



MEDIA RELEASE

**Cedar Springs City Hall
66 S. Main St. PO Box 310
Cedar Springs, MI 49319**

08-06-19

Cedar Springs, MI-Recently, the City of Cedar Springs and the operation of its cemetery were the subject of a news report by WoodTV8. This story was then spread on social media and many comments were made about the City, based on this report. This news report had multiple inaccuracies and did not provide the public with a fair, truthful or comprehensive account of the issue.

The City of Cedar Springs staff must daily perform the operations of the City's government while navigating complex legal and ethical issues, big and small. Staff are guided in their actions by laws, rules and policies that are designed to prevent mistakes or unfairness in these government operations. It is the role of staff to follow rules and laws in all instances, not just when convenient or easy. As part of these duties, staff maintains the cemetery to the best of our abilities and we do so with the solemnity appropriate to the final resting place of so many friends and families.

Because of the sensitive and personal nature of death and burial, the City government does not comment on individual circumstances regarding the cemetery and does not believe that the private affairs of individuals or families are appropriate for public consumption – even if private individuals choose to make them public. The City will continue to act with decorum and privacy when addressing any issues with the cemetery, regardless of the actions of other parties.

City staff always work to find the legal and right resolution, not the easiest or most popular resolution, and staff will seek out and weigh the best information available prior to making decisions on difficult issues and problems. In light of this, the City asks for the public's patience and understanding while staff works to sort out complex issues that affect both private citizens and the public as a whole.

Mike Womack City Manager
City of Cedar Springs
66 S Main St, Cedar Springs, MI 49319
manager@cityofcedarsprings.org