

CHAPTER 6
CEMETERIES

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Article 1. Cemetery Administration

Section 6-1. Cemetery Administration.

1. The Municipal Cemetery shall be controlled and administered by the Public Works Department. (See Chapter 1, this Code or ordinances.)

2. Within the Public Works Department, care and maintenance of the Municipal Cemetery shall be the responsibility of the Cemetery Sexton employed by the City of Hollis, Oklahoma.

Section 6-2. Cemetery Care Fund.

The Cemetery Care Fund (also referred to as the "Perpetual Care Fund") shall be established, maintained and used as provided in the applicable provisions of Oklahoma Statutes.

Section 6-3. Charges and Fees.

1. The City Council, by motion or resolution, shall determine the price of lots in the Municipal Cemetery, as well as certain charges to be made for other services.

2. All grave service charges and fees must be paid for before service time.

3. All grave service charges and lot sale charges are payable in advance by lot owners at the Office of the City Treasurer.

4. The City must have twenty-four (24) hours notice before a grave opening.

5. A fee will be paid by the monument company or agent, as determined by the size of monument set:

a. Twelve (12) inch monument -----\$1.00

b. Twenty-four (24) inch monument -----\$2.00

c. Thirty-six (36) inch monument -----\$3.00

6. A permit will be secured and paid for at the City Treasurer Office, before monuments are set.

7. There will be no charge for the government to set veterans' monuments, or for lot owners to set their own monuments.

Section 6-4. Municipal Responsibilities.

1. The City of Hollis, Oklahoma, will not be responsible for the negligence of undertakers.

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2. The City Council will take every reasonable precaution to protect all private property of lot and grave owners in the Cemetery from loss or damage, but distinctly disclaims all responsibility for loss or damage from causes beyond its reasonable control, and from all acts of providence or winds, tornadoes, cyclones, fire, hail, snow and frost, whether the damage be direct or incidental.

3. The City Council expressly reserves the right to make exceptions to these rules in favor of any construction work said Council considers exceptionally artistic or of a general benefit to the appearance of the Cemetery.

4. Funeral designs and floral pieces will be removed from graves when they become wilted or unsightly. In no case will employees attempt to locate designs or floral pieces, after their removal from a lot.

5. The Council reserves the right to forbid the placing of any structure or object within the Cemetery which they shall deem objectionable.

Section 6-5. Purchase of Cemetery Lots.

1. Deeds to Cemetery spaces or lots shall not be issued until lots are fully paid for.

2. When Cemetery spaces are purchased by contract, should the purchaser neglect or fail to pay the balance due hereunder at the expiration of one (1) year, the purchaser will have no further right therein and all sums so paid shall belong to the City as liquidated damages.

3. No burial shall be made on any Cemetery spaces until said spaces are paid for.

Sections 6-6 through 6-9. (Reserved for future use.)

Article 2. Rules and Regulations

Section 6-10. General Provisions.

1. Hours of admission to the Municipal Cemetery shall be from daylight to dark.

2. All vehicles shall drive slowly and shall not turn around in streets; all trucks must secure permission before entering the Cemetery.

3. All persons are prohibited from pulling flowers, breaking any tree, plants or shrubs, or in any manner defacing any monument, building or structure within the Cemetery.

4. No hunting, picnics, intoxicated persons, children (unless accompanied by parents or guardian), peddlers, solicitors, drinking, gambling, disorderly conduct, dogs or livestock shall be allowed in the Cemetery at any time, and may be ejected therefrom by the Cemetery Sexton.

5. No person shall be allowed to burn any trash or grass inside of the Cemetery, nor to set fire to any articles within the Cemetery.

6. No sign shall be placed in the Cemetery indicating that a lot or space is for sale, nor shall any sign, cards or advertising of any nature be permitted within the Cemetery.

7. No disinterment will be allowed without permission from the City Council, and a permit from the proper authorities.

8. Two (2) bodies shall not be interred in one (1) grave, except parent and infant child, twins, or two (2) deaths at the same time. No interment of any body other than that of a human being will be permitted.

9. If special care of lots or graves is requested, the City Council reserves the right to decide if the Cemetery Sexton is to perform this service; reasonable prices will be charged to the lot owner.

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10. No lot owner shall have the right to have a body interred within bounds of this lot, for remuneration, sale or hire, without special permission of the City Council.

11. The removal by the heirs or his immediate family, for profit to themselves, is absolutely forbidden.

Section 6-11. Construction and Maintenance Provisions.

1. Both family monuments or grave markers may be erected on all burial lots or spaces.

2. All lots are marked by the City. Any other boundary posts are unnecessary; to avoid error in the numbers of lots caused by changes, they will not be permitted.

3. The City of Hollis, Oklahoma, maintains all lots unless requested not to by lot owners, and will not be responsible for flowers, grass or other seeds planted unless the Cemetery Sexton is notified.

4. All plants will be removed by the Cemetery Sexton, when they become diseased or endanger other shrubs.

5. On grass plots, the mound shall be maintained at ground level.

6. No lot shall be enclosed, except by a sidewalk.

7. In the erection of stone work, no workman shall enter on any lot when the surface is in a soft condition (due to rains); before leaving the grounds, it must be cleaned up. Workmen engaged in the erection of stone work cannot attach ropes to monuments, trees or permanent structures, without special permission from the City Manager.

8. All planting shall be restricted to the monument side of each lot, and so grouped as to allow all lots to be mowed easily.

9. All monuments above ground must be set in line with the back side of each lot and all markers set flush with the ground.

10. All monuments will be set to the Cemetery Sexton's specifications, on a concrete base not less than eight (8) inches deep and four (4) inches wider than the base of the monument. Concrete mixture shall be two (2) parts cement, three (3) parts sand and four (4) parts rock.

11. Vaults and mausoleums will be permitted, when design and construction has been approved by the City Council, on certain lots designated by said Council.

12. Vaults built partially or entirely above ground must be granite, unpolished marble or reinforced concrete. They must, in all cases, be furnished with catacombs, where interments may be separately made, hermetically-sealed at the time of depositing a body. Walls of vaults erected above ground must be at least sixteen (16) inches in thickness. Any lot owner desiring to erect a vault or mausoleum shall submit to the City Council a statement in writing, giving the lot number, the section where the structure is to be placed and detailed plans and specifications as to the materials and construction; no work shall be done until approved by the City Council. No vault or mausoleum shall be built on lots having less than four hundred (440) square feet in area.

Section 6-12. Water Use.

1. The use of water at the Cemetery will be controlled by the Cemetery Sexton or the City Manager.

2. The water system in the Cemetery is owned and maintained by the City of Hollis, Oklahoma. Lot owners requiring private lines will be responsible for laying and maintaining the same and such lines shall be laid under specifications prescribed by the Cemetery Sexton or the City Manager.

3. Lot owners and caretakers are prohibited from leaving the water running within the Cemetery during their absence from the Cemetery.

Sections 6-13 through 6-24. (Reserved for future use.)

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Article 3. Penalty

Section 6-25. Penalty.

Any person, firm or corporation who violates any provisions of this Chapter shall be guilty of an offense and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by fine and costs as provided for in Section 9-34 of this Code. Each day upon which a violation continues shall be deemed a separate offense.