

## **Meeting Minutes**

### **City of Newnan Farmer Street Cemetery Commission Monday, January 8, 2024 6:00 pm – Newnan City Hall**

Members: Jocelyn Palmer, Alison O'Rourke, John Pulicare, Cynthia Finney

Staff: Hasco Craver

Guests: None

1. The meeting was called to order by Jocelyn Palmer at 6:02pm.
2. Cynthia Finney made a motion to accept the November 6, 2023 meeting minutes. Alison O'Rourke seconded the motion. The motion carried.
3. Continuing Business
  - a. Hasco Craver shared a copy of a letter written by the City Attorney's office and sent to Ms. Leslie Kay Minix and Mr. Kirk Avery, dated December 5, 2023, and related to the aforementioned having improvements (fence) located on cemetery property. The letter requests that the improvements be removed within 90 days. The letter states that if the improvements are not removed, the City will remove portions of the improvements that encroach on to the cemetery and place them onto each owner's respective property. Hasco Craver mentioned that this letter is a second attempt and having the improvements removed. Hasco Craver mentioned that he would keep the commission up to date on the progress of the owners' actions.
  - b. Hasco Craver mentioned that he was able to locate the owner of 60 Cole Street and the adjacent lot, both of which are adjoining the cemetery. Hasco Craver mentioned that he has had two conversations with the property owner, Gatekeeper, LLC/Brett Vincent to make him aware of the City's work at the cemetery, including the potential location of burial sites on the subject property. Hasco Craver mentioned that he provided the owner with historic and current reports, both of which provide details related to the location of burial sites at the cemetery. Hasco Craver mentioned that the owner mentioned that he purchased the property as an investment and hoped to see the property developed over time. Mr. Vincent did not mention any particular type of future desired development. Hasco Craver mentioned that his conversation with Mr. Vincent included a preliminary discussion related to the City's desire to further investigate the property for the potential location of additional burial sites. In addition, Hasco Craver mentioned that he expressed to Mr. Vincent that the City may have an interest in acquiring some or all of the properties in an effort to protect and preserve the cemetery. Mr. Vincent mentioned his desire to engage professional representation to support his interests. Hasco Craver mentioned that he welcomed the idea of engaging professionals to support any future transaction. Hasco

Craver asked the commission if they preferred to see the City acquire both properties in full or in part. The commission discussed the opportunities and challenges present in both scenarios. John Pulicare made a motion to recommend to the Newnan City Council that the City pursue purchasing, in full, both properties to make certain that the cemetery were protected from any future development. Alison O'Rourke seconded the motion. The motion carried. Hasco Craver mentioned that he would draft a letter for the commission's review, approval and submittal to the Newnan City Council.

- c. Hasco Craver shared a copy of the Phase II scoping document from POND and Company, which provided details related to the work to be completed as part of the next phase of design. More specifically, Hasco Craver mentioned that POND and Company will work to validate the current design concept, including incorporating City Council comments, then work to produce a set of Design Documents that are 60% complete. POND and Company will also engage New South Associates during this phase to begin discussing appropriate signage and cemetery interpretation. Hasco Craver mentioned that Phase II should take eight to nine weeks to complete.
4. New Business
    - a. None
  5. The meeting was adjourned at 7:01pm.

**Next Meeting:  
February 5, 2024  
6:00pm  
Newnan City Hall**