



## **2025 Budget Request**

**Request: Cemetery Capital – Boyd Columbarium and Mount Pleasant Outbuilding Repairs**

**From: Carly Craig, Manager of Legislative Services/Clerk**

**Department: Corporate Services, Legislative Services**

**Total Financial Ask: \$45,000**

**Type of Budget Request: Capital**

This document and its attachments are public and available in an accessible format upon request.

### **Background and Strategic Priority**

The Township has approved columbarium installations at Mount Pleasant and Oxenden Cemeteries. Most recently, a second columbarium was approved at Mount Pleasant Cemetery after all available niches in the first unit sold within five years of installation. Since its installation in July, two units have already been sold at Oxenden Cemetery.

Given the popularity of cremation services in recent years, staff are recommending a columbarium unit also be installed at Boyd Cemetery. As demonstrated by its popularity at Mount Pleasant and Oxenden Cemeteries, the installation of a columbarium is likely to generate cemetery revenue and introduces an alternative to in-ground cremation interment not currently available at Boyd.

Installation of a columbarium at Boyd Cemetery will also ensure the same interment options are available at all active Township-operated cemeteries.

### **Analysis**

Boyd Cemetery is the Township's smallest active cemetery and options for expansion are limited. The installation of columbarium units will increase the number of cremation options available at the cemetery. Within the same footprint as a full adult in-ground



cremation plot with room for 4-6 urns, a single upright columbarium can hold up to 96 urns.

Staff are proposing the columbarium be installed at the back of the cemetery near the designated community scattering ground, pending approval of the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO). Staff would suggest the possibility of 4 or more columbarium units in this area, while preserving a decreased footprint for the community scattering ground, as space permits. The proposed location in the cemetery is depicted in Schedule "A" as a Grey County GIS Air Photo and Schedule "B" on the approved 2012 cemetery plan amendment.

The proposed columbarium(s) and community scattering ground complement each other, as a "Memory Wall" is included on both ends of each columbarium unit. Scatterings on the community grounds could then be memorialized on a bronze plaque on the columbarium (see Schedule "C").

The scope of this project includes the cost of purchasing the columbarium unit and installation of a concrete pad. If approved in the 2025 budget, installation of the concrete pad would occur in the spring, with the unit installed mid-summer to fall pending delivery timelines of the successful bidder.

The same unit installed at Mount Pleasant and Oxenden Cemeteries is an estimated cost of \$30,000 plus HST. The cost of the foundation is anticipated at \$5,000, based on the recently completed foundations for Oxenden and Mount Pleasant columbarium's.

Staff are also requesting \$10,000 for repairs to outbuildings at Mount Pleasant Cemetery. The scope of this project includes the replacement of the maintenance shed roof and the remediation of water damage caused by the failing roof.

## **Financial Impact**

The total financial impact is anticipated to be \$45,000 for both capital projects.