

THE MUNICIPAL CEMETERY

RULES & REGULATIONS



1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Since 1922, the City of Grand Junction has acquired and maintained eight (8) cemeteries, seven located on Orchard Mesa and one at 23 1/2 and I 1/2 Roads, as a service to the people of Grand Junction. The eight cemeteries are known as "The Municipal Cemeteries".

2. MANAGEMENT

By ordinance, the City Manager is responsible for the management of the City cemeteries and has delegated the duties involved in improvement, maintenance, and operation thereof to the Parks and Recreation Director.

3. BURIAL RIGHTS

Each purchaser shall be issued a Certificate of Ownership representing only a right to be buried in a designated grave space within the Municipal Cemeteries.

4. TITLES SUBJECT TO RULES AND REGULATIONS

All lots and grave sections in the City cemeteries shall be held in accordance with and subject to the rules, regulations and ordinances of the City and the laws of the State of Colorado.

5. DUTIES OF THE CITY CLERK

The City Clerk has custody of all books and records pertaining to cemeteries and issues all permits for burial, disinterment, and removal of bodies in said cemeteries, and with the City Manager or President of the City Council, executes and issues, to those having paid therefor, appropriate certificates of ownership for burial rights in said cemeteries.

6. SECTION 6 - CHARGES

The City Council shall request the City Manager to report, as conditions warrant, on the income and expenses of each

cemetery, and shall adopt by resolution a schedule of prices for (a) grave space, (b) endowment for perpetual care, (c) opening and closing graves, (d) development fee, (e) services incident to burials, disinterment, removal or reburial of bodies, (f) constructing foundations for monuments and markers, and (g) special protective measures for monuments and markers, consistent with prevailing conditions.

7. CONDITIONS OF CONVEYANCES

The rights acquired by any person in and to any grave space in a City cemetery shall be subject to the following conditions:

- (a) No lot or grave space shall be marked or defined by any fence, coping, railing, hedge, or embankment, nor shall any lot be filled above the established surrounding grade.
- (b) NO LOT OR GRAVE SPACE SHALL BE DECORATED BY ITS OWNER OR OTHERS WITH ANY TREES, SHRUBS, OR OTHER PLANTS, AND TIME LIMITS MAY BE ESTABLISHED

FOR THE DISPLAY OF ARTIFICIAL FLOWERS AND WREATHS.

Administration Policy established March, 1976, is that no plastic flowers, arrangements, or wreaths be placed in the cemeteries between April 15 and November 1 of each year (wires used in these arrangements damage the lawn mower blades) with the exception of ten (10) days before and after Memorial Day.

On April 15 of each year and ten (10) days after Memorial Day, the City crews will remove all plastic flowers and arrangements from the various grave sites in the cemeteries.

- (C) No monument or marker shall be placed in the cemeteries which is constructed of material other than granite, marble or bronze, of varieties approved by the City Manager, after the submission of samples by the producer. Certificates of conformance with approved samples shall be filed by the monument dealer guaranteeing replacement by the producer if the monument shall show discoloration, cracking, or obliteration within twenty (20) years after erection, resulting from causes beyond the reasonable control of the City. ALL MONUMENT AND MARKER BASES NOT IN ROUGH ROCK FINISH SHALL HAVE ROUNDED EDGES AND CORNERS HAVING RADII OF

NOT LESS THAN THREE-EIGHTHS (3/8) INCHES.

- (d) THE CITY SHALL CONSTRUCT, OR ARRANGE FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF, ALL MONUMENT FOUNDATIONS, AND SHALL SET ALL CORNER AND GRAVE MARKERS.
- (e) No mausoleum or vault shall be erected except under special permit from the Parks and Recreation Director or his designated representative in accordance with the approved regulations.
- (f) THE CITY SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMOVE FROM ANY LOT OR GRAVE SPACE ANY TREE, SHRUB, OR OTHER STRUCTURE WHICH, FOR ANY REASON, HAS BECOME, OR SHALL BECOME, UNSIGHTLY OR DETRIMENTAL TO THE CEMETERY, AND THE CITY MANAGER SHALL HAVE THE DETERMINATION OF SUCH MATTERS.
- (g) THE CITY SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT TO EXCLUDE FROM ANY LOT OR GRAVE SPACE ANY MONUMENT, MARKER, STRUCTURE, TREE, PLANT, OR OTHER OBJECT, WHICH CONFLICTS WITH THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE CEMETERY, OR WHICH, IN THE OPINION OF ITS CITY MANAGER, WILL BE DETRIMENTAL OR INJURIOUS TO THE GENERAL APPEARANCE OF SAID CEMETERY.

- (h) Raised markers will be permitted on fractional grave space only in those cases where they will conform to established monument lines.
- (i) THE CITY SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR ANY INJURY OR DAMAGE TO ANY MONUMENT, MARKER, OR OTHER STRUCTURE IN THE CEMETERIES, RESULTING FROM ANY CAUSE BEYOND ITS REASONABLE CONTROL.
- (j) Such rights shall be subject to any and all further or different conditions provided by any rules and regulations as provided in the Code of Ordinances, or provided by any ordinance or regulations of the City.
- (k) All smooth finished monument and marker bases shall be required to have protective landscaping installed by the City for which a charge shall be made as provided under Section 6.

(ROSE BUSHES ARE PLANTED BY CITY CREWS AS PROTECTIVE MEASURES.)

- (l) Any lot or grave space with a rough rock monument or marker base may have protective landscaping installed by the City. Installation shall be done only at the owner's request and upon payment of the designated fee provided under Section 6.

8. MAINTENANCE DUTIES OF CITY & OF LOT OWNERS

The City shall perpetually care for and maintain all roads, walks and improvements belonging or appertaining to City Cemeteries; provided, however, that all lots or grave section owners are to care for and maintain all monuments, mausoleums, and markers erected on their lots or grave tracts.

9. CITY MANAGER TO MAKE REGULATIONS

The City Manager is authorized and empowered by Chapter 12, Code of Ordinances, to make, enforce, modify, or repeal from time to time such rules and regulations as may be advisable for the management, use, improvement and maintenance of the cemeteries and for the administration of endowment funds not inconsistent with the provisions hereof.

10. PERPETUAL CARE FUNDS

All payments made and received for perpetual care of grave spaces in City Cemeteries shall be recorded and maintained in a separate fund from all other funds of the City, and shall constitute permanent trust funds, for the purposes provided in this chapter, to be known as the "Cemetery Perpetual Care Funds", and such funds shall be invested in accordance with the investment policy of the City. The principal of such funds shall be preserved as an endowment for the perpetual care and maintenance of grave spaces in the cemeteries, and the income from such funds shall be used solely for such purpose. The aforesaid funds shall be entirely independent of, and in addition to, payments made for the purchase of burial rights for which perpetual care is purchased.

11. DEVELOPMENT FEE

The Development Fee was established to fund cemetery improvement projects. These projects are beyond the routine operation and maintenance costs that are funded by the perpetual care interest earnings.

12. UPRIGHT OR FLAT MARKER

Flat markers are permitted in all the cemeteries on Orchard Mesa. Upright markers are permitted in the following cemeteries only:

- Municipal - Blocks 6 and 10
- Calvary - Saint Anthony
- Masonic
- IOOF (Oddfellows)
- Veterans
- Crown Point

In Orchard Mesa Cemetery, Blocks A, B, C, F, and G, upright markers are permitted; however, there are few grave spaces available for sale in these blocks.

In Block 6 of the Municipal Cemetery, one monument for each two grave sections will be permitted. Monuments shall be placed only in the center of a plot at the place reserved for same. No monument, mausoleum or other structure shall be placed in the Municipal Cemetery until a design of same, with specifications, has been submitted to and approved by the Parks and Recreation Director or his designated representative.

In Veterans Cemetery, the only permitted markers are regulation Veterans headstones. An upright stone is allowed for a full size space with a Veterans flat marker designating the burial of cremains.