

City of Waukesha

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Committee: Cemetery Commission	Date : 12/13/2023
Common Council Item Number: ID#	Date: 12/19/2023
Submitted By: Karen Richards	City Administrator Approval: Click here to enter text.
Finance Department Review: JC	City Attorney's Office Review: BR

Subject:

Discussion and possible action regarding endowment programs

Details:

Historically, Prairie Home Cemetery has offered a variety of endowment programs in perpetuity. Review of PHC endowment pricing and costs shows that the current offerings are not sustainable in the long term. A survey of other cemeteries in the area revealed that perpetual endowment offerings were discontinued years ago. Some cemeteries still offer floral, wreath, and tree programs, but the terms are limited. Recommend discontinuation of all perpetual endowment programs and replace with annual offerings for wreaths and silk flowers only, as well as one-time offerings for trees and shrubs as approved.

Options & Alternatives:

Options include continuation of current program at a financial detriment to the cemetery, offer limited-term remembrance programs with increased costs, offer only annual programs and adjust costs yearly as needed.

Financial Remarks:

Endowment sales are budgeted for \$10,000 - account 7800-45951. The endowment programs can generate revenue, but the cost associated with the programs makes them unsustainable.

Executive Recommendation:

Recommend discontinuation of all perpetual endowment programs and replace with annual offerings for wreaths and silk flowers only, as well as one-time offerings for trees and shrubs as approved.