

# Town of Veazie

## CEMETERY RULES AND REGULATIONS

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

- A. The Town of Veazie places into effect the following Rules and Regulations approved on the **6<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2014**. The purpose of these Rules and Regulations is to provide support, protection and consistency for the benefit of all lot owners. Our cemetery is dedicated to human burial and the provisions of Maine State Law will be strictly enforced in all disturbance and disregard of property. These Rules and Regulations are subject to change without prior notice as deemed necessary by the Veazie Town Council.
- B. These Rules and Regulations apply only to the Town of Veazie owned and maintained cemeteries and not to privately owned cemeteries that are not maintained by the Town.

### **2. GENERAL CARE**

- A. The general care of the cemeteries is assumed by the Town of Veazie and includes the cutting of grass at reasonable intervals and the raking and cleaning of the grounds.
- B. The general care assumed by the Town or its Contractors shall in no case mean the maintenance, repair or replacement of any memorial or tomb, or mausoleum placed or erected upon lots; nor the doing of any special or unusual work in the cemetery except when required by law

### **3. USE OF CEMETERIES**

- A. The cemeteries are open from dawn to dusk. Persons trespassing before dawn and after dusk will be subject to sanctions allowed under applicable Maine State Law. Those visiting the cemetery should drive, park and walk in such a manner so as not to disturb the tranquility of the cemetery.
- B. Workers at the cemetery shall cease work in the vicinity of any funeral service until such time as the services have been concluded.
- C. Anyone doing work in the cemetery shall not leave any debris, tools or any other materials in any area of the cemetery except in those areas designated as acceptable disposal sites.
- D. All workers employed by outside firms, while within a cemetery, are subject to rules and regulations of the cemetery.
- E. Recreational ATV's and snowmobiles are prohibited in a cemetery per State of Maine Statues. Anyone operating an ATV or snowmobile within the confines of a cemetery will be reported to the Veazie Police Department
- F. Roads and/or avenues within a cemetery are subject to closure as conditions warrant, up and until a time is determined by the Sexton that the conditions are once again favorable to open them.
- G. Use of metal detectors is only allowed when permission is received from a Town Official or the Cemetery Sexton.

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### **4. OWNERSHIP**

- A. A licensee may reserve a lot or lots by paying in full at the Town Office the purchase price as set out in the schedule of fees. The lot shall be reserved for the use of the licensee.
- B. A licensee of a lot or lots desiring to transfer ownership rights to another licensee must make written application for approval to the Town before transfer will be validated and pay all associated fees.
- C. A licensee wishing to transfer ownership rights back to the Town of Veazie may do so by making written notice to the Town of Veazie. In exchange for the ownership rights the original licensee shall receive a payment not to exceed the original purchase price minus associated transfer fees.
- D. Descent of Title – The laws of the State of Maine govern the descent of title to cemetery Right of Interments as well as other matters related to their ownership. In the result of death of the lot owner, notarized statements as to relationship and certified copies of will are normally sufficient.

### **5. PERPETUAL CARE**

- A. Perpetual care is required on all lots purchased or granted in the Town of Veazie. The cost of perpetual care varies depending on the lot size and location. The cost of perpetual care is determined by the Sexton with consent of the Council and is subject to change without notice.

### **6. PROPER BURIAL.**

- A. The term “Proper Burial” is used to define the acceptable method for the burial of human remains. Traditional burials of human remains must be placed in a casket and vault. No other means of disposal of ashes or remains such as scattering will be tolerated. Cremains may be buried in an acceptable cremains container
- B. Burial vaults and cremains containers shall have a minimum coverage of 8” which equals a minimum 42” depth for burial vaults.
- C. Burials in the Town of Veazie shall be carried out under the purview and with authorization of the Cemetery Sexton and consistent with its guidelines. Burials determined by the Cemetery Sexton not to be in said conformance will have to be rectified by the responsible party or parties.
- D. No animals shall be buried in any lot.

### **7. BURIALS PER LOT**

- A. One traditional burial or 2 traditional burials for children up to 5 years of age per single grave lot.
- B. One cremains may be interred in an occupied grave.
- C. Up to 4 cremains per single grave lot.
- D. Two cremations per cremation lot.

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### **8. GRAVE OPENINGS/CLOSING**

- A. Graves may be opened year round as ground conditions permit but any damage incurred on the burial grounds shall be the responsibility of the person(s) overseeing the burial.
- B. All graves being opened to receive a casket shall be required to have a cement liner or vault.
- C. Before any burial is made complete payment for the lot must be made to the Town Office.
- D. No lot shall be used for any other purpose than for human burial.
- E. The Cemetery Sexton will be notified before any burials occur.
- F. A lot must be "flagged" before a grave opening.
- G. Cremation burials can be made by the family under the supervision of the Cemetery Sexton

### **9. LOCATION OF GRAVES**

- A. When the lot owner or owners request the location of a grave it must be approved by the Cemetery Sexton. No change of the location will be made, except at the expense of the owner.

### **10. ABOVE GROUND INTERMENT**

- A. There shall be no interment or entombment, either in whole or in part above the surface of the ground unless in an approved mausoleum.

### **11. INTERMENT OF INDIGENT PERSONS**

- A. The Town of Veazie shall provide a lot without charge for the interment of indigent person(s) on a case by case basis. To determine indigence a general assistance application will have to be completed, by the requesting person, and meet the requirements for general assistance.
- B. No monument or marker, other than a veteran's marker, shall be allowed unless payment is made for the lot.
- C. Preexisting indigent lots are grandfathered.

### **12. DISINTERMENT**

- A. No body shall be disinterred until all proper paper work as required by the State of Maine Department of Human Services and any other agencies. Notification of disinterment shall be made to the Town of Veazie

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### **13. PLANTS, FLOWERS, FENCES & DECORATIONS**

- A. Flowers from the funeral or grave side service shall be placed on the site as soon as the grave has been closed.
- B. As soon as flowers, wreaths, emblems, baskets and other decorations placed upon a grave become unsightly, they shall be removed. If the Town of Veazie elects to remove such they assume no responsibility for their protection or maintenance. The Town of Veazie has the right to refuse to replace or return them when they are removed.
- C. Due to potential liability and possible personal injury, plastic flowers and plastic arrangements must be placed in a flower bed or suitable container.
- D. Any decorations, including but not limited to fences, that interfere with maintenance of the cemetery can be removed.
- E. Around October 15<sup>th</sup> of each year the Cemetery Sexton shall have the right, at their discretion, to remove and dispose of any summer decorations.
- F. Around April 15<sup>th</sup> of each year the Cemetery Sexton shall have the right at their discretion to remove, any and all decorations from the previous winter.
- G. Flower vases or other containers must be heavy enough to keep flowers and other decorations in place and not allow the vases and containers to blow over and around the cemetery.
- H. All containers, vases, flowers and decorations found blowing around the cemetery may be removed at the discretion of the Cemetery Sexton.
- I. Plastic pots used to hold decorations should be sufficient strength to withstand string trimmer abrasion.
- J. No damages may be recovered from the Town of Veazie or anyone hired by the Town of Veazie to work within the cemetery for this type of damage.
- K. Glass bottles and ceramic vases are not allowed. If a violation occurs, and results in personal injury, it is the legal responsibility of the lot owner to settle legal disputes.

### **14. GRAVE MARKERS**

#### A. GRAVE MARKER PERMITS

- 1. A Grave Marker Intent to Place Memorial Notification Form will be issued upon payment for cemetery lot(s). Extra forms will be available at the Veazie Town Office or on the Town of Veazie's web site at [www.veazie.net](http://www.veazie.net)
- 2. Grave marker permits shall be delivered to the Veazie Town Office where they will be kept on file.

#### B. PLACEMENT

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1. The placement of any or all monuments, headstones and/or cornerstones must be installed in an approved location. Foundations shall require a grave marker permit.

### **GRAVE MARKERS (Continued)**

2. Any monument or headstone taller than 8 inches shall require a foundation.
3. Only one monument (tablet & base) or headstone allowed per single grave space. Said monument or headstone shall not be longer than 66% of the width of the single grave space. Only one family monument per 2 grave or larger lot will be allowed. Said family monument shall not be longer than 66% of the width of the lot.
4. Multiple cremations on a single grave lot are allowed one above ground monument or headstone or one flush marker per cremation.
5. Installation of any foundation for a monument or headstone, without a permit will be subject to a fine, penalty or action of the Town of Veazie.
6. All fines, penalties and actions assessed, shall be the responsibility of the lot owner.
7. The lot owner may hire any reputable monument company to install foundations and monuments on any lot(s) owned by them.
8. Any inadequately installed foundation shall be repaired or replaced by the monument company who installed the monument. If said monument company is no longer in business the lot owner shall be responsible.
9. All monuments shall be installed on concrete foundations that are 4 feet in depth and at least 2 inches larger in width and length than the monument being placed thereon.
10. Sodding, loaming and seeding are the responsibilities of the monument company.

### **C. MATERIALS**

1. All monuments, headstones or cornerstones must be crafted from materials that will last indefinitely.
2. Bronze plaques shall be mounted in a permanent manner.

### **D. CORNER STONES**

1. All corner stones or markers must be flush with the ground.
2. Cornerstones may be installed only on 2 grave lots or larger.

### **E. DISCLAIMER**

1. Accidental damage to any stone or corner stone(s) is not the responsibility of the Town of Veazie or contractors working for the Town of Veazie.

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### **15. BRUSHES, SHRUBS & TREES**

- A. No planting of trees, bushes and shrubs is allowed. No exceptions shall be granted.
- B. Any such plantings shall be removed by the Town.
- C. No compensation will be paid by the Town of Veazie for trees shrubs or bushes that are removed.

### **16. TRAFFIC**

- A. Any motorized vehicles being operated within the confines of a cemetery shall not travel at a speed greater than 10 miles per hour.
- B. No person shall drive a vehicle on any part of the cemetery other than a roadway provided for that purpose except for burial purposes or monument installation or repair. Any damages incurred by such motorized vehicles shall be their responsibility.

### **17. MISCELLANEOUS**

- A. No exposed crushed rock is allowed.
- B. Disposal of all rubbish, paper, dried flowers, etc. shall be the responsibility of the lot owner(s), subject to the littering laws of the State of Maine.
- C. Disposal of such upon lots, avenues or in the nearby woodlands is forbidden.
- D. Picking flowers, breaking or injuring any tree or shrub, marring any stone or in any way defacing any object within a cemetery will, under the state laws, subject the offender to severe penalty.
- E. There will be no mounding of lots.
- F. Whenever a body is permanently disinterred from a grave and the grave is vacated, lots must be brought back to original appearance.
- G. The Town of Veazie shall have the right to remove from any lot – weeds, grass or any article which is deemed unsightly, improper or injurious to the appearance of the cemetery unless grandfathered.
- H. No person shall write upon, mark, scratch, deface or injure any lot, grave marker, fence, building or any structure in or around the cemetery. Any person found guilty of such damage shall be responsible for the cost of repairing the damage and be subject to the penalty imposed in these Rules and Regulations and the State of Maine.

### **18. INFRACTIONS**

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- A. Any violation or infractions of these rules will be subject to all the rights and liabilities reserved to municipalities and as duly provided for under Maine State Law.

### 19. DEFINITIONS

- A. BURIAL VAULT - a strength tested vault of concrete, or steel that will withstand the weight of 10,000 pounds.
- B. CREMAINS - means the remains of a body that has been cremated.
- C. CREMAINS CONTAINER – container that is acceptable (i.e., urn, vault box)
- D. FLAGGING – markers placed by the Cemetery Sexton indicating boundaries of a given lot.
- E. GRAVE - a space occupied by 1 traditional burial
- F. GRAVE LOT - means a subdivision of land for the purpose of burial.
- G. GRAVE MARKER - means a flat or upright marker bearing the name of the interred deceased person for memorial purposes.
- H. LICENSEE - shall mean a person or persons who purchase a plot or plots.
- I. MONUMENT - means an upright marble, granite or stone or concrete monument erected on any lot or plot to memorialize one or more persons.
- J. SINGLE GRAVE – would be a space that would occupy 1 traditional burial or 2 traditional burials for children up to 5 years of age or 1 traditional burial and 1 cremains or up to 4 cremains.

### 20. SCHEDULE OF FEES (Refer to Section 7 for burial per lots)

- A. Lot Prices:

SIZE	DESCRIPTION (All Include Perpetual Care)	PRICE
4' x 10'	Single Lot	\$ 500
8' x 10'	2 Grave Lot	\$ 1,000
4' x 10'	Cremation Lot	\$ 500

- B. Burial Prices:

1. Full Burial = \$450.00
2. Cremation= \$150.00

### 21. AMENDMENTS

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- A. The Council reserve the right to amend and modify or make changes to these rules and regulations at anytime without notice.