



TOWN OF GRANBY

MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 31, 2024

TO: The Granby Board of Selectmen

FROM: Mike Walsh, Town Manager

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Walsh".

REGARDING: Cemetery Rights/Transfer Relinquishment Request

Attached please find a memo from Community Development Director Abby Kenyon explaining the background related to a recent request we've received from the Town of Suffield.

Basically, an ancient cemetery (.65 acres) dating back to 1788 was deeded to Suffield and Granby. In order for the Town of Suffield to allow a local group called the Mountain Burying Ground Association to better maintain the cemetery, transfer of Suffield's and Granby's burial rights should be made.

I am in support of the request and Abby's memo outlines the issue in more detail. We have also communicated with Town Attorney Rich Roberts on the request and he sees no issues. With the 8-24 hearing results back from P and Z, the following proposed motion is presented to the BOS for approval.

Proposed Motion

I move that the Board of Selectmen relinquish its rights/transfer its interests in the cemetery on Phelps Road in Suffield, located between 3453 and 3493 Phelps Road, which was deeded to Suffield by Elijah Phelps in 1788 for the purposes of providing burial plots to inhabitants of Suffield & North Granby. And to further authorize the Town Manager to execute any documents necessary to fully effectuate this transaction.

If you have any questions on the aforementioned, I will be on hand at your next meeting to answer any questions. Thank you.



TOWN OF GRANBY

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 6, 2025

TO: The Granby Board of Selectmen

FROM: Abby Kenyon, Director of Community Development

REGARDING: CGS 8-24 Referral Report from the Planning and Zoning Commission, Phelps Road Cemetery Property, Suffield

Background

The Town of Suffield owns a cemetery on Phelps Road (located between 3453 and 3493 Phelps Road), which was deeded to Suffield in 1788. The deed states, "To Inhabitants of Suffield & Granby from Elijah Phelps" and later in the deed, it states that the "burying place" is for the inhabitants of the north part of Granby in addition to the inhabitants of the west part of Suffield. The Mountain Burying Ground Association owns a parcel adjacent to this cemetery and helps maintain the cemetery. The Association contacted the Town of Suffield and asked if Suffield would be willing to deed the property to them. The property that would be deeded to the Association is about .65 acres (see map on the following page). In reviewing this request, the Suffield Town Attorney advised that action would be needed from the Town of Granby to relinquish our interest in the property because of the language in the deed.

The Granby Town Attorney has been consulted and advised that this request should be referred to the Planning and Zoning Commission under Connecticut General Statutes Section 8-24, which requires a report from the Commission prior to the abandonment of any municipally owned property. The Board referred this item to the Commission in November.

The Commission considered this referral at the meeting on December 10th. The Commission did not have any objections to the Board of Selectmen relinquishing rights in the Phelps Road Cemetery property.

Next Steps

The Board of Selectmen is asked to consider the request by the Town of Suffield to relinquish rights in the Phelps Road Cemetery property so the property may be deeded to the Mountain Burying Ground Association.





TOWN OF GRANBY

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 6, 2025

TO: The Granby Board of Selectmen
FROM: Kirk Severance, Director of Public Works
REGARDING: Neglected Cemetery Account Grant Program

Background

In 2023, the Town received a Notice of Grant Award in the amount of \$5,000 for the Neglected Cemetery Account Grant. At its meeting in April 2023, the Board authorized the First Selectman to enter into and execute any and all agreements, contracts and documents necessary for the grant award.

Work under the grant has been completed and Town Manager Mike Walsh recently signed off on the grant reimbursement paperwork, which was then submitted to the State.

Following submission, staff was notified by the State that a new resolution is required showing that the new authorized signer for this grant award is Mike Walsh, the Town Manager.

The following motion is offered for consideration:

PROPOSED MOTION

The Board of Selectmen hereby authorize the Town Manager, Michael P. Walsh, to enter into and execute any and all agreements, contracts and documents necessary for the 2023 Neglected Cemetery Account Grant Program.