

**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
HIGHLAND CEMETERY BOARD  
JULY 11, 2012**

The Chairman, Chris Elledge, called the Regular Meeting of the Highland Cemetery Board to order at 3:00 p.m., Wednesday, July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at the Highland Cemetery Office. Notice of the meeting and agenda were posted on the City Hall bulletin board as required by State Law.

**ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Chris Elledge, Raymond Jackson, and Robert Williams.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Kim Shahan, Parks & Recreation Director  
Gerald Catlett, Parks and Grounds Administrator  
Azalee McGahee, Cemetery Sexton  
Debbie Griswold, Recording Secretary

**WELCOME VISITORS:** None

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**CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL CALLED MEETING OF February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2012.** Elledge asked for consideration of the minutes of the Special Called Meeting of February 22<sup>nd</sup> 2012, and they were approved as written.

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**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:** None.

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**NEW BUSINESS ITEMS:** None

**DISCUSSION ITEMS: DISCUSS THE POSSIBILITY OF CHARGING A YEARLY FEE FOR ANY SPECIAL SERVICES, I.E.; SPRINKLERS ADDED BY OTHERS (A FEE FOR WATER), SPECIAL MOWING, FERTILIZING, ETC.**

Elledge introduced this item for discussion and asked the members for their discussion on this item.

Elledge requested Catlett provide background information on this item.

Catlett stated he had been contacted by Mr. Eddie Hamra regarding specialized services such as sprinklers and additional upkeep on gravesites.

**Catlett** asked if this was something the board would want to pursue, adding sprinkler systems and charging an annual fee.

**Elledge** asked about the cost of the water.

**Shahan** stated we don't pay for water at the cemetery.

**Williams** inquired about the fees charged for the perpetual care lots.

**Catlett** stated that the cost was included in the Perpetual Care Fee

**Elledge** stated he was against this idea if the cemetery doesn't make a profit. He stated previously we had accounting run a cost on this service and we were not making any money.

**Shahan** voiced concerns about the amount of labor involved and would this require an additional employee.

**Elledge** stated the participation from individuals mowing and maintaining their lots has drastically reduced.

**Catlett** stated he had concerns about manpower and equipment for this type of project.

**Williams** inquired about how to monitor the amount of water used, would there be a meter installed.

**Catlett** suggested the cemetery staff monitor the usage and require sprinkler controllers and set an annual rate along with a yearly agreement.

**Elledge** asked about the cost of installing controllers and also asked if there had been any interest in this type of service before Mr. Hamra called.

**McGahee** stated we currently have six families caring for their own lots, excluding Mr. Hamra.

**Jackson** stated he is only aware of this one request for specialized service.

**Shahan** inquired about Mr. Hamra installing his own system and asked if Mr. Hamra was interested in a maintenance plan. Shahan also asked McGahee for his input from a supervisor's standpoint.

**McGahee** stated it is nearly impossible to limit the watering to just one single area, surrounding areas would also get watered and therefore those areas would also require additional mowing and trimming which would be done at no charge unless those lots were also under a maintenance plan.

**Elledge** stated he doesn't see this type of project getting much recognition to warrant going

forward with any plans at this time.

**Williams** suggested getting the media involved and running a story on the news.

**Elledge** stated we needed to get the costs of the project before taking to the media.

**Catlett** stated he would work up a cost estimate.

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#### **COMMENTS/DISCUSSION/ADJOURNMENT**

There were no other comments or discussion and the meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,  
CHRIS ELLEDGE, CHAIRMAN  
HIGHLAND CEMETERY BOARD

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