CITY OF BLAIR

MEMORANDUM

DATE: 11/17/26

MEMO TO: Blair Park Board

FROM: CJ Heaton, Deputy City Administrator of Public Works

RE: Cemetery Rule Adjustment

SUMMARY: Our Cemetery rules and regulations are in place to ensure that the Cemetery maintains harmony with all of the lot owners and allows for the best maintenance of the cemetery.

PREVIOUS ACTION: Throughout the year, staff has incorporated several changes to the book as issues have come up.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION: Recently, senior staff were made aware of an issue regarding the placement of a memorial bench on a grave space at the cemetery. Our current rules state in part that in sections 1 – 109, monuments and markers can be placed at either or both ends of the gravespaces; however, no stone should interfere with the opening of graves or be set back-to-back with another stone. Back-to-back was never clearly defined. The bench in question was within 6 inches of another headstone and was cause for concern with the lot owners. Staff was able to find an agreeable solution to the problem and will be working with the monument company to relocate the bench.

The changes proposed should clear up any confusion in the future. Staff proposes the following rule changes. To no longer allow monuments or markers to be placed at either end of the lot, but rather to pick one end to place a marker, and the marker must be at the opposite end of an adjoining space if a stone is already placed. We also clearly state that benches can only be placed in the monument or marker spot in lieu of a headstone, and that all monuments must be approved by the superintendent prior to installation.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NA.

RECOMMENDATION: Approval of the changes.