

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
SANDUSKY CEMETERY BOARD  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 2016 AT 4:00 P.M.  
IN THE CHAPEL AT OAKLAND CEMETERY  
SANDUSKY, OHIO**

**PRESENT:**

Members: Chairman Darden, Harrison Smith, Matt Leser, Andy Martin, new member Steve Toft and Secretary Kevin Zeiher. Linda O'Malley was absent.

Also present was City Commission Liaison Member Dave Waddington, City Treasurer Hank Solowiej, Cemetery Manager Dan Hedberg.

The meeting was called to order at 4:02 P.M. by Chairman Darden.

**MINUTES OF THE  
PREVIOUS MEETING:**

The minutes of the January 27, 2016 meeting had been circulated and were approved as submitted on a motion made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Martin. Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

The December 31, 2016 financial report was presented by City Treasurer Hank Solowiej. Mr. Solowiej reported that income for the quarter was up over last year due to higher sales and the increased burial rates. Expenses were about the same as last year and the Endowment was at \$650,000 down approximately 6½ % over last year due to spending over the past year. Upon Motion made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Toft the report was accepted and will be placed on file and if any members have questions they can contact Mr. Solowiej. Motion accepted.

**CEMETERY MANAGER'S  
REPORT:**

Cemetery Manager Dan Hedberg welcomed Steve Toft to the board who had replaced David

Waddington who had been reelected to the City Commission. Mr. Toft operates Toft Funeral Home and Crematorium and his knowledge of the business of funerals will be very helpful to the board.

Mr. Hedberg reported that work on graves and foundations were continuing, however due to the wet spring the work was going very slowly. The grass at the cemetery however has been growing necessitating daily mowing.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Mr. Hedberg reported that his full time employees will be off for an extended period of time due to scheduled back surgery. Mr. Hedberg will also be off for surgery on his right elbow as well but he is hopeful that with the seasonal help he will be able to cover the office and do some work that does not aggravate his condition the needed work will be accomplished.

The Forestry Department has been at the cemetery removing dead trees and trimming trees at least 1 to 2 times per week providing 8-14 hours of work.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Mr. Hedberg reported that weekend and holiday burials are done but sat a very high cost to the cemetery and he recommended that those fees be increased from \$220 and \$330 to at least \$300 and \$400. After some discussion the matter will be tabled and brought back to the board at the next meeting with a firm recommendation with a cost analysis to substantiate the charge.

Mr. Hedberg reported that there will be seven (6) seasonal workers at the cemetery including one care person. There will be six (6) workers weed whipping and mowing to keep up with the grass and weeds.

Mr. Smith asked the board to consider having the Cemetery waive charges for opening, closing and the cost of grave spaces to Sandusky families' who have lost an infant or a child up to age 16 years. Mr. Leser voiced his support for the proposal. Mr. Toft was asked how many funerals of this type his business had handled in the past year and he said approximately six (6) infants and that his business would donate their services and only charge the family would have is for

the grave space. Mr. Hedberg stated that the cemetery would provide an infant space (4'x5') at no cost and only charge for the opening and closing.

Upon motion by Mr. Smith seconded by Mr. Leser Mr. Zeiher was directed to submit this proposal to the City Commission for its consideration. Mr. Hedberg will provide the board with a cost analysis for the next meeting. Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to come before the Board, and upon motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Toft, the meeting was adjourned at 4:45 P.M.

The next meeting of the Sandusky Cemetery Board will be held **Wednesday, July 27, 2016 at 4:00 P.M.**, at the Chapel at Oakland Cemetery.

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**Kevin J. Zeiher, Secretary**