



CITY OF ELOY

PUBLIC NOTICE
ELOY CEMETERY COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, March 2, 2021, 5:30 PM
Eloy City Council Chambers
595 North C Street
Eloy, Arizona 85131

AGENDA

I. Call to Order

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

IV. Appearances from the Floor

Individuals wishing to **ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE** may do so by signing in on a form provided by the Committee Secretary, identifying the topic(s) or agenda item(s). **ACTION** taken as a result of public comment regarding non agenda items will be limited to directing staff to study the matter or rescheduling the matter for further consideration and decision at a later date. During an open session, the Committee shall not hear personal complaints against City personnel or a person connected with the City. **TIME LIMIT FOR SPEAKERS WILL BE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON.**

V. Director's Report:

- A. Burials and Work Orders
Cemetery Maintenance

VI. Business: Possible Discussion and/or Action on the Following:

- A. Approval of Minutes: October 27, 2020
- B. Appointment of a member to serve as Chairperson for 2021
- C. Appointment of a member to serve as Vice-Chairperson for 2021
- D. Scheduling of quarterly meetings for 2021

VII. Adjournment

POSTED BY THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2021, BY 5:00 P.M. AT ELOY CITY HALL, ELOY POST OFFICE, TROY THOMAS COMMUNITY CENTER, TOLTEC COMMUNITY/SENIOR CENTER AND CITY WEBSITE: www.elayaz.gov

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Myers". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right. Below the signature is a solid horizontal line.

Mary Myers, CMC, CPM
City Clerk

INDIVIDUALS WITH SPECIAL ACCESSIBILITY NEEDS MAY CONTACT LORENA LaSALDE-RIOS, ADA COORDINATOR FOR THE CITY OF ELOY AT 520-466-9201 OR 520-466-7455 (TDD). IF POSSIBLE, SUCH REQUESTS SHOULD BE MADE 72 HOURS IN ADVANCE. ONE OR MORE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE AND/OR STAFF MAY PARTICIPATE BY TELEPHONIC OR VIDEO MEANS.

**MINUTES OF
THE ELOY CEMETERY COMMITTEE
CITY OF ELOY
628 NORTH MAIN STREET
ELOY, ARIZONA 85131
OCTOBER 27, 2020
6:00 P.M.**

Staff Present: Paul Anchondo-Community Services Director; Mary Myers-Committee Secretary; Jerry Calvillo-Parks Superintendent

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Tidwell called the meeting to order at approximately 6:07 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice Chairman Powell led the Committee and the public in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL

Committee Members Present: J.W. Tidwell-Chairman; Micah Powell-Vice Chairman; Natasha Tidwell; *Steven Paulson; Elva Lile; Marie Botello; Andrew Rodriguez

***Attended meeting via teleconference**

Committee Members Absent: None

IV. APPEARANCES FROM THE FLOOR

None

V. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Anchondo conveyed the following communications to the Committee:

Burials and work orders

Since last report (5/14/19) the parks crew has conducted 101 burials; set 151 headstones and poured 122 foundations.

Cemetery Maintenance

- Mr. Anchondo announced that due to the upcoming winter season, the staff has reduced watering the grass. He said trees will continue to be watered, but not the grass. He told the committee they may receive comments about the grass being brown, but come the spring it will turn green again.
- A new cemetery awning was purchased. The old awning has some damage and is in the process of being repaired. Mr. Anchondo said this would give the department two awnings.

Monument Installation

The Ten Commandments monument that was located in front of the old finance building was relocated at the entry way into the cemetery. Mr. Anchondo said the monument was moved due to the remodeling of the police station.

All Souls Day

All Souls Day is November 2nd, however, due to the pandemic, the church will not have its annual celebration at the cemetery. Mr. Anchondo said the staff still plan to have the park manicured and ready for those who wish to visit the cemetery on that day.

Marking Layout of Cemetery Sections

Mr. Anchondo conveyed that at the last cemetery meeting Chairman Tidwell expressed an interest of having cemetery signage to identify the layout of the cemetery sections. Mr. Calvillo, Mrs. LaSalde-Rios and Kory Fewell, the city's GIS coordinator have been working on mapping out the plots for future public access online. In light of this, he thought it would be a good idea to look at some potential cemetery signage. Mr. Anchondo provided the members with copies of the cemetery map to show the sections, blocks and plots within the sections.

Vice Chairman Powell told Mr. Anchondo that he is happy to know that the map would be available to the public online in the future. He wanted to know if it is possible to create an app that the public could install on their mobile devices.

Mr. Anchondo said he believes this is the plan moving forward. Mr. Calvillo and Ms. LaSalde-Rios are currently working with Mr. Fewell confirming the plots for accuracy.

Chairman Tidwell applauded Mr. Anchondo and staff for what has been accomplished so far with identifying the sections and blocks within the cemetery for visitors.

Vice Chairman Powell asked Mr. Anchondo would the staff work on the waterlines when watering ceases in the winter. He said there are some sprinkler heads that are broken.

Mr. Calvillo conveyed that if a sprinkler head breaks, it is repaired or replaced within two days. Mr. Calvillo said now that the water is off, the staff will replace or repair the ones that are known to need repair.

Vice Chairman Powell asked Mr. Calvillo if he thought about an irrigation system for the cemetery.

Mr. Anchondo said he and Mr. Calvillo have talked about installing an irrigation system for the cemetery, however it would entail activating the well that is at the cemetery and determining how to get water to the well for this to be considered. Mr. Anchondo said this would be a big project and something to consider in the future.

Vice Chairman Powell conveyed that Section B is getting full. He asked Mr. Anchondo if he has any plans to open another section soon.

Mr. Anchondo said he does not have any immediate plans, however, can start looking into this for the board.

Member Lile conveyed there is an owl that lives in one of the pine trees in the old section. She noticed the owl about three years ago. Member Lile asked the staff to use caution when trimming the tree limbs because the owl has a nest. She also conveyed that she noticed sap coming from some of the trees that were trimmed that were attracting bees. Member Lile wanted to know if something could be done to stop the seeping.

Mr. Calvillo told Member Lile that his staff do not trim the pine trees. They only trim the olive and cypress trees. Mr. Calvillo said the pine tree in question was trimmed because of broken limbs. As far as sap excreting from the trimmed trees, Mr. Calvillo said he would look into this, but believes the tree have to bleed and seal themselves.

Member Rodriguez inquired about having a full time employee for the cemetery.

Mr. Anchondo conveyed that at this time, he has no plans to hire someone for the cemetery. He plans to continue using the staff that is currently in place. However, in the future if the budget permits, it is something that he would consider.

Vice Chairman Powell complimented Mr. Anchondo and the staff for doing an amazing job at the cemetery. However, he may want to consider having a full time person at some point because the cemetery is personal and sentimental to a number of people in Eloy.

Chairman Tidwell agreed with Vice Chairman Powell. He recommended that Mr. Anchondo request for another employee next budget year.

Identification Markers – Section A

Mr. Anchondo conveyed that this item is about installing cemetery markers on graves located in Section A (county). Mr. Anchondo submitted two handouts to the committee that showed samples of granite and marble markers. He pointed out that taking on this project would be expensive; the committee may want to pursue this in the future. Mr. Anchondo said the committee may want to budget for a certain number of markers to purchase each year.

Chairman Tidwell asked Mr. Anchondo if the cemetery budget have money now to purchase some of the markers.

Mr. Anchondo said the cemetery budget does not have a particular line item allocated for something like this. However, he believes there are funds available annually where he can purchase and install a few markers. Mr. Anchondo conveyed that he can request that a line be allocated for this during the next budget process.

Chairman Tidwell said he inquired about installing markers in section A because there are some families who cannot afford a marker for their loved ones buried in the county.

Vice Chairman Powell conveyed that the county no longer pays for body burials; only cremations. But in the day when they paid for body burials, Vice Chairman Powell said cost of a headstone was included. When he worked at the funeral home, the county would pay the mortuary \$1200 for indigent burials. He said the funeral home would purchase small inexpensive granite markers from Nicholson and Ray. However, purchasing these types of markers for section A would be expensive for the cemetery budget. Vice Chairman Powell said he knows of less expensive grave markers that the committee might want to consider. They are identification markers that comes with a piece of paper covered with glass where the name and date of death of the deceased is inserted. Vice Chairman Powell said this is something that would be more affordable. He was concerned that if the committee starts purchasing granite headstones for indigents buried in the county section, families who do pay for burial services will want the same thing.

Chairman Tidwell agreed with Vice Chairman Powell. He said this is the only drawback he has with the city doing it. Chairman Tidwell wanted to know how long does the paper last in the identification markers.

Vice Chair Powell said they last up to two years before needing to be replaced. The markers may sustain sun damage, but they are virtually waterproof.

Chairman Tidwell said what he had in mind was a piece of sheet metal with black paint and stencil attached to a stake. He said this type of marker would last longer than the paper marker.

Mr. Anchondo told the committee that he would research both options and bring information back to the committee for continued discussion.

Mr. Anchondo announced to the committee that this is the last meeting for Chairman Tidwell. Mr. Anchondo thanked Chairman Tidwell for all of his hard work and dedication to the cemetery and the committee. He also thanked him for the support he has given him and his staff over the years.

Chairman Tidwell thanked Mr. Anchondo for the kind words. He stated that he hopes to return to serving on the committee when a seat becomes vacant.

Chairman Tidwell gave a heartfelt thank you to the committee members and staff for the hard work and projects that were accomplished while serving on the committee.

VI. BUSINESS: Possible Discussion and/or Action on the Following:

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: May 14, 2019

Chairman Tidwell asked the Committee if there were any comments or changes to the minutes presented in the packet.

There being no comments or questions from the Committee, Chairman Tidwell called for a motion to approve.

Motion by Vice Chairman Powell, seconded by Member Tidwell to approve the May 14, 2019 meeting minutes as presented, passed unanimously.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairman Tidwell adjourned the meeting at approximately 6:39 p.m.

Chairperson

ATTEST:

Mary Myers, Committee Secretary