

Evergreen Cemetery Commission/Public Works Committee Meeting Minutes June 27, 2018, 4:00pm

Present: Susan Nazian, Deliaaree Lann, Scott Coleman, Peggy Johnson, Annie Reid, Carlos Williams, Angela Douglas, Stephanie Jackson and Carla Roof.

Absent: Tasheika Carter-Fourney, Sylvia Young (Clerk)

Meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm and prayer by Councilman Carlos Williams

New Business: Ms. Nazian of Evergreen Commission addressed previous complaints from Commission with Public Works Committee. These complaints were: roads fixed, cameras for vandalism, fallen officer's tombstones in cemetery, stop signs, eyesore and grass cutting. Other needs discussed were: upgrade of mowers, two controlled gates, plotting software for burial location, revised cemetery map, screening fence between the compost site and cemetery, revised city ordinance for the cemetery.

Councilman Williams gave background on the Public Works Committee's plan and one previous lawn care services. Mr. McBeth had met with Council and stated that he could handle the grass cutting and maintenance of the cemetery, however resignations, illnesses, etc. took place causing the grass cutting to get behind. A crisis plan has been implemented by City Administrator Jackson to help the Public Works Department.

Evergreen Funds – Councilwoman Douglas stated this Committee and Council is committed to fixing this issue and that the community is actively served.

Perpetual Care Fee – Committee discussed having perpetual care that allows people to donate to the funding. Mrs. Jackson, Administrator, shared a certificate of plot ownership to show that the form includes a requirement to pay an annual perpetual care cost.

Ms. Nazian discussed things that had been done in the past and what has been approved by Commission and Council.

Discussion took place to consider an increase in cost for plots. Mrs. Jackson shared costs for plots in surrounding areas. The City of Chester's plots are considerably lower.

As of June 22, 2018, the balance in the cemetery fund was \$12,607.45. The amount of the CD was \$80,300.35. the amount allocated through the collection of the one cent sales tax is \$15,000.00.

A question was raised concerning a \$7,000.00+ expenditure from the cemetery fund used to purchase lawn mowers and weed eaters. The recommendation was made to full Council at the February 2018 meeting.

The current cost of a plot in the Evergreen Cemetery is \$660.00 for City residents and \$1,100.00 for non-city residents.

Discussion whether or not there is any interest in using the monies from the Cemetery funds to help with either contracting grass cutting services or paying for a temp service. Mrs. Jackson shared information pertaining to the temp service with whom she and Mrs. Roof met with (Career Match). Councilwoman Douglas reported to the Cemetery Commission the temp service information that Mrs. Jackson shared in Public Works Meeting with the Commission.

Commission discussed and decided that the next meeting date will be Wednesday, July 11, 2018 at 5:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Carla Roof