TOWN OF EAST HADDAM
Cemetery Committee
Special Meeting Minutes
March 6, 2025
Municipal Office Building, Meeting room 3
Via Zoom and YouTube Live

In attendance:
Cemetery Committee Members:

Karl Stofko, Chairman
Crary Brownell, Vice Chairman
Alison Guinness
Debra Denette, Secretary

Call to Order

Dr. Stofko called the Special Cemetery Committee meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Mount Parnassus Cemetery

Mrs. Denette advised that in November the Committee set its budget, putting in funding for survey work and an appraisal at Mount Parnassus Cemetery with the hope that we could expand the site if the abutting property owners are willing, which it has been relayed that they were. During the budget presentation, Mrs. Denette and Dr. Stofko were advised that an appraisal of the property had already been completed and the bill was awaiting payment. Apparently the First Selectman directed the Land Use Officer to "get it done". Unfortunately, that information was not communicated to the Cemetery Committee by either the First Selectman or the Land Use Officer.

The appraisal presented two options, one to purchase a 2-acre parcel with a 50' access strip, the second with a 4.5 acre parcel with the same 50' access strip. The committee was in favor of pursuing the larger piece.

The Committee expressed its disappointment that although it was in favor of the action taken, that it was completely left out of the process. That said, work was done and the bill needs to be paid. The Committee has further been advised that the Selectmen forwarded its budget on to the Board of Finance, with funding for an appraisal that will need to be paid from the 2024/2025 budget.

Mrs. Denette noted that the Committee has $2,000 that it offered up in costs associated with its grant application for tree removal at Bashan. If the grant is not approved, those funds could be

utilized to pay for the appraisal. If the grant application is successful, funding would need to come from its capital budget.

Motion by Deb Denette, seconded by Crary Brownell to authorize payment of the bill from Flanagan Associates for an appraisal done on the East Side of the Mount Parnassus Cemetery in the amount of $2,200. The motion carried unanimously.

The Committee also voted unanimously upon a motion made by Deb Denette, and seconded by Alison. Guinness to pursue the 4.8 parcel for cemetery expansion. The motion carried unanimously.

It was noted that the Committee will hold its regular meeting as scheduled on March 20, 2025.

The meeting adjourned at 7:12 pm upon a motion made by Mrs. Guinness, seconded by Mr. Brownell and carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Deb Denette