

## **CHAPTER 155**

### **CEMETERIES**

**[HISTORY: Adopted by the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Pembroke in 1989. Amendments noted where applicable.]**

#### **ARTICLE I Cemetery Commission**

##### **§ 155-1 Membership.**

The Pembroke Cemetery Commission consists of five (5) members who are appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Selectmen of the Town of Pembroke.

##### **§ 155-2 Responsibility for oversight.**

The Commission shall be responsible to the Selectmen for the oversight of all Pembroke cemeteries, said oversight to include but not be limited to the areas of regulations, maintenance, improvements, expansion, budgets and records.

##### **§ 155-3 Sale, maintenance and care of lots.**

The Superintendent of Cemeteries is responsible to the Selectmen for the sale of lots in Pembroke cemeteries and for the care and maintenance of said cemeteries and for the enforcement of all cemetery regulations as may be specified.

##### **§ 155-4 Superintendent to be ex officio member of Commission.**

The Superintendent shall be an ex officio member of the Commission and shall cooperate with the Commission by providing quarterly or more frequent reports and recommendations.

##### **§ 155-5 Public Works Director to act as Superintendent.**

**[Amended 7-21-2003 by Ordinance No. 03-04]**

The Public Works Director, or his/her designee, shall act as Superintendent of Cemeteries.

**ARTICLE II Monuments and Headstones**

**§ 155-6 Size of monuments.**

**[Amended 9-7-1993]**

Monuments shall not be over three (3) feet long, four (4) feet high and twelve (12) inches thick. The base may not project more than six (6) inches beyond the monument on any side.

**§ 155-7 Size of headstones.**

Flat headstones shall not be over two (2) feet long, twelve (12) inches wide and not less than four (4) inches thick. Where a different type is now on the lot, the same can be used. Double stones may be used.

**§ 155-8 Curbing, steps and platforms.**

No curbing, steps or platforms will be allowed on lots except corner posts, which must be at grade of lot.

**§ 155-9 Base of monuments.**

No monument shall be erected unless it rests on a concrete base, deep enough to be a substantial foundation in accordance to the size of the monument. Said base must be at least two (2) inches below the grade.

**ARTICLE III General Regulations**

**§ 155-10 Records of sale of lots.**

When a lot is sold, said record of sale shall be placed on file in the Town Office. The record will include the name of the buyer, the name of the cemetery, the row and lot numbers and the size of the lot. Upon receipt of purchase price, the buyer shall receive a license, on which the regulations are printed. The cost for all lots shall be set by the Board of Selectmen, in consultation with the Cemetery Commission.

#### **§ 155-11 Notice of funerals.**

Undertakers must give notice of funerals twenty-four (24) hours in advance except in deaths from contagion, and the time of the funeral must be so arranged that the graves can be filled in before dark.

#### **§ 155-12 Burials on Sundays or holidays.**

No burial shall be held on Sundays or holidays, except in case of emergency.

#### **§ 155-13 Maintenance to comply with established manner.**

No licensee shall be allowed to maintain a lot or cause one to be graded in any other manner than that established by the Commission.

#### **§ 155-14 Conformity of lot maintenance.**

When lot owners or proprietors wish to care for or do work on their lots, the care and work shall conform with adjacent lots and the general appearance of cemetery.

#### **§ 155-15 Vehicle restrictions.**

Vehicles of any kind are not allowed entrance to any cemetery during the frost period and after heavy rains. Determination of access will be at the discretion of the Superintendent.

#### **§ 155-16 Plants and decorations.**

Temporary or permanent plants or decorations which are unsightly or impede the maintenance of the cemetery shall not be allowed. Authorized decorations may utilize no more than twelve (12) inches in front of the monument and no more than the width of the monument. Placement location of permanent decorations (urns, etc.) shall be allowed only upon approval of the Superintendent.

#### **§ 155-17 Removal of nonpermanent decorations.**

Nonpermanent decorations shall be removed no later than June 15 by the owner, otherwise the Superintendent is required to remove the same.

#### **§ 155-18 Multiple burials.**

Burials resulting from cremation are authorized in multiples in a standard one-person lot if desired by the owner or lessee.

#### **§ 155-19 Grave openings.**

Grave opening shall be supervised by the Superintendent. The cost for grave openings shall be set by the Board of Selectmen, in consultation with the Cemetery Commission.

#### **§ 155-20 Changes to costs.**

All costs referred to herein are subject to change upon recommendation of the Commission and approval of the Selectmen.