old Business

Future Expansion of Pillsbury Cemetery: Cemetery expansion was on the ballot in March 2024 and passed. This expansion at Pillsbury Cemetery is in an area in the rear left- hand side that will need no additional drainage or clearing. Three roads will have to be constructed, topsoil stripped, area graded and markers placed. The expansion will add 300-350 lots. Expansion is needed because we are running low on plots for sale. We currently have 155 single plots available for sale. After the next expansion takes place, there is room for additional expansion in the future. This will cost more because nothing has been done to the land yet. Bids will be solicited in the Fall for the next expansion.

Fencing at Pillsbury Cemetery: The purpose of this is to continue the white post & rail fencing that is already in existence along Hovey Road. This needs to be done because when the cemetery is closed people are driving around the gate and driving over the grass. This is an area in the cemetery that has plots that have been sold. Maria will check with Karen Pied to see if she has any information. **This will be put on hold.**

Signs for all Cemeteries: The purpose of this project is to make all of the signs uniform at all 7 cemeteries in Londonderry. The design is done. Approvals are needed to put up new signs in town. **This will be put on hold.**

New Business

2024 Plot & Burial Information: There are 155 single plots available for sale in Pillsbury Cemetery. In 2024, we have sold four (4) double plots and 3 single plots. Since the cemeteries opened for burials on April 1, 2024, we have done the following burials:

Glenwood Cemetery:	1 full burial
Pillsbury Cemetery:	5 full burials (as of April 19 th)
Pleasant View Cemetery:	2 full burials

Fee Structure: Cara found that the cost to purchase a plot is significantly higher in surrounding towns. In Derry, a single plot costs \$725 and Nashua is \$1000. An increase in cost may help slow the rate of sales of cemetery plots. Fee structure will be discussed further at our next meeting.

Pre-sales: If we continue pre-sales, in 20 years, all the plots at Pillsbury Cemetery will be sold or used. With pre-sales and our low rates, people are more likely to buy more than they need. This may end up in the graves remaining empty. In Londonderry, we do not buy graves back. If people have graves that they know they won't use, we can help facilitate a deed transfer. Ending pre-sales may keep people from overbuying.

Burial Options: Currently only burial plots are offered in Londonderry. Another option is a columbarium. This is a room or building with niches for funeral urns to be stored. A columbarium can be used to save space. The Cemetery Trustees will research columbarium information.

Future Planning:

- Fee structure.
- Cemetery Expansion.
- Columbarium Information.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:56pm.

The next meeting will take place on Thursday, June 20th at 6pm in the Sunnycrest Conference Room in the Town Hall.