

Pursuant to Municipal Code 115.05:

The City of Van Meter wishes to safeguard the individual lot owners as well as the cemetery as a whole. All lot owners and visitors within the cemetery and all property sold shall be subject to said rules and regulations, as well as such other rules, amendments, or alterations that may from time to time be adopted by the City Council.

General Rules:

1. The cemetery is set apart for the exclusive burial of human remains and shall forever be used as such only.
2. The City Clerk, acting as Cemetery Commissioner, at the direction of the Van Meter City Council is responsible for the administration of the cemetery and for the enforcement of all rules, regulations, policies, and procedures approved by the City Council.
3. The City shall not be held liable for errors or damages, which may occur as a result of improper, or misinterpretation of, telephone instructions from lot owners, their legal representatives, or funeral directors acting on behalf of the owner or his heirs.
4. The City has the right, without prior approval of the lot owners or his legal representative, to correct errors made in good faith in any phase of cemetery administration, operation, or maintenance without incurring liability of any kind whatsoever.
5. The City has the right to change, modify, or replat any part of the cemetery not sold for burial purposes.
6. Every cemetery deed shall be recorded by the City Clerk/Cemetery Commissioner and said records shall be available for inspection by the general public at the office of the City Clerk. The City Clerk shall maintain a plat of each cemetery sections showing the location of the lots and their ownership.
7. Lots shall be sold by the City Clerk at the established price set by resolution adopted by the City Council. The City Clerk shall issue a deed to the purchaser upon payment of the purchase price.
8. An owner of a space in the cemetery may only transfer his or her space to a relative by blood or marriage. Documentation shall be submitted to the City Clerk for recording.
9. The City may purchase a space from an owner at the purchase price, and said space shall be made available to the general public and previous deed voided.

Conduct within the Cemetery:

1. Visitors are reminded that a strict observance of accepted decorum shall be required at all times.
2. Pets, food, and firearms, other than those carried by police officers or used in military honor funeral services, shall be prohibited in the cemetery.
3. No person shall drive any vehicle within the cemetery except upon the driveways prepared and designed for the purpose, and such vehicles shall not be operated in excess of the posted speed limit of 10 mph. Driving on the grass, walks, and alleys is prohibited with the exception of maintenance personnel.
4. It shall be unlawful for any person to desecrate or injure the cemetery, or any lot, grave, gravestone, monument, fence, tree or shrubbery therein.
5. All persons are prohibited from entering the cemetery after dusk.

Cemetery Care:

1. General care is assumed by the City and includes the cutting and watering of grass, debris removal, fertilization, and periodic pruning of shrubs and trees.
2. Grave decorations of all kinds will be removed when in the judgment of the maintenance personnel they do not conform to the decorum of the cemetery.
3. Holiday decorations are permitted, but must be removed thirty days after the holiday. Decorations may be removed and disposed of by cemetery personnel.
4. The planting or placing of shrubbery, plants, flowers, or grass is prohibited as is the placing of trees.
5. No coping or fence of any kind shall be permitted.

Van Meter Cemetery Rules and Regulations Cont.

Interments and Disinterment:

1. The staff must be given 24 hours notice prior to any interment. A one week notice must be given for disinterment or removal.
2. No more than the remains of one body can be interred in any one space, except in the case of a mother and stillborn child. However, with the consent of the owner or heirs of the owner, an exception can be made to permit no more than one regular interment and one cremain or two cremains in any one space.
3. It is prohibited for cremains to be scattered in the cemetery, or buried without the City's permission and notification.
4. City staff, upon request may handle the placement of cremains upon the request of the family at a fee of \$150 and said fee is established by resolution.
5. Only a contractor approved by the City shall perform the opening and closing at any gravesite.

Memorials:

1. Only one stone or marker will be allowed for each grave space, and this shall be placed at the head of the grave. In the event a family monument is placed at the head of a lot, an individual marker may be placed at the foot of each grave for individual graves. Government markers may also be placed at the foot of the grave in addition to the headstone.
2. Cemetery staff will provide reasonable assistance to licensed memorial representatives in locating grave space.
3. The City is in no way responsible for the preservation and care of any memorials installed in the cemetery.

Adopted by Resolutions #2007-31
Date: 10-8-07

