

**WHITEFISH AD HOC CEMETERY COMMITTEE
COUNCIL CONFERENCE ROOM
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2016, 3:00 TO 4:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

Necile called the meeting to order. Members present were Bonnie Leahy, Charlie Abell, Steve Thompson and Nina Laird. City Manager Chuck Stearns was in attendance. Member Ole Netteberg and Recording Secretary Vanice Woodbeck were absent.

APPROVAL OF APRIL 22, 2015 MINUTES

Steve corrected the minutes for his motion, the last motion on the second page, to replace “earmark the property” with “recommend to the Council that they earmark the property”. Bonnie made a motion, second by Charlie, to approve the minutes as corrected. The motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

COMMITTEE OR STAFF REPORTS & COMMENTS

Charlie Abell asked if any more perc tests had been done on the City property off Monegan Road, and no new tests have been done.

Regarding Bonnie’s comments that were included in the packet about the number of people on a waiting list for cemetery plots; and if any more plots could be added to the current cemetery; City Clerk Lorang said she knew of a short list of people waiting for Cemetery plots; but the reason for planning a new cemetery is because it should be for Whitefish for the next 50 to 100 years, not just a current waiting list. Regarding Bonnie’s second comment; Lorang said the Committee, early in its research, did go out to the cemetery and considered if adding plots were a possibility; and it really isn’t. Spaces between rows and around the perimeter is needed for maintenance. In addition, in the last couple years the City has installed underground sprinkling so now there are buried waterlines between many of those rows.

Charlie said he and his wife own 8 acres on Dipsy Doodle Lane that they would consider selling to the City on a payment – over – time plan. There was discussion about other land considered off of Haskill Basin Road but found that the water table was high. City Manager Stearns said the City is not in the position to purchase additional land at this time. No action taken.

Bonnie referred to the Whitefish Cemetery Site Investigation Report done by Applied Water Consulting LLC dated August 6, 2012; and on page 25 she read from the last paragraph of Section 4.2 River Site; the report reads: “It appears the groundwater discharges into the Whitefish River”. Bonnie said she still has many reservations about a cemetery at that site with this report in mind.

City Clerk Lorang brought in the minutes from the Council’s meetings of May 18, 2015 and June 1, 2015 meetings when the Cemetery Committee had given their report of recommendations to the Council, and where the Council extended the ad hoc committee to 6-30-16; and a public hearing was held on June 15, 2016 when the Council last considered the Committee’s recommendations. At the public hearing after hearing public testimony; the Council approved a motion directing the Real Estate Committee to consider

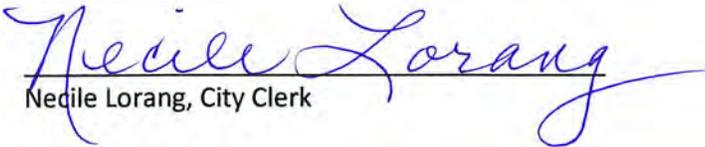
the need if they learn about new properties that would be appropriate for cemetery development and consider it during their deliberations; and to set aside \$20,000 in the Cemetery Fund in the FY17 Budget to further explore development and or alternatives.

City Clerk Lorang will be retiring March 11, 2016. The Committee agreed to contact either Michelle Howke or Vanice Woodbeck in the City Clerk's Office if any of them have a new idea or hear of a new piece of property that could be considered for cemetery development, so that the Committee could be called together for another meeting. In addition, City Manager Stearns and Mayor Muhlfeld both serve on the Real Estate Committee, either of them could be contacted with new information as well.

ADJOURN

Members of the Committee and City Clerk Lorang thanked each other for each of their time and service to this Committee. The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:


Nedile Lorang, City Clerk