

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF RAISIN  
COUNTY OF LENAWEЕ, MICHIGAN  
CEMЕТERY ORDINANCE 12-19-85**

**ADOPTED: 11-11-85  
EFFECTIVE: 12-19-85**

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

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF RAISIN  
COUNTY OF LENAWEЕ, MICHIGAN  
ORDAINS:**

## SECTION I

### TITLE

This Ordinance shall be known and cited as the Charter Township of Raisin Cemetery Ordinance.

## SECTION II

### DEFINITIONS OF CEMETERY LOTS AND BURIAL SPACES

- A. A cemetery lot shall consist of burial space sufficient to accommodate from one or more burial spaces.
- B. An adult burial space shall consist of a minimum land area four feet wide and eight feet in length.
- C. Infant stillborn or cremated ashes may be buried at head or foot of adult burial space if space is available.

## SECTION III

### SALE OF LOTS OR BURIAL SPACES

- A. Hereafter, cemetery lots or burial spaces shall be sold to only residents or taxpayers of the Township for the purpose of the burial of said purchaser or his or her heirs at law or next of kin. No sale shall be made to funeral directors or others than as heretofore set forth, unless the purchaser discloses sufficient personal reason for burial within the Township through previous residence in the Township or relationship to persons interred therein.
- B. 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 lot or burial space sold. Said form shall be executed by the Township Clerk.
- C. Burial rights shall only be transferred to those persons eligible to be original purchasers of cemetery lots or burial spaces within the Township and shall be effective only upon endorsement of an assignment of such burial permit upon the original burial form issued by the Township Clerk, approved by said Clerk, and entered upon the official records of said Clerk. Upon such assignment, approval and record, said Clerk shall issue a new burial permit to

the assignee and shall cancel and terminate upon such records, the original permit thus assigned.

**SECTION IV  
PURCHASE PRICE AND TRANSFER FEES**

- A. Each adult burial space shall cost the sum of [REDACTED] *SEE FEE Schedule*
- B. Each burial space for infants or still births, where located in an area especially set aside for such burials, shall cost [REDACTED] *see Fee Schedule*
- C. Any transfer of one or more burial spaces from an original purchaser to a qualified assignee shall cost \$10.00.
- D. The foregoing charges shall be paid to the Township Treasurer and Shall be deposited in the cemetery fund.
- E. The Township Board by Resolution may periodically alter the Forgoing fees to accommodate increased costs and needed reserve funds for cemetery maintenance and acquisition.
- F. Perpetual care and cemetery maintenance shall be the responsibility of the Charter Township of Raisin.

**SECTION V  
GRAVE OPENING CHARGES**

- A. The opening and closing of any burial space, prior to and following a burial therein, and including the interment of ashes, shall be at a cost to be determined from time to time by Resolution of the Township Board, payable to the Township. No burial spaces shall be opened and closed except under the direction and control of the cemetery sexton. This provision shall not apply to proceeding for the removal and re-interment of bodies and remains, which matters are under the supervision of the local health department.

**SECTION VI  
MARKERS OR MEMORIALS**

- A. All markers or memorials must be of stone or other equally durable composition.
- B. Any large upright monuments must be located upon a suitable solid foundation under the direction or control of the cemetery sexton or proper authority.

- C. Only one monument, marker or memorial shall be permitted per burial space.
- D. The footing or foundation upon which any monument, marker or Memorial must be placed shall be constructed as approved by the Township at cost to the owner of the burial right.

**SECTION VII  
INTERMENT REGULATIONS**

- A. Only one person may be buried in a burial space except for a parent and infants or two children buried at the same time. Other multiple burials may be permitted under extraordinary circumstances.
- B. Not less than 36 hour notice shall be given in advance of any time of any funeral to allow for the opening of the burial space.
- C. The appropriate permit for the burial space involved, together with Appropriate identification of the person or persons to be buried therein, where necessary, shall be presented to either the cemetery sexton or the Township Clerk prior to interment. Where such permit has been lost or destroyed, the Township Clerk shall be satisfied, from Township records, that the person or persons be buried in the burial space is an authorized and appropriate one before any interment is commenced or completed.
- D. All graves shall be located in an orderly and neat appearing manner Within the confines of the burial space involved.

**SECTION VIII  
GROUND MAINTENANCE**

- A. No grading, leveling or excavating upon a burial space shall be allowed without the permission of the cemetery sexton or the Township Clerk.
- B. No flowers, shrubs, trees or vegetation of any type shall be planted without the approval of the cemetery sexton or the Township Clerk. Any of the foregoing items planted without such approval may be removed by the Township or the cemetery sexton.
- C. The Township Board reserves the right to remove or trim any tree, plant or shrub located within the cemetery in the interest of maintaining proper appearance and the use of the cemetery.

- D. Mounds which hinder the free use of a lawn mower or other gardening apparatus are prohibited.
- E. The cemetery sexton shall have the right and authority to remove and dispose of any and all growth, emblems, displays or containers therefore that through decay, deterioration, damage or otherwise become unsightly, a source of litter, or a maintenance problem.
- F. Surfaces other than earth or sod are prohibited.
- G. All refuse of any kind or nature including, among others, dried Flowers, wreaths, papers, and flower containers must be removed or deposited in refuse containers located within the cemetery.
- H. Cemetery driveway may be closed when necessary by the Sexton to prevent damage to drives.

**SECTION IX  
FORFEITURE OF VACANT CEMETERY LOTS OR BURIAL SPACES**

Cemetery lots or burial spaces sold after the effective date of this Ordinance and Remaining vacant for 40 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 or heir of record informing him of the expiration of the 40 year period and that all right with respect to said lot or space will be forfeited if he does not affirmatively indicate in writing to the Township Clerk within 60 days from the date of mailing the written notice 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 spaces 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 X  
REPURCHASE OF LOTS OR BURIAL SPACES**

The Township will repurchase any vacant cemetery lot or burial space from the Owner for the original price paid the Township upon the written request if said owner or his legal heirs or representatives.

**SECTION XI  
RECORDS**

The Township Clerk shall maintain records concerning all burials, issuance of Burial permits, and any perpetual care fund, separate and apart from any other records of the Township and the same shall be open to public inspection during township business hours.

**SECTION XII  
VAULT**

All burials shall be within a state approved vault installed or constructed in each Burial space before interment.

**SECTION XIII  
CEMETERY HOURS**

- A. The cemetery shall be open to the general public during daylight Hours.
- B. No person shall be permitted in the Township cemeteries at any time other than the foregoing hours, except upon permission of the Township Board or the sexton of the cemetery.

**SECTION XIV**

**PENALTIES**

Any person, firm or corporation who violates any of the provisions of the within Ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be subject to a fine of up to \$100.00 and/or imprisonment for up to 90 days in jail as may be determined by a court of competent jurisdiction. Each day that a violation continues to exist shall constitute a separate offense. Any criminal prosecutions hereunder shall not prevent civil proceedings for abatement and termination of the activity complained of.

**SECTION XV  
SEVERABILITY**

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.

**SECTION XVI  
EFFECTIVE DATE**

This Ordinance shall take effect on 12-19-85.

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

**RAISIN TOWNSHIP, LENA WEE COUNTY**

Christine Ruggirello, Clerk