



## Toquerville City Cemetery Policy 2024.02

### **Current Fee Schedule:**

\*Note: Opening/Closing costs are due at the time of Internment.

### **Burial Rights:**

Upon purchase of a plot, only permissible burial rights are sold (not actual land ownership). The City retains the title to the cemetery property. A certificate of burial right will be issued to each purchaser after fees are paid in full. Residents are not permitted to buy burial rights for non-residents excepting said burial rights are purchased at the non-resident rate. A resident is someone who has resided in Toquerville for a minimum of twelve (12) consecutive months immediately prior to purchase. When burial rights are purchased, they must be designated to a specific individual. Proof of address must be provided in order to purchase at the resident rate.

### **Purchasing Burial Rights:**

Should an individual desire to purchase burial rights to a cemetery plot, they may contact [cemetery@toquerville.org](mailto:cemetery@toquerville.org) to arrange a meeting with the City Cemetery Clerk. The City Cemetery Clerk will advise on which plots are available. After a plot has been selected and funds have been paid in full the City Cemetery Clerk shall update the cemetery records and Toquerville City shall provide a Certificate of Burial Right to the customer for each burial right purchased. The Certificate of Burial Right shall have the name of the individual or individuals that are to be interred at that burial site.

### **Burials per Plot:**

In a standard plot it may be acceptable to inter up to three (3) cremains. This will ultimately be determined by the Cemetery Superintendent based on the circumstances of the burial site. One (1) vault and up to two (2) cremains may share a burial site upon approval from the Cemetery Superintendent. If approved, the vault must be buried prior to the burial of the cremains. Once cremains are interred a vault cannot be interred. At this time, no more than three (3) remains are allowed in any standard plot.



### **Cremations:**

There may be some burial sites in the cemetery that are only available for cremains. These burial sites may be for single or double burial. This will be subject to the approval of the Cemetery Superintendent based on the circumstances of the burial and burial site. At this time Toquerville City only allows for a burial to be done for cremations. The item containing the cremains should not exceed eighteen (18") inches in diameter.

### **Ordering a Grave Opening:**

Arrangements for a grave opening can be made by the mortuary or any other designated party. Prior to the grave opening the required fees must be paid in full and a death certificate or vital statistics sheet provided to the City with a minimum of two (2) business days advance notice.

Additionally, the following information shall be required if not provided on the vital statistics sheet:

- Name of deceased
- Dates and places of birth and death
- Name of spouse (if applicable)
- Names of parents of deceased
- Place of interment (obtained from the City)
- Location, date and time of the funeral services
- Name of the mortuary or funeral director providing the service.
- Veteran status (including branch if applicable)

No person may be interred in another individual's burial site unless they obtain written permission from the owner of said burial site or those designated by the owner to give such permission.

If a headstone is to be moved, it must be done with a minimum of two (2) business days advanced notice.

### **Business Hours and Hours of Operation:**

Toquerville City currently observes the following business hours:

Monday – Thursday: 9 AM – 4 PM

Burials are not permitted on Sundays or days recognized as holidays by Toquerville City.



## **Headstones and Decorations:**

### **Headstones and Markers:**

Toquerville City has the following requirements regarding size and placement of headstones:

1. All burials within the cemetery must have either a marker or headstone.
2. All headstones or markers must have a concrete border six inches (6") wide. This border must extend all the way around the headstone or marker.
3. No monument or headstone (not including the concrete border) in the cemetery will be more than three feet (3') high, two feet (2') deep and four feet (4') wide.
4. In the event that multiple headstones are permitted on a single burial site, all of said headstones or markers must be flush with the ground.
5. It is the responsibility of the owner or mortuary to arrange and pay for the movement or relocation of all headstones when a grave is opened and closed.
6. All monuments must be installed by a licensed and insured company.
7. Veteran monuments and grave markers must be placed directly east of the single or double monument on the Veteran's lot.

Headstones and markers are personal property. All monuments within the cemetery are the property of the burial right owners, their heirs or the designated party that ordered and placed said monument. All care and upkeep of monuments is the responsibility of the owner. Toquerville City provides care and maintenance of the cemetery grounds. If the owner has a headstone cleaned or repaired, the Cemetery Superintendent should be given advanced notice before the stone is removed. The owner will be responsible for any damage to the cemetery incurred by such removal.

### **Decorations:**

All decorations must be contained on the footprint or collar of the headstone. There should be no decorations that pierce the grass or dirt surrounding the headstone. Any decorations that are not on the footprint or collar of the headstone will be removed promptly and disposed of. Toquerville City will not be responsible for flowers and other personal property left at the cemetery and may remove items that interfere with the proper care of the of the cemetery. No glass containers are permitted. No object driven into the ground is permitted.

Any permanent decorations must be approved in writing by the Cemetery Superintendent. If permanent decorations are permitted, it will be the responsibility of the applicant to maintain the grave, including weed and lawn care. If the grave is not maintained, Toquerville City shall have the right to remove and dispose of the decorations in order to perform the needed maintenance to the grounds. The permanent decoration approval shall be rescinded at this time.

In regards to decorations around temporary markers: If the family of the deceased desires to decorate the grave of a loved one prior to the placement of a headstone they must maintain the area around the marker. If it is observed by the City that the area is not being maintained, the decorations will be removed and the needed maintenance performed. If the temporary marker will be staying for an extended period of time the family will need to seek approval from the Cemetery Superintendent for permanent decorations. The same rules apply to permanent decorations whether the marker is temporary or permanent.

**Planting:**

There will not be any planting allowed in the cemetery unless approval is received from the Cemetery Superintendent. Anything planted at the cemetery without the aforementioned approval shall be removed.

**Errors and Omissions:**

Burial rights are granted in city own cemeteries, acceptable to the rules and regulations as they are now in force and may be adopted or amended from time-to-time by the Cemetery Superintendent. Toquerville City reserves the right to correct any errors and omissions made by it in connection with its issuance of any certificate of burial right, including but not limited to errors or omissions in plot description or the unavailability of the plot at the time of interment. Toquerville City may, in its sole discretion, cancel any certificate of burial right and substitute another conveyance of equal value or similar location in lieu thereof, or cancel the certificate of burial right and refund the reasonable value as outlined in the cemetery code.

**Disinterment or Exhumation:**

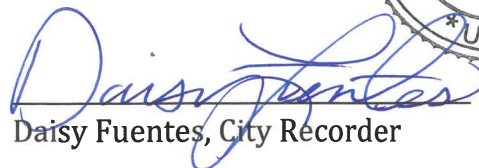
Cemetery grounds are devoted to the interment and repose of the dead. In those rare circumstances where it is necessary to disinter or remove remains from the cemetery, it will be necessary to comply with all applicable state laws. The Cemetery Superintendent will schedule and direct the exhumation after all applicable fees have been paid, including any fees payable to the County Coroner, as needed. Consultation with a funeral director is required for this procedure. City personnel shall not perform the exhumation beyond removing the soil over the burial.

APPROVED this 11<sup>th</sup> day of April 2024.

TOQUERVILLE CITY  
a Utah Municipal Corporation

  
Justin Sip, Mayor

Attest:

  
Daisy Fuentes, City Recorder

