

Submitted by: Chair of the Assembly
at the Request of the
Mayor

Prepared by: Dept. of Parks and
Recreation

For reading: September 28, 2021

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
AO No. 2021-93, As Amended

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL CODE SECTIONS 25.60.015 DEFINITIONS; 25.60.045 VAULTS; 25.60.050 RESERVATIONS, USE AND DISINTERMENT OF BURIAL SITES; 25.60.055 INTERMENT AND DISINTERMENT PROCEDURES; 25.60.058 COLUMBARIUM; 25.60.065 FEES; 25.60.080 GRAVESITE DECORATIONS; AND 25.60.085 MEMORIAL MARKERS TO UPDATE ANCHORAGE MEMORIAL PARK CEMETERY TERMINOLOGY AND PROCEDURES.

THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY ORDAINS:

Section 1. Anchorage Municipal Code section 25.60.015, is hereby amended to read as follows (*the remainder of the section is not affected and therefore not set out*):

25.60.015 – Definitions.

* * *

Niche owner means the next of kin [IN] or responsible person (as determined by the cemetery director) who purchases a niche. The niche owner does not acquire the property itself, but only the entitlement to the rights of inurnment within a niche in the columbarium. All ownership of the land and the columbarium remains with the Anchorage Memorial Park Cemetery and the Municipality of Anchorage.

* * *

Private tract owner means the veteran, fraternal and church organization holding a patent to specific tracts of land and specific sections of the columbarium wall:

Organization	Tract	<u>Columbarium</u> Wall Section
* * *	* * *	* * *
Catholic Archdiocese of Anchorage and Juneau	5 & 6	13 & 14
* * *	* * *	* * *
American Legion Jack Henry Post #1	[19 &] 20	27 & 39

* * *

1 *Urn* means an appropriately sized container designed to permanently store
2 and transport the human cremated remains [OF ONE PERSON].

3
4 (AO No. 97-95, § 1, 7-1-97; AO No. 2001-90, § 3, 5-22-01; AO No. 2002-78,
5 § 1, 6-25-02; AO No. 2004-78, § 1, 5-11-04; AO No. 2009-81, § 1, 7-7-09;
6 AO No. 2014-94, § 1, 8-5-14)

7
8 **Note—** Formerly AMCR § 25.60.001.

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10 **Section 2.** Anchorage Municipal Code subsection 25.60.045A., is hereby
11 amended to read as follows:

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13 **25.60.045 – Vault.**

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15 A. A burial vault or grave box (concrete, steel, fiberglass or plastic) for
16 enclosing caskets shall be required for all burials of human remains in a
17 casket 37 inches or longer in length; provided, however, cremated
18 remains (ashes) in a sealed container/urn and 36-inch or less casket and
19 vault combination [CHERUB CASKETS] are exempt.

20
21 * * * * *

22
23 (AO No. 97-95, § 1, 7-1-97; AO No. 99-95, § 2, 7-13-99; AO No. 2001-90, §
24 7, 5-22-01)

25
26 **Note—** Formerly AMCR § 25.60.007.

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28 **Section 3.** Anchorage Municipal Code subsection 25.60.050D. is hereby
29 amended to read as follows:

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31 **25.60.050 – Reservations, use and disinterment of burial sites.**

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33 * * * * *

34
35 D. Reservations in the public tracts will be renewed at five-year intervals at
36 no extra charge. At each five-year interval, the cemetery director shall
37 attempt to contact the reservation holder or the reservation holder's
38 designated alternate by any reasonable method, including telephone,
39 electronic transmission (email) or by first class mail. If after 60 days, the
40 director is unable to make contact, the cemetery director shall send a
41 certified letter to the reservation holder and designated alternate. If
42 neither the reservation holder nor the designated alternate confirms the
43 reservation within 30 days of the certified letter, the cemetery director may
44 cancel the reservation.

45
46 * * * * *

(AO No. 97-95, § 1, 7-1-97; AO No. 2001-90, § 8, 5-22-01; AO No. 2009-81, § 2, 7-7-09; AO No. 2016-22, § 1, 3-8-16)

Note— Formerly AMCR § 25.60.008.

Section 4. Anchorage Municipal Code section 25.60.055 is hereby amended to read as follows (*the remainder of the section is not affected and therefore not set out*):

25.60.055 – Interment and disinterment procedures.

A. Gravesites [LOTS] in this cemetery shall be used for no other purpose than the burial of the human dead.

* * * * *

D. A duly executed Burial Application and Columbarium [MARKER INSTALLATION] Permit (municipality dual-purpose form 70-001 ver 10* [14-058]) will be required for each interment and/or marker installation. A licensed funeral director must be present at all burials except for burial of cremated remains.

E. The cemetery shall in no way be liable for any delay in the interment of a body where a protest to the interment has been made, or where the rules and regulations have not been complied with. The cemetery reserves the right under such circumstances to postpone the burial [PLACE THE REMAINS IN A RECEIVING VAULT] until the full rights of the parties involved have been determined. The cemetery reserves the right to require that any protest to any interment or disinterment be in writing and to be formally filed at the office of the cemetery.

F. The cemetery shall not be liable for errors made with the interred person's identification. The cemetery shall compare the name [AND NUMBER] of the person given by the mortuary with the burial permit. The cemetery will not be liable in any way for the preparation [EMBALMING] of any body.

* * * * *

H. [TENTS, ARTIFICIAL GRASS,] Lowering [LOWERING] devices[,] and other equipment owned by the cemetery shall be used exclusively in making interments, disinterments and removals.

* * * * *

M. The cemetery shall exercise due care in making any disinterment or removal, however, it shall not assume any liability for damage to any casket or burial case or urn incurred when making such removal. A licensed mortician must be present at all casketed disinterments.

(AO No. 97-95, § 1, 7-1-97; AO No. 2001-90, § 9, 5-22-01)

Note— Formerly AMCR § 25.60.004.

Section 5. Anchorage Municipal Code section 25.60.058 is hereby amended to read as follows (*the remainder of the section is not affected and therefore not set out*):

25.60.058 – Columbarium.

* * * * *

C. Inscriptions:

1. The inscription on the bronze niche plaque will include only the first name, middle name or initial (if desired), and last name together with the year of birth and the year of death.

* * * * *

D. *Emblems.* One two-inch by two-inch or less flat bronze emblem is permitted on the single or companion niche [AND SHALL BE CENTERED BELOW THE NICHE PLAQUE]. Two seven-inch (vertical measurement) by four-inch (horizontal measurement) or less flat bronze emblems are permitted on the family niche and shall be centered, one on each side, on the left and/or right of the niche plaque. Photographic images are permitted but must conform to the emblem sizes as specified above. QR Codes are permitted but must conform to uniform size standards as determined by the cemetery director. All emblem design, QR codes or photographic images shall be approved and installed by cemetery personnel.

* * * * *

(AO No. 2002-78, § 2, 6-25-02; AO No. 2009-81, § 3, 7-7-09; AO No. 2014-94, § 2, 8-5-14)

Section 6. Anchorage Municipal Code subsection 25.60.065C. is hereby amended to read as follows (*the remainder of the subsection is not affected and therefore not set out*):

25.60.065 – Fees.

* * * * *

C. The following fees shall apply:

Item	Fee
* * * * *	
Burial, evening charge (after 3:00 PM)	100.00 <u>per hour</u>
* * * * *	

(AO No. 97-95, § 1, 7-1-97; AO No. 99-95, § 3, 7-13-99; AO No. 2001-90, § 10, 5-22-01; AO No. 2001-145(S-1), § 20, 12-11-01; AO No. 2002-78, § 3, 6-25-02; AO No. 2003-152S, § 16, 1-1-04; AO No. 2009-81, § 4, 7-7-09; AO No. 2014-62, § 1, 5-20-14; AO No. 2014-94, § 3, 8-5-14; AO No. 2015-111(S-1), § 11, 1-1-16)

Note— Formerly AMCR § 25.60.009.

Section 7. Anchorage Municipal Code section 25.60.080, is hereby amended to read as follows (*the remainder of the section is not affected and therefore not set out*):

25.60.080 – Gravesite decorations.

* * * * *

B. Balloons, whirligigs, mobiles, or any other moving decoration, (with the exception of one small flag of no more than 36 inches high) clothing, candles, stuffed animals, toys, food, battery operated decorations or lights, chimes, or any decoration other than the items listed in "A" above shall be allowed only in the first 30 days after a burial. After that time, they are prohibited.

C. Plastic or silk flowers and artificial decorations are prohibited except during the first 30 days after a burial, three days before and two days after Memorial Day and between November [OCTOBER] 1 and April 30.

* * * * *

F. Glass containers of all types are prohibited at all times.

* * * * *

I. New trees, plants or shrubs may be planted at a burial site only with the express written authorization of the cemetery director, upon completion

of a conditional use permit issued by the Cemetery Director, and then only within 18 inches of the grave marker [HEADSTONE].

* * * * *

L. A traditional wooden religious symbol such as a Christian Cross, Orthodox Cross, or Star of David or other religious or secular symbolic icon of no more than 60 inches tall by 36 inches wide, white in color or natural finish and in good repair, may be placed centered on [AT THE HEAD OF] the grave above the permanent marker. A temporary wooden upright marker is permitted in the cemetery between November [OCTOBER] 1 and April 30 to identify the grave during the winter months. Wooden markers of any type are not to be used in lieu of permanent memorial markers as described in section 25.60.085.

* * * * *

N. All decorations (except those on burials of less than 30 days) will be removed on the first and third Wednesday of every month from May 1 through October 31. The cemetery is not responsible for replacing such decorations. Family and friends are encouraged to remove their properly placed decorations prior to the clean-up day and replace them later.

* * * * *

(AO No. 97-95, § 1, 7-1-97; AO No. 2001-90, § 11, 5-22-01; AO No. 2002-78, § 4, 6-25-02; AO No. 2004-78, § 4, 5-11-04; AO No. 2014-62, § 2, 5-20-14)

Note— Formerly AMCR § 25.60.005.

Section 8. Anchorage Municipal Code section 25.60.085 is hereby amended to read as follows (*the remainder of the section is not affected and therefore not set out*):

25.60.085 – Memorial markers.

A. All graves shall have a permanent grave marker installed within six months after the burial, but no later than the following spring. A permit (municipality dual-purpose form 70-001 ver5 10* [14-058]) must be issued by the cemetery and payment made before installation can occur.

* * * * *

B. The permanent grave marker shall be made of metal [CAST BRONZE,

1 CAST BRASS, CAST ALUMINUM] or natural stone.

2
3 * * * * *

4
5 H. Markers will be installed by the cemetery whenever weather [FREEZE]
6 conditions will allow, normally during the months of April through October.
7

8
9 * * * * *

10
11 (AO No. 97-95, § 1, 7-1-97; AO No. 99-95, § 1, 7-13-99; AO No. 2001-90,
12 § 12, 5-22-01; AO No. 2002-78, §§ 5, 6, 6-25-02; AO No. 2014-62, § 3, 5-
13 20-14)
14

15 **Note—** Formerly AMCR § 25.60.006.

16
17 **Section 9.** This ordinance shall be effective immediately upon passage and
18 approval by the Assembly.
19

20
21 PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this 1st day of November,
22 2021.
23

24
25
26 _____
27 Chair

28 ATTEST:
29
30

31 _____
32 Municipal Clerk