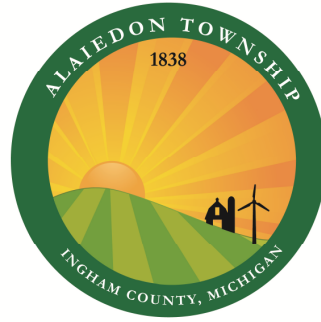


**Steven Lott, Supervisor**  
**David Leonard, Clerk**  
**Scott Everett, Treasurer**  
**Bruce Oesterle, Trustee**  
**Beth Smith, Trustee**



**2021 West Holt Road**  
**Mason, Michigan 48854**  
**Monday: 10:00a – 5:00p**  
**Tuesday-Friday 10:00a – 4:00p**  
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## ORDINANCE NO. 62

### AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH THE RULES, REGULATIONS, AND PROCEDURES FOR TOWNSHIP CEMETERIES WITHIN ALAIEDON TOWNSHIP.

The township of Alaiedon ordains:

#### SECTION 1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this ordinance is to provide for the establishment of rules, regulations, and procedures for cemeteries within Alaiedon Township so as to provide protection to burial space owners and to preserve the beauty, orderly development and care of the cemeteries. All township cemeteries within the Township are subject to this ordinance and any subsequent amendments and this ordinance is adopted pursuant to its general police power to regulate the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Alaiedon Township.

#### SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS

The following definitions shall apply to this ordinance:

- (A) Assignee. “Assignee” shall mean any person to whom any log, plot, grave site, or burial unit has been assigned by the Township. Any and all rights of such assignee shall be as defined herein and by statute.
- (B) Cemetery. The word “cemetery” as it appears hereinafter shall be held to mean any cemetery owned or operated by the Township of Alaiedon.
- (C) Family. “Family” shall mean one person or group of two or more persons related by bonds of matrimony, consanguinity or legal adoption.
- (D) Lot, Plot or Burial Unit. The term “lot”, “plot”, or “burial unit” shall be used interchangeably, and shall apply with like effect to one, or more than one, adjoining graves; to one, or more than one, adjoining crypts or vaults; to one, or more than one, adjoining niches.
- (E) Interment. The term “interment” shall mean the permanent disposition of the remains of a deceased person by cremation and interment, entombment or burial.
- (F) Memorial. The term “memorial” shall include a marker, tablet, headstone, private mausoleum or tomb for family or individual use, tombstone, coping, or enclosure, surface burial vault, urn and crypt and niche plates.
- (G) Monument. The term “monument” shall include a tombstone or memorial of granite, or other approved stone, which shall extend above the surface of the ground.
- (H) Resident. The term “resident” shall mean a person living in Alaiedon Township either owning or renting a dwelling unit. For the purpose of this ordinance a resident shall also include any person who has resided in Alaiedon Township at least ten (10) years. Where such person is not residing in the township at death, such person shall also be classified

as a resident if a one-half (1/2) of the years of non-residence is less than his or her total years of residency.

- (I) Sexton. The "Sexton" shall mean that individual designated by the township to care for the Township cemeteries.

### SECTION 3. PURCHASE OF BURIAL RIGHTS

Residents and non-residents of Alaiedon Township may purchase burial rights at a cost to be determined from time to time by resolution of the Township Board. Burial rights may only be transferred to those persons eligible as immediate family or to a resident. A transfer of burial rights must be endorsed by and filed with the Township Clerk and entered upon the official records of the said Clerk. Burial rights may not be sold between private individuals or for speculative purposes.

### SECTION 4. SUPERVISION AND MAINTENANCE OF CEMETERIES

- (A) The township Clerk shall keep a record in his office of certificates and receipts for perpetual care of burial units, and a record of burials so reported to him by the Sexton and such other records as deemed necessary by the Township Board.
- (B) All grading landscape work and improvements of any kind, and all care of plots, shall be done, and all trees and shrubs and herbage of any kind shall be planted, trimmed, cut or removed, and all openings and closings of plots, and all interments, disinterments and removals shall be made only by the Sexton or his or her designee, subject to the rules and regulations as promulgated by the Township Board.

### SECTION 5. INTERMENTS AND DISINTERMENTS

Interments and disinterments shall be subject to the following:

- (A) There shall be at least thirty-six (36) hours notice prior to any interment and at least forty-eight (48) hours notice prior to any disinterment or removal.
- (B) There shall be no interment in any plot, and no burial space for any purpose, except on written application by the plot assignee on record filed with the Clerk's office. The application shall provide the name of the person to be interred, his or her address, social security number, date of birth, date of death, and date of interment.
- (C) Every earth interment shall be made enclosed in a vault or concrete rough box.
- (D) The cremated remains must be permanently interred within a period of four weeks from the date of the ceremonial interment.  
The cemetery shall not be responsible for any cinerary container, receptacle or urn placed in any plot.
- (E) The Clerk shall have the right to rely upon the designation of interment of any member of family if there are several plot assignments. Thereafter, no other person may be interred in any plot without the written consent of all those assignees of the plot who are recorded as such on the records of the Clerk.
- (F) When instructions regarding the location of an interment space in a plot cannot be obtained, or are indefinite, or when for any reason the interment space cannot be opened where specified, the Sexton may, in his discretion, open it in such location in the plot as he deems best and proper, so as not to delay the funeral; and there shall be no liability on behalf of the Township or any of its employees.
- (G) Interments, disinterments, removals, cremation, or interment services shall be permitted Monday through Friday, except on major holidays, or on Saturdays, if approved by the Sexton. Further, there shall be no disinterments except in July and August.
- (H) There shall be no interment or disinterment unless all fees are paid.
- (I) All markers and monuments shall be installed under supervision of the Sexton. Lot corner markers may be used if flush with the ground.
- (J) The Sexton shall reserve the right to remove funeral designs as soon as they become unsightly.

- (K) No artificial decorations (flowers, wreaths, blankets, balloons, plastic figures, ceramics, etc.), hanging plants, bird or animal feeders, and stuffed animals will be permitted. Provided, however, artificial flowers, wreaths and blankets will be permitted from November 1 to April 1. If such decorations are not removed by April 1<sup>st</sup>, they shall be considered abandoned and may be disposed of by the Sexton.
- (L) Only sod which is adjacent to the marker or monument may be removed. All flowers must be placed in a 12-inch plot in front of or behind the marker. No stone, metal, plastic, or wood borders are permitted.
- (M) No shrubs or trees are to be set out until the approval has been given by the Township Board.

## SECTION 6. CONDUCT OF PERSONS WITHIN CEMETERY

Persons visiting any cemetery are subject to the following:

- (A) Persons within the cemetery grounds shall use only the avenues, walks, alleys and roads, and no persons shall enter the cemetery except through an established gate or entrance.
- (B) Children under 16 years of age shall not be permitted within the cemetery unless accompanied by parents or guardians to take care of them or unless special permission is granted.
- (C) No person shall consume refreshments or liquors or use any illegal substance in a cemetery or carry same on the premises.
- (D) The throwing of rubbish or debris on the drives and paths, or on any part of the grounds, or in the buildings, is prohibited.
- (E) Automobiles shall not be driven through the grounds at a speed greater than fifteen (15) miles per hour, and must always be kept on the right side of the cemetery roadway. Automobiles are not allowed to park or to come to a full stop in front on an open grave unless such automobiles are in attendance at the funeral. Automobiles must not:
  - (i) Drive off the established roads unless permission is given in writing by the Sexton.
  - (ii) Use a cemetery road as a public thoroughfare.
- (F) No bicycles or motorcycles shall be admitted to the cemetery except such as may be in attendance at funerals or on business.
- (G) No signs or notices or advertisements of any kind shall be allowed in the cemetery, unless placed by the cemetery.
- (H) Dogs shall not be allowed on the cemetery grounds or in any of the buildings.
- (I) All persons are prohibited from picking flowers or breaking or injuring any tree, plant, or shrub on the cemetery grounds.

## SECTION 7. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

- (A) If any part or section or portion of this ordinance shall be deemed to be unlawful by a court of competent jurisdiction, such findings shall not affect the validity of the remaining sections hereof, which shall continue in full force and effect.
- (B) This ordinance shall become effective thirty (30) days after publication as required by law.

The foregoing ordinance was moved for adoption by Treasurer Thorburn and seconded by Trustee Caltrider with a vote thereon being as follows:

Yes 4  
 No 0  
 Absent 1

Bruce Oesterle, Township Clerk

Published Date: 9/14/97

Effective Date: 10/13/97