

Ordinance 25-03  
An ordinance amending Chapter 91: Cemeteries

**CHAPTER 91: CEMETERIES**

Section

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**91.01 PERPETUAL CARE REQUIRED.**

No lot shall be sold in any cemetery or cemeteries owned and operated by the City of Alma unless perpetual care is provided for at time of sale. (Ord. 26B, passed 6-4-79)

**91.02 GRAVE SITE MEMORIALS.**

(A) All grave sites in all cemeteries operated and maintained by the city or which shall hereafter be operated and maintained by the city shall be level.

(B) The planting of shrubs, flowers, or other growing plants in the earth is not permitted. The planting of live growing plants within designated urns only is allowed. One elevated pot per grave site is permitted. One elevated pole commonly referred to as a Shepards Hook may be placed adjacent to a headstone. The placement of artificial wreaths or flowers shall be allowed only in containers designed for this specific purpose and only at the headstone of the grave site. They must be placed in such a manner as to not interfere with lawn care operations. Items described in this section may be placed no earlier than May 1st and removed no later than September 30th of each year.

(C) All memorials placed on new burial sites shall be removed after 7 days from internment. Items remaining after this time period will be disposed of by the city.

(D) No memorial decoration may be placed by any footstone with the exception of a veterans plaque or marker.

(F) No hedges or fences of any kind will be permitted on or around grave sites.

(G) No food products, personal effects, household products, or any other ornamentation other than those listed in this section are allowed to be placed in any part of the cemeteries owned and operated by the City of Alma.

(H) No more than one traditional burial, (casket and vault) will occupy a single grave site. Cremation remains shall not be buried on the same site having a traditional burial.

(I) There shall be allowed up to and no more than eight cremation urns and vaults on any one gravesite. Individual markers are not allowed unless incorporated into a single

footstone or family headstone. Cremation remains must be placed in a watertight sealed container or vault such as concrete or fiberglass. Wood and metal containers are not allowed.

(J) The City of Alma reserves the right to bill at a rate of time and one half for any amount of time necessary to remedy violations as listed above.

### **91.03 MONUMENTS.**

(A) HEADSTONES. One headstone is allowed per family owned gravesite grouping. Headstones are required to have a concrete base a minimum of four inches thick at ground level and must extend a minimum of six inches from the base of the headstone on all sides. Each headstone must also have one concrete pilaster at least six inches in diameter and two and one foot deep per square foot of foundation.

(B) FOOTSTONES AND MILITARY MARKERS. Each gravesite is allowed a footstone and/or a military plaque or marker. Footstones or military plaques must have a concrete base level with the ground that extends out from the footstone or plaque a minimum of six inches for lawn care purposes and must be kept in alignment with other footstones. Concrete foundations must be a minimum of four inches thick. They do not require pilasters.

(C) AUTHORITY. Placement of headstones, footstones, and military plaques shall be under the direct authority of the cemetery sexton or the City of Alma designated personnel.

### **91.04 PETS**

No pets of any kind with the exception of service animals will be allowed on the cemetery grounds at any time.

## ***CEMETERY PERPETUAL BEAUTIFICATION TRUST***

### **91.10 TRUSTEES**

(A) There is created the Alma Cemetery Perpetual Beautification Trust to be administered by a three person Board of Trustees. The purpose of the Board and creating a Trust Fund is for the purpose of allowing those who wish to make contributions to insure that certain graves or the cemetery in general may be beautified by flowers, urns, and plantings and the continued care of such items. This Perpetual Trust Fund is in addition to and separate from the perpetual care provided pursuant to Wis. Stats. 66.0603 (1m).

(B) There is created a three-person Board of Trustees to administer and handle all matters concerning the Alma Cemetery Perpetual Beautification Fund. The Mayor shall appoint three residents of the City of Alma to act as trustees subject to the approval of the majority of the members of the Common Council. Those appointees shall hold their positions until such

time that they die, resign, move from the city, or in some other way, are unable to uphold their duties.

Any of these members may be removed by the Mayor at his or her discretion at which time that position shall be filled in the same manner as aforesaid. The trustees shall be compensated at the regular city per diem rate for attendance at scheduled meetings. Such pay shall be made available from the interest earned from the deposits of the cemetery perpetual beautification fund and not from the principal amount of that fund. (Ord. 55, passed 8-12-76; Am. Ord. 55A, passed 5-4-81.)

#### **91.11 DUTIES AND POWERS OF TRUSTEES.**

The three-person Board of Trustees is empowered to carry out all beautification and care of graves required under this subchapter and to spend and invest all funds placed in the Alma Cemetery Perpetual Beautification Fund. The Board of Trustees shall see to it that all graves that are ordered beautified by the deposit of funds in the Trust have the placement of flowers or planting each year before Memorial Day and see to it that the urns for the holding of the plantings or flowers are provided and that the plantings or flowers are watered and cared for thereafter. Person depositing the funds and requesting the beautification shall provide the original urns. Thereafter, any urn that is destroyed or needs to be replaced for any other reason, shall be replaced by the Board of Trustees. The Board shall contract with and for the responsible ordering of flowers and plantings and see to the placement on the graves and such care as required thereafter. (Ord. 55, passed 8-12-76)

#### **91.12 BEAUTIFICATION FUND CREATED.**

There is created a Perpetual Trust Fund to carry out the purposes of this subchapter. Any person desiring a grave beautified may contribute to this fund in their lifetime or may so provide by will and bequest. All such monies shall be handled by the Board of Trustees as empowered by this subchapter. The City Clerk shall receive all monies on behalf of the Trustees and turn over to them, all monies as received. The Board of Trustees shall make an annual balance report to the Common Council of all activities through December 31st of each year and present such a report before March 31st of the following year showing receipts, expenditures, balances, and investments on hand. (Ord. 55, passed 8-12-76)

#### **91.77 Penalties**

Any person who violates this chapter may receive a forfeiture of \$100 plus the costs associated with court for the 1st offense and \$200 plus court costs for the 2nd and subsequent violations within a one year time period.

Passed this 13th day of Mar, 2025 with 7 members voting yes and 1 members voting no.

  
Richard Champeny, Mayor

  
Linda M. Torgerson, Clerk-Treasurer

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