



TOWN OF GROVER

Grover Cemetery

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

I.	INTRODUCTION	
II.	DEFINITIONS	
III.	LOT OWNERSHIP AND PRIVILEGES	
	3.1	Nature and Extent of Rights Acquired
	3.2	Descent and Inheritance of Deeds
	3.3	Transfer of Deeds
	3.4	Resale of Deeds
IV.	BURIALS	
	4.1	General Requirements
	4.2	Payment of Burial Spaces
	4.3	Payment of Grave Preparation
	4.4	Hours When Burials are Permitted
	4.5	Duty of Funeral Directors
	4.6	Duty of Town Clerk/Deputy Clerk
	4.7	Duty of Maintenance Director/Assistant Maintenance Director
	4.8	Vaults/Casket
	4.9	Excavating and Refilling of Graves
	4.10	Burials Per Grave
	4.11	Errors
V.	DECORATION OF GRAVES	
	5.1	Funeral Flowers and Floral Pieces
	5.2	Flower Containers
	5.3	Artificial Flowers
	5.4	Planting and Excavating
	5.5	Other Decorations
VI.	MONUMENTS AND MARKERS	
	6.1	Ownership and Responsibility
	6.2	Monuments and Markers
	6.3	Additions to Markers
	6.4	Vases
	6.5	Flagpoles
VII.	GENERAL PLANTING AND LANDSCAPING	
VIII.	REGULATIONS GOVERNING ACCESS AND CONDUCT	
IX.	MISCELLANEOUS	

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X. CEMETERY FEES

CEMETERY POLICY IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT ANY TIME

I. INTRODUCTION.

It is the desire of the Town of Grover to operate and maintain a cemetery that is beautiful, dignified and an appropriate final resting place for departed loved ones.

In establishing these policies, it has been our desire to offer as much freedom of choice as possible while still preserving those regulations necessary to maintain a high standard of beauty and efficiency.

We sincerely hope that you will assist us in this effort by adhering to these rules.

II. DEFINITIONS

Business Office: The business office, located at 207 Mulberry Road, Grover, North Carolina. The town clerk/deputy clerk is located at the business office and is responsible for all cemetery records, payment for lots and other charges and collection of information for interments.

Cremains: The remains of a person who has been cremated.

Deed: Upon the purchase of a lot/plot, the purchaser(s) or heirs thereafter shall become the owner(s) thereof.

Disinterment Permit: A permit that is required by the State for the purpose of exhuming a burial to be transferred for burial in another place.

Flat Marker: A flat marker that is flush with the ground.

Heir: Someone who has inherited or is entitled to a right of ownership by law.

Indigent: A person who has no money, no home, and no family willing to pay for a burial. Their remains become the property of the county in which they reside.

Interment: The burial of a corpse in a grave.

Lot: A burial space with two (2) graves located in that space parallel to each other.

Marker: An identification tool made of bronze material or stone that is placed upon a grave which contains information about the person buried in that particular plot.

Maintenance Director/Assistant: The Town of Grover employee responsible for the general maintenance of the cemetery and enforcing cemetery policies.

Perpetual Care: The general care and maintenance necessitated by the natural growth and ordinary care which may be provided at reasonable intervals within the budget limits of the cemetery. It includes the planting, cutting and care of lawns, upkeep of walkways and roadways. It also provides care of trees, shrubs and flowers planted by the cemetery personnel. Perpetual care does not provide for maintenance of monuments, markers, or flowers vases.

Permanent Container: A metal or marble container permanently affixed to the marker or included in, but not separately attached to the cement foundation.

Person: The term “person” shall mean individual, group, partnership, firm, corporation, or association.

Plot: A single grave located within a lot

Resident: Any person currently residing within the city limits of the Town of Grover or immediately prior to being placed in a health care institution.

Slant Marker: A marker that has a gradual slant from ground level to a height of no more than four (4) inches.

Upright Marker: A marker that stands upright with a maximum height of thirty (30) inches from ground level.

III. LOT/PLOT OWNERSHIP AND PRIVILEGES

3.1 Nature and Extent of Rights Acquired.

Upon payment of the purchase price of a lot/plot, the purchaser(s) acquires the ownership of said lot/plot, subject to the policies of the cemetery.

A deed will be issued to each purchaser after fees are paid in full. No interment will be permitted in, or marker allowed on any lot not fully paid for.

No lot/plot shall be sold without perpetual care.

3.2 Descent and Inheritance of Deed

Burials by or of heirs, after the original parties named on deed are deceased, requires the permission of living heirs, in writing and notarized if required.

The Town of Grover shall in no way be held responsible for failure to properly determine the legal successorship of the said lot/plot owner.

The heirs are entitled to the same use of the lot/plot as the original owners and are bound by the same policies.

3.3 Transfer of Deed

Owners of deeds may transfer their deeds to other parties with the preparation of a quit claim deed prepared by the Town of Grover’s licensed attorney. Quit claim deeds and fees are the responsibility of the transferee.

The files located at business office of the Town of Grover are to be considered the correct record. Any transfer of deeds should be reported to the business office and a copy of new

deed should be delivered to the business office within 7 business days of owner receiving new deed.

3.4 Resale of Deed

If a lot/plot is to be sold to anyone else, it must meet the criteria of being a usable lot. Determining the usability of a lot will be the decision of the Town of Grover Council and Maintenance Director.

An owner or heir may sell an unoccupied lot/plot to anyone at any time for a price to be set by the owner.

IV. BURIALS

4.1 General Requirements

Interments are limited to human deceased.

Information for all interments must be given and all charges prepaid to the Town of Grover Business Office. Information given by telephone will be taken with particular care, however, the Town of Grover will not be responsible for errors arising or resulting from this procedure. All such orders must be confirmed in writing.

The person giving the order must give the lot/plot owner's name, address and all other information required.

The Town of Grover will not be responsible for any mistakes, occurring from lack of precise and proper instructions, as to the proper space on the lot where interment is desired.

All burial graves will remain in a uniform pattern.

The town council shall from time to time designate particular plots to be reserved for the burial of indigent persons upon board approval, with proof of indigence.

4.2 Payment of Lots

Burial plots are purchased as a lot, which includes two (2) burial plots located parallel to each other. The Town of Grover does not sell burial plots individually. Lot owners may sell unused lots, at their discretion, to any persons. Such sales are subject to the requirements in Section III of the Town of Grover cemetery policy. The Town of Grover is not responsible for collecting payment of said lots and is not liable for errors in information for such purchases.

No installments or arrangements for payment are permitted. All lots must be paid in full at the business office prior to interment.

4.3 Payment of Grave Preparation for Interments

The preparation of a grave shall be invoiced to funeral home and/or individual in charge of interment by the Town of Grover upon notification of interment.

No installments or arrangements for payment are permitted. All fees must be paid in full to the business office prior to interment.

4.4 Hours When Burials are Permitted

No funeral or interment will be allowed in the cemetery on the following holidays:

- New Year's Day
- Memorial Day
- Independence Day
- Labor Day
- Easter Sunday
- Thanksgiving Day
- Christmas Eve
- Christmas Day

On all other days, funerals will be allowed during daylight hours. Services arriving to the cemetery after 4:00 pm will incur additional charges.

4.5 Duty of Funeral Directors

Funeral directors, in charge of funerals, must notify the Deputy Clerk 48 hours prior to any interment. He/She must also provide detailed information as to the wishes of the family regarding location of burial plot within the grave lot as well as pay any unpaid charges due.

4.6 Duty of Town Clerk/Deputy Clerk

The Town Clerk/Deputy Clerk is in charge of obtaining all information pertaining to interments from funeral directors and relaying that information to the Maintenance Director/Assistant Maintenance Director. He/She is also responsible for obtaining payment for all sales of lots and other charges. The Town Clerk/Deputy Clerk shall also maintain all cemetery files within the Business Office.

4.7 Duty of Maintenance Director/Assistant Maintenance Director

The Maintenance Director/Assistant Maintenance Director is in charge of the perpetual care of the cemetery, locating and marking of burial plots and/or monuments or markers and enforcing cemetery policies.

4.8 Vaults/Caskets

The Town of Grover requires a casket and a minimum of a polypropylene vault for all non-cremation burials. No vaults are required for cremains only a closed container.

4.9 Excavating and Refilling of Graves

The Town of Grover may enter into contracts for all excavating and refilling of graves. No other contractors and/or individuals shall be permitted to do such digging within the cemetery. The contractor shall be responsible for opening and refilling graves and must

do so in a manner as to not disturb or damage other burial spaces and/or monuments.

Grounds should be restored as close as possible to original state. Any grave deemed by the

maintenance director or assistant maintenance director not refilled properly will be the responsibility of the contractor to correct.

4.10 Burials Per Grave

One interment only shall be allowed in a casket, except a father or mother with an infant child, or two (2) children buried at the same time. No more than one casket will be allowed in a grave, except when the contract for such space specifically provides for such.

Cremains remains shall be limited to two separate closed containers per burial plot.

4.11 Errors

The maintenance director, as he deems proper, shall correct any errors made in interments, disinterment, removals, or in the description, transfer, or conveyance of any interment properly.

V. DECORATION OF GRAVES

5.1 Funeral Flowers and Floral Pieces

Floral pieces will be removed without notice when they become unsightly. Space owners desiring to retain floral pieces must remove them within five (5) days after the interment.

5.2 Flower Containers

The placing of baskets, boxes, pots, jars, cans, wires, bottles, etc., will not be permitted on grassy areas except on holidays, in which case they must be removed fourteen (14) days following the holiday. Items not removed after fourteen (14) days will be removed without notice. Absolutely no glass containers are permitted at any time.

Permanent containers must be part of the marker or cast into the cement foundation.

5.3 Artificial and Fresh Cut Flowers

Artificial flowers are permissible if placed in a permanent container, but the location and use of such flowers shall be subject to the policies set forth. Artificial flowers will be removed without notice when they become unsightly.

Fresh-cut flowers are permitted in a permanent container at any time.

5.4 Planting or Excavating

No planting of any type of plant material, digging or disturbing the grassy area within the cemetery will be permitted.

5.5 Other Decorations

Decorations such as ceramic ornaments, toys, solar lights, etc, are permissible only if placed in a permanent container or permanently affixed to marker. Shepherd's hooks are not permitted at any time. Holiday decorations are permitted Fourteen (14) days prior to

holiday and should be removed fourteen (14) days after the holiday. Items not removed after fourteen (14) days will be removed without notice.

VI. MONUMENTS AND MARKERS

6.1 Ownership and Responsibility

Monuments and markers are personal property. All monuments within the cemetery are the property of lot/plot owners, their heirs, or the responsible party that ordered and placed them. Maintenance of monuments is the responsibility of the owner. The cemetery is maintained by town personnel who exercise great care in keeping the grounds groomed. The town will not be responsible for inadvertent scratches and chips that occur from routine maintenance or vandalism. Such happenings are a condition that go with the privilege of placing the monument in the cemetery.

A recommendation would be to consult a monument dealer on monument materials suitable to handle conditions at the cemetery. Markers are subject to temperature extremes, snow, ice and occasional nicks and chips from mowing equipment. It is also recommended that upright or slant markers have a rough-nosed base or edges, rather than a polished, smooth surface.

6.2 Monuments and Markers

All interments in the town's cemetery must provide some form of permanent monument or marker as to identify the occupant of the burial plot. Prior to the placement or erection of any monument or marker in the town's cemetery, the monument company must first provide a 48-hour notice to the business office. The maintenance director or assistant maintenance director will then mark location in which monument or marker should be placed. Any monument or marker that is not placed in the proper location will be the responsibility of the monument company to correct. Any monument companies that fail to provide notice before placing or erecting monuments or markers in the town's cemetery may be prohibited from doing work within the town's cemetery.

Only one marker allowed per burial space, unless two (2) infants, two cremations or a combination of a burial and a cremation are buried in the same space. A second marker can then be installed, but MUST be a flat stone installed at ground level.

All upright monuments MUST be placed at the head of the grave plot. No coping will be permitted around the perimeter of grave lots.

When it becomes necessary to remove a monument for a burial, the owner will be responsible for making proper arrangements. If a monument company has been contacted to remove a monument for burial, the monument company will also be responsible for returning the monument to its original location. The Town of Grover will not be liable for any cost from damage which may occur during removal.

6.3 Requirements for Markers

Markers must be composed of metal, stone, or cement. All markers must be securely set in a finished grass-level cement foundation of at least four (4) inches wide around the marker. Markers must be no higher than thirty (30) inches from ground level.

Cement foundations of monuments or markers must be no wider than twenty-four (24) inches and no longer than forty-six (46) inches for a single grave, or eighty (80) inches for a double grave, to the outer perimeter of the cement foundation.

6.4 Addition to Markers

Vases and flagpole additions to the monument will not be allowed. These must be included in the original base or foundation of the marker at the time of installation.

6.5 Vases

All permanent vases must be attached to the stone foundation or cast into the foundation at least two (2) inches from the edge of the cement foundation.

Vases must sit above container so flowers do not lay on stone or grass, or flowers must be four (4) inches above the container to allow for trimming around the edge of the foundation.

6.6 Flagpoles

All flagpoles must adhere to the following requirements:

Flagpoles must be 1-inch pipe and 14 feet in height.

Flagpoles must be the removeable type.

Flagpoles must be mounted in the cement foundation on the south side of the marker, at least two (2) inches from the edge.

Flagpoles that have not been used to fly flags in the cemetery over a two (2) year period will be removed.

No flags with offensive content are permissible. Flags in a state of disrepair will be removed without notice by the town.

VII. GENERAL PLATTING AND LANDSCAPING

7.1 Boundaries, Roads and Waterlines

The right to enlarge, reduce, re-plat or change the boundaries of the cemetery, or a section or sections thereof, from time to time, including the right to modify or change the locations of roads and drives, is hereby expressly reserved by the Town of Grover. The right to lay, maintain and operate pipelines or gutters for water supply or drainage is also expressly reserved.

7.2 Location of Documents

All original maps, records and other documentation pertaining to the Town of Grover Cemetery are on file at the business office.

VIII. REGULATIONS GOVERNING ACCESS AND CONDUCT

8.1 Entrance Regulations

Access to the Town of Grover Cemetery will be restricted to daylight hours.

8.2 Improper Conduct

Town of Grover Cemetery has been dedicated for the burial of the deceased. Any behavior or conduct not keeping with this purpose is expressly forbidden.

No person shall damage, deface, remove, or carry away from any grave or lot any monument, marker, tree, shrub, flower, ground or any other property or ornament in the Town of Grover Cemetery.

8.3 Speed Limit

The speed limit within the Town of Grover Cemetery is 5 miles per hour. Vehicles must stay on driveways while in the cemetery.

8.4 Animals

Horses, dogs or any other type of pet or livestock are not permitted on the cemetery grounds, with the exception of certified service animals.

8.5 Motorcycles, Bicycles and All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs)

Motorcycles and all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) are not permitted in the cemetery, except for those used for maintenance professional suppliers or as part of a funeral procession.

Bicycles are permitted, however are subject to the same policies as motorized vehicles. Cutting corners and driving on the grass are prohibited.

IX. MISCELLANEOUS

9.1 Office – Records

The official cemetery records are kept at the Town of Grover business office. The office hours are Monday – Thursday 8:30a.m. until 5:00 p.m., except for federal holidays. All business pertaining to the cemetery should be transacted at the business office.

The locations of all graves are reflected on maps or other documents that are on file at the business office.

All owners of lots/plots are requested to notify Town of Grover of any changes in their address.

9.2 Powers of the Maintenance Director

The maintenance director or assistant maintenance director, subject to the direction of the town council, is responsible for enforcing the policies of the cemetery.

The maintenance director or assistant maintenance director may take any action deemed necessary to protect property, graves, space owners and the cemetery from injury to preserve peace and good order and prevent injury to the appearance of the lots, graves, grounds, and structures.

9.3 Prices and Charges

The town council may establish or amend by resolution the fees charged for any service within the cemetery.

Prices and charges will be furnished by the business office of the Town of Grover and are subject to change without notice.

9.4 Contractors and Outside Workers

Contractors and others having work in the cemetery must make their business known to the business office, who will then relay information to the maintenance director or assistant maintenance director before work is to begin.

9.5 Disinterment/Reinterments

Disinterments/Reinterments must be arranged through the business office. The written order of the space owner, his/her legal representative, or an order from a competent authority in compliance with the law must also be given.

9.6 Liability of Cemetery

The Town of Grover personnel will, at all times, exercise due diligence and reasonable care in the protection of the rights and property of the space owners, but shall not be liable for any damage or loss.

9.7 Alteration and Repeal of Policies

The Town of Grover reserves the right to make, amend and repeal the policies of the cemetery and to make exceptions thereto, but such exceptions shall not amend or repeal any policies.

X. CEMETERY FEES

Cemetery fees shall be established by Town Council and are subject to amendment.