

SALEM MUNICIPAL SERVICES

Roy E. Sorenson - *Director*

ENGINEERING ♦ PUBLIC WORKS ♦ UTILITIES



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MEMORANDUM

Date: July 28, 2016

To: Board of Selectmen

From: Roy E. Sorenson

Municipal Services Director

Thru: Leon Goodwin

Town Manager

RE: Pine Grove Cemetery

Background:

As you know Pine Grove Cemetery is our largest main cemetery accepting new burials and cremations. I have prepared a presentation to illustrate and discuss the steps warranted to ensure sustainability of the cemetery notwithstanding the feasibility of expansion.

In August 2015 it was brought to the attention of the BOS that the cemetery was running out of space and the Town should look at alternative methods for burials/cremations currently not applicable to the existing model. It was noted that there is section of available cleared land that cannot be utilized due to ledge that limits excavation. Because of that there was a recommendation and presentation by both Town staff and a consultant that the installation of crypts should be considered for future expansion.

I would like to revisit that discussion moreover speak to some necessary steps that should be considered so that Pine Grove Cemetery remains viable now and well into the future. There are many aspects to the cemetery that need to be reviewed and it is my recommendation that we move towards creating a Master Plan. In doing so we would procure a planning firm to establish what we have, what we need, and prioritize that which will be most beneficial to our current challenges.

I am available to answer questions and look forward to meeting with you.

Sincerely,

Roy E. Sorenson

