

Minutes of the Epsom Cemetery Trustees Meeting, Thursday, May 5, 2011

The meeting was held in the Epsom Library at 6pm.

Present: Trustees Ken Brown, Bill Stevens and Carol McGuire; Sexton Bill Clark; Selectman Bob Blodgett.

The Selectmen had opened the revised quotes on Monday, and eliminated three of them as non-compliant with the specification. The remaining three were from KMR, \$12,500; BMC, \$6315; and Steve's, \$6200. The disqualified quotes were about \$11,000, \$12,000 and \$15,300.

After some previous failures, Carol managed to reach the Kingston Sexton, who had been given as a reference by Steve's. Kingston has cemeteries as old as Epsom's, and they were very pleased with his work. He had mowed for them for three years, before being underbid this year, and they found him very responsive and high quality.

After some discussion, the Trustees recommended contracting with KMR. His work has been very satisfactory, they are sure that he can and will perform well, and the bidding exercise showed that his price is reasonable for the tasks required. The Trustees do not believe that Steve's or BMC, at half the cost of the other bidders, will finish out the season.

Carol put in a minority report that, with Steve's revised quote and references, we could contract with him at a much lower cost and take the chance that he would not perform. It seems the appropriate course when spending the taxpayers' money. However, the Trustees confirmed that none of them would be able to take over mowing if he were to fail, and it would be very difficult to hire someone else mid-season, so that there is no backup plan.

For the cemetery trustees

Carol McGuire