

TOWN OF READSBORO, VERMONT  
RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE MUNICIPAL CEMETERIES  
As amended and re-adopted on May 19, 2005

PURCHASE OF LOTS AND GRAVES

1. Persons desiring to purchase a lot or single grave in any one of our cemeteries are referred to the Cemetery Sexton. The Sexton will have available suitable plots showing location, size, and price of lots and single graves, and such other information as may be required and will be pleased to render assistance to those desiring to make lot or single grave purchases. Upon making a selection, the purchaser will be issued a Lot Order after making the necessary financial payments prescribed within these rules and regulations.

OWNERSHIP AND TITLE OF LOTS AND GRAVES

2. The terms "lot owner", "grave owner" or "ownership" shall be interpreted to mean the right to use a lot, part of a lot, or single grave, as purchased from the Town for a consideration, for burial purposes only and under the rules and regulations as prescribed by the Town for such use.

3. Upon full payment of the purchase price of a lot or grave, the Town will issue a Cemetery deed under its seal, and deed will be recorded in the records of the Town Clerk, as evidence of ownership of the lot.

4. Lots or fractional lots, for which lot deeds have been issued by the Town, will not thereafter be divided or transferred except by consent of the Cemetery Sexton, and the Cemetery Commission.

5. The Town reserves the right to resell unused portions of lots that are not paid for, as specified in these rules and regulations.

6. All burial rights in cemetery lots purchased from the Town occupy the same position as real estate at the death of the owner or owners. Only such persons as names appear on the Cemetery records of the Town will be recognized as owners or part owners of the lots. In case of the death of a lot owner, when the cemetery lot is disposed of by will, a certified copy of the will must be delivered to the Town Clerk's office before the Town will recognize the change in ownership.

7. The title to a cemetery lot invests in the owner the right to use such lot for burial purposes only for themselves, their heirs, or for any such person as they may choose to admit, provided such admission is free of charge and in accordance with the Cemetery Rules and Regulations.

CARE OF TOWN CEMETERIES

8. Revenue received from lot sales shall be placed in a Trust Fund. Interest from said Trust Fund shall be used toward maintenance of the cemeteries of the Town of Readsboro.

#### PRIVILEGES AND RESTRICTIONS

9. Each lot in the cemetery will, prior to its sale be suitably marked by the Town with iron pins, placed on each lot corner and set level with the Ground, at the expense of the purchaser.

10. All landscaping, care of lots, and other work in the Cemeteries will be done by the town, but it is desired that each lot owner feel free to consult with those in charge of the Cemeteries at all times. Their advice and assistance will be cheerfully given (without charge) and may be of great value to those contemplating lot improvements.

11. The Cemeteries reserves the right for its workmen and those necessary persons to the performance of normal cemetery operations to enter upon or cross over any lot in the Cemeteries in performance of such duties.

12. The Town, in the performance of its normal operations, assumes no liability for damages from any cause whatsoever, or less by vandalism or other acts.

#### RULE FOR VISITORS

13. The cemeteries will be open to visitors at all times between the hours of 8:00 A.M., and sunset. Permission to enter the Cemeteries at any other time must be obtained from the Cemetery Sexton.

14. Children under fourteen years of age will be admitted only when accompanied by parents or guardians.

15. Persons or picnic parties with refreshments shall not be admitted. Dogs will not be allowed in the Cemeteries.

16. Firearms will be allowed in the Cemeteries only at Military funerals. Hunting on Cemetery property is strictly prohibited.

17. The teaching of student automobile drivers within the cemeteries is prohibited.

18. Visitors are forbidden to pick any flowers (either wild or cultivated) or injure any shrub, tree, or plant, or mar or deface any monument, stone or structure in the Cemeteries.

#### INTERMENTS

19. All interments in lots shall be restricted to the owner and his heirs and his assignees. Permission in writing from a lot owner or his heirs must accompany all requests for the burial of any other person in the family lot.

20. All interments, or removals, and all work incidental thereto, except the installation of vaults or crypts, will be done only by employees of the Town under the direction of the Cemetery Sexton.

21. No interment shall be made in, or removals made from the Cemeteries, until the Cemetery Sexton has been furnished with such permits as required by State and local law, and also with an interment or removal order properly signed by the lot owner, or his legal representative.

22. The lot owner or funeral director shall designate the location of the grave on the lot to the Sexton and any change of location made after the opening of the grave has begun shall be at the expense of the lot owner.

23. All orders for an interment must be given to the Cemetery Department forty-eight hours in advance. No interment will be permitted on Sunday or holidays. Interments on Saturday will be permitted only at the time of funerals. Extra costs for rock excavation and overtime shall be borne by the lot owner.

24. The interment of two bodies in one grave will not be allowed, except in case of mother and infant, twin children, or cremation ashes.

25. Four (4) cremation urns or containers will be allowed in one (1) grave providing they are no larger than 2'x 2' each.

26. The Cemetery Sexton or representative will attend each funeral and will be in complete charge of the funeral. They will be expected to see that rules, regulations, and strict proprieties of the Cemeteries are enforced and will cooperate fully with the Funeral Director.

27. A permanent type of outside container shall be required. The following are approved permanent outside containers: reinforced concrete, copper bearing or galvanized steel, sectional reinforced concrete, slate, marble, brick, or any other type of permanent material.

28. A second burial will not be permitted in a lot that is not paid for.

29. As soon as flowers, wreaths, emblems etc. used at funerals, or placed on graves at other times become unsightly and faded, they will be removed, and no responsibility for their protection or maintenance is assumed.

30. For sanitary reasons, except for official investigation, graves will not be reopened for inspection.

31. Removals of bodies from one grave to another, in the same cemetery, will be subject to the charges as prescribed in these Rules and Regulation.

#### STONE AND MONUMENTAL WORK

All stone and monumental work shall be subject to the following regulations and requirements:

32. Any monuments, headstones, markers, or other type of memorial to be erected on any lot, or single grave, must be set on a suitable foundation of a depth of no less than 4' feet and must conform to all regulations governing the section in which the memorial is to be located.

33. No memorial of any type may be placed on a single grave, or lot, on which there are charges outstanding, or upon any single grave.

34. Stone monumental work or foundations therefore shall not be relocated without the permission of the lot or grave owner and the Cemetery Sexton. The Town reserves the right to refuse permission to erect any monumental work not in keeping with the good appearance of the cemeteries.

35. No curbing, fencing, steps, or any other type of structure, except conventional memorials, may be placed on any lot without the permission of the cemetery sexton.

36. All contractors and outside workmen, doing work of any type in the cemetery, will be under the direct charge of the cemetery sexton. All work must be done during regular working hours of the cemetery, unless proper permission has been received from the cemetery sexton.

37. The following restrictions of memorial stones, size and type, apply to all of the town Cemeteries.

a. On single graves or lots, monuments must not exceed three feet in overall height and the base of the monument must not exceed fourteen inches in width and two feet in length. On double graves or lots, monuments must not exceed three feet in overall height and the base of the monument must not exceed fourteen inches in width and forty-eight inches in length.

b. No corner bounds, other than standard bounds, shall be placed on any lot, and must be flush with the surrounding ground.

#### TREES, SHRUBS, AND FLOWERS

38. All landscaping in the cemeteries will be done by the Town, but lot and grave owners may feel free at any time to consult with the Cemetery Sexton or representative regarding matters pertaining to permissible plantings or the general care and upkeep of lots and graves.

39. The Town assumes no responsibility for any flowers or decorations placed on graves. Glass containers, wire frames and other decorations of a type dangerous to cemetery workmen are not permitted, and may be removed at the Sexton's discretion. No more than four objects shall be placed on or around an individual grave site, and no object shall be more than three feet tall. No memorial objects shall be placed on any vacant lot or pathway. Cemetery workmen may remove any objects placed in violation of this provision. This provision shall not apply to flowers placed on and close to headstones. A gravestone shall not be counted as an object for purposes of this provision. Objects, including but not limited to all urns, pots, flowers, wreaths and containers, must be removed prior to October 1st of each year.

39. If any tree or shrub situated on any lot or single grave shall by means of their roots or branches become detrimental to or encroach upon adjacent lots, avenues, or paths or become unsightly, the Sexton of cemeteries shall have the right to enter the said lot or single grave and

remove the said tree or shrub, or such parts thereof as they shall determine to be detrimental or unsightly, of which proper notice shall be given to the owner.

Dated:

*June 9, 2005*

APPROVED BY THE CEMETERY COMMISSION

*Betty M. Bolognani*  
Chairman

*Priscilla P. Margola*

*Hilda Caruso*  
Secretary

*Robert D. Scott*

*Thomas J. Maroni*