

New Carlisle Cemetery Board
124 E Michigan Street New Carlisle, IN
October 21, 2025, 1:00 PM

This meeting was not videotaped as there was technical difficulty.

The meeting was called to order with Council Member Nancy Pemberton, Members Joyce Gard, Carol Middlebrook, Dave Doll, Susan Moffitt, Town Crew Supervisor Tristan Drake, Director of Public Works John Mrozinski present.

Absent was Assistant Public Works Dept Carl Brown Grimm.

Approval for the minutes from September 23, 2025: Susan made a motion to approve the minutes as written and Carol made a 2nd motion to accept as written.

Old Business:

Cemetery Fees: Susan gave a handout of the different prices of services for cemeteries in our local area. The fees that New Carlisle charge seem to be much lower than the other cemeteries. Members will study the fees and give ideas of what our fees should be at the November meeting.

Digitizing Records: Susan stated that Carl entered 750 Lots and has entered 2514 graves. Carl is presently working on the L's.

File Boxes for Cemetery Cards: Carl sent a printout of fireproof boxes. The Fire King Space Savings Fire Shield Safe Cabinet measuring 27 ¾ "high and 33 1/8" wide are priced at \$1,088.00. The cost is much higher than the Ace Office Machine file boxes proposed at the last meeting for \$150.00 each but 2 would be needed at a total of cost of \$300.00. The difference is due to the fireproof feature. The question brought up is do we really need these boxes. Could we just store the existing boxes in the safe or in the fireproof cabinets. Nancy asked John if this was an expense that could possibly fall under the Clerk's Office. John will check on this. The file boxes will be tabled until November meeting when Carl is back.

Columbarium: Tristan gave a diagram and quote for the Columbarium Scott from Harris Precast. The Doric 48 Niche rectangle Columbarium is \$24,830.00 and concrete foundation is \$2610.00 for a total cost of \$27,440.00.

New Business: Nancy will contact Pat Hahn for members to visit the Columbarium at Fairview Cemetery in Mishawaka. Nancy will let us know when that will happen. Dave also mentioned at that time we could also visit Notre Dame's Cemetery and see the type of Columbarium they have.

Joyce sent an email to Sandra Roberts the owner of Roberts Consulting Services, LLC inquiring about making the present Columbium at the old Cemetery into a cremation remains scattering garden. Joyce explained to Ms. Roberts that we have had the present Columbarium for about 10 years and out of 64 units, we have had 1 burial (John and Tristan will check as there may be 2 burials there. Ms. Roberts encouraged that cremation remains be placed in a burial vault container for cremations. If the Cemetery allows scattering, Ms. Roberts highly recommends a written policy to protect the Cemetery legally concerning this issue. I explained that the current Columbium is not in an idea location and people don't know what it is. Ms. Roberts suggested different landscaping that was colorful and adding a bench.

Joyce suggested turning the Columbium into a Heros Garden as it is located next to the Union Soldier Statue funded by the Relief Corp 48 remembering Civil War Veterans. This area is where we honor Veterans at Memorial Day and Wreaths Across America. We could add some perennials and perhaps a nice sign, rock or concrete blocks designed for Veterans, Fire Fighters, Policemen, EMTs.

Nancy thought maybe a tribute to Veterans by selling Remembrance bricks and adding a bench.

Dave explained the Columbium was located at this location because the Cemetery was running out of room and it was a solution. Since that time, the Town did acquire land for the new Cemetery across the road.

We will continue to brainstorm to justify putting a new and better designed Columbarium at the new Cemetery.

The Fall Cemetery Clean-Up on Monday Oct 20th went well and compliments were paid to Tristan and the Town Crew for their nice work. Also, the signs for cleanup were wonderful.

The next meeting will be November 18, 2025, at 1: 00.

Adjournment Dave made a motion to adjourn and Nancy 2nd the motion.