Town of Watson

BYLAW NO. 2026-05

A BYLAW TO PROVIDE FOR THE REGULATION AND CONTROL OF THE PUBLIC CEMETERY.

The Council of the Town of Watson in the Province of Saskatchewan enacts as follows:

1. This Bylaw may be cited as the Cemetery Bylaw.

2. Definitions:
   a) "Cemetery" means land within or outside the limits of the Town of Watson set apart for use as a place for the interment of the dead or in which human bodies have been buried, known as the Public Cemetery and described respectively as follows: "Part of the NW quarter section 21-36-18 W2, in the province of Saskatchewan".
   b) "Council" means the council for the Town of Watson.
   c) "Town" means the Town of Watson.
   d) "Administrator" means the Administrator of the Town of Watson and the administrator of the Cemetery.
   e) "Grave Lot" means a division of land in the Cemetery for the purpose of a single burial.
   f) "Plot" means a subdivision of land in the Cemetery of sufficient size for two or more graves.
   g) "Block" means a subdivision of land in the Cemetery containing two or more plots.
   h) "Monument" means a structure in the Cemetery erected or constructed on a lot or lots as a memorial to the dead.
   i) "Licensee" means person or persons who purchase a grave lot in the cemetery.
   j) "Caretaker" means person or persons paid to perform maintenance duties at the cemetery, and any other duties as directed by the administrator.

3. Regulations
   a) The town may grant a license to any person for the exclusive use of any lot or plot. The said license shall be subject to all provisions of the Bylaw and any amendments or regulations passed from time to time by council.
   b) The license fee and all other charges for work done or service rendered shall be in accordance with Schedule "A" hereto attached and forming a part of the bylaw set by council.
   c) Lots or plots shall not be resold or transferred by the licensee. A Licensee may surrender his license to the town for any unused lot or plot. The town can refund the original licensee the original purchase price of the license less a transfer fee of $30.00 on lots purchased after 2018.
   d) Whenever the remains of a grave lot or grave lots are removed, the grave space or spaces so vacated shall revert to the town.

e) No grave shall be used for any other purpose than for the burial of the human dead.
f) No person shall bury any dead body in the Cemetery until such person shall have complied with the provisions of the Public Health Act and the Vital Statistics Act and with the regulations issued thereunder and also with the provisions of the Bylaw.
g) A person may reserve a grave lot(s), by paying in full, the current purchase price as established by Council by way of resolution and set out in Schedule "A".
h) All persons, while in the Cemetery, shall conduct themselves in a quiet and orderly manner.
i) Persons within the Cemetery shall use only the avenues, road walks, and alleys and no one is permitted to walk on or across graves.
j) Persons visiting the Cemetery or attending funerals are strictly prohibited from picking flowers, wild or cultivated, breaking or injuring any tree, shrub or plants, or from writing upon, defacing or injuring any memorial, fence or other structure within the Cemetery grounds.
k) Motor Cars and vehicles in the Cemetery shall travel only on the roadways provided for that purpose and shall not travel at a greater rate of speed than fifteen (15) kilometers per hour, except those vehicles used for the performance of maintenance.
l) No children under the age of twelve (12) years shall be admitted to the grounds of the Cemetery unless they are accompanied by an adult.
m) No persons shall enter upon any portion of the Cemetery which is set apart for nursery grounds, garden or greenhouse without first having obtained the consent of the Cemetery Caretaker.
n) No dogs shall be allowed within the Cemetery.

4. Duties of Caretaker
   a) Keep in good order all walks, paths and driveways in the cemetery and control all of the maintenance performed and such other works that are carried out at the Cemetery.
   b) Maintain all lawn care including mowing, whipper snipping and weed control.
   c) Determine the location where a monument or marker may be erected, and he shall stake such location prior of the erection thereof.
   d) Determine the location of grave lots, and he shall stake a grave lot or grave lots out before the digging of a grave lot or grave lots are undertaken.
   e) Supervise the digging and filling of graves to assure that other grave sites are not disturbed.

5. Duties of the Administrator
   a) The Town Administrator shall act as administrator for the Cemetery.
   b) The Administrator shall maintain all financial records and reports for the cemetery.
   c) The Administrator shall include the cemetery records in the financial statements to be audited each year.

d) All grave lots and plots shall be described according to a Plan of Record in the Town Office. Suitable books of record shall be kept in the Town office to record the description of each lot in the Cemetery, together with the name and address of the owner thereof, and such other records shall be kept to give a complete record of all business transacted in connection with the Cemetery. The records of the Cemetery shall be open to inspection during regular office hours.

6. Interment and Disinterment
   a) No interment of two or more bodies shall be made in one grave lot, except in the case of Parent and Child, two infants buried in one casket, or one casket and two cremations in the case of an infant and their parents.
   b) No interment of more than two cremated bodies shall be made in one grave lot, or more than one cremated body with one human body in one grave lot. In all cases, the interments of cremated bodies shall be made at the most extreme right hand and/or left hand corner(s) at the head of the grave lot with an identifying marker placed directly above the vessels or containers.
   c) No grave shall be less than six feet in depth from the surface of the ground.
   d) No other person other than a qualified Funeral Director shall have charge of the interment or disinterment of any human body.
   e) Whenever a block, plot or grave is held jointly by two or more parties, authority for interment in such block, plot or grave lot or any part thereof, will be accepted by the Town of Watson from any one of the said parties or their Executors or Agents.
   f) No interments shall be permitted in the Cemetery unless a proper burial permit is produced by party applying for the burial.
   g) No disinterment shall be made without written authority from the Licensee of the grave lot in question or his Heirs, Executor or Assigns.
   h) Disinterment of human remains shall occur only in accordance with *The Public Health Act, 1994*, or *The Coroners Act, 1999* and regulations pursuant to those Acts.

7. Care of Grave
   a) The Administrator shall direct the general care of the entire Cemetery as directed by Council. The Licensee of a grave shall observe all rules and regulations passed from time to time by the council for keeping the grave lots in order.
   b) No borders, fences, railways, trellises, copings, hedges, grave covers, concrete or stone corners or iron posts shall be constructed or planted in or around any grave lot or plots.
   c) The caretaker shall have authority to remove all floral designs, flowers, weeds, trees, shrubs, plants or herbage of any kind from the Cemetery as soon as they become unsightly, dangerous, detrimental or diseased.
   d) The caretaker shall have authority to remove any décor which affects the proper care of the grave sites.

8. Monuments and Markers
    a) All monuments and markers shall be granite, marble or stone.
    b) All monuments and markers must be set at the head of a grave lot and shall be in a line designated by the caretaker.
    c) No monument or marker shall be erected except on a concrete foundation of a minimum thickness of twelve (12) inches. The foundation shall be level with the ground surrounding the grave lot. The said foundation shall be of a dimension of at least six (6) inches wider and six (6) inches longer than the base of the monument.
    d) Grave covers of any type or description and of any material shall not be permitted.

9. Monuments in Disrepair
    a) Should any tombstone, monument or other structure placed or arranged in the cemetery be in a state of disrepair, the caretaker may have the said tombstone, monument or other structure removed from the cemetery if the owner does not have the same repaired in accordance with the said notice.
    b) The caretaker shall from time to time, report to the Administrator and to the owners on the condition of any monument which is out of repair and it shall be the duty of the owner of such monument to repair same without delay, to the satisfaction of the caretaker.
    c) Whenever any owner of a tombstone, monument or other structure neglects to make the required repairs or alterations after being given due notice by the caretaker to do so, the caretaker shall allow a period of three (3) months to elapse after the giving of the said notice and shall then have power to remove such tombstone, monument or other structure from the Cemetery or to repair it and charge the cost thereof to the owner and the cost may be recovered as a debt due by the owner to the town.
    d) All notice required to be given to Licensees of grave lots or owners of monuments or other parties by this Bylaw may be delivered in writing by the Administrator or in person or by mail to the last known address of such Licensee or Owner or other part and proof of such notice having been mailed, properly addressed with prepaid or delivered, shall be sufficient proof that such notice has been given.

10. Trees and Shrubs
    a) No person shall plant any trees, shrubs or any vegetation or do work of any kind in the cemetery without the permission of the caretaker.
    b) If any tree or shrub situated on any grave lot or plot or part thereof shall, in the opinion of the caretaker, become by means of its roots or branches in any way detrimental to any adjacent grave lot, plot, path or driveway or to the general appearance of the cemetery or dangerous or inconvenient to the public, the caretaker shall have the power to remove such tree or shrub or part thereof.

11. Burial for Indigent Poor
    a) Council shall furnish graves in the Cemetery without charge, for the dead of indigent poor of any denomination who were residents in the Town of Watson at

the time of death. Other Municipalities shall be held responsible for cost of graves for indigent poor who were residents of their Municipalities.

12. Maps, Plans, and Records
    a) The Administrator is hereby authorized and instructed to have maps prepared of the Cemetery indicating thereon the owners of each grave lot in the Cemetery, such maps to show the graves lots that are occupied and the grave lots that are reserved. It shall be the duty of the Caretaker to provide pins throughout the cemetery on a regular pattern so as to facilitate in determining the location of grave lots.

13. Penalty
    a) Any person guilty of an infraction of the Bylaw or any part thereof, shall be liable on summary conviction to the penalties prescribed by the General Penalty Bylaw of the Town of Watson.

14. Bylaw No. 2026-03 is hereby repealed.

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Mayor

Read a third time and adopted
This 13 day of July 2026.

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Administrator

SCHEDULE "A"

CEMETERY FEES

1. Cemetery Plot Fee – Resident	$500.00
2. Cemetery Plot Fee – Non-Resident	$1,500.00
3. Perpetual Care Fee – Resident	$500.00
4. Perpetual Care Fee – Non-Resident	$1000.00
5. Plot Marking	$100.00
6. Urn Grave Digging	$350.00