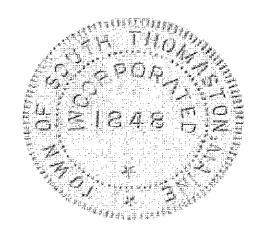
### TOWN OF SOUTH THOMASTON, MAINE



# **CEMETERY ORDINANCE RULES & REGULATIONS**

Enacted March 29th, 2011

### TOWN OF SOUTH THOMASTON, MAINE CEMETERY ORDINANCE RULES & REGULATIONS

### **SECTION 1.**

For the mutual protection of lot owners and all cemeteries as a whole, the following rules and regulations are hereby established for all Town of South Thomaston Cemeteries. All lot owners and persons visiting the cemeteries will be expected to abide by such rules and regulations as herein enacted and as hereafter amended, which are intended to assist in maintaining these cemeteries as peaceful and beautiful areas as well as reverent symbols of respect for the dead.

### SECTION 2.

Hereinafter the Town of South Thomaston shall be referred to as the Town. The Board of Selectmen shall act as the Cemetery Board and hereinafter be referred to as the Board and may appoint a cemetery committee as needed.

### **SECTION 3. PURCHASE OF LOTS**

Any lot purchase shall be made at the Town Office through the Town Treasurer. Upon full payment of the purchase price of a lot, the Town will issue a Cemetery Lot Conveyance under its seal, and the deed will be recorded in the records of the Town as evidence of ownership of the lot.

- (a) All lots are to be sold to Town residents and former Town residents. A resident is defined as a person who has a fixed habitation within the Town of South Thomaston.
- (b) Upon approval of the South Thomaston Selectmen, interest in said lots may be sold back to the Town for the original purchase price. Lots may not be sold or transferred to a third party.
- (c) All interments in lots shall be restricted to members of the immediate family. Lot owners must request permission of the Board, in writing, to bury persons who are not immediate members of the family.
  - (d) No mound shall be placed upon any grave above the level of the lot.

### **SECTION 4. LOT REQUIREMENTS**

No lot will be sold without Perpetual Care.

(a) The full purchase price includes Perpetual Care. The fees are as follows:

*	LOT PRICE	PERPETUAL CARE	TOTAL COST
Double Grave	\$100.00	\$300.00	\$400.00
Four Graves	\$200.00	\$600.00	\$800.00

- (b) No single lots will be sold.
- (c) "After the first year, the Perpetual Care Fee will be increased on April 1<sup>st</sup>, by an amount (rounded up to the nearest dollar) equal to the New England Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the previous twelve months, as of February of each year."

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(c) All lots are to be surfaced with grass.

### SECTION 5. USE OF FEES

- (a) The lot fees are to be used by the Town in maintaining the cemetery properties.
- (b) The Perpetual Care Fees are to be invested by the Town and only used in caring for lots.
- (c) The Town or its employees assume no liability for damage, actual or mental anguish in the performance of normal operations or loss by vandalism or other acts beyond reasonable control.

### **SECTION 6. INTERMENT**

- (a) The interment of two bodies in one single grave will not be allowed, except in the case of parent and infant, or twin children, or two children buried at the same time, or two cremated remains.
  - (b) Interments are to be handled only by funeral directors licensed by the State of Maine.
  - (c) No lot shall be used for any other purpose than for the burial of the human dead.

### **SECTION 7. MONUMENTS**

- (a) Foundation charges for monuments and marker emplacements are to be handled through any reputable monument dealer.
  - (b) All flush markers shall be set so the top is flush with the ground.
  - (c) A full foundation is required for the placement of headstones.
- (d) The Perpetual Care of lots does not include the repair, maintenance, or replacement of any marker or headstone except as such work is done in normal care.

### SECTION 8. TREES, SHRUBS & FLOWERS

- (a) The planting of trees or shrubs by lot owners is prohibited.
- (b) Any planting of flowers is to be contained in a container.
- (c) The Town employees shall have the right to remove all flowers when they become unsightly, faded, or wilted.

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(d) Ornamentation is not encouraged. Ornamentation that prevents convenient maintenance is prohibited and may be removed by Town employees.

### SECTION 9. GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

- (a) The cemeteries will be open from sunrise to sunset.
- (b) No persons shall walk upon or across lots or lawns unless it is necessary to gain access to a particular lot.
- (c) The Town disclaims responsibility for property damage or any injury sustained by any person violating these rules.
- (d) Persons visiting the cemeteries are prohibited from picking any flowers, or from writing upon, defacing, or damaging any memorial, fence or other structure within the grounds of the cemeteries.
  - (e) Motorcars and vehicles must be kept under control at all times.
- (f) Animals, bicycles, motorcycles, motorbikes, snowmobiles and all terrain vehicles are prohibited within the cemeteries.
  - (g) No person shall discard any article in the cemeteries.
- (h) The bringing of firearms into the cemeteries, except by military escort, is prohibited. The discharge of, or carrying of, any offensive weapon, such as bow and arrow, air rifles, slingshots, or the hurling of rocks or pellets, is strictly prohibited.
- (i) The Board reserves the right to propose additional rules and regulations, or to amend, alter or repeal any rule or regulation, or any portion thereof, by voter approval at a Town Meeting.

Attest: A true copy:

Barbara J. Black/

Town Clerk of South Thomaston