

Report to Council



Date: November 23, 2015
File: 1815-01
To: City Manager
From: David Gatzke, Cemetery Manager
Subject: Kelowna Memorial Park Cemetery Bylaw Update

Recommendation:

THAT Council receives for information the report from the Cemetery Manager, dated November 23, 2015 recommending changes to the Kelowna Memorial Park Cemetery Bylaw 8807;

AND THAT Council gives reading consideration to Bylaw No. 11144 being amendment No. 6 to Kelowna Memorial Park Cemetery Bylaw No. 8807

Purpose:

To update the Memorial Park Cemetery Bylaw with regards to pricing, the addition of new inventory, as well as some housekeeping and language updates.

Background:

The recently completed Kelowna Memorial Park (KMPC) Master Plan contains a number of recommendations intended to maximize the utilization of the Cemetery property and ensure the business plan and product pricing are sufficient to achieve long term financial sustainability. Specifically, the plan identified immediate changes that should be made with regards to pricing, and recommended additional inventory and development plans over the next 25 years, which includes the new "Legacy Gardens" development.

The amended KMPC bylaw contains some general language and housekeeping updates, as well as updates to definitions, fees and inventory.

Definitions

Definitions were changed to reflect the addition of the new Scattering Trail and Legacy Gardens. Additionally, a few definitions were updated to reflect current operational procedures. A new definition for "concurrent interment" was added for situations where multiple interments are taking place at the same time.

Benchmark Fee Adjustments

The 2015 KMPC Master Plan identified certain plot types to be adjusted to reflect market value when compared to similar benchmark communities. The adjustments recommended are:

- In-ground cremation plot that is currently priced at \$371 be adjusted to \$498, and
- Small plots that are currently priced at \$303 be adjusted to \$376.

New Fees

The following new fees have been added:

- Concurrent interment fee -for when an additional interment takes place at the same time as another interment in the same plot, niche or mausoleum,
- Non-resident fee applied to services/interment permits - previously only applied to plot sales,
- Adding a plaque to an existing memorial bench,
- Adding a second plaque to an existing memorial bench or memorial tree marker,
- Memorial Table,
- Legacy Garden Niches and Mausolea (to reflect new inventory), and
- As of December 1, 2015, any casket burial plot in Section A or B surrendered or sold back to the city will be resold at the same price as current large plots in Sections C,D,E, and G4.

Scheduled Fee increases

In following the recommendations set out in the 2015 KMPC Master Plan, all fees and service charges for 2016 have been increased by 5%.

All fees and service charges for 2017 and 2018 have been included in this amendment at a rate of +5% from the preceding year.

These recommended fee increases will help KMPC to achieve future targets for Cemetery reserves and help pay for perpetual maintenance of the site once it is fully occupied. Under the proposed fee structure, KMPC continues to waive interment fees for children under the age of 12. A note has been made in the fee Schedule A to clarify that the zero fee for interment of children refers to an interment in a small child plot.

Internal Circulation:

Legislative Services
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Considerations not applicable to this report:

Legal/Statutory Authority:

Legal/Statutory Procedural Requirements:

Existing Policy:

Financial/Budgetary Considerations:

Personnel Implications:

External Agency/Public Comments:

Communications Comments:

Alternate Recommendation:

Submitted by:

David Gatzke, Cemetery Manager

Approved for inclusion:

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Joe Creron, Divisional Director, Civic Operations