

Trustees of the Trust Funds
Minutes of the October 10th, 2022 Meeting

Meeting Location: New Ipswich Town Office, 661 Turnpike Road, New Ipswich

Meeting Date: October 10, 2022

Attendees: Bentti Hoiska, Jim Coffey, and Robert Zinsmeister

Meeting was called to order at 9:50 a.m.

Old Business:

The minutes of our September 26th meeting were read. Bentti recommended an addition and suggested several punctuation and capitalization changes. It was moved that the minutes would be approved following update. It was so seconded and voted in the affirmative.

It was agreed that a previous discussion related to our proposed budget consisting of the usual stipends and training and travel expenses would stand as our formal submission.

New Business:

We continued our task of looking into the origins and purposes of various “mystery” funds.

Work by Jim and Bentti revealed that the New Ipswich Cemetery Fund was created in 1956. This is based on article 15 of the 1956 Town Warrant that established it and the associated costs of burial lots. The 1957 Annual Town Report shows the fund with no initial balance. Additionally, article 5 of the Town Warrant of 1997 authorized the BOS to accept gifts and establish trust funds for the care and maintenance of town cemeteries.

Research showed that the B. Smith Cemetery Fund was created ca. 1890. It was initiated by a legacy donation from Betsy S. Smith for the purpose of maintaining the town cemeteries. The 1895 Town Annual Report listed an addition of interest from the preceding year.

Bentti presented a formula that might justify the use monies from the cemetery Perpetual Care Funds for general expenses like mowing. This amounts to calculating the portions of the total cost that could be attributed to specific graves and be paid accordingly. Such a plan would require approval of the Attorney General.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.