

CHAPTER 10

CEMETERY

10.1 Definitions

For the purposes of this chapter, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them by this section:

Cemetery shall mean the whole area set apart for the interment of the deceased.

Cremation shall mean the process whereby a body is reduced to ashes.

Crypt shall mean a vault or chamber which is wholly or partly beneath the surface of the earth.

Grave shall mean an excavation in the earth for the burial of remains, as well as including the burial place in a tomb or sepulcher.

Gravestone shall mean a stone with an inscription erected near the grave or laying over it.

Internment shall mean the act of depositing remains into the earth, tomb, or burial vault.

Lot shall mean a part of the cemetery intended for burial and embraces more grounds than a single grave.

Mausoleum shall mean a building in which remains are deposited above the ground.

Memorial shall mean anything intended to preserve the memory of a person, including a monument which may be a monument which is erected or maintained to preserve the memory of a person.

Tomb shall mean a vault or chamber which is partly or entirely above the ground where remains are interred.

Vault shall mean a chamber constructed of steel or concrete used to enclose a casket.

10.2 Established

It is hereby established the city cemetery to be known as Maple Hill Cemetery (hereafter the "City Cemetery") and all additions thereto.

10.3 Sexton-Office Created

There is hereby created the office of City Sexton, to be appointed by the Mayor with the advice and consent of the City Council. The Sexton shall hold office for the same term, as does the Mayor, and may be removed with or without cause at the discretion of the Mayor. In the event the Mayor or other City Council Alderman is the duly appointed Sexton, said position shall be with no bond being required. Any other duly appointed Sexton shall be required to serve with a bond in the amount of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00).

10.4 Sexton-Responsibilities

The City Sexton shall have charge of, and preserve from injury the City Cemetery, dig and fill graves, and give directions as to the portion of the City Cemetery in which indigent persons shall be buried. He shall have the authority to oversee and manage the lawn care and maintenance of the City Cemetery grounds, either public or private, keep the gate and fences in good repair, and keep the trees on the City Cemetery ground free from sprouts and dead limbs. He shall also be a conservator of the peace.

All duties and responsibilities of the Sexton set forth herein may be delegated or otherwise contracted out in the sole discretion and judgment of the Sexton.

10.5 Register of Internments

The City Sexton shall keep a register of the date of internment, the name and age of the person buried, the disease or other cause of death, the residence, place of birth and physician in attendance designating the number of lot or place of interment, and report the same to the City Council monthly. He shall cause to be prosecuted all persons who shall be guilty of the violation of any ordinance of the City in relation to the City Cemetery that may come to his knowledge.

10.6 Payment for Services to be Made in Advance to City Clerk

All charges established in this article or by the City Council shall be payable to the City Clerk, who shall give a property receipt therefor, and all such charges shall be payable in advance of the services to be rendered or issuance of any deed to any gravesite in the cemetery.

10.7 Records to be Kept by Cemetery Sexton or Designee

The Cemetery Sexton or Designee shall keep a book known as the "Cemetery Record," in which, shall be kept a record of all conveyances of lots in the City Cemetery.

10.8 Lot Prices

The prices for lots in the City Cemetery shall be computed on the basis of the number of graves permitted on each respective lot as follows:

Grave Prices

Section 2-3-A-B-C (along highway)	\$475.00 per grave space
Section 1-4-D-E-F (middle sections)	\$450.00 per grave space
Section G-H-I	\$425.00 per grave space

Grave Opening Prices

In Town Openings Residents Within the City of Sesser:	Out of Town Openings Residents Outside the City of Sesser:
Monday-Friday \$275.00	Monday-Friday \$325.00
Saturday, Sunday, Holiday \$325.00	Saturday, Sunday, Holiday \$425.00
Mausoleum \$100.00	Mausoleum \$100.00
If a grave is dug by anyone other than city employees; a \$150 fee will be applied. The monies collected shall go to the Trust Fund of Maple Hill cemetery.	

Infant Pricing

Infant Row Space	Infant Opening
\$150.00	\$150.00

Cremations

Inside City Limits	Outside City Limits
Monday-Friday \$100.00	Monday-Friday \$150.00
Saturday, Sunday, Holiday \$150.00	Saturday, Sunday, Holiday \$200.00
Any potential, future cremation burials shall be reported to the Sexton; all fees shall still apply.	

10.9 Execution of Deed by City

Upon receipt of payment for a cemetery grave, a deed shall be executed by the Mayor and attested by the City Clerk. The deed shall contain a provision that the conveyance of the premises is made in strict compliance with this Chapter, as amended from time to time, or any other regulations pertaining to the management, supervision, or upkeep of lots in the City Cemetery.

10.10 Manner of Transferring Lots

- (a) No transfer of any lot in the City Cemetery shall be made directly by any lot owner, his heirs, devisees, or successors to any other person, unless registered with the City Clerk.
- (b) If the sale, transfer or assignment is to or for the use of a person not a resident of the city, all surcharges or additional charges applicable to nonresidents, if not previously paid, shall be first paid by the purchaser, transferee, or assignee. In every event there shall be charged a transfer fee of \$50.00

10.11 Gravestone and Monument Design, Location and Removal

All gravestones and monuments or other structures upon any lot in the City Cemetery shall be of a design approved by the Sexton and shall be placed so as not to encroach on another lot or upon any avenue or path of cemetery and in such a way as to allow for the proper ongoing upkeep and maintenance of the City Cemetery. The Sexton reserves the right at any time to remove or have removed any monument or structure or any inscription, which the Sexton may deem improper or detrimental. If such removal is necessary the owner of said lot shall be provided written notice, as long as, the City has the owner's proper address contained in the City Cemetery records.

10.12 Trespassing on Lots

No person other than the lot owner and his relatives shall be permitted to go upon any cemetery lot.

10.13 Removal of trees, shrubs prohibited without permission of Sexton.

No trees, flowers, shrubs, plants, or herbage of any kind shall be injured or removed from the City Cemetery without the consent of the Sexton.

10.14 Grave Decorations (Flowers)

The placing of cut flowers or artificial flowers and decorations over individual graves shall be permitted; however, the City shall not be responsible for the care of such flowers, decorations or the containers in which they are placed. Furthermore, the City shall remove, without notice, all flowers, real or artificial, and decorations during the month of March and September every year. Ground decorations and potted plants are not allowed from March 15 to October 31, except three (3) days before to three (3)

days after Easter, Mother's Day, Memorial Day and Father's Day. Arrangements in monument vases, or saddles on monuments or shepherd hooks are permitted anytime. Winter decorations shall be removed from the cemetery on or before March 15 of each year.

10.15 Disposal of Unclaimed Floral Frames and Arrangements

Floral frames or arrangements, when removed from any plot site in the City Cemetery, may be disposed of by the Sexton in any manner he sees fit, unless the person who is entitled to such floral frames or arrangements claims them within seven (7) days.

10.16 Operation of Motor Vehicles in the City Cemetery

Motor vehicles shall not be driven through the City Cemetery at a greater speed than ten miles per hour. Motor vehicles are not allowed to park or come to a full stop in front of an open grave unless such motor vehicles are in attendance at a funeral. Motor vehicles shall not be allowed in the City Cemetery after dark.

10.17 Depositing Rubbish Prohibited in the City Cemetery.

It shall be unlawful for any person to deposit or throw rubbish, trash, or litter on any part of the City Cemetery grounds or buildings.

10.18 Animals Prohibited in City Cemetery.

It shall be unlawful for any person to allow any animal under his control to go upon or into the City Cemetery grounds or buildings unless the animal is a certified, service animal, or the Sexton of the city has permitted the entrance of the animal.

10.19 Disclaimer of Liability

The City shall not be responsible for lost, misplaced or broken flower vases. The City shall not be responsible for any wreath, spray, floral decorations, plants, herbage, plantings or objects of any kind damaged by the elements, thieves, vandals or by other causes beyond the City's control.