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Date: August 1, 2018
To: Mayor and Council
Author: Shaun Martinho, Manager of Public Works
RE: Cemetery By-law Update
Report No.: MS-2018- 31

AIM

To outline concerns expressed by residents regarding revisions to Cemetery By-law 90-2012 and to seek adoption of proposed By-law 67-2018.

BACKGROUND

On June 25, 2018 amendments to Cemetery By-law 90-2012 were presented to council for consideration. At this meeting, final reading of the By-law was postponed to give the residents in attendance additional time to express their concerns with the proposed changes to the By-law. After consulting with the residents, it was determined that most of their concerns were operational in nature and that they do not necessitate additional revisions to the amended By-law.

DISCUSSION

A copy of the proposed By-law, as presented to council on June 25, 2018 has been attached in Appendix A.

The following concerns were brought forward by the residents:

- 1) Municipal Services should take into consideration the Easter Holiday when scheduling the April 1 Clean-up

Last year the cemetery cleanup coincided with Easter, resulting in the removal of items immediately after the holiday. This should no longer be an issue given that plastic vases, plastic flower pots, and potted plants are now permitted in the cemetery between April 1 and October 31. The only items that will be removed during the clean-up are those that do not appear on the permitted items list for that specified time period. For example,

Christmas wreaths and blankets and artificial wreaths would be removed because they are only permitted between November 1 and March 31.

2) The ability to add permanent vases to a marker.

Permanent vases are permitted under Section 16 as long as they are attached to a marker with a chain and can be inverted. Residents wishing to add a permanent vase may do so as long as it adheres to the provisions within the By-law.

3) Section 41: Removal by Manager is too broad

This section gives the Manager of Public Works the authority to remove items that are not authorized under this By-law. As long as they are listed as a permitted item and do not impact maintenance or safety within the cemetery, they will not be removed. Municipal Services will always exercise caution when removing items from the cemetery and store items for a period of time for retrieval.

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Promote the betterment, self-image and attitude of the community.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

None

CONSULTATIONS

Municipal Services Department
Corporate Services Department

RECOMMENDATION

That council adopt the proposed cemetery By-law 67-2018 and repeal the existing by-law, By-law 90-2012

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