

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF COOPER

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 237, CEMETERY ORDINANCE

To the residents and property owners of the Charter Township of Cooper, Kalamazoo County, Michigan, and all other interested persons:

On July 11, 2016, the Charter Township of Cooper (the "Township") adopted Ordinance No. 237, Cemetery Ordinance ("Ordinance"). The following is a summary of the Ordinance. A true copy of the Ordinance, including any exhibits, is posted and available for inspection at the Township Hall, 1590 West D Avenue, Kalamazoo, Michigan 49009, and on the website of the Charter Township of Cooper, <http://www.coopertwp.org>.

Section A. Title and Authority.

This section states that the Ordinance is adopted pursuant to authority granted the Township pursuant to PA 113 of 1915, PA 46 of 1931, as amended, PA 95 of 1909, as amended, and PA 215 of 1937, as amended.

Section B. Purpose.

This section states that the Ordinance is adopted to regulate the operation, control, and management of cemeteries within said Township.

Section C. Definitions of Cemetery Lots and Burial Spaces.

This section defines "cemetery lot" and "adult burial spaces."

Section D. Distribution of Lots or Burial Spaces.

This section provides regulations for the distribution of cemetery lots or burial or burial spaces.

Section E. Fees.

This section provides that the Township Board, by resolution, may periodically alter the fees in this Ordinance to accommodate increased costs and needed reserve funds for cemetery maintenance and acquisition.

Section F. Grave Opening Charges.

This section provides that the opening and closing of any burial spaces, prior to and following a burial therein, and including the interment of ashes, shall be at a cost to be determined from time to time by resolution of the Township Board.

Section G. Markers or Memorials.

This section provides regulations for markers and memorials.

Section H. Interment Regulations.

This section provides regulations for interments.

Section I. Ground Maintenance.

This section provides regulations for ground maintenance of cemetery lots and burial spaces.

Section J. Forfeiture of Vacant Cemetery Lots or Burial Space.

This section provides for the forfeiture of vacant cemetery lots or burial spaces after 40 years upon certain conditions.

Section K. Records.

This section provides that the Township Clerk shall maintain records concerning all burials, issuance of burial permits, and any perpetual care fund, separate and apart from any other records of the Township and the same shall be open to public inspection during regular business hours.

Section L. Vault.

This section provides that all burials shall be within a standard concrete vault installed or constructed in each burial space before interment.

Section M. Cemetery Hours.

This section provides that the cemetery shall be open to the general public from Sunrise to Sunset each day. No dogs, horses, cats, or other domesticated animals are allowed in the Cemetery. Service dogs are allowed in the cemetery.

Section N. Penalties.

This section provides that Any person, firm, or corporation who violates any of the provisions of this ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be subject to a fine of up to \$100.00 and/or imprisonment for up to 90 days in jail as may be determined by a court of competent jurisdiction.

Section O. Severability.

This section states that if any provision, section or part thereof be declared invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall only affect the particular provision, section or part thereof involved in such decision and shall not affect or invalidate the remainder of such ordinance which shall continue in full force and effect.

Section P. Effective Date.

This section states the effective date of the ordinance and states that all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

BONNIE L. SYTSMA, Clerk
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