

cemetery follow up on our conversation

township supervisor <supervisor.clt@gmail.com>

9:57 AM (4 hours ago)

to Paul

Thank you for giving both your professional and personal opinions. I am going to sum up the salient points of our conversation, and would like you to either confirm or correct my summary before I forward it on to the rest of the board and the cemetery committee.

- This is a new question for you and are surprised it is an issue. No twp you know of in your experience would allow alcohol et al., and from the viewpoint as our agent assessing insurance liability risk, allowing it is not a good idea.
- If we allowed alcohol (and other intoxicating substances) by either stating so or not mentioning it at all in the proposed update to our ordinance, we will definitely be covered per our policy.
- If we prohibit it in the ordinance, and further bolster our prohibition by posting it at the cemeteries, your position in defending us against any legal action would be significantly strengthened.
- You personally would advise strongly against allowing alcohol and would strongly advise having it specifically prohibited in our ordinance.
- You indicated it is not a far-our scenario, that you had a previous case of someone in a Charlevoix cemetery, in a township you insure, where a man was drinking at grave site, intoxicated, fell, hit his head on a monument and --as a result-- died. Although no one brought legal action against that township, you were prepared to defend/cover the township against liability. Because no one brought legal action, you don't know how the case would have turned out.
- You compared drinking at one of our cemeteries to drinking at a twp park or renting out the twp hall for a wedding reception; many townships choose not to take on that liability and some townships choose to allow it. You are not aware of any twp that allow drinking in its cemeteries.
- You emphasized that the twp board is the final arbiter of the ordinance.
- If the twp wanted you to get Risk Management involved in advising us on this issue, which you offered to do, we can be sure that the Risk Management department would concur with all the above conditions.
- If any board member would like to hear from you in person, they should feel free to call you at 231-421-5008

Anything I misrepresented? Anything you want to correct? Anything you wish to add? Please let me know asap.

Thanks,



Paul Olson

1:47 PM (18
minutes ago)

to me

Sounds great Amy. thank you.

Paul Olson

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