

WHEELER TOWNSHIP
CEMETERY ORDINANCE

Adopted December 10, 2024
EFFECTIVE January 19, 2025

An Ordinance to protect the public health, safety and general welfare by establishing regulations relating to the operation, control, and management of the cemetery owned by the Township of Wheeler, Gratiot County, Michigan; to provide penalties for the violation of said Ordinance, and to repeal all Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict therewith.

THE TOWNSHIP OF WHEELER, COUNTY OF GRATIOT, ORDAINS:

SECTION 1: TITLE

This Ordinance shall be known and cited at the Wheeler Township Cemetery Ordinance.

SECTION 2: DEFINITIONS

1. **ADULT BURIAL SPACE**: Shall consist of a land area four (4) feet wide and eleven and one-half (11-1/2) in length and be at least five (5) feet deep.
2. **ADULT BURIAL**: Shall be any burial involving a burial box greater than four feet in length.
3. **BIODEGRADABLE BURIAL CONTAINER**: Often made of plant or animal fiber, means a casket or shroud capable of being decomposed or biodegraded by bacteria or other living organisms. A container shall not be considered biodegradable if it contains metals, glues, resins, plastics, or other similar synthetic material.
4. **BLOCK**: A division of land as shown on the Cemetery plat which is determined by existing roadways and structures.
5. **BURIAL RIGHT**: is the right to make Interments in a Cemetery Lot either through purchased ownership or transfer.
6. **CEMETERY**: Includes any cemetery owned and operated by Wheeler Township.
7. **CEMETERY LOT**: is the area of land within the Cemetery sufficient to accommodate one (1) full adult burial or the burial of up to two (2) Creains.
8. **BURIAL RIGHTS CERTIFICATE**: is the form approved by the Township, which evidence the purchaser's Burial Right(s).
9. **CEMETERY RECORD AND DEED AUTHORITY**: Wheeler Township Clerk
10. **CHILD BURIAL**: Shall be any burial involving a burial box less than four (4) feet in length.
11. **COLUMBARIUM**: Shall mean a building or structure that is used, or is intended to be used, for the Interment or deposit of the cremated remains of deceased persons
12. **CREAINS**: Shall be the burial of ashes of a cremated body.
13. **CREAINS BURIAL SPACE**: Shall consist of 1/4 the size of a normal Adult Burial Space or three (3) feet by three (3) feet by three (3) feet deep.
14. **DISINTERMENT** means the authorized digging up, disinterring, removing, or conveying away a human body, or the remains or Creains thereof, from the place where the body had been interred.

15. GRAVE: means a Cemetery Lot that has been used for Interment of human bodies or of a human body, or the Cremains of a human body.
16. GREEN LOT OR GREEN BURIAL: Is a type of Cemetery Lot and shall mean those lots and burials occurring in any such designated area within a Township Cemetery that are intended exclusively for non-toxic burials that will experience natural decomposition. The dimensions of a green Cemetery Lot shall be identical to the dimensions of a conventional Cemetery Lot.
17. IMMEDIATE FAMILY: means the following: spouses, parents, in-laws, grandparents, great-grandparents, biological and/or adopted children, stepchildren, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, siblings, nieces and/or nephews
18. INFANT OR STILL BORN BURIAL SPACE: Shall consist of a land area three (3) feet wide and three and one-half (3 1/2) feet in length and four (4) feet deep and be designated within a Cemetery Lot or in a designated area established by the Township Board for such burials.
19. INTERMENT: The permanent disposition of the remains of a deceased person by burial.
20. LOT: Numbered divisions as shown on the Cemetery plat which consists of two or more graves.
21. LOT MARKER: Refers to any means used by the Cemetery to locate corners of the lot or grave.
22. MEMORIAL MARKER: Shall include a tombstone or memorial marker of granite or marble which shall extend above the surface of the ground.
23. MOURNING PERIOD: Shall be 60 days following the Interment.
24. PERPETUAL CARE: Shall consist of mowing, seeding, trimming trees and shrubbery, removal of dead flowers and general upkeep of the lot.
25. SEXTON (or CEMETERY SEXTON): Shall mean the individual or entity authorized by the Township Board to administer the Cemetery.

SECTION 3: SALE OF CEMETERY LOTS OR BURIAL SPACES

1. Cemetery Lots or Burial Spaces shall be sold to residents or non-residents by the Township for the purpose of the burial of such purchaser or their Immediate Family. No sale shall be made to funeral directors or others except for those acting as an agent for an eligible purchaser.
2. All such sales shall be made on a form approved by the Township Board, which grants a right of burial only and does not convey any other title to the Cemetery Lot or Burial Space sold. Such form shall be executed by the Township Clerk, or designated Township Official and shall constitute a Burial Rights Certificate when approved.
3. The Township Board shall have the authority to place a limit on the number of Cemetery Lots or Burial Spaces sold. Furthermore, the Township shall have the absolute right and discretion to determine which particular Cemetery Lots or Burial Spaces are available for purchase in the Township cemetery. Such decision shall be based upon reasonable factors, including but not limited to the number of vacant Cemetery Lots or Burial Spaces are buried adjacent to or near the Cemetery Lot or Burial Spaces requested.

4. The Township shall have the right to correct any errors it may have made without liability to the Township concerning Interments, Disinterments, or in the description, transfer, or conveyance of any Cemetery Lot or Burial Space, either by canceling the Burial Rights Certificate for a particular vacant Cemetery Lot or Burial Space and substituting and conveying in lieu thereof another vacant Cemetery Lot or Burial Space in a similar location within the cemetery or by refunding money paid for the Cemetery Lot to the purchaser or the successor of the purchaser. In the event that an error involves the Interment of the remains of any person, the Township shall have the right to remove and transfer the remains so interred to another Cemetery Lot or Burial Space in a similar location in the same cemetery in accordance with law at no cost to the parties involved without further liability to the Township.
5. The owner(s) of every Cemetery Lot shall be responsible for notifying the Township whenever the person's mailing address changes.
6. No Cemetery Lots or spaces may be transferred, purchased, or sold for speculative purposes.

SECTION 4: TRANSFER OF CEMETERY LOTS OR BURIAL SPACES

1. Burial Rights may only be transferred to Immediate Family members only or sold back to the Township.
2. Burial Rights may be transferred to parties other than to Immediate Family for good cause and sufficient reasons as determined by the Township Clerk's Office, upon approved written request.
3. All transfers shall be made only by the endorsement of an assignment of such Burial Rights Certificate upon the official records of the Township Clerk and are subject to the transfer fee provided for under Section 5 of this Ordinance.
4. Upon such assignment, approval and record, said Clerk shall issue a new Burial Rights Certificate to the assignee and shall cancel and terminate upon such records the original Burial Rights Certificate thus assigned.
5. Any owner of a Cemetery Lot or space who elects to sell any such lot prior to use must sell the lot to the Township, which may purchase the same at the original purchase price. This section shall not be construed to require the Township to repurchase Cemetery Lots or spaces.

SECTION 5: PURCHASE PRICE AND TRANSFER FEES

1. All fees related to the administration of this Ordinance, including without limitation the fees for the purchase, opening or closing of a Cemetery Lot, Interment, transfer, repurchase, or Cremains, shall be established by resolution of the Township Board. The Township Board, by resolution, may periodically alter the fees to accommodate increased costs and needed reserve

funds for Cemetery maintenance and acquisition. The fees shall be paid to the Township Clerk or their assign and shall be deposited in the Perpetual Care fund or other lawful fund for the Cemetery. All fees must be paid in full to the Township before purchase, opening, or closing of a Cemetery Lot, delivery of a Burial Rights Certificate, Interments, transfer, repurchase, or Disinterment

2. For those individuals who are unable to pay for a gravesite and burial due to indigence, application may be made to the Family Independence Agency, or the legal state agency, who will forward payment to the Township.
3. All arrangements for burials shall be made at the Wheeler Township Hall, either by the funeral director or by a representative or the Immediate Family of the deceased. Burial fees and charges must be paid in advance.
4. The foregoing charges shall be paid to the Wheeler Township Treasurer and shall be deposited in the Wheeler Township Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund or other lawful fund for the Cemetery.

SECTION 6: INTERMENTS OR DISINTERMENTS

1. The burial of two or more persons in a single Cemetery Lot is prohibited except for a mother and baby, if buried at the same time, or in the case of Infant Burials, or in the case of Cremains. Orders from funeral directors will be accepted by the Township Clerk as orders from owners.
2. A maximum of two (2) Cremains shall be allowed to be placed in one Cemetery Lot unless permission is otherwise granted by the Township Clerk. Orders from the funeral directors will be accepted by the Clerk as orders from the owners.
3. The Township assumes no responsibility for errors in opening Cemetery Lots when such errors are caused by others.
4. No Disinterment will be allowed, except by authority of the person owning the Grave in which the Interment is made, except by order of the court, when a proper receipt for the remains must be given. Interment and Disinterment may be made only by the regular employees of the Cemetery.
5. The Township of Wheeler shall exercise the utmost care in making the removal, but it shall assume no liability for any damage to any casket, burial care or urn incurred in making the removal. All Disinterments are at the discretion of the Township of Wheeler.
6. Not less than thirty-six (36) hours' notice shall be given in advance of any time of any funeral to allow for opening of the Cemetery Lot or Burial Space. The appropriate Burial Rights Certificate for the Cemetery Lot involved, together with appropriate identification of the

person to be buried therein, where necessary, shall be presented to either the Sexton or the Township Clerk prior to Interment.

7. Where such Burial Rights Certificate has been lost or destroyed, the Township Clerk shall be satisfied, from his or her records, that the person to be buried is in an authorized and appropriate Cemetery Lot or Burial Space one (1) day before any Interment is commenced or completed.
8. Winter burials, when weather permits, will be allowed, provided no extraordinary means are required. For such times that burial is not allowable, a deceased person may be held in the chapel located at the Cemetery for no additional charge subject to availability and at the Township's sole discretion.
9. Burial arrangements for Interment may then be made for a later date, when weather permits. A permit shall be obtained before the body is placed in the vault. If the remains of any person placed therein shall become offensive or determinantal to the public health, the Clerk shall have the right to cause the body to be immediately buried. Winter burials are subject to an additional cost of set forth in Section 5 of the within Ordinance.

SECTION 7: MEMORIAL MARKERS

Memorial markers shall meet the following requirements:

1. The location is at the head of the lot, and parallel to the head lot line.
2. The height of the monument is under forty-eight (48) inches, the depth of the monument is not more than twelve (12) inches and the length of the monument is no larger than eighty (80) inches.
3. Memorial Markers shall not be allowed to be installed on Graves that have not been paid for.
4. All foundation work for monuments and Memorial Markers will be placed through the Township Clerk's office by designated employees or contractors of the Township. Foundation work is required to be 6-8 inches wider than the monument/marker and a minimum of 8 inches in depth.
5. The material used in the construction of vaults, monuments and memorial markers, and permanent corner posts must be recognized durable granite or standard bronze. Each monument or memorial marker shall consist of one part or piece only; provided, that this rule will not apply to lots on which it is desired to put in monuments or memorial markers to match others already existing on the lot.
6. No vertical joints will be allowed in the monument work.

SECTION 8: COLUMBARIUM RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. Upon written request by a resident of the Township or by its own initiative, the Township Board may be resolution designate, establish, alter, and reserve areas in a Cemetery for use of a Columbarium. The Township shall have the absolute right and discretion to determine whether to designate, establish, alter, and reserve areas in the Cemetery for use of a Columbarium. Such decision shall be based upon reasonable factors, including but not limited to the number of vacant Cemetery Lots available, applicant's stated need (if any), the Township or public's need (if any), costs related thereto, and the location and size of the proposed Columbarium in light of its surroundings, including other burials.
2. No Columbarium niche shall be used for any other purpose than for the burial of human remains.
3. The regulations within this Ordinance concerning Cemetery Lots related to the sale and transfer thereof, opening and closing and Interment and Disinterment shall apply generally to Columbariums approved under this section.

SECTION 9: LOT MAINTENANCE REGULATIONS

During the 60-day Mourning Period the following standards shall apply:

1. Flowers, plants, planters and similar objects shall be restricted to immediate area of the deceased individual's lot, and shall not exceed three (3) feet in height.
2. All other times, the flowers, plants and planter shall be restricted to an eight (8) inch border around the base of the monument or memorial marker. Such items shall not exceed two (2) feet in height above the ground. Items exceeding the allowable height, may be trimmed or removed by the Township. Items that become unsightly will be removed from graves and the Township assumes no responsibility for their return to lot owners or family members.
3. No trees, shrubs, vines, fences shall be placed on any lot except by approval of the Township Board.
4. A monument shall be defined as any memorial structure erected upon a lot other than a marker, vault or mausoleum. Only one monument will be allowed to a lot. No monument will be allowed on any single grave section. All monumental work must face the abutting path or roadway Vertical joints are not allowed in monument work. (Consult the Clerk monument design and proposed location giving due consideration to surrounding memorials in the choice of a monument.) Memorial seats or benches may be placed but must conform with all specified material, maximum sizes and locations, as established for monuments. Seats or benches are not permitted in lieu of a marker. Marble or Bronze benches or seats are not recommended. All benches or seats must be pre-approved by the Clerk prior to placement. All benches or seats must be fastened and placed on a foundation erected thru permission from the Township Clerk or Sexton.

5. Any seat, urn, or similar object placed on a lot shall be removed without notice to the owner when such seat or urn becomes a nuisance or unsightly, uncared for, or has been placed without permission by the Township Clerk.

SECTION 10: GROUND MAINTENANCE

1. Cemetery care shall include only seeding, top dressing, cutting and trimming grass, shrubs and trees and the general upkeep of the Cemetery. Cemetery care shall not include the maintenance of a memorial marker, monument, or any other such items.
2. Neither the purchase price nor the perpetual care agreement contemplates the repair or replacement of any monument, urn, bench, seat, or memorial marker.
3. Contractors and workers engaged within the Cemetery on any class of work whatsoever will be held responsible for the damage done by them to any Cemetery properties.
4. Material for any class of work will not be permitted on the grounds unless accompanied by workmen to erect same, except by special arrangement with the Cemetery Sexton.
5. Roadways must be satisfactorily protected against damage from heavily loaded vehicles. They shall be maintained and repaired in summer and cleared of snow and ice in the winter.
6. The rolling or moving of stones across any section of lots must be provided by persons furnishing stones or orders monuments to properly protect the lawns.
7. All unsightly material or debris accumulating from any class of work must be removed at once upon the completion of the work, all derricks, tools, etc. must be removed immediately and the ground left in as good a condition as found by the contractor.
8. No stone work shall be brought into the Cemetery on Saturday after 12 o'clock noon through Monday AM and no work shall be commenced on any day that cannot be finished on that day, the dirt and debris entirely removed before the hour of closing.
9. No person shall remove any object from any place in the Cemetery or make any excavation without the consent of the Clerk or Cemetery Sexton.
10. No person shall remove any object from any place in the Cemetery or make any excavation without the consent of the Clerk or Cemetery Sexton.
11. No grading, leveling, or excavating upon a burial place shall be allowed without the permission of the Cemetery Sexton or the Township Clerk.

12. Mounds which hinder the free use of a lawn mower or other gardening apparatus are prohibited.
13. The Cemetery Sexton shall have the right and authority to remove and dispose of any and all growth, emblems, displays or containers therefor that through decay, deterioration, damage or otherwise become unsightly, a source of litter or a maintenance problem.
14. Surfaces other than earth or sod are prohibited.
15. All refuse of any kind or nature including among others, dried flowers, wreaths, papers, and flower containers must be removed or deposited in containers located within the Cemetery by certain designated dates as clean up, as may be determined from time to time and posted by the Township Board.

SECTION 11: ADDITIONAL GREEN BURIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. Green Burials will only be allowed in a Township Cemetery in areas designated by the Township Board. Landscape in such designated areas will be minimally maintained for use by burial equipment, passenger vehicles, and pedestrians. Green Burials will be subject to all provisions within the Ordinance related to dimensions, fees, and required forms.
2. All materials for a Green Burial, including but not limited to clothing and mementos, must be biodegradable, with the exception of non-biodegradable medical implants. Conventionally embalmed bodies are prohibited.
3. Permanent grave markers are permitted for Green Burial lots and subject to the provisions within this Ordinance. Grave markers for green lots must not exceed 32 inches by 18 inches for a single marker or 40 inches by 24 inches for two people.
4. No enclosure of any kind, such as fences, copings, hedges, or ditches, shall be allowed around any green lots. Planting trees, shrubs, or other individual plantings shall be prohibited unless approved by the Cemetery Sexton upon a demonstration of no disturbance to other surrounding Cemetery Lots and green lots . Packets of native wildflower seeds may be sprinkled onto the grave in the green section at the time of Interment if desired. *Only native wildflower seeds* are allowed. All seed packets must be approved by the Sexton before being sprinkled. No statues, embellishments, effigies, artifacts, lights, wildlife feeders, wind chimes, flags, or artificial decorations of any kind will be permitted unless erected by the Township.
5. Vaults are prohibited in green lots. Green Burials shall require a biodegradable burial container. Remains shall be wrapped in a shroud, quilt, or blanket and/or placed in a container that includes a board, integrated or separate, for stability. Shrouds, quilts, and blankets used for burial without a casket shall have a natural wood backer (plywood and OSB are not acceptable) no less than one-half-inch thick and the length of the body in order to stabilize the decent during the burial process.

6. If an owner of a green lot is not permitted by state law or this Ordinance to use or be interred into a green lot, the owner or his or her agent may sell the green lot back to the Township for 1/2 (50%) of the applicable current purchase price under section 5 within this Ordinance.

SECTION 12: FORFEITURE OF VACANT CEMETERY LOTS OR BURIAL SPACES

1. Cemetery Lots or Burial Spaces sold after the effective date of the Ordinance and remaining vacant 80 years from the date of their sale shall automatically revert to the Township upon occurrence of the following events:
 - a. Notice shall be sent by the Township Clerk by first class mail to the last known address of the last owner of record informing him of expiration of the 80 year period and that all rights with respect to said lots or spaces will be forfeited if he does not affirmatively indicate in writing to the Township Clerk within 60 days from the date of mailing of his desire to retain said Burial Rights.
 - b. No written response to said notice indicating a desire to retain the Cemetery Lots or Burial Space in question is received by the Township Clerk from the last owner of record of said lots or spaces, or his heirs or legal representative, within 60 days from the date of mailing of said notice.

SECTION 13: RECORDS

The Township Clerk shall maintain record concerning all burials: deeds, issuance of burial permits, perpetual care fund, separate and apart from any other records of the Township and the same shall be open to public inspection at all reasonable business hours.

SECTION 14: VAULT

All burials shall be within a standard concrete vault installed or constructed in each Burial Space before interment, this section shall not apply to Green Burials.

SECTION 15: PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES

The following prohibitions shall apply with a Township Cemetery:

1. No person shall destroy, deface, apply graffiti to, or otherwise damage, injure, or remove any Columbarium, monument, marker, memorial, sign, tree, or other lawful item located within a Township Cemetery.
2. No person shall disturb the peace or unreasonably annoy, harass, or disturb any other person who is lawfully present on the grounds of any Township Cemetery.

3. No automobile, truck, or any vehicles shall be permitted to drive on lawns or Cemetery Lots in a Cemetery. Vehicles shall be permitted to drive only on the designated roads or drives established in each Cemetery except for the purpose of maintenance or authorization by the Cemetery Sexton.
4. There shall be no entry or presence in the Cemetery by any person when the cemetery is closed except as indicated in this Ordinance.
5. There shall be no destruction of cemetery property.
6. There shall be no Interment, Disinterment, or grave opening unless approved by the Township Sexton or other designated Township person(s).
7. There shall be no possession or consumption of any alcoholic beverage, illicit drugs, or controlled substances on cemetery property.
8. There shall be no littering or dumping. Any and all waste shall be placed in receptacles.
9. There shall be no unlawful interference with or disruption of a lawful funeral or funeral procession.
10. No person shall engage in any fight, quarrel, or disturbance on cemetery property.
11. Any and all conduct unbecoming of a sacred place is prohibited.
12. Mausoleum(s), above ground casket(s), Columbarium(s), and other similar markers or burial options in style or use are prohibited unless approved by the Township Board.

SECTION 16: CEMETERY HOURS

Unless otherwise specified by the Township Board by resolution, the Township cemetery shall be open from dawn until dusk. Such prohibition on being present in the Township cemetery during the time when a Township cemetery is closed shall not apply to any Township official, a person accompanied by a Township official, a person having been granted written permission by the Township to enter, or any law enforcement or firefighting official when engaged in the lawful duties of any such office or position.

SECTION 17: PENALTIES

Any person, firm or corporation who violates any of the provisions of the within Ordinance shall be guilty of a Municipal Civil Infraction Citation and shall be subject to a fine(s) as set by the Township Board of up to \$500.00. Each day that a violation continues to exist shall constitute a separate offense.

SECTION 18: TOWNSHIP SEXTON PAYMENT SCHEDULE

For the services and duties described within this Ordinance the Township Sexton shall be compensated as determined by the Township Board.

SECTION 19: DISCLAIMER OF TOWNSHIP LIABILITY

Every person who enters, remains in, and travels within a Township Cemetery does so at their own risk. The Township is not responsible for any injury, accident, property damage, or other damage that might occur to any person present in a Township Cemetery. Furthermore, the Township is not responsible for any damage or vandalism to, theft of, or deterioration of any burial marker, Columbarium, monument, memorial, or other item placed at or near a Cemetery plot, burial site, or anywhere in a Township Cemetery. The purchaser or transferee of any Cemetery Lot, Burial Space or the equivalent (and all subsequent transferees, assigns, heirs, or beneficiaries of the same) hereby releases, waives, indemnifies, and holds harmless the Township for, from, and against any injury, damages, causes of action, claims, costs, and expenses associated with, relating to, and/or involving the Cemetery plot or similar right, any headstone, Columbarium, monument, or similar items, and any matter related to the Cemetery involved. Such waiver, release, and hold harmless provision shall apply to both the Township and its employees, offices, elected or appointed officials or representatives, boards or committees, and agents.

SECTION 20: WAIVER

1. The Township Board (or its designee(s)) is authorized to waive application of the strict letter of any provision within this Ordinance or any rules or regulations promulgated under this Ordinance where practical difficulties in carrying out the strict letter of this Ordinance or any rules or regulations related thereto would result in hardship to a particular person or persons or the public. An individual seeking a waiver pursuant to this section must satisfy the following requirements:
 - i. The problem is unique to the individual not shared by others.
 - ii. A grant of a waiver would provide substantial relief to the individual.
 - iii. A grant of a waiver would not be unreasonably adversely affect other Cemetery Lots.
 - iv. A waiver can be granted in such fashion that the spirit of the Ordinance will be observed and public safety and welfare secured.
2. Any party aggrieved by a decision made pursuant to this Ordinance, as well as any matter relating to a Township Cemetery, rights to a Cemetery Lot or Burial Space, or other matter arising pursuant to this Ordinance, shall have the right to appeal that determination, decision or matter to the Township Board. Any such appeal shall be in writing and shall be filed with the Township within 30 days of the date of the decision, determination or other matter being appealed from. The Township shall give the aggrieved party who filed the

written appeal with the Township at least 10 days' prior written notice of the meeting at which the Township Board will address the matter unless an emergency is involved, in which case the Township shall utilize reasonable efforts to notify the aggrieved party who filed the appeal of a special or emergency meeting of the Township Board at which the matter will be addressed. Pursuant to any such appeal, the decision of the Township Board shall be final. The Township Board may set a fee for such an appeal pursuant to the fee adopted and updated by the Township Board from time to time.

SECTION 21: SEVERABILITY AND EFFECTIVE DATE

The provisions of the within Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable and should 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. This Ordinance shall become effective 30 days upon publication.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that:

1. The above is a true copy of an Ordinance adopted by the Wheeler Township Board at a duly scheduled and noticed meeting of that Township Board held on December 10, 2024, pursuant to the required statutory procedures.
2. A summary of the above Ordinance was duly published in the Gratiot County Herald newspaper, a newspaper that circulates within Wheeler Township, on December 19, 2024.
3. Within one (1) week after such publication, I recorded the above Ordinance in a book of ordinances kept by me for that purpose, including the date of passage of the ordinance, the names of the members of the township board voting, and how each member voted.
4. I filed an attested copy of the above Ordinance with the Gratiot County Clerk on December 20, 2024.

ATTESTED:

Kelly A. Bushre, Wheeler Township Clerk

WHEELER TOWNSHIP, GRATIOT COUNTY
Notice of Adoption of Cemetery Ordinance

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on December 10th, 2024 the Township Board of Wheeler Township of Gratiot County, Michigan adopted a cemetery ordinance to protect the public health, safety and general welfare by establishing regulations relating to the operation, control, and management of the cemetery owned by the Township of Wheeler, Gratiot County, Michigan. Copies of the Ordinance may be obtained from the Township Clerk using the contact information below upon scheduling an appointment.

The Cemetery Ordinance has the following sections and catch lines: Section 1: Title; Section 2: Definitions; Section 3: Sale of Cemetery Lots or Burial Spaces; Section 4: Transfer of Cemetery Lots or Burial Spaces; Section 5: Purchase Price and Transfer Fees; Section 6: Internments or Disinternments; Section 7: Memorial Markers; Section 8: Columbarium Rules and Regulations; Section 9: Lot Maintenance Regulations; Section 10: Ground Maintenance; Section 11: Additional Green Burial Rules and Regulations; Section 12: Forfeiture of Vacant Cemetery Lots and Spaces; Section 13: Records; Section 14: Vault; Section 15: Prohibited Activities; Section 16: Cemetery Hours; Section 17: Penalties; Section 18: Township Sexton Payment Schedule; Section 19: Disclaimer of Township Liability; Section 20: Waiver; Section 21: Severability and Effective Date, which shall be 30 days upon publication of this notice of adoption.

PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF TOWNSHIP BOARD

Kelly A. Bushre
Township of Wheeler Clerk
8510 E. Monroe Rd.
Wheeler, MI 48662
989.842.3428
clerk@wheelertownship.com