

**WHITEFISH AD HOC CEMETERY COMMITTEE  
COUNCIL CONFERENCE ROOM  
WEDNESDAY APRIL 22, 2015**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Necile called the meeting to order. Members present were Bonnie Leahy, Charlie Abell, Steve Thompson, Ole Netteberg, and Vanice Woodbeck. City Manager Chuck Stearns was in attendance and Nina Laird attended at 2:45 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2014 MINUTES**

**Steve made a motion, seconded by Charlie, to approve the September 17, 2014 minutes. The motion passed unanimously.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

**COMMITTEE OR STAFF REPORTS & COMMENTS**

Necile said she has never heard from anyone from the Forest Service on the property west of town that the committee had visited. Necile said she is not comfortable about having the cemetery so far out of town as she is worried about vandalism.

Necile talked about the memorial wall that was purchased by her and donated to the city. She said the plaques will just have their name and dates on them. Necile said they had received a lot of comments over the years on having a memorial wall installed so she felt this would meet that need.

**RESOLUTION 13-02-AD HOC CEMETERY COMMITTEE, RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL**

Necile said that Resolution 13-02 states that: The general purpose of the Committee shall be for evaluating and developing additional services, utilizing the present location, identification of possible new sites close to the City, procuring property for use as a new public City cemetery and preparing a report of the Committee's recommendations to the City Council.

Ole said he would like to recommend the property at the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Charlie asked City Manager Stearns if more perk testing had been done on the property. City Manager Stearns said they did do four more spots with two of them were dry and two were wet but they felt the two wet ones were because there was a swell in the area. Stearns also said Public Works is working on a drainage system at the plant that will run from Monegan Road to the river and if French tiles were installed at the cemetery site they could connect into the new drainage system.

**Ole made a motion, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Charlie, to recommend to the council to pursue the site at the Treatment Plant on Monegan Road for future development for a cemetery and start the process of designing a cemetery. The motion passed on a 4 to 1 vote with Bonnie voting in opposition.**

Charlie would like to see the committee continue so they can keep looking for property. Necile said they could turn this over to the Real Estate Committee. Bonnie said she is very concerned about contamination to the river, the smell from the plant and also the size of the area because they were looking for something bigger. She also said we did hear from some of the neighbors who were really opposed this spot for a cemetery.

**Ole made a motion, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Steve, to recommend to the City Council to continue the Ad Hoc Cemetery Committee. The motion failed with a 2 to 2 vote with Bonnie abstaining. Charlie and Ole voted yes and Necile and Steve voted no.**

Necile said that when she talked to Bruce Boody a few years ago about a cost for doing a site plan for a new cemetery he estimated around \$20,000. She said there is nothing in the budget this year but they could ask the council to budget for it in the 2016-2017 budget for \$20,000 for a site plan.

**Ole made a motion, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Charlie, to withdraw the 1<sup>st</sup> motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Steve made a motion, seconded by Ole, to recommend to the Council that they earmark the property on the south side of the Sewer Treatment Plant for a cemetery, to set aside \$20,000 in the budget of 2016-2017 for a site design for a cemetery and continue the committee until June 30, 2016 so they could keep looking for other possibilities. The motion passed unanimously.**

Necile said she would have City Manager Stearns put the Ad Hoc Cemetery Committee report on the agenda for May 18, 2015. She said it would be at the beginning of the meeting and encouraged committee members to attend if they can. She will prepare the report with the recommendations from the committee for the Council.

#### **ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.