

City of Copperas Cove Information Item

AUGUST 5, 2015

Copperas Cove Municipal Cemetery

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SUBJECT: Assistance with Copperas Cove Municipal Cemetery Maintenance

1. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The City of Copperas Cove has strived to improve upon the conditions and appearance of the Copperas Cove Municipal Cemetery.

2. BACKGROUND/HISTORY

City Staff and the City Council both understand the importance of maintaining the conditions and appearance of the Municipal Cemeteries. The citizens of Copperas Cove have a high expectation of services in the management of the cemeteries. Although the City has been challenged with budget constraints, Staff and the City Council have worked diligently at seeking solutions in meeting these expectations.

On March 27, 2013, direction was given to Staff to re-establish the Cemetery Advisory Board. The responsibilities of the Board would include planning special projects at the cemetery such as historical or genealogy searches, notifying staff of special problems such as maintenance issues and vandalism, and cooperate with other public and private groups in advancing the interest of the Copperas Cove Cemeteries.

Other efforts have been made through the amending of ordinances, improving signage, scheduling of maintenance, and reviewing of fees.

3. FINDINGS/CURRENT ACTIVITY

On July 2, 2015, the City Manager provided direction for Staff to research the use of Trustees from the Coryell County Jail to assist in providing maintenance at the Municipal Cemetery. The use of Trustees would provide relief in the scheduling of Parks & Recreation Maintenance Staff especially during the season when vegetation is growing at a faster rate and maintenance is needed more frequently.

Staff learned the Trustees are equipped to provide the maintenance but have been restricted by the Sheriff from working on cemeteries. This is due to the high

number of cemeteries in Coryell County and their inability to meet the maintenance requests received from all the locations.

Staff will continue to seek alternate solutions in maintaining the appearance of the Municipal Cemetery.

4. FINANCIAL IMPACT

None.