

CEMETERY BYLAW

- Section 1. No intoxicated or disorderly person will be allowed within the cemetery grounds, and all persons conducting themselves in an improper manner will be removed therefrom.
- Section 2. Visitors will not be permitted to walk on the flower beds or upon the graded lots or borders.
- Section 3. Under no circumstances will unrestrained dogs be allowed in the cemetery.
- Section 4. No firearms shall be discharged in the cemetery, except for salutes at military funerals.
- Section 5. All persons are forbidden to gather flowers, either wild or cultivated, or break or remove any trees, shrub or plant not upon their own lot, except by permission of the Commissioners.
- Section 6. No person shall climb upon or deface any structure in or belonging to the cemetery.
- Section 7. No structure may be erected in the cemetery unless it rests upon a foundation that is satisfactory to the Commissioners. If such a structure is erected by the Cemetery Department, the costs of such work will be based on a fee schedule that is determined by the Commissioners at a regularly scheduled meeting that is posted as required by law and lists the fee schedule as an agenda item. (*Art # 24 ATM 5/2/77, Art #20 ATM 4/30/12, Art #25 STM 5/6/19*).
- Section 8. All work done on graves or lots shall be under the supervision of the Commissioners, and all refuse material shall be removed to such place or places as are provided for that purpose.
- Section 9. Monuments, headstones and curbing shall be erected under the direction of the Commissioners, and no wooden fences shall be erected or maintained around any lot.
- Section 10. Owners of lots will be required to keep the same in good condition.
- Section 11. Graves shall be opened only under the supervision of the Commissioners.
- Section 12. Cemetery lots shall be used only for the burial of the human dead.
- Section 13. No tree or hedge shall be planted on any lot. Hedges now upon lots shall be trimmed before August 1st of each year and shall not exceed five feet in height; and trees on private lots shall be trimmed or removed as the Commissioners direct.

- Section 14. No headstone, marker, post or curbing shall be erected or maintained within five and one-half feet (5 1/2 feet) of the center of the main avenue as now surveyed and established or outside the boundaries of any lot.
- Section 15. The Cemetery Commissioners shall determine the price of cemetery lots to residents of the Town. The Commissioners, at a regularly scheduled meeting that is posted as required by law and lists the fee schedule as an agenda item, will determine the fee. Resident lot fees will be placed in the "Sale of Lots and Graves" fund for future use by Town Meeting for cemetery operations. (ATM 5/2/77 Article 23, amended Article 30, ATM 5/2/88, amended Article #20 ATM 4/30/12, amended Art # 25 STM 5/6/19)
- Section 16. The Cemetery Commissioners shall determine the price of cemetery lots to non-residents of the Town. The Commissioners, at a regularly scheduled meeting that is posted as required by law and lists the fee schedule as an agenda item, will determine the fee. One-half of non-resident cemetery lot fees will be placed in a Perpetual Care Fund for the upkeep of all graves in the cemetery. (STM April 19, 1977 Art #24, amended Art #20 ATM 4/30/12, amended Art. #25, STM 5/6/19)
- Section 17. Any person who shall violate the provisions of this bylaw shall be liable for a fine not exceeding Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) for each offense which may be recovered by indictment or on complaint before a District Court and shall enure to the Town or to such uses as it may direct.

Bylaw changes (amendments to the Rules and Regulations of the Burial Grounds adopted March 9, 1891, amended on March 2, 1964) were adopted at the Annual Town Meeting of March 5, 1973, (Article 32) by unanimous vote. They were approved by the Attorney General on July 5, 1973 and published by posting in five public places on July 17, 1973. Cemetery Bylaw was further amended by Special Town Meeting of April 19, 1977 (Articles 23, 24, and 25), posted and subsequently approved by the Attorney General, all of which is on file with the Town Clerk.

Changes to Section 15 were adopted at the Town Meeting of May 2, 1988 and approved by the Attorney General on September 12, 1988 and posted according to law.

Changes to Sections 7, 15 and 16 were adopted by unanimous vote at the 4/30/12 ATM (Article 20) and approved by the Attorney General on June 27, 2012 and posted according to law.

Sections 7, 15 and 16 were again amended by unanimous vote at the 5/6/19 STM (Article #25), approved by the Attorney General on September 6, 2019 and posted according to law on Sept. 10, 2019.