

## **Cemetery Meeting Minutes**

October 8, 2019

**Present:** Lynda Sower Laura Staats, David Hodges

**Absent:** Shane McDonald, Paul Reeves, Joe Borek, Maryann Reeves

### **Old Business:**

Damaged trees in both cemeteries were trimmed and the debris was cleaned up. There was discussion about the old pine tree that had several broken limbs. At the time of the estimate the tree trimmer was asked to leave any tops that still had active growth. It was hoped that the tree would recover, as it had in the past. The other branches were asked to be left at some length that in the future they might be carved to enhance the cemetery. It is noted that all tops were cut out, even those that showed some greenery.

Shane McDonald offered to spray gravestone marker cleaner 'D2' in the Smyrna Cemetery. Unfortunately he was not able to complete that this fall. The Committee will plan on doing the spraying again in the spring.

Joe Borek has done some pushing of the brush into piles at the Smyrna Cemetery, and started to level out the front area. He was awarded the bid to burn the brush for \$900. Once the area is leveled and the brush taken care of the Cemetery Committee will ask that bids be put out for the parking lot at the Smyrna Cemetery. The committee would like to have the parking lot installed in the spring of 2020. Getting bids in before the next budget is set will allow for the Township Board to make the necessary budgetary allowances for 2020, if not we would ask that they take the previous bid received as an estimate for the parking lot cost. That bid was for \$3,380.00.

Regarding the 'dirt pile' in Otisco Cemetery; Lynda will look into seeing about getting it removed or spread out. Again, the dirt pile was not at the request of the Cemetery Committee.

Lynda spoke with the Gravestone Services regarding the failed repair of stones in the Smyrna Cemetery. They said they would try and get to the repair yet this fall. Laura stated that she had been told by the Doty's that the epoxy used does have a minimum temperature when it can be applied and it may now be too cold for the repairs.

Maryann was not present at the meeting could not report on the reply from Tony and Mary Porter to see if they might have an interest in selling the approximately 1.2 acres on the south side of the Otisco Cemetery for its future expansion.

### **New Business:**

Laura asked Lynda to please let the Committee know the balance in the Cemetery Account. With the remaining funds they would like to have some Ribbon foundations placed in the Otisco Cemetery under some of the older stones that may not have any foundation, or small or tipped foundations.

Lynda reported that the Community Services workers are still doing a walk through in both cemeteries, so no fall clean-up is required.

**Next Meeting: March 17, 2020 @ 9:00 am Township Hall**

Respectfully submitted,  
Laura J Staats