

**MEETING MINUTES FOR THE
NORWICH CEMETERY COMMISSION
October 24, 2024**

Members present:, Dan Goulet, Scooter Hardy, Emily Myers, Bonnie Munday, Ellen Terie.
Guests present: Fred Smith and Judy Trussell

1. The Norwich Cemetery Commission meeting was called to order at 4:02 p.m in Norwich Congregational Church Library.

2. Removal of elm tree at Fairview Cemetery: Fred Smith notified the Commission of an elm tree at Fairview cemetery that needs to be removed. The tree is on the fence line, hanging over the side walk and needs to be removed before it causes harm to pedestrians and/or the cemetery. The Commission received three quotes for the tree removal and voted unanimously to award the contract to Tracy Burns. The tree will be removed as soon as possible.

3. Tree Removal at New Boston Cemetery: The Commission put a hold on removing the trees around the perimeter of New Boston Cemetery to ensure that funds were available for this job and the Fairview tree removal. After financial review, the Commission understood that funds are available for both projects and the Commission voted unanimously to continue with this project to occur as soon as possible.

4. Any Other Business:

- Two Trees Removed at Hillside. The Commission wants to thank Pete Blake for doing a fantastic job removing two evergreen trees in Hillside Cemetery that are uprooting and blocking headstones.

- The Commission will ask the town for \$5,000 more appropriations in 2025 to help over the cost of tree removal and lawn care. Bonnie will write the petition and the commission will all get signatures.

- Fred Smith, the Norwich Cemetery Commission Sexton, attended the meeting to let the Commission know he intends to step down in November. He will continue to be responsible for the grave burials but all handover all Sexton duties back to the Commission. The Commission will fill-in with the Sexton duties until a replacement Sexton can be hired. The Commission wants to publicly thank Fred for his years of service to our town and our cemeteries. He has been the linchpin to ensuring our cemeteries are well maintained and looked after. His unspoken devotion to the bereaved families and respect for those that rest in peace in our cemeteries is unmeasured beyond words. Thank you Fred for your dedication and handwork all of these years.

5. The meeting is expected to be early Dec.

Respectfully submitted,
Emily P. Myers, Cemetery Commission member