

ORDINANCE NO. 2025- 20

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND DIVISION 4-16.1 OF THE UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT  
ORDINANCE TO CREATE SECTION 4-16.1.14 REGARDING CEMETERIES ON  
DEVELOPMENT SITES**

**WHEREAS,** a Public Hearing was held in City Council Chambers on April 8, 2025 at 6:00 P.M. before the City of Florence Planning Commission and notice of said hearing was duly given;

**WHEREAS,** application was presented requesting to amend Division 4-16.1 of the *Unified Development Ordinance* to create Section 4-16.1.14 to provide regulations for the preservation of cemeteries on development sites;

**WHEREAS,** the City of Florence Planning Commission and City Staff recommend the proposed text amendments as they will guide development in a manner consistent with the stated purpose of the *Unified Development Ordinance*;

**WHEREAS,** Florence City Council concurs in the aforesaid application, findings, and recommendations:

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FLORENCE IN MEETING DULY ASSEMBLED AND BY THE AUTHORITY THEREOF:**

- 1. That the provisions of the Unified Development Ordinance applicable to the City of Florence be, and the same are hereby amending Division 4-16.1 to create Section 4-16.1.14 which will read in whole as follows:**

**Sec. 4-16.1.14 Requirements for Properties Containing Graves, Cemeteries, and Graveyards**

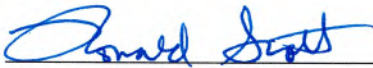
- A. **Application.** The requirements for the development of properties that contains graves, cemeteries, graveyards, or other like facilities for the final disposition of human remains apply in all zoning districts and to all development including the subdivision of land.
- B. **Boundary and Documentation.** Graves, cemeteries, graveyards, or other like facilities shall be determined by an applicant's professional archaeologist or other methods as deemed appropriate by the Planning Director to determine the boundary and confirmation of the cemetery.
  1. The archaeologist or other licensed professional shall be responsible for determining the approximate boundaries of the cemetery and shall provide information on the history of the cemetery. A final report shall include, but not be limited to:
    - a. Map(s) portraying the location and orientation of graves within the cemetery.
    - b. Map(s) depicting the location and orientation of the cemetery relative to the site and recognized landmarks such as public roads or benchmarks visible on a USGS map.
    - c. Description of field and archival methods and results used to document the cemetery.
    - d. Coordinates of the boundary in SC 83 State Plane Coordinates.

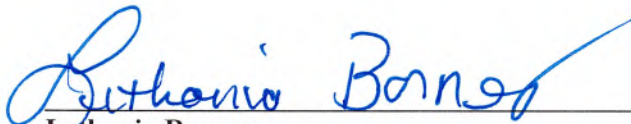
**C. Requirements.** The following requirements are as follows:

1. Existing cemeteries or like facilities shall be deeded as a separate lot and shall be accessed by a minimum twenty (20) foot wide private or public easement.
2. Lot size. Lots deeded separately containing the grave or like facility shall include the boundary of the cemetery as determined by the professional and shall include the bufferyard requirements established within Sec. 4-16.1.14(C)(4) below.
3. Access. Must be an improved surface and must meet the requirements outlined within Section 4-13.3.10 Construction Specifications.
4. Bufferyard. A twenty-five (25) foot bufferyard shall be provided around the perimeter of the cemetery and shall not include the location of any graves. No landscaping is required within the bufferyard.
5. Existing cemetery fences and walls shall be repaired and maintained.
6. Fencing. Fencing of cemetery or like facility is permitted but is not required. Fencing material shall be made of a material which is compatible with the material of the new development. Fencing shall not be greater than six (6) feet in height around the entire perimeter of the property and shall be fifty (50) percent opaque. Fences up to eight (8) feet in height may be allowed with a variance from the Board of Zoning Appeals.
7. Construction. During construction of the development, the property corners of the cemetery must be clearly staked until the public infrastructure is complete and all public roads and facilities have been deeded to the City; and until the Certificate of Occupancy is achieved for any contiguous properties.

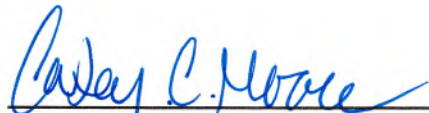
ADOPTED THIS 9 DAY OF JUNE, 2025

Approved as to form:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Lethonia Barnes  
Mayor

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Casey C. Moore  
Municipal Clerk