

# ANNUAL CEMETERY COMMITTEE MEETING

10/19/2023

## TOWN OFFICE

### Report to the Town Manager

1. The committee held meetings, April thru September, with the exception of August due to Celebration of the Town's 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. All the town owned cemeteries were visited and inspected.
2. A Cemetery Tour of the Old Burying Ground featuring "Notable Military Veterans" was held. The tour was cosponsored by the Jaffrey Historical Society and the Cemetery Committee. Due to rain the event was held indoors at the Meeting House. There were approximately 35 people in attendance. (Cathy Proulx, Charlie Turcotte and Karen Ayers did the research and narratives.
3. Cemetery plantings at Conant Flag Pole area were trimmed back and other unwanted growths were removed by Cathy and Joel Proulx.
4. Gravestone Restoration of New England repaired 13 tablet style markers located at the OBG and Village Cemeteries. The repairs were recommended by the committee and approved by Director of Public Works and the Town Manager. The cost of repairs \$3,705.00 and was funded by the Cemetery Tree Trust Fund.
5. A large maple tree on Blackberry Lane, adjacent to the Willa Cather's grave was removed at a cost of \$3,500.00. Tree removal was done by Potter Tree service. The tree was very diseased and hanging over the Cather grave site. The removal was recommended by the committee and approved by the DPW Director. The cost of removal was funded by the Willa Cather Trust Fund.
6. The Small Pox Cemetery trail was blocked by a 10" diameter tree that fell from the adjacent property. The property owner was notified and he removed the tree.
7. The Cemetery Committee, for the first time, joined in the placing of the cemetery flags for our Military Veteran's. The placing was organized by the Town Manager. Volunteers from the Cemetery Committee, VFW and the American Legion placed over 800 flags into the military flag holders throughout the Jaffrey cemeteries.
8. Mowing of Cemeteries by Griffin Property Management continues. At the meeting it was decided that the flags would be picked up on Saturday November 12<sup>th</sup> and given to the American Legion to properly dispose of them.
9. In September a work session was held at the OBG. Four grave stone were cleaned by Jeannelle Moore and Jan Weekes, while seven tablet were straitened. Also 3 flat foot stone markers were cleared of grass over growth.
10. The Warrant Articles for 2023 pertaining to Grave Stone Restoration and Cemetery Tree Funds were recommended to be the same as last year, namely \$1,000.00 and \$5,000.00 respectively.
11. Cemetery Statistics for 2023 Annual Report will be needed for the Town Report.
12. Charlie Turcotte was elected the Cemetery Committee Chair for 2024. This is the final report for 2023.

The Meeting was adjourned at 4:45.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlie Turcotte