

ORDINANCE NO. 14 - 17

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA, REVISING CHAPTER 22 OF THE PALATKA MUNICIPAL CODE ENTITLED CEMETERIES; AMENDING SECTION 22-4, LOT PRICES, TO ADD SERVICES; AMENDING SECTION 22-8 TO ADD RULES AND RESTRICTIONS FOR GRAVE MARKERS AND GRAVE SITES, ORNAMENTATION AND VEGETATION; HOURS WHEN PUBLIC IS PERMITTED IN CEMETERIES, PERMITTING PROCESSES, AND TO ADOPT STANDARDS FOR PRESERVATION AND CLEANING OF HISTORIC MONUMENTS AND GRAVESITES; AND AMENDING "APPENDIX A - FEE SCHEDULE" TO ADD PROVISIONS FOR THE SALE OF CREMAINS-ONLY LOTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Palatka owns and maintains three cemeteries and desires to memorialize and adopt rules and standards for the maintenance and orderly care of those cemeteries, as well as for the health, welfare and safety of its citizens and employees; and

WHEREAS, the City of Palatka finds it necessary to adopt standards for maintenance of historic cemeteries and grave sites, including standards for cleaning monuments and headstones, in order to preserve these historic sites and artifacts per nationally accepted standards; and

WHEREAS, Appendix A to Chapter 22 was amended by Ordinance 13-41, adopted September 26, 2013, to add fees for vaults and other services; therefore, corresponding amendments are required to be made to Chapter 22 relative to those fee schedule adjustments; and

WHEREAS, all the necessary procedural steps have been accomplished, and two duly advertised public hearings were held before the City Commission of the City of Palatka on June 12, 2014 and June 26, 2014; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission of the City of Palatka has determined that said amendments and standards are necessary and should be adopted.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE CITIZENS OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA:

Section 1. That Palatka Municipal Code Chapter 22, Section 4, entitled "Lot Prices" shall be amended to read as follows:

Sec. 22-4. ~~Lot prices~~ Prices for lots and services in city cemeteries.

- (a) *Adult lots.* The price of city cemetery lots per single adult grave space shall be as set out in Appendix A to this Code, as amended from time to time. All lots, except those designated as infant lots and those designated as cremains-only lots, will be considered adult lots.

- (b) Infant and cremains-only lots. The price of cemetery lots per single infant grave space, and per double-urn cremains-only grave space, shall be as set out in Appendix A to this Code, as amended from time to time. Lots 8 through 20, 28 through 40, 48 through 60, and 68 through 80, in Block 118 of Oak Hill Cemetery (also known as Oak Hill East Cemetery), and Sheets 3 and 4, Blocks A and AA of Oak Hill West Cemetery, are hereby designated as infant lots. Cremains-only lots, which are designated and set aside for that purpose, are as shown on the Plat of Oak Hill West Cemetery.
- (c) Vaults. The price of vaults provided for burials by the City of Palatka shall be as set out in appendix A to this Code, as amended from time to time.
- (d) Interments and all other services. The price for interments and all other services associated with interments, to coincide with those permitted times for the scheduling of interments, shall be as set out in appendix A to this Code, as amended from time to time. All interments shall require a forty-eight (48) hour notice provided to the City of Palatka Cemeteries Office during regular business hours.

Section 2. That That Palatka Municipal Code Chapter 22, Section 8, entitled "Restrictions, permits and hours of business operation" shall be amended to read as follows:

Sec. 22-8. Restrictions, permits, preservation standards and hours of business operation.

- (a) West View, Oak Hill (also known as Oak Hill East) and Oak Hill West Cemeteries will be opened daily to the public during the hours of 7:30 a.m. to dusk. Any person found in a city-owned cemetery between the hours of dusk and 7:30 a.m. shall be deemed to be trespassing and will be prosecuted for trespass and subject to fines and penalties per FS 810.09.
- (a ~~b~~) All vehicles, including vault and monument trucks used for delivery and installation of vaults and monuments within the cemetery, are permitted to drive only on the designated roadways within the cemetery, and are prohibited from driving outside of the designated existing roadways.
- (~~b~~ c) Permits for the installation of markers must be obtained from ~~city hall~~ the City of Palatka Cemeteries Department before a marker can be set.
- (~~e~~ d) Vaults and monuments may only be delivered and installed by licensed monument establishments in the cemetery ~~between~~ during regular business hours, from ~~7:30~~ 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except legal holidays.
- (e) With the exception of indigent burial sites, all gravesites shall be marked with a durable weather-resistant marker immediately following the interment service. Such marker shall include the name of the deceased, date of birth, and date of death.
- (f) The City of Palatka hereby adopts the standards set forth by The National Park Service National Center for Preservation Technology and Training, entitled "Best Practice Recommendations for Cleaning Government issued

Headstones," as it's standard for cleaning headstones or any marble, granite or other type of stone grave marking. For maintenance of grave markers done by persons other than heirs or owners of such markers, no bleach or bleach-like products, products containing strong acids or bases, or harsh mechanical devices such as sand blasters or drills equipped with wire brushes are permitted to be used. No pressure washing shall be allowed with a machine in excess of 500 psi, nor at a distance of closer than 12 inches from the surface to be cleaned, and only provided a test patch done on a small, unobtrusive area on the headstone is done prior to pressure washing which shows no adverse affects to the stone.

- (g) All persons performing any headstone or gravesite marker cleaning service on behalf of the owner of such headstone, or as a goodwill service on any historic, abandoned or non-owned headstone, shall first obtain a permit from the Palatka Cemeteries Department prior to the performance of any such work.
- (h) No vegetation, tree or shrub shall be allowed to be planted on or around any gravesite by anyone. Any vegetation planted on city-owned right of way at any cemetery shall be done only by permit issued by and in a location approved by the City cemeteries supervisor or designee. Any vegetation, tree or shrub planted on City right-of-way or property located in any cemetery shall become the property of the City of Palatka.
- (i) Permits for the planting of any vegetation, tree or shrub in any cemetery by members of the public must be obtained from the Palatka Cemeteries Department before such planting can occur.
- (j) No non-permanent items shall be allowed to be placed at any gravesite. Flowers may be placed at the headstone in a permanent vase attached to the base of the headstone or otherwise permanently installed on the side of the headstone, or attached by bracket to the top of the headstone. No ornamental items may be hung from or tied to any pole, bracket, tree or shrub. The City of Palatka will not be responsible for the maintenance or care of any unsecured flowers or ornaments placed on or around gravesites. City of Palatka personnel will remove any flowers or ornamental items from gravesites when the presence of such items is deemed a hazard or hindrance to public works, cemetery or maintenance personnel in the performance of his/her job duties.
- ~~(d) Any cemeteries supervisor for the City of Palatka is hereby designated as a code enforcement officer for the enforcement of the provisions of this section.~~
- ~~(e k)~~ A violation of this section shall constitute a class 1 violation as set forth in Section 2-314 of this Code.

Section 3. That Appendix A to Chapter 22 of the Palatka Municipal Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 1. Sec. 22-4. *Prices for lots, vault liners and services in city cemeteries:***
 - (1) Adult lot (5 ft. x 10 ft.) \$750.00 ***
 - (2) Infant or cremains-only lot (2.5 ft. x 5 ft.) \$375.00 ***

(3) Titan Vault	\$450.00 plus tax
(4) Graveliner Vault	\$300.00 plus tax
(5) Vault Setting Fee	\$200.00
(6) Interment	
a. Monday - Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.*	\$650.00
b. Monday – Saturday after 5:00 p.m.	\$750.00
c. Sundays & City holidays 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	\$1,000.00
(7) Cremation Interment ****	
a. Monday - Saturday (no setup), 9:00a.m.- 5:00 p.m.*	\$250.00
b. Monday - Saturday, (with setup) 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.*	\$400.00
c. After 5:00 p.m., or Sunday w/no set-up	\$500.00
d. Sunday (with set-up) 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	\$650.00
(8) Mausoleum Interment	
a. Monday- Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.*	\$450.00
b. Monday – Saturday after 5:00 p.m.	\$550.00
c. Sunday 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	\$750.00
(9) Other Interments/Services:	
a. Disinterment /Reinterment 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.*/**	\$500.00
b. Reinterment with set-up 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.*/**	\$650.00
c. Indigent interment 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.*/**	\$250.00
d. Additional set-ups include (1) one tent and (12) twelve chairs =	\$200.00

* Funeral Services should be concluded by 5:00 p.m. at the cemetery. Any funeral not concluded by 5:00 p.m. will be billed at the after 5:00 p.m. rate.

** Must be conducted Monday-Friday during normal business hours

*** Plus applicable doc stamps and recording fees, to be collected at time of lot sale

**** Cremains may be interred in an adult or infant lot or cremains-only lot, or in an existing adult or infant gravesite at the head or foot of the casket, or in addition to an existing urn in a cremains-only lot.

- Funeral Services may be conducted on City observed holidays; however, all “Other Interments” exclude City-observed legal holidays.
- All funeral arrangements shall be scheduled two business days prior to services

Section 4. To the extent of any conflict between the terms of this ordinance and the terms of any ordinance previously passed or adopted, the terms of this ordinance shall supersede and prevail.

Section 5. A copy of this Ordinance shall be furnished to the Municipal Code Corporation for insertion in the Code of Ordinances for the City of Palatka, Florida.

Section 6. This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its final passage by the City Commission.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Commission of the City of Palatka on this 10th day of July, 2014.

CITY OF PALATKA

BY: _____
Its MAYOR

ATTEST:

City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

CITY ATTORNEY